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BOOK REVIEWS

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BOOK REVIEWS.

A TREATISE UPON THE LAW AND PRACTICE OF TAXATION IN MISSOURI. By *Frederick N. Judson*. E. W. Stephens, Columbia, Missouri.

Mr. Judson's work is prompted by the confessed failure of Missouri to secure equality of taxation. The author goes into the economic principles which underlie the system and also treats of its historical development. It is not a general treatise on taxation, but confines itself to the system in Missouri, making reference to the statutes and decisions of other States only when these are illustrative of conditions in Missouri. The work suggests the need of amendment of the present system in Missouri, and should be an important factor in accomplishing that result, especially as it is adapted to give the citizen as well as the lawyer a comprehensive view, disclosing the merits and defects of the existing system.

ABBOTT'S TRIAL BRIEF. Second Edition. By *Austin Abbott*. The Lawyers' Co-operative Publishing Co., Rochester, N. Y. 1 vol., pp. 552.

The first edition of this work proved itself of great value to lawyers in general and especially to those of New York, for whom it was primarily intended. Dealing, as it does, with rules upon which so much depends and over which there is so much contention, it served a most important purpose. New decisions, however, have demanded that the original be supplemented. The new edition has brought it thoroughly up to date. The original matter and form have been retained, but so much that is new has been added and its scope so enlarged by the increased citation of authorities from all States that the book has been more than doubled in size and has been made as authoritative in all States as it was in New York. Its value has been correspondingly increased.

ELEMENTS OF AMERICAN JURISPRUDENCE. Edited by *William C. Robinson, LL.D.* Little, Brown & Co., Boston. 8vo, 1 vol., buckram or sheep, pp. 364.

In 1882, while an honored member of the Yale Law School faculty, Prof. Robinson issued a work on Elementary Law, which, by its breadth of research, accuracy of statement and clearness of style, won its way into universal favor and has been the standard on the subject ever since. In the discussions making up his latest production, Elements of American Jurisprudence, he has apprehended his subject as comprising not "the commands and prohibitions whereof the law consists, but the law itself, its nature, its origin, its history, its divisions, its form, its interpretation and the methods of its application to practical affairs." The author has regarded American jurisprudence as a special science, and indeed it may be said that both treatment and point of view are thoroughly American.

The book is one which will be of value to the citizen as well as to the student and the practitioner, as Prof. Robinson has made it very readable by following his former system in dividing his subject-matter into short, meaty paragraphs which are followed by citations from standard works for the benefit of those who care to drink deeper from the great well with which Lord Coke compared the knowledge of the law. As the book is clear, concise, and condensed yet comprehensive, it bids fair to be widely used.