

CONTENTS

<i>Acknowledgements</i>	<i>page</i> xi
<i>List of abbreviations</i>	xii
<i>Table of cases</i>	xv
<i>Table of statutes</i>	xvii
Introduction	1
1 The making of the new county courts	5
The deficiencies of the courts	5
The origins of the new county courts	13
The emergence of the new courts	27
2 An age of expansion, 1847–1870	38
The new courts and the new judges	38
The new courts in action	41
The courts under scrutiny	51
County courts ascendant	57
Debtors and creditors	68
3 An age of frustration, 1871–1914	74
The turning point	74
The Halsbury era	87
Liberal governments	103
4 War to war	111
The Great War	111
Reconstruction: courts fit for heroes	115
New jurisdictions	124
Between the wars	131
The Second World War	147
5 ‘Patching up the courts’	153
Tinkering with the machinery of justice	153
Courts under pressure	166
Courts in action	174
Courts under scrutiny	178
Courts under reconstruction	191

x	<i>Contents</i>	
6	Central organisation and finances	198
	The Lord Chancellor's Department	198
	The county courts branch	201
	County court district organisation	210
	The Rule Committee	216
	County court finances	226
7	Judges	240
	The power of appointment	240
	Choosing the judges	241
	Conditions of service	251
	Leaving office	259
	The judges' characteristics	264
	The life of a county court judge	270
	The judicial role of registrars	276
8	Staff and buildings	281
	Registrars	281
	Clerical staff	292
	Bailiffs	304
	Courthouses and offices	316
	<i>Appendixes</i>	
1	The Mayor's and City of London Courts	322
2	County court towns, 1847-1971	326
3	Statistical tables	333
	<i>Bibliography</i>	359
	<i>Index</i>	388