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G. Glover Alexander

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**THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE  
IN CRIMINAL MATTERS  
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“And earthly power doth then show likest God’s,  
When Mercy seasons Justice.”

SHAKESPEARE.

“Justice is itself the great standing policy of civil society.”

BURKE.

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THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE  
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BY

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## PREFACE

THE first edition of this book was published in 1911, as a volume of the *Cambridge Manuals of Science and Literature*. That edition being almost exhausted, it has been thought well to republish it in an enlarged form, as likely to prove useful to a considerable class of readers.

In its present form it is intended to serve as a first book for newly appointed Justices of the Peace, superior police officers, and law students; but it is hoped that it will also appeal to a larger class of general readers who are interested in subjects bordering on the domain of law, history, politics, and sociology. It will be seen that it has a wider scope than the ordinary law book, as it not only gives a survey of the whole field of the administration of the Criminal Law as a working system, with some comments thereon, but also shows the connection between Criminal Law and our system of government.

Another object kept steadily in view has been to show the spirit in which our Criminal Law is administered and which pervades every part of it.

It is not intended to serve as a mere text-book, or book of practice, since it deals with the broad outlines of the system and not with details; but it may possibly serve as an introduction to such old and well-established works as *Stone's Justices' Manual*, the *Magistrate's General Practice*, and *Archbold's Criminal Pleading and Evidence*, the size of which has become formidable.

The Criminal Justice Administration Act, 1914 (herein referred to as the C. J. A. Act), makes great changes in our law and

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practice, particularly in regard to Courts of Summary Jurisdiction. By the Criminal Justice Administration (Postponement) Act, 1914, which received the Royal assent on November 27th, 1914, the operation of that Act has been postponed from December 1st, 1914, to April 1st, 1915, except sections 1, 18, 21, 22, 23, 25, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, and 37, and any repeal which is consequential on any of these sections. Section 10 (which relates to Borstal Institutions) does not come into operation until September 1st, 1915.

The attention of Justices of Peace and their Clerks is particularly directed to the new Summary Jurisdiction Rules (dated 10th March, 1915) made by the Lord Chancellor in view of the above-named Act coming into operation (which supersede all existing Rules and forms), and also to the important and lucid Home Office circular on the Act, dated 11th March, 1915.

Every care has been taken to ensure accuracy, but in a work of such a wide scope it is too much to expect that it will be found entirely free from inaccuracies; and the writer will be much obliged to any reader who will be good enough to point them out to him.

No attempt has been made to deal with the so-called Emergency Legislation, due to the European War now going on, which is quite exceptional, and which, it is hoped and believed, will be of a temporary character only.

G. G. A.

*31st March, 1915.*

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