

We copy in this number an article from the *Missouri Dental Journal*, on the subject of "Our Professional Meetings," which we think is so full of plain, homely, good sense, that we have great pleasure in calling the attention of our readers to it, and trust that they will "read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest," and act on the suggestions contained in it.

The meeting will be held in Halley's Hall, corner of Bay and King streets, Toronto, on Tuesday the 7th of June, at 2 P.M., and the election of the new Board will take place at seven o'clock in the evening of the same day. C. S. C.

THE USE OF AMALGAM.

Not long since a dentist of Montreal, by the name of Bowker, who, we understand, entirely ignores all associative and legislative action for the improvement and elevation of the members of our profession, wrote an article to the *Canada Medical Journal*, against the use of amalgam for filling teeth, giving a statement of its chemical proportions, etc., which we considered to be very erroneous in many respects. The general tone of the communication, and the fact that it was sent to a medical instead of a dental journal, for publication, led us to believe that it was written as an advertising dodge for the purpose of securing the patronage of the medical profession in his locality, and had he not stated that the teachers of the Royal College of Dental Surgeons, of Ontario, instructed those who receive their licenses from that institution, to use amalgam in ordinary practice, we should never have thought of noticing his effusion. Even then, we decided not to waste any powder on such small game, and we would not do so now if our Baltimore name-sake had not copied the article from the *Medical Journal*, which might lead some of our American cousins to think that we, in Canada, instead of advancing with the times, were retrograding to the medieval ages. The *Missouri Dental Journal*, in speaking on this subject, says: "As stated by the editor of the *American Journal*, in his review of this article, much that is said about the employment of base metals as a filling for teeth is true, but we prefer to hear from the *Canada Journal of Dental Science* upon this subject, before we shall be satisfied that the Royal College of Dental Surgeons, at Toronto, have recommended it for general use."

We beg to say that the teachers of our Canada College have never "recommended it for general use," or to be used at all except in very extreme cases. We do not entirely and utterly condemn amalgam as some of our confreres do, because we do now and again meet with teeth too frail, or not sufficiently firmly fixed in their sockets, to admit of any but the gentlest handling, where the force necessary to condense gold properly cannot be borne, and under such circumstances we would certainly use amalgam, rather than compel a person to lose a tooth which is of great service for mastication. C. S. C.