

failed in one instance, it may have failed before, it may fail again.

Now for the second point:—judicious counsel. In what does this consist? In what should it consist? It is an unwritten law, not only of the barest courtesy, but also of the truest policy, with professional men of all degrees, to shield to the utmost of their ability from unprofessional, and consequently promiscuous, censure, those members who, ill-advisedly, or, through mistake or oversight, have infringed professional customs, or offended professional etiquette, and this, while striving concurrently to remedy professional wrong and eradicate professional misdoing. What do we find the practice with regard to professional inspections? Not tempered reproof, not just criticism in private, not judicious counsel at all, but outspoken and discourteous utterances of disparagement, conveyed to the Department, to the Trustees, who are sometimes only too eager to profit by the error, and to the public generally, already little enough in sympathy with culture and the outlay which culture necessitates.

All this is overstepping the mark with a vengeance. The Inspector, frequently not a better man than the one he undertakes to castigate, loses sight of his position as counsellor and critic, and assumes the dictatorial tone of a potentate, the dogmatic air of an autocrat. This is overstepping the bounds of courtesy, of justice and of freedom. Principals are not slaves; they, too, have opinions, feelings, responsibilities. Inspectors are not irresponsible intellects or infallible criteria. They, too, have equals, and possibly—masters! Wrong is indisputably wrong, and can never be made right. Wrong as wrong should never be tolerated, much less justified, least of all by those deputed to correct wrong; but, wrong has never been rectified by the lash, freedom is

bought, not rapined. Its name is synonymous with recompense, not coercion. To gibbet an individual or an institution before the eyes of an unsympathizing public, or even before the eyes of those who have possibly been taught to esteem the individual, and to look with feelings of respect, if not affection, upon the institution, is unjust, tyrannical, and altogether beyond the pale of the inspectorate. It is an outrage to professional courtesy, and a death-blow to professional liberty. It should not only be discountenanced; it *must* be discontinued.

Lastly, the question of professional assistance; of more substantial aid than counsel, criticism and suggestion; of positive good wrought by personal influence and mediation. It cannot be denied that this aid has sometimes been given. The Inspector as mediator between the Government and the public, as advocate between professional right and public pig-headedness and opposition, has been useful, and that too quite lately. But, if that usefulness is to continue, the thoughtful and earnest Inspector will see that the surest way to maintain the standard of usefulness is to maintain the standard of trust, of forbearance, of professional sympathy and respect. Decay and dissolution ever commences from within. The citadel true to itself, will often repel the onset of inimical hosts. The history of National decline has oftenest been written in the blood of self-immolation, or in that shed at the altars of corruption and treachery at the hands of a hierarchy true to naught but self-indulgence and a lie. Disparage the scholastic calling openly, and the people will soon learn to believe the calumny. The unprofessional public will be neither unwilling nor unready to further the cause of distraction, the cackling of geese in this instance will not save