

the law, an antiquarian idolatry of the common law, amounting almost to juridical impotence. It must be remembered, however, that the author is not questioning the value of historical research, as such, but criticising the deductions therefrom, the tendency to overemphasize single factors in the complicated process of legal development. Nevertheless, in a laudable zeal for progressive ideals, it does scant justice to the nineteenth century to regard it as a do-nothing era. The law made great advances in that time, far more than in the more philosophic eighteenth century, clearing the way for further advances in the twentieth century, now accomplished or pressing for attention. After all, temperament plays a part in such matters and there are fashions in law as well as clothes. The somewhat bumptious self-confidence of the philosophers of "the age of reason," the period of Bentham, gave way to the excessive caution, humility and conservatism of the principal figures that passed away before the great war. A new self-confidence, fortified by sociology, has arisen, which, it may be hoped, will profit by the highly specialized and critical work of the recent past, in its efforts to readjust the law to the ever-changing needs of society.

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#### OTHER BOOKS RECEIVED.

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PROBLEMS OF PEACE AND WAR—TRANSACTIONS OF THE GROTIUS SOCIETY. Papers read before the Society in the year 1922. Sweet & Maxwell, Ltd., London, 1923, pp. lii, 132.