

**THE LAW OF TRADE
UNIONS IN ENGLAND AND
SCOTLAND; UNDER THE
TRADE UNION ACT, 1871**

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The Law of Trade Unions in England and Scotland; Under the Trade Union Act, 1871 by
William Guthrie

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WILLIAM GUTHRIE

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THE LAW OF TRADE UNIONS IN ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND

UNDER THE
TRADE UNION ACT 1871.

BY

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REGISTRAR OF FRIENDLY SOCIETIES AND TRADE UNIONS IN SCOTLAND.



EDINBURGH: EDMONSTON & DOUGLAS.
1873.

PREFACE.

A SHORT experience as Registrar in Scotland under the Trade Union Act of 1871 has shown me that many Trade Unions have difficulty, not only in bringing their rules into conformity with that Act, but in framing rules that can be safely and easily worked at all. I have therefore endeavoured to produce such a manual of the law affecting such societies in their civil rights, as may be useful to their managers and members, as well as to lawyers. It is hoped that the specimen rules, which are to a great extent taken from those of existing societies, will assist in framing and revising the constitutions of new Trade Unions.

I have not dealt with the Criminal Law affecting employers and employed, which does not properly form part of the Law of Trade Unions, and which besides may soon undergo modification in some particulars, but I have for the convenience of those who are likely to use the book, added the Criminal Law Amendment Act in the Appendix.

Doubtless the increasing importance of Trade Unions, the legitimate successors of the Gilds of the Middle Ages to which modern civilization is so deeply indebted, will ere long require a much more elaborate treatise on their legal relations. In the

meantime this little book will, it is hoped, supply a pressing want, and save Trade Societies and their members from embarrassment and litigation.

Employers may be reminded that the law under the Act of 1871 is applicable to the Unions or Leagues which they may form.

I have to acknowledge my obligations to Sheriff Barclay, LL.D., Perth, Mr. Robert Campbell, Advocate and Barrister at Law of Lincoln's Inn, and to Mr. Charles Scott, Advocate, Edinburgh, for their kindness in reading the proof sheets and suggesting corrections and improvements.

W. G.

8 FETTER ROW,
EDINBURGH, *October 1873.*

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