



Πίνακας που αναπαριστά δάσκαλο να διδάσκει τους μαθητές του, στην Κίνα ή Ιαπωνία, πως να κάνουν εξαγωγές δοντιών.

This remarkable sketch is contributed by the distinguished artist, Mr. George A. Renouard.

The theme is that of the teacher and the pupil. The sinuous grace and authoritative poise of the central figure, the teacher, and the supercilious cynicism of the assistant to his left are well represented while the concentrated effort to master the lesson on the part of the class (save one to the right, the languorous dreamer and laggard) are readily apparent.

The scene is historical and depicts the early origin of dentistry among the ancient Chinese and Japanese people. The initiates were given boards of soft wood perforated with holes containing snugly inserted pegs which they were taught to extract with the thumb and finger. Later, boards of increasing hardness containing tighter inserts were substituted.

When sufficient adeptness was acquired to successfully accomplish this remarkable feat the pupils were allowed to extract teeth from the mouths of suffering patients in a similar manner. On attainment of the necessary skill and digital power to satisfy the master they were "graduated" and became exponents of this form of destructive dentistry.

Since that time it has required thousands of years to develop the profession to its present state, where restorative and curative ministrations greatly predominate. It is thought by many that the dentistry of the future will be largely preventive and the best minds of the science and art are concentrated on efforts to consummate this much desired wish and strongly propounded belief.