

plate man, the painless operator, the discoverer of nature's panacea (who probably does not know the chemical construction of water), and the low brute who insults women, whoever they be, in his chair are the natural and special enemies of every honest dentist, and should be treated accordingly. They do not develop these traits suddenly in after-life. They are the men who, in mistaken charity, the examiners allow to pass. They are the men who should be sent back whence they came.

I have at some length, perhaps, reviewed the evil ; also to some extent hinted at a cure, or at least a means of prevention. The plan of campaign would be this—subject, of course, to additions and corrections by older and wiser heads :

For prevention—A more rigorous adherence to the percentage required to pass candidates, a stricter supervision to prevent cribbing, the doing of metal work for examination by persons other than the candidate, and recognition of the fact that a habitual drunkard and loafer, a man who will steal instruments and material from the college and his fellow-students, and a libertine, are not fit men to practise a respectable profession.

For cure—A general education of the public by the spreading broadcast of the knowledge that good services cannot be got for nothing. The best way to do this would be the issue of brief leaflets bearing the authority of the Association, and explaining in plain terms the exact relations between the dentist and the patient, and the different attitudes of the charlatan and of the reputable dentist toward these relations. There could be no better use for the funds of any association than the printing and distributing of knowledge of this kind ; not only would it lessen the number of dupes, thereby starving out the quack, but it would call the attention of the general public to the matter, which attention could not but bring forth good results.

In this imperfect and disconnected way have I put down a few thoughts that occur and re-occur to me almost daily, trusting that in them may be found something useful and nothing altogether bad, for whatever may be faulty with my expression or my method, I feel that there is nothing wrong with the sentiment that calls for the preservation of the dignity of the dental profession.

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### To Utilize Old Gold Filling.

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Gold fillings that have been doing good service for many years often become loose, either from slight decay or accident. We will suppose such a filling in either the incisors or cuspids, which the patient wants refilled. The party may not be willing or in circum-