

Ron Rotunda is the most learned, and also the most entertaining, of today's constitutional law scholars, and his *Life of John Marshall* is a treat!

F.H. Buckley, Foundation Professor of Law, Scalia Law School, and author of *The Republic of Virtue* (Encounter Books, 2017)

Albert Beveridge's classic highly sympathetic biography of John Marshall long dominated Americans' understanding of the Great Chief Justice. For generations, this winner of a 1920 Pulitzer Prize was the starting point for both popular and scholarly interpretations of Marshall, and it was second to the justice's opinions in shaping accounts of American constitutional history. Contemporary readers put off by the length of Senator Beveridge's four-volume work have Ronald Rotunda to thank for this judicious abridgment, which will make the book accessible to a new generation.

Kevin R. C. Gutzman, JD, PhD, Professor of History, Western Connecticut State University, and author of *Thomas Jefferson—Revolutionary: A Radical's Struggle to Remake America* (St. Martin's Press, 2017)

Albert Beveridge's extensive four-volume biography of John Marshall is an essential resource for anyone interested in the life and work of a man rightly regarded as the Great Chief Justice. It is also lengthy, scarce, and expensive. Faithful to the original, but with an eye for what matters for today's reader, this work will satisfy the needs of those interested in Marshall's life and work.

Mark R. Killenbeck, Wylie H. Davis Distinguished Professor of Law, University of Arkansas, and author of *McCulloch v. Maryland: Securing a Nation* (University of Kansas Press, 2006)

Beveridge's *Life of John Marshall* is a classic biography of a towering figure, and Professor Rotunda has done a great service by making it available again for today's readers. Chief Justice Marshall laid the foundation for modern constitutional law, in the early 19th century and his opinions are still frequently cited by the Supreme Court today. Without this remarkable figure, the Supreme Court would be a pale imitation of what it is today—and more importantly, America nationwide would have been a good deal less robust. Lawyers and non-lawyers alike will learn much from this volume.

Daniel Farber, Sho Sato Professor of Law, University of California, Berkeley, and author of *Lincoln's Constitution* (University of Chicago Press, 2003)

## Advance Praise for, Ronald D. Rotunda's, JOHN MARSHALL AND THE CASES THAT UNITED THE STATES OF AMERICA: The Abridged Edition of Alfred Beveridge's, The Life of John Marshall



It is a unique occasion for celebration when one of our leading Constitutional scholars, in effect rewrites, in order to provide guidance in our time, the greatest judicial biography ever written, Albert Beveridge's *Life of John Marshall*. As Rotunda explains, "It is no exaggeration to say that a very important reason why the United States is still united today and still governed—after 230 years—by the Constitution of 1787 is because of Chief Justice John Marshall." In the early twenty-first century, however, that Constitutional

scheme is under attack to the greatest extent since our Civil War. This stirring book is a powerful antidote to the nihilism that prevails in much of the legal academy, and ought to be on the shelf of any lawyer or layman who seeks to understand why our Constitutional scheme must be preserved.

Stephen B. Presser, Raoul Berger Professor Emeritus, Northwestern's Pritzker School of Law, and author of *Law Professors: Three Centuries of Shaping American Law* (West Academic, 2017)

Professor Rotunda has breathed new life into Beveridge's history of John Marshall, bringing context, understanding, and readability to the life and legacy of our fourth Chief Justice of the Supreme Court in a brilliant abridged work that I commend to every lawyer and historian interested in one of the most important but overlooked aspects of the formation of our country and system of justice.

Sidney Powell, Past-President of the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers, and author of *Licensed to Lie: Exposing Corruption in the Department of Justice*

Ronald Rotunda has done the public a great service in making accessible to contemporary readers an abridgement of Albert Beveridge's wonderful book on Chief Justice John Marshall. Preserving Beveridge's voice and sensibility, the abridgement tells readers a great deal about Marshall's life and how he thought about the Constitution, and much as well about what remains vibrant and what seems outdated in Beveridge's study. A terrific accomplishment!

Mark Tushnet, William Nelson Cromwell Professor of Law, Harvard Law School

This fascinating abridgment lucidly revives for present generations the Pulitzer Prize winning biography of the most important chief justice in America's history, written by a leader of the Progressive Party, and now edited by a leading constitutional law scholar, abridging both a biography of John Marshall and, as the focus of most chapters, interesting summaries of Marshall's major Supreme Court decisions that still influence American law and politics.

Wendell Bird, Visiting Scholar, Emory Law School, and author of *Press and Speech under Assault: The Early Supreme Court Justices, the Sedition Act of 1798, and the Campaign against Dissent* (Oxford University Press, 2016)

Constitutional law cannot be understood without a sound knowledge of the people and circumstances surrounding its drafting and implementation. John Marshall and his work remain pivotal to that understanding.

Harold See, Professor of Law, Belmont University College of Law, Former Associate Justice of the Alabama Supreme Court (1997 to 2009)

