

### TOO MUCH CROWNING.

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An all-gold crown which is conspicuous is not only vulgar in appearance, but is one of the humiliating disfigurements of modern dentistry. It is a public exhibition of a dental reproach. It is not constructed upon the *ars celare artem* principle. If there were no other objections to the use of all-gold crowns, this would in itself be sufficient. There is no possible case in which this disfigurement cannot be avoided. The conspicuous gold crown should be relegated as the exclusive distinction of people of vain and vulgar taste, and dentists who run fads on the basis of pure finance. It is, moreover, the duty of the dentist to educate vulgar people in this direction; yet the operator who would be ashamed of his work if he put a white porcelain lateral beside a brown cuspid, does not seem to realize his inconsistency in making an all-gold crown neighbor to human enamel. In another way, there is too much crowning. Scores of fairly good molars are ground down, which should be filled. It is possible, with proper treatment and skill to restore such teeth to usefulness and natural occlusion by good amalgam, if not by gold, and in many cases amalgam is better than gold. The day is not far distant, we trust, when these gaudy and glittering defects of dentistry—fillings as well as crowns, and indeed the insertion of any metal in human teeth, will be looked upon with the same curiosity, as to-day we regard the use of human teeth and the ivory of the tusk of the elephant and hippopotamus for artificial substitutes.

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### OUR SOCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL CONDITION.

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“What would our social and professional condition be to-day in Canada, had we not had the leavening influence and fearless criticisms of our only dental journal?” This is the question that comes to us on a post-card from one of the oldest and wisest of our Ontario practitioners. We do not wish to answer the question further than to say, that the social and professional condition of the profession in Canada to-day is not likely to be all that we desire if the gutter-dentists have their way. This journal hates the quack and the quack imitator as it hates the devil; and whenever one of them dies, it believes that birds of a feather are likely to flock together in the next world as well as in this. Looking back at the record of dental journalism since June, 1868, the editor feels that no one can accuse him of once wavering from the ethical principles announced at starting. The critics, who can easily find faults, should use a little introspection. Perhaps some of the