

the political ambition of these office holders. There is no punishment bad enough for such corruptionists; but they will hold office so long as they can live on the credulity of their simple-hearted people.

Happily, professions are rarely as contaminated as politics. The leaders of thought and action, as a rule, are unselfish. There is no "boodler" in professional honors or offices. Some men's envy carry them to the extreme of accusing hard workers of working for their own interests when they are paid to give the best of their thought for a profession: but they would not undertake to occupy their position for double the reward. Men who spend much of the time they ought to give to their profession in preparing themselves to become teachers; who make themselves more efficient as such than their detractors; who give their very leisure to study and thought for their profession, frequently have the penalty of unfair criticism to pay. Yet what grumbler would willingly undertake to do their work?

It is one of the vices of this continent—a thing very rarely found in Europe—that arrogant pretension can foist itself into prominence when merit and modesty have to sit in the rear. So well is this known as one of the successful elements of social, political and sometimes scientific promotion, that many men make it their chief, if not their only aim. Yet there are teachers and leaders who do honour to the profession they represent. If it is thought they do not or cannot, they should be deposed. If it is known they do, they should be loyally followed.

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### A Personal Explanation.

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The Montreal editor wishes to say, in reference to a published statement that "he has secured the agency for Montreal" of a new patent, that he has done nothing of the kind. In fact, he positively refused any such offer, or any privilege which would not be equally extended to every other dentist in the Dominion. Learning, however, that a party intended to obtain a monopoly of what may or may not prove to be a useful invention, the Editor of this Journal checkmated the effort for the benefit of his confreres; but he receives neither discount nor favor of any kind. Instead of securing any privilege or monopoly for himself, he has enabled every practitioner in the district named to enjoy "equal rights."