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J. STERLING MORTON, EDITOR.

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OF POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIOLOGICAL  
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#### LAWYERS AND CLIENTS.

Sometimes, but seldom, in these modern days, lawyers forget that fidelity to clients is the first essential for success in their honorable profession. Even in Nebraska cases are alleged to have been developed showing that attorneys have not been always loyal to their clients. Infidelity of this sort it is reported has been shown where the client was a corporation and had been sued for personal damages by an administrator. The bar of Nebraska numbers some of the ablest lawyers of the United States among its members. And all reputable attorneys hold with Lord Bacon that:

"The greatest trust between man and man is the trust of giving counsel. For in other confidences, men commit the parts of life; their lands, their goods, their children, their credit, some particular affair; but to such as they make their counsellors, they commit the whole; by how much the more they are obliged to all faith and integrity."

Any attorney found guilty of breaking "all faith" and obliterating "integrity" between himself and the client he has sworn to loyally serve ought to be kicked out of court, disbarred and sent to the penitentiary.

#### PLACE AND POWER.

Lord Bacon was a philosopher who thought much and well upon the relation of the individual to the state. No other writer has so lucidly set forth the duties and annoyances of public position; and although these wise words were first written in 1612 and revised in 1625—more than two

hundred and fifty years ago—they are still in vigor and applicable.

"Men in great places are thrice servants; servants of the sovereign or state, servants of fame, and servants of business; so as they have no freedom, neither in their persons, nor in their actions, nor in their times. It is a strange desire to seek power and to lose liberty; or to seek power over others and to lose power over a man's self. The rising unto place is laborious, and by pains, men come to greater pains; and it is sometimes base, and by indignities, men come to dignities. The standing is slippery, and the regress is either a downfall or at least an eclipse, which is a melancholy thing. When you are no longer what you were, you lose interest in life. Nay, retire men cannot when they would, neither will they when it were reason, but are impatient of privateness, even in age and sickness, which require the shadow; like old townsmen, that will be sitting at their street door though they thereby offer age to scorn."

HON. A. J. SAWYER.

It is a sincere pleasure to congratulate Mr. Sawyer upon the efficient and conscientious methods with which he has conducted his office during a period of more than four years. Without reflection upon any of his predecessors, THE CONSERVATIVE, with no fear of successful contradiction, declares that no other United States district attorney for the state of Nebraska ever bestowed so much diligent labor, and earnest, researchful study, upon the discharge of the duties of that important office, and no one ever became a better or more inexorable servitor of justice.

Everywhere in Nebraska Mr. Sawyer has been recognized as an able expounder and defender of the law and a fearless prosecutor of all violators of the law. His services to the country have honored him, honored President Cleveland, for having commissioned him, and honored the great brotherhood of the legal profession.

Somewhere Dickens says of somebody that which it is right and proper to say of A. J. Sawyer:

"He was simply and stanchly true to his duty, alike in the large case and in the small. So all true souls ever are. So every true soul ever was, ever is, and ever will be. There is nothing little to the really great in spirit."

#### SILVER IN HAVANA.

On the 16th of December, 1898, The St. Louis Republic which was, and perhaps is still, an advocate of the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1 in unlimited quantities "without regard to any other nation," published a very lengthy cablegram from L. L. Redding, dated at Havana the day before. In his financial forecast Mr. Redding says:

"It is further announced that Spanish silver will circulate at 50 cents on the dollar, compared with American money, which means that all Spanish silver will be at once returned to Spain. In its place must come American silver. Wage workers here do not have any deeper understanding of the money question than that the silver dollar is to pay for one day's work, and that the pay they must have is the Spanish dollar, now worth 68 cents American money. Sugar planters employing from 600 to 1,000 men each say they will be compelled to give their men American silver when it comes into use here, which means an increase of 30 per cent in the wage scale."

Thus it is shown that silver coin of the United States, maintained at an equality with gold, by taking the place of Spanish silver which is not convertible into gold, or at a parity with gold, will increase wages 30 per cent in Cuba! How can the gold standard ruin and degrade labor in the United States and, at the same time, prosper and exalt labor in Cuba?

#### SEEDS FREE.

The Country Gentleman in a recent issue speaks plainly and forcibly relative to that hoary-headed humbug, the gratuitous distribution of common garden and flower seeds by members of congress and denounces the same as a curse.

"The reason it is a curse is not that it affects seedsmen either beneficially or injuriously, but that it is, *ipso facto*, a perversion. It does not do what it was intended to do—disseminate 'new and rare plants, seeds and bulbs.' Therefore to say that it is good for seedsmen, or that it helps 'to keep alive the interest in gardening and vegetable growing' is hardly an adequate defence. Why not help to keep alive the interest in manufacturing by government distribution of free raw materials?"

And THE CONSERVATIVE adds, why not help to keep alive the interest in the importance and necessity of the preser-