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SIR FREDERICK POLLOCK.

**B**Y the death of Sir Frederick Pollock at the age of ninety-one, we have lost a great master of the Common Law, an expert in jurisprudence and a polished stylist in legal literature. He had reached the allotted three score years and ten before most of the readers of this Journal were born, but, to the end, his brilliant mind was undimmed and until a year ago scarcely any of his activities were contracted.

The books by which he is chiefly known to students are the *Principles of Contract*, which was first published in 1876, the *Law of Torts* which appeared eleven years later, and the *First Book of Jurisprudence* (1896). They came as a revelation in graceful exposition of the topics with which they dealt. Hitherto there had not been a single book on contract or on tort which aimed at anything higher than reliability. Any one who approached the law through works like those of Addison, Leake and Chitty found himself among well-labelled specimens in an orderly museum instead of in contact with the pulsating warmth and energy of the humanism upon which the Common Law rests. Sir Frederick was the last of several writers who, in his generation, showed that it was possible to make a book about law readable by a scholar. Contemporaries of his who had the like gift were Maitland, Dicey, Oliver Wendell Holmes and Kenny, and all are now gone.

In 1885, the *Law Quarterly Review* began its career with Sir Frederick (then Mr.) Pollock as its editor. It was not the first effort of its kind, but none of its predecessors attained such a reputation both in England and overseas. For fifty-two years it has been, and still is, the literary *palaestra* for the young researcher and the arena for the proved gladiator. It is significant that two years later the *Harvard Law Review* began its distinguished career and that the form of the *Cambridge Law Journal* has throughout been modelled to a large extent on the *Law Quarterly*.

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