

faith that a dental Act of Incorporation would elevate dentistry in Ontario, than that a charter would avail to secure a railway to the moon. I remember the war-whoops of hate raised by a few, who condemned a principle in dentistry they unconsciously commended in medicine and law ; and who, had they been in the wilderness with Moses, would, I firmly believe, have fought against the passage of the Ten Commandments, as an unnecessary and dangerous piece of legislation. Even many who to-day loyally acknowledge the value, and aid the objects of association, then stood silent in fear. It was thought by the most moderate opponent that legislation was impracticable ; that the idea of a school was Quixotic, for "*Quis custodiet ipsos custodes :*" that it could become nothing better than a fickle and feeble imitation of the clap-trap system, which was then manufacturing Doctors of Dental Surgery over the border in one session of four months. It was said that a dental school in Toronto would have to pawn its parchments to pay its way ; that it would have to hawk its degrees about the Province for sale, and, as was satirically said of the diploma of a foreign College, that it would thus "be enabled to get rid of its debt—by 'Degrees.'" Those were the prophets of despair, who seem to have lineal descendants in other spheres of our national life ; whose crest should be "the white feather ;" who have as many hands as Gyges to raise against the gods ; and who, at least, seem like men standing on their heads, to see everything the wrong way. The success we see to-day is due to the fact that Ontario dentistry has leaders of quiet faith and earnest courage, who have quitted themselves like men. Had our friend Dr. Willmot and his associates shaped their actions on the fear or fury of obstructionists, you, gentlemen, would have had to pick up your experience in the Province in the old imperfect way, or cross the lines to get what you could not get here. There is neither exuberance of fancy nor exaggeration of fact in these statements. The gentlemen who shouldered the responsibility of conducting this school, did not imagine that the mere readiness was sufficient professional equipment, or that their duty should be set to music. They had not the presumption of the son of the Vicar of Wakefield—a chip of the old block—who, you remember, went to Amsterdam to teach the Dutch English, but who found when he got there that he had forgotten to learn Dutch. Your lecturers qualified themselves