

I am not an accomplished lawyer. I find quite as much material for a lecture, in those points where I have failed, as in those where I have been moderately successful.

The leading rule for the lawyer, as for the man of every other calling, is diligence. Leave nothing for to-morrow, which can be done to-day. Never let your correspondences fall behind. Whatever pieces of business you have in hand, before stopping, do all the labor pertaining to it, which can then be done. When you bring a case upon the bar, if you have the facts for doing so, write the declaration at once. If a law point be involved, examine the books, and note the authorities you rely on, upon the declaration itself, when you are sent to find it when wanted. The same of defenses and pleas. In business not likely to be litigation - ordinary collection cases, foreclosures, partitions, and the like - make all examinations <sup>and note that</sup> of titles, and even draft orders and decrees in advance. The course has a twofold advantage,

it avoids omissions and neglect, saves you labor when once done, performs the labor out of court when you have leisure, rather than in court, when you have not.

Extemporaneous speaking should be practiced and cultivated. It is the lawyer's avenue to the public. However able and faithful he may be in other respects, people are slow to bring him business, if he can not make a speech. And yet there is not a man fatal ever to young lawyers, then relying too much on speech-making. If any one, upon his rare occasions of speaking, shall claim an exemption from the drudgery of the law, his case is a failure in advance.

~~Never discourage~~ <sup>discourage</sup> litigation. Persuade your neighbors to compromise whenever you can. Point out to them how the monstrous evil is often a real loss, in fees, expense, and waste of time. As a peace-maker, the lawyer has a superb opportunity, if being a good man. There will still be business enough.