

BOOK NOTICES.

Hand-Book of U. S. Supreme Court Decisions. By H. D. Clarke, Librarian of the Court, Rochester, N. Y. Lawyers' Co-operative Publishing Co., 1892.

The digest of the U. S. Supreme Court decisions issued several years ago by this company is easily superior to any other published. Mr. Clarke's work is an admirable shelf companion to the digest. The Hand-Book is peculiarly fitted for the work of running down a case or point of law in the shortest possible time. Modern practice demands above all things conciseness and brevity, and here we find both. The cross references are copious and valuable. An especially good idea is the naming of the author of the opinion cited and the State from which it came up.

The typography of the book is not so neat as could be wished. The paper is too heavy and not flexible enough for a reference book, and the binding is not so durable as could be wished for a book which will doubtless be so much consulted.

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Book 15, Lawyers' Reports, Annotated. The Lawyers' Co-operative Publishing Co., Rochester, N. Y., 1892.

In this volume the cases as usual are carefully selected, the notes are frequent and voluminous and the briefs in valuable cases are carefully digested. This work is supplemented by a classified résumé of the decisions and a general and special index which furnishes a quick and ready view of the contents.

The practical value of the series is well known and appreciated, and this volume is no exception to the rule.

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A Treatise on Federal Practice in Civil Causes: with special reference to patent cases and the foreclosure of railway mortgages. By Roger Foster. The Boston Book Co., 1892.

This is the second edition of Mr. Foster's work which has now been enlarged to two volumes. The changes introduced by the creation of the Circuit Courts of Appeal have rendered a second

edition necessary, and the author has embraced the opportunity to revise the entire work. Many of the old chapters have been entirely re-written and nearly doubled in size while new chapters on Practice in Admiralty, in the Court of Private Land Claims, and in the Court of Claims have been added. Some of the most recent statutes and many rules and forms have been included in the appendix—the whole being characterized by the author's usual carefulness. So well known has this work become that little except in the way of renewed commendation can be said of it. The praises which were accorded the first edition by a unanimous bench and bar have pronounced it one of the leading treatises on federal practice and its thorough revision at this time has added to its usefulness and practical value to practitioners and students alike.

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The American Digest (Annual, 1892), St. Paul, Minn. West Publishing Co.

We cannot help regretting the necessity for a volume of 3000 pages to report properly the decisions for one year of the American courts. This condition confronts us however, and the West Publishing Co. have ably met it. As a digest we think this book is beyond criticism. It is the most stupendous conservation of legal energy we have yet seen. When one examines the cross references, headings, table of cases and the many other helps to briefing and case arranging he is appalled at the tremendous amount of labor and pains involved. In binding, type and paper the publishers have produced a book which will stand the wear and tear to which it is sure to be put.