

zeal and honesty, to do some such service for their profession, and therefore for our great Dominion, as has been done for law and medicine by our University teachers, and for our trade and commerce by our educated agriculturists and merchants. We have lately commemorated in Ontario and Quebec the events which led to our first educational efforts twenty-one years ago, and I confess I like to look back on the coincidence, perfectly freed from any political thought, that the birth of this reform in Ontario was contemporaneous with that of the Dominion, and that when our statesmen were in session in Charlottetown discussing the union of the Provinces, our Ontario dentists were in session in Toronto, planning the reform and consolidation of the profession. It was a pioneer work, like that done by the first settlers of this Province along the shores of the St. Lawrence, Bay of Quinte, Lake Ontario and Lake Erie, when the rude log-hut, the yoke of steers, a pig, a gun and an axe formed the stock-in-trade, perhaps, of the fathers of some of the gentlemen here; and we, whose lives are cast to-day in pleasanter places, have good right to revere and respect those old-fashioned days of sturdy hearts and wooden ploughs. There are a few practitioners still in our ranks who were practising dentistry in Canada before most of us were born, and when I have heard from their lips the struggles they had to endure, as they perambulated the country with their box on their back like modern rural peddlers; when I even recall the regular custom in Montreal when I was indentured as a student, and was notarially bound not to reveal to our rivals "the secrets" of the profession; when we contrast those days with the present free-offering which every respectable dentist makes of his knowledge; when we compare the past in Ontario, within the memory of confreres who are here to-night, with the success achieved in its teens by this school, with the proud affiliation with one of the leading Universities of the Dominion, giving for the first time in the dental history of the Empire, a distinctive and unsullied dental degree, I feel that the responsible stewards of this institution have not only done an enduring service to the profession, but a practical one for the State. I have had constant and active association with the profession from that important epoch, and I know the sacrifices the promoters of legislation and education had to make. I was familiar with the unreasonable opposition of well-meaning sceptics, who had no more