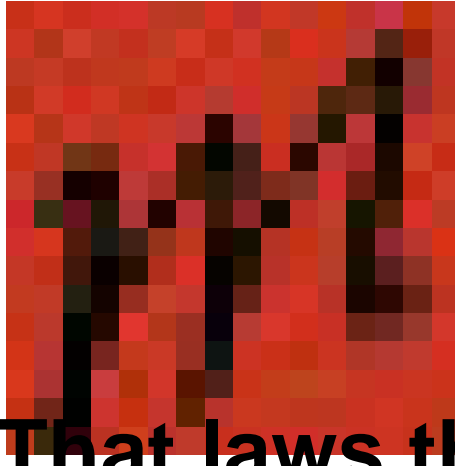


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XXIX.10 That laws that seem contrary sometimes derive from the same spirit

- The Spirit of Law - Book XXIX. On the manner of composing laws -

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XXIX.10 That laws that seem contrary sometimes derive from the same spirit

Today one goes into a man's house to summon him to stand trial ; that could not be done among the Romans. [1]

The call to stand trial was a violent act, [2] and like a sort of corporal constraint [3] ; and you could no more enter a man's house to summon him to trial than you can seize a man today in his house when he is condemned only for civil debts.

Roman laws [4] and ours equally admit the principle that the house of every citizen is his asylum, and no violence must be done to him there.

[1] Law 18 following *In jus vocando*.

[2] See the law of the Twelve Tables.

[3] *Rapit in jus* (Horace, *Satire* 9). That is why one could not call to judgment those to whom one owed a degree of respect.

[4] See law 18 following *In jus vocando*.