

BOOK REVIEWS.

SNELL'S PRINCIPLES OF EQUITY. Seventeenth Edition. By H. Gibson Rigington, M. A., and A. Clifford Fountaine. Pp. 578, 21a. London: Stevens and Hayes, 1915.

Good wine needs no bush and Snell's Equity, at this late date, needs no more praises. Many generations of candidates in the mysteries of the law have piously conned its pages since its author at the early age of twenty-six first issued it for the benefit of his contemporaries and the administration of his followers. The seventeenth edition brings the work up to date by including the important decisions and statutes added to English equity law since 1912. The new editors have abandoned at last the old subdivision into exclusive, concurrent, and auxiliary jurisdiction, and dropped the last-named topic out altogether, substituting for it in the first part of the book a short chapter on the effect of the Judicature Acts upon the powers of the court. The arrangement of the remaining chapters is substantially unchanged.

We cannot help being struck by the comparative simplicity of the task of an English text-writer, with his one set of Law Reports to study, as against the colossal labor that confronts an American editor who sets out to revise a standard text and has to plough through fifty sets of reports. Snell, after seventeen editions, is still contained in one volume of less than 600 pages; Pomeroy, on the same subject, in its third edition, contains six volumes of the same size as Snell, and its "Index to Cases Cited" alone exceeds the entire bulk of Snell by at least 200 pages! Such gigantic masses of citations reduce our texts to mere digests and make impossible any attempt at a style which the Briton finds at least possible of attainment.

Samuel Rosenbaum.

A SKETCH OF ENGLISH LEGAL HISTORY. By F. W. Maitland and F. C. Montague. Edited by James F. Colby. Pp. 225. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1915.

It is questionable whether it is fair to the memory of so great a scholar as the late Professor Maitland to publish under his name as "by" him fragmentary extracts, however brilliant, contributed to a purely popular work. If this practice is correct who that dies with advertising value attached to his name is safe from the enterprising publisher who may resurrect his long forgotten "pot boilers"? It would have been better to have given this book a title that would have more accurately described its source. The material is derived from chapters contributed by Professors Maitland and Montague to *Social England*, a general work edited in 1899. The early period is covered by chapters by Maitland and the modern by Montague aided by occasional extracts from other works. A brief bibliography in the form of recommended readings is given at the end of each chapter.

The book is, as it purports to be, a sketch or primer, and an excellent one for the layman who might be inclined to know something of legal history. It is also available as a text book for a short college course preparatory to the study of the law, but is hardly comprehensive enough to meet the needs of the full fledged law student.

FOR BETTER RELATIONS WITH OUR LATIN-AMERICAN NEIGHBORS, A JOURNEY TO SOUTH AMERICA. By Robert Bacon. Publication No. 7, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Division of Intercourse and Education, Washington, D. C., 1915. Pp. viii and 186. Editions in English, Spanish, and Portuguese.

In the fall of 1913, at the invitation of Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, Director of the Division of Intercourse and Education of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, the Hon. Robert Bacon, former Secretary of State and Ambassador to France, undertook a visit to Brazil, Argentine Republic, Uruguay, Chile, Peru and Panama, to explain the purposes of the Endowment. Mr. Bacon's name has thus been added to those other eminent international visitors, Baron d'Estournelles de Constant, the Baroness von Suttner, Professor Nitobe, ex-President Eliot of Harvard, and Hamilton Wright Mabie. This volume contains Mr. Bacon's report of his trip to the Trustees (pp. 3-53). Around this, and filling most of the volume, have been grouped letters, interviews, addresses, *etc.*, relating to the trip. We do not secure from Mr. Bacon's report any valuable observations about the countries visited; Mr. Bacon has, necessarily, limited himself to a chronicle of events and a printed acknowledgment of the unusual courtesies extended him.

We cannot refrain from quoting the profoundly true and encouraging words of Mr. Elihu Root, in his letter of instruction to Mr. Bacon (p. 3): "The trustees of the Endowment are fully aware that progress in the work which they have undertaken must necessarily be slow and that its most substantial results must be far in the future. We are dealing with aptitudes and impulses firmly established in human nature through the development of thousands of years, and the utmost that any one generation can hope to do is to promote the gradual change of standards of conduct. All estimates of such a work and its results must be in terms not of individual human life, but in terms of the long life of nations. Inconspicuous as are the immediate results, however, there can be no nobler object of human effort than to exercise an influence upon the tendencies of the race, so that it shall move, however slowly, in the direction of civilization and humanity and away from senseless brutality."

Layton B. Register.

THE HAGUE ARBITRATION CASES. COMPROMIS AND AWARDS WITH MAPS IN CASES DECIDED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE HAGUE CONVENTIONS OF 1899 AND 1907, AND TEXTS OF THE CONVENTIONS. By George Grafton Wilson. Pp. x and 525. Boston and London: Ginn & Company, 1915.

In these troublous times, when war plays so great a part in world events, when pacific settlement of international disputes is rather apt to be regarded as the dream of a theorist than a practicable method for the solution of international difficulties, the general public, and the lawyer, as well as the student of international law, should be interested in the perusal of Dr. Wilson's able compilation of the compromis and awards in the several Hague Arbitration cases. The reader realizes that much has been accomplished by the Hague Tribunal and experiences a deep regret that the present war with its alarming devastation, its disastrous inroad upon the manhood of the belligerent nations, and its resulting sorrow and misery to those who remain, might not have been averted by a timely resort to the Tribunal of Peace.

In the past, it has been exceedingly difficult to secure complete information in regard to the several cases which have been decided by the tribunal.

The present work, being of a novel sort, is therefore exceptionally valuable. In each case, the compromis, containing the relation of the facts and conditions under which the case has been submitted, is given, as well as the award from which alone a clear understanding of the questions involved frequently cannot be obtained. While the arguments of counsel are not given, in the interest of brevity it is probably just as well, for if they had been set forth, many volumes instead of but one would have been required in this work.

In each case, the official language of the compromis and award is invariably given. Where the official compromis and award have been drawn in several languages, one of which is English, the English version alone is given, as it is quite as official as any other. Where the compromis and award have been drawn in languages other than English, the official translation in to English or, if none, an unofficial translation, accompanies the compromis and award. Accompanying maps make clear the award in several cases.

Of the fifteen cases which the court has decided, The Pious Fund Cases, Preferential Claims against Venezuela, Japanese House Tax, Right of Muschat Dhows to Fly Flag, Deserters at Casablanca, Maritime Frontier, North Atlantic Coast Fisheries, Orinoco Steamship Company, Arrest and Return of Savarkar, Canevaro Claim, Interest on Indemnities, the Manuba, the Carthage, the Tavignano, Boundaries of the Island of Timor, the United States has been a party in four, The Pious Fund, Preferential Claims, Coast Fisheries, Orinoco Steamship Company. Questions of various sorts have arisen and been decided, financial matters have been passed upon, and territorial and boundary disputes have been settled. Indeed through a careful reading of the compilation it becomes apparent that the pacific settlement of international questions of grave import not only may be accomplished, but has already been brought about in numerous instances.

The book, on the whole, may be properly regarded as presenting in clear, concise form, an excellent survey of the accomplishments of the Hague Tribunal and should have a wide influence in promoting an international feeling in favor of the settlement of international difficulties in the future through peaceful, rather than warlike, methods.

H. A. L.