

BOOK REVIEWS.

STUDIES IN JURIDICAL LAW. By HORACE E. SMITH, LL. D.
Pp. xxv + 359. Chicago: T. H. Flood & Co. 1902.

Three hundred and four pages of the above work are devoted to the title subject; the remainder of the book is devoted to two papers read in the past by Mr. Smith, the one on "The Plea of Insanity" (1882), the other on "Literary Property and International Copyright" (1883). The aim of Mr. Smith, as set out in his preface, was, first, to define the term "juridical law;" second, to present the main features of the subject, omitting all unnecessary and confusing matter. The work is meant to be elementary, to present for lawyer and layman in tangible form "the cardinal principles of certain neglected subjects of the law."

The definition of law as laid down by Blackstone is justified and criticism of it by others is rebutted. Then follow brief discussions on the origin of government and law, the relation between the government and its subjects, written laws, common law, criminal law, military and martial law, equity jurisprudence, admiralty and maritime law, international law, the law merchant, the Mosaic code, Roman or civil law, Roman law in England, Anglo-Saxon institutions and laws, the feudal system, pleading and evidence.

The book is too elementary to be a reference book of value. It is a source of suggestions to a lawyer seeking to instruct himself on the "cardinal principles" of the law rather than a source of working knowledge on these principles. The book is readable. Its field of usefulness, however, is, to our minds, not as a text-book or reference book, but rather as a book for legal recreation.

J. G. K.

REPORTS ON THE LAW OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT IN TERRITORY
SUBJECT TO MILITARY OCCUPATION BY THE MILITARY FORCES
OF THE UNITED STATES. By CHARLES E. MAGOON. Pp. 730.
Washington: Published by order of the Secretary of War.
1902.

The War Department has, by means of this publication, given to the country a history of its action in questions arising under the military occupation of our newly acquired islands. The book is a series of reports prepared by the Law Officer of the Insular Department for the use of the Secretary of War in deciding the legal questions that arose. It contains a full discussion of the powers of the War Department and of Congress over the acquired territories. The interpretation of the treaty of peace with Spain and an application of the principles of international law are necessarily involved in many of the cases concerning

individual and corporate property rights and franchises. The book, on account of its disconnected character, is not what is ordinarily termed a readable book, but it is a valuable work of reference. The author has shown a careful historical and legal research and a steadfast adherence to American principles of government.

A. L. D.

FUNDS AND THEIR USES. A Book Describing the Methods, Instruments and Institutions Employed in Modern Financial Transactions. By FREDERICK A. CLEVELAND, Wharton School of Finance and Economy, University of Pennsylvania. Pp. xiii + 304. (Illustrated.) New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1902.

This work contains in a small compass information concerning the way in which the business of the country is conducted, and the different forms of documents used in the transaction of business. It is profusely illustrated with cuts representing different forms of money, commercial paper, bills of sale, bonds, etc. I have often found among law students a surprising ignorance in regard to the details of the most simple and common business practices. My experience would lead me to believe that this ignorance is also found among members of the bar. Nothing impresses a client so unfavorably as the ignorance of his attorney in regard to business accounts or common forms used in business transactions. He naturally and perhaps properly draws the inference that his attorney will not be able to give him sound advice in regard to the legal effect of what he is doing or proposes to do. It has been impossible up to the present time to refer law students to a book containing just the information desired with the necessary illustrations. This want Mr. Cleveland has supplied.

W. D. L.

CASES ON THE LAW OF DAMAGES. Selected by FLOYD R. MECHEM, Author of "Mechem on Agency, etc.," Taphan Professor of Law in the University of Michigan. Third edition. Pp. xvi + 758. St. Paul, Minn.: West Publishing Co. 1902.

The above work being primarily compiled for class-room work, is naturally restricted in its scope, and consequently in its general value. It is a collection of cases intended to illustrate and round out the principles of the Law of Damages as set forth in lectures on the subject given in the Law Department of the University of Michigan.

This, the third edition, follows the general plan of the preceding editions, but contains a greater number of cases, thus rendering the work more complete. From two to fifteen cases are reported in full under each general head, that is, sufficient to satisfy the needs of the class work, but not sufficient to render it of much value to the general practitioner.

R. B. W.