

business outside of court rooms—he took advantage of them and bought and sold property. “I have never realized,” said Judge Shipman, “what a help it is to have a good counsel in matters of deeds and settlement of business matters until yesterday. Such men are valuable partners in a firm’s business. I have just settled an estate or found it all settled by a joint deed which left a fine property to the wife without any court proceedings—simply by looking ahead in season.”

These two men have grown eminent and well-off by kind, fair, and ingenious treatment of clients—many others drive away custom by overcharging and carelessness. If the example of the first named is a lesson, it is certainly a wise one. But every one must use his own weapons. One may be small, like Spurgeon—then let him be as earnest, and he will approach this wonderful speaker. Another may be plain and practical, with few gifts of oratory or eloquence—such men are more useful as judges or corporation counsel. Still another may be poor and just struggling for a foot-hold—let him use the ladder of integrity, for it will soon bear him higher, while the quality of his work, the extent of his acquaintance, must influence his business. It may be he can form in the procession by joining a firm, and watching for an opening. If ingenious and determined, that will help him. Let him make an honest measure of his ability and go forward on the right road in confidence.

Practice is always precarious, for a few years at least, and never afterwards, if one is prepared for it. It is the beginning that counts in law, letters, or farming. As a tree grows larger from all branches, so law business increases by the good name given you by your clients. Live and labor for a good name and you will find it a fee, a retainer, and a fortune. Don’t give up too easily. In your section—in the great Northwest, are firms forming contracts to make, wills to draw, men to defend, money to handle. Mingle with the world with frankness—the friendly will have friends everywhere—and success depends on how many you can grapple to you with hooks of steel. Every man that gives you a good name is a client.—*J. W. Donovan.*

LORD CHIEF JUSTICE COLERIDGE ON THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

At the Cutlers’ Feast, recently, Lord Coleridge, C.J., responding to the toast of the “Houses of Parliament,” is reported to have made the following observations:—I thank you heartily for the gracious and cordial reception which you have been pleased to give to my name. But why I have been selected on the present occasion to return thanks for the toast which the Master Cutler has assigned to me, passes my imagination to conceive. I have always understood that the House of Lords represents, or is supposed to represent, what is called the principle of hereditary legislation. Now what exactly that principle is I will confess to you that from a very early period of my life I have never been able to comprehend, unless, indeed, it does rise to the dignity of a principle that persons should be intrusted with the lawful and sacred power of making laws for one of the greatest and most magnificent empires upon which the sun has ever shone, not only when nobody knows that they are fit for it, but when everybody oftentimes knows that they are perfectly unfit for it. But whatever the principle may mean, I am no example of it. For in this single respect I am like Burke. I was not, as he said of himself, “Swathed and dandled into a legislator.” I did not inherit the peerage, and I have gathered that a large section of the constituency of this great town of Sheffield is prepared to abolish the House of Lords, and, I suppose, me with it. Furthermore, as during the thirteen years which have passed away since I first entered into that ancient and august assembly, I cannot remember one single solitary occasion upon which, upon any party and political question, I have had the good fortune to vote in the majority in that House, and as for five years before that time I was the law officer to a government which had not the good fortune to agree with the majority in that House either, I cannot be expected in candor to speak with fanatical or even enthusiastic admiration of the course which their Lordships have thought fit to pursue in the last twenty years. But I am