

**AN INTRODUCTION  
TO THE STUDY OF  
THE ROMAN LAW**

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An Introduction to the Study of the Roman Law by Luther S. Cushing

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**LUTHER S. CUSHING**

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"Here" (the Forum Romanum,) "was trained that unrivalled power of constructive legislation, which was the great redeeming feature in the Roman mind, and which has bequeathed to posterity that precious bequest, the Roman Law, a gift equal in value to the splendid legacy of Greek literature."—HILLARD'S SIX MONTHS IN ITALY, I. 254.

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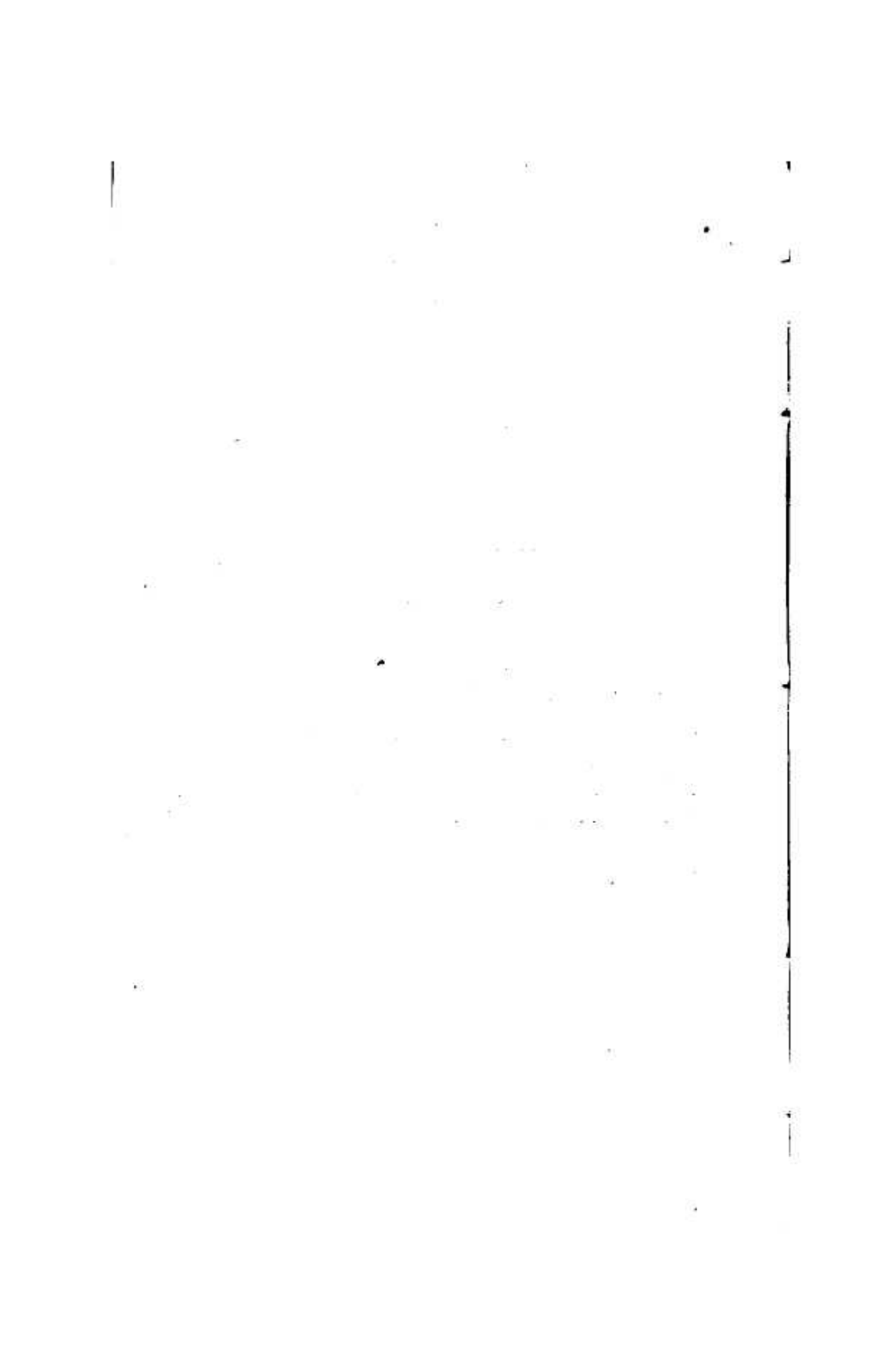
TO  
THE MEMORY

OF THE LATE

JOHN PICKERING:

WHO, besides his eminence as a lawyer, was equally distinguished for his virtues as a man, for his accomplishments as a scholar, and for his cultivation and knowledge of general jurisprudence, the following pages are inscribed, as a testimonial of respect and affection, by

THE AUTHOR.





## ADVERTISEMENT.

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THE following work was originally compiled as a short course of lectures on the Roman Law, and read before the Law School at Cambridge, in the second term of the academic year 1848 - 9. The plan of the course was, to select and treat chiefly of those topics, which, within the limited time devoted to this subject, would be of most advantage to the student. This object, it was thought, would be best accomplished by considering those points only in the history and present state of the science of Roman law, the knowledge of which would most readily enable the student to engage, at once, in the study of its principles.

In the execution of this purpose, the greatest attention was devoted to those matters which seemed most conducive to the end above stated;

leaving others of equal, or perhaps even of greater, interest, wholly or partially unnoticed.

In regard to that part of the course, which, from its nature, must necessarily be, to a considerable extent, a compilation, recourse has been had to those sources which are common to all, and the materials for it taken where they were most conveniently at hand. How far the general purpose has been advanced by the suggestion of any thing of my own, or how far the plan of the course has been successfully carried out, it is not for me to undertake to decide.

The object in view, namely, to furnish the student with the greatest amount of assistance, at the least possible expenditure of his time, will account for the extremely rudimentary nature of much of the original matter contained in the following pages, as well as for the general fact, that the whole work is rather suggestive, than full and exhausting, in its character.

The eighth chapter, in which the mode of referring to or citing the books of the Roman law is explained, is an exception to the fore-

going remark, and will be found to afford all desirable information on the subject.

The lectures have been revised and published in their present form, not because they constitute a complete introduction to the study of the Roman law, but because they seem calculated, in some measure, to supply the present want of such a work for the use of the students of American law.

At the end of the volume will be found a table, alphabetically arranged, of the rubrics of all the titles of the institutes, digest, and code, with references to the compilation, and the number of the book and title, to which they belong. By the aid of this table, and of the explanations given in the eighth chapter, the place of any title can be found, when referred to, as is frequently the case, without its number, or the number of the book in which it is contained.

L. S. C.

Boston, April 1st, 1854.