
THE DENTAL TUITION QUESTION.—*By Dr. G. von Langsdorff.*—It is exhilarating to read, how on this and the other side of the ocean the question of elevating our dental standing, through bringing up qualified—that means theoretically practical educated Dentists, has become a subject for general earnest counsel.

For example, it is very easily said ; *Only proper and able schools of culture meet our aim—or a gymnasial education as a ground work must be present ; —or Dental surgery must be practised before all as a specialty ;—or a dental candidate must be as fully capable of passing his medical and surgical examinations as his dental”*; and such like.

By reading and after thought over all there remain various propositions. I have formed by degrees the following code for dental education, which I now place before my readers.

I believe I can make my opinion clearest, when I undertake to throw light on the education question from *negative and positive* sides.

(1) The negative side—that is how Dentists should not be brought up, is now-a-days undoubtedly the universal method.

We can presume that we have in Germany at least a thousand practitioners, officiating as Dentists, that is carrying out the duties that can be claimed from a regular Dentist. Where have the majority of these thousand received their education ? Answer : Through having been one or more years with Dentists who for some few hundred shillings have taught them the most needful of that they themselves know.

Or, they are those who having worked here and there as Mechanics for Dentists, have gradually flattered themselves into the belief of their capability to practise self dependently the same business. Through power of the law which gives liberty of exercising any craft, (*Gewerbefreiheit*) they are allowed to make artificial sets ; and as they stand under no control whatever so they extract and fill teeth and perform all other oral operations, as if they were *qualified Dentists*—with the only difference that they do not call themselves *Dentists*—but * *Teeth mechanists—Tooth practitioners—Tooth artists—Technical dentist* so forth. This is then the class of “colleagues” through whom our calling is so much discredited : for these persons spoil and extract more teeth than they can ever be answerable for.

* *Tahntechniker—Tahnpractikant—Tahnkinstler—Techniker Tahnarz”* etc.