

indispensable to the intelligent and rational treatment of the mouth and teeth. I look forward to the day when the dentist shall first possess his medical degree, and thereafter fit himself for his specialty as in the other specialties of medicine. Those who enter a profession for the sole purpose of money-getting, are not likely to become really useful members. They will refuse to give time to study and investigation, and will rather adopt methods that result in the largest income for the least trouble. Each patient will be regarded exclusively in this light without regard to the ethical aspect of the case. Such men are not professional men. They are merely purveyors of certain conveniences, which work they could have done fully as well without the trouble and expense of a degree.

Numberless young men seem to have no definite bent toward any particular subject, and are distributed here and there in the various vocations of life by accident. They are creatures of circumstances without appeal, and furnish the retrogressive elements of their respective vocations. It is the presence of such men that we must discourage. Men who do not care what they toil at should be relegated to their proper sphere—menial occupations. What dentistry needs is to draw its students from those whose bent is in the direction most in harmony with its requirements. In this great work there is not a single member of the profession who cannot become a factor. Each one should make himself a worthy member, for by so doing he uplifts both his profession and himself. Hundreds of adventurers come to grief every year, but rarely do we see misfortune fall upon one who is true to his duty. Many laugh at the idea of enthusiasm in daily labor, but the man who can arouse his interest and cultivate his enthusiasm in the direction of his own profession, must eventually stand head and shoulders above those whose blindness discerns nothing beyond hard work and dollars.

Modern progress is so speedy and people are becoming educated to their own needs with such rapidity that he who throws not his heart into his work must be left behind. All cannot rival Drs. Black, Curtis, Case, Johnson, Jack, and the others whose names are household words to us; but there is not one amongst us who could not follow some line of investigation, and, following it, reap a benefit.

Another great necessity, and certainly a part of dentistry's higher mission, is education. The public is not fully alive to the great importance of the teeth. They have been too long under the influence of vulcanite and the forceps. The people must be told that the vast majority of teeth can be saved, and that pain from the teeth is self-inflicted by negligence. There are few, if any, public lectures on this subject, and very little popular literature. We need a general movement in this direction, and the opportunities