

duty rule, originally laid down in the case of *Stilk v Myrick*,¹ the book only discusses the principles as laid down by that case; there is no discussion of the trend in modern commercial cases towards replacing the defence of lack of consideration for the second agreement with economic duress.² The question of what constitutes economic duress (as opposed to legitimate business pressure) can arise in the context of everyday supply or service contracts and may well be encountered by the student later. Although the book discusses duress, it would have been worth mentioning it in connection with the examples of past consideration.

For the commerce student the full import of the law will be felt through transactions. In this regard, the book's use of examples is most helpful. A hope for later editions perhaps is an even greater use of a lateral approach to analysing the legal problems in the examples. In practice, a legal matter will rarely involve only one aspect of the law. Access and usefulness to general readers of a book of this type will be achieved through its index. Care must be taken that these are complete and correct. This reviewer found that the index contained a number of incorrect references, which may be very irritating to readers.

Overall, the text is well presented with liberal use of subheadings and a very complete table of contents. It is a good first look at the Law.

¹ (1809) 2 Camp 317; 6 ER 129.

² *Williams v Roffey Bros Ltd* [1991] 1 QB 1, 21 per Purchas, LJ.