

Cases on Property

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Cases on Property (American Casebook Series) *Wills*. By George P. Costigan, Jr. Vol. 5, 2nd Edition, 888 pages, including table of contents and index; West Publishing Company, St. Paul, 1929.

The second edition of this casebook on wills is an enlargement on the first edition both as to number of cases and as to classifications. It is the result of the natural growth in this field as new decisions are handed down clarifying and distinguishing points of law formerly doubtful or otherwise decided.

The volume is replete with footnotes carefully collecting the decisions in other states on the case or related subjects to that which the author has chosen to illustrate the particular topic contemplated, and classifies them in a manner which leaves the reader in no doubt as to the status of his own state. In addition, there are many notes of an historical and explanatory character, which enable the student to lay a firm foundation before reading the illustrative cases which follow.

The author has retained the order of treatment of topics with a few exceptions, and in this revision he has not supplanted very many of the older cases, except where necessary to show the newer trend, but has brought the topic down to date by adding the later cases. In some instances, recent cases have been supplanted by older decisions.

The appendix should be of especial value and interest to the student because of the practical advice therein offered, and also because of the sample will which is a very worthy model and which will no doubt be of great benefit as a guide.

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Code Remedies. By John Norton Pomeroy, D.D. Author of "*A Treatise on Equity Jurisprudence*" Fifth Edition, Published by Little Brown & Company, 1154 pages, 1929.

Professor Pomeroy states his purpose for writing this book in the preface to the first edition when he says, "How completely the reformed system is severed from the ancient common law modes, how entirely it abandons all arbitrary, formal and technical notions which were their very essence and life, and how firmly it rests upon natural and necessary facts as its foundation, is shown in the introductory chapter, and in other portions of this work."

While this work is intended to be a practical handbook for the lawyer as an aid in the everyday duties of his profession, it is hoped that its use may tend to bring the procedure of the different states into closer relation and may finally produce the perfect identity of method and form which is possible from the legislation itself, and which was, beyond doubt, the design of the several legislatures in adopting the reform. An attempt has also been made to obtain, in a general and complete form, the true meaning of certain phrases found in all codes, upon which the interpretation of most important provisions and the practical rules resulting therefrom so closely depend. Among the statutory phrases are "the causes of action," "the subject of action," "transaction," "causes of action arising out of the same transaction," and the like.

Having seen the purpose for which the book was written, we are now to see in what ways the fifth edition differs from the fourth. The editor of the fifth edition included some section of Professor Pomeroy's text which were omitted by the editor of the fourth edition on the ground that it was "theoretical rather than of present practical value." However, in the comparatively few instances