

advantages for the dentist in hospital service. In Canadian hospitals he is only a tooth-puller. He cannot afford to devote time from ordinary practice to any further service. Yet it is not improbable that some mistaken philanthropist, or some emotional female, may originate a fad to follow the lead in full of the medical profession. If our practitioners think the public is entitled to free services—and we heartily believe the deserving poor are so entitled—they may find in the mistakes made by the medical profession a few hints on the duty they owe to themselves as well. Wise men and women are beginning to discover that there are limitations to the instinct of charity of all sorts. There are lots of people who need, and who deserve help, and frequently they are not among the pauper class. But there are lots of people who think that heaven should always help them, and that heaven has no right to expect them to help themselves.

"DENTISTRY" VS. "MECHANICAL DENTISTRY."

Whether it is done intentionally or not, there are licentiates who seem determined to drag down prosthetic dentistry to the level of a trade. Trade methods, and the catch-penny advertisements of the traders, are introduced into the press, and by vulgar showcases, just as we are accustomed to seeing with the display of boots and shoes, the trade ideas are emphasized. The veterinary surgeon needs the environment of the stable. Some of them go so far as to advertise themselves as blacksmiths in addition. These are legitimate and honorable; but veterinary surgery, *per se*, is a scientific profession, which any educated gentleman might be ambitious to practise. It may come to pass that mechanical dentistry will be assigned the same relationship that the forge occupies to some of the Vets. There will always be those, however, who will then have only a collateral interest in prosthetic dentistry proper, and as the optician sends his "prescriptions" to the oculist, and the surgeon his legless and armless patients to the manufacturer of artificial limbs, so the distinctively "surgeon" dentist may yet relegate his prosthetic cases to the exclusive mechanic. Long ago we foreshadowed this, and it looks now as if it were one of the changes sure to come in the course of time.

END OF VOLUME XI.

This number of the DOMINION DENTAL JOURNAL completes the eleventh year of its existence. We have always urged our readers to widen their scope of reading as much as possible. For over twenty-eight years we have read every English, French and German dental journal which has come to us in exchange, and we