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It is not to be denied that of late years the prosecution of that branch of the profession known as "Criminal Law," has fallen somewhat into disrepute. Whether it is the attraction of the intricate questions which arise in the vast complexity of modern business, with their added opportunities for the display of talent and learning and the larger fees attendant on their solution, which has drawn the more subtle minds from the ranks of the criminal to those of the corporation lawyers; or whether it is an increase in that class of practitioners which has always flourished in our city courts, feeding on the daily influx of wretchedness, with an eye more to the end than the means of acquitting their client, which has been the cause of this, we are unable to judge. Perhaps both have combined to bring about the present result which presents, among many others, two questions for consideration. Is it right that such a situation exists? Can it be remedied? This feeling of distaste for the criminal side of the law is, we think, largely one of prejudice, fostered by preconceived notions of the average criminal lawyer, started perhaps by the types presented in novels or current newspaper witticisms. The man who is hand in glove with his depraved clients is only anxious to assist his "pals" to escape justice that he may collect his fees. What a different character should be the true, conscientious criminal lawyer. A man of the law, fighting against the crimes which endeavor to subvert society, spending his life in exposing and denouncing the wrongdoer and in defending and protecting

the innocent. Could any calling be nobler or more attractive for one who desires justice, and yet a young lawyer often falters in his decision and chooses that branch for which he is mentally unfitted, on account of his preconceived ideas of "Criminal Practice." The remedy for this prejudice is patent. Let every man whose faculties and temperament best fit him for the criminal court enter the arena, practicing his profession "without fear and without reproach," as a gentleman and a lawyer should, and the police court shyster will be soon swept from his pedestal and the calling of the criminal lawyer raised to that position of respect which it deserves.

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It is unfortunate that the average student enters upon his law school course, which is to occupy two or three of the best years of his life, with so meagre information about the principles of jurisprudence and the requirements of his chosen profession. The evil is two-fold. The future lawyer is handicapped by the mass of verbiage and technicality that obstructs his progress, while the man who has mistaken his calling is wasting valuable time for himself and his class-mates in discovering his mistake. And the school suffers in consequence. What shall be the remedy? To our minds it would seem to be a higher standard of admission, requiring a *thorough* examination in at least some work on elementary law or Blackstone, and secondly a greater uniformity in admission requirements, such as exists among the colleges. A higher standard in the curriculum would naturally follow. All admit that the prospective lawyer should have the best general education he can afford. He should also know enough about the theory and practice of law to decide intelligently whether such an occupation would accord with his tastes and capabilities. A few of the colleges offer elective courses in law that are of assistance in this connection. Some of the law school catalogues suggest courses of preliminary reading that would be helpful if followed. These aids, however, are largely neutralized by the lack of thoroughness and uniformity which prevails. The preparation suggested above would keep out of the profession many who are better fitted for other employments, and would be of great service to the earnest students who have so much to learn in so short a time.