THE

MANITOBA LAW JOURNAL.

Vol. II.

JULY, 1885.

No. 7.

The Golden Rule.

SIC UTERE TUO UT ALIENUM NON LŒDAS.

I. "So use your own property as not to injure the rights of another." See Arg. Jefferies v. Williams, 5 Ex. 797.

II. "If a man brings, or uses, a thing of a dangerous nature on his own land, he must keep it at his own peril, and is liable for the consequences if it escapes and does injury to his neighbor." Jones v. Festiniog Ry. Co., L. R. 3 Q. B. 736.

"Love your neighbor as yourself" is a trifle too vague and purely ethical for adoption as a legal maxim. "Do unto others as you would that they should do unto you," is more practical; and if it could always be predicted of "you" that you only desire others to "do unto you" as the law requires they should, then the maxim merely means that you are to "do unto others" as the law provides, and is, if not objectionable as too axiomatic, a very good rule for your conduct in life.

The maxium sic utere two ut alienum non lædas may be called the golden rule of law—prescribing, as it does, your duty to your neighbor. The rule itself, as well as its limitations and applications are judge-made. No statute ever attempted to define the relative duties of riparian pro-