

ed by public lectures—rightly conducted they awaken the attention of the student, abridge his labour, enable him to save time, guide his inquiries, relieve the tediousness of private research, and impress the principles of his pursuit more effectually upon his memory (1).

THE Student of Law in Canada has no assistance of this description; he toils alone in an extensive field of abstruse science which he finds greatly neglected, and therefore too hastily deems to be despised, and, discouraged from the commencement of his labours, he is left to his own exertions, and is compelled to clear and prepare the path of his own instruction, almost without aid of any kind.

WOULD not an effort to relieve him in this arduous and solitary task, as one among the first fruits of this Society, be highly worthy of its views and character? And is it too much to say, that a public Institution, which would enable those who intend to pursue the profession of the Law to lay the foundation of their studies in a solid scientific method, and afford them more ample knowledge of the peculiar system of Jurisprudence by which we are governed, would be productive of great and lasting benefit, not merely to the student, but to the public at large?

It is not, however, my intention, upon the present occasion, to press this subject any further. The system to which I have just alluded is one of real merit, it is built upon the soundest foundations of natural and universal Justice, approved by experience, and is most admired by those who know it best. Its claims to notice are therefore so apparent, that I shall indulge myself in the hope, that the influence of this Society will soon be exerted for the establishment of some Institution of a public description, in which the Law may be taught AS A SCIENCE—A science which, though hitherto neglected, is of the first importance to mankind, and “with all its defects, redundancies and errors, is the united “reason of ages—the pride of the human intellect.” (2)

(1) Vide Sir James Mackintosh's discourse on the Study of the Law of Nature and of Nations, p. 2.

(2) Burke's Works, 4to. vol. 3d. p. 134.