

formity has been brought about in many commercial and social branches of the law, and by no means the least of its achievements has been the bringing about of cordial intercourse among the widely separated members of our own common profession, which has enriched the lives of its members with friendships they would not willingly forego. To the young lawyer the Association has given the inestimable privilege of close intimacy with the veteran leaders that would otherwise have been impossible, and thus has carried on the traditions as no other agency could have done. The standard of legal education has been raised; the law schools have been brought into harmonious co-ordination and a code of ethics all but universally accepted, shows the pitfalls to be avoided, and the ideals to be cherished by all who aspire to the honors and respect of their brethren of the robe.

It has been well said that the law is the most democratic of professions. However adventitious advantages of birth or wealth may affect other callings, there is but one aristocracy recognized here. It is that of learning, character and intellect. The glorious prizes are in the grasp of those only 'who scorn delights and live laborious days,' whose aspirations are content with selfless devotion to the cause of justice. I often think of the fine tribute paid by Mr. Justice Holes to a Massachusetts judge whom he depicts as caring nothing that his work should be labelled with his name. It was reward enough to know that he had added now and then a stone to the pyramid of the law. The desire for posthumous fame is implanted in most of our hearts. To obtain it, men face death with cheerfulness. Although we know how evanescent it must be, still we strive for it. Yet to the lawyer, unless he had had the rare opportunity of a Mansfield or a Marshall, it must be known that his 'name is writ in water' so far as posterity will remember him. 'He is forever climbing up the climbing wave.' The edifice of learning erected about each case crumbles when it is ended. What then is the attraction of the law? Does it not consist in the great satisfaction of aiding the cause of order, and the application of the principles of justice by his ministry? Besides the satisfaction of a self-approving conscience, what human reputation can be compared?