Term: Necessity
Quote: Necessity [Lat. necessitas]: Ger. Nothwendigkeit; Fr. nécessité; Ital. necessità.
(1) The state or condition that cannot be otherwise than it is; that must be just as it is.

(2) The principle in virtue of which the condition of the universe as a whole, or any particular part of it, is rendered, both as to its existence and quality, inevitable. Opposed to both freedom and chance, but especially, in its strictly philosophical use, to chance [...] or contingency. That which has the property of necessity is said to be necessary.

References: DPP 2:143
Date of Quote: 1902
URL: http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-necessity