

a friend. Otherwise, it might have remained a secret only known to a few. Still, when his communication is examined closely by an experienced eye, there is a friendliness and a mental independence discovered, which, far from being censurable, is worthy of all admiration and imitation.

But—to the point. Not giving full scope to the reflections naturally arising from the remarks and suggestions of our friend, we may simply advert to the grand difference between the *position* and *intention* of our *Witness*, and a witness summoned in our common courts. In the first place, our *Witness* has given no pledge respecting the *extent* of its testimony. So long as it transgresses not the righteous bounds of truth, its character, in reference to its position, is maintained. The witness before a judge and jury occupies the position of a perjured man, if he tells not the whole truth, every syllable he knows, concerning the case requiring his testimony. In the second place, the lawyer, and the interests of law, are *distinct from* and frequently *contrary to* the witness summoned.—Now, our *Witness*, law, lawyer, and interests, are blended, unique, and inseparable: for our Periodical is all *Witness*, and our *Witness* is all Periodical, and our Periodical and *Witness* is all law, lawyer, and interest. And with regard to intentions, we know of a truth that the Lawyers, whom our correspondent has justly pictured in satire, more frequently than otherwise call up, examine, and puzzle their witnesses for the purpose of giving scope to their ingenuity and oratory, and withal to enlarge and enrich their purses. But if we have been honest in the description of the position we occupy, our intentions, to say the least, are better.

There is one thing however in which the Lawyers should be imitated. They always act in character, or *according to their profession*. No class of people are more exemplary in this respect. They are trained for the ministry of legal artifice; and they sell their learning, time, and talents for a given amount in pounds, shillings, and pence. They put up their abilities and official dignity at auction, and dispose of them to the highest bidder. Could we then, omitting their numerous sins, copy their example in always acting agreeably to our profession, having professed to be the Disciples and followers of Christ, we would not only enjoy the real “fruits of righteousness,” but make friends and brethren throughout the whole community.

Judging that it is the part of prudence not to speculate upon the good or evil qualities of the “so-called disciples,” we shall neither confirm nor weaken the reports to which our friend has alluded, but allow them to die or live by their future fortunes.—The public ear will more readily receive what we say, and we can speak with the greater emphasis, when our character is more fully developed.

CONDUCTOR.