

In the revision of this excellent treatise, the first edition of which was published in 1883, the author has not only done a valuable service to the profession, but greatly enhanced his reputation as a careful and competent author. To refer to the merits of the original work at this late date would be wholly unnecessary—it is too well known to require any introduction. The present edition is in all respects superior to its predecessor. It brings the law of the subject right down to date. That expert and opinion evidence is an every-day subject in the courts is shown by the great number of cases involving the admission of such testimony which have come before the courts since the publication of the first edition of this work. That edition cited 1,854 cases; the present one over 3,000. A noteworthy feature of it, also, is the table of cases wherein the rules as given in the first edition have been approved or cited by the courts of last resort. As the author truly says in his preface, the value of this is that, "while the rule when first published was simply the opinion of the author, it has now the official and weighty indorsement of one or more of our appellate courts." The difference between the sort of work done in this edition and its predecessor, and that of the author who merely makes a digest of decisions and calls it a text-book, is too obvious to need calling attention to. The second edition contains 740 pages, and is mechanically as near perfection as any we have seen lately.

Rural Wealth and Welfare. Economic Principles Illustrated and Applied in Farm Life. By George T. Fairchild, LL. D. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1900.

The author dedicates this little book to the thousands of students in agricultural colleges with whom he has studied economic questions during the past thirty-five years. His long experience in such institutions in Michigan, Kansas and elsewhere, together with his years of study and investigation of economic questions, have placed Prof. Fairchild in a position to throw needed light upon a subject which has been altogether too little exploited by students and scholars. Besides giving a condensed restatement of familiar fundamental principles, the author attempts to apply them for the benefit of farmers and their families, and makes many valuable suggestions which should be heeded by those who believe that agriculture is the basis of the nation's prosperity. The aim of the author, in a word, appears to have been not to teach the farmer how to overturn nature (an impossibility in itself), but how to use it for all it is worth, in order to enhance his own and the general welfare; to show clearly the trend of facts and the universal principles sustained by them, and the means of most ready adjustment to circumstances in the evolutions of trade and manufacture.

New Books and New Editions.

The Law of Expert and Opinion Evidence Reduced to Rules. With Illustrations from Adjudged Cases. By John D. Lawson. LL. D. Second Edition, revised and enlarged. Chicago: T. H. Flood & Co., 1900.