

them borne a part in the making of this discourse which is palmed upon you for law : two persons, who to you, let it never be forgotten, are both foreigners.

This book, then, on what ground is it that the author and the printer together can have thus taken upon them to pass it off—to pass it off in the first place upon *us*, in the next place (such as your goodness) upon *you* as and for a book of law.

First or last, the ground—at any rate the most plausible ground that can be made, comes to this: A portion of discourse, said to have been uttered by some Judge—by some Judge on the occasion of some decision pronounced by him in the course of a suit at law. Of this description, take it at the best, was, or in the book was said to have been this pretended *rule of law*—a pretended rule of law made, or pretended to have been made, by a functionary, who, as such, neither had, nor (as you have seen) could so much as have pretended to have, any right or title to make law, or so much as to bear any part in the making of any one law.

Yet, in relation to law, be he who he may, this Judge not only claimed a right to do, but has an indisputable right to do something. What is this something? Take, in the first place, to render the matter intelligible, the cause of the only real sort of law, *Statute Law*, and suppose *that* the sort of law under which the Judge is acting. What in this case is it that, in relation to this same law, he has to do? By some person—say a *plaintiff*—the Judge has been called upon to do something at his instance: something at the charge of some other person who, if he opposes what is thus called for, becomes thereby a *defendant*. *Why is it that I am to do this, which you are thus calling upon me to do?* says the Judge. *Because* (says the plaintiff) *a law there is which, in the event of your being called upon by a person circumstanced as I am, has ordained that, at the charge of a person circumstanced as the defendant is, a person circumstanced as you are, shall so do.* This law says so and so: look at it here if you have need: it is a discourse which is in print; and to which, at