

hagen — all this led to Icelandic laws being more and more assimilated with those of Denmark.

Since the re-establishment of Althingi, and more especially since it was granted legislative power in 1874, its legislative work has been very great and varied, covering more or less completely almost the whole field coming within the purview of legislation, and thus to a great extent remedying the legal uncertainty of the eighteenth century and the first half of the nineteenth. As regards Icelandic law at present, a few of the *Jónsbók* provisions still remain in force, but, for the rest, the whole system of laws is composed of separate acts, there being no special code covering the whole field. The judicial system still rests partly on Christian V's Norwegian code, but the majority of the laws in force have been made since Althingi was re-established. The acts are not all equally comprehensive; in some cases all laws relative to certain matters have been embodied in single acts of Althingi, as e. g. the law of 1850 dealing with inheritance; the penal code of 1869; Maritime Law of 1914; the regulations for marriage and the relation of parents and children, contained in 4 acts of 1921 and 1923; the Law of Waters of 1923, and the Local Government Act of 1927.

Present Icelandic legislation is greatly influenced by Scandinavian law, particularly by that of Denmark. Iceland, though taking no active part in inter-Scandinavian co-operation in the field of legislation, has in many points legislated on approximately the same lines, and adopted many laws which have been framed by the Scandinavian nations conjointly, as, e. g., the Bills of Exchange Act in 1882, laws respecting cheques in 1901; the Sale of Goods Act in 1911 (revised in 1922); Maritime Law in 1914. The laws (of 1921 and 1923) regarding family rights are largely based on the work of the inter-Scandinavian committees in this field.

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