

**CITIZENSHIP: A BOOK
FOR CLASSES IN
GOVERNMENT AND LAW**

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Citizenship: A Book for Classes in Government and Law by Julius H. Seelye

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JULIUS H. SEELYE

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GOVERNMENT AND LAW**

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A BOOK FOR

CLASSES IN GOVERNMENT AND LAW

BY

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PREFACE.

IN these times when so many are proclaiming that civil government is a burden which ought not to be borne, we cannot too carefully study the basis on which the whole structure of government and law must rest. This little book is designed as a help to such study. I have, therefore, not confined myself in it to the rights and duties of citizens as defined by statutes, though the larger part of the book is given up to these ; but I have sought for a broader view of citizenship as shown by the fundamental principles of society and by the deep groundwork of the human life itself. I do not think the profoundest considerations out of place in an elementary text-book, for even if they are not at first apprehended in their full significance, their light should not be entirely obscured at the outset, and should become more and more apparent as study and years increase. I hope that what I have

written may not be altogether beyond a child's apprehension, nor altogether below the thought of a student much more mature. I have striven to be clear and comprehensive, but at the same time compact, leaving much for the teacher and much also for the pupil to do. A good text-book does not aim to be an exhaustive treatise. It draws its theme in outline. It suggests as well as expresses. It stimulates inquiry. Like a good teacher it points to a way which it does not always pursue. It is good not more for the work which it does for those who use it, than for that which it leaves and leads them to do for themselves.

In the broad view I have taken of citizenship, the term includes both International Law and National Law; and I have considered the former of these two divisions first, believing this to be the more suggestive and fruitful way. If, however, any teacher who may use the book thinks otherwise, he can easily reverse this order for his classes. If his classes are in college, it should be feasible to begin at the beginning and make first a thorough study of the principles laid down in the General Foundation. But it may be better, in classes of an earlier grade, to pass cursorily over these

principles at first, coming back to them for farther study after becoming familiar with their detailed applications in International and National Law. I shall be thankful if what I have written shall lead to a larger reverence for the laws, which, as Sophocles says in the *Antigone* :¹

Live not to-day and yesterday, but evermore,
And no one knows the time when first they came.

AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS,

May, 1894.

¹ οὐ γὰρ τι νῦν γε κἀχθίς, ἀλλὰ δέει ποτὲ
ἰῆ ταῦτα, καὶ οὐδὲς οἶδεν ἐξ ἔσθου ἕφασθαι.

vv. 456, 457.

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