

# The Lawyer

By LOUIS LANDE—of the New York Bar

I am the lawyer.  
I displaced brute force with mercy, justice and equity.  
I taught mankind to respect the rights of others to their property, to their personal liberty, to freedom of conscience, to free speech and free assembly.  
I am the spokesman of righteous causes.  
I plead for the poor, the persecuted, the widow and the orphan.  
I maintain honor in the market place.  
I am the champion of unpopular causes.  
I am the foe of tyranny, oppression and bureaucracy.  
I prepared the way for the Ten Commandments.  
I pleaded for the freedom of the slave in Greece and for the captive in Rome.  
I fought the Stamp Act.  
I wrote the Declaration of Independence and the Rights of Man.  
I defended the slave. I was an abolitionist. I issued the Emancipation Proclamation.  
In every land, in every clime, I punish the wicked, protect the innocent, raise up the lowly and oppose brutality and injustice.  
I fought in every war for liberty.  
I stand in the way of public clamor and the tyranny of the majority.  
I plead for the rich man lest prejudice prevent him from getting justice and I insist that the poor man be accorded all his rights and privileges.  
I seek the equality of mankind, regardless of race, color, caste, sex or religion.  
I hate fraud, deceit or trickery.  
I am forbidden to serve two masters or compromise Justice.  
I am the conservative of the past, the liberal of the present and the radical of the future.  
I believe in convention but I cut the Gordian knot of formalism and red tape to do justice and equity.  
I am the leader of mankind in every crisis.  
I am the scapegoat of the world.  
I hold the rights of mankind in the hollow of my hand, but am unable to obtain recognition of my own.  
I am the pioneer. I am the last to renounce the past and to overturn the present.  
I am the just judge and the righteous ruler.  
I hear before I condemn. I seek the best in everyone.  
I am the Lawyer.