

people than Canada, are necessarily more advanced and practised. In defending our own system, the DOMINION JOURNAL is defending our own self-respect ; but we do not respect one whit the less, as you have fairly shown, the great advances, both in theory and practice and education, made by our good professional brethren in the United States.

Yours,

Toronto.

L.D.S.

Editorial.

Admission to Study Dentistry.

There still exists a wide difference of opinion between the dental educationalists of England and the United States, as to the standard of education required from candidates for entrance to study. It would seem to be inferred, from many contributions in the journals, that, for reasons unknown or not declared, our American cousins, with a population of 60,000,000, with richly-endowed universities, a superior system of common-school education, a marvellous supply of literary and scientific institutions, magazines and papers, are not prepared to raise the matriculation to the standard required in Britain and in Canada. The editor of the *International Journal*, in the March issue, remarks, "It is questionable whether the profession are ready to advance this beyond what is regarded as a good English education, and we are not sure that it would be advisable at the same present time, but it is an additional reform that must come. We can have no sympathy with the methods adopted in England and on the Continent in this respect, and do not believe that the high standard there required can ever be adopted in this country, as far as dentistry is concerned. In order to meet its demands, a young man's best years are sacrificed to the attainment of information which, while in itself of great value, is utterly useless in a practical profession such as ours must ever remain. The change, if any be made, must be made to a slightly higher standard."

Why should not the ranks of dentistry be drawn from the higher educated class of the community? Why not from the universities in preference to the common schools? It may be argued that some of the best men in our profession had a very limited education. It may also be stated, as a fact, that some of them had no education at all. But it will not be pretended that a low standard of education is a *sine qua non* of professional aptitude, or that a classical and mathematical education is a bar to success. If the preliminary examination at present demanded, would have shut out some of those who have honored our ranks for many years, could it not be