

back, while I was seated on a low stool, and the operator in front performed the terrible deed. One such experience is enough in one lifetime. Instruments for removal of teeth were said to have been found in the ruins of Herculaneum and Pompeii, but as they were made of lead, it was supposed they were more humane in those days than later on, as the lead instruments could be used only for removal of loose or deciduous teeth. I have sometimes wondered what instrument was used for the removal of the Jew's ten teeth in the time of King John, before the money was exacted from him by the king. One of the most primitive and barbarous methods was resorted to in Cornwall in 1849, and the particulars related to me by the Hon. Dr. Wm. Webster, of Kentville. A certain expert, a blacksmith, whose name I forget, near Kentville, in attempting to remove an upper molar for a farmer, used a spike and hammer, and in so doing, fractured so large a portion of the superior maxillary process that the doctor removed two teeth with the process united that had been detached and forced into the palatal portion of the mouth, and only held in position by means of the gum and mucous membrane, and resulting in an opening into the antrum and defective speech for life.

It was in 1839 the *American Journal of Dental Science* was first published by Drs. Harris and Parsley, and the American Society of Dental Surgery began its existence in 1840. The first dental school was in Baltimore, and up to 1854 three dental colleges were struggling for an existence, with no instructor in two of them in operative or mechanical dentistry. One of the first graduates of the first class in 1841, was B. Covington Mackall—fifty-nine years ago. Dr. Mackall was living at Elkton, in Maryland, in 1887, enjoying good health, and a member of the Maryland Legislature.

In 1848 the *Dental News-Letter* was first started, now our prized and valuable *Dental Cosmos*.

To America belongs the honor of first establishing colleges, schools and dental journals for the purpose of advancing and educating those who desired to make dentistry a specialty, while it is only during the past six years that England established schools and colleges for dental education, and last, but not least, our own Dominion has not lost sight of the need for educating dentists by also opening dental colleges.

To go back forty years of my own experience in the particular branch as a dentist which I have followed most persistently and closely, and note particularly all the improvements and advancement made since 1852, would not be possible nor even desirable; but let me say here, gentlemen, in spite of all the modern improvements and new appliances, and better facilities for doing good work, I can testify that, even with the so-called crude methods of operating, I can show in my mouth two gold fillings still in excellent condition, made by a Portland dentist, using Abbey's foil and