

spheres of usefulness may open up to us in pursuit of which a just appreciation of our endeavors may be looked for.

Is not the sum and substance, the life and vigor, the brains, the whole physical being of the profession a concentration and embodiment of the principle of the preservation of the natural teeth? To say anything else is a giving away of fundamental principles. I apprehend that thirty years ago there did exist a state of things which, viewed in the light of the present scholastic training, was a deplorable era, marked by the blood of thousands of innocents, which might be termed the age of slaughter—in which time the profession was made up of broken-down tradesmen and mechanics, bounty-jumpers and refugees from foreign parts, farmers and farriers, plumbers and tinkers, who for a few dollars and six months' service were turned loose on the community and permitted to pursue their course according to the light that was in them; and everything was grist to their mill.

Happily, law and order has prevailed over this state of things, and the profession and people are protected. If I were to say that the practices that then prevailed do now exist even in remote localities to any great extent would be to beg the question and set up a straw man to be able to bowl him down. I do not believe so. Yet I am led to believe, by the action of the committee in the choice of this subject, that there does at the present day and generation exist somewhere in Ontario one or more of those fossils or pupils of the extinct race who believe that their mission is to mutilate humanity from mercenary motives. I do not expect to teach them any better; that would be too much to expect of them. As a rule, they do not attend conventions, since they "know it all now." It is easier on their conscience to stay at home and feel right than to learn better and not be able to do better. The only hope we have of them is that they will soon die and make room for civilized and enlightened beings to take their places.

Where do these people exist? Do we find them in country places, or in the towns and cities? Or, Why do they exist? There must be a demand for them, or do they create the demand?

I hold the idea that every graduate in dentistry is by virtue of his qualification an educator. To the extent of his interpretation of the technical teachings of his college days, he must be responsible for his acts and manipulations, which must be reflected in time by the community either to his credit or damage. If by a careful consideration of a certain case a satisfactory conclusion is arrived at, and a monument of skill and durability is the result, he has commenced to educate the community to his advantage. So according to his leading he may expect to find his patrons following, and if we find an isolated community given to false teeth, the chances are that the dentist is a rubber worker.