

## REVIEWS—ITEMS.

THE AMERICAN LAW REVIEW: Boston: Little, Brown & Co. January, 1869.

This comes naturally in order after the quarterly it would seem to take partly as a model. It commences with an excellent article on the confinement of the insane, then follow other articles of much interest to its readers south of us. It contains the usual excellent digests of cases, English and American, that we have so often alluded to.

## BOOKS RECEIVED.

We also acknowledge the regular receipt of THE SOLICITORS' JOURNAL and WEEKLY REPORTER; THE LAW TIMES, with Reports; THE AMERICAN LAW REGISTER; BLACKWOOD and the English Quarterlies; LOWER CANADA JURIST; LEGAL INTELLIGENCER, Philadelphia; LEGAL JOURNAL, Pittsburg; CHICAGO LEGAL NEWS; GODEY'S LADIES BOOK, &c.

LAWYERS AND CLIENTS.—There can be no justice in a community without the constant intervention of a trained and educated body of men, whose interest and business is to see that justice is done. No thanks to them for it. They are paid for their labor, as they ought to be; for every one who works, and he only, shall be paid. But their work is laborious and difficult, affording scope for the exercise of the highest morals and intellectual qualities, and requires a special education and ample learning, and shall be paid accordingly. And, in the main, it is well done, for the profession does not admit of quackery. It is a saying among lawyers, that "a man who is his own lawyer has a fool for a client;" but there are very few fools of this description in the world. Sometimes a man who is not a lawyer ventures to write his own will; and when he does, unless the provisions are very few and simple, he generally makes a nice piece of work for the lawyer, and a very bad one for his devisees. But I never knew one bold enough to examine for himself a title to real estate which he wanted to buy, and remember only one who was rash enough to try his own case in court. I have known many people who would listen to any quack in medicine, and swallow almost any prescription, but never one who, when he found himself involved in a legal difficulty, did not desire the advice of a legal practitioner, and the best, too, whose services he could command. A man who is positive and dogmatical with his physician or his clergyman, is apt to be submissive to his lawyer, for the reason that when he meddles with the law, he knows that he is trifling with edged tools, which may cut deep when he least expects it. "What are you going to do next?" said a client to an astute old lawyer in a neighboring city. "I am going," said the lawyer. "to file a demurrer." "A demurrer, and what is that?" "A demurrer is what your Maker never intended that you should understand!"—*Geo. Wm. Brown.*

For his mastery of oratorical artifice Alexander Wedderburn was greatly indebted to Sheridan, the lecturer on elocution, and Macklin, the actor, from both of whom he took lessons; and when he had dismissed his teachers and become a leader of the English bar he adhered to their rules, and daily practised before a looking-glass the facial tricks by which Macklin taught him to simulate surprise or anger, indignation or triumph. Erskine was a perfect master of dramatic effect, and much of his richly-deserved success was due to the theatrical artifices with which he played upon the passions of juries. At the conclusion of a long oration he was accustomed to feign utter physical prostration, so that the twelve gentlemen in the box, in their sympathy for his sufferings and the admiration for his devotion to the interests of his client, might be impelled by generous emotion to return a favorable verdict. Thus when he defended Hardy, hoarseness and fatigue so overpowered him towards the close of his speech, that during the last ten minutes he could not speak above a whisper, and in order that his whispers might be audible to the jury, the exhausted advocate advanced two steps nearer to their box, and then extended his pale face to their eager eyes. The effect of the artifice on the excited jury is said to have been great and enduring, although they were speedily enlightened as to the real nature of his apparent distress. No sooner had the advocate received the first plaudits of his theatre on the determination of his harangue, than the multitude outside the court, taking up the acclamations which were heard within the building, expressed their feelings with such deafening clamor, and with so many signs of riotous intention, that Erskine was entreated to leave the court and soothe the passions of the mob with a few words of exhortation. In compliance with this suggestion he left the court, and forthwith addressed the dense outdoor assembly in clear, ringing tones that were audible in Ludgate Hill, at one end of the Old Bailey, and to the billowy sea of human heads that surged round St. Sepulchre's Church at the other extremity of the dismal thoroughfare.—*Jeaffreson.*

THE SALARY OF JUDGES.—A Bill has been introduced in the Legislature to fix the salary of Supreme Judges at \$4,000, and the Circuit Judges at \$3,000. This is a measure much needed, and should pass at once. Let us give our Judges a fair compensation for the labor exacted of them, and for the legal learning and ability asked of them. We expect our Judges to perform an immense amount of labor, and then pay them only a beggarly salary. A lawyer of ability whose services are valuable, can not afford to take the judgeship at the present salary. Give them good pay, then require them to do the work or resign.—*Chillicothe Spectator.*

HORACE GREELEY purposes to write, during the year 1869, an elementary work on Political Economy, wherein the policy of Protection to Home Industry will be explained and vindicated. This work will first be given to the public through successive issues of THE NEW YORK TRIBUNE, and will appear in all its editions—Daily, \$10; Semi-Weekly, \$4; Weekly, \$2 per annum.