

upon it the high sounding but "truly loil" cognomen of the Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario. /

✓The "Act respecting Dentistry," as passed in 1868, was undoubtedly crude in many points, and incomplete and inefficient in others, but, when disposed to criticize, it is well to remember that it antedates every other dental statute in the world, except an obsolete one of five very innocent clauses, adopted by the State of Alabama in 1841. The framers of our law had absolutely no precedent, nor was anything to be learned from the experience of others, as they were experimenting in an entirely new field. The test of twenty-eight years has vindicated the wisdom of its framers and leads the men of to-day to suspect that they "built better than they knew." As difficulties in administration were developed the Legislature has cheerfully made such amendments as seemed necessary, so that now, with the single exception of a weakness in the "penal clause," it may be considered as complete. Having made considerable inquiry concerning dental legislation, I have no hesitation in saying that Ontario has to-day a more efficient dental law than is to be found elsewhere. Permit me to summarize: The whole dental profession is incorporated as the Royal College of Dental Surgeons; of this College every legal practitioner is a member. Its affairs are managed by a Board of Directors, made up of one representative from the teaching faculty, and seven representatives elected biennially in as many territorial districts by the members resident therein, the election being by closed ballot, sent by mail, so that every one may participate. The duties of these directors are to fix an entrance or matriculation standard for students, prepare a curriculum of studies, appoint the members of the teaching faculty and supervise the School of Dentistry, appoint a Board of Examiners and, on their report, pass candidates for graduation and issue license to practise in the Province of Ontario, and generally to administer the affairs of the Corporation. } That these powers have been conservatively exercised and no attempt made to form a close corporation, is evidenced by the fact that during the year ending September 1st, 1895, ninety-seven students, and in the year ending September 1st, 1896, 188 students, have been matriculated, a number unfortunately very much greater than our increase in population and wealth would justify. The gentlemen who from time to time have been elected directors, and have given time and thought to the affairs of the College, are entitled to, and I trust receive, the thanks of every member of the profession. But one of these, our honored friend, Dr. H. T. Wood, has been a member of every Board since 1868. The present directorate have initiated a practice which they hope may be continued by their successors. That each succeeding class of students may become familiar with the features of the men who have so wisely guided the affairs of