

## PREFACE TO THE FIFTH EDITION.

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THE fourth edition of this book, which was published in March, 1905, is now out of print. Since its appearance there have been numerous decisions which have affected the law of Libel and Slander in many respects, particularly in regard to the law of Fair Comment. These have rendered necessary considerable modification of the former edition. One branch of the law of privilege has become of increasing importance—that relating to statements made in or copied from Parliamentary or official papers. We have therefore introduced a new sub-division of Qualified Privilege under this title in Chapter XI. All relevant decisions have been noted down to April, 1911, and the whole book has been thoroughly revised and brought up to date.

W. B. O.

J. B. E.

W. B. O., Junr.

TEMPLE,

May, 1911.