Maxims of law
Things do not change their ownership when captured by pirates and robbers.
Expect from others the same treatment that they receive from you.
Absolute power in all things lawful.
An accessory docs not lead, but follows his principal.
External actions show the secret intentions
An action is the right of prosecuting to judgment that which is one’s due.
Acts indicate the intention.
An act done without my consent is not my act.
An admiralty court has no jurisdiction over those questions which are determined by the common law.
It is the duty of justices to administer justice to every one seeking it from him.
Natural reason allows one to defend himself against danger.
Equity acts upon the person
Equity supplies defects.
Equity remedies errors.
Equity is the correction of law, when too general, in the part in which it is defective.
Equity is a kind of perfect reason which interprets and amends the written law ; comprehended in no code, but consistent with reason alone.
Equity assists ignorance, but not carelessness.
Jurisdiction is not confounded by equity.
Equity will not assist unless the occasion renders it necessary.
Equity does not regard the form and circumstance, but rather the substance of the act.
Equity is the daughter of truth, and the sister of goodness and justice
Equity desires by all means to arrive at the truth.
Equity desires the spoiled, the deceived, and the ruined, above all things, to have restitution.
What is just and right is the law of laws
He who affirms, not he who denies, must bear the burden of proof.
He who affirms must prove.
A person ought not to be judge in his own cause, because he cannot be both a party and a judge.
To conceal is one thing, to be silent another.
He who alleges contradictory things is not to be heard.
An ambiguous answer shall be construed against him who offers it.
The presumption, in doubtful cases, always favors the king.
An ambiguous pleading should be interpreted against the party offering it.
The laws of England are favorable in every case to liberty.
An argument from authority is very strong in law.
The laws permit the taking arms against the armed.
A twisting of language is unworthy of a judge.
He is guilty of barratry who for money barters justice.
A remuneration is not given unless on account of a duty performed.
The more favorable construction is to be placed on general or doubtful expressions.
Laws should be so favorably interpreted that their intentions may be preserved
Good faith demands that what is agreed upon shall be done.
It is the duty of a good judge to order judgment to be executed without delay.
The good of a defendant arises from a ,perfect case, his harm from some defect
A good judge decides according to justice and right, and prefers equity to strict law
Necessary good is not good beyond the bounds of necessity.
Causes of dower, life, liberty, revenue, are among the favorable things in law.
The cause of the Church is equal to public causes ; and for the best of reasons, it is the cause of religion.
Cease to reign, if you do not wish to adjudicate.
A charter concerning a thing not in existence avails not.
Those who sin secretly are punished more severely than those who sin openly.
A college or incorporated body can only exist by consent of the sovereign.
No man should derive any benefit from his own wrong.
An agreement avails no one unless he is a party or privy to it.
The law never permits anything contrary to truth.
A contract should be understood according to the intention of the parties, expressed in words.
A convention of private persons cannot affect public right.
Vice increasing, punishment ought also to increase.
The crime of treason exceeds all other crimes as to its punishment.
A human body is not susceptible of appraisement.
Gross negligence is equivalent to fraud.
Where the proofs of facts are present, what need is there of words?
One confessing willingly should be gently dealt with.
Time runs against the slothful and those who neglect their rights.
There may be damage without injury.
As to the proper name it is not to be regarded, where it errs not in substance; because names are changeable, but things are immutable.
Every man's house should be a perfectly safe refuge.
Laws assist the deceived, not the deceiving.
The decrees of councils do not bind our kings.
A delegated power cannot be delegated.
A delegate cannot delegate.
The power derived cannot be greater than that from which it is derived.
The king gives honors, virtue preserves them, transgressions take them away.
Delays in law are odious.
By fraud or dole a contract perishes.
A deceiver deals in generalities
Deceit and fraud shall excuse or benefit no man.
Deceit and fraud should always be remedied.
Wrongful intention is presumed against one engaged in an unlawful act.
The king can have no equal, much less a superior.
To everyone his house is his surest refuge; or, every man's house is his castle.
The law gives no more than is demanded.
Right cannot die.
The mind of the sovereign is presumed to be coincident with that of the law, and that which it ought to be, especially in ambiguous matters.
The manifesto of the constitution is the decree of the ruler.
The effect follows the cause.
The proof lies upon him who affirms, not upon him who denies.
Specification of one thing is an exclusion of the rest.
In the same way in which anything is constituted, it may be destroyed.
Equity suffers not a right without a remedy.
An error which is not resisted, is approved.
To refer errors to their principles, is to refute them.
Violence may also put on the mask of the law.
The meeting of the minds of two or more in an agreement makes a contract.
From a wrong no contract can arise.
He who derives advantage from anyone should bear that person's obligations.
There is no plea against an action which entirely destroys the plea.
A foreigner has no lands, but only his personal effects, and life, and liberty.
Facts are more powerful than words.
An action of a judge, which relates not to his office, is of no force.
No proof is incumbent upon him who denies a fact.
False in one thing, false in all things.
Things favorably considered in law are, the treasury, dower, life, and liberty.
Felony is implied in every treason.
Let justice be done though the heavens fall.
Fiction yields to truth; where there is truth fiction of law does not exist.
Fraud binds, but does not dissolve, perjury.
It is a fraud to conceal a fraud.
Fraud and deceit should benefit no one.
Fraud and justice never dwell together.
Fraud lies hidden in general expressions.
Fraud is most hateful to law
He who offends against the law seeks in vain the help of the law.
Man is a term of nature; person, of the civil law.
Ignorance of those things which one is bound to know does not excuse
Ignorance of the law excuses no one; for all are presumed to know those things to which all consent.
That which is not otherwise lawful, necessity makes lawful, and necessity makes a privilege which supersedes law.
Impunity invites to greater crimes.
No one may come into court with unclean hands.
In doubtful cases the presumption is always in favor of the king.
In things obvious there is no room for conjecture.
In agreements the rule is to regard the intention of the contracting parties rather than their words.
In criminal cases the silence of a person present presumes consent; in civil cases sometimes that of the person absent, and even ignorant where his interest lies, does the same.
In doubt the response is in favor of dower, liberty, innocence, of the possessor, of the debtor, and of the defendant.
In favor of life, liberty, and innocence, all things are to be presumed.
In a legal fiction equity always exists.
He truly acts fraudulently who, observing the letter of the law, eludes its spirit.
In general whoever says anything, whether plaintiff or defendant, must prove it.
In law all things are always judged from their present condition.
In criminal matters, the intention is regarded, not the event.
In all contracts whether named or not, an exchange is understood.
Equity is to be regarded in all things, but particularly in law.
In presence of the major the minor power ceases.
In a doubtful case the negative, rather than the affirmative, is to be understood.
In contracts, when the question is what was agreed upon, the words of the agreement are to be interpreted against the questioner.
One may do with his own as he pleases, if he does not invade the rights of others.
It is improper, unless the whole law be examined, to give judgment or advice upon a view of a single clause of it.
It is unlawful to judge of any part unless the whole sentence be examined.
The inclusion of one is the exclusion of another.
Infinity in law is reprehensible.
An injury is done to him of whom a reproachful thing is said, or an obscene song is made
A man should not be benefited by his own wrong doing.
He is insane who, reason being thrown away, does everything with violence and rage.
A hidden intention is bad
It has often been settled that affairs between other parties should not prejudice.
Among many things, you will even question laws and learned men
Among equals no one is the more powerful.
It is to the interest of the state that crimes should not remain unpunished.
It is to the interest of the state that it may be well with the good, ill with the wicked, and that everyone may have his own.
It is to the interest of the state that peace be preserved in the kingdom, and that whatever is adverse to it be prudently declined.
He encourages a fault who overlooks a transgression.
A benefit is not bestowed upon one unwilling to receive it.
It is equity that he should have satisfaction who sustained the loss.
A judge ought always to regard equity.
A judge ought always to have equity before his eyes.
A good judge may do nothing from his judgment, or from a dictate of private will; but he should pronounce according to law and justice.
The judge is condemned when the guilty are acquitted.
The judge should decide according to the allegations and the proofs.
To a judge who exceeds his office no obedience is due.
It is the duty of a judge to decide according to the facts alleged and proved.
It is the duty of a judge to declare, not to make the law.
It is the duty of a judge to finish the work of each day within that day.
It is a decision to favor those things that favor religion, though words be wanting.
A judgment ought not to be illusory; it should have its own effect.
The laws of nature are unchangeable.
Jurors ought to be neighbors, of sufficient estate, and free from suspicion.
By the law of nature it is just that no one become more rich by the detriment and injury of another.
Civil law is that which each nation has established for itself.
Law is the science of the good and the just.
Law is a rule of right, and whatever is contrary to the rule of right, is an injury.
Right and fraud never dwell together.
Natural right is that which has the same power among all men.
The law of nature is properly the dictate of right reason, by which we know what is dishonest and what is honest; what should be done and what avoided.
It is not safe to obey him who has no right.
A public law cannot be changed by the agreement of private parties.
The form of taking an oath differs in words, yet agrees in meaning; for it ought to have this sense, that the Deity be invoked.
An oath made among others should neither harm nor profit.
Justice ought to be unbought, because nothing is more hateful than venal justice; free, for justice should not shut out; and quick, for delay is a sort of denial.
Justice is an excellent virtue, and pleasing to the Most High.
Justice should be denied to no one.
Justice is not to be denied, nor delayed.
Justice knows neither father nor mother; justice regards truth alone.
Where the law gives a thing, it gives a remedy to recover.
The law favors the life of a man.
Wilful negligence is equal to deceit.
Law favoreth honor and order.
Law favoreth justice and right.
Law favoreth life, liberty, and dower.
Law favoreth truth, faith, and certainty.
LAW HATETH WRONG.
The contract makes the law.
The law of God and the law of the land are all one.
An ambassador fills the place of the king by whom he is sent, and is to be honored as he whose place he fills.
Human laws are born, live, and die.
The laws of nature are perfect and immutable; but the condition of human law tends always to infinity, and there is nothing in it that can continue perpetually.
Laws should bind those who make them.
Laws aid the vigilant, not the negligent.
Laws imposed by the state failing, we must act by the law of nature.
Fictions arise from the law, and not the law from fictions.  
The law delights in equity; it covets perfection; it is a rule of right.  
The law admits no proof against that which it presumes.  
The law always abhors delays.  
An unjust law is not a law.  
The law works harm to no one, and does no one an injury.  
The law forces not to impossibilities.  
The law does not require that which is apparent to the court to be verified.  
The law is the more praised when it is consonant to reason  
Law will always give a remedy.  
The law always intends what is agreeable to reason.  
The law regards the order of nature.  
The law assists the ignorant.  
The law speaks to all with one mouth.  
Law assists the wakeful, not the sleeping.  
Money being restored does not set free the party offering.  
Liberty is an inestimable thing.  
Liberty is the right to alienate or restrain one's own right.  
Liberty has no price.  
Liberty is more favored than all things.  
The civil laws reduce an ungrateful freeman to his original slavery; but the laws of England regard a mail once manumitted as ever after free  
The body of a freeman does not admit of a valuation.  
Everyone is free to ascertain for himself, or to have recourse to counsel.  
Natural allegiance is restrained by no barriers, curbed by no bounds, compressed by no limits.  
Letters-patent of the king shall not be void.  
The place of the contract governs the act.  
Long possession produces the right of possession, and takes away an action from the true owner.  
Long time and long use, which exceeds the memory of man, suffices in law.  
Speak as the ordinary people; think as the learned.  
A slip of the tongue should not lightly be given to punishment  
Great neglect is equivalent to fraud.  
Evil deeds should not remain unpunished; and impunity affords continual incitement to the delinquent  
The more common an evil is, the worse.  
Things manifest need no proof.  
A maxim is so called because its dignity is chiefest, and its authority the most certain, and because it is universally approved by all.  
Force and injury are chiefly contrary to peace.  
It is better to suffer every wrong than to consent to wrong.  
The term merchandise belongs to movable things only.’  
Men are not included under the name of merchandise.  
He justly loses the benefit of the law who purposes to overturn the law itself.  
He threatens the innocent who spares the guilty.  
A minor cannot make oath.’  
Custom and agreement overrule law.  
Monuments, which we call records, are the vestiges of truth and antiquity.  
Delay is reproved by law.  
A custom of the truest antiquity is to be retained.  
We are ignorant of many things that would not be hidden from us if the readings of old authors were familiar to us.  
Many things pertain not to human laws, but to divine jurisdiction.  
Multiplicity and indistinctness produce confusion; and questions, the more simple they are, the more lucid.
Ten make a multitude.
A multitude of ignorant persons destroys a court.
Nature desires perfection; so does the law.
Neither time nor place bars the king.
Where the Divinity is insulted the case is unpardonable
That is necessary which cannot be otherwise
Necessity makes that lawful which otherwise is not lawful.
Necessity gives a privilege with reference to private rights.
Necessity has no law.
Necessity is not restrained by law; since what otherwise is not lawful, necessity makes lawful.
Necessity defends what it compels.
Necessity overcomes the law; it breaks the chains of justice.
Denial cannot be proved.
No one may sue at law in the name of another.
No one does damage, unless he is doing what he has no right to do.
No one may be dragged from his own house.
No one should interfere in another's business— in nothing relating to him.
No one should be retained in partnership against his will.
No one should lose his property without his own act or negligence.
No one is beyond the law.
No one is relieved, or gains an advantage from his own proper deceit.
No one is held to act fraudulently who acts in exercise of his rights.
No man warring for God should be troubled by secular business.
No one can transfer to another a greater right than he has himself.
No one can do by another what he cannot do by himself.
No man can fill two offices, or two dignities.
One is not present unless he understands.
No one is prohibited from using several defenses.
No one is punished unless for some injury, deed, or default.
No one is bound to an impossibility.
No one is bound to arm his adversary against himself.
No one is bound to produce writings against himself.
No one is bound to expose himself to misfortunes and dangers.
Nothing is so contrary to consent as force and fear.
An error of name is nothing when there is certainty as to the person.
Nothing wicked is to be presumed
We can do nothing against truth.
Nothing which is against reason is lawful.
Nothing similar is identical.
Nothing is so consonant to natural equity, as that the same thing be dissolved by the same means by which it was bound.
Nothing is so becoming to authority, as to live according to the law.
Nothing is useful or honorable that is contrary to law.
He who errs does not consent.
He who does not defend himself when present is considered as submitting.
There is no stronger link among men than an oath.
The affairs of the republic should not be delegated to improper persons
It is not law but servitude to be held by what we have not consented to.
Names of things should be understood according to common usage, not according to the opinions of individuals.
You are not to do evil that good may come of it.
A law is not obligatory unless it be promulgated.
Not what is said, but what is done, is to be regarded.
It matters not whether a man gives his assent by words, or by acts and deeds.
It matters not what is known to the judge, if it be not known to him judicially.
It matters not if a revocation is made by word or deed.
Those who err are not considered as consenting.
He does not appear to have retained consent who has changed anything through the menaces of a party threatening.
He is not regarded as using force, who exercises his own right, and proceeds by ordinary action.
The meaning of a word may be ascertained by reference to the meaning of words associated with it.
No court which has not a record, can impose a fine, or commit any person to prison; because those powers belong only to courts of record.
It cannot be effected by any agreement, that there is no accountability for fraud.
Neither justice nor right shall be sold, denied, or delayed, to any one.
The authority of no man ought to prevail with us, so that we should not follow better opinions, should another present them.
There is no loss without a remedy.
No one shall obtain an advantage by his own wrong.
No one shall be called a principal felon except the party actually committing the felony, or the party present, aiding and abetting in its commission.
No man can forfeit the right of another.
No one should be esteemed a wrong doer who uses his own legal right.
An office ought to be injurious to no one.
Every law has either been created by consent, or established by necessity, or confirmed by custom.
Every word sincerely spoken constitutes an obligation.
All men are either freemen or slaves.
All shall have liberty to renounce those things which have been established in their favor.
All things are to be presumed against a wrong doer.
All contracts made under a law, perish under a contrary law.
The remedy of the law lies open to all within the kingdom who ask it.
Every dishonorable contract is odious to the laws.
There is no disputing against or denying principles.
Every definition in law is dangerous, for there is but little that can not be overthrown.
Every interpretation, if it can be done, is to be so made in instruments, that all contradictions may be removed.
Once a fraud, always a fraud.
A thing certain must be brought to judgment.
Laws should be short, that they may be more easily comprehended by the ignorant.
The best evidence of the matter will prevail.
The origin of a thing ought to be regarded.
Violence and injury- are especially contrary to peace.
Contracts which are not against law, and do not originate in fraud, are in all respects to be observed.
Agreements give the law to the contract.
That contracts which are made against law or against good morals, have no force, is a principle of undoubted law.
Mutual contracts bind either both parties, or neither one.
Unequal things ought not to be joined.
Word of mouth files away, things written remain.
By a contract something is permitted, which, without it, could not be admitted.
An equal has no power over an equal.
Like things unite with like.
Many partners are as one body, inasmuch as they have one right.
It profits little to know what ought to be done, if you know not how it is to be done.
Crimes against nature are the most heinous.
He adds sin to sin who, when he commits an offense, joins the protection of a defense.
By reasoning we come to legal reason.
Let one perish, rather than all.
They are perjured, who, preserving the words of an oath, deceive the ears of those who receive it
It is a perpetual law that no human or positive law can be perpetual.
The law is opposed to perpetuities
Plain truths need not to be proved.
The wills of superiors should be directly expressed, and nothing supposed by way of inference.
Let full and speedy justice be done to the parties
Several persons cannot each have, at the same time, an equal right to the same thing.
Politics are to be adapted to the laws, and not the laws to politics.
Possession is a good title where no better title appears.
A power is to be strictly interpreted.
Supreme power can dissolve, but cannot bind itself.
The presence of the body cures error in the name.
The emperor is free from laws.
The principal should always be exhausted before coming upon the sureties.
There is no doubt that the rights of others cannot be prejudiced by private agreement.
An agreement of private individuals cannot derogate from public law.
One privileged person cannot plead his privilege against another privileged person.
Proofs ought to be evident, that is, clear and easily understood.
The extremes being proved, the intermediate proceedings are presumed.
Protection draws to it subjection; and subjection, protection.
Things which are taken from enemies, immediately become the property of the captors.
Things which hold the place of accessories are extinguished when the principal things are destroyed.
Words spoken to one end, should not be perverted to another.
Things which derogate from the common law are to be strictly interpreted.
Things which are done between others, ought not to injure a person, but may benefit him.
Things which are forbidden in the nature of things, are confirmed by no law.
Things which afford a ground of action, if raised within a certain time, may be pleaded at any time, by way of exception.
Every jurisdiction has its own limits.
To investigate is the way to know what things are really true.
When anything is commanded, everything by which it can be accomplished is also commanded.
When anything is prohibited directly, it is also prohibited indirectly.
When anything is prohibited, all that relates to it is prohibited.
When two persons are liable for one and the same thing, one for the other's default will be charged for the whole.
When two rights concur in one person, it is the same as if they were in separate persons.
When the right of the sovereign and of the subject concur, the right of the sovereign is to be preferred.
When the greater is allowed, the less seems to be allowed also.
When words and mind agree there is no place for interpretation.
He who reaps the advantage, must also bear the disadvantage.
Let him who accuses be of clear fame, and not criminal.
He who acquires for himself, acquires for his heirs.
He who decides anything, one party being unheard, though he may have decided right, has not done justice.
He who accuses another should be free from that offence of which he makes accusation.
He who questions well, teaches well.
He who grants anything grants everything without which the grant is fruitless.
They are guiltless of homicide who cannot defend themselves otherwise than by homicide
He who gives an end gives the means necessary to that end.
He who overthrows the cause, overthrows the future consequence.
He who commits fraud, acts in vain.
He who has jurisdiction to loosen, has jurisdiction to bind.
He who uses his own right harms no one.
He who acts badly, hates the light.
He who commands, is held to have done the thing himself.
He who proves most, recovers most.
He who does not blame, approves.
He who does not freely speak truth, is a betrayer of the truth.
He who does not prevent what he can prevent, is considered as doing the thing.
He who does not forbid when he can forbid, commands.
He who does not repel a wrong when he can, occasions it.
He who spares the guilty punishes the innocent.
He who does anything through another, is regarded as doing it himself.
He who first offends causes the strife.
He who does anything for me, is considered as doing it to me.
They who seek a reason for everything, subvert reason.
He who experiences the benefit ought to bear the burden.
He who is silent appears to consent.
Whatever is acquired by the servant, is acquired for the master.
Whatever is against the rule of right is a wrong.
Whatever is paid, is paid according to the intention of the payer.
Any one may renounce a right introduced for his own benefit.
He who exercises a derived right, exercises it as the right of his principal.
Every man is presumed innocent, until it is proved to the contrary.
That which is not valid at the beginning, improves not by lapse of time.
All men are equal as far as the natural law is concerned.
What otherwise is good and just, if it be sought by force and fraud, becomes bad and unjust.
What I approve I do not reject.
What otherwise was not lawful, necessity makes lawful.
What appears clearly, need not be proved.
What appears to the court needs not the help of witnesses.
What is done contrary to law is regarded as not done.
Whatever any one does in defense of his person, he is considered to have done legally.
What is given to the church is given to God.
That which is of necessity, is never introduced except when necessary.
What is inconvenient or contrary to reason is not allowed in law.
What is necessary is lawful.
What is done without counsel, we revoke upon consideration.
Time cannot render valid an act void in its origin.
What is mine cannot be taken away without my consent.
That which natural reason has established among all men, is called the law of nations.
What necessity compels, it justifies.
That which does not appear, does not exist.
That which is not good in its principal, will not be good as to accessories or consequences.
That which is ours cannot be lost or transferred to another without our own act, or our own fault.
That which belongs to no one is by natural reason, given to the occupant.
What I cannot do by myself, I cannot do by another.
What is first is true; and what is first in time is best in law.
Let every one employ himself in what he knows.
Where choice is once made it cannot be disapproved any longer.
What is understood, is not wanting.
That person should be chosen who best understands, and is willing and able to perform the duty of the office.
In whatever manner a thing is constituted, in the same manner it is dissolved.
When the interpretation between liberty and slavery is doubtful, the decision must be in favor of liberty.
Whenever the same words express two meanings, that is to be taken which is the better fitted for carrying out the proposed end.
Things taken in war go to the state.
Ratification is equal to a command.
Reason is the formal cause of custom.
Reason is a ray of divine light.
Reason in law is perfect equity.
Reason is the soul of law; the reason of law being changed, the law is also changed.
Reason is not confined to any place.
Records are the traces of antiquity and of truth.
We must have recourse to what is extraordinary when what is ordinary fails.
To restore, is to give back nothing but what was taken.
The rule is, that ignorance of the law does not excuse, but that ignorance of a fact may excuse a party from the legal consequences of his conduct.
In default of the law, the maxim rules.
The property in a thing deposited, and the possession thereof, remains in the depositor.
A mandate of an illegal thing is void.
Of things relating to each other, one being known, the other is known.
Remedies for rights are ever favorably extended.
Money refused liberates the debtor.
Every one is the manager and disposer of his own affairs.
Things done between strangers ought not to injure those who are not parties to them.
Matters adjudged in a cause do not prejudice those who were not parties to it.
A thing is private which is not common.
A thing sacred admits of no valuation.
Reservation and protest do not create a right, but protect a right.
The right of the grantor being extinguished, the right granted is extinguished.
When the right of the giver becomes void, the right of the receiver ceases.
Let the principal answer.
The answer of one witness shall not be heard at all.
A traitor is punished, that one may die lest all perish.
The king is the living law.
The king can do everything but an injury.
The king has no equal in his own kingdom.
The king should not be under the authority of man, but of God and the law.
The king cannot deceive, nor be deceived.
The king can do no wrong.
The king can proceed to judgment in whatever court he pleases.
The king cannot do what is unjust.
The king protects the law, and the law protects the right.
Rights never die.
The king is not bound by any statute, if he is not expressly named.
A sacrilegious person transcends the cupidity and wickedness of all other robbers.
In many counselors there is safety.
Equal knowledge on both sides makes the contracting parties equal.
A wrong is not done to one who knows and wills it.
You ought to know with whom you contract.
What one knows, and what one ought to know are regarded in law as equivalent.
To write is to act.
Written obligations are superseded by writings, and obligations of naked assent is dissolved by naked assent to the contrary.
It is natural that he who bears the charge of a thing should receive the profits.
Always in doubtful cases that is to be done by which a bona fide contract may be in the greatest safety, unless when it has been openly made against law.
The necessity of proving is always incumbent upon him who acts.
The presumption is always in favor of the one who denies
He who does not prohibit the intervention of another in bis behalf, is supposed to authorize it.
The male sex always includes the female.
The meaning of words is two-fold, mild and rough, and words are always to be received in their milder sense.
The sense of words is to be taken from the occasion of speaking them.
A sentence passed by one who is not a judge should not harm any one.
Sentence is not given upon matters that are not clear.
Power should follow justice, not precede it.
Slavery is an institution by the law of nations, by which a man is subjected to a foreign master, contrary to nature.
If any one of certain required forms be wanting, when equity requires, it will be aided.
If there be no inference which leads to a different result, words are to be understood according to their proper meaning, not in a grammatical, but in a popular and ordinary sense.
If there are more sureties than one, however many they may be, they shall each be held for the whole.
Every one ought so to improve his land as not to injure his neighbor's.
Such an interpretation is to be made that the words may be received with effect.
So use your own as not to injure another's property.
Inasmuch as a subject is bound to obey the king, so the king is bound to protect the subject.
A seal is a piece of wax impressed, because wax without an impression is not a seal
Silence shows consent.
Laws are silent amidst arms
The hope of impunity holds out a continual temptation to crime.
A presumption shall stand until the contrary is proved.
An affirmative statute does not take from the common law.
Remove the foundation, the work falls.
The greatest charity is to do justice to individuals, and at any time whenever it may be necessary.
That is the highest law which favors religion.
That reason is strongest which operates in favor of religion.
The higher the law, the greater the injury. The higher the law, the higher the punishment.
Suppression of the truth is equal to the expression of the false.
Suppression of the truth equals the suggestion of the false.
Supreme power can dissolve itself.
Evidences are to be weighed, not numbered.
The husband and wife are but one person in the law.
The law favors a thing which is of necessity.
The law favors works of charity, right, and truth; and abhors fraud, covin, and uncertainties which obscure the truth, contrarieties, delays, unnecessary circumstances, and such like.
The owner of property is not divested of his title by a larceny of it.
Things are dissolved as they be contracted.
Things grounded upon an ill and void beginning cannot have a good perfection.
Things of a higher nature determine things of a lower nature.
Three things needful and pertaining to every deed are, writing, sealing, and delivery.
A title is the just right of possessing that which is our own.
Tort is contrary to the law.
Where transgression is multiplied, let the infliction of punishment be increased
Three form a corporation.
Trusts survive.
It is always safer to err in acquitting, than in punishing; on the side of mercy, than on the side of justice.
When an ordinary remedy ceases to be of service, recourse must be had to an extraordinary one.
Where there is culpability, there ought the punishment to be undergone.
Where there is a right, there is a remedy.
When the law fails to serve as a rule, almost everything should be suspected.
Where there is no authority to enforce, there is no necessity to obey.
Where there is no manifest injustice, the judges are to be considered as honest men, and their judgment as truth.
Where there is risk, there should the profits be received.
Where a man offends, there shall he be punished.
Where there is an injury, there a loss follows.
One ought not to take advantage of his own wrong.
One person can scarcely supply the places of two.
The answer of one witness shall not be heard at all.
An university or corporation is not said to do anything, unless it be deliberated upon collegiately, although the majority should do it.
Every obligation is dissolved in the same manner in which it is contracted.
Usury is odious in law.
He is not considered to consent, who obeys the orders of his father or master.
Plain truths need not be proved.
Words should be regarded, not the speaker.
When words are merely equivocal, if by common usage of speech they acquire a certain meaning, such meaning is to be preferred.
Where there is no ambiguity, words stand as written.
The truth of the description removes the error of the name.
Truth fears nothing but concealment.
The truth of the name removes the error of description.
Truth which is not sufficiently defended, is oppressed.
He who does not speak the truth freely, is a traitor to the truth.
The laws serve the vigilant, and not those who sleep.
It is lawful to repel force by force; but let it be done with the moderation of blameless defense; not to take revenge, but to repel injury.
That is a viperous exposition which corrodes the bowels of the text.
Clerical errors ought not to prejudice.
Void things are as no things.
Words spoken vanish; words written remain.
The voice of the people is the voice of God.
When an agreement is reduced to writing, all previous treaties are resolved into that
When the common law and statute law concur, the common law is to be preferred.
When the foundation fails, all fails.
When the law gives anything, it gives a remedy for the same.
Wife cannot be produced a witness for or against her husband, for they are two souls in one flesh.