

While the adviser may have had honest convictions that the client had a good case—and may have so interpreted his authorities—still instances are all too common in which fruitless and costly litigation is entirely due to the deliberately unprofessional conduct of the lawyer, whose only aim, seemingly, is to line well his pocket with fat fees. Nothing, however, is more common than for clients to tell their lawyer what he naturally supposes to be the true facts of a case as to which they desire an opinion, or on which they take proceedings. He of course acts on the information he receives, but very frequently the latter finds that the client has either intentionally or otherwise mis-stated the case. Some persons contend that more lies are told to lawyers by their clients than the lawyers tell for their clients. The result is that the lawyer is blamed because he failed, when he would probably not have failed had the facts been correctly stated to him.

The young man just starting law and with a reputation to make is sometimes tempted to err in the manner referred to. The anxiety for his first brief has led him to encourage a suit the unlabeled end to which is not a matter of much doubt, even to his inexperienced mind, and he has let slip the precious opportunity of creating a favorable impression as to his honesty. We have heard it said that there are, too, some eminent counsel whose mercenary motives have led them into such indiscretions, but these instances surely are extremely rare, if they exist. It is difficult to associate eminence with practices of this nature. Lawyers, as a class, are as honest as any other men. They are schooled to know what is honest and right, and their opportunities to deceive are very great; but, as a rule, we should trust them as a class as readily as those we call the "honest yeomen" of the country, whose ideas are, in many cases, trained in a narrow groove. It is that class more frequently known as the shyster lawyer at whose door this charge is most commonly laid—a come-into-my-parlor-said-the-spider-to-the-fly-lawyer. A scheming client may find use for him, but he is to be avoided by all honest men. If a man must have law, which is uncertain and expensive at best, let him secure the services of those who live reputably by it. They are valuable, and cannot, at times, be dispensed with. You will then be reasonably sure of being well advised for, or against, litigation, and the chances for the dividing assunder of households, the estrangement of friends and neighbors, reduced to a minimum. With the shyster, so-called, you are not sure of anything—but his bill. It is a question for consideration whether the overcrowding of the profession does not tend to increase the evil. True, the survival of the fittest no doubt holds good here as in other callings, still there seems to be a certain percentage of barnacles determined to live by fair means or foul. These unprincipled persons are not desirable members of the community, and experience proves that they are capable of doing much more mischief than is usually perpetrated by the ordinary layman.

TORONTO TRADE FIGURES.

A comparison of the imports for July last with the same month in 1890, shows an increase in favor of this July of \$171,171, the totals being \$1,894,257 and \$1,723,086 respectively. There is to be noticed an increase in the item of sugars, etc., an increase that can be accounted for by the recent tariff legislation on this article. None of the other headings appear to call for special comment. We append our usual list:—

IMPORTS.		
	July, 1891.	July, 1890.
Cotton goods	\$ 99,858	\$ 75,506
Fancy goods.....	58,730	50,675
Hats and bonnets	14,675	14,641
Silk goods	105,889	126,703
Woolen goods	369,993	334,238
Total dry goods.....	\$649,145	\$601,763
Books and pamphlets	\$ 32,791	\$34,476
Coal, bituminous	50,435	26,311
Coal, anthracite	140,249	135,514
Drugs and medicines	19,744	15,949
Earthen and stoneware ..	25,160	17,336
Fruit, green and dried....	21,429	16,412
Glass and glassware.....	33,736	34,349
Iron and steel goods	128,728	139,704
Jewellery and watches	8,150	28,826
Lead and brass goods	20,694	10,278
Leather goods	18,771	21,098
Musical instruments	15,750	11,400
Paints and colors	15,099	9,385
Paper goods	37,745	31,070
Spirits and wines	9,089	9,267
Sugars, syrups, etc.	25,136	3,089
Wood goods	18,040	18,329

Our exports of Canadian products for the past month are not so large by \$31,785 as those of the corresponding July in 1890. The differences may be seen from the following table:—

EXPORTS.		
	July, '91.	July, '90.
Produce of	\$ 29	\$
The Mine.....
" Fisheries.....	51,208	74,816
" Forest	175	22,913
" Field	80,629	62,847
Animals and their produce	46,374	50,069
Manufactures
Total Can. products....	\$178,410	\$210,145

OVER BUYING.

An observant traveller recently returned from a trip to the far west, has noticed that the stocks carried by dry goods and general dealers out there appear, in the majority of cases, to be much heavier than is the rule in this province, and apparently the trade to be done or the capital employed is larger than is warranted by the extent of the trade to be done or the capital employed. This was almost a necessity some years ago, when railroad and steamboat transportation in this newer country was so infrequent as to compel a merchant to lay in a goodly store at one time to carry him until the next opportunity for replenishing. The custom cannot, however, be excused on such grounds now. A trader can have the goods on his shelves in a few days after ordering. He can "sort up" as frequently as he pleases. Perhaps this undesirable feature of storekeeping by our western friends is being perpetuated from sheer force of long habit. We know that the best governed wholesale firms discourage such a practice by Ontario merchants, and evidences are not wanting that their efforts are gradually bearing fruit. Buyers are beginning to realize that there is every advantage in purchasing fre-

quently—as their needs demand. The stock is always fresher. There is less likelihood of a surplus of unseasonable goods, and slaughter prices to get ready cash when there's an inopportune bill to meet. The general liability is always smaller, and the position of the man who buys in this way is consequently far more likely to be one of ease than if he tried to anticipate the wants of his customers for a whole season in advance. A failure now and then gives point to this argument. The insolvent was caught with a large stock when trade was dull. His tempting inducements in the shape of big discounts at clearing sales only put off the evil day, and failure came at last. But we are told that the tendency to overstock shows some really gratifying indications of being brought under proper control. It certainly is a question demanding the best consideration of wholesaler and retailer. It is one on which this journal has long harped, and, we are glad to be assured, not without some result. We trust those enterprising people out west will not be slow to give this matter serious thought. It must be clear to all concerned that a practice fraught with so much menace to success in trade is one which should be discontinued without delay.

PATRIOTISM AND TRADE.

The city of Detroit is ablaze with patriotism this week. It is the scene of the periodical reunion of the Grand Army of the Republic. This is a great occasion, and even so large a city as Detroit is put to its wits' end to accommodate the fifty thousand or more visitors it implies. Arches, bunting, fireworks and music attest the welcome of the City of the Straits to its country's heroes. Across the river the town of Windsor shows its friendly spirit by erecting a handsome arch and by a plentiful display of stars and stripes alongside its own national flag. Some hundreds, if not thousands, of the G. A. R. veterans or their accompanying friends are being accommodated with sleeping quarters in Windsor, we believe. Some of the good people of that town are not exactly pleased to see so many "Yankee flags" about, and are even doubtful whether there may not be just a trifle of disloyalty in Canadians making so much of such an occasion. We think they may be quite easy on that score. These were brave men who fought in their country's cause, and it cannot do us any possible harm to make them welcome. Indeed this appears to be the view taken by the Windsor shopkeepers, who hang out banners bearing "WELCOME G. A. R.," "COME AND SEE OUR STOCK OF DRY GOODS AND MILLINERY," "TRY OUR CANADIAN ALE." One commercial humorist, however, combined loyalty with his display of bunting, for he had on a long streamer: "THIS IS CANADA; GOD SAVE THE QUEEN." According to the *Evening News*, the shopkeepers of Detroit are enterprising in the same direction. That journal says editorially:

"The veterans of the Grand Army who are with us this week cannot fail to notice the extreme patriotism of our shopkeepers and proprietors of places of refreshment, as exhibited in the decorations they have thrown to the breeze this week. How must it stir the heart of the crippled soldier who laboriously pines on a single limb along our city streets to behold