

**A MANUAL OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL  
HISTORY OF CANADA FROM THE  
EARLIEST PERIOD TO 1901; INCLUDING  
THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICA ACT OF  
1867**

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A manual of the constitutional history of Canada from the earliest period to 1901; including the British North America act of 1867 by J. G. Bourinot

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**J. G. BOURINOT**

**A MANUAL OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL  
HISTORY OF CANADA FROM THE  
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THE BRITISH NORTH  
AMERICA ACT OF 1867**



A MANUAL  
OF THE  
CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY OF CANADA

FROM THE EARLIEST PERIOD TO 1901

INCLUDING THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICA ACT OF 1867, A DIGEST OF  
JUDICIAL DECISIONS ON IMPORTANT QUESTIONS OF LEGISLATIVE  
JURISDICTION, AND OBSERVATIONS ON THE WORKING  
OF PARLIAMENTARY GOVERNMENT

BY

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GOVERNED," "CANADA UNDER BRITISH RULE," AND OTHER  
WORKS ON THE GOVERNMENT AND HISTORY  
OF THE DOMINION

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*NEW EDITION, REVISED AND ENLARGED*

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## PREFATORY NOTE.

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The present edition of this book, first published in 1888, has been thoroughly revised in order to make it as useful as possible to those students in our universities and colleges who are now required to consult it in their studies of our constitutional history. I have completed to date the summary of those judicial decisions which have so far laid down important principles for the interpretation of a constitution which has evoked much learned argument in our courts and legislatures. In the performance of this task I have not attempted to include any opinions or comments of my own, but have simply condensed the essential points of each decision in the language of the learned judges, as far as practicable, and left the student to seek further elucidation in the works of such conscientious commentators as Mr. Lefroy. I have also added a chapter on the practical operation of the principles of parliamentary government in the Dominion, for the information of those readers who have neither time nor opportunity to study the elaborate treatises of Todd, May, and Anson. The text of the British North America Act, and of the amending imperial statutes, is given in full at the end of the book. A complete list of the many authorities, cited in the text of this volume, will also be found useful to students who wish to investigate our constitutional history in the most thorough manner.

JNO. GEO. BOURINOT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, OTTAWA.

Dominion Day, 1901.

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