

non-scrated pluggers, hand pressure, and seated in an ordinary rocking chair, which speaks volumes for honest dentistry, even at that period. Ether and chloroform were not generally used, as ether was introduced in 1847, and Dr. Morton was credited as being the discoverer. Gold, silver and platina plates were used for artificial dentures. Block teeth were manufactured by the leading dentists in Boston, New York and other cities. In Portland, Dr. Parsons, with whom I was studying at that time, as well as Dr. Salmon and Dr. Coffin, manufactured their own blocks, also made continuous gum work mounted on platina plates and gum baked by Dr. Allen's recipe. Single plate and gum teeth were used by others; they were supplied by the old firm of Jones, White & McCurdy. It was not until 1854 that vulcanite rubber was used and introduced. The first case made in Halifax to my recollection was in 1865, and vulcanized for three hours in a ten-gallon vulcanizer. Gutta percha was also tried, but proved a failure. A case was made on gutta percha plate, single teeth, for a sea captain, ready to sail for the West Indies—result, total collapse after wearing only a few days. In order to use the vulcanite rubber, we were obliged to pay to the patentee an office right of \$100, which after some years was abolished.

From 1852 to 1872 advanced strides and improvements continued to be made in dentistry, leading up to more rapid and better success in operative as well as prosthetic dentistry, celluloid plates, the rubber dam, automatic plugger, cohesive gold, dental engines, serated pluggers, hand mallet and numerous other appliances too great in number to be enumerated at the present time. In those days, Boston, Portland, New York, Philadelphia and other large cities of the United States could boast of the highest professional skill and intelligence. Among the leading dentists of those cities were the names of Drs. Tucker, Weatherby, Harvard, Salmon, Parsons, Goodnough, Flagg, Osgood, Alport, Codman, Greenwood, besides a host of others. Quite a number of these gentlemen I had the pleasure of knowing intimately, and was associated with four in business. The reputation acquired by Drs. Harkell and Salmon, with whom I was associated in Boston, and Dr. Edwin Parsons, in Portland, stood second to none at that time. The former could not be surpassed in prosthetic dentistry and manufacture of block teeth on gold plates and continuous gum work on platina, as well as partial sets on silver and gold plates. Dr. Salmon is still in practice in Boston, and is the inventor of several dental instruments. Dr. L. P. Harkell's name has become familiar to many down to the present day, and the genial, kind Doctor still follows his profession in Chicago, having given to the profession valuable works on dental prosthesis, and having contributed various articles to our dental journals. A certificate for dental prosthesis is now in my possession, presented by Dr. Harkell while associated with him in 1856, which I prize most highly.