

CURRENT LEGAL PERIODICALS AND BOOK REVIEWS.

A SELECTION OF CASES ON DOMESTIC RELATIONS AND THE LAW OF PERSONS. By EDWIN H. WOODRUFF, Professor of Law in the College of Law, Cornell University. Second Edition, Enlarged. Pp. 624. New York. Baker, Voorhis & Company. 1905.

It is some eight years since the first edition of this work appeared. At that time it was received with a good deal of favor, and it has since become a well-known case book in the Law of Domestic Relations. In the course of time newly-decided cases have enriched this branch of the law, more particularly upon certain points, and a selection from these has been added by Mr. Woodruff to his new edition. He has also added a few cases decided prior to the first issue of his work, and it may be said that these, being important and well-reasoned cases, have distinctly added value to the later work. The greater number of lately-decided cases have been alluded to in footnotes only, but they serve to show the slight changes or differences in judicial opinion which have taken place in the law in the last few years. The largest number of new cases have been added under the head of "Jurisdiction" in divorce actions. The recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States came too late for Mr. Woodruff to incorporate it in his book; it is evident that some of the judges would have been glad to have had some authoritative statement of the sort, feeling the evils that had grown up under the lack of a "final arbiter" to reduce the confusion to some sort of order. It is to be hoped that this salutary decision, after the temporary outcry from those who chose to take advantage of an unsettled state of the law has ceased, may be allowed by the state courts its full force and effect. Mr. Woodruff, by making his chief changes in this subject of jurisdiction in divorce, manifests the importance of the subject to the citizens of the United States; his careful selection shows clearly the confusion that had resulted from our many and unwise experiments in divorce legislation.

The real value of a collection of cases of this sort would seem to lie chiefly in the amount of individual research to which