

is in by-paths, and he loveth a cavil better than an argument, and evasion better than an answer. There are two kinds of them; either such as fight themselves, or are trumpeters in a battle to set on others. Had he been a scholar, he would have maintained all paradoxes; if a chirurgeon, he would never have cured a wound, but always kept it raw; if a soldier, he would have been excellent at a siege; nothing but *ejectio firma* would out him. . . . As for the trumpeter barrator, he falls in with his neighbours that fall out, and spurs them on to go to law. A gentleman, who, in a duel, was rather scratched than wounded, sent for a chirurgeon, who, having opened the wound, charged the man with all speed to fetch such a salve from such a place in his study. 'Why,' said the gentleman, 'is the hurt so dangerous?' 'Oh, yes,' answered the chirurgeon, 'if he return not in post haste the wound will cure itself, and so I shall lose my fee.' Thus the barrator posts to the house of his neighbours, lest the sparks of their small discords should go out before he bring them fuel, and so he be broken by their making up. Surely, he loves not to have the bells rung in a peal; but he likes it rather when they are jangled backward, himself having kindled the fire of dissension amongst his neighbours."

And then this great moralist utters a truth that has been proved up to this good day:—

"He lives till his clothes have as many rents as himself hath made dissensions. I wonder any should be of this trade when none ever thrived on it."

It is a fact beyond dispute that no shyster, barrator, or ambulance chaser, by whatever name called, ever thrived long. He has made progress for a while, has amassed snug fortunes at times, but in the end dies a failure and disgrace, having not only ruined his own life, but brought reproach and dishonour upon the profession of the law.

It is the shyster who has made the legal profession the butt of so many puns and sallies, such as Ben Jonson's proposed epitaph of,

"God works wonders now and then;
Here lies a lawyer—an honest man."