

and the privileges conferred upon him by the governing body. His average life, if of a high moral character, adds very materially to the repute of the profession to which he belongs, and if he lowers the tone of that life by misconduct or bad living, he unconsciously lowers his profession in the eyes of respectable men. If all lawyers were immoral in their living, or otherwise disreputable, the Profession would become out-cast and condemned. If they were all upright men, the Profession would stand as the highest and noblest calling in the world. The question is one of degree and comparative standing, and the nearer we individually approach to the ideal, the higher will be the plane reached by the organization of which we form a part.

Another element to be considered is this: How shall we uphold the honour of the Profession, except by uprightness in the practice of it? I am not referring to the matter of uprightness in the sense in which it is used by religious denominations. What is meant is the high sense of honour of each individual, the aggregate of which is crystallized in the words of my subject. What are the objects of the lawyer's calling. Amongst others, there is the conscientious performance of his duty in aiding in the administration of justice and law. There is also the desire to see that no undue advantage is taken as regards others. There are rights due by our Profession to persons other than our own clients. Do we uphold professional honour by sharp practice, or by laying traps for an unwary antagonist to fall into, and by this method seek to advance our case at the expense of an innocent man? If we believe in truth and honesty, are we justified in concealing facts which, if known, might militate against our clients. Are we acting uprightly when we keep a witness hidden, or a fact undisclosed, which we admit would be most important in its bearing on the issue? In other words, should we not all unite in dealing frankly with each other, and with the judges and the public, and lay bare the actual truth, and on that, and that alone, ask that the very right of the issue be determined. We might ask the question,—Why we do not come into court with full disclosure, and many