

CHAPTER IV.

MAXIMS.

Maxims and dogmas are words synonymous, and I am therefore of opinion equally dangerous, but if we adopt a rule which like the Eleventh Commandment has not been handed down carved on a table of stone, (though equally cogent), but by oral tradition merely, viz., that there is "no rule without exceptions"—we may find maxims a good foundation to build on in dealing with the law's uncertainties. Some maxims appear as truisms on their face. "No man can be judge in his own cause." This appears reasonable. It might be,