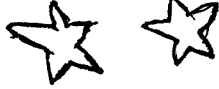


LAWS OF ENGLAND

BY

SIR WILLIAM BLACKSTONE, KT.,

1 Meaning of "a right." Jurisprudence is specifically concerned only with such rights as are recognized by law and enforced by the power of a state. We may therefore define a "legal right," in what we shall hereafter see is the strictest sense of that term, as a capacity residing in one man of controlling, with the assent and assistance of the state, the actions of others. That which gives validity to a legal right is, in every case, the force which is lent to it by the state. Anything else may be the occasion, but is not the cause, of its obligatory character.



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