

succeeded, and has ever since been better than his word. The lady has been disappointed on the right side, and has found

nothing more disagreeable in the husband than she discovered in the lover.

COURSE of STUDY in LAW recommended by LORD MANSFIELD to Mr. DRUMMOND, 1774.

FOR general Ethics, which are the foundation of all Law, read Xenophon's Memorabilia; Tully's Offices, and Woolaston's Religion of Nature. You may likewise look into Aristotle's Ethics, which you will not like; but it is one of those books, *qui à limine salutandi sunt ne verba nobis dentur*.

For the law of nations, which is partly founded on the law of nature, and partly positive, read Grotius, and Puffendorf in Barbeyrac's translation, and Burlamaqui's *Droit Naturel*: as these authors treat the same subject in the heads, they may be read together and compared.

When you have laid this foundation, it will be time to look into those systems of positive law that have prevailed in their turn. You will begin of course with the Roman Law; for the history of which read Gravina's elegant work *De Originis Progressu Juris Civilis*; then read and study Justinian's Institutes, without any other

comment than the short one by Vinnius. Long comments would only confound you, and make your head spin round. Dip occasionally into the Pandects. After this, it will be proper to acquire a general idea of feudal law, and the feudal system, which is so interwoven with almost every constitution in Europe, that without some knowledge of it, it is impossible to understand Modern History. Read Craig De Feudis, an admirable book for matter and method; and dip occasionally into the Corpus Juris Feudalis, whilst you are reading Giannone's History of Naples, one of the ablest and most instructive books that ever was written. These writers are not sufficient to give you a thorough knowledge of the subjects they treat of; but they will give you general notions, general leading principles, and lay the best foundation that can be laid for the study of any municipal law, such as the Law of England, Scotland, France, &c. &c.

OBSERVATIONS on the IRRITABILITY and SPONTANEOUS MOTIONS of VEGETABLES.

[By Doctor J. E. Smith.]

THE stamina of *Callus Tuna*, a kind of Indian fig, are very irritable. These stamina are very long and slender, standing in great numbers round the inside of the flower; and if a feather be drawn through them, they begin, in the space of two or three seconds, to lie down gently on one side, and in a short time they are all recumbent at the bottom of the flower. The motions in *Dionæa Muscipula*, *Mimosa Sensitive*, et *Pudica*, are well known to botanists; and a similar phenomenon has been observed in the *Drosera*. All these movements are to be attributed to irritability; but there are others to be explained on principles merely mechanical. The stamina of the *Purietaria*, for instance, are held in a position so strained and curved by the leaves of the calyx, that as soon as the latter become fully expanded, or are by

any means removed, the stamina, being very elastic, fly up, and throw their pollen about with great force. Dr. Smith had observed a similar circumstance in the flowers of *Medicago Falcata*; whose organs of generation are held in a strait position by the carina of the flower, notwithstanding the strong tendency of the infant germen to assume its proper falcated form. At length, when the germen becomes stronger, and the carina open, it obtains its liberty by a sudden spring, in consequence of which, the pollen is plentifully scattered about the stigma. The germen may at pleasure be set at liberty by nipping the flower, so as gently to open the carina, and the same effect will be produced.

Some plants also, continues Dr. S. seem to possess a kind of spontaneous motion. Linnæus