

**LEADING CASES DONE  
INTO ENGLISH,  
BY AN APPRENTICE  
OF LINCOLN'S INN**

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Leading cases done into English, by an apprentice of Lincoln's inn by Various

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**VARIOUS**

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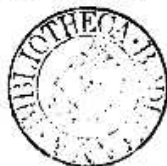
REPRINTED FROM THE "PALL MALL GAZETTE."

*Tibullus.* How now, Ovid! Law cases in verse?

*Ovid.* Troth, if I live, I will new dress the law  
In sprightly Poesy's habiliments.

BEN JONSON, *The Poetaster*, Act I.

SECOND EDITION.



London:

MACMILLAN AND CO.

1876.

280. j. 497. —

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LEADING CASES DONE INTO ENGLISH.



## LEADING CASES DONE INTO ENGLISH.

### I.—THE SIX CARPENTERS' CASE.

(1 *Smith, L.C. 133, 7th ed.*)

THIS case befell at four of the clock

(now listeneth what I shall say),

and the year was the seventh of James the First,

on a fine September day.

The birds on the bough sing loud and sing low,

what trespass shall be *ab initio*.

1 Sept. 7 Jac., in  
London, in the  
parish of St. Giles,  
extra Cripplegate,  
hora quarta post  
meridiam.

## Leading Cases

"Upon the new assignment, the plaintiff assigned the trespass in a house called the Queen's Head, . . . with a common sign at the door of the said house fixed, &c."

It was Thomas Newman and five his feres  
(three more would have made them nine),  
and they entered into John Vaux's house,  
that had the Queen's Head to sign.

The birds on the bough sing loud and sing low,  
what trespass shall be *ab initio*.

They called anon for a quart of wine  
(they were carpenters all by trade),  
and they drank about till they drank it out,  
and when they had drunk they paid.

The birds on the bough sing loud and sing low,  
what trespass shall be *ab initio*.

"One John Ridding, servant of the said John Vaux, at the request of the said defendants, did these then deliver them another quart of wine and a pennyworth of bread, amounting to 3d., and then they there did drink the said wine and eat the bread"—(Et semble que ceo est marvelous petit manger et bever pur vj. homes)—"and upon request did refuse to pay for the same."

One spake this word in John Ridding's ear  
(white manchets are sweet and fine):  
"Fair sir, we are fain of a penn'orth of bread  
and another quart of wine."

The birds on the bough sing loud and sing low,  
what trespass shall be *ab initio*.

## Done into English.

---

Full lightly thereof they did eat and drink

(to drink is iwis no blame).

“ Now tell me eight pennies,” quoth Master Vaux ;

but they would not pay the same.

The birds on the bough sing loud and sing low,

what trespass shall be *ad initio*.

“ Ye have trespassed with force and arms, ye knaves Action of trespass.

(the six be too strong for me),

but your tortious entry shall cost you dear,

and that the King's Court shall see.

The birds on the bough sing loud and nought low,

your trespass was wrought *ad initio*.”

*Sed per totam curiam* 'twas well resolved

Second resolution in  
the case.

(note, reader, this difference)

that in mere not doing no trespass is,

and John Vaux went empty thence.

The birds on the bough sing loud and sing low,

Ideo predict' Jo-  
hannes in miseri-  
cordia et defendit  
sine die.

no trespass was here *ad initio*.