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Exactly one hundred and thirty years ago dentistry was introduced from England into the United States by John Woopendale, a former student of the dentist to King George III. The first dental collégé, journal and association have respectively a history not yet sixty years old. In Ontario, as an organized body, it is, to a month, the age of Confederation; in Quebec, a year younger. It is the youngest of all the professions, yet it deals with the most prevalent disease in existence. It has become a giant in its practical development; its failings are but those of puberty. Let me here repeat something I said elsewhere: "Medicine can trace its history to the early periods of Grecian civilization; Law to the schools of jurists in the reign of Tarquin; but the statements of Herodotus and later writers are not sufficient to prove that Egypt was in any sense the cradle of Dentistry. The gold said to have been found in the teeth of mummies from Thebes was proved to be nothing but the same gilding with which the mummies were covered. The replacement of lost natural teeth by substitutes of bone or sycamore wood set in gold has, it is true, been discovered in ancient Egyptian sarcophagi; but this does not substantiate the claim that they were made by specialists in dentistry, but rather by the gold and silver smiths who worked in the great synagogue at Alexandria. One can easily imagine an Eastern girl standing

* Opening lecture by the Dean, Dr. W. Geo. Beers.