## THE PROVINCE OF LAW IN DISTINCTION FROM THAT OF TRUTH: A SERMON DELIVERED BEFORE THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENTS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS AT THE ANNUAL ELECTION; PP. 7-53

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# **B. F. CLARK**

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THE PROVINCE OF LAW IN DISTINCTION FROM THAT OF TRUTH.

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## SERMON

#### DELIVERED REFORE THE

Executive and Legislative Departments

OF THE

GOVERNMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS,

#### AT THE

## ANNUAL ELECTION,

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 6, 1869.

Benjammer By B. F. <u>C</u>LARK.

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## Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

#### IN SENATE, January 14, 1869.

ORDERED, That a Committee be appointed to present the thanks of the Senate to the Rev. BENJAMIN F. CLARK, for the able discourse delivered before the Executive and Legislative branches of the Government of the Commonwealth, on the 6th instant, and to request a copy of the same for publication.

Messes. DEAN, HATHAWAT and SMITH are appointed said Committee.

#### S. N. GIFFORD, Clerk.

#### IN SENATE, January 18, 1869.

The Committee appointed by Order of the Senate of January 14, to present the thanks of the Senate to the Reverend Benjamin F. Clark; for the able discourse delivered before the Executive and Legislative branches of the Government of the Commonwealth, on the 6th instant, and to request a copy of the same for publication, report that they have attended to that duty, and herewith present a copy of Mr. Clark's discourse and recommend that it be printed.

# Per order,

#### BENJAMIN DEAN, Chairman.

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SENATE, January 18, 1869.

Accepted.

S. N. GIFFORD, Clerk.

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NOTE .- A few pages, omitted in the delivery, are added in the printed Sermon.

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## SERMON.

#### I. Тімотич, і. 8.

BUT WE KNOW THAT THE LAW IS GOOD, IF A MAN USE IT LAWFULLY.

The Lord Jesus Christ was a reformer. As the light of the world, he came to dissipate moral darkness, and to show men the truth, through the agency of which they might be freed from the controlling power of sin, and made holy. His mission to earth included another work inseparably connected with that of reform, a work finished upon the cross, where he tasted death for every man, whose redemption it purchased, and whom it placed in a salvable state. In his work of reform, . the great teacher employed the truth. He reasoned with men. He explained to them his system, and urged its adoption. He clearly described the two ways of life, and their termination, presenting reasons why the one should be chosen, and the other rejected. In connection with his teachings he wrought miracles, but he never employed his miraculous power to force men into the right