

fiable." Doubtless the same thought may be, and, indeed, is found in other writers. But it is impossible to study the literature of "homicide by necessity" without seeing that Lord Bacon's *dictum* has been its chief inspiration. We rejoice that American lawyers, following the example of their English brethren, are now repudiating its authority. It is supported by no decisions; it is expressly contradicted by Sir Matthew Hale; it is discredited by the testimony of a cloud of witnesses who, for the sake of others, have courted death with greater eagerness than ever Epicurean courted pleasure; and its recognition would lead to an absolute divorce of morality from law. In the eloquent language of Lord Coleridge, in the case of Dudley and Stephens: "Who is to be the judge of this sort of necessity? By what measure is the comparative value of lives to be measured? Is it to be strength, or intellect, or what? It is plain that the principle contended for leaves to him who is to profit by it to determine the necessity which will justify him in deliberately taking another's life to save his own." The only necessity which a brave man would recognize, or whose existence the law should for a moment admit, in such circumstances as Arp alleged to have beset him is that immortalized by the noble Roman, to whom Lord Bacon himself referred: "*Necesse est ut eam, non ut vivam.*"—*Law Journal*.

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THE LONDON CHAMBER OF ARBITRATION.—The chairman of the Joint Committee of the City Corporation and the Chamber of Commerce, which guides policy, and watches, with paternal anxiety, over the proceedings of the London Chamber of Arbitration, has this week, in a long and able letter to the *Times*, undertaken to discharge the difficult duty of chronicling the results of the pretentious juridical experiment which was inaugurated some six months ago at the Guildhall. The material allegations in this interesting manifesto are as follow. There has not, it is true, been "a rush of cases," clamouring for determination by the arbitrators of the London Chamber; so far, one reference only from the High Court has been obtained, and in one instance, where an award was drawn up without the professional aid of the registrar, it "was referred back owing to a legal technicality." But the chairman of the Joint Committee is well