other lines, and state that they are prepared to give good prices to the trade.

THE OURBEC INSOLVENCY LAW.

In consequence of the marked commercial development of our country, the laws regulating abandonment of property and provisional remedies before judgment have become of paramount importance, Not only lawyers, but merchants and curators of insolvent estates, should, by reason of their own interests, keep themselves constantly posted upon the law and decisions in these matters. At present, in order to obtain any information upon these important subjects, it is necessary for merchants and curators to refer to the Code of Civil Procedure and the Law Reports, which practically prevents them acquiring much valuable knowledge.

It was this fact that Mr. Robert Stanley Weir, of Montreal, so fully appreciated when, in 1890, he published his "Insolvency Manual" for the province of Quebec, a work which has since rendered most important service to the members of the bar and to the public in general.

The revision of the Code of Civil Procedure, in considerably modifying the old law, made a new edition not only advisable, but absolutely necessary.

The work has been divided into chapters and sections and comprises all the dispositions of the new Code of Civil Procedure. Except in the case of the abandonment of property, the order adopted by the commissioners entrusted with the revision of the Code of Civil Procedure is carefully observed. The changes made in the present law have been briefly indicated under each article. as also the judicial decisions that might aid in its interpretation.

The new book is got out in Mr. C. Theoret's best style. It is in both French and English and has an excellent index. The price is \$2, bound in cloth.

FRENCH REPORT OF THE TARTE LIBEL CASE.

The libel case brought by the Hon. J. L. Tarte, Minister of Public Works, against Mr. W. A. Grenier, editor of La Libre Parole, aroused a very great interest throughout Canada. This interest was heightened by the intercession of Mr. Tarte in Grenier's favor when the latter was imprisoned, and his consequent release as his health was failing.

A book has just been issued from the press of Mr. C. Theoret, Montreal, which gives the full text of Mr. H. C. St. Pierre's eloquent address to the jury in his prosecution of Mr. Grenier. It also contains the charge of Mr. Justice Wurtele. The book, which is in French, is an exceedingly interesting one, especially the judge's remarks, speaking as he does of the liberty of the press, which subject was introduced by the defendant's counsel. It is having a large

IMPORTED REPRINTS.

SIR O. MOWAT DECIDES THAT THE OWNER OF A COPYRIGHT MAY IMPORT AMERICAN REPRINTS.

The Minister of Justice (Sir Oliver Mowat) rendered a decision last month on a question which came before him from the Customs Department regarding the importation of reprints. He decided that the owner of a copyright in Canada is entitled to import American reprints of his book for the use of the trade. The particular case was that of the W. J. Gage Co., Toronto, which had brought in sheets of Ruskin's book, "Sesame and Lilies," the copyright of which they own for Canada. In accordance with his decision the books were released by the Customs.

The above bears out the statement in the last issue of BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER that the legal question would probably go in favor of the importer. The reasons which induced the Minister of Justice to decide in this way would seem to be along these lines: There was a conflict between the Customs Act and the Copyright Act, the former appearing to ferbid such imports and the latter allowing them. The prohibition in the Customs Act coupled these with forbidden goods, such as counterfeit coin, obscene literature, and other matter of a highly objectionable class. The Act apparently meant by "reprints" pirated editions which were injurious to the rights of authors. The list in the Customs Act had in mind articles of a fraudulent or injurious kind. If the Act were as the Customs officials contended, it would mean that if a man had copyrighted his book in Canada, England and United States, he could not bring in one copy into Canada of the edition printed in the United States, even for his own use. This was apparently not intended by the Act, which desired chiefly to protect owners of copyright. Under this decision the Canadian owners of copyright of standard works can now bring in other editions which might suit the trade here, but which could not be printed here, owing to the small demand. English books copyrighted in Canada are obtained by a Canadian firm of publishers by paying a royalty to the English publishers, and also a royalty on the reprints which are imported under this decision of the Minister of Justice.

In saying all this, however, BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER does not defend the present Copyright Act, which it desires to see materially amended and improved. As long as it lasts, however, we must take it as it

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