

depending on their particular circumstances; a work which every lover of humanity and peace must anxiously wish to see accomplished."

To fulfil the wish of that great man, has been an object which has never ceased to employ my leisure hours, from the earliest days of my professional pursuits; and I sincerely hope, for the honor of the English Bar, to find a sufficient number of able and aspiring men, who will display a noble zeal, in effecting a purpose, as honorable to the mind which conceived it, as it will be beneficial to their country when executed.

When the whole code is completed, and has been some time before the public, various improvements will no doubt be suggested by a learned and liberal profession. Great additions may be made to the general rules, by a careful examination of all the particular cases; many of which may be found to contain positions of more general application than may at first appear. And when the rule is not well defined, or ~~is not~~ universal in its application, these cases may be retained, as clear and scientific records of the varieties of essential circumstances, upon which our courts of law have decided: but which do not come with strictness under the denomination of exceptions. The incongruities and contradictions which have unavoidably occurred in the succession of ages, will be thus brought more