

The reader will notice that all the reported cases deal with important and leading principles of Admiralty law. At the end of each case will be found full and ample notes containing citations of English, Canadian and American authorities, bringing the law down to the present time. The Imperial and Canadian Statutes relating to Admiralty jurisdiction and practice have been included. The Colonial Courts of Admiralty Act, 1890, Imp. (53-54 Vict. c. 27); the Admiralty Act, 1891, Can. (54-55 Vict. c. 29), and the Rules of 1893, framed under the authority of the two last mentioned Acts, have been given *in extenso*. At the close of the volume has also been inserted a full and complete DIGEST of all reported Canadian Admiralty cases. These features will, it is hoped, make the work of general utility in actual practice. In the Introduction an attempt has been made, in concise terms, to give the reader an outline of that struggle for jurisdiction, which was waged in England for more than two centuries between the High Court of Admiralty and the Courts of Common Law. The criticism may be made that such a discussion has at present no practical value. I cannot share that view, and trust it may prove useful to those desirous of studying that period of Admiralty law.

It is almost needless to remind the reader that the jurisdiction now exercised by the Admiralty Court in Canada is as wide and comprehensive as the most enthusiastic advocate of its ancient jurisdiction ever claimed. This has been accomplished from time to time during the last half century by enlightened legislation designed to meet the requirements of modern commerce. All questions touching our merchant marine practically come within the scope of its present jurisdiction.

My thanks are extended to Mrs. Stuart, of Quebec, widow of the late Judge Stuart, for ready permission given to make what use I deemed proper of her late husband's Reports, in preparing the Digest; also to William Cook, Esq., Q. C., of the same place, for similar permission as to his valuable volume of Reports.

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