

Bouvier's Law Dictionary Unabridged Rawle's Third Revision Vol. 2 - G to O

John Bouvier, Francis Rawle

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John Bouvier, Francis Rawle : Bouvier's Law Dictionary Unabridged Rawle's Third Revision Vol. 2 - G to O before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bouvier's Law Dictionary Unabridged Rawle's Third Revision Vol. 2 - G to O:

This Volume 2 (G to O) is Rawle's Third Revision and the eighth edition. Bouvier's Law Dictionary is a set consisting of 2 or 3 books with a long tradition in the United States legal community. The first edition was written by John Bouvier. John Bouvier (1787-1851) was born in Codogno, France, but came to the United States at an early age. He became a U.S. citizen in 1812, was admitted to the bar in 1818, and began practicing law in Philadelphia. During his years of practice and study, he noticed the lack of a solid American law dictionary. He decided to fill this need, and worked on a new law dictionary incessantly for 10 years. One of his main goals was to distinguish American law from its English antecedent. He finally presented it for publication in 1839. Like many of his generation, Bouvier used his preface to justify his work, stating the irrelevance of English legal dictionaries to the American legal system of the United States. He wanted to create a totally new law dictionary that would address the American legal system, so he derived his definitions almost wholly from customs, court decisions, and statutes of the United States. From his preface: "...most of the matter in the English law dictionaries will be found to have been written while the feudal law was in its full vigor, and not fitted to the present times, nor calculated for present use, even in England. And there is a

great portion which, though useful to an English lawyer, is almost useless to the American student...."In addition, Bouvier included entries for all the states that had formed the union as of 1839. A large 2-volume work, Bouvier's dictionary has been especially useful for understanding obsolete terms given in older authorities, amplifying their meanings in the American context. Bouvier published three editions in twelve years and was preparing a fourth at the time of his death in 1851. The work is still widely used.