

**THE DECISIONS OF THE RT. HON.  
SIR H. B. W. BRAND, G.G.B.,  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
COMMONS, FEB. 9, 1872-SEPT. 7,  
1880**

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The Decisions of the Rt. Hon. Sir H. B. W. Brand, G.G.B., Speaker of the House of Commons,  
Feb. 9, 1872-Sept. 7, 1880 by Edwin Gordon Blackmore

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**EDWIN GORDON BLACKMORE**

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SIR H. B. W. BRAND, G.G.B.,  
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TO THE RIGHT HON.  
SIR HENRY BOUVERIE WILLIAM BRAND, G.C.B.,  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

THIS COLLECTION OF HIS DECISIONS IS, BY PERMISSION,

Inscribed,

BY HIS OBEDIENT SERVANT,

EDWIN GORDON BLACKMORE.

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"In all cases not provided for hereinafter, or by Sessional or other Orders, resort shall be had to the Rules, Forms, and Practice of the Commons House of the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland, which shall be followed as far as they can be applied to the proceedings of this House."—*Standing Order No. 1, Standing Rules and Orders of the House of Assembly, South Australian Legislature.*

"The powers and consequent responsibilities of this House are constantly increasing. This House is looked up to, not only by our colonial fellow-subjects as the parent of their popular Assemblies, but every nation of the world now treading in the path of parliamentary government watches our proceedings with interest."—*Speech of Mr. Brand on the House unanimously calling Mr. Brand to the Chair, April 29th, 1880.*

"Super et Garamantas et Indos  
Proferet Imperium."

DDP EXCH

SO ASS TUB

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## P R E F A C E.



THE present work is intended as a sequel to the author's collection of "The Decisions of Mr. Speaker Denison."\* The latter compilation was an attempt to follow the lines laid down by the Hon. Robert Bourke in his "Decisions of Shaw Lefevre."†

To those who are acquainted, practically or otherwise, with the Law and Procedure of Legislative Assemblies, and the foundation on which they are built, no apology is needed for an attempt to bring together the Decisions of the Head of that House to which every representative body looks up as its parent and pattern.

The Law of Parliament rests mainly on usage and precedent, and the words of Fleta, quoted by a former Speaker, Sir Edward Coke—"Ista lex ab omnibus est querenda, a multis ignorata, a paucis cognita," are still of force.

"The forms and methods of proceeding in the British Parliament—especially those which prevail in the House of Commons, which has served as a model for most of the Legislative Assemblies of the present day—are the

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\* The Decisions of the Right Hon. Evelyn Denison, Speaker of the House of Commons (April 30, 1857—February 8, 1872), on Points of Order, Rules of Debate, and the General Practice of the House. By E. G. Blackmore. Adelaide: By authority, E. Spiller, Government Printer. 1881.

† Decisions of the Right Hon. Charles Shaw Lefevre, Speaker of the House of Commons. By the Hon. Robert Bourke. Second edition. London: H. Sweet. 1857.

fruit of more than two centuries of the wisdom and experience of that celebrated body" are the words of a standard American writer.\* And amongst the sources from which that procedure is to be gathered, he refers to Rulings of the Speakers of the House of Commons as contained in the published debates.

The value of these it is impossible to over-estimate.

In conclusion, the compiler desires to express his thanks to Sir T. Erskine May, K.C.B., Clerk of the House of Commons, and to Mr. R. F. D. Palgrave, the Clerk Assistant, for encouragement and assistance rendered during the prosecution of this and the preceding work.

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\* Elements of the Law and Practice of the Legislative Assemblies in the United States of America. By Luther Stearns Cushing. Boston: Little, Brown, & Co. 1865.



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