

Thought of the shyster prompted Lord Brougham to define a lawyer as "a learned gentleman who rescues your estate from your enemies, and keeps it himself."

It is the shyster who was responsible for the riots of 1870 in England, where siege was laid to the Inns of Court, with the intention of exterminating the whole race of lawyers, that "the skin of an innocent lamb might no longer be converted into an indictment."

It is the shyster to whom we largely owe the popular prejudice against lawyers of this day that is exhibited in the flings and alleged jokes of the press and stage. The shyster, with his pursuit of "skinning" friend or foe, adversary and client, with his effort to stir up litigation rather than to avoid it, to lengthen instead of end it, to hunt in place of shunning it, is largely responsible for the present ever-increasing misguided clamour of the people for the recall of judges.

The shyster of the present day is not always the product of dishonesty and viciousness. He is not confined to the breed of ignoramuses and rascals. He develops frequently with the law student, who starts out with good intentions and honest motives, but who fails to learn, observe, and cultivate the ethics of the profession.

The shyster of to-day appears in many varied forms and phases. We have the stupid, lazy shyster, whose chief offence is lack of knowledge and industry. He merely ekes out a living in the scums of the law. He is a disgrace, but not so dangerous as the smart, energetic shyster, who is able to hide his true character and keen enough to succeed.

We have the "ambulance chaser," who hangs around the house of the dead and injured, seeking employment as a tinker does trade. He preys upon corporations, and succeeds, not only in doing great injury to the defendant, but also his other victim, his client, whom he so frequently deprives of any share of the loot. Indeed, the most dangerous of shysters is not the man who himself seeks out his own cases, and stirs up his own litigation without fear or concealment, but it is the one who pretends