

without reserve for the other. As to anything beyond this the present is a new work. The arrangement is altogether different from that previously adopted. Nearly one-half of the contents of the present volume is new, and of the remainder there is very little which has not been materially modified, if not in substance, yet in expression.

The work is divided into seven books, under the following titles: I., Constitutive principles. II., Authorities specially constituted for exercising control. III., Duty to exercise control over property. IV., Duty to answer for one's own and others' acts. V., Bailments. VI., Skilled labour. VII., Unclassified relations. These divisions are subdivided into numerous chapters and sub-headings.

A recent writer, in discussing modern law treatises, divides them into three classes: hack writers, who write so many pages for so much money; those who consider that a law treatise should be an improved digest; and theorists. The last two, being skillfully combined, may make a good text-book. It may not be possible to give all decided cases, but the leading authorities have to be carefully selected and analyzed, and it is necessary to take sufficient space to distinguish between the opinions of judges and the author's own views of what the law is or should be; that is to say, the reader should have the matter so presented that he may be able easily to distinguish between the views of the author and the opinions of the courts. Then as to those who purchase law books the largest number are not lawyers who have expensive libraries and purchase everything, but, rather, practitioners whose libraries are very limited, and who, either from necessity, not having reports to refer to, or from laziness or want of time, accept text-books without questioning what they find stated therein. The writer referred to speaks of the most common defect being the hasty manner in which text-books are written, the author not examining recent authorities, but often taking his cases largely from other text-books, the result being that the majority of modern text-books are superficial, or, so to speak, machine-made. We all know the sort of text-book we should like to have, but to produce an ideal law treatise would manifestly require a prodigious amount of labour, and the author must not only be a good all-round lawyer, but thoroughly familiar with the law he seeks to elucidate.