

**LEADING CASES DONE  
INTO ENGLISH: AND  
OTHER DIVERSIONS**

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Leading Cases Done Into English: And Other Diversions by Sir Frederick Pollock

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**SIR FREDERICK POLLOCK**

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LEADING CASES DONE INTO ENGLISH

©  
LEADING CASES

DONE INTO ENGLISH

AND OTHER DIVERSIONS

BY

SIR FREDERICK POLLOCK, <sup>Esq.</sup> BART.

*Tibullus.* How now, Ovid? Law cases in verse?

*Ovid.* Troth, if I live, I will new dress the law  
In sprightly Poesy's habiliments,  
BEN JONSON, *The Poetaster*, Act I.

London

MACMILLAN AND CO.

AND NEW YORK

1892

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TO

ALGERNON CHARLES SWINBURNE

## PREFACE

IN setting my own name to a collection of trifles including several parodies of our recent and living masters in English poetry, I feel that a word of explanation is due. Parody does not, to my mind, imply any want of respect for the original. Rather I would say that, where the original has any real worth and distinction, no parodist can succeed who has not a fairly adequate sense of its distinctive merits. Indignation or contempt may give point to a parody in special cases; there are also parodies which we enjoy simply as grotesques, with little or no thought of their correspondence to the thing parodied. A very few great writers are too universal to give a handle to parody; many who are not obscure give none for an opposite reason, that they lack any prominent character at all.

I believe this doctrine to be sound; but I have



thought it well to secure myself in it by the best possible warrant. This volume is dedicated to Mr. Swinburne: his friendly acceptance is conclusive proof that at least one of our chief poets in this generation holds the same magnanimous view that was held by Scott, Byron, and others in the classical case of the *Rejected Addresses*. I am happy to think that these diversions acquire, by being associated with his name, a title to remembrance independent of their own deserts.

My acknowledgments and thanks are hereby given to the owners of the journals in which several of the miscellaneous pieces now first collected have appeared from time to time.

F. P.

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