

only a thorough training in the fundamental branches of medicine and surgery, but a preliminary requirement of mathematics and mechanical philosophy; and that three courses of anatomy, physiology and chemistry, together with hospital practice, should be made compulsory. It was not, however, until 1843 that any effort was made to obtain dental legislation in England, when it occurred in precisely the same manner as Dr. Bernard had attempted the previous year. France, Germany and Austria had stolen a march upon the English-speaking world of dentistry, and had several years before demanded certain legal qualifications to practise. Hunter, Fox, Blake, Bell and Kœcker in England; Delabarre, Maury, Desirabode and Jourdain in France, had written valuable works on the teeth and their diseases. When boasting, as we sometimes do, of our professional achievements on this continent, we should not forget the original researches of the fathers and founders over the sea. We should not ignore, too, the fact that, until comparatively recent years, the dental colleges of the United States, with all their splendid practical character, drank almost exclusively at the scientific and theoretical fount of British inspiration; and that to this day there are no text-books to surpass for original research and close reasoning the classics produced by British, French and German writers. I take pleasure in looking backward on these events, because they inspire us to look forward. As our fathers made history for us, we are making it for posterity. It may be a pride you will pardon, that some of us here this evening enjoy the retrospect in our own province of a quarter of a century, when we gathered together the disconnected elements of the profession, organized the first association, and obtained the first act of incorporation. It will be remembered that the effort of Dr. Bernard was fruitless, because, no doubt it was premature.

It is perhaps as foolish to attempt some things too soon as too late. It was reserved for Dr. Chas. Brewster to take the helm at the opportune time. Aided by the generous and sympathetic encouragement of Drs. Bazin, Trestler and the late Dr. Webster, the movement began in earnest, by a successful professional protest to the Committees of Exhibitions, against the bestowal of prizes for mechanical dentistry. In the document Dr. Brewster then (1860) issued to the dentists of Upper and Lower Canada, he revived the proposal for legislation in the interests of the public and the profession, and his chief correspondent in the Upper Province was Dr. B. W. Day, of Kingston, who was thus inspired to start the ball rolling, and who became the father of dental legislation in Ontario seven years afterwards. On September 2, 1868, the first meeting was held in this city to organize the Dental Association of the Province of Quebec, at which the following were present: Messrs. Brewster, Bernard, Bazin, Trestler, Cantwell, Alloway and Beers. On the 17th of the same month another