

to teach. You have received didactic instruction, in this first Dental School in Canada, equal to any you could get on this continent ; and if some features are not as yet made as attainable as in colleges in the United States, remember that one of those foreign schools has just passed its fiftieth year ; that others have had twenty-five, thirty and forty years of existence, as richly endowed institutions in large and populous States. And yet not one of these colleges has so far exacted anything like the high standard of matriculation, or the conditions of studentship demanded of students in Ontario and Quebec. The D.D.S. of Canada so far represents an educational standard as to preliminary examination, only surpassed by the requirements of the Dentists' Act in England ; and if we believe that general cultivation and a liberal education is as necessary to the highest sphere of success in medicine and law, it cannot logically be denied in its application to the highest attainments in dentistry, if our teaching, our associations and our literature are to expand. It is patent to us all that under the primitive system of training students, the profession produced many excellent men ; some whose native genius and ingenuity " burst the bars of invidious birth, and broke the force of circumstance ;" but the future of the profession will be settled on a higher plane, by the preservation, or even the increase of the standard of the admission examination. No fact in connection with education in the medical, dental, law, and even many of the theological schools of the United States, seemed to a Canadian more inexplicable, than the absence, until about twelve years ago, of any sort of preliminary. To such an extent was this neglect carried, that not only were thousands of men graduated as doctors and dentists, ignorant of the most elementary branches of an English education, but up to the last few years, diplomas were conferred upon men of foreign speech, who did not understand one word of the language in which the lectures were delivered. Though our American cousins have not raised the standard of the preliminary to that of Canada and England, we must congratulate them upon the proposed increase in the period of study ; and it will probably not be deemed altogether a breach of the unpretending modesty which in some respects we feel towards the older and more richly endowed United States schools, if we recall the historical fact that the first movement towards the abolition of a pro-