

all but one in Monroe's; all in John Quincy Adams'. Since John Quincy Adams every secretary of state has been trained for the Bar. Of the thirty-six secretaries of the treasury all but four have studied law. Of thirty-five postmaster-generals all but eight have received a legal training. Twenty-seven, nearly two-thirds, of the secretaries of war, and eight of the secretaries of the navy, have been educated to the Bar, and while the former post has been occupied by eight army officers, only one of the latter officials was ever at sea. In the first Senate seventeen of twenty-nine were lawyers, and half the House. In the twentieth House four-fifths had studied law, In the thirtieth, three-fourths of the Senate and three-fourths of the whole Congress were lawyers; in the fiftieth, four-fifths of the senators and two-thirds of the whole number; in the fortieth, forty-nine senators and one hundred and fifty-four representatives had studied law. After Washington none but lawyers occupied the presidency until Harrison, and since, all but Taylor, Johnson, and Grant have been lawyers. All but four of the twenty-two vice-presidents have been lawyers. Mr. Cock also shows that in the earliest days most of the lawyers were men of liberal education, culture and travel, but of the presidents and vice-presidents only about half have been college graduates. He also shows that few of the secretaries of state have had any experience in diplomacy, and few of the secretaries of the treasury have had any experience in finance. There has been an increasing proportion of self-educated men in the later Congresses. He concludes: "There are signs that this virtual monopoly in national politics is gradually disappearing. The unprecedented development of science and industry during the past fifty years has caused the growth of special departments of law, offering extraordinary rewards for their practice, and thus lessening the attractiveness of politics. Often the adoption of a legal specialty opens the way, not to the Senate of the United States, but to the management of a vast corporation and to the possession of great wealth. Sometimes these objects are reconciled, and the Senate, as before, becomes the ultimate goal. In fact, wealth has long since asserted herself by the side of legal knowledge as the nurse of statesmen, and the millionaire sits with the lawyer in the halls of Congress. . . . Nevertheless the lawyer must retain an important influence in national affairs; and that influence when properly exerted is a great conservative force. As DeTocqueville has well pointed out, a large part of political questions in the United States are passed upon sooner or later by the legal profession; and the habit of consulting precedent begets 'the stationary spirit of legal men and their prejudices in favour of existing institutions.' It fell mainly to them to constitute and establish the government of the United States. Guided by that spirit they have adjusted the political experience of the Anglo-Saxon race to the modified conditions of a new world, and the excellence of their work will ever deserve a grateful recognition."

DISCHARGE OF SURETY.—The important case of *The Mayor and Corporation of Durham v. Fowler*, reported recently in the *Law Times* and in this month's number of the *Law Journal*, possesses additional interest in this country by reason of its bearing on the Irish cases of *McAlden v. McMullen* and *Lawder v.*