

I do not wish to be misunderstood in speaking of those who struggled under difficulties, and laid with skilful hands the foundation of which every conscientious and appreciative dentist enjoys to-day. We only have a record of a certain few in those days as great leaders, but they all had to depend upon their own originality and self reliance and had an uneducated public to contend with. When I say "uneducated public," think what it must have been, when to-day we frequently meet people who are well educated in most things, yet who will say, "my father or grandfather never used a tooth brush, and I believe the more we fuss with our teeth the worse they are."

This father and grandfather racket is annoying to us, but think what it must have been to them. Were it not the fact that the pioneers, such as Hudson, Gardette, Hayden, Parmley, and others, contained the right stuff, we would not be enjoying the plain sailing, comparatively, we do to-day. So much for the pioneers and dentistry of years ago. How is it to-day in this State? We have the people educated, most of them, to realize the importance of caring for their teeth. Pardon me for saying that they have been handled, for the most part, by good, honest, conservative dentists. Perhaps we fall far short of the high water mark in skill, yet we average well I hope, and we are honest. I do not believe there is a so-called "dental shop" in the State of Vermont. If I am wrong, I am sorry; if right, *we*, and more especially the people, have much to be thankful for. Now, here is the one essential reason why every individual, reputable dentist in this State (and if he is not reputable he should be made so) should belong to the Vermont State Dental Society, and show his colors by attending every meeting or else offer a good excuse.

If a certain few had not assembled themselves together and organized this society and kept it alive by their constancy, would we have this favorable condition of things? Would we have had our good dental law? And working hand in hand with the society, the Board of Dental Examiners? Open the Dental Journals and read: "A meeting of the Vermont Board of Dental Examiners will be held at such a place, such a date, for the examination of candidates. The examination will be in writing, and will include anatomy, physiology, histology, bacteriology, chemistry, metallurgy, pathology, therapeutics, surgery, materia medica, anesthesia, operative and prosthetic dentistry, together with an operation in the mouth. Candidates must come prepared with instruments, rubber dam and gold."

Now, if a fellow has got the nerve to try and slide by a