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Book Note

ROYAL WRITS IN ENGLAND FROM THE CONQUEST TO GLANVILL. By R. C. Van Caenegem, Ph.D., Litt. D., LL.D. (Ghent). Selden Society Publications, Volume 77. London: Bernard Quaritch, 1959. Pp. 1, 556; 7 plates. £3. 13s. 6d.*

The originating writs of the common law, in their thirteenth century and later forms, have long been available in print. The royal writs of the period 1066-1189 are relatively unknown. This study describes the history of the Norman period with special reference to the development of the courts of law and traces the process of judicialization by which royal writs, dealing with redress of private wrongs in extra-judicial executive ways, gradually became transformed into the original writs of the later common law. The volume contains the text and English translations of 198 writs and photographic facsimiles of seven originals which have survived.

*Current publications of the Selden Society are distributed without charge to the members of the Society. Those interested in becoming members should write to the Missouri State Correspondent of the Society, Professor William F. Fratcher, School of Law, University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri. The dues are \$10 per annum.