

*Burges v. Wickham* also shows that the fitness of a ship so as to constitute its seaworthiness is a question that will vary, and its requirement will become more exigent, as knowledge and experience advance and the power is increased of reaching a state of fitness.

But in all ages and at all times there are conditions of a ship in which it is plain that she is not fit—not seaworthy. We cannot usefully do more than give one or two instances which, other than gross and obvious unfitness, have been held to show unseaworthiness. Thus if a ship have a rotten topmast she is unseaworthy (*Wedderburn v. Bell*, 1 Camp. 1); so if she be overloaded (*Weir v. Aberdeen*, 2 B. & Ald. 320), or, in a cold climate, if she have no stove on board, or if she have lost an anchor, or is deficient in medical stores (*Woolf v. Claggett*, 3 Esp. 257).—*Law Journal (London)*.

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#### THE TEACHING OF ENGLISH LAW AT UNIVERSITIES.

We, in America, have carried legal education much farther than it has gone in England. There the systematic teaching of law in schools is but faintly developed. Here it is elaborate, widely favoured, rapidly extending. Why is this? Not because we originated this method. We transplanted an English root, and nurtured and developed it, while at home it was suffered to languish and die down. It was the great experiment in the university teaching of our law at Oxford, in the third quarter of the eighteenth century, and the publication, a little before the American Revolution, of the results of that experiment, which furnished the stimulus and the exemplar for our own early attempts at systematic legal education. The opportunities and the material here for any thorough work of this sort in the offices of lawyers were slight. 'I never dreamed,' said Chancellor Kent, in speaking of the state of things in New York, even so late as the period when he was appointed to the bench of the Supreme Court of that State in 1798, 'of volumes of reports and written opinions. Such things were not then thought of..... There were no reports or State precedents. I first introduced a thorough examination of cases, and written opinions.' But wisdom, skill, experience, and an acquaintance with English