

great a sophism this involves becomes clearly manifest when one considers what a violent *tour de force* is necessary in order to bring so artificial a postulate as this within the practical elements of negligence (*culpa*) in the Civil Law.

Space will not allow us to deal with this interesting subject as fully as it demands, but we venture to think that the maxim may be made fairly diaphanous even to the "unphilosophic layman," if it is looked upon simply as an axiom necessarily incident in every system of positive law, and without which such law could never be properly administered. True, it does not seem to be so well-bedded in 'sweet reasonableness' as the twelve axioms of Euclid; but one must remember that Hobbes said of those that they were held to be true simply because no one ever took the trouble to demonstrate that they were not so.

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That a desire for the betterment of the system in vogue in England for prosecuting the study of the law is taking firm hold upon the minds of the profession in that country, has received frequent demonstration of late. The eloquent plea for the adoption of Continental methods of legal education made by Lord Russell, of Killowen, in October last, on the occasion of the inauguration of the new course of public lectures at the Inns of Court, caused a great shaking of the dry-bones in the Council of Legal Education; and for some little while thereafter the press, both professional and lay, fairly throbbed with the heat of contention engendered by the suggestions of the Lord Chief Justice, at once so startling to the conservatism of the old fogies of the English Bar, and so acceptable to a large portion of its younger members, who believe that the only way to make a polished corner of the temple of Jurisprudence out of the native and barbaric majesty of the Common Law is by *Civilizing* it.

The latest important contribution to the literature of the reform propaganda is the presidential address delivered by Lord Davey at the annual dinner of the Birmingham Law Students' Society, which was celebrated a few weeks ago. In the course of his remarks, he frankly admitted that England