

Another cause of the *decadence* of "students at law," is traced by A SYMPATHISER, to the parents of some, (honest trades-people who have acquired some money,) determining that their sons shall study the law, without any regard to their mental capacity, or their improvement, and thinking their credit requires them to support them in maintaining a dashing exterior, consider that as sufficient.

Yet no avenue to honour and fortune ought to be closed against the aspiring youth, however low his origin, or however depressed (not degraded) by circumstances of poverty and station. Nor ought any taunts or sneers on those accounts to be indulged in at his expense, provided that along with the station he can also acquire the manners of a gentleman; that his industry, application to business, and genius, are adequate to the pursuit he is engaged in; and that he is not ashamed of his origin, and does not assume any airs of pride, or consequence, either arising from consciousness of his own progress, or from an idea of the comparative elevation of the situation into which he has been lifted. With this view of the subject I give insertion (in part and with some corrections) to a letter from one who is evidently a very young man, but possessing both talents and ingenuity, which when developed by application, and kept in check by prudence, and a proper degree of diffidence, may enable him to outshine his competitors who are more fortunate in point of birth and circumstances.

30th August.

MR. MACCULLOH,

As your maxim is "open to all and influenced by none," I beg permission to have a word with Mr. Quilldriver, who seems in a terrible quandary how to support the very elevated rank of a