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KNOWLEDGE OF LAW FOR FAMILIES.

Legal Relation of Husband and Wife.

The effects produced by marriage on the legal rights of the parties are important to be known in every family.

In Law, husband and wife are considered as one person; and on this principle, all their civil duties, rights, and disabilities rest.

The wife cannot sue in her own name.

If she suffer injury, or wrong, in her person or property, she can sue with her husband's aid and concurrence prosecute for redress; but the husband must always be the defendant. In criminal cases, however, their relations assume a new form; the wife may, in criminal cases, be prosecuted and punished.

The wife can make no contract with the husband; nor the husband with the wife; this disability is involved in the first principle which makes them legally one. But they may contract, through the agency of trustees, the wife being under the protection of the husband.

All contracts made between them before marriage, are, of course, dissolved upon that event.

The husband cannot convey lands or real estates to his wife directly; but he may settle them upon her through a trusteeship. The wife may release her dower to his grantee. As it respects the right of bequest, the husband can always devise real estate to his wife.

Upon marriage, the husband becomes possessed of all right and title to her property, whether personal or real; and at the same time he becomes liable for all her debts, and must fulfill all her contracts made prior to their union.

If the wife die before the husband, and there be no issue, his heirs succeed to her real estate. But in case of issue, the husband remains in possession of her lands during his life-time only; and at his demise they go to the heirs of his wife.

All debts due to the wife become after marriage the property of the husband, who becomes invested with power to sue on bond, note, or any other obligation, to his own and exclusive use. The powers of discharge and assignment, and change of securities, are of course involved in the leading principle.

If she dies before the recovery of the money or the change of securities, the wife becomes entitled to the debts in her own right.

All personal property of the wife, such as money, goods, moveable, and stocks, become absolutely the property of the husband upon marriage, and on his death go to his heirs.

Property may be secured to the use of the wife, by deeds of marriage settlement, in order to secure to the wife a comfortable competence against the vicissitudes of life, or the extravagance, vices, or cruelty of her husband.

Property may be settled on the wife, after marriage, by the husband, provided he be solvent at the time, and not made with a view to defraud creditors.

The wife, of course, cannot demise lands; but any personal or real estate settled upon her, in trust, she may bequeath; or any savings from property given to her separate use.

The husband is bound to provide his wife with all necessaries suited to her condition in life; and of course becomes liable for debts contracted by her for such necessaries; but not for superfluities or extravagancies.

The husband and wife cannot be witnesses against each other, or for each other, in either civil or criminal cases, where the testimony has the least tendency to favor or criminate each other.

One exception to this rule exists, where the law respecting the personal safety and life of the wife, permits her to give testimony against her husband for her own protection.

East Florida.—An exploring party who have been engaged in examining that part of East Florida extending from thirty miles south of the Florida to Charlotte harbor, have furnished some interesting notices of the result of their labors. It appears, from a letter published in the Charleston Courier, that the party were engaged from June till October in their explorations, during which time the sea coast and two considerable rivers were examined. One of the rivers, the Sinebal, was traced for eighty miles, sixty miles of which are supposed to be navigable for vessels of light draft and steamboats. The banks of the river are from four to twelve feet high, above the level of the water—they descend perpendicularly. After entering the mouth of the river, the water was found of equal depths in all parts, offering but few obstructions to navigation. This river is lined with live oak, hammocks, pine barrens, prairies, &c. In some of the prairies, large quantities of white grapes of excellent flavor and large size, as well as a species of indigenous cotton, were found. The river Mahaco—sometimes called the Carlos—was also explored, for about seventy miles; it was considered navigable to that distance. The stream is bold and rapid, and in many places, at a distance of fifty miles from its mouth, is fifteen feet deep. The banks of this river were also studded with valuable tracts of land, live oak, hammocks, pine barrens, cypress swamps, &c. An immense quantity of live oak timber, suitable for building vessels of all descriptions, was found on this river.

The leading object of the exploring party was the establishment of a town or colony, and Sinebal Island was selected for the purpose. The temperature is said to be mild, seldom exceeding in the midst of summer, an average of 85 degrees, and very rarely sinking below 60 in winter. The air is pure and exhilarating, possessing a degree of lightness and buoyancy, of

which words can convey no adequate conception. There are no frosts; consequently the sugar-cane may be cultivated without difficulty, and to great advantage. Fine specimens of cotton have been produced in the same latitude, and fine limes and coconuts have been produced at the Spanish fisheries. The country is declared to be decidedly salubrious.

The tract of country explored abounds in game, deer, wild turkeys, &c. A species of ibis—perhaps the wood ibis—measuring nearly 5 feet in height, was shot by the exploring party. They also saw the roseate or spoon bill, the flamingo, paroquets, &c. The water abounds in every variety of fish and oysters, and clams of very superior quality. On the surrounding keys, turtle of various descriptions may be taken.—*Balt. American.*

Conversation between two auld Scots Wives on the Introduction of Gas.—"Na, the like o' that," said Jenny Bryden, "I wonder what the world'll come to at last. Gas light they ca't, but eflight wad be a better name. My certy! but there's an unco difference between a low that needs neither oil, tallow, nor wick, an' a bawbee candle, an auld cruize, or a bit fir stick ta'en out o' the moss. My nither, honest woman! was weel enough pleased wif sic a taper; and an' doubtin' whether she wad have been unco fond o' reading her Bible at a witch light.—Puir spunkie! am maist wae for him. His bit jancin' light was cheerie as well as eerie when twa war the gither an' no that far fra hame; but he may douce his glim an' gang his wa's, hame where're he likes, if it be true, that the man at the gas-work can mak' ten thousand swinkies at ae brewin'! 'A' things hae changed noe." "Aye," said Betty Cameron, "if it's no enchantment, its unco like it.—In place o' bein' fashed with weeks and creesh, we just turn a bit spigot thing, an' out spoots a light like sour milk out o' a barrel. Changed times indeed! Atween Liverpool an' Manchester coaches ran their line; an' noo we hae a bonny clear light, ta'en like water in pipes under the ground, that'll spout up at any part ye like, if ye only bore a hole no muckle bigger than a green-head. Weel, weel, I wis then muckle luck o't; but it'll be while afore the guleman catches me darmin' his stockings wif a witch taper at the chumley lug. The brownies langsyne war very helfu'; but we've nae use for brownies noo." The victor, as they ca' him, says, the only salamander kept noo's the spark bread in the blacksmith's throat, and the only brownie a steam engine, sic as they hae in the infirmary, at Liverpool, that pumps water, kirs the kirs, washes claes, minches turnips, champs potatoes, an' wad even mak' the bed wif its iron arms, if they wad let it. Ever' thing's done wif machinery that can be done; an' a great deal mair than should be done; that's what I say."—(*M-Diarmaid's Picture of Dumfries and its Environs.*)

Wedding presents of King Leopold to the Queen of the Belgians.—It is the custom of the Continent, for a bridegroom to present to his lady, on the eve of their union, a handsome collection of jewels, contained in what is called a *corbeille de cose*. The fashion of the *corbeille* varies every season. The *corbeille* presented by King Leopold to the Princess Louise, consisted of a gothic chest of ebony, inlaid with silver, in a damask pattern, and studded with oriental pearls. This, we must admit, sounds somewhat funeral, but its contents offered an ample apology. In the first place, a magnificent suit of diamonds, consisting of a necklace, comb, and wreath of wheat-ears, the latter made so as to take to pieces, and become applicable in various other forms; besides a variety of breaches, intended for looping up the drapery of court-dresses, and clasping on bouquets. A complete suit of different colored stones, mounted in gold so lightly that the setting was invisible, and a great variety of wheat-ears in emerald, chrysoprase, jacinths, topazes, chrysolites, and other stones, representing wheat in every shade of its growth. A set of Neapolitan shells, and another of antique cameos, richly set in gold, besides a variety of gold chains, some light, others very massive. Two studs for night dresses of large single diamonds. Eight cashmere shawls, four being square, and four long. Scarfs in every variety of lace, namely Alencon and Brussels; point, Lise, Mechlin, Valenciennes. Cantilly; besides some curious varieties in cashmere, embroidered with gold, silver, and pearls. A dress of silk muslin, (one of the new French stuffs) embroidered in bunches of grapes, of which the fruit was composed of amethysts. A dress of Chinese silk, painted in bouquets of flowers by the hands of the first artist, enclosed in a case of japan painted in flowers *a la Chinoise*, and richly gilt. A great variety of what are called *Cadeaux de Corbeille*, or wedding presents, accompanied this beautiful chest. Among others, a set of chimney ornaments, *a la Francaise*, consisting of clock, candelabra, and vases, composed of oak leaf, green enamel and gold. A breakfast service to match, with a beautiful plateau of the same. Another breakfast service of silver gilt. A dressing-case, work-box, and writing-desk *en suite* of chrysal and gold, lined with rich velvet. Several beautiful cases of oriental japan, filled with birds of Paradise heron's feathers, marabout and ostrich feathers and the richest plumes, in all their varieties. Several pieces of velvet, brocade, blonde, gold and silver stuffs, and rich silks of every description; besides an infinite variety of trinkets and ornaments for the embellishment of a dressing room or boudoir, each contained in a travelling-case of the richest kind. The *trousseau*, or wedding clothes, presented by Louis Philip, to his daughter, were of corresponding magnificence, and were forwarded to Brussels some days previous to the marriage.

Population.—That of France, by this year's census, is 32,550,934. That of Great Britain, by the official returns, in round numbers, 25,000,000.

ANECDOTE OF NAPOLEON.—One day as the First Consul went down to review the troops in the Cour of the Tuileries, an event occurred of so singular a nature as to draw attention and excite interest. Amongst the crowd assembled there was a lad of about fifteen dressed in an old black coat very much worn, but clean, and indicating that its wearer did not belong to the lower classes of society. His countenance was interesting; pale, trembling violently as his neighbors observed, and putting his hand frequently into his bosom, he seemed impatiently to await the arrival of the First Consul. When the drums gave the signal, the emotion of the lad became so strong that his chest was seen to rise from the beating of his heart. The First Consul came down, and when he was about the middle of the vestibule, the youth precipitated himself towards him, and offered him a paper. There were so many plots at that period, so many attempts upon the life of the First Consul, that twenty persons not belonging to his retinue immediately seized the boy, who, with his hands raised, and casting a supplicating look at the First Consul, still continued to offer his petition. "Let the young man go," said Napoleon, "I will speak to him;" and, advancing towards him, said, "Who are you, my child?" The youth could not answer; but, falling upon his knees, presented his petition. The First Consul read it with an expression of countenance which struck all who were standing near him. He then fixed his eyes upon the lad who was still kneeling, & said with an expression of the deepest sympathy, "Rise, my good boy; you must kneel only to God. Is your mother still at Paris?" An almost inarticulate *yes* was the reply. "Tell her that she has a pension of twelve hundred francs, and six months of arrears shall be paid to her." On hearing these words the poor boy fell again upon his knees. He raised at the same time his eyes full of tears and his hands towards the First Consul, whose hands he endeavored to take. But the emotion was too strong. On learning the favor conferred upon his mother, his paleness, which was before extreme, had redoubled. He soon became purple, the veins of his forehead swelled, as if going to burst—his eyes closed, and he fell senseless at the feet of the First Consul; but, nature assisting herself, an abundant hemorrhage ensued, and Napoleon was covered with the poor boy's blood. "A surgeon, cried he, 'a surgeon.'" But it is said that joy is never fatal, and yet I have seen the reverse. Be that as it may, the youth came to his senses, and bursting into tears, forcibly seized the hand of the First Consul, and kissed it with transport. "You are a God for my family," said he, "I will pray every day for you." The First Consul smiled, and pressing the boy's hand, continued to advance towards his horse, but, before he mounted, recommended the youth to Junot and the War Minister; then giving him a friendly nod, said, "If you will enter the service, apply to the Commandant of Paris, he will speak to the War Minister, and we shall see what can be done for you." "Yes I will serve!" cried the youth, "I also will be a soldier, that one ray of glory may fall upon my brows." This young man was the son of Monsieur Delaunay, the Governor of the Bastille, who was massacred on the 14th of July 1789.—*Memoires of the Duchess of Abrantes.*

In Russia the Common People are frequently deprived of sensation by vapours arising from the following cause:—Persons of rank in that country have double windows to their houses in winter, but those of the poorer classes are only single. During frosty weather an incrustation is formed on the inside of these windows from a condensation of the breath, perspiration, &c., of a number of persons living together in the same room. This mephitic crust is mixed with the noxious fumes of candles, and of the stove with which the chamber is heated. When a thaw succeeds, and this plate of ice is converted into water, a deleterious principle is disengaged, which produces effects similar to those rising from the fumes of charcoal. The method of recovering persons affected by this effluvia is as follows.—They are immediately carried out of doors and placed on the snow, with no other covering than a shirt and linen drawers. Their temples and stomach are then well rubbed with snow, and cold water is poured down their throats. The friction is continued till the livid hue of the skin disappears and the surface acquires its natural colour.

TAXATION ILLUSTRATED.—The magnitude and severity of our taxation may be illustrated by a few comparative facts. The gin and whiskey which exhilarate John Bull, yield a sum to the Government equal to the revenue of the Spanish Monarchy; the tax levied on the beer which slakes his thirst exceeds the revenue of Bavaria—he pays as much on the tea which refreshes his wife, as Francis the First draws from six millions of Neapolitans—as much nearly on the sugar which sweetens it, as twelve millions of Americans pay on all objects whatever—as much on the stinking tobacco which gratifies his depraved appetite, as four millions of Italians pay to Charles Felix—as much on the soap that washes his hands, as sufficient to support the Pope, with all his soldiers, cardinals, priests, and their mistresses—as much for the liberty of having light in his house as would fill the coffers of the King of Hanover—and, finally, the tax levied on his *thirst* alone, as it variously inclines to brandy, rum, whiskey, beer or wine, exceeds the money paid by fifty millions of Russians for the blessings of paternal despotism.

Ancient manner of testifying applause.—Among the Romans, the theatrical approbation was signified by an artificial kind of noise made by the audience to express satisfaction. There were three species of applause, denominated from the different noises made in them, viz: *Bombus*, *Imbribus*, and *Testæ*. The first was a confused din, made either by the hands or

mouth; the second and third, by beating on a sort of sounding vessels, placed in various parts of the theatre for that purpose. Persons were instructed to give applause with skill, and there were even masters who professed to teach the art. The proficient in this accomplishment let themselves out for hire to the poets and actors. It was usual at the end of a play to expect a loud peal of applause, and was generally asked for by the chorus, or last speaker in the drama. The formula was "spectatores plaudite," or "valete et plaudite." The plausores, or applauders, were divided into Chori, and disposed in the theatres opposite to each other, like the chorists in Cathedrals, so that there was a kind of concert of applause.—*Gentleman's Magazine of Fashion.*

Neatness in Speech.—The nose and roof of the mouth may be regarded as the sound-board of the voice. The teeth form a bridge or barrier upon which the lips and tongue are constantly playing; and their beauty and regularity contribute much to the neatness of speech; the action of the tongue is susceptible of high cultivation, and upon its activity depends much of that silvery tone of voice which delights us. With many it lies a sluggish lump in the mouth; as when pronouncing the letter L, it so blocks up the passage that the voice escapes with difficulty. The lips are employed in the softer tones, and are chargeable with the same lassitude of expression. The chin has an important office to perform which is to operate on the hinge which opens and shuts the mouth; for upon its activity we either disclose a polite or vulgar pronunciation. Every one must have noticed in lazy speakers how the words are drawled out of the mouths, as *Nae-o* for *no*. Others begin to talk before their mouths are open, affixing the mouth-closing M to most of their words; as *M-yes* for *yes*.—*Gardiner's Music of Nature.*

ORIGIN OF BANKING.—Money was wanting to the public coffers, and the Doge, having exhausted every other financial expedient, was obliged to have a forced loan, the most opulent citizens being required to contribute according to their ability. On this occasion, the Chamber of Loans (*La Camera degl' imprestiti*) was established. To this chamber the contributors were made creditors, at an annual interest of four per cent, a rate far below the standard of the age. The creditors in process of time, were incorporated into a company for the management of their joint concerns, and thus formed the basis upon which was erected the Bank of Venice, the most ancient establishment of its kind, and the model of all similar institutions. The method in which the above named loan was repaid is believed to be the earliest instance on record of the funding system, and the first example in any country of a paramount national debt.—*Sketches of Venetian History.*

A Mr. Wilmerton and Miss Vessey, both deaf and dumb, were lately married at Paddington Church, London. On which occasion the following lines appeared in the *Age*:—  
How sweet must be the wedded life  
Of Wilmerton and Vessey,  
Both free from all that worldly strife  
That wedlock makes un-asy;  
For if to blow him up she would,  
She can't—there's nothing clearer;  
And if by chance she ever should,  
Why, he will n-er hear her!

Singular circumstance.—In selecting the Jurors for Chester county, for the present year, the name of a father and his two sons, were placed in the Commissioner's box. In drawing from thence by lot, the Jurors for the second week of last court, the father and sons were amongst the number drawn. When a jury was to be empanelled, the clerk of the court drew out of the box by lot, the names of the same father and sons, and what is not less singular, they were drawn in successive order, so that the father and his sons took their seats as called, side by side, and thus sat during the trial of the cause.—*Chester Republican.*

Calculating Boys.—There are now living in Sicily three boys who appear to be equally gifted with a singular aptitude for mathematical calculations. At the head of the triumvirate stands Vincent Racchero; to whose extraordinary feats in calculation the public curiosity has of late been repeatedly directed. It would seem from recent experience, that this youth possesses a mind capable of devoting itself with rare success to other branches of study besides mathematics. Two years ago he was ignorant even of his alphabet; but in consequence of the pains taken with him by the Abbe Minardi, who had been engaged as his tutor, through the liberal interposition of the government and corporation of Palermo, he is at this moment able to read off-hand the most difficult of the Latin and Italian classics, and has given public proof of the unprecedented extent of his acquisitions.

The other boys, by name Ignatus Landolina and Joseph Puglicci, have come forward to enter the lists against him. The former has not yet reached his tenth year, though he has already attended several public meetings, and resolved some of the abstrusest questions in the highest branches of geometry, which were put to him by professors Nobili, Souderi, and Alessi, of the University of Catania. On these occasions Landolina did not confine himself to a mere dry answer; but assigned the reason for the result, and entered acutely into the metaphysics of the science.

The third child, Puglicci, who is seven years old, afforded no less striking and indisputable proof of his extraordinary talent in giving off-hand answers to problems, which usually require tedious arithmetical calculations. It is remarkable to see him in the very act of listening to a question and giving his solution, pursuing his pastimes like any other child, as if using his pastimes and the other were matters of equal ease and unconcern to him. The precocious talents of these three infantine

mathematicians would seem to indicate, that the spirit of Archimedes still lingers on its native soil.—*From a Sicilian Journal.*

The Curious Cane.—In noticing various things at the late Fair, we spoke of a curious cane, which had been wrought with great labor. It has since been left with us a few days for further examination. It was made by Mr. Gilbert Griswold, during the cruise of the frigate Hudson on the coast of Brazil. Mr. G. was attached to the band of the Hudson. The cane is a trunk of a coffee shrub. It was cut by Mr. G., who discovered it, on shore, entwined by a bitter-sweet vine. A serpent with two heads, is entwined around it, raised in relief, and it has a great number of ornamental figures and flowers, also in relief. Among the former—a South American lug-boat, a dove with a leaf of olive in its mouth; a mermaid; a pot of flowers; a dolphin, the figure Fame sounding her trumpet; Franklin's motto, "Where Liberty dwells there is my country," cut in letters that would do credit to a type-founder; an Indian with his spear; King Philip with his Indian armor, spear, tomahawk, quiver, &c. a double-heart; an anchor; the American Eagle; and the Emblems of the Master Mason's Carpet, with a ship sailing towards it—filled probably, by Anti-Masons, endeavoring to run down the wicked emblem. The top of the cane contains a snuff-box. The ingenious maker ought to be paid well for it.

THE TOWER OF LONDON.

"The Tower!" How many pleasing and melancholy incidents are associated with the history of this once formidable and still imposing fortress! Here are to be seen the supposed spoils of the grand "Armada," which received the benediction of the Pope, and was by him presumptuously pronounced "invincible;" and in the same room, and mingling as it were with those proud military trophies, is shown the axe which, we are gravely told, terminated the unmerited sufferings of the ill-fated Anne Boylen, altho' we are informed by Stowe, that a sword and not an axe was used on that occasion. The spot is exhibited in the inner court, where her execution took place; and the heartless monster who murdered her, as if to prevent another Englishman from being stained with her blood, hired the Calias hangman to act the part of her assassin! In the catalogue of our Monarchs, there is not one steeped deeper in sanguinary guilt than Henry VIII. He presented that amiable and fascinating Princess with "the great house of Newhall," near Chelmsford—now a convent for nuns of the Or of the Holy Sepulchre—and from that house, whilst Anne Boylen was confined in the Tower, he communicated the order for her decapitation, by signal-guns placed along the line of road to London. The notions which our ancestors had of a royal palace, differed very materially from those we now entertain. The dark and gloomy turrets which here present themselves, seem but ill-adapted for scenes of Royal hospitality and courtly carousal. Yet, within these walls, "solemn feasts" have been given; and from the frowning portals of the "bloody Tower," and the grinning portcullis of the Byward Gate, have sallied forth gallant and splendid trains of England's Nobles, and high-crested chivalry, and proceeding along the narrow streets of ancient London, astonished its inhabitants of that day, in their progress to Westminster, with all the state and grandeur of a coronation cavalcade.

Literary Souvenir for 1833.

ACTIONS OF LORD BURLEIGH.—Build more upon an honest man's word than a bad man's bond. No man can be counted happy in this world who is not wise; and he that is wise seeth most of his own unhappiness. That nation was happy, where the King would take counsel and follow it. The strength of a King is the love of his subjects. Princes ought to be better than other men, because they command and rule all others. He can never be a good statesman, who respecteth not the public more than his own private advantage. Honor is the reward of virtue, but is gotten with labour, and held with danger. Counsel, without resolution and execution, is but wind. Division in counsel is dangerous, if not subversive of the state. Attempts are most probable, being wisely plotted, secretly carried, and speedily executed. Unity is the strength, and division the ruin of any body politic. The taking or losing of an opportunity is the gaining or losing of great fortunes. War is a curse, and peace a blessing of God upon a nation. A realm gaineth more by one year's peace than ten years' war. A realm cannot be rich that hath not an intercourse of trade and merchandise with other nations. No man can get riches of himself, but by means of others. Riches are God's blessing to such as use them well, and his curse to such as do not.—All things in this world are valuable but in estimation; for a little to him that thinketh it enough is great riches. Private gain is the perverting of justice, and the pestilence of a commonwealth.

We find the following singular statement in a Baltimore paper:—  
4000 Drove Turkeys to be raffled for.—The subscriber having contracted for about 4000 turkeys, which will be brought to Baltimore in droves during the season, raffling for them will commence immediately, and be held until the 21 March.

N. B. No kind of gambling, nor minors or disorderly persons, will be permitted on raffling evenings.

NEW YORK, Nov. 30—noon.  
PANIC.—United States Bank stock, which sold at 115 per cent. on Wednesday, fell this day about 4 per cent. It began at 114; and went down to 111 per cent. Between two and three thousand shares sold at all rates, at this 110; to 1 1/4. This extraordinary fall at this moment is a subject of no small speculation.

N. Y. Daily Advertiser.