the importance of students acquiring a careful knowledge of the elements of chemical science.

The writer seeks his excuse for touching this subject in the fact that graduates are, as a rule, so sadly deficient in this branch of their curriculum that it seems as if something should be done.

This something ought to be a matter for serious consideration at the colleges.

"RIFLE SHOOTING AS A NATIONAL PASTIME FOR CANADA."

BY W. GEO. BEERS, MONTREAL.

We make no apology for intruding the following paper in a dental journal. Many of our dentists are good shots—some of them crack shots—and all of them should be willing to do their duty to their country in any emergency. The object in view is the organization of non-military clubs in the Dominion—in brief, to make every boy and man a crack shot.

The following paper was delivered before the Victoria Rifles

Reserves Association, Montreal:

In spite of the philosophies and prayers of the Peace Society, war seems to be necessary for the assurance of peace. The peace philosophers have gone on protesting, but the nations go on fighting; while the inventive ingenuity which has improved the implements of peace has intensely developed all instruments and methods of destruction. It is true that the power of a nation depends very largely upon moral influences, but trusting alone in Providence, and not in dry powder, is not even a popular creed with our pretentiously pious friends, the Boers. Therefore, we have not to discuss the philosophies of peace, but the practical facts of war, present or prophetic. The instinct of fighting, which is born in our blood, is nothing nobler, our critics say, than the love of pig-sticking and bull-fighting, and we are credited by some people with the feeling that we would as soon kill a man as a moose, just for the sport in it. However, when war is declared, and it imperils the interests of the peace-maker, he relies no longer upon his pen or his philosophy, but upon the man behind the gun.

Now, in time of war, the chief object of a soldier is to capture