

ted number of recent decisions and enactments which bear upon the principal matters discussed under the various maxims, which of course gives additional value to this edition. It does not, however, pretend to be a new book; in fact any attempt in that line may well be expected to be a failure.

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*The Marriage Laws of the British Empire.* By W. P. EVERSLEY, Recorder of Sudbury and W. F. CRAIES, Barrister-at-law. London: Stevens & Haynes, Law Publishers, Bell Yard, Temple Bar. 1910.

Several books have appeared recently with reference to marriage laws and divorce matters. The one before us is a short practical treatise devoted to the elucidation of the law of marriage (1) in England, Ireland and Scotland; (2) in the various British possessions in all parts of the world. The principle adopted by the authors is firstly to discuss impediments to marriage, and then to set out what are the essentials of a good marriage, irrespective of the religious belief of the contracting parties, referring also to the subject of registration. This takes up Parts I. and II. of the book. Part III. gives the statutory law applicable to the British Isles. Part IV. deals with marriage laws in the British possessions.

This is not a place to moralize on the subject, but one cannot, in looking at the list of these possessions, but be struck with the immense number of them, and the consequent vastness of the British Empire. Nor can one wonder at the desire of so many for closer imperialistic relations between these various dependencies of the Crown. One can also be excused for a feeling of pity, if not contempt, for those who do not appreciate the glory as well as the responsibility of belonging to such a vast Empire—one which could not be so great were it not that some great mission for good has been given it by an overruling Providence.

Just a word, however, as to the typographical arrangement of this excellent work. Parts I. and II., which refer specially to the British Isles, are in large type. Part III., giving the statutes, is properly in smaller type. Part IV., relating to the marriage laws of British possessions, though editorial matter, is also in small type. Why so? To be consistent it ought to be the same as Parts I. and II. Further, the type used in the headings and sub-heads used in this part is very confusing. It is