

In passing through many of the colleges of our cities and observing their way of doing things, the relation between instructor, demonstrator and student, and the manner of treating their patrons, reminds one of a typical *dental parlor* and the more time devoted to the investigation of those infirmaries the more striking becomes this comparison.

It is the belief of the writer that the old adage, "As the twig is bent so the tree is inclined," can in no place be better applied than right here.

Is it not true that in art, business and the professions students follow the general style of their instructors, or the institutions from which they secured their education. We believe that the greater fault lies in the fact that most of our so-called colleges are conducted in too great a measure as money-making mediums, and since, as a rule the men on the higher rounds of the ladder in the profession are the ones usually connected with those institutions, either as directors or faculty, are responsible for the way in which that institution is conducted.

To this fact is due the reason that so little is being done to improve the condition and raise the standard of education, which is the only way by which we can reach the fulfilment of a desirable code of ethics.

To the same fact may be added the inability to obtain any satisfactory legislation in the way of giving authority to corporations to grant license to individuals to practise dentistry. Hence we have weak colleges scattered all over the land offering any and all kinds of inducements to students to go there and study dentistry, regardless of ability, character or previous conditions of servitude. It is not even necessary to know or understand the language used in the institution. The one thing needful is a certain amount of time and money and a specified amount of operative and mechanical work (representing so much cash). Having fulfilled these few most important requirements, they are furnished with license to practise dentistry. What can we expect from such a condition of things, and who is to blame?

I hope each one here to-night will become interested enough in this subject to formulate some answer for himself. A few of the colleges are, without a doubt attempting to improve these conditions, endeavoring to impress upon the students the fact that they have some honesty of purpose, and aside from giving them the best possible instructions upon the theory and practice of dentistry are also inculcating principles of a higher character, satisfying the requirements of the honorable practitioner.

Advertising in its various forms seems to be the leading evil, to which men resort to lower the standing of the profession. It is not necessary to enumerate the different forms used by each individual,