

tion. We all know them. "Never, under any circumstances," said the old gentleman, "try to oblige your patients. Start in life and go on with the determination to mind your business in your own way and according to your own methods; but don't promise or do anything for anybody just to oblige them. You'll not get a particle of thanks, and ten out of twelve will think you a fool or a parasite for your pains. Conduct your practice on business, not on sentimental, principles."

EVERY honest man appreciates a certain amount of deserved praise. The people who praise you with one eye, and squint depreciation at you with the other, are mightily afraid of the words of praise being taken as honestly meant. We want none of this in public print or elsewhere, so we always take the liberty of drawing our pen through the various contributions of conventional flattery, which runs as easily as hypocrisy off the tongues and pens of these gentlemen. The expert crook is just as honorable as the polished in craft. In fact, a hypocrite is meaner than a liar. The "friend" who gushes friendly sentiments before your face, very much to your discomfort, and who never loses a chance of putting his knife in your back in an instinctive assassin. He is more dangerous than a serpent.

The Report of the Dental Association of the Province of Quebec will appear in next issue.

Reviews

The Cause and Prevention of Decay in Teeth. An investigation into the causes of the prevalence of dental caries, to which are appended some suggestions on its prevention. By J. SIM WALLACE, M.D., B.Sc., L.D.S., R.C.S., Eng. London: J. & A. Churchill, 7 Great Marlborough Street. 1900, pp. 101.

The etiology of dental caries has perplexed our wisest investigators. Its pathology is generally accepted, as well as the chemico-parasitical theory of its direct or exciting causes. The author of this thoughtful little volume summarizes his conclusions as to the problem of the liability of caries in the following words: "The cause of the prevalence of dental caries is that the natural food-stuffs are to a large extent ridded of their accompanying fibrous parts, and prepared and consumed in the manner which renders them liable to lodge, and undergo acid fermentation in the mouth; while, from the same cause and the induced conditions, the micro-organisms of the mouth lodge and multiply, and augment the rapidity and intensity of the acid fermentation."