

PREFACE

This book deals with judicial organization in the French Indian Establishments which consisted of the regions now forming the Union Territory of Pondicherry. It is intended to be mainly informative, the purpose being to familiarize common law lawyers with the various French institutions relative to the administration of justice. The study has been brought up to date by the inclusion of a chapter dealing with the changes effected after the cession of these Establishments to the Indian Union.

The judicial organs delineated in the third section of the first chapter are those found in the territory immediately before the cession, so that names like *Tribunal Supérieur d'Appel* and *Procureur de la République* appear there. As the appellate tribunal was known as *Cour d'Appel* for a very long time and the head of the *parquet* during this period was designated *Procureur Général*, the latter names, in keeping with the language employed in the enactments, have sometimes been used in the book. The use of French words has occasionally been considered necessary owing to the difficulty of finding exact English equivalents for certain technical words.

The excerpts given from unreported judgments of the Madras High Court are intended to indicate the sincere attempts made by the Court to administer justice according to French law, sometimes as modified by Anglo-Indian precedents and enactments.

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