

**A HISTORY OF MEDIAEVAL
POLITICAL THEORY
IN THE WEST; VOL. II**

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A History of Mediaeval Political Theory in the West; Vol. II by Sir R. W. Carlyle & A. J. Carlyle

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IN THE WEST

BY
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VOL. II.

THE POLITICAL THEORY OF THE ROMAN LAWYERS AND
THE CANONISTS FROM THE TENTH CENTURY
TO THE THIRTEENTH CENTURY

By A. J. CARLYLE, M.A., D.LITT.

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PREFACE TO VOLUME II.

WITH this volume we begin the treatment of the political theory of the great period of the Middle Ages, our first volume having really the character of an introduction to this. The materials have, on closer examination, proved to be so large and complex that we have been compelled to devote a whole volume to the political ideas embodied in the two great systems of law which are derived directly from the ancient world. I have felt very keenly how difficult and dangerous a thing it is for a student of history, who has no technical legal training, to deal with those great juristic documents; and indeed I should have felt much hesitation in presenting the result of this work to the public if it had not been for the great kindness of a number of scholars eminent in the civil and the canon law.

I must therefore express my most sincere thanks, first to Professor Fitting of Halle, Professor Meynial of Paris, and Professor Vinogradoff of Oxford, who have very kindly read the proofs of the first part of this volume: and secondly, to Professor Andrea Galante of Innsbruck, who has been so kind as to read the proofs of the second part.