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es and effects. — The Divine, before he presumes to engage
in holy ministrations, travels back to the origin of man, where
he beholds him blessed with felicity in his primitive pu-
rity, — then bending under the curse of his transgression,
— now a wretched, aeklep creature, wandering from
clime to clime in a miserable sportary. He visits
the slungly at the "mercy seat," listens to the di-
vine commands; he studies his laws & the institu-
tions which have since been built upon them; long
& thus qualifies himself to preach repentance & sal-
vation to men, in the true spirit of the words of God.
But the Common Lawyer, after ten times, — indeed, it may
be said, in a majority of instances, is cast upon
the study of human law, & strays along the almost
boundless shore of positive enactment, without once
going to the source, & hearing the immutability of
justice; the eternity of nature's fundamental laws.
He is sometimes confined so exclusively to the study
of practice, that he seldom finds opportunity to
trace ^{the} outlines of his profession, & must be contented
to grope through the darkness of the labyrinth,
without drawing one ray from the great body of nat-
ural & moral light.

No doubt men have existed, & been ornaments
to the bar in their day & generation, who commenced the
study of the profession, under the forementioned disadvan-
tages; perhaps greater. But they were Master Spirits.
They were created to soar where no others could fol-
low them; to cast around them a halo from their own divine
ethereal light. If placed at any point upon the great streams
of law, they could with ease ascend to their sources & sur-
vey the mighty issues. Such are many of our contempo-
raries. These, however, are comparatively few. Others there are
who must be taken by the hand, & when the way has been
cleared, led to the fountains to follow the streams steadily
as they flow, before they can hope to obtain a knowledge
of their qualities & the soils they fertilize. When therefore
a youth has passed from his Alma Mater, & is pla-
ced to study the science of Law, he may be presumed
to be destitute of that preparation which must be ac-