

for a five-months' term, it is too often but a travesty upon study."

And any amount more of the same argument. It is quite evident that our worthy friend is ashamed of dental education to-day, and that he will, after all, come around to accept the three and four full years of twelve months each year, prevalent for the last twenty years in the Provinces of Canada he sneers at. There could hardly be greater fun for anyone who has nothing else to do, than pulling to pieces the meshes of such sophistry, and contradicting the positive statements of to-day by the positive statements of yesterday. *Quantum sufficit.*

Graduates and Non-Graduates.

It would seem as if some leading educators imagined, that mere graduation in a dental college in one session of four months, without matriculation, without knowing the language in which the lectures were delivered, without any previous experience or practice, was sufficient to elevate one above the average practitioner, who had built up a successful practice by dint of conscientious study and application, and immeasurably greater advantages than any school was able at that time to supply. The travesty of education which put thousands of D.D.Ss. into our ranks, can only find defenders to-day among polemical curiosities, who must play to the galleries, and who are in the habit of hitting heads wherever they pop up, for the mere sake of a sort of pugnacious popularity.

How did most of the leading practitioners who began practice twenty-five or thirty years ago obtain the degree of D.D.S.? How much, if any, time did they put in at college? As a correspondent says, "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; and where, when and how they got other degrees they flourish."

We know men who graduated in one short session who did not know an English letter from a cuneiform inscription—who did not even pass an oral examination through an interpreter. We know men to have stepped out of the stable as hostlers and graduated as doctors of dental surgery in one session. Any quack—we emphasize the "quack"—who chose to declare that he had had five years' practice previous to entrance was exempted from one of the two sessions. The whole system was rotten at the core, and it would be much more honorable to acknowledge it than hypocritically writing twaddle in its defence, in any shape whatever.

It may interest some people to know that when the profession was first organized in Canada the intention—which would have carried in the Legislature at that time—to give dentists the title of