

THE CANADA
Journal of Dental Science.

Vol. III.]

May, 1871.

[No. 7.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

—
ALDIS BERNARD, L.D.S.,

President of the Dental Board of Examiners, Province of Quebec.

We have much pleasure this month in presenting our Canadian subscribers with a fac-simile of Dr. A. Bernard, who is, we think, the oldest living dental practitioner in the Dominion.

Dr. Bernard is a native of Canada, having been born on the banks of the beautiful Memphremagog. When a child he was taken to the United States, and when very young acquired all the knowledge of dentistry then attainable. He practiced about ten years in the Southern States, itinerating, as was then the fashion with Dentists. Mineral Teeth were altogether unknown at that time, and human, calves and sheeps teeth, also Hippopotamus, were then used, and the general position of dentistry was at a low ebb. In the summer of 1839-40, he came to the north in consequence of ill health; spent his time at Niagara, Lake Huron, and other parts of Ontario. In the Autumn of 1841 (thirty years ago) he came to Montreal, where he has ever since been in constant practise. There were only three dentists in the city at that time, viz., Spooner, Logan and Scripture. The latter died shortly after, Logan went to Europe, and Spooner transferred his practice to Dickinson, and removed to the States. Scores of dentists have since come and gone. In 1844, when Montreal was the seat of Government, Dr. Bernard made an effort to improve the condition of the dental profession by legislation, which was very nearly successful, when the Parliament Buildings were burned, and the medical act in which were included the clauses regulating dental practice was destroyed. In the recent successful incorporation of the Profession of the Province of Quebec, and in every associative movement designed to educate and elevate, Dr. Bernard has taken an active and prominent part. His