

The Bill Of Rights Oliver Wendell Holmes Lectures

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Law in American History, Volume III G. Edward White 2019-04-18 In Law in American History, Volume III: 1930-2000, the eminent legal scholar G. Edward White concludes his sweeping history of law in America, from the colonial era to the near-present. Picking up where his previous volume left off, at the end of the 1920s, White turns his attention to modern developments in both public and private law. One of his findings is that despite the massive changes in American society since the New Deal, some of the landmark constitutional decisions from that period remain salient today. An illustration is the Court's sweeping interpretation of the reach of Congress's power under the Commerce Clause in *Wickard v. Filburn* (1942), a decision that figured prominently in the Supreme Court's recent decision to uphold the Affordable Care Act. In these formative years of modern American jurisprudence, courts responded to, and affected, the emerging role of the state and federal governments as regulatory and redistributive institutions and the growing participation of the United States in world affairs. They extended their reach into domains they had mostly ignored: foreign policy, executive power, criminal procedure, and the rights of speech, sexuality, and voting. Today, the United States continues to grapple with changing legal issues in each of those domains. Law in American History, Volume III provides an authoritative introduction to how modern American jurisprudence emerged and evolved of the course of the twentieth century, and the impact of law on every major feature of American life in that century. White's two preceding volumes and this one constitute a definitive treatment of the role of law in American history.

The Bill of Rights Learned Hand 1960

The Bill of Rights

Misreading the Bill of Rights: Top Ten Myths Concerning Your Rights and Liberties Kirby Goidel 2015-03-30 The Bill of Rights—the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution—are widely misunderstood by many Americans. This book explores the widely held myths about the Bill of Rights, how these myths originated, why they have persisted, and the implications for contemporary politics and policy. Interestingly, most Americans today—even professional political commentators—misinterpret or misunderstand what the Bill of Rights' intended meaning and purposes were. Culturally ingrained myths about the Bill of Rights have helped to define what it means to be an "American" but also limited the range of political debate and justified unfair and unequal treatment of minorities. This book addresses the top ten myths regarding the Bill of Rights from the standpoint of public understanding (and misunderstanding) from a non-partisan, objective point of view, provoking independent thought and enabling readers to reach their own educated conclusions and opinions. Written by two experts in the fields of political science, public policy, media law, and civil liberties, the work explores the key role of modern news and entertainment media in contributing to public misunderstanding of individual rights and liberties. The authors also apply and interpret data from public opinion surveys to further examine public beliefs about the Bill of Rights and closely connect the analysis of misperceptions to existing political beliefs. • Carefully separates out widely held contemporary beliefs about the Bill of Rights and connects them to debates over meaning, enabling readers to see how the meaning of rights is historically and contextually determined • Explores the Bill of Rights in the context of myths that define the American political culture • Provides an even-handed but incisive analysis of individual myths, pointing out where both the left and the right often misinterpret the true meaning of the Bill of Rights • Places the debates regarding rights in contemporary politics and modern society by considering the complex challenge of protecting individual freedoms in the context of a digital age, international terrorism, and ongoing threats to national security

The Great Dissent Thomas Healy 2013-08-20 A gripping intellectual history reveals how Oliver Wendell Holmes became a free-speech advocate and established the modern understanding of the First Amendment No right seems more fundamental to American public life than freedom of speech. Yet well into the twentieth century, that freedom was still an unfulfilled promise, with Americans regularly imprisoned merely for speaking out against government policies. Indeed, free speech as we know it comes less from the First Constitutional Amendment than from a most unexpected source: Supreme Court justice Oliver Wendell Holmes. A lifelong skeptic, he disdained all individual rights, including the right to express one's political views. But in 1919, it was Holmes who wrote a dissenting opinion that would become the canonical affirmation of free speech in the United States. Why did Holmes change his mind? That question has puzzled historians for almost a century. Now, with the aid of newly discovered letters and confidential memos, law professor Thomas Healy reconstructs in vivid detail Holmes's journey from free-speech opponent to First Amendment hero. It is the story of a remarkable behind-the-scenes campaign by a group of progressives to bring a legal icon around to their way of thinking—and a deeply touching human narrative of an old man saved from loneliness and despair by a few unlikely young friends. Beautifully written and exhaustively researched, *The Great Dissent* is intellectual history at its best, revealing how free debate can alter the life of a man and the legal landscape of an entire nation. A Kirkus Reviews Best Nonfiction Book of 2013

Diminishing the Bill of Rights William Davenport Mercer 2017-04-13 The modern effort to locate American liberties, it turns out, began in the mud at the bottom of Baltimore harbor. John Barron Jr. and John Craig sued the city for damages after Baltimore's rebuilt drainage system diverted water and sediment into the harbor, preventing large ships from tying up at Barron and Craig's wharf. By the time the case reached the U.S. Supreme Court in 1833, the issue had become whether the city's actions constituted a taking of property by the state without just compensation, a violation of the Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The high court's decision in *Barron v. Baltimore* marked a critical step in the rapid evolution of law and constitutional rights during the first half of the nineteenth century. *Diminishing the Bill of Rights* examines the backstory and context of this decision as a turning point in the development of our current conception of individual rights. Since the colonial period, Americans had viewed their rights as springing from multiple sources, including the common law, natural right, and English legal tradition. Despite this rich heritage and a prohibition grounded in the Magna Carta against uncompensated state takings of property, the Court ruled against Barron's claim. The Bill of Rights, Chief Justice John Marshall declared in his opinion for the majority, restrained only the federal government, not the states. The Fifth Amendment, accordingly, did not apply to Maryland or any of the cities it chartered. In explaining how the Court came to reject a multisourced view of human liberties—a position seemingly inconsistent with its previous decisions—William Davenport Mercer helps explain why we now envision the Constitution as essential to guaranteeing our rights. Marshall's view of rights in *Barron*, Mercer argues, helped him navigate the Court through the precarious political currents of the time. While the chief justice may have effected a shrewd political maneuver, the decision helped hasten a reconceptualization of rights as located in documents. Its legacy, as Mercer's work makes clear, is among the Jacksonian era's significant democratic reforms and marks the emergence of a distinctly American constitutionalism.

The Spirit of Liberty Learned Hand 1989

How Rights Went Wrong Jamal Greene 2021-03-16 An eminent constitutional scholar reveals how the explosion of rights is dividing America, and shows how we can build a better system of justice. You have the right to remain silent and the right to free speech. The right to worship, and to doubt. The right to be free from discrimination, and to hate. The right to marry and to divorce; to have children and to terminate a pregnancy. The right to life, and the right to own a gun. Rights are a sacred part of American identity. Yet they were an afterthought for the Framers, and early American courts rarely enforced them. Only as a result of the racial strife that exploded during the Civil War—and a series of resulting missteps by the Supreme Court—did rights gain such outsized power. The result is a system of legal absolutism that distorts our law and debases our politics. Over and again, courts have treated rights conflicts as zero-sum games in which awarding rights to one side means denying rights to others. As eminent legal scholar Jamal Greene shows in *How Rights Went Wrong*, we need to recouple rights with justice—before they tear society apart.

The Bill of Rights and Beyond 1990

An Autobiography of the Supreme Court Alan F. Westin 1963 Includes writings by John Jay, John Marshall, Joseph Story, John Marshall Harlan, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., Charles Evans Hughes, Felix Frankfurter, Robert H. Jackson, Earl Warren, William J. Brennan, Jr., William O. Douglas, and Hugo Black, among others.

The Bill of Rights in Modern America David J. Bodenhamer 2022-04-05 --A newly revised and updated version of the 2008 revised edition with updated introduction, four new chapters. --The editors were encouraged to update this edition with issues of diversity in mind. They have done so by including the expertise of more women and people of color. Also includes suggestions for further reading. --The audience for the

work is primarily scholarly, though the work does lend itself to classroom discussion and course adoption as well. Readers would include legal scholars, legal anthropologists, and those who work in issues of modern rights and social justice.

Soldier-statesmen of the Constitution Robert K. Wright 2007

This Constitution American Historical Association 1988 Surveys the history of the Constitution, its origins, ratification, adaptation, and possible future.

One and Four Jan Owen 2012 Selections of writings on United States of America patriotism, nationalism, and constitutional principles, presented in calligraphic text and binary code and centering on Articles 1 and 4 of the Bill of Rights. Includes passages by Thomas Jefferson, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., Henry W. Longfellow, and Walt Whitman.

Freedom for the Thought That We Hate Anthony Lewis 2008-03-03 More than any other people on earth, Americans are free to say and write what they think. The media can air the secrets of the White House, the boardroom, or the bedroom with little fear of punishment or penalty. The reason for this extraordinary freedom is not a superior culture of tolerance, but just fourteen words in our most fundamental legal document: the free expression clauses of the First Amendment to the Constitution. In Lewis's telling, the story of how the right of free expression evolved along with our nation makes a compelling case for the adaptability of our constitution. Although Americans have gleefully and sometimes outrageously exercised their right to free speech since before the nation's founding, the Supreme Court did not begin to recognize this right until 1919. Freedom of speech and the press as we know it today is surprisingly recent. Anthony Lewis tells us how these rights were created, revealing a story of hard choices, heroic (and some less heroic) judges, and fascinating and eccentric defendants who forced the legal system to come face-to-face with one of America's great founding ideas.

The Bill of Rights in the Modern State Professor of Law Geoffrey R Stone 1992-10-15 Also published as v. 59, no. 1 (winter 1992), of the University of Chicago law review.

Law in American History, Volume III G. Edward White 2019-04-18 In Law in American History, Volume III: 1930-2000, the eminent legal scholar G. Edward White concludes his sweeping history of law in America, from the colonial era to the near-present. Picking up where his previous volume left off, at the end of the 1920s, White turns his attention to modern developments in both public and private law. One of his findings is that despite the massive changes in American society since the New Deal, some of the landmark constitutional decisions from that period remain salient today. An illustration is the Court's sweeping interpretation of the reach of Congress's power under the Commerce Clause in *Wickard v. Filburn* (1942), a decision that figured prominently in the Supreme Court's recent decision to uphold the Affordable Care Act. In these formative years of modern American jurisprudence, courts responded to, and affected, the emerging role of the state and federal governments as regulatory and redistributive institutions and the growing participation of the United States in world affairs. They extended their reach into domains they had mostly ignored: foreign policy, executive power, criminal procedure, and the rights of speech, sexuality, and voting. Today, the United States continues to grapple with changing legal issues in each of those domains. Law in American History, Volume III provides an authoritative introduction to how modern American jurisprudence emerged and evolved of the course of the twentieth century, and the impact of law on every major feature of American life in that century. White's two preceding volumes and this one constitute a definitive treatment of the role of law in American history.

Loose Sallies Essays Daniel J. Kornstein 2014-01-23 Loose Sallies is a new collection of essays from an experienced writer who also happens to be a full time practicing lawyer. In this stimulating and provocative volume, Daniel J. Kornstein turns his searching eye and fluent pen to a number of topics of interest to all of us. The first group of essays contains Kornstein's original thoughts on the drafting of the U.S. Constitution, a subject that affects us every day. Next he explores the most treasured part of our Constitution: our precious civil liberties. From there the author describes some interesting personalities and their lives. The final section is a miscellany of essays on subjects as varied as: the similarities between politics and litigation, whether private schools should be abolished, Bill Clinton and the draft, anti semitism in New York and London, and Steve Jobs and Ayn Rand. All in all, Loose Sallies is a virtuoso performance, a tour de force, by one of our finest essayists.

Reason and Imagination Constance Jordan 2013-01-17 Reason and Imagination: The Selected Correspondence of Learned Hand provides readers with an intimate look into the life and mind of Judge Learned Hand, an icon in American Law. This new book brings to light previously unpublished letters and gives readers insight into Hand's thoughts on American jurisprudence and policy. This new collection includes a preface by Ronald Dworkin.

The Oliver Wendell Holmes Devise History of the Supreme Court of the United States Volume 6 Hardback Set: Volume 6 Set Charles Fairman 2010-04 The two volumes collectively entitled Reconstruction and Reunion, 1864-1888 examine the history of the Supreme Court during the tenure of Chief Justices Salmon P. Chase and Morrison R. Waite during the politically and constitutionally turbulent Reconstruction period. Constitution 1988

The Oxford Companion to the Supreme Court of the United States Kermit L. Hall 2005-05-19 The second edition of this authoritative guide on the impact of the Supreme Court's decisions on American society includes updated entries on key cases over the past thirteen years, as well as a fully revised treatment of areas of constitutional law.

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes: The proving years, 1870-1882 Mark De Wolfe Howe 1957 A full-length biography by a lawyer who was Holmes' secretary. For contents, see Author Catalog.

The Bill of Rights Primer Akhil Reed Amar 2013-07-01 A comprehensive and easy-to-understand guide to the Bill of Rights for everyday Americans from a constitutional law expert and a US politician. Many Americans reference the Bill of Rights, a document that represents many of the freedoms that define the United States. Who doesn't know about the First Amendment's freedom of religion or Second Amendment's right to bear arms? In this pocket-sized volume, Akhil Reed Amar and Les Adams offer a wealth of knowledge about the Bill of Rights that goes beyond a basic understanding. The Bill of Rights Primer is an authoritative guide to all American freedoms. Uncluttered and well organized, this text is perfect for those who want to study up on the Bill of Rights without needing a law degree to do so. This elementary guidebook presents a short historical survey of the people, events, decrees, legislation, writings, and cultural milestones, in England and the American colonies, that influenced the Founding Fathers as they drafted the US Constitution and Bill of Rights. With helpful comments and fun facts in the margins, the book will provide a deeper understanding of the Bill of Rights, exhibiting that it is not a stagnant document but one with an evolving meaning shaped by historical events, such as the American Civil War and Reconstruction.

Saving the Bill of Rights Frank Miniter 2011-06-27 For most of us, the Bill of Rights is sacred. It enshrines, defines, and protects the liberties we take for granted as Americans. But almost unnoticed, a dedicated minority of special interests is chipping away at the Bill of Rights to the point that, while the words might remain in the Constitution, the rights themselves will be lost. Frank Miniter, New York Times bestselling author of *The Ultimate Man's Survival Guide*, has seen firsthand and exposed as a journalist the relentless assaults that are stripping away our Second Amendment rights. Now he reports on the broad, radical offensive that targets not just our right to bear arms, but all our rights, including the First Amendment's guarantee of free speech and religion.

Oliver Wendell Holmes: A Life in War, Law, and Ideas Stephen Budiansky 2019-05-28 "Consistently gripping... [I]t's possessed of a zest and omnivorous curiosity that reflects the boundless energy of its subject." -Steve Donoghue, Christian Science Monitor Oliver Wendell Holmes escaped death twice as a young Union officer in the Civil War. He lived ever after with unwavering moral courage, unremitting scorn for dogma, and an insatiable intellectual curiosity. During his nearly three decades on the Supreme Court, he wrote a series of opinions that would prove prophetic in securing freedom of speech, protecting the rights of criminal defendants, and ending the Court's reactionary resistance to social and economic reforms. As a pioneering legal scholar, Holmes revolutionized the understanding of common law. As an enthusiastic friend, he wrote thousands of letters brimming with an abiding joy in fighting the good fight. Drawing on many previously unpublished letters and records, Stephen Budiansky offers the fullest portrait yet of this pivotal American figure.

The Free Speech Century Geoffrey R. Stone 2018-12-04 The Supreme Court's 1919 decision in *Schenck vs. the United States* is one of the most important free speech cases in American history. Written by Oliver Wendell Holmes, it is most famous for first invoking the phrase "clear and present danger." Although the decision upheld the conviction of an individual for criticizing the draft during World War I, it also laid the foundation for our nation's robust protection of free speech. Over time, the standard Holmes devised made freedom of speech in America a reality rather than merely an ideal. In *The Free Speech Century*, two of America's leading First Amendment scholars, Lee C. Bollinger and Geoffrey R. Stone, have gathered a group of the nation's leading constitutional scholars--Cass Sunstein, Lawrence Lessig, Laurence Tribe, Kathleen Sullivan, Catherine McKinnon, among others--to evaluate the evolution of free speech doctrine since *Schenck* and to assess where it might be headed in the future. Since 1919, First Amendment jurisprudence in America has been a signal development in the history of constitutional democracies--remarkable for its level of doctrinal refinement, remarkable for its lateness in coming (in relation to the adoption of the First Amendment), and remarkable for the scope of protection it has afforded since the 1960s. Over the course of *The First Amendment Century*, judicial engagement with these fundamental rights has grown exponentially. We now have an elaborate set of free speech laws and norms, but as Stone and Bollinger stress, the context is always shifting. New societal threats like terrorism, and new technologies of communication continually reshape our understanding of what speech should be allowed. Publishing on the one hundredth anniversary of the decision that laid the foundation for America's free speech tradition, *The Free Speech Century* will serve as an essential resource for anyone interested in how our understanding of the First Amendment transformed over time and why it is so critical both for the United States

and for the world today.

Living the Bill of Rights Nat Hentoff 1999-12 Demonstrates what can be done to protect citizen rights when the Bill of Rights is thought of as a living document

The Bill of Rights Akhil Reed Amar 2008-10-01 Are the deep insights of Hugo Black, William Brennan, and Felix Frankfurter that have defined our cherished Bill of Rights fatally flawed? With meticulous historical scholarship and elegant legal interpretation a leading scholar of Constitutional law boldly answers yes as he explodes conventional wisdom about the first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution in this incisive new account of our most basic charter of liberty. Akhil Reed Amar brilliantly illuminates in rich detail not simply the text, structure, and history of individual clauses of the 1789 Bill, but their intended relationships to each other and to other constitutional provisions. Amar's corrective does not end there, however, for as his powerful narrative proves, a later generation of antislavery activists profoundly changed the meaning of the Bill in the Reconstruction era. With the Fourteenth Amendment, Americans underwent a new birth of freedom that transformed the old Bill of Rights. We have as a result a complex historical document originally designed to protect the people against self-interested government and revised by the Fourteenth Amendment to guard minority against majority. In our continuing battles over freedom of religion and expression, arms bearing, privacy, states' rights, and popular sovereignty, Amar concludes, we must hearken to both the Founding Fathers who created the Bill and their sons and daughters who reconstructed it. Amar's landmark work invites citizens to a deeper understanding of their Bill of Rights and will set the basic terms of debate about it for modern lawyers, jurists, and historians for years to come.

The Bill of Rights Linda R. Monk 2018-04-10 With a foreword by Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg of the U.S. Supreme Court. An Engaging, Accessible Guide to the Bill of Rights for Everyday Citizens. In The Bill of Rights: A User's Guide, award-winning author and constitutional scholar Linda R. Monk explores the remarkable history of the Bill of Rights amendment by amendment, the Supreme Court's interpretation of each right, and the power of citizens to enforce those rights. Stories of the ordinary people who made the Bill of Rights come alive are featured throughout. These include Fannie Lou Hamer, a Mississippi sharecropper who became a national civil rights leader; Clarence Earl Gideon, a prisoner whose handwritten petition to the Supreme Court expanded the right to counsel; Mary Beth Tinker, a 13-year-old whose protest of the Vietnam War established free speech rights for students; Michael Hardwick, a bartender who fought for privacy after police entered his bedroom unlawfully; Suzette Kelo, a nurse who opposed the city's takeover of her working-class neighborhood; and Simon Tam, a millennial whose 10-year trademark battle for his band "The Slants" ended in a unanimous Supreme Court victory. Such people prove that, in the words of Judge Learned Hand, "Liberty lies in the hearts of men and women; when it dies there, no constitution, no law, no court, can save it." Exploring the history, scope, and meaning of the first ten amendments—as well as the Fourteenth Amendment, which nationalized them and extended new rights of equality to all—The Bill of Rights: A User's Guide is a powerful examination of the values that define American life and the tools that every citizen needs.

Greece, Rome, and the Bill of Rights Susan Ford Wiltshire 1992 The principle that a purpose of government is to protect the individual rights and minority opinions of its citizens is a recent idea in human history. A doctrine of human rights could never have evolved, however, if the ancient Athenians had not invented the revolutionary idea that human beings are capable of governing themselves and if the ancient Romans had not created their elaborate system of law. Susan Ford Wiltshire traces the evolution of the doctrine of individual rights from antiquity through the eighteenth century. The common thread through that long story is the theory of natural law. Growing out of Greek political thought, especially that of Aristotle, natural law became a major tenet of Stoic philosophy during the Hellenistic age and later became attached to Roman legal doctrine. It underwent several transformations during the Middle Ages on the Continent and in England, especially in the thought of John Locke, before it came to justify a theory of natural rights, claimed by Jefferson in the Declaration of Independence as the basis of the "unalienable rights" of Americans. Amendment by amendment, Wiltshire assesses in detail the ancient parallels for the twenty-odd provisions of the Bill of Rights. She does not claim that it is directly influenced by Greek and Roman political practice. Rather, she examines classical efforts toward assuring such guarantees as freedom of speech, religious toleration, and trial by jury. Present in the ancient world, too, were early experiments in limiting search and seizure, the billeting of soldiers, and the right to bear arms. Wiltshire concludes that while the idea of individual rights evolved later than classical antiquity, the civic infrastructure supporting such rights in the United States is preeminently a legacy from ancient Greece and Rome. In the era celebrating the Bicentennial of the Bill of Rights, Greece, Rome, and the Bill of Rights reminds us once again that the idea of ensuring human rights has a long history, one as tenuous but as enduring as the story of human freedom itself.

Limited Government and the Bill of Rights Patrick M. Garry 2012-07-15 Eric Hoffer Award Grand Prize Short List, 2015 What was the intended purpose and function of the Bill of Rights? Is the modern understanding of the Bill of Rights the same as that which prevailed when the document was ratified? In Limited Government and the Bill of Rights, Patrick Garry addresses these questions. Under the popular modern view, the Bill of Rights focuses primarily on protecting individual autonomy interests, making it all about the individual. But in Garry's novel approach, one that tries to address the criticisms of judicial activism that have resulted from the Supreme Court's contemporary individual rights jurisprudence, the Bill of Rights is all about government—about limiting the power of government. In this respect, the Bill of Rights is consistent with the overall scheme of the original Constitution, insofar as it sought to define and limit the power of the newly created federal government. Garry recognizes the desire of the constitutional framers to protect individual liberties and natural rights, indeed, a recognition of such rights had formed the basis of the American campaign for independence from Britain. However, because the constitutional framers did not have a clear idea of how to define natural rights, much less incorporate them into a written constitution for enforcement, they framed the Bill of Rights as limited government provisions rather than as individual autonomy provisions. To the framers, limited government was the constitutional path to the maintenance of liberty. Moreover, crafting the Bill of Rights as limited government provisions would not give the judiciary the kind of wide-ranging power needed to define and enforce individual autonomy. With respect to the application of this limited government model, Garry focuses specifically on the First Amendment and examines how the courts in many respects have already used a limited government model in their First Amendment decision-making. As he discusses, this approach to the First Amendment may allow for a more objective and restrained judicial role than is often applied under contemporary First Amendment jurisprudence. Limited Government and the Bill of Rights will appeal to anyone interested in the historical background of the Bill of Rights and how its provisions should be applied to contemporary cases, particularly First Amendment cases. It presents an innovative theory about the constitutional connection between the principle of limited government and the provisions in the Bill of Rights.

The Bill of Rights in Modern America Executive Director of the Polis Center and Professor of History David J. Bodenhamer 1993 An expert guide to current debates on individual rights in America

The Bill of Rights. (The Function of United States Courts, Particularly the Supreme Court, of Declaring Invalid Statutes of Congress, Or of the States, Or Acts of the President, Because They are in Conflict with ... the First and the Fourteenth Amendments of the Constitution of the United States.) The Oliver Wendell Holmes Lectures, 1958 Learned Hand 1958

The Bill of Rights 1991

Keeping the Faith John E. Semonche 2000-01-01 This ambitious and accessible history of the nation's highest court contains information important for every American to know.

The Bill of Rights Learned Hand 1965

The Heart of the Constitution Gerard Magliocca 2018 "This is the untold story of the most celebrated part of the Constitution. Until the twentieth century, few Americans called the first ten amendments the Bill of Rights. When they did after 1900, the Bill of Rights was usually invoked to increase rather than limit federal authority"—

Pre-Nineteen Sixty Developments in the Bill of Rights Area Paul L. Murphy 2014-04-04 First Published in 1990. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

History of the Supreme Court of the United States Charles Fairman 2009-11-23 With this seventh volume of the Oliver Wendell Holmes Devise History of the Supreme Court of the United States, Charles Fairman completes his study of the Supreme Court in the post-Civil War period of 1864-88. In the previous volume, Fairman covered the Chief Justiceship of Salmon P. Chase; the present volume deals with the tenure of Morrison R. Waite, President Grant's fifth choice for the office. Fairman explores the significance of the Court's tentative first steps on the unending road of decisions designed to clarify and resolve some of the most persistent issues of American public law, and of a national common market. Fairman identifies the reconciliation between North and South as the most pressing issue during the Reconstruction. Accordingly, the Court was forced to mediate between the new liberties proclaimed by the post-Civil War amendments and enforcement measures and the structure of the federal system bequeathed to it by the Founders of the Republic.

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