

PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

Mr. Alexander's more important notes contain, first, a comprehensive analysis of the Statute to which the note is appended; second, a review of all important English and Maryland decisions thereon; and lastly, the changes made in the Statute by Maryland legislation, with references to Maryland cases construing the same.

The present editor has tried to continue this work along the same general lines, omitting, however, as already well done, any further analysis of the Statutes themselves. To this end, it seemed best to retain Mr. Alexander's notes without change, treating them as text and annotating accordingly. Some twenty-two hundred cases have thus been added, comprising, it is believed, all Maryland decisions and all important English decisions on the Statutes. In those matters of practice, however, which are abundantly covered by our own statutes and decisions, such as costs, amendments, bills of exception and the like, the English cases have generally not been given. Mr. Alexander's notes contain few citations of cases in the Supreme Court of the United States. Many of these have been referred to by the present editor, but it is not pretended that the list is exhaustive.

Mr. Alexander's citations of the Code of 1860 and of subsequent acts have been retained, but corresponding references to Bagby's Annotated Code of 1911 and to Article 27 of the Code of 1904 (not included in Mr. Bagby's excellent work) have been added, statutory changes being noted.

Many of Mr. Alexander's notes are long. In the original edition none of them were broken by black letter head-lines, that time-saving device for the busy lawyer. These catch lines have been added in the present edition wherever practicable—not always an easy matter, in view of the somewhat discursive method of treatment usually adopted by that learned author.