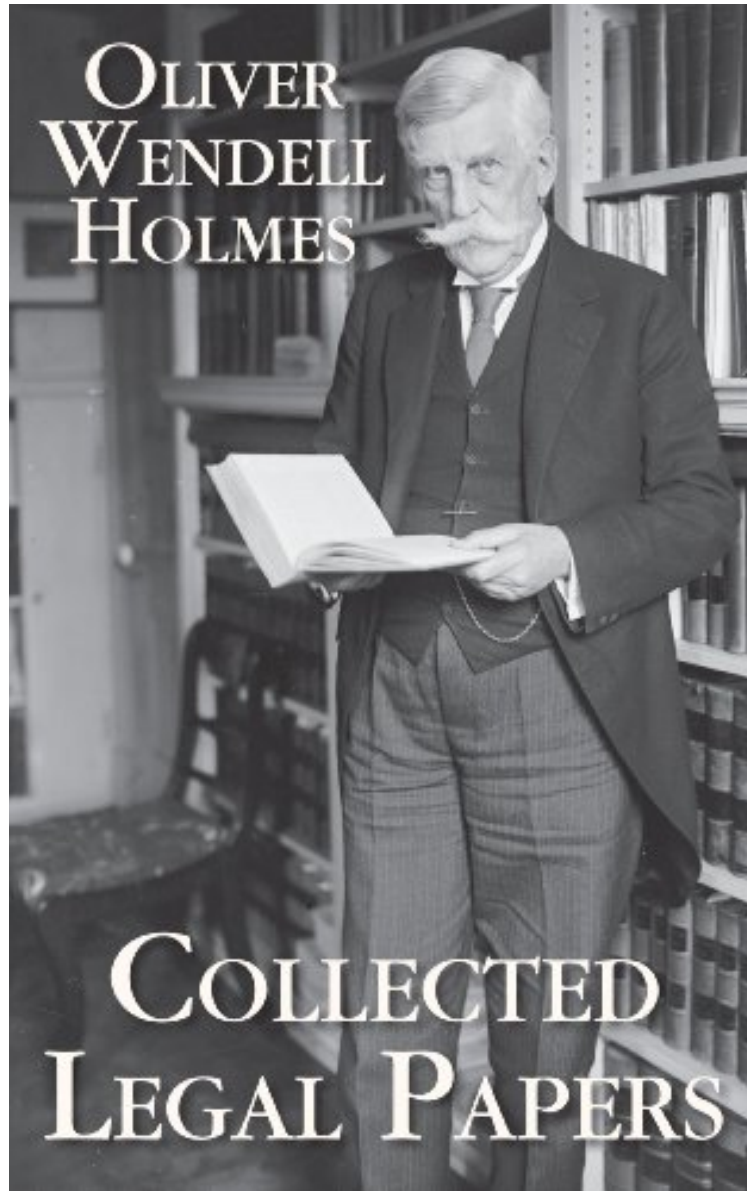


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. . . Collected Legal Essays is a good vertical section of the mind of that judge who beyond any other of his generation has impressed his ideas on the structure andcourse of the law. --Learned HandAbout the AuthorOliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. [1841-1935] served as an Associate Justice of theSupreme Court of the United States from 1902 to 1932. One of the most widely citedJustices in the Court s history, he was known as The Great Dissenter because of thebrilliant legal reasoning found in his dissenting opinions in such cases as Lochnerv. New York. As a young man he attended Harvard College, served in the Civil Warin the Harvard Regiment and was seriously wounded. After the war he attended,and later taught at Harvard Law School. Appointed to the Supreme Judicial Court ofMassachusetts in 1882, he became its Chief Justice in 1899. Well known for the legalphilosophy espoused here and in The Common Law, Holmes proposed that the lawwas not a science founded on abstract universal principles but a body of practicesthat responded to particular situations.