

Governor Chamberlain is generally regarded as one of the best of the carpet-bag governors, but Mr. Reynolds reveals him in a very unfavorable light. While not so bad as his predecessor, Mr. Reynolds endeavors to show that he was not above corruption and that he worked for coeducation of the races. While the author appears to have made out a good case, one still feels the lack of penetrating criticism, that the case for the defense has not been fairly stated when no direct reference whatever has been made to Governor Chamberlain's book. The campaign of 1876, by which Governor Chamberlain was ousted, is described well, but the story of the election frauds is yet to be written.

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Constitutional Law of England. By EDWARD WAVELL RIDGES, (London: Stevens and Sons; and Boston: Little, Brown and Company. 1905. Pp. xxxii, 459.)

It should be stated at the outset that this excellent treatise belongs to the domain of law rather than to that of political science. A glance at the table of contents will impress the reader with the comprehensive scope of the work. Although the book contains less than four hundred pages of text the following topics are discussed: The Sources of English Constitutional Law; The Character of English Constitutional Law; The Meeting and Termination of Parliament; The House of Commons; The House of Lords; Public, Private, and Money Bills; The Public Revenue; The Crown, The Privy and Cabinet Councils, The Members of the Executive; The Judiciary; Changes under the Judicature Acts, 1873-1902; The Church; The Navy; The Army; The United Kingdom, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man; The Colonies; The Indian Empire; Protectorates and Miscellaneous Possessions.

The book as a whole is the product of careful scholarship and prodigious labor but the disadvantages resulting from the attempt to compress so much into a single volume of moderate size are evident on almost every page. The excessive condensation has reduced the book to a series of juiceless summaries which in many instances are about as interesting as a table of logarithms. Procedure on impeachment is dismissed in eight lines (pp. 192-193), and the government of a British possession is reduced to two or three lines of text (pp. 390-

391). The result is many half-truths and general statements which require modification. The discussion of the veto power of the President of the United States is so incomplete as to leave a false impression, and the statement that the Constitution of the United States "came into force on June 21, 1788," needs modification. Again, one might infer (p. 76) that the Irish peers now number one hundred, while as a matter of fact, their number is much less. It is also stated (p. 169) that "the Secretary for Ireland is now always a member of the Cabinet." It is true that he has been a member during the last few years but Gerald Balfour held the office in 1900, and George Wyndham as late as 1902, without seats in the Cabinet.

While in many instances the discussion is so brief as to be inadequate, in some others the reader is swamped in a mass of minute details which might well be relegated to the footnotes or omitted altogether. The details of the enlistment of a soldier (p. 296), the intricacies of local government (p. 324), the legal liabilities of certain officers under given conditions, and the maze of "writs," "processes," "remedies," "appeals," "jurisdictions," "procedures," "entries," etc., are not particularly luminous.

In his eagerness to economize space the author has given in many instances the theory of the English law rather than the theory and the practice together. For example, it is stated (pp. 55-56) that Parliament is dissolved "by an exercise of the Crown's prerogative" and that "the constitutional moment for the exercise of this prerogative arrives when the sovereign has reason to suppose that the Parliament, and thus in effect the party which possesses a majority in the House of Commons, no longer enjoys the confidence of the electorate." Again it is stated (p. 75) that "the Crown has the exclusive privilege of creating peers, and can create as many as it pleases." It is also stated (p. 85) that the Crown has the right to "dismiss the Ministry and appoint a new one." In theory, of course these statements are correct but the practice is quite different. The discussions of Anson and Todd, which combine the theoretical and practical prerogatives of the Crown, are far more satisfactory. Probably the weakest part of the book is that which deals with the American government. The discussion of the characteristics of English constitutional law is a comparative one, but in dealing with the American Constitution the author is clearly treading upon unfamiliar ground. He has studied the Constitution, but in several instances has missed its obvious intent.

He states (p. 16) that judgment in cases of impeachment entails "loss of office and disqualification from holding further office under the Government"—which is not always true. This is simply the maximum penalty. In the case of Judge Pickering the defendant was found guilty and removed from office but was not disqualified "from holding further office under the Government." Again, it would seem from the account (p. 17) that the President is empowered to convene Congress in all cases, whereas he does so, not regularly, but on "extraordinary occasions." Mr. Ridges, in common with many others, finds difficulty with the dual meaning of the term "States," and refers to the members of the Cabinet as "State Ministers." He also states (p. 17) that there are *seven* members in the President's Cabinet. He has apparently followed the first edition of Bryce's *American Commonwealth* which was published eighteen years ago. Again, it is scarcely correct to say that the powers of the State legislatures are "undefined" (p. 14), since they are defined to a considerable extent by the State constitutions. It is also evident that Mr. Ridges has no conception of the development of our civil service laws during the last twenty years (see pp. 18 and 154). He also states that the House of Representatives elects the President "in case of an equality" of votes. He has apparently not considered the change made in the Electoral College by the passage of the Twelfth Amendment. The most startling statement, however, is that the President is "empowered to fill up vacancies in the Senate as they occur" (p. 17). It is also surprising to read (p. 15): "The ratification [of the Constitution] by the last of the States, thirty-seven in number, who now compose the Union, was that of Rhode Island in 1790." Sebastian Cabot, not John, is given the credit for the voyage of 1497.

In spite of these imperfections, however, none of which is vital, the book is a valuable contribution to the literature of constitutional law. The statement of the historical background of British institutions is generally good; the classification of the colonies and the discussion of colonial government are very satisfactory, while the treatment of Imperial Federation is of interest in the light of the recent agitation headed by Mr. Joseph Chamberlain. The book also contains much information in regard to recent constitutional development not to be found in any other single work. It should be said also that the author has gone to the sources, for the most part, for his informa-

tion, yet the reader is somewhat surprised to see Hume's *History of England* quoted as an authority for statements of fact (p. 91).

Typographical errors are rather too numerous, even for a first edition. Reference is made (p. 232) to the *Courts of Pied Poudre* and to the *Contume de Normandie* (p. 340). The Act of Union with Ireland is dated 1901. Pronouns are frequently unskillfully used and there is some repetition. The substance of p. 106 is repeated, verbatim in parts, on p. 126.

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A Treatise on American Citizenship. By JOHN S. WISE. (Northport, Long Island: Edward Thompson Company. 1906. Pp. 340.)

In his introduction the author says "the subject is not only one concerning which the legal profession should have a convenient textbook, but is an indispensable part of the education of every man who makes pretension to a fair education and knowledge of the history of his country. * * * The whole object of the author has been attained if he has succeeded in putting the origin, nature and obligation of the citizen in form sufficiently attractive to enlist a more widespread understanding among educated Americans of their rights and obligations as American citizens. The present ignorance of our people and the confusion in their apprehension of the subject would be something incredible in older countries."

The aim of the author has been, for most part, attained. The book is well arranged, well indexed, and is so written that the non-professional reader will be able to get through it with far less weariness of the flesh than he would experience in the perusal of most law books. It does not attempt any exhaustive discussion. It essays merely to unfold in logical and readable form the settled law governing the rights, privileges, and immunities of citizens of the United States and of the several States. There is little occasion to question the accuracy of the author's statement of most of the legal principles he lays down. Naturally, there are some clerical or typographical errors. Such as, for example, the statement on p. 163 that the "opinion of Chief Justice Taney in the *habeas corpus* case of Milligan is one of the finest pieces of judicial eloquence in American jurisprudence." The footnote gives the reference "1866, 4 Wall. 2." The case of *ex parte*