

absolutely essential to the usefulness of an attorney that he be entitled to the confidence of the community wherein he practices. If he so conducts in his profession that he does not deserve that confidence, he is no longer an aid to the Court, nor a guide to his clients. A lawyer needs, indeed, to be learned. It would be well if he could be learned in all the learning of the schools. There is nothing to which the ingenuity of man has been turned that may not become the subject of his inquiries. Then, of course, he must be especially skilled in the books and the rules of his own profession. He must have prudence and tact to use his learning, and foresight and industry and courage. But all these may exist in a moderate degree, and yet he may be a creditable and useful member of the profession, so long as the practice is to him a clear and honest function. But possessing all these faculties, if once the practice becomes to him a mere 'brawl for hire,' or a system of legal plunder where craft and not conscience is the rule, and where falsehood and not truth are the means by which to gain his ends, then he forfeits all right to be an officer in any court of justice or to be numbered among the members of an honorable profession."

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The journalistic energy of some of our American exchanges is remarkable, and of course many excellent publications is the re-

sult. The Chicago Law Journal, always a valuable journal, is about to increase its usefulness by the addition of an index to all current legal literature. The vastness and comprehensiveness of the scheme will be realized when it is stated that it will include references to all articles, papers, correspondence, annotated cases and biographies appearing in the journals and reports published in America, England, Scotland and Ireland; and also such important articles in the leading scientific and literary periodicals as treat of matters pertinent to the practice of the law. The usefulness of such an index will be very great; and we shall take care that the future numbers of the Chicago Law Journal are carefully preserved.

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Our Virginia contemporary, "The Bar," has adopted as a standing paragraph on the cover the following appropriate sentences, which breathe a spirit that may well be the inspiration of a legal publication:

"Attorney and client are the terms of a relation. Human beings in all their variety of moral significance, when in need of a lawyer, match themselves up with lawyers of corresponding moral worth. Thus the bar must be most heterogeneous in order to supply the demand of the morally much diversified litigating public, and a lawyer who has practiced long enough to have his character known will finally have