

wrong comes to be applicable. It is not at that point, when the appetites or affections of our nature solicit from the will a particular movement; neither is it at that point, when either a rational self-love or a sense of duty remonstrates against it. It is not at that point when the consent of the will is pleaded for, on the one side or other—but, all-important to be borne in mind, it is at that point when the consent is given. When we characterise a court at law for some one of its deeds—it is not upon the urgency of the argument on one side of the question, or of the reply upon the other, that we found our estimate; but wholly upon the decision of the bench, which decision is carried into effect by a certain order given out to the officers who execute it. And so, in characterising an individual for some one of his doings, we found our estimate, not upon the desires of appetite that may have instigated him on the one hand, or upon the dictates of conscience that may have withstood these upon the other—not upon the elements that conflicted in the struggle, but on the determination that put an end to it—even that determination of the will, which is carried into effect by those volitions, on the issuing of which, the hands, and the feet, and the other instruments of action, are put into instant subserviency.

—“a wish is properly the desire of a man who is sitting or lying still; but an act of the will is a man of business vigorously going about his work.”