

in such cities as New York, Philadelphia and Boston, while the West and South were supplied by itinerants.

In 1825 there were not more than one hundred dentists in the United States; in 1865 there were probably more than six thousand in practice. They had at that time twenty-six Dental Societies. At present they publish six Dental Journals, and have in successful operation nine Dental Colleges.

These institutions are doing a great amount of good, not only to the people of the United States but also to the people of Canada. In regard to the progress of dental science we are not much behind our neighbors. As near as I can ascertain there were not more than six dentists in this province thirty-five years ago, and they travelled about from place to place. Our worthy president, Dr. Relyea, is perhaps, one of the oldest practitioners among us. His advent into this Province was in 1841, thirty years ago. Dr. Kahn of Stratford, Dr. Stone of London, and Dr. Wells of Simcoe, have also been in practice from twenty-five to thirty years; I might also mention others who have been in practice from fifteen to twenty-five years, but time forbids.

For some time dentistry was something of a secret art; secret among individual members, each one trying to *obtain* all the information he could and *give* as little as possible in return.

About the year 1860 some of our leading brothers made efforts to form associations, but for want of united action each effort proved a failure, until Dr. Day, of Kingston, issued circulars calling a meeting of the dentists of this Province, to be held in the city of Toronto, on the 3rd day of January, 1867, and, strange to say, only the following gentlemen responded to the call in person: Dr. Day, Messrs. C. S. Chittenden, F. G. Callender, J. O'Donnell, H. T. Wood, A. D. Lalonde, M. E. Snider, D. A. Bogart and J. S. Scott, nine all told. Rather discouraging for those who had travelled from 150 to 200 miles; but we had men of the right metal, each was determined to do his duty.

The first business of that little meeting was to organize an association; after the election of officers, in which Dr. Day was elected president, &c., a committee was appointed to draft a bill of incorporation, to be submitted to Parliament at its next session.

The association then adjourned to meet in Cobourg on the second Tuesday of July following.

The meeting in Cobourg was more encouraging, the members having increased from nine to thirty-three in six months. After a very harmonious and profitable session, during which the bill of incorporation was adopted, the association again adjourned to meet in Toronto on the