

## A CANADIAN DENTIST IN GERMANY.

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Through some years experience of dentistry in a German centre, a few observations on the practice of our profession may not prove totally uninteresting to some of your readers—for among the very large majority of those with whom I came in contact during my last visit to the States and Canada, a decided lack of knowledge was shown relative to Continental practice and theory, combined with as decided a thirst for information.—Our Continental colleagues do not stand so high in regard to operative work as the representatives of our specialty on the other side of the Atlantic, and this may be easily accounted for by the want of practical study in such institutions, devoted solely to that purpose, as the American colleges offer to the dental aspirant.

Until but lately, comparatively speaking, the German dentist has been struggling against the same disadvantages that the Americans suffered many years ago. viz : the acquiring of the knowledge they sought for, through the office business of some practitioners in the capacity of drudge or assistant, a knowledge charily imparted through vague fears of later competition, being his only means of advancement.

Notwithstanding the foundation during the last few years of dental chairs in Berlin and Leipzig etc. they are proved to be more theoretical than practical, and there is a general feeling, which is now expressing itself, from the leading class of the profession, for improvement.

General convocations of dentists, provincial and local, take place mostly yearly, in the American style, when dental subjects are discussed.

That a precedence is taken by American dentists on the continent, could be practically shown by naming the leading practitioners in most cities of large population : however as it is not my intention to give cause for rival comparison I will rigidly abstain from any thing verging on personality, merely observing in the interest of the profession—that dentistry on the Continent as represented by Americans, can claim the highest practical intelligence—also that there are native Continental practitioners whose writings as well as researches in the dental field have made their names known not only to Europe but America.