

the courts. Individually and collectively, the members were persecuted by foes as well as by the friends of these foes, yet the interests of the profession were never lost sight of. We cannot recall one instance of personal ambition to occupy official position. Everybody wanted everybody else to do the honors—and the work. Dr. Charles Brewster, Dr. Trestler, and the late Hon. Dr. Baillargeon, repeatedly remarked this fact when occupying the president's chair. The predecessor of this journal, the first one established in Canada, was started: the voluntary association and a local city society met regularly, and the proceedings were published. We had fraternal gatherings at each other's offices; there was a delightful *entente cordiale*. It must be remembered that all the time the outside siege against the Act of Incorporation kept the Board continually at work watching and fighting. Educational projects were forced into the background, yet a very good system existed which turned out most of our best men. To-day we find that the former active life is in a state of coma. The resurrected societies never meet; a split has occurred over educational matters, and there is a very dangerous outlook, unless wisdom and integrity take the helm and harmony is restored. There is nothing easier than to establish wholesale manufactories of dentists, to tickle vanity by "professorships" and parchments, until the profession would become a mere trade, and patients would go about bargaining and heckling like the purchasers at Bonsecours market. Socially and scientifically these conditions are alarming. The hope of an honorable position in Quebec, one that will not be behind other Provinces, depends upon the restoration of harmony. It is positively insane to act otherwise. Whoever stands in the way of this harmony must be made to stand aside.

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### A Critical Time.

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The next three years must make or break the best interests of the profession in several of our Provinces. There has been some very bad bungling, and in fact some questionable procedure, and we have reached a critical state of our affairs. Licentiates who have nothing personal to gain, who do not want to advertise the professional prominence conferred upon them by their confreres, or make commercial capital out of official positions, will now, no doubt, seriously reflect as to the use they should make of their franchise. We have learned with regret of very unwise efforts made to place some very incapable men in positions of trust. We use the word "incapable" advisedly. It is no discredit to one's