

overshadow us in a great many respects purely by the magnitude of their assertion. I hope I say this in a spirit of fair play, at the same time of self-defence, which will be understood by fair-minded men. We have so many better things in Canada than they have over the border—I do not mean professionally—and I believe if we braggged more about them, they would get more appreciation. One of these is our system of dental education, which we formulated ourselves, chiefly from the British standard. I agree with your repeatedly expressed opinion, that we should not lower our educational level so as to embrace in our ranks the uneducated bell-boy and office-sweep, but that we should raise it, so as to induce the highest university man to join us. The former drag us down to their trade level: the latter lift us up to their professional standard.

Twenty-six years ago I was one of a number of young men—youself among them, I remember very well—who went to the United States to enter a dental college. I remember the result of our exploration and observation was to satisfy us that our time and money would be wasted, that the medical lectures which we had taken in Toronto and Montreal for two years were superior to what was being given in the Dental College, and the practical anatomy so much more thorough, that we felt we had nothing in that line better there, excepting some valuable instruction on operative dentistry, which we got subsequently much better from the late Dr. Atkinson. I remember the occasion when two of the colleges were publicly cut off from recognition by the Quebec Dental Board for repeated violations of their terms of graduation, and if it is necessary for your purpose, I can supply you with the way in which degrees were conferred upon some men who to-day set themselves up as of superior clay to their fellows. It would be easy, vulgarly speaking, to shut their mouths. Some of these men who sneer at those who did not graduate in a dental school should rise and give us their own personal history, how many days or weeks, when and where they attended college before graduating; or where, when and how they got other degrees they flourish.

In Canada we have for a long time exacted a preliminary entrance examination. Before the valuable organization of the National Association of Dental Faculties, when its colleges were asking attendance of only eight or ten months to graduate, we were exacting forty-eight months? The United States "year" was a sessional "year." Ours was a calendar year. We never had, and I believe never will have, anything to learn from our neighbors as to the matriculate standard, as to the courses on anatomy, physiology, chemistry, practical anatomy. But I freely acknowledge that we always had, and I believe always will have, much to learn from the greater population, on the operative and mechanical branches, which in a country having so many more millions of