

**RISE OF CONSTITUTIONAL
GOVERNMENT
IN ENGLAND**

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Rise of constitutional government in England by Cyril Ransome

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CYRIL RANSOME

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CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT
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RISE OF
CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT
IN ENGLAND

BY
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PREFACE.

THAT constitutional history is very dry, is an axiom admitted by almost all who have never read it; that it is far more interesting than what is commonly received as history, is almost equally admitted by those who have.

Constitutional histories are usually left unread, partly because they are long, partly because they generally contain a great deal of matter which the ordinary reader does not want to know, and partly because their arrangement is such that it is difficult to pick out exactly the information that is sought.

In this book, the author has endeavoured to confine his attention solely to the growth of the present relations between the sovereign, the ministry, the two Houses of Parliament and the people, and to put before the reader

in a plain narrative form the history of their development.

The facts, it is to be hoped, are those which may be found in the large constitutional histories of Canon Stubbs, Mr. Hallam, Sir Erskine May and Mr. Bagehot, whose works must always be the authorities to which any student of constitutional history will eventually turn; but the present book aims at putting those facts in such a way that they may be read not only by those who have time and opportunity for study, but by the busy man to whom time is an object, and by the student who desires, before embarking, to take a view of the shores of the ocean on which he is in some danger of losing himself.

LEEDS, *March*, 1883.

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