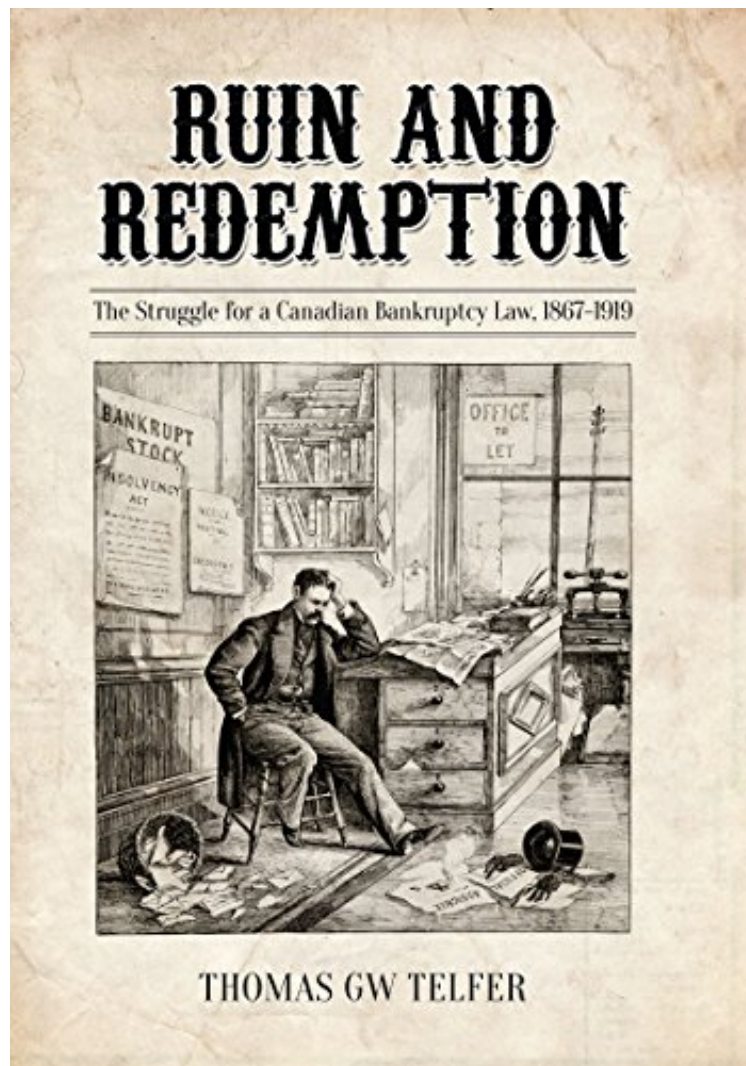


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## **Ruin and Redemption: The Struggle for a Canadian Bankruptcy Law, 1867-1919 (Osgoode Society for Canadian Legal History)**

*Thomas G W Telfer*

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**Thomas G W Telfer : *Ruin and Redemption: The Struggle for a Canadian Bankruptcy Law, 1867-1919* (Osgoode Society for Canadian Legal History)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Ruin and Redemption: The Struggle for a Canadian Bankruptcy Law, 1867-1919* (Osgoode Society for Canadian Legal History):

In 1880 the federal Parliament of Canada repealed the Insolvent Act of 1875, leaving debtor-creditor matters to be regulated by the provinces. Almost forty years later, Parliament finally passed new bankruptcy legislation, recognizing that what was once considered a moral evil had become a commercial necessity. In *Ruin and Redemption*, Thomas GW Telfer analyses the ideas, interests, and institutions that shaped the evolution of Canadian bankruptcy law in this era. Examining the vigorous public debates over the idea of bankruptcy, Telfer argues that the law was shaped by conflict over the morality of release from debts and by the divergence of interests between local and distant creditors. *Ruin and Redemption* is the first full-length study of the origins of Canadian bankruptcy law, thus making it an important contribution to the study of Canada's commercial law.

This is an excellent piece of scholarship. (Andrew Smith *Journal of Legal History* vol 37:2016) Once established in the aftermath of the First World War, federal bankruptcy legislation in Canada has almost certainly become a permanent part of the economic landscape. Telfer's monumental study is the definitive explanation for how that important sea change came to pass. (Charles J. Tabb *Law and History* May 2016) Tom Telfer deserves our congratulations for shining a light on what until now was an obscure and little-known episode in our legal history. (Roderick J. Wood *Canadian Business Law Journal* vol 57:03:2016) *Ruin and Redemption* is a valuable addition to the excellent catalogue of the Osgoode Society for Canadian Legal History. It helps historians to better understand the legal structures involved in the regulation of debt and obligation. (Daniel Simeone *Canadian Historical* vol 96:02:2015) Law students, professors, and those interested in Canadian history generally can all take away something of value from this book. Telfer's analysis is easy to follow. No legal background is required to derive insight from reading this book. (Sean Tessarolo *Saskatchewan Law* vol 78:2015) It is rare to find a work on commercial law that animates the law and its history by drawing insight from political debate, social context and commentary, economic analysis and literature, as well as legislation, case law, and parliamentary records. *Ruin and Redemption* is a valuable addition to the legal and historical literature on insolvency law. (Tamara Buckwold, Faculty of Law, University of Alberta) *Ruin and Redemption* is a significant contribution to the history of Canadian bankruptcy law. It demonstrates skilfully how ideas and interests, and the institutional structures which shaped them, contributed to Canada rejecting bankruptcy law in 1880 and not passing a national statute until 1919. Scholars from a variety of disciplines interested in comparative analysis of bankruptcy law development will benefit from reading this book. (Iain Ramsay, Kent Law School, University of Kent) About the Author Thomas G. W. Telfer is a professor in the Faculty of Law at Western University.