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Miscellaneous Chancery Reports: (1714-1730)

William Hamilton Bryson

University of Richmond, hbryson@richmond.edu

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**MISCELLANEOUS
CHANCERY REPORTS
(1714-1730)**

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W. Hamilton Bryson

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INTRODUCTION

This is a collection of miscellaneous manuscript reports from the Court of Chancery dating from 1714 to 1730, the time of Chancellors Lord Cowper, Lord Macclesfield, and Lord King and the Master of the Rolls, Sir Joseph Jekyll.

The following three manuscripts have been conflated and printed here:

Lincoln's Inn MS. Misc. 506, 'Cases Argued and Adjudged in the High Court of Chancery and in the Court of Exchequer'. This is a collection of Chancery reports, the first of which, *Brown v. Barkham* (Ch. 1717), was copied from 1 Strange 35, 93 E.R. 368, and is not included here. Also there are two Exchequer cases, *Joscelyn v. Brewet* (Ex. 1722) and *Marriot v. Marriot* (Ex. 1725-1726), which, hopefully, will be printed elsewhere, but they are not included here. These cases were 'probably collected by Mr. Emlyn', according to a note at 2 Merivale 440, 35 E.R. 1008, where one of these cases, *Burnett v. Chetwood* (Ch. 1721), Case No. 48 herein, is printed. Sollom Emlyn (1697-1754) was a barrister of Lincoln's Inn.¹

Lincoln's Inn MS. Misc. 380, part 2, is a set of anonymous Chancery reports, which covers the period 1718 to 1725. There are 22 cases here.

British Library MS. Hargrave 83, part 1, pp. 1-76, is a set of anonymous Chancery reports, which covers the period 1720 to 1730. There are 66 cases here.

Selected cases are included from the following manuscripts:

Taussig MS. 311 is a large collection of Exchequer reports, which includes four short Chancery cases, Case Nos. 55, 74, 103, and 128. These reports were made by Philip Ward (d. 1752), a barrister of the Inner Temple.²

Lincoln's Inn MS. Misc. 384 is a very extensive collection of Chancery reports; a few have been selected for publication here to add to the reports in the three manuscripts that are fully transcribed here. This is an anonymous

¹ N. G. Jones, 'Emlyn, Sollom', *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*.

² J. H. Baker and A. Taussig, *A Catalogue of the Legal Manuscripts of Anthony Taussig* (2007), p. 122, no. 311.

set of Chancery cases dating from 1713 to 1747. They are not in strict chronological order.

Lincoln's Inn MS. Misc. 107 is an anonymous collection of Chancery reports dating from 1713 to 1765.

Library of Congress MS. Jefferson 12, part 2, is Sir John Randolph's King's Bench reports dating from 1715 to 1716; there are two Chancery cases here, Case Nos. 3 and 4. This manuscript was printed in 1996. Sir John Randolph (d. 1737) was a barrister of Gray's Inn and of the General Court of Virginia.¹

I would like to thank Anthony Taussig and the Masters of the Bench of Lincoln's Inn for permission to publish their manuscripts and Guy Holborn and his colleagues at the library of Lincoln's Inn for their many courtesies. Also, I would like to thank the librarians at the University of Richmond and at the University of Virginia. The manuscript was typed by Elizabeth P. Garrett, who deserves particular acknowledgement.

¹ W. H. Bryson, ed., *Sir John Randolph's King's Bench Reports 1715 to 1716* (1996), pp. 7-13.

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