

PUBLISHERS' PREFACE.

WE beg to offer the First Volume of our publication of The Indian High Court Reports, with the gracious permission of The Government of India who allowed us to present this Verbatim Reprint to the public, of the Indian Law Reports, Four Series, (Calcutta, Bombay, Madras and Allahabad from 1901 to 1913) the copyright however, still vesting only in them. The First Volume contains the cases reported in the Volumes XXVIII and XXIX of the Calcutta Series of the Indian Law Reports.

With the steady growth of non-official journals, and the increasing number of our High Courts and Judges, Judge-made case law has been so enormously developing that Judges and Practitioners alike feel great difficulty in keeping abreast of the current of decisions, though they feel the necessity for it in a country where Judge-made law is one of the chief sources of law.

The cost, however, of providing oneself with these law reports is highly prohibitive, at any rate, to the majority of the profession. In this state of circumstances, the chief object and the justification for this reprint is to provide a set of law reports which will be within the easy reach of all, high and low, affluent or otherwise. This was one of the cherished objects of our revered father, to whom, in worshipful memory this work has been dedicated. He began his career as an unsuccessful litigant in a heavy suit, who carried his suit to all the Courts, Original and Appellate, and bitterly suffered from the consequences thereof. But almost immediately, he set to himself the task of serving the legal profession and in this line he worked hard throughout his long life and died in harness. During his life, he had tried more than once to obtain the permission of the Government and bring out this reprint but was not able to do so. We are merely trying to carry out his wishes.

In the body of the judgments reported in this Volume, the corresponding pages of the Law Reports have been indicated in thick black figures enclosed in rectangular brackets. At the top of each case, whenever that case is reported in more than one report, that is pointed out by the symbol (=), and at the end of the headnote, a reference to subsequent cases which have considered the previous cases has also been given. An Index at the end and two Tables in the beginning of cases reported and cited, along with a Reference Table with pages of the Volume of this Report and of the corresponding Volume and page of the Indian Law Reports, will, we hope, make the work of the busy lawyer in referring to them easy, and as complete as possible.

The task of going through the original matter, correcting such *bona fide* mistakes as are found therein, and of giving these references and preparing the Tables has cost us immense labour. Considering that and considering the size of the Volume, we would invite particular attention to the extremely low rate at which we have priced the Volume *viz.*, Rs. 8.

We propose to issue a Volume every five weeks so that the profession may not feel it and adequate steps have been taken to arrange for this. We hope the legal profession will recognise in this our anxious endeavour to serve them more than anything else, and we would consider ourselves amply rewarded by their encouragement and hearty support.

In our anxiety to get the reports as early as possible, we are very sorry we were not able to do all that we wanted for the cases in the first Volume of this Report, and a portion of the second Volume, but we have filled up the omission by printing a Supplementary Table, and incorporating it at the end of the Volume. For this and other mistakes in this Volume we beg to apologise to the profession and trust they will realise the enormous difficulties in our way and readily excuse us.

We take this opportunity of acknowledging our deep indebtedness to Dr. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, K.C.S.I. the Ex-Law Member to the Government of India for his kind selection of this firm for the issue of the reprints. We are also thankful to Mr. S. C. Gupta, Barrister-at-Law and to Rai Bahadur A. L. Banerjee, for their experienced advice in the execution of the work committed to our trust, to The Hon'ble Justice Sir Asutosh Mookerjee, Kt., C. S. I. the staunchest patron of learning of every shape and form, who has given us considerable help by way of suggestion and advice.

The printing of this work has been entrusted to The Commercial Press, Madras, who are well-known for their speedy execution and neat get up, and we very cheerfully acknowledge with thanks the immense facilities that the management of the Commercial Press, have afforded us in the matter of printing these reprints. Our thanks are also due to them for the particular attention they have been giving to our work.

We are also glad to state that we have now secured the services of Mr. K. S. Desikan, M.A., B.L., a distinguished student of the University and a rising junior member of the Madras Bar, who is giving his whole-hearted attention to this work and trying zealously to ensure its thoroughness and accuracy.

In conclusion, we beg to point out that we have preserved a high standard of excellence in the paper and printing materials. Each volume is printed in John Dickinson's high quality, Royal 25 lbs. paper. The binding will be in Black Rexine and Black Calico with lettering in gold. Particular attention is given to make the printing neat and the binding sufficiently durable.

D. C. KERR,

N. C. KERR,

Proprietors,

R. CAMBRAY & CO.