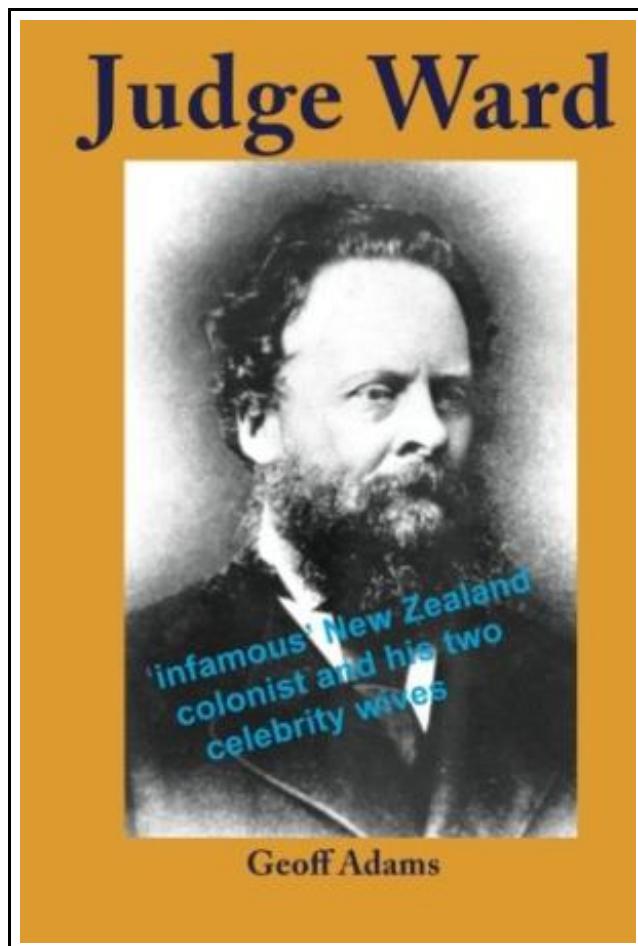


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Createspace, United States, 2011. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 228 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. History from New Zealand's early colonial days is traversed in this triple biography. Prize-winning investigative journalist and now retired newspaper editor, Geoff Adams. explores three intertwined characters: Judge Dudley Ward, his wife Anne, and his mistress Thorpe Talbot. All three were celebrities in the 19th century. After two decades of research in New Zealand, England and Australia, the author has located many facts about this fascinating but at present largely forgotten trio. Dudley came from a rich and powerful English family, progressing from Rugby School, Oxford and the Inner Temple (London) to be an MP, magistrate and finally judge in NZ courts. He bought much land, presided over some trials that were national sensations, and successfully quarrelled publicly with the Chief Justice and other judges, who soon retired. Anne was the first national president of the Women's Christian Temperance Union in New Zealand and a suffragist campaigner. (New Zealand women won the vote in 1893, the first in the world.) Thorpe was a writer and poet, winning an Australian newspaper's valuable first prize in a novel competition; the book *Philiberta* was then published in London, New York and Sydney and featured on a select list with works by Dickens, Thackeray and Mark Twain, Anne died in 1896 and the judge remarried in 1902 - to Thorpe Talbot, with whom he had enjoyed a long romantic link. Dudley had been called (by another judge) a man of infamous private character, and has not the decency to conceal it. He publicly espoused the Arab phrase *Praise Allah for beautiful women*. Judge Ward had powerful friends, was a giant of a man in every sense, and a hero...

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