

would not alone have made him, as some have thought him, the greatest of English Judges. Lord Mansfield loved justice, he felt his obligation as a servant of the public, he was unflinching in his courage and independence, and he had in marked degree that somewhat rare combination of qualities which make up what may be called the judicial faculty—something capable of no exact definition, heaven-born, perhaps, and certainly, by some, not to be acquired. The administration of his Court was beyond criticism, and he presided with a dignity and consideration unsurpassed even by Lord Hardwicke. Coke, Holt, perhaps others, were more deeply learned in the common law, had greater reverence for it, and are more thoroughly identified with it. But Lord Mansfield's accomplishments for jurisprudence went much beyond the work of any of these. With a breadth of vision impossible for men whose only learning was the common law, he saw the need of something more expansive to apply to changing commercial conditions, and, building on other systems with which his extensive studies had given him familiarity, he instituted, and in large measure perfected, a new system of law for the world of trade and business. Judicial history has few instances of opportunity so admirably embraced. He well deserves to be characterized, in the terms so often used of him, as "the Great Lord Mansfield."

Lord Camden is hardly to be placed among England's greatest Judges, but there is a charm about him that some greater names do not possess. It is the attraction of noble character, always nobly exerted, rather than of uncommon powers. While Attorney-General he thus expressed his conception of his duty as public prosecutor in an important capital case before the House of Lords: "My Lords," he said, "as I never thought it my duty in any case to attempt at eloquence where a prisoner stood upon trial for his life, much less shall I think of doing it before your Lordships: give me leave, therefore, to proceed to a narrative of the facts." Living long, as most of the noted English Judges did, he was true always to this spirit of justice and moderation; and in all his conduct, both as Judge and legislator, he acted on the belief that he was charged with an obligation