

**A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE
CONSTITUTION AND GOVERNMENT
OF
MASSACHUSETTS: WITH A CHAPTER
ON LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURE**

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A Brief History of the Constitution and Government of Massachusetts: With a Chapter on
Legislative Procedure by Louis Adams Frothingham

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LOUIS ADAMS FROTHINGHAM

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WITH A CHAPTER ON LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURE

BY

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PREFACE

THIS small volume is the outgrowth of a series of lectures given at Harvard University. It is put forth primarily for the use of students there, but it may also prove of assistance to the members of the General Court, to those who are interested in constitutional and historical matters, and at the present time, when a constitutional convention is contemplated, to those who may serve as delegates.

A book recently issued by the Commission on Economy and Efficiency entitled *Functions, Organization, and Administration of State Government*, covers the duties of the State officers and the Boards and Commissions, so I have omitted any detailed description of the powers and functions of those officials and bodies.

I wish to express my appreciation of the kindness of Professor Edward Channing who was good enough to read the chapters on the early history. To the efficient Clerk of the House of Representatives, Mr. James W. Kimball, who read the chapter on Legislative Procedure, I owe thanks for valuable suggestions. To Professor W. B. Munro, who advised publication and revised the material, I owe the encouragement to begin as well as to complete the work.

The author is conscious of many omissions and shortcomings in this book, but has endeavored to include in it data that seemed of most importance to those interested in study or casual investigation of constitutional and legislative matters. His apology for publication, if any be needed, is that the subject-matter here dealt with has not been heretofore set forth in any one volume.

L. A. FROTHINGHAM.

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS,
September, 1915.

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