

not a desirable professional reputation to live and die with, that of a rough tongue, which makes a man to be sought out, and retained to gratify the malevolent feelings of a suitor in hearing the other side well lashed and vilified. Treat your opponent with civility and courtesy, and if it be necessary to say severe things of him or his witnesses, do it in the language, and with the bearing of a gentleman.

The practitioner owes to his client, with unshaken fidelity, the exertion of all the industry and application of which he is capable to become perfect master of the questions at issue, to look at them in all their bearings, to place himself in the opposite interest, and to consider and be prepared as far as possible, for all that may be said or done on the contrary part. The duty of full and constant preparation, is too evident to require much elaboration. It is better, whenever it is possible to do so, to make this examination immediately upon the retainer, and not to postpone it to later stages in the proceedings. The opportunity is often lost of ascertaining facts, and securing evidence, from putting off till too late, the business of understanding thoroughly all that it will be necessary to adduce on the trial. In this way, a lawyer will attain what is very important, that his client may be always prepared, as well as himself, have his attention alive to his case, know what witnesses are important, and keep a watch upon them, so that their testimony may not be lost, and upon the movements of his adversary, lest he should at any time be taken by surprise. It would be an excellent rule for him, at short stated periods, to make an examination of the record of every case which he has under his charge. It always operates disadvantageously to an attorney in the eyes of those who employ him, as well as the public, when he fails in consequence of some neglect or oversight. Frequent applications to the court, to relieve him from the consequences of his inattention, tell badly on his character and business. He may be able to make very plausible excuses; but the public take notice, that some men with large business never have occasion to make such excuses, and that other men with less, are constantly making them. Every instance of the kind helps to make up such a character. A young man should be particularly cautious, and dread such occurrences as highly injurious to his prospects. If he escapes the notice and animadversion of his constituent, and the legal consequences of his neglect, by the intervention of the court, or the indulgence of his opponent, the members of the bar are lynx-eyed in observing such thing. Nothing is more certain, than that the practitioner will find in the long run, the good opinion of his professional brethren of more importance, than that of what is commonly called the public. The foundations of the reputation of every truly great jurist, will be discovered to have been laid here. Sooner or later, the real public endorse the estimate of the lawyer, entertained by the associates of the bar, unless indeed there be some glaring defect of popular qualities. The community know that they are better qualified to judge of a man's legal attainments, than they have the best opportunity of judging, and that they are slow in forming a judgment. The good opinion and confidence of the members of the same profession, like the king's name on the field of battle, is "a tower of strength;" it is the title of legitimacy. The ambition to please the people, to captivate jurors, spectators, and idlers about the court, may lead a young man into pertness, slippancy, and impudence, things which often pass current for talent and ability, with the masses; but the ambition to please the bar, can never mislead him. Their good graces are only to be gained by real learning, by the strictest integrity and honour, by a courteous demeanour, and by attention, accuracy, and punctuality, in the transaction of business.

It may appear like digressing from our subject, to speak of these qualities, attention, accuracy and punctuality, but like the minor morals of common life, they are little rills which at times unite and form great rivers. A life of dishonour and obscurity, if not ignominy, has often taken its rise from the

fountain of a little habit of inattention and procrastination. System is everything. It can accomplish wonders. By this alone, as by a magic talisman, may time be so economized that business can be attended to and opportunities saved for study, general reading, exercise, recreation, and society.—'A man that is young in years,' says Lord Bacon, 'may be old in hours, if he has lost no time.'

NOTICES OF NEW LAW BOOKS.

Elements of International Law, by HENRY WHEATON, L.L.D., Minister of the United States at the Court of Prussia, &c. &c. Sixth Edition, with the last corrections of the Author, and additional Notes, containing a notice of Mr. WHEATON'S *Diplomatic Career*, by WILLIAM BEACH LAWRENCE, formerly Chargé D'Affaires of the United States, at London. Boston: Little, Brown & Co. 1855.

The high position which the late Mr. Wheaton occupied in the Diplomatic world, the frequent embassies in which he was engaged, and the study of the Law of Nations, to which he devoted his lifetime, would of themselves be a sufficient guarantee of the value of the Work we have just received; but when to this is added the fact of this, the sixth edition, being edited by Mr. W. B. Lawrence, the late United States Minister to the Court of St. James, together with the addition from his pen of Notes and Emendations, and of a Biographical Memoir of the Author, a further value is added to the book, and to those interested in the subject, or whose pursuits in any way lead them to the contemplation of International or Constitutional jurisprudence, this will be found a most valuable Work. Being the cotemporary of Chancellors Kent and Walworth, and of Mr. Justice Story, and their personal friend, the high estimate which those celebrated Lawyers held of the talents of Mr. Wheaton, and of his publication, is given in several instances in Mr. Lawrence's Biography: nor is it confined to them alone, many others speaking to the same effect, and amongst them the *English Times* and *Edinburgh Review*, the former of which has stated, "We cannot mention the name of Henry Wheaton without a passing tribute to the character, the learning, and the virtues of a man, who, as a great international lawyer, leaves not his like behind."

Much interest attaches to the biography by Mr. Lawrence. Whilst purporting to detail the course and incidents of Mr. Wheaton's life, as an author, an antiquarian, and diplomatist, it forms an interesting sketch of the political state of Europe from the year 1805 to the present time, from which much information may be acquired: but we must at the same time mention that there is nevertheless, throughout his remarks, a pervading tone of jealousy towards Great Britain, and a desire to impute, in several instances, the improper management—nay, even the violation of treaties, by England, which, to say the least, is in bad taste, and must detract from his merits as an author, ex-minister, and statesman.

The work has been some time in the press. The period of its issue is rather felicitous, as during the present war between the allied forces of Great Britain and France with Russia,