

Now that dental teaching has reached a broader and more uniform basis, our schools should require something more in the way of examinations than recitations and the memorizing of facts. The mere gathering and storing of dental knowledge can never make a successful dentist. While no college can educate a man in the true sense, yet they can prepare him to use his powers of observation and reason; and when a student realizes his limitations and the personal equation of error that is liable to complicate his observations, he becomes a scientist in the highest meaning of that word. Of course, all of us cannot be scientific investigators in the broad sense; but, as has been observed by others, it is, after all, a matter of degree, for everyone is, or should be, capable of observation, and able to interpret and report such observation.

While many of our colleges are excellent, they have not, as a rule, introduced this matter of personal observation and the recording of same in their curriculum. We have the medical journal referred to above as authority, that an English medical school has recently adopted a plan requiring all senior students to spend a good portion of the last year in observing and writing up cases, the notes of which are corrected by the teachers. In this way the senses and reason are trained to observe and compare the relation of facts—a move, we think, worthy of emulation.—G. W. W., in *International Dental Journal*.

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### NEW DENTAL LAW FOR MARYLAND.

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Chapter 378 of the Maryland laws of 1896, which was approved April 4, 1896, repeals Article 32 of the Code of Public General Laws, entitled "Dentistry," and re-enacts the article with many changes in it. The new law makes it unlawful for any person to practise dentistry in the State unless he shall have obtained a certificate therefor. It then provides that there shall be a State Board of Dental Examiners, which shall consist of six practising dentists of recognized ability and honor, who have held regular dental diplomas for five years. They are to be appointed by the Governor out of a list proposed by the Maryland State Dental Association. Six years is the regular term of office. Any member who shall be absent from two successive regular Board meetings shall cease to be a member of it. The regular meetings are to be held in May and November of every year, with special meetings as required. Any person twenty-one years of age, who has graduated at and holds a diploma from a university or college authorized to grant diplomas in dental surgery by the laws of any one of the United States, may be examined by said Board with