

people would appreciate the benefits of dental science, and the hue and cry of to-day which seems to have for its watchword, "artificial teeth forever and everywhere," would give way to a proper respect for the natural organs, and would place dentistry in a more honorable light before the world.

I have written already too long, but, if time permitted, I should like to go more fully into the details of what I conceive to be a growing evil—the present defilement of the human face divine. What shall the dentist of the present have to answer for when, in a half century hence, the results of his mad havoc of to-day shall have left their indelible mark on the physiognomy of the nation? We are making for good or ill in all we do, not only for the present, but for future generations; and it is meet for us, that we so discharge our bounden duty, that posterity, instead of heaping maledictions on us for the disfigurement we have wrought, may find it in their heart of hearts to rise up and call us blessed.

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### DENTAL JURISPRUDENCE.\*

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Dental Jurisprudence is an old subject and of the greatest importance, yet one of which but little is known by the average practitioner. The "American System of Dentistry" is, to my knowledge, the only work giving any information on the subject. However, the Board of Directors of the College have, quite recently, placed the subject on the curriculum, and now the student on completing his course has, under the lectures of the Hon. David Mills, imbibed the spirit of the legal difficulties with which he may at some unfortunate time be beset.

Dental jurisprudence may be defined, as the science which teaches every branch of dentistry to the purpose and knowledge of the law. In order then to thoroughly understand the subject, a knowledge must be had, on the one hand, of the law and, on the other, of the professional subjects: Anatomy, Physiology, Operative Dentistry, Materia Medica, Therapeutics, etc. The jurisprudence of dentistry resembles very much that of medicine, with the exception of a few special points which pertain exclusively to the former profession.

The obtaining of the title of L.D.S. grants the holder permission to practice dentistry in all its branches. This legally interpreted means the care of the teeth when sound, their treatment when diseased, and their substitution when lost through any cause. It includes the extraction, filling, replantation, implantation, and transplantation of the teeth, their regulation, the treatment of the

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\* Read by Dr. H. A. Croll Palmerston, at Ontario Dental Society meeting, July, 1897.