

**THE MARRIED WOMEN'S
PROPERTY ACT, 1870: AND THE
MARRIED WOMEN'S PROPERTY
ACT, 1870, AMENDMENT ACT,
1874**

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The Married Women's Property Act, 1870: And the Married Women's Property Act, 1870,
Amendment Act, 1874 by J. R. Griffith

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J. R. GRIFFITH

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MARRIED WOMEN'S PROPERTY ACT, 1870,

AND THE

*Married Women's Property Act, 1870,
Amendment Act, 1874.*

ITS RELATIONS TO THE

DOCTRINE OF SEPARATE USE.

With Appendix of Cases, Statutes and Forms.

BY

J. R. GRIFFITH, B.A., OXON,
OF LINCOLN'S INN, BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

THIRD EDITION.



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PREFACE TO THE THIRD EDITION.

SINCE the appearance of the Second Edition, the defects of the 12th Section of the Act of 1870 have been remedied by an Amendment Act, passed in the last Session; other and more extensive measures of reform having failed to obtain the sanction of the Legislature in the previous year.

The law of husband and wife cannot as yet be treated as in other than a state of transition. Well-recognized rules have, in deference to the needs of an altered state of society, been broken in upon or abolished; but it is difficult to trace any comprehensive or intelligible principle in the reforms hitherto introduced.

It has been attempted, with the aid of the comparatively few decisions on the principal Act, to indicate the probable effect of the recent legislation. Some cases have been printed *in extenso* for convenience of reference, which, with the Forms, contained in the Appendix, may, it is hoped, be found useful as suggesting the practice under the Acts.

24, Old Square, Lincoln's Inn,
December 1874.

PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

THE object of the "Married Women's Property Act, 1870," as defined in the Preamble, is, "To Amend the Law of Property and Contract with respect to Married Women." Under the Act, the rights which women have hitherto enjoyed in Equity in respect of separate estate, are apparently recognised and adopted; while a most beneficial, if somewhat anomalous, position is given to them at Law. It has been attempted in the following Notes, to give a summary of the cases, decided in Courts of Equity, on the rights and liabilities of married women in relation to their separate estate; and to suggest some changes, which may probably arise in the practice of the Courts, from the new status given to them by the Act.

24, Old Square, Lincoln's Inn,
January 1871.



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