

THE EXPANSION OF THE COMMON LAW

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The Expansion of the Common Law by Sir Frederick Pollock

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SIR FREDERICK POLLOCK

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OF THE
COMMON LAW**

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THE
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COMMON LAW.

BY

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TO

FREDERIC WILLIAM MAITLAND.

Kinder werfen den Ball an die Wand und fangen ihn wieder :
Aber ich lobe das Spiel, wirft mir der Freund ihn zurück.

GOETHE: *Vier Jahreszeiten.*

76794

PREFACE.



THE lectures from which this volume is named were delivered to the Law Schools of several American Universities last autumn. A few additions have been made to the original text. The address given at the request of the Harvard Law School Association for its commemoration of 1895 was not intended at the time to have any sequel, but is now prefixed to the course of 1903 as being sufficiently germane to the matter to serve as a general introduction.

Familiar matters of both fact and law were necessarily taken for granted in delivering the lectures; and it does not now seem desirable to vouch authorities at large for them. References have been given only where it is thought that they may be really useful for verification or farther search.

Taking a rapid survey of a wide field, I have left the learned reader to supply for himself many qualifications which it would have been proper to express if I had been writing at greater length. Students will do well to bear this in mind for their own sake, and I hope critical scholars will do the like for the author's. Nothing in nature is absolutely black or white, but a sketch in black and white may be faithful to the extent of its means, and my aim has been of that kind.

F. P.

LINCOLN'S INN,

Whitsuntide, 1904.

CONTENTS.



	PAGE
THE VOCATION OF THE COMMON LAW.....	1
THE EXPANSION OF THE COMMON LAW—	
I. THE FOUNDATIONS OF JUSTICE.....	25
II. THE SCALES OF JUSTICE	53
III. THE SWORD OF JUSTICE	81
IV. THE LAW OF REASON—	
A. The Law of Nature and of Nations	107
B. Natural Justice in the Common Law	123
APPENDIX.	
ENGLISH LAW BEFORE THE NORMAN CONQUEST	139
<hr/>	
INDEX	159