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**MOCK LIBEL SUITS**

**A**T the meeting of the New York State Press Association, held recently in Buffalo, Judge Daniels delivered an address on the Libel Law, and incidentally mentioned the nefarious practice, indulged in by some lawyers, of taking up a libel suit and dividing profits. The *Hamilton Herald* commenting on this says:—"It certainly exists in Canada to an extent sufficient to make it an intolerable nuisance to many newspapers that have been put to inconvenience and expense by it without any just cause." It seems unfortunate that lawyers are to be found who are mean enough to take up libel suits which have no show of success, in the hope that the defendant will settle. But how to legislate against such dishonorable procedure, is not easily seen. The editors of this country are at all times open to the possibility of being sued in an action for damages, on account of an alleged libel. But they are also open to be sued for damages for many other supposed offences. To enact that no lawyer shall take up a libel suit in which he is to receive a share of the gains, would seem to interfere with a man's personal liberty, to receive his fee in any manner he pleases. If a client brings a case to a lawyer and says that he is libelled, but has not the money to go on with the case, and the lawyer takes it up, on the understanding that he is to share the gains, how are you going to decide whether he does so justly or unjustly? The non-success of a suit does not always mark it as an unjust case. It may rather be a lack of proof. Consequently the only way seems to be, as the *Herald* points out, to

fight every such suit faithfully and unflinchingly, and crush the hydra which threatens to disturb the journalistic peace of Canada. Moreover, let the editor speak boldly, but not rashly, and having spoken, faithfully uphold what he has said, never allowing himself to be bullied into admitting a mistake.

**THE WAYS OF THE JOB PRINTER**

**A**DVICE is cheap, and consequently we often get it and give it. At times we abhor it, at other times we welcome it; but the enterprising business man always reads it, and is slow to adopt it. We are going to offer a little advice to the job printer, and he is allowed to take it for what it is worth.

When a man comes into your office and tells you that he wants a piece of work done, and he wants it cheap, do not put the price away down and rely on quick, slovenly work to lower the cost and leave you a margin. When he shows that work to a fellow merchant, and the latter remarks that he doesn't care for the job, it will be one chance to a thousand that he will tell him that he got a cut price. Oh no! He will say "So-and-So did it; it ought to be good." You will lose your reputation by such proceeding. Of course, if you do not value your reputation, you need not read any further. This advice is for men who believe in doing good work and have enough manliness, ambition and honor about them to desire to have a reputation for honest work. A cheap job may be turned out that is worth the money, but people will not know the price, and they judge the work by the regular standard.

Again, when you figure on a piece of work and find when the work is being done that you will make nothing on it, do not rush the work out carelessly. Do it well and profit will come from future orders. Never say "It is hardly right but we'll let it go." Once say that to an employee and his worth has gone down ten per cent. If one thing is let go, why not another, will be his thought and the guide of his actions. Nothing will be done properly, when "everything goes." No matter what the cost, every piece of work should be properly and artistically done. Good work pays, and when once you have started to do cheap work you will be at it all your days, that is, until your business breaks down. People may ask you for cheap work, and then growl when you do it for them. You cannot please them, hence it is better to please yourself, or it may be a repetition of the old tale of the old man, his son and the ass. There is something extremely pleasant in having a reputation for good work, because it brings you glory and good prices, it brings you peace and painstaking employees. An honest job is the work of an honest man—his honesty is indicated by his business.