

**RES JUDICATAE;
PAPERS
AND ESSAYS**

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Res judicatae; papers and essays by Augustine Birrell

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AUGUSTINE BIRRELL

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PAPERS AND ESSAYS

BY

AUGUSTINE BIRRELL

AUTHOR OF 'OBLITER DICTA,' ETC.

**It need hardly be added that such sentences do not any more than the records of the superior courts conclude as to matters which may or may not have been controverted.*—See Blackman's Case, 1, Salkeld, 290.*

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1910



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PREFACE.

THE first two essays in this volume were composed as lectures, and are now printed for the first time; the others have endured that indignity before. The papers on 'The Letters of Charles Lamb' and 'Authors in Court' originally appeared in *Macmillan's Magazine*; and the short essays entitled 'William Cowper' and 'George Borrow' in the *Reflector*, a lively sheet which owed its existence to and derived its inspiration from the energy and genius of the late Mr. J. K. Stephen, whose too early death has not only eclipsed the gaiety of many gatherings, but has robbed the country of the service of a noble and truth-loving man.

The other papers appeared either in *Scribner's Magazine* or in the columns of the *Speaker* newspaper.

A. B.

3, NEW SQUARE,
LINCOLN'S INN.



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