

which cannot possibly exceed 212° F.) is, perhaps, preferable to the pan. The most desirable instruments are those having broad working ends, with well defined and sharp serrations—Butler's condensers, for example.

DENTAL HYGIENE.

BY L. J. B. LEBLANC, L.D.S.

Translated from the French.

Read before the Montreal Dental Society.

In writing these few lines, a natural desire, and the deep interest I have for the Society, have induced me to submit to you the result of my observations, my labor, and my short experience in all which can promote the embellishment and preservation of one of our principal organs ; chiefly because this organ is called to perform an important part in animal economy, and in our professional relations with society.

Much has been said and written on this interesting part of our art. A few months ago in Quebec, one of our amiable and learned colleagues delivered before you a lecture on the same subject. His essay, admirably composed, delighted you to the utmost extent, by its style and the novelty of its ideas. Without the pretension of giving you a lecture equal to it, and still less of surpassing it, I shall endeavor to fill a few blanks which were left in it.

Within the last century, great writers have displayed a noble ardor for the advancement of dental science. They make every exertion to write as many books as possible and invent the best instruments. France and England have had the honor of giving birth to those eminent men, but to-day, that worthy zeal for science seems to have cooled down ; one would think that those two nations begin to feel tired, that they give up their work to rest themselves under the shade of their laurels. The names of the most distinguished dentists of France, who immortalized themselves by the importance of their discoveries, are those of Messrs. Duval, Maury, de la Barre, Regnard, &c., (in the office of the latter my predecessor, Dr. Jourdain, learned his art). In England we boast of the names of Messrs. Hunter, Fox, Bell and Tomes. Now, to-day, that those two nations are nearly inactive, another young and intelligent country appears to us—it is the American. That nation, endowed with an extraordinary genius, have the benefit of those different discoveries, and have improved our art to such an extent in its mechanical and surgical part, that at present our labor is performed very quickly.