

abbreviates the law and renders it distinct to an incredible extent." A carefully prepared code is a great boon, and we predict that the advocates of codification in the State of New York will sooner or later prevail.

A SHORT RESPONSE TO A LONG DISCOURSE: An answer by Mr. David Dudley Field to Mr. James C. Carter's pamphlet on the proposed Codification of our Common Law. New York, 1884.

In this paper Mr. Field vindicates his draft Code from the charges of Mr. Carter. He rather sneers at the New York Bar Association as "a highly respectable association of 800 lawyers out of 7,000 in the city—one in nine," and declares that there is nothing new in Mr. Carter's pamphlet. "It is the same old committee, so far as appears, and it is the same old story, which the Legislature, the Bar, and others interested in the subject have heard time and time again, for the last nine-and-thirty years. The voice is a little disguised, it may be, when heard from behind the curtain, but as the actor advances to the foot-lights, we behold the same visage glaring at us that has glared so often before. To change the figure a little abruptly, 'The voice is Jacob's voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau.'" It may be judged from foregoing that Mr. Field's style is animated, and his reply is interesting reading.

LETTERS UPON THE INTERPRETATION OF THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION, known as the B. N. A. Act, 1867, by the Hon. T. J. J. Loranger. Quebec, 1884. First Letter.

This is a republication of letters which appeared in the daily newspapers, treating of federal and provincial relations. In the first Letter the *Mercer* case is discussed. Mr. Loranger, it is well known, holds extreme views on the subject of provincial rights, and in these Letters his pretensions are supported in a voluminous argument.

CATALOGUE BY SUBJECTS, OF THE BOOKS PRESENTED TO MCGILL COLLEGE BY MR. JUSTICE MACKAY.

Mr. Justice Mackay, on retiring from the Bench of the Superior Court, generously pre-

sented his very valuable law library to McGill University. We have now before us a catalogue by subjects of the works comprised in the gift, showing that for a private collection it is unusually complete, and forms an important adjunct to the University library.

SPEECH OF MR. MACMASTER, M. P., ON THE LIQUOR LICENSE ACT, 1883.

Mr. Macmaster, Q. C., delivered an able address in Parliament, in the course of the debate on the McCarthy Act, on the 18th of March last. We have received a pamphlet copy of the *Hansard* report, which makes a valuable addition to the literature of the Constitutional Act. Mr. Macmaster quotes a remark made to him by Mr. J. P. Benjamin in England, referring to the difficulties which occur in the interpretation of a written constitution: "You appear to have great difficulty in interpreting your Constitution, which has only been in existence for fifteen years; but I can tell you, after a practice of thirty odd years in the United States, and subsequently in England, where I often had to do with cases relating to the Constitution of the Colonies in the House of Commons and the House of Lords, that these cases are increasing year by year and day by day, and although we thought in the United States that the difficulties of our Constitution would be settled in the first fifteen or twenty years of its existence, the present day has developed difficulties that we never contemplated, and that are ten times as great as any that existed in the first half century of its existence."

NOTES OF CASES.

SUPERIOR COURT.

MONTREAL, Jan. 15, 1884.

Before MATHIEU, J.

Hon. Sir A. CAMPBELL, es qual. v. JUDAH.
Rights of the Crown—Compensation—C. C. 9,
1187, 1188.

Art. 9 of the Civil Code refers only to such rights and prerogatives of the Crown as are attributions of the sovereignty, and not to such rights as may be possessed equally by subjects. Hence Articles 1187 and 1188 of the Code apply to ordinary claims of the Crown,