

Dominion Dental Journal

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DENTAL SINNERS.

One of the very many good clergymen,—“there are others”—once asked us “Why do you bother about quackery? Why don’t you let these quacks alone?” to which we replied, “Why do you bother about sin? Why don’t you let the sinners alone?” “But my mission is to save souls; yours only to save teeth,” said he. “Very true,” we remarked, “but do you think your moral code or religious creed, will exempt from condemnation the dentist who deliberately lies, and who deceives and swindles people who entrust to him the care of their bodies? Is a thorough quack not as much a sinner against your belief as a common thief? There is, after all, some justification for the starving man who steals food, or the freezing man who steals fuel; but tell us, where do you find excuse for the dentist who deliberately wrongs and robs his patients? Now, if we succeed in making this dental sinner conscious of his iniquity, we make him a better subject for you; we do something towards helping you in the matter of his salvation. That seems to us logical. Isn’t it theological?” Our clerical friend gave successive nods of apostolical approval, so that question is settled.

THE INFIRMARY.

That a dental infirmary established in a large city should have the same imposture practised upon it as a General Hospital, need cause no surprise. If the general public have the run of such institutions, upon the mere pretext of impecuniosity, it will be impossible to prevent imposture. The infirmary must have patients. We doubt if the dentists themselves will supply them from their own practice. It is possible to make such regulations that the infirmary would not get a sufficient supply. That must not be