
Stanley Milledge

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there is scant literature on the subject) and, finally, a study on tax exemptions for new or essential industries.

Simple mention of the contents of this book reveals at a glance its extraordinary importance and usefulness. In general, the first part is basic and the person interested in any specific point will direct himself to the adequate section. A very handy “terminology of the report” helps greatly to understand fully the peculiarities of the Mexican tax system. Another additional feature of this book is that a pocket is provided for future material, so as to keep it up to date. In spite of the exhaustive revisions, there are occasional mispellings, but that does not mar an otherwise excellent work.

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Professor Alloway's United States Constitutional Law 1850-1875 was written as part of the centennial celebration of Mexico's Constitution. Professor Alloway was one of twenty-six authors from nineteen countries contributing to a two volume book published by the law faculty of the University of Mexico. The publication in this country has the parallel translation both of text and notes.

That one of the twenty-six contributing authors is a distinguished member of the law faculty at the University of Miami is in the tradition of that law school's great interest in the law and law schools of Latin America and particularly of Mexico.

To interpret well any substantial part of the Constitutional Law of the United States is a difficult task even if the readers are fellow countrymen and there are no limitations of space. To do it concisely, as Professor Alloway has, and to interpret it to law students of Mexico as well as to students of the common law is a work of art as well as of learning.

It has made more clear to me the constitutional aspects of the great and almost fatal internal struggles of the United States during the third quarter of the nineteenth century. Of especial value to me is the treatment of the cases dealing with the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments. Professor Alloway handles his material strictly from a legal point of view, yet it is difficult for a reader to avoid speculating on what might have been the path of events if the post Civil War Supreme Court, instead of thwarting congressional efforts to nationalize civil rights, had given to the Civil War Amendments the construction which their drafters intended.
A remarkable feature of the essay is that copious (391) and informative notes make it possible for a reader to expand his inquiry beyond the text as far as he likes. If he takes the full treatment he must emerge a constitutional law scholar. The notes are so handled, however, that one having limited time at his disposal could intelligently take a shorter path toward a more limited objective.

Professor Alloway's concise style, of necessity produces a few verbs capable of being misunderstood, such as, "The Court permitted the national government a general war power . . ." In all probability few readers will exaggerate the power of the Federal Supreme Court, for the essay as a whole makes the function of this court quite clear. If some small price were to be paid for Mr. Alloway's concise and readable style it would well be worth paying. I regret that his style of legal writing is the exception rather than the rule.

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