

is divided among them. The Evelina Hospital for Sick Children, as well as the one in Bloomsbury, have each one; the Brompton Hospital for Consumption has one; Westminster has two; the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic has one; the National Orthopædic has one; the various special hospitals for women and children, such as the Chelsea, Soho Square, Marylebone Road, Royal and Samaritan, have each a dentist. It would be tedious to enumerate the list.

The difficulties in the way of establishing independent dental hospitals in this Province at least, such as exist in London, Edinburgh and Dublin, appear now, as seventeen years ago, insurmountable; and it is still believed that by application with existing bodies all the advantages of independent hospitals could be obtained without the present necessity of soliciting public aid.

It must not be imagined that our profession has not done its share in this direction. Just because there are no special departments in our hospitals, every dentist in the city has done, and willingly does, a large share of gratuitous work for the poor in the private office; while most of them informally give free services to certain charitable and benevolent institutions. Of course it would be impossible in a small city like Montreal, where even disease and death are classified by religion and nationality, to secure that harmony which is necessary to embrace all the operations performed in the institutions I have named. The dental profession is neither numerically nor financially much better than the English curates, of whom it was said that they were "the best educated paupers in the parish," and without the direction and strengthening influence of the medical profession, they cannot do even what they are willing to do. Whether it would be wise or not to ask us to include in the services to be rendered the full complement of our practice is a question. But if the city dentists are willing, as they have expressed themselves to be, to afford relief in extraction, for remedial as well as for regulating purposes: to treat diseased gums, excessive deposits of salivary calculus, and operations of a slight character to preserve rather than to extract, the ground would not only be fairly well covered for patients who do not expect their bread buttered on