

selves, besides Messrs. Neelands, Gross, Hart and Walters will each bear testimony to them. Mr. Hodgson had his patients well in hand, and succeeded in fully convincing the public of the great utility of the science of hypnotism, as well as of his proficiency therein.—*Lindsay Warder, Ont.*

Editorial.

The Old and the New.

In our April issue we expressed the opinion, as the result of an extensive practical experience and observation, that "for all-round dental mechanics, the men and the students whose mechanical dentistry was confined to the precious metals, were far ahead of the present generation." One of our young student friends writes rather a trenchant denial, reminding us of a fact which we neither discussed nor denied, that the matriculation to-day is away ahead of that "required a quarter of a century ago." As there was no matriculation required at that time, his argument on that point is unanswerable.

The introduction of vulcanite was the cause of the degeneracy of the laboratory. Competition for cheapness drove gold and platinum out of many laboratories, and brought a lot of inferior men in. Before the use of vulcanite, every student was, by necessity, a metal worker; many of them, by necessity, skilled in continuous gum work. There are too many offices to-day in which a metal plate is rarely, if ever, manufactured, and there are scores of otherwise skilful dentists who are utterly dependent upon skilled mechanics hired by the month, many of whom were taught all they know about metal work by these very workmen. This was not the case before the entrance of vulcanite. The student's daily routine in the laboratory was exclusively in the more complex work of the metals. Much of what is now dignified by the title of "bridge-work," was common in city and town offices, and with a score of difficulties in the way. In every laboratory one found almost the full equipment of the jeweller and the moulder. All dentists made their own solders, and many of the articles now supplied by the depots. Most of the dentists made and tempered