

a good fight. Instances occur, of course, where there is some insurmountable, but not apparent, obstacle in the way of an adjustment, and where costs increase with surprising persistence, but even such examples are the exception and one is glad to believe and is justified in believing that where there are no settlements it is because no way of making a fair arrangement occurs to the parties. It is with the latter cases, however, that these remarks have most to do. Often the feelings of the litigants are the chief obstacle in the way. They are angry; and dramatically assert that they are fighting for "principle" and that they will spend their "last cent" in order to prove what a rascal their opponent is. In most of such cases, there is nothing for it but to begin action and let it continue until time and the costs of suit assist that sober second thought which generally comes to people in a temper. It may be remarked in passing that it often accelerates the arrival of a more judicial frame of mind to ask the gentleman who is going to spend his last cent in vindicating his position, for a substantial sum on account of costs before issuing the writ; and it is surprising how often the immediate payment of one hundred dollars will deter the rash litigant who has just announced his intention of staking all his substance upon the correctness of his views. Lawyers generally recognize and are entitled to insist that their judgment is better than the inflamed opinion of their client, and that it is their duty to find out some way of adjusting his quarrel even though the latter thinks that his opponent should be visited with the extreme rigour of the law.

There are some classes of cases which almost call for an apology from the solicitor who is concerned in them and which at least, it is his duty at all times to be ready to explain and defend to a demonstration. Those are cases of quarrels between relatives or cases in which bad feeling or some one's stupidity is unnecessarily encroaching upon an estate or some fund which is in dispute. The mere fact that whoever else may profit, the solicitor gets a larger share of the fund the more proceedings there are taken, at once puts the latter upon the defensive, and