

Personal.

Some one desired to know who was the oldest practising dentist in the Dominion in the last issue of our JOURNAL. I may say, for Nova Scotia I think I may claim the precedent, so far as I am aware of present names. I practised in Boston, Portland and Wakefield, Mass., six years before coming to Halifax, and since 1858 in this city, making thirty-three years in Halifax and six years in the United States of America; total, thirty-nine years' practice, and I am now in my fifty-seventh year. No doubt, others may be older and longer in the profession in Ontario—possibly in New Brunswick—perhaps we may hear from some others later on. Old Father Time, though, is working his changes. No less than five who have been associated with me since I commenced in this city have gone to their long home. Dr. Van Buskirk died of heart disease, Dr. MacKay became insane, Dr. E. R. Cogswell was shot accidentally in Mexico, Dr. Mack was killed in South America—the two latter were students and one a partner of mine—and last, Dr. O. P. MacAllaster died in Lynn, Mass.

A. C. COGSWELL.

Editorial.

The New Brunswick Act Again.

If anything official was needed to add force to our condemnation of the New Brunswick Act, it would be the remarkable letter of Dr. Murray, on another page. Over a year and a half ago our correspondent, personally, by letter, solicited the advice and opinion of the Editor on the subject of dental legislation for New Brunswick. When this opinion, based upon a daily intimacy with dental legislation in Ontario and Quebec for over twenty years, did not coincide with the plans of the promoters, it is considered "aggressive and intrusive," and this by the parties who did not think it "aggressive and intrusive" when they tried to legislate men out of business as well as out of New Brunswick who did not come up to their standard of professional qualification. The assumption held that merely because a man held a D.D.S. he was a better dentist than one who did not, was neither more nor less than arrant nonsense, based, no doubt, upon ignorance of the fact, that scores of quacks and impostors to-day possess that degree, by virtue of a few months spent in one of the colleges which the New