

and that, by the study of Laws, the jarring diversities of human thought and action are turned to harmony and peace and joy. The study of law has revealed the true method by which God has brought from things that do not appear this wonderful universe of usefulness and beauty. Law has revealed the true origin of nations, and has unfolded the universal methods of the human mind in its attainment of truth and goodness. It unfolds to us the secrets of individual and national prosperity. Every contribution, however small, to our knowledge of its universal empire removes some misconception, clears the way for a larger and truer view, and helps to remove the encumbrances of ancient fancies from the pillars of eternal truth.

Philology, the study of the Laws of Language, if it cannot lead us back to the very beginning of human speech, leaves us not without some rational account of the origin of the diversities of tongues, shows how intimately man is connected with the material world, and, by revealing some causes of his progress or degradation, suggests the means for his improvement and success. Perhaps, too, by showing the influence of man on man, the perpetuation in one age of the influence of former ages, and the existence of a plan and purpose in the rise and fall of languages, the study of Law in Language may lead to the recognition of a wise and kindly Power behind the phenomena of growing civilizations, and a reverent regard for Him who, by the moulding power of speech, trains both Aryan and Semite for the work of raising all humanity nearer and nearer to Himself.

