

Canada, we find a striking difference, greatly to our disadvantage. In Canada we find editors of influential newspapers, and intelligent men in every sphere, with less appreciation of the importance of the dental profession, than thousands of poor servant girls in the neighbouring country; and we also find a large proportion of our otherwise best informed men, much less competent to distinguish between honesty and quackery than the same class of persons across the lines. This may in part be attributed to a less frequent acquaintance professionally with the dentist, for teeth in Canada are very much better than in the United States, and there is more dentists in the city of New York, and more call for them, than in our whole Dominion. This ignorance may be traced to several causes, of which we do not purpose to speak just now; but in some measure it may be owing to the fact that Canadians have seldom had the importance of dentistry, and its just claims, properly presented to them. In the large cities there are men calling themselves dentists, who have no respect whatever for the profession; who treat it as a mere trade, though they have no hesitation about assuming the title of "Doctor"; who work very badly for very low fees, and whose existence is a constant curse to the respectability and elevation of the profession. While the respectable practitioner avoids all bombast and little, if any, advertising, these quacks rival Barnum in their humbug and advertising, and to a large mass of the people, are accepted as representing the status and worth of the profession. The mistake many honest practitioners make, is in reducing their customary fees, because a few raiding quacks advertise dental operations for next to nothing. When we teach our patients that there is no parallel between dentistry and carpentering, while there is between dentistry and medicine; that we are professional men, not only mechanics; that one cannot become a dentist by inspiration; and that there is just the same difference between the work of the best dentists and the worst, that there is between a painting by Kreighoff and the efforts of an untaught tyro; that we charge for mental as well as for any manual labor we execute, and that we do put a great deal of present mental labor, and past study and experiment into our work, then we educate our patients to understand that there is a difference between a dentist who has properly studied his profession, and one who has not; and that we have a reasonable right to charge our fees, and that we give for them a fair return. We would challenge any one either in Canada or the United States to produce a single dentist working for