

proof of the advantages arising from <sup>his</sup> a clear system of arrangement, I might mention Mr. Cruise, and several other most distinguished writers. *Secondly*, Although far short of the perfection, which we may hope to see accomplished in the art of generalizing ideas upon legal subjects, I have endeavoured to avoid the statement of mere circumstantial details, and to give as general and comprehensive extent to the propositions, as the nature of the subject would admit. *And thirdly*, I have given the points of cases; which, as they form a distinct, and subordinate part of the plan, I have put into a smaller type, in a method in some degree corresponding with that adopted by Mr. Justice Bayley, in his most excellent treatise on the law of bills of exchange. It will be observed, that, in some instances, I have given a full collection of the cases on a subject; in others, only a few, in the nature of illustrations; and in others again, none whatever. I considered it necessary to give the leading cases under a rule, when I found it so indefinite in its terms, that a reference to former decisions, must be made, in order to show its application; but when it was tolerably defined, I thought it sufficiently explained, by one or two cases by way of illustration; and wherever it was so comprehensive as to include all possible cases, or where its terms were so clearly defined, that there could be no difficulty in applying it to practical purposes.