

That in the particular case, the letter in question does not belong on any title to Mr. Boyle; and that the defendants are therefore justified in refusing to produce it except with the consent of Cardinal Wiseman.

With regard to the claim for damages:

Considering that in opening their journal to Cardinal Wiseman, to the defence of the position of Catholicism in England, they cannot be supposed to have had the intention of injuring an individual who was not even named to them.

For these reasons reject the claim of Boyle, but, at the same time, give him an official certificate (*lui donne acte*) of the declaration of Gondom and Barrier, that they do not intend to interpose any personal exception, and are ready to make the required production, on a regular authority from the Cardinal.

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LEGAL MISCELLANY.

LEGAL PRINCIPLES.

No. VIII.

The fact, that in our text books and digests, of all classes and qualities, the law is divided into particular subjects, and not particular principles, serves to blind us to the great truth, that principles are universal, extending through all subjects. Yet this truth is of the very highest practical importance. Often we are unable to determine a question by looking into the books on the subject to which it directly relates, while yet, it is in reality well settled. By its being well settled, we do not mean, that a case precisely like it has been adjudicated, but that cases involving the principle have been. If, for instance, our question relates to a liability under a bond, the principle which is to decide it may have been brought out and established in connection with the law of insurance; and so by looking into a book on insurance, we may find our difficulty solved.

We cannot be too much impressed with the idea, that the common law, including as well, that administered in the equity, admi-

rality, and other like tribunals, as in the courts of the common law technically so called, is one body with one blood flowing through the whole, and the same nerves and fibres extending everywhere. No man can be a good lawyer on any one subject, who has not carried his investigations through the entire range of our jurisprudence. Quackery may boast of curing "old sores," without knowing anything else of the human system ; but no true lawyer will imitate it.

We ought to have books, in which we could see, as on a map, the various principles of the law, traced, in all their relations, through the various subjects. And it is a little remarkable, that while the legal press is flooding us with valueless matter, in connection with much that is good, almost nothing of this kind is attempted. We have Broom's Legal Maxims,—not a first-class book, but still one of considerable value, and deserving a much wider circulation than it receives,—besides which we have nothing. Probably, the enterprise of producing books of this kind wouldn't pay. Lawyers do not wish to learn law in general, but the law of their particular cases—a flat contradiction, indeed, but they do not see it. How few, comparatively, we have, who study wisely, or even study at all. "The Law in Six Easy Lessons, without a Master, and not even requiring a Pupil," would be an immensely popular title-page ; in fact, it would be a decided *hit*. We might suggest it to some of our professional scissors-grinders, who bear the name of legal authors and editors, and to their publishers ; but while it would bring in, at first, a flood of money, the stream would soon stop. Those gentlemen who patronize their works, finding so short a cut to learning and eminence, would take it at once, and ask for nothing further.

Who has not seen a little child, sitting close to the fire and complaining of its being hot, without considering that the true thing to be done is to move back ? How many lawyers complain to themselves, not their clients, of the embarrassments of their profession, of the difficulty of giving opinions that the Courts may not upset, of the vast search that every question of importance requires, of disappointments in their suits, and a world of things of the like kind, without the smallest appreciation of the remedy. Tell them