1932

Review of “The Law of Persons and Domestic Relations,” By Joseph Madden

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365-382) is an excellent introduction to the study of Cuban culture. As a leader of liberal reform movements he has perhaps rendered his most important services to modern Cuba. The three volumes here listed were presented to him as an act of homage in 1930.

Washington University.

L. L. Bernard.

The Law of Persons and Domestic Relations, by Joseph W. Madden.


This volume comes ten years after the publication of the last hornbook on the law of persons and domestic relations. It is dressed up in the new red binding of imitation leather now used in all editions of the hornbook series and other law books, which is pleasing to the eye, but which warps badly.

Much more, however, can be said for the contents of the book. It contains a large proportion of the material in Cooley's revisions of Tiffany's hornbook on the same subject, and to that is added a wealth of new material covering the many developments in this branch of the law during the last decade. The author in his preface gives full credit to the authors of the former work for his indebtedness to them. Especial attention has been given to the many changes in the laws dealing with family life. Liberalizing of the laws of divorce and annulment of marriage and the changes in the effects of infants' contracts in this age of installment buying and automobiles are given emphasis. The old leading cases as well as recent decisions bringing the doctrines up to date are discussed.

The new problems of tort liability of parents for the actions of their children, as influenced by the motor vehicle, of liability as between husband and wife, and the like, are developed in a very admirable way. Also, the author discusses the ever-increasing functions of the juvenile courts, and the increased duties of the parent to give his child an education, in view of the modern trend.

The book is well organized. The arrangement is much improved; the index is better. Copious footnotes give reference to many valuable cases, law review notes, and comments in legal periodicals. As a handbook it should prove valuable to the student and lawyer alike. Many points are necessarily not discussed at length or in detail, but such is obviously not the purpose of the book.

St. Louis, Missouri.

Charles H. Luecking.