

supererogatory for me to say most emphatically that our great aim has not been the formation of a Society for the purpose of monopoly and self aggrandizement, but to guard the public, as well as ourselves, against the pretensions of those illiterate empirics who swarm in almost every profession, and who prey upon the credulity or ignorance of a large portion of the community, and whose qualifications to take rank in the dental corps are about on a par with those of a Hottentot or South Sea Islander. I feel confident, gentlemen, that with this great end in view—alike benefits to the public and ourselves—I can certainly count upon your earnest co-operation with me, and that our united and untiring efforts shall not relax until complete success crowns our exertions, and little shall remain for us to wish for; and in this place, gentlemen, let me occupy your attention for a brief space, by a retrospective glance at the efforts of our labors thus far.

It will be in the recollection of some gentlemen present that in January of last year, in answer to a circular issued by myself, urging the absolute necessity of an organization of the present kind for the protection of the dental profession, nine members of the profession, from different portions of the Province, promptly responded to the call and at once came forward and threw the whole weight of their time and talents into the carrying out of the present scheme, and liberally spared neither time nor money in furthering our great object. To these gentlemen, I think, the Society is indebted not a little for its present prosperous condition, nor can I withhold the just award, so well merited, of praise due to the other gentlemen who so quickly followed their noble example and who now are working unitedly to achieve a complete success. In January then, gentlemen, we must consider the Association to date its rise,—the Association was then formed. And upon the promulgation of the scheme, so well did it take with the dental profession generally, that at a second meeting some six months after, the names of over thirty members were enrolled. This, certainly, was most cheering, and the cause for congratulation among us at this second meeting was the more striking when contrasted with previous efforts which, when directed in the same channel, had invariably proved abortive, and any attempt had resulted in failure; nor was this all, for not only had we actually an enrolment of *bona fide* members, but a fair prospect of being speedily joined to the greater portion of the Dental Profession in the Province. Well, gentlemen, in view of our signal success, and while we felt that we had achieved much, and had just cause for congratulation, we also felt that something more was yet to be done—that the goal was yet to be reached—and, consequently, with this view, we determined to frame a bill for the better and fuller realization of our views as professors of dentistry, in Ontario, and which