

# SOULE & BUGBEE'S Legal Bibliography

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## EDITORIAL.

This paper is intended to advertise the publications and stock of the booksellers who issue it; but their endeavor will be to make it more readable than a mere advertisement. Bits of biography, of literary gossip, of news about books, of anecdotes and interesting extracts, will be found among the drier details of editions and prices. The book-lovers and book-buyers will be rewarded for glancing through these columns by the solid information they obtain; while the larger class of lawyers, who are not eager to read ordinary circulars, will find here, we hope, enough matters of interest and amusement to save future numbers of *LEGAL BIBLIOGRAPHY* from the oblivion of the waste-basket.

It has been the fortune of the present editor to usher into the world two other papers of a like character to this, which are still alive and flourishing, though now in other hands. If this sheet is as prosperous as its predecessors, he can congratulate himself upon being, perhaps, the only man in America who has founded three successful periodicals without sinking a fortune. Prosperity is very likely to attend such a venture as this; for the great aim of publishers — a wide circulation — is assured from the start. It only remains to induce the recipients to become readers, and then the purpose of the publication will be fulfilled.

It is right to say, however, that there are a great many lawyers who need no coaxing or spurring to induce them to read law-book advertisements. There is often an ardor of interest in books, awakened in the student, and quickened in the practitioner, which burns brighter the more it is indulged. If an ample income allows this ardor to gratify itself in purchases, the first step beyond the familiar round of office text-books leads one into a field of search and research for rare books and choice editions, which has all the charm of the virtuoso's range after old china or antique furniture. The hunt for a volume here and a volume there, the gradual completion of a set or a collection, is not only a keen delight in itself, but it is a recreation to the busy lawyer, taking his mind off of the drudgery of his profession.

Here, too, is one of the pleasures of law-bookselling, — the search after rare books among the booksellers of America and Europe, in the book-stalls of great cities, on the shelves of lawyers in the villages. To gather up in any quarter the useless or unvalued books, and take

them a thousand miles away to some eager buyer, — this has the pleasure of a game rather than a business. The writer was asked, not long ago, to find an out-of-print English work, in two volumes, for a lawyer in Boston. He searched through all corners of England and Ireland and Scotland, finding only an old copy of the second volume, and came back, disappointed, across the Atlantic, to report that the complete book was not to be had. But, before the report was made, he happened to discover on the dusty shelves of an obscure book-stall in Cincinnati, an odd first volume; and thus the set was completed, — one-half from the Old World, the other from the New. This was a genuine triumph, petty, perhaps, but worth weeks of uneventful office-work.

In establishing a new law-bookstore, we do not wish to draw away custom from the many excellent firms already established. We hope that we can find enough young lawyers coming into practice, and can suggest enough new wants to older book-buyers, to give us sufficient business without diminishing the sales of any of our friends in the book-trade. Indeed, the especial temptation which our lists and advertisements will offer from time to time ought to stimulate lawyers to invest so freely that the fashion of book-buying will spread, and all booksellers will profit thereby. Nothing would please us better than to build up an extensive business for ourselves, and benefit our neighbors in doing it.

## LAW-BOOKS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

It is a general belief that the English or American student in any branch of literature can find the best collection of books for reference and study in the Library of the British Museum. This is probably true in most cases; but there is a notable exception in the literature of the law. The collection of law-books at the Museum is large; but it is in bad shape for use. It is scattered through different parts of the library, is not catalogued after the plan with which lawyers are familiar, and cannot be used except through cards of application sent from the reading-room, a volume, or a few volumes, at a time. The privilege of going to the shelves, so valuable to the searcher for authorities when he is uncertain which volume of a set or series he wants, cannot be obtained except by special permission, and never without the detail of an attendant to accompany and watch the investigator. There is no law-librarian; and apparently no one of the librarians or assistants has any familiar knowledge of law-books and the best methods of facilitating their use. In consequence of this, the money which is liberally spent every year in the purchase of legal literature is more or less wasted, unless the mere accumulation of books is desirable in itself. It is unfortunate that this state of things exists; for the Museum Library contains a great number of law-books. If they were collected into one room, or suite of rooms, and placed in charge of a trained law-librarian, like the librarians of Lincoln's Inn and the Inner Temple, the department so organized would become a favorite resort of students of English law. Intelligent arrange-

ment, combination, and cataloguing of the books now in the library, intelligent expenditure through a series of years, directed to perfecting sets, and collecting all books, old and new, on every topic of the law, would make in time an almost perfect law-library, and utilize a vast amount of material now practically useless.

In all the points which make a good law-library—in completeness of its collections of all the reports, laws, and text-books of England and America; in systematic arrangement; in effective cataloguing; and especially in the accessibility of the books, and in the facilities offered to students—the Law-Library of Congress, at Washington, is very greatly superior to the Library of the British Museum.

#### ODDITIES OF THE LAW.

THIS collection of wise, witty, and odd remarks and comments by the famous judges, the great lawyers, and the law-reporters, will be found exceedingly amusing and instructive, not only to the legal profession, but to the general reader. No man was so well qualified to make a good book of this kind as Mr. Heard, who has an intimate and peculiar knowledge of English courts and court reporters.

We present the following as specimens of the contents:—

"In the year 1598 Sir Edward Coke, then Attorney-General, married the Lady Hatton, according to the Book of Common Prayer, but without bans or license, and in a private house. Several great men were there present, as Lord Burleigh, Lord Chancellor Egerton, etc. They all, by their proctor, submitted to the censure of the archbishop, who granted them an absolution from the excommunication which they had incurred. The act of absolution set forth that it was granted by reason of penitence, and the act seeming to have been done through ignorance of the law."

"Nihil habet forum ex censâ is one of Bacon's maxims; but he there refers to fictitious cases brought into the courts in order to determine points of law. Sergeant Maynard, who died in the reign of William III., is said to have had 'the ruling passion strong in death' to such a degree, that he left a will purposely worded so as to cause litigation, in order that sundry questions which had been 'moot points' in his lifetime might be settled for the benefit of posterity."

"When Plunket was driven to resign the Irish Chancellorship, he was succeeded by Lord Campbell. The day of the latter's arrival was very stormy, and a friend remarked to Plunket how sick of his promotion the passage must have made the new-comer. 'Yes,' he replied ruefully; 'but it won't make him throw up the seals.'"

"There is a very ancient precedent of judges going *circuit*. 'And he went from year to year in circuit to Bethel, and Gilgal, and Mizpeh, and judged Israel in all those places.'—1 SAM. vii. 16."

#### LIBRARIES BOUGHT OR APPRAISED.

WE are ready to buy libraries in bulk, whenever they are offered at prices which will allow us a fair profit. It will be well, however, for executors, or other persons who have books to sell, to remember that text-books, odd volumes of reports, and old editions of English and American reports, do not find a ready sale. To get cash for a lot of such books, the prices must be put low. Full sets of the best editions of good reports in fair condition command better prices.

Wherever it is desired, we will appraise libraries at a moderate charge.

#### STAR-CHAMBER CASES: A REPRINT.

We have in press, for publication in December or January, a reprint of the "Star-Chamber Cases," a small quarto of only fifty-five pages, originally printed in 1630, now become scarce. Mr. WALLACE finds these cases so interesting that he devotes to them six pages of "The Reporters."

We reprint it in imitation of the old style, upon such paper and in such binding as will make it a choice example of the perfection which the manufacture of books has attained in America.

#### A DICTIONARY OF ABBREVIATIONS.

THE range of quotation from reports is so great in modern text-books, and the citations used are so various, no two authors citing on the same system, that every lawyer needs to have on his desk for instant reference a complete dictionary of all possible abbreviations,—a dictionary which shall define the citation if it is correct, or suggest some definition if it be insufficient or erroneous. Lists of abbreviations are given in various places,—in the booksellers' catalogues, in the law-dictionaries, and elsewhere. In the catalogues the English and American abbreviations are printed separately; and in all the lists only the correct abbreviations are given. But, when a lawyer comes across a blind abbreviation in a book or brief, he does not know whether it is correct or incorrect, whether it is English or American, whether it is a text-book or report. What he wants is an alphabetical list embracing all forms of all supposable citations, with notes wherever there might be a likelihood of confusion.

Such a list will be one of the features of "The Lawyer's Reference Manual" to be published in January next.

#### SPECIAL LIST OF BARGAINS.

THE books in this list were bought low, and are here catalogued at special prices, which we cannot agree to adhere to after the copies advertised are sold.

The books are all sound and perfect, and bound in law sheep. The condition of the outside of each set is indicated by letters,—*a* signifying good; *b*, fair; and *c*, shabby.

The prices given are all net.

- b*. Dickenson's Quarter Sessions. 1845. \$5.00.
- b*. Starkie on Criminal Pleading. 2 vols. 1828. \$6.00.
- b*. Gabbett's Criminal Law. 3 vols. 1843. \$12.00.
- b*. Hawkins's Pleas of the Crown. 2 vols. 1824. \$13.00.
- b*. Massachusetts Reports. 17 vols. \$20.00.
- a*. Irish Chancery Reports (*comp.* Sugden). 9 vols. \$30.00.
- English Crown Cases, 1852 to 1865 (Dearsly, Dearsly and Bell, Bell, Leigh and Cave). 4 vols. New half-calf, \$38.00.
- b*. Johnson's New York Reports. 2 vols. \$30.00.
- b*. English Chancery Reports (namely, Vernon, 2 vols.; Peere Williams, 3 vols.; Atkyns, 3 vols.; Ambler, 2 vols.; Merivale, 3 vols.; Swanston, 3 vols.). 16 vols., good editions. \$35.00.
- b*. Benton's Abridgment of Congressional Debates, from 1789 to 1850. 16 vols. \$32.00.
- b*. Simon's Vice-Chancellors' Reports. English edition. 17 vols. \$34.00.
- a*. Jacob's Fisher's Digest. Vols. 1 to 7. \$35.00.
- c*. English Law and Equity Reports. 40 vols. \$40.00.
- c*. English Bail Court Reports (namely, Dowling, 9 vols.; Dowling, new series, 2 vols.; Dowling and Lowndes, 7 vols.; Lowndes, Maxwell, and Pollock, 2 vols.). 20 vols. \$45.00.
- b*. Law Reports. Equity cases, 1865 to 1875. 20 vols. \$60.00.
- a*. United States Digest (both series). Latest edition. 25 vols. \$85.00.
- a*. Moak's English Reports. 27 vols.; and Index, 28 vols. \$90.00.
- b*. Law Reports: Common Law Series. 1865 to 1875. (Queen's Bench, 10 vols.; Common Pleas, 10 vols.; Exchequer, 10 vols.) 30 vols. \$90.00.
- c*. English Common Pleas Reports. 1810 to 1846 (namely, Taunton, 8 vols.; Broderip and Bingham, 3 vols.; Bingham, 10 vols.; Bingham, new Cases, 6 vols.; Manning and Granger, 7 vols.); in all, 34 vols. English editions. \$68.00.
- b*. English Chancery Reports. 43 vols. \$110.00.
- a*. American Reports. 33 vols.; and Digest, 34 vols. 115.00.
- a*. Irish Reports. 1827 to 1880 (including The Law Recorder, 10 vols.; Irish Law and Equity Reports, 26 vols.; Irish Common Law and Chancery Reports, 24 vols.; Irish Reports, Common Law and Equity Series, 22 vols.; Irish Law Reports, 6 vols.); in all, 98 vols. \$450.00.

Also, sets of Massachusetts, Maine, and Rhode Island Reports, which will be priced on inquiry.

IN truth, as was said by Chief Justice Wilnot, "the common law is nothing else but statutes worn out."—From "Oddities of the Law."



## AMES'S CASES ON BILLS AND NOTES.

We shall publish Nov. 1 "A Selection of Cases on the Law of Bills and Notes and other Negotiable Paper: with full References and Citations, and also an Index and Summary of the Cases. Prepared for use as a Text-Book in Harvard Law-School. By JAMES BARR AMES, Bussey Professor of Law in Harvard University." 2 vols. Bound in English half calf, \$12.00 net, or delivered for \$12.50 net.

As the title explains, this work was prepared for the use of students; but the number and thoroughness of the annotations, and the concise statement of the law of bills and notes contained in the Summary, give it a peculiar value for practitioners also. The Preface says, "With the design of rendering these volumes useful to the practising lawyer, the editor has attempted to collect in footnotes all the cumulative and adverse authorities, English and American, upon the points decided in the principal cases. In the Summary, the editor, while aiming to state as concisely as possible the actual result of the decisions, has ventured to express with considerable freedom his opinion upon the points decided."

The cases are presented (as in Professor Langdell's collection of Cases or Contracts) without syllabi. They number over six hundred, and are divided by chapters and sections into groups corresponding with the divisions of the Summary. Thus Chapter I. treats of "Formal Requisites;" Section 1, "A Bill must contain an Order," then four cases illustrating this point; Section 2, "A Note must contain a Promise," with thirteen apposite cases; Section 3, "The Order or Promise must be unconditional," with fifteen cases; and so on. These cases are very fully annotated in footnotes.

The advantage of works of this class lies in their completeness. They combine treatise and report; and the cases they contain can be offered in court as authority more binding than the statements in a text-book.

We bind Ames's Cases only in half calf, after the English style. This does not increase the cost of the book, and is handsomer and more durable than law sheep.

## NEW REVISION OF MASSACHUSETTS LAWS.

The Public Statutes of Massachusetts, comprising all the general laws of the State now in force, have been consolidated and arranged by a commission of three able and experienced lawyers, appointed for that purpose by the Governor, under a resolve of the Legislature. The work of the commission has been examined and approved by a committee of the General Court; and a special session is to be held in November to enact the whole body of statutes, and fix a time when they shall go into effect, — probably on the first day of January next. The State printers (Messrs. Rand, Avery, & Co.) have the work now in type, and will be prepared to print it as soon as it receives the official approval. The whole work, including an analytical index, and a glossary of law-terms, prepared by an able lawyer, will make a volume of fourteen hundred or fifteen hundred pages, a little larger than the second edition of the United States Statutes.

There has been no revision of the general laws of Massachusetts since 1859; and the revision of that date (printed in 1860, and reprinted in 1873, the plates having been destroyed by fire) now sells for \$3.00 net. The two supplements, containing the general laws enacted between 1860 and 1880, sell for \$5.50 net. The new edition, covering all the laws in force at this time, will probably be sold for substantially the cost of printing, binding, and distributing (the State owning and permitting the use of the plates); and the price will not exceed \$3.50 in sheep. We are now prepared to receive orders for the work, and will fill them in the order in which they are received, and at the price fixed by the State authorities.

This is a work of general interest, not only to law-students and lawyers throughout the country, but to all men doing business under the laws of the State, or having business connections therein.

## LAWYERS' REFERENCE MANUAL.

ONE of the first and most pressing wants of a lawyer who uses books is a reference manual to lie on his desk, and give him information about editions of reports, about the English and American treatises on any subject he is looking up, and especially about citations and abbreviations.

Such a book we shall publish in January or February next, under the title of *The Lawyers' Reference Manual*. It will contain, in condensed form, the information now given in library or book-sellers' catalogues, in the large works on legal bibliography, in paragraphs of the law dictionaries, and in scattered chapters of other works; together with much more not before printed. The dictionary of abbreviations, designed to put a reader on the track of even the blindest citation, will be very full and useful.

The price of the manual will not exceed \$3.00. A discount will be made to any lawyer or student who will buy a number at one time for the purpose of selling them by personal canvass, and to libraries which require a dozen or more copies for the use of readers.

## THE IDEAL LAW-LIBRARY.

WHAT should a law-library comprise, to occupy the largest field of usefulness? This is a question which many librarians and library officers are pondering over. There are a dozen libraries in America with sufficient incomes to aspire, through gradual growth, to an ideal completeness, if completeness can be defined.

To this question we offer an answer, based on a study of the subject, and on discussions with librarians and lawyers, covering a book-selling experience of fifteen years.

The perfect law-library should have —

1. Every edition of every published volume of American, English, Irish, or Scotch Reports, with digests.
2. The Reports of all the British Colonies, and of countries (like the Sandwich Islands) which have imitated the English or American system of reporting. [See "Lawyers' Reference Manual" for a list of such reports.]
3. All the original session laws, and compilations of statutes of the United States, the separate States, and Great Britain.
4. Every edition of every American or English elementary work or treatise, old or new. [The old editions would be valuable to students for comparison and collation.]
5. A collection, as complete as possible, of special reports of trials, catalogued not only by titles and general subjects, but also with reference to the particular points of evidence, rulings, or argument, which may render them valuable.
6. Pamphlets on legal subjects, properly catalogued.
7. All books on legal bibliography.
8. Histories of the law, and of courts; works on the philosophy of law, legal bibliographies, legal speeches, legal anecdotes and miscellanies.
9. The classic law-books of the civil law and of foreign countries.
10. The Codes or Collections of Statutes in force, of all civilized countries and colonies.
11. All the treatises and published decisions of foreign countries on commercial, maritime, and international law, and on other subjects where their law resembles ours, or interests us.

A VALUABLE BOOK OF REFERENCE.

**Soule's Synonymes.** "A Dictionary of English Synonymes, and Synonym or Parallel Expressions. Designed as a practical guide to aptness and variety of expression. By RICHARD SOULE." 12mo. Cloth, \$2.00; half calf, \$3.50.

The simplicity of arrangement, and the admirable execution of this work, have already made it a standard. To use the words of a reviewer, it "is the best book of the kind extant." It should be on the desk of every lawyer who wishes to form or to preserve an accurate and polished style.

"The main design of this Dictionary," says the author in his preface, "is to provide a ready means of assistance when one is at a loss for a word or an expression that best suits a particular turn of thought or mood of the mind, or that may obviate an ungraceful repetition. Even practised and skilful writers are sometimes embarrassed in the endeavor to make a sentence more clear, simple, terse, or rhythmical, by the substitution of one form of diction for another. It is presumed that they, as well as novices in composition, will find the present work useful in overcoming difficulties of this sort."

A specimen page is given below:—

FAILING

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FAIL IN

**Failing, v. n.** 1. Decline, decay.

2. Miscarriage, failure.

3. Fault, fable, frailty, lapse, error, slip, shortcoming, imperfection, deficiency, defect, weakness, infirmity, weak side, blind side.

**Failure, n.** 1. Deficiency, defectiveness, shortcoming.

2. Omission, neglect, FAIL, non-performance, non-observance.

3. Miscarriage, botch, ill success, flash in the pan, labor for one's pains, losing game, wild-goose chase, sleeveless errand.

4. Insolvency, bankruptcy, suspension of payment.

5. Decay, decline, declension, loss.

**Fain, c.** Glad, pleased, raptured, well-pleased.

**Fain, ad.** Gladly, joyfully, with pleasure, with joy.

**Faint, v. n.** 1. Swoon, faint away.

2. Languish, grow weak, fail in vigor, lose strength.

3. Be disheartened, be discouraged, be dejected, be depressed, lose courage, be dispirited, be down-hearted, sink into dejection.

**Faint, c.** 1. Swooning, fainting away.

2. Weak, feeble, drooping, exhausted, languid.

3. Small, little, slight, inconsiderable.

4. Dim, dull, not bright, not vivid.

5. Fearful, timid, timorous, cowardly, dastardly, faint-hearted.

6. Dejected, depressed, dispirited, disheartened, discouraged.

**Faint away, v.** Swoon, faint.

**Faint-hearted, a.** Timid, timorous, fearful, cowardly, dastardly, faint.

**Fair, c.** 1. Spotless, unspecked, untarnished, unblemished, unstained.

2. White, light, blonde.

3. Handsome, comely, beautiful.

4. Pleasant, clear, cloudless, not cloudy, not overcast.

5. Favorable, prosperous.

6. Promising, hopeful.

7. Open, distinct, plain, unobstructed, unobscured.

8. Frank, honest, candid, ingenuous, equitable, just, honorable, upright, impartial, unbiased.

9. Reasonable, proper.

10. Pretty good, more than middling, above mediocrity.

**Fair play, justice, equity, fairness, equitable treatment.**

**Fair-spoken, a.** Civil, courteous, oily, bland, smooth, plausible.

**Fairy, n.** Fay, elf, nigricorn.

**Faith, n.** 1. Belief (that prompts to action), credence, credit, trust, assurance, confidence, dependence, reliance.

2. Creed, persuasion, tenet, dogmas, doctrine, religion, system of religion.

3. Fidelity, faithfulness, truthfulness, truth, constancy, loyalty.

4. Engagement, promise, word of honor.

**Faith, interj.** [Colloquial.] Verily, in truth, by my faith, upon my word.

**Faithful, a.** 1. Trustworthy, trusty, true, constant, loyal.

2. Truthful, reliable, worthy of credit, worthy of belief, to be relied on, to be depended upon.

**Faithlessness, n.** 1. Unbelief.

2. Perfidious, treacherous, false, untruthful, traitorous.

**Faithless, a.** 1. Unbelief.

2. Perfidy, treachery.

**Falcate, (f. l. c.)** Hooked, sickle-shaped.

**Falcon, n.** Gleaner.

**Fall, v. n.** 1. Drop, descend, sink, drop down.

2. Be prostrated, fall down.

3. Sink, be lowered, be depressed.

4. Decrease, decline, be diminished, become less, die away.

5. Sin, err, transgress, lapse, trip, trespass, commit a fault, do amiss, go astray.

6. Die, perish, come to destruction.

7. Empty, disembody, flow, be discharged.

8. Happen, befall, come.

9. Become (slept, asleep, in love, &c.).

10. Pass, be transferred.

11. Be dropped, be uttered carelessly.

**Fall, n.** 1. Descent, dropping.

2. Tumble, falling.

3. Cataract, cascade, waterfall.

4. Extent of descent.

5. Destruction, death, ruin, overthrow, downfall.

6. Degradation, loss of eminence.

7. Apostasy, loss of innocence.

8. Diminution, decrease, decline.

9. Sinking (of the voice), cadence, close.

10. Discharge (of a river), disembodiment.

11. Autumn, fall of the leaf.

12. Declivity, slope, inclination.

**Fallacious, a.** Deceptive, delusive, deceiving, illusive, illusory, misleading, dissuading, false.

**Fallacy, n.** 1. Illusion, deception, deceit, delusion, mistake, error, misconception, misapprehension.

2. Sophism, sophistry, deceitful argument.

**Fall among.** Come among, happen to be among, happen to be in the company of.

**Fall away, 1.** Pine, grow lean, be emaciated, lose flesh.

2. Backslide, apostatize, fall off.

**Fall back, v.** Retreat, retreat, give way.

**Fallibility, n.** Fallacy, imperfection, uncertainty, liability to error.

**Fallible, a.** Fall, imperfect, weak, ignorant, liable to erring, liable to error or mistake.

**Fall in, 1.** (Nautical.) Come into line, form into ranks.

2. Concur, consent, agree, assent, acquiesce, go with the stream, go with the current.

WALLACE'S REPORTERS (NEW EDITION).

WE take pleasure in announcing the publication in January, 1882, of a FOURTH EDITION of this work, revised and very much enlarged by the author, with the assistance of F. F. Heard, Esq., of Boston. The last edition, published in 1855, was soon exhausted; and such copies as have found their way into auctions or bookstores have sold for many years at extravagant prices. The reason for the delay in preparing a new edition of so valuable a book is thus explained by Mr. WALLACE in the preface to the forthcoming edition:—

The favor which the first three editions of this work received led the author, on the appearance, A.D. 1855, of the last one, to suppose that a fourth edition might at some time, perhaps, be borne with. And, in view of such a possibility, he made, up to the summer of 1857, considerable additions to the then existing volume. Absence from the country for a considerable time from that date, and, after his return, his appointment in December term, 1863, by the Supreme Court of the United States to be the reporter of its decisions, prevented much further work on the book; and his "revise" was pretty much forgotten. On his retirement from office, in 1876, after thirteen years of close labor, and the issue of twenty-three large volumes of reports, his disposition to meddle further with printers' ink and proof-sheets was not strong. The *nulla incommoda*, too, which the poet tells us that advancing years bring with them, began to be felt; among them a condition of the eyes which rendered any severe use of them a matter desirable for him to avoid.

But his book, if any new edition of it was to come forth as a publication of this day, needed a good deal to be done to it. New editions of some old Reports had appeared since 1855. Some ancient manuscript rolls, too, had since been printed; and his lists, whether chronological or alphabetical, of Reporters were, of course, a quarter of a century behind the times. Certain minor things also—among them the verification of the references in his new matter—required to be seen to; the whole, if receiving proper attention, needing an amount of labor and care which the author did not feel either inclined or able to give the subject.

At this moment a generous friend appeared. Mr. Franklin Fiske Heard of Boston,—well known to the bar by his writings, including among them his contributions, through our law-periodicals, to the bibliography of the Reports, and with whom the author had long been in correspondence on that topic,—learning the state of the case, kindly offered to superintend, at Boston, the publication of the revise, and to supply such deficiencies in it as are above referred to. So gracious an offer was gratefully accepted, and the present volume is the result.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 31, 1882.

J. W. WALLACE.

The Reporters is the most readable book of bibliography ever published. In addition to a vast amount of information about the editions, imperfections, merits, authenticity, and contents of the old reporters, Mr. WALLACE has added biographical sketches and personal anecdotes, which make the volume as interesting as it is valuable.

The size and price of the new edition will be announced in January next. Advance orders will be placed on file, and filled with early copies.

IMPORTANT ENGLISH STATUTES.

WE have now ready for sale "A Collection of Important English Statutes, showing the Principal Changes in the Law of Real Property, together with some other Enactments of Common Reference." Royal 8vo, 128 pp. Cloth, \$1.25 net.

The preface says, "In preparing the following pages an attempt has been made to embody in a convenient form the most important of those English statutes which, passed before the establishment of the colonies, form to-day part of our law, and such subsequent enactments as have had, through their direct or indirect adoption, the greatest influence on the case law of this country. . . . While this collection has been made primarily as a reference-book for the use of members of the Harvard Law-School, it is hoped that others may find it of service in their studies."

### RARE OLD BOOKS.

AMONG other books not often advertised, we have those catalogued below. Most of them are in good condition inside; but their bindings, in many instances, are ancient and somewhat battered. The prices are net.

**Consultationes Jacobi Cujacii I. C. Præclarissimi. Liber Singularis.** Colonie Agrippinæ: GERARDI NIGRI DE FENDIS, and OPERA PETRI PECKII DE VERBORUM SIGNIFICATIONE. 24mo. 1578. \$5.00.

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## Legal-Bibliographical Roots

Thereafter, issues of *Legal Bibliography* were “Published and Distributed Gratuitously at Irregular Intervals,” in accordance with the plan announced on page one of that first issue in November 1881. Issues 2 and 3 appeared in May and December 1882, and Issue 4 in October 1883.

In December 1884, Issue 5 announced the retirement of Bugbee and the continuation of the enterprise under Soule’s name alone. Issue 5 also signalled Soule’s interest in doing more with *Legal Bibliography*. Issues 1-4 had featured – as promised in Issue 1 – “matters of interest and amusement” to lawyers, along with “solid information” about the “drier details of editions and prices.” Issue 5 added more and went farther. It was the first to include an illustration (of Matthew Hale), and the first to feature a new section titled “Notes and Queries.” This was an obvious invocation of the famously cerebral yet accessible British periodical *Notes and Queries*, which had been enjoying remarkable commercial success since its founding in 1849.<sup>6</sup> Soule also made other, less dramatic changes, including a lengthening of some of the more scholarly blurbs, and – in another intriguing bit of foreshadowing – an enthusiastic announcement that his firm was the American agent for an ambitious new English periodical, *The Law Quarterly Review*. In other words, under Soule’s sole proprietorship, *Legal Bibliography* promptly took several steps – perhaps even a leap – in the direction of engaging literary legal scholarship, without foresaking its core marketing function.

Thereafter, *Legal Bibliography* continued to appear at irregular intervals, but with a trend toward more pictures, more scholarly notes and queries, and wider, more varied coverage of and commentary on “matters of interest and amusement” to lawyers. Issue 6 (September 1885), for example, had two portraits of John Marshall and an illustrated advertisement for *Webster’s Unabridged Dictionary*, and was ten pages long. Future issues would have at least as many pictures, and would rarely subside to the periodical’s original eight-page length. By Issue 10 (February 1888), it was very nearly as much a journal of legal scholarship and practice as it was a catalog of law books for sale. Thus, the issue opened with news of a new edition of *Metcalf on Contracts*, and then proceeded to devote roughly four times as much space to an illustrated biography of Judge Metcalf as it did to promotion of the new edition of his *Contracts*. At twelve pages long and with a half-dozen photographs of prominent jurists, Issue 10 was another phase in the trans-

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<sup>6</sup> See Patrick Leary, *A Victorian Virtual Community*, 25 *Victorian Rev.* 61 (2000).



formation begun in Issue 5 from a *Legal Bibliography* that was a book catalog into a *Legal Bibliography* that was a scholarly journal.

Sometime during the year or so between Issue 10 and Issue 11, Soule completed that transformation. But rather than doing so within the framework of *Legal Bibliography*, he retained his clever occasional book catalog largely as it was and created a whole new and even more extraordinary publication, which he named *The Green Bag*. I do not know (yet) exactly when or why Soule proceeded as he did. But here is some food for thought.

1. Soule seems to have been a great appreciator of two successful English periodicals: (a) *Notes and Queries* (the literary journal whose name he used for a column in *Legal Bibliography* back in 1884) and (b) *The Law Quarterly Review* (the journal for which he was an agent, and which he had described in Issue 10 of *Legal Bibliography* as “in many respects the best law magazine published in the English language” and worthy of all “thinking and reading lawyers”).

2. In 1888, *Lippincott's Magazine* editor William S. Walsh launched *American Notes and Queries* – an American version of the English literary journal emulated by Soule.<sup>7</sup>

3. Should we be surprised, then, that Soule did not sit on his hands, waiting for some other enterprising American to do for the English *The Law Quarterly Review* what Walsh had done for the English *Notes and Queries*?

4. In 1889, *Legal Bibliography* editor Charles C. Soule launched his American version of *The Law Quarterly Review*. But instead of calling it *The American Law Quarterly Review*, he showed some flair – as he had for nearly a decade with *Legal Bibliography* – and called it *The Green Bag*.

Issue 11 of *Legal Bibliography* (January 1889), replete with effusions about the advent of *The Green Bag*, is reproduced on the eight pages after this one. Yes, eight. Perhaps it returned to its original size because Soule had a new outlet for “matters of interest and amusement” for lawyers. The notice in the July 13, 1889 issue of *American Notes and Queries* must have been especially gratifying to him: “*The Green Bag* is attractive outside and inside. It is handsomely illustrated, and the variety of matter that it contains makes it as readable to the layman as it must be fascinating to the lawyer.”

So, the answer to the question we began with is, to put it over-simply, that the *Green Bag* was born in a bookshop, which feels about right.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> See *Notes and Queries*, The [Natchez, MS] Weekly Democrat, June 13, 1888, at 2.

<sup>8</sup> Cf. Ray Betzner, *The Story of His Life*, Studies in Starret, vincentstarrett.com (May 25, 2018).

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January, 1889.

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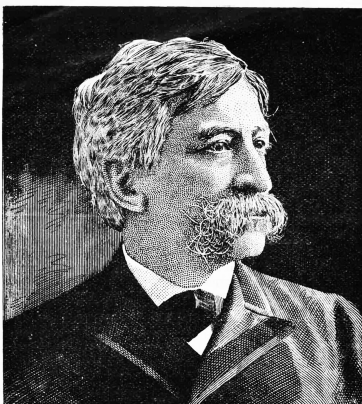
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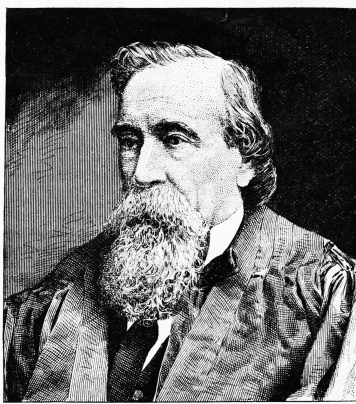
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- |                  |   |
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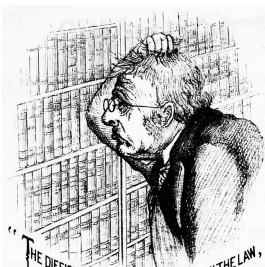
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