

ventilated by means of a shaft cut through the rock into a disused well upon the defendant's land. There was therefore a current of air passing through the shaft and up the well, and it was the right to a continuance of the enjoyment of this current of air which was in question. This current of air might have been easily stopped by the defendant, and as there was evidence from which it was inferred that the defendant knew of its existence, and he had allowed it to go on undisturbed for many years, Baron Pollock (without deciding whether it was an easement which might have been claimed under the Prescription Act) held that it was a case in which the court ought to presume a lost grant in favor of the plaintiff to the enjoyment of the current of air through the defendant's land. This case completes the analogy between easements of air and of water as suggested in *Webb v. Bird* and other cases.—*The Law Times*.

Reviews and Notices of Books.

The Law of Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes, being an Annotation of the "Bills of Exchange Act, 1890." By Edward H. Smythe, one of Her Majesty's Counsel. pp. xxxii. 216. Toronto: The J. E. Bryant Company (Limited).

A short time ago we had occasion to review the full and comprehensive work of Mr. Hodgins on this Act, which, as was then remarked, has a special importance as being a successful attempt to apply the principle of codification to the "wilderness of single instances" in a leading branch of Mercantile Law. The plan of Dr. Smythe's work does not include so full a discussion and illustration of principles, but it seems to us to fulfil in large measure the design of the author, which was to present the ordinary practitioner with an edition of the Act containing, in brief compass and convenient form, such explanations as would bring out clearly its meaning, and indicate its agreement with or divergence from the law as generally understood hitherto.

The foundation for a thorough comprehension of a new Act is a due appreciation of the alterations effected by it. With this view the author has, at the outset, grouped concisely the changes introduced, in order to set forth the particulars in which the former law is varied. At pp. 2, 3, and 4, the sections and subsections which are new are enumerated in detail and in a form convenient for reference. Special attention is directed to sections 19 (2), 52, and 86, which change the law, as far as Ontario and Prince Edward Island are concerned, and abolish the distinction between bills and notes payable generally and at particular places, and make the addition of the restrictive words "only, and not otherwise or elsewhere," hereafter unnecessary for that purpose.

Care has also been taken in the notes to each section to refer to the corresponding section of the Imperial Act of 1882, which forms the basis of the Canadian Act, and to indicate the difference between the two where any exists,