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(Continued from May Issue.)

ADDRESS OF THE RETIRING PRESIDENT.

By J. A. MARSHALL, D.D.S., Belleville, Ont.

Mr. President and Members of the Ontario Dental Society: On the occasion of my retirement from the highest office in the gift of this Society, I desire to express my sincere thanks and gratitude for the kind consideration received at your hands. As a mark of distinction, the honor conferred upon me has been fully appreciated, and I may express the hope that any shortcoming or oversight on my part in safe-guarding the interests of the Society, or any seeming discourtesy to any member of the profession, will be received by you in a spirit of charity, as I assure you it has been entirely inadvertent. The harmonious desire and united effort of the management to make this meeting one of marked success deserve special mention and commendation. I can say, in all candor, that if anything should mar the pleasure, or deduct from the profit of this peculiar occasion, it will be something beyond their control, and will occur despite their most zealous efforts to prevent it.

I have called it a peculiar occasion. This you will easily understand when you remember that this meeting of the Ontario Dental Society has either incorporated, or been incorporated into the celebration of the thirtieth anniversary of the statutory measure known as "An Act Respecting Dentistry." Without dwelling on these distinctions, we trust that general interest will centre, not in one or other, but that the significance will be attached to the united meeting. A feast has been prepared, the guests have been invited, and now we sincerely hope that a hearty response may crown the efforts of the management, and that many eager appe-

tites may be surfeited with the richest delicacies of the present day. The bill of fare is varied and attractive. The savory, easily masticated and highly nutritious object lessons of Profs. Wright and McKenzie, and of Dr. J. B. Willmott, the solid, every-day necessary of Dean Black with the dessert of the anniversary, interspersed with a variety of toothsome side-dishes go to make up a most desirable and palatable repast. It is not my intention to enter on a lengthy dissertation on the possibilities or probabilities of the science and art of dentistry, but will content myself with referring briefly to some of those undesirable features that are prevalent in our profession, as in all others, in the hope that bringing them before the notice of the Society will tend somewhat towards their abatement. In the first place, let me mention the apathy that exists in the ranks of the profession respecting the "gathering of ourselves together." Why this should be is beyond the conjecture of an ordinary intelligence, and to obviate it much anxious thought has been exercised, and efforts are yearly being made to remove this deplorable condition of lethargy which is unfortunately so prevalent. Can it be possible that so many members of the profession imagine that they have acquired all knowledge, or is jealousy to insinuate itself to the detriment of the profession, or is it that this huge majority of nearly five hundred dentists cannot condescend to associate with this poor minority of knowledge seekers, or is it carelessness and lack of interest in the profession? While the cause of the trouble is in doubt, one thing is certain, that it is a case hard of treatment, and a remedy suggested by any friend will be received with gratitude.

Next, a word as to those who fail to recognize the importance, to say nothing of the courtesy, of promptly replying to all correspondence where it is expected. Very much annoyance and disappointment arises out of laxness in this respect, and very frequently at a time when it is most keenly felt. As the most frequent cause of this evil appears to be carelessness, it is all the more culpable, as admitting of no reasonable excuse. Therefore, out of consideration for the feelings of the new management, if for no other reason, I ask you to be more prompt and business-like in this respect in future.

Another evil, rather peculiar in nature has been practised somewhat too successfully for a considerable time. I refer now to the practice of "sponging" into our meetings and utterly ignoring the important fact that the conduct of the Society costs money. Many have shown by their actions that they considered it highly beneficial to attend our meetings and catch the seeds of thought intended for those alone who honestly contribute to the support of the institution. While we glory in the strength of numbers, we seriously object to professional men, who give nothing to our sup-

port, sharing equally in the profits with those who freely contribute to the support of this Society which gives an hundred-fold dividend on the stock invested.

This would also seem a fitting occasion to again strongly urge upon every dental practitioner in Ontario, who does not already receive it, to identify himself with the progressive, loyal and reading men of the profession by subscribing for the DOMINION DENTAL JOURNAL. The editor of this Journal is doing a noble work in placing it within easy reach, and how any can be so obtuse, as to ignore the value of being able to so easily familiarize himself with our own dental literature, is a hard nut to crack.

If, then, the thoughts suggested in this rambling way are but received in the same kind spirit in which they are expressed, the result may be that a hoped-for improvement will take place along the lines indicated.

I cannot allow this opportunity to pass without expressing sincere sorrow at the death of our late Treasurer, Dr. C. P. Lennox, and bestowing a humble tribute of respect and esteem in memory of one so warmly attached to our Society. He was ever ready, and never refused to bear his share of our burdens. A companionable man, who always looked on the bright side, and knew not discouragement under any circumstances, his removal is a loss to his associates, his profession and his country.

And now, in conclusion, it is with a pardonable pride that I allude to the fact that my regime has fallen in a most eventful time. We are here celebrating our professional jubilee, the thirtieth anniversary of our incorporation, which gathers around it most interesting associations. And further, during my term of office occurred the diamond jubilee of our beloved sovereign, who stands without a peer among rulers in justice, mercy, and Christian character, of whom none can point to one unrighteous act. And when she has passed away (and may that not be for many years) she will receive from others, as well as her own people, more honor, respect, thanks and praise than ever was accorded to any other ruler that ever graced a throne. God save the Queen.

DENTISTRY AND DENTISTS IN ONTARIO BEFORE 1868.

By H. T. WOOD, L.D.S., M.D.S., Toronto.

Mr. President and Gentlemen: It is no easy task to turn the wheel of time back thirty or forty years, and bring to one's mind the then condition and surroundings of the dental profession in this Province.

As early as 1845 such men as Drs. Rand, Wood and Jones were in practice in this city. These were followed by Drs. W. C. Adams, J. W. Elliott, G. L. Elliott, F. G. Callender, G. V. N. Relyea, H. H. Nelles (the first Canadian to obtain the degree of D.D.S.), W. J. Slater and many others in Ontario whose names I either have not known or cannot recall, the number in January, 1868, being about 200.

All dental operations before 1868 were performed by the hand, and our burrs and drills were revolved by the fingers. In preparing a cavity for filling, a chisel was used in cutting away the thick walls, and excavators, burrs and drills for forming retaining pits and completing the cavity. Gold and tin-foil were inserted and consolidated solely by hand pressure. This involved great care and no slight risk. Well do I remember an unfortunate mishap under the old method. It occurred when filling an upper cuspid with gold, from the inside outwards. My plugger suddenly glanced from the tooth, and so great was the force used that it pierced the lip of the patient before I could stay my hand.

Tin-foil fillings were used a good deal in those days. Oxichloride of zinc was first used in 1858 or 1859. Amalgam was in general use at that time, particularly by a certain class of travelling dentists. It was in fact their only filling medium. I have seen approximate cavities in the incisors that were all filled together with black amalgam, made by mixing silver filings and tin-foil with quicksilver. Such fillings were frequently loose, but not sufficiently so to fall out, and were highly satisfactory to their innocent owners, who supposed that they contained some mysterious property which preserved the teeth from decay.

Dentistry in Ontario in early days had some rough-and-ready operators, and the pain of toothache was often surpassed by the pain of extraction. In one village the blacksmith was the township dentist. On a visit from a patient he would leave the forge, wipe his hands on his apron, get the old turnkey wrench, and his brawny arm would soon draw not only the sufferer's tooth, but often the screaming patient himself, from the old kitchen chair.

Immediately preceding the Dental Act, we had a number of worthy practitioners in every city and town of this Province, who used every means in their power to elevate and advance the dental profession. They subscribed to the dental journals, carefully studied them, and read with interest such reported proceedings of dental societies as were available, and, when possible, attended and took part in their discussions.

In the *Cosmos* we find reported a meeting of the Michigan Dental Association in the city of Detroit, in January, 1860. The report says: "The officers for the ensuing year are, Dr. C. S. Chittenden, Hamilton, C. W., President; Dr. William Cahoon, Detroit, Vice-President; Dr. L. C. Whiting, Detroit, Secretary and Treasurer."

Mr. President, I first read this report thirty-eight years ago. To-day I read the name of the late Dr. C. S. Chittenden with a sense of sorrow mingled with pleasure. Of sorrow, because we have lost a dear and valued friend. Of pleasure, because we well remember the untiring zeal and energy he always manifested in helping to make the dental profession in Ontario what it is to-day.

Thirty years ago and more was a time of great activity to all thoughtful dentists. Each suggested improvement was examined with scrupulous care. In fact, it was the day-dawn of invention and improvement, not only in practice but in material.

Early in the history of dentistry in this Province the operating chairs were of great variety, and in many cases an ordinary house chair was used, which was occasionally improved by a primitive head-rest. They were made, in those days, so that they could be fastened to the back of a chair by a thumb-screw. A little later high-backed chairs were raised on a platform and did good service. Later on the dentist would make a sketch, and call on a cabinet-maker to build a chair specially for him. Some of these chairs were very nicely upholstered, and comfortable for the patient, if not for the operator. One of the first chairs made for the purpose (and which was then considered quite wonderful) with movable back and seat, was the "Archer chair." All of these chairs I used in the order in which I have mentioned them, before the year 1868.

The invention of "hard vulcanite" made quite a revolution in the dental laboratory, adding new appliances suitable for the manufacture and finishing of this material. My first experience with the vulcanizer was in the village of Brighton in 1859. About that time I sent to Rochester, N.Y., for one, and a pound of raw vulcanite, and instructions for its use. When the vulcanizer arrived I found that I had a wonderful machine. It was about two and a half feet in length, ten inches in diameter, and was fitted up with a steam escape cock, a safety-valve and thermometer.

Its strength was about that of a four-horse power steam-engine. It weighed about a hundred pounds, and was made to fit an ordinary cook-stove. When I had any vulcanizing to do I would put the monster on the stove, much as a woman would her wash-boiler full of clothes on an early Monday morning.

After I had learned to use the vulcanizer, and had got some skill in handling an ordinary plate tooth by bending the pins in order to get the best hold on the rubber—it must be remembered that the pins in the teeth were only intended for gold or silver plates—a friend in Prince Edward County wanted a set of both upper and lower teeth put in—I had extracted the old teeth some time before—and invited me to visit her house and do the work there. So I packed my lathe, instruments, tools and vulcanizer, in a large chest, their united weight being about one hundred and fifty pounds, and started off. On arriving at my destination I took possession of one corner of the farmhouse kitchen and “set up shop.” My experience with the vulcanizer there was most amusing. I fired up in the cook-stove and put on “my kettle” and raised the heat to three hundred and ten degrees, keeping it there for two and a half hours. At the end of that time I prepared to let off steam, first opening the outside doors of the kitchen. Then I turned the escape cock and out rushed the steam like the scream of a locomotive. The family cat (which had been peacefully dozing under the big farm stove) concluded the end of the world had come, and that under such trying circumstances she had better leave the room, which she did, fur on end, with the noise and rush of an exploding rocket, and her claws actually tore slivers from the floor in her frantic effort to escape.

My next amusing experience with the vulcanizer was a few months later, and just after I had located in Picton. By this time I had made a little improvement in my machine, and used a tin pipe to conduct the steam out of a window. The first time I let off steam there the neighbors were nearly as badly frightened as had been my friend's cat, and came rushing into the house to know “what on earth we were doing?” and “what was the matter any way?” while the cats and dogs for a block around the house flew in every direction as though they had been shot from cannon.

√ The introduction of the mallet to consolidate gold fillings in the teeth was a welcome aid. This addition to the operative department made other improvements necessary in order to keep the teeth dry long enough to complete the operation. The napkin in many cases proved a failure, and other appliances were invented and used. Duct compressors and tongue holders were only partially successful, and in fact nothing was found to be perfectly successful till Dr. C. S. Barnum, of New York, invented the “rubber dam” and presented it to the dental profession in 1864. In

recognition of this noble liberality the dentists of the United States gave Dr. Barnum, through the American Dental Association, \$1,000 and a gold medal. A gold medal, gold watch and considerable sums of money were presented by other societies. Forever blessed be the name of Dr. Barnum for his invention and his gift. What an inestimable boon to us has been the rubber dam.

The next improvement was the automatic plugger in place of the hand-mallet. Then came the dental engine, with all its improvements and appliances, and the end is not yet.

I have merely referred to these improvements, as owing to my books and records having been destroyed by fire many years ago, and having hardly any time for research it is difficult to do otherwise than trust to memory, which I hope has not led me to trench on ground which will be ably dealt with by my friend Dr. Marshall.

Despite improvements, the dental profession was as a body very weak. We were not in a position to professionally protect ourselves and the public. We were acting as individuals, instead of conjointly, and what we really wanted was organization. Although we had many first-class men we also had a class of men who were a discredit to the profession; men who made no effort to inform themselves in the principles of dentistry, but who went about the country ignorantly and presumptuously talking dentistry to the curious crowds which gathered to listen to them; and sometimes before the victim was aware of his intentions the dirty fingers of a dental vagabond would enter a rustic's mouth and many a good molar would be doomed. Then would come the professional advice: "Several teeth must be pulled and others should be filled." As a rule this would occur in the country and among the farmers who had large families, and the "doctor" had a keen eye to business when he learned one of the sons of the house was suffering from toothache. "Well," said he, "it's a lucky thing for you that I've come round here to-day. We'll soon pull out all the ache, and put the teeth of the whole family in good shape." "But," the farmer would say, "what about the cost? When there are so many teeth to be filled and extracted seems to me you ought to make some reduction in your prices. Do you?" "Of course I do," says the doctor; "there will be no trouble on that point. My price is twenty-five cents for each silver filling, and ten cents for pulling a tooth. Why, if you went to town to have this job done it would cost you from fifty to seventy-five cents for silver fillings, and twenty-five cents for having a tooth pulled. Sometimes when I've a lot of work to do for one family I fill six or eight teeth for one dollar, and I don't suppose the whole job here will cost more than five or six dollars. So now, if you say the word, we will bring our tools in and begin right after dinner.

Of course you'll feed the horse, and give us our dinner in the bargain? Here is my assistant. I generally have some one to help me. You see I can take a smart young man and learn him the trade in six weeks. Now just look at this young man. This is his fourth week, and he can fill a tooth just as well as I can, only not so quick. Say, farmer, you ought to have one of your boys learn the trade. It only takes about six weeks, and the cost is only \$100, and he will come out a first-class dentist."

You may think this a highly-colored picture, but to prove that it is not too highly colored I will relate a little experience of my own. About thirty-five years ago a young man came to my office in the town of Picton. He was the son of a well-to-do and highly respected farmer in the county. The visitor told me he had just finished his apprenticeship as a dentist with Dr. ——— and would like to look round a little before he began business for himself. I asked him how long he had been under instruction, and he said, "Six weeks." I then asked him what dental books he had been reading. He said he had not read anything on dentistry except an odd number or two of the dental *Cosmos*, and had paid his instructor \$100. He had done no work in a dental laboratory, and didn't think his teacher had one. If he had, my informant knew nothing about it. I saw his standing at once, and wanted him to see it too, so I told him he could stay in my office for a few days if he wished to do so. Then I placed in his hands "Maury's Dental Art" and "Harris' Principles and Practice of Dental Surgery." They were the first standard works he had ever seen. He asked, and I answered a great many questions, and gave him all the instruction I could in that short time. He was with me for three days, and in that time had arrived at the conclusion that he knew nothing about dentistry and had thrown away his money. Also, that it would require as long a time, and as much study, to become a dentist as a physician. So he gave up the study of dentistry and began that of medicine, going to Kingston where he took a regular course, and graduated in due time. He is now, and has been for a long time, practising medicine in this Province. This young man was not the only one the same travelling artist had turned out as a full-fledged dentist to damage and defraud the public. Some I knew, and others I heard of. Quacks in other parts of the Province were turning out from six to eight men a year. It was most humiliating. I have been in communities where these men had been operating, and I felt ashamed to be known as a dentist. Such was the degradation of the dental profession immediately preceding the passing of the Act.

The time for a momentous change was, however, fast approaching. Light was springing up in the east, and the "Day" star was beginning to shine.

A short time before the end of 1866 Dr. B. W. Day, of Kingston, mailed a circular to every reputable dentist in Canada West, convening a meeting, to be held in the city of Toronto at the Queen's Hotel, on the 3rd day of January, 1867. There were present at that meeting, B. W. Day, M.D., Kingston; C. S. Chittenden, Hamilton; F. G. Callendar, Cobourg; J. O'Donnell, Peterboro; Henry T. Wood, Picton; A. D. Lalonde, Brockville; M. E. Snider, Toronto; D. A. Bogart, Hamilton, and J. S. Scott, Cobourg. B. W. Day was appointed chairman, and J. S. Scott, secretary. The chairman stated that the object of the convention was to organize a "Dental Association," and to take steps to procure the passing of a law requiring dentists to pass an examination. A constitution was adopted "requiring that candidates for membership, in addition to professional knowledge, shall have practised successfully for five years in one place and one established office." The following officers were then elected: President, B. W. Day, M.D.; 1st Vice-President, C. S. Chittenden; 2nd Vice-President, H. T. Wood; Treasurer, F. G. Callendar; Recording Secretary, J. S. Scott, M.D.; Corresponding Secretary, J. O'Donnell; Librarian, D. A. Bogart.

After the usual business was attended to, a committee was formed, consisting of the President, Vice-Presidents and Secretary, to draft a Bill of Incorporation to be submitted to Parliament at its next session. The next meeting was appointed to be held in Cobourg on the first Tuesday in July, at 7 p.m. This closed the first meeting of the first dental Society in Canada West.

The second meeting was held in Cobourg in July, 1867, according to previous arrangement, and thirty-one members were in attendance. The meeting in Cobourg was of very great interest to the profession throughout the Province. The success or failure of the object to be attained was no longer in doubt, and no one thought of opposing the organization of a "Dental Society" and the drafting of an Act to be presented to Parliament at the next session. The standard qualification in the draft was as follows: "All persons being British subjects by birth or naturalization, who have been constantly engaged for any period less than five years in established office practice, next preceding the passing of this Act, in the profession of dentistry, shall be entitled to a certificate of 'licentiate of dental surgery' upon their furnishing to the said Board satisfactory proof of their having been so engaged, and upon passing the required examination, and upon payment of such fees as may be authorized and fixed by the said Board, for the payment of which the Treasurer's receipt shall be sufficient evidence; and all persons being British subjects by birth or naturalization, who have been constantly engaged for five years and upwards in established office practice, next preceding the

passing of this Act, in the practice of the profession of dentistry, shall upon such proof as aforesaid, and upon the payment of the fee as aforesaid, be entitled to such certificate without passing any examination." This was the foundation of the Act respecting dentistry. All other clauses were not only to enforce the conditions of this Act, but to make rules and regulations for the elevation and education of the dental profession, as may from time to time be required for the general good of the people of Ontario. Other important business matters were transacted at the Cobourg meeting, after which it was adjourned to meet in Toronto in January, 1868.

A session of the Association was held in Toronto in January, 1868. The dental profession was well represented. A petition was presented to the Legislature praying that an Act be passed requiring dentists to pass an examination signed by the Professors of the two medical schools in Toronto and the leading physicians of Ontario, including several members of the Medical Council.

The Bill was placed in the hands of Dr. G. W. Boulter, M.P.P. The promoters of the Bill communicated with the dentists of Ottawa, when they signed and returned the petition, praying for the Act. Petitions were also sent in from the professional men of Belleville, including Albert College, the dentists of London, and the Reeves and Deputy-Reeves of Northumberland and Durham, the professional men of Cobourg, including Victoria University. At the first reading of the Bill the Association attended Parliament in a body. When the Bill was read for the second and third times some opposition was shown, and several names were added to the Board of Examiners, and this appeared to satisfy the opponents. The select committee of the House were called together and the chairman, Mr. Rykert, presented a draft of the Bill, which he thought would pass without opposition, keeping as nearly as possible to the draft adopted by the Association. "The committee reported the Bill and it was passed on the last day of the session." The Dental Act came in force on the fourth day of March, 1868.

The dentists of Ontario should remember with gratitude the names of Dr. G. W. Boulter, ex-M.P.P., Mr. J. C. Rykert, ex-M.P.P., the Hon. R. W. Scott, ex-M.P.P., Dr. Baxter, ex-M.P.P., Dr. McGill, ex-M.P.P., Prof. Aikins, M.D., Prof. Berryman, M.A., M.D., Dr. Dewar and Dr. Whitney. These men gave us most valuable assistance when we were greatly in need of help, and their kindness should never be forgotten by the dental profession in Ontario.

And now, Mr. President, in closing this slight sketch of "Dentistry and Dentists in Ontario before 1868," permit me to heartily congratulate my co-workers of the past half century on

the splendid success which has attended their life-long labor of love. Some of the old pioneers have already gone from the scene. It cannot be long ere others pass away. May it be said of us, that we loved and honored our profession, and strove to advance, perfect and hand it down with a fair and creditable record to our successors.

To the dentists of to-day permit me, in conclusion to say, Honor your calling and it will honor you. Give to it the best qualities of your head and heart, with patient and unflagging energy, and those of you who in 1928 take part in the 60th anniversary of the Dental Act will be able to hand on to another generation a profession better fitted to alleviate the pain and minister to the necessity and comfort of your fellow-countrymen than we have bequeathed to you.

DEVELOPMENT OF DENTISTRY FROM 1868 TO 1898.

By J. A. MARSHALL, D.D.S., Belleville, Ont.

Mr. President and Members of the Ontario Dental Society:

The fact that there appears as a feature of our programme so important a function as an account of the development of dentistry during the last thirty years, would lead you to think that in the ordinary fitness of things the person to whom this task is assigned had been advisedly chosen. However, to forestall any adverse criticism, I will confess that it is a case of mistaken identity. Not a few of those present by reason of their personal knowledge of the whole period, and their superior capacity for narration, are vastly better qualified to present a subject of this nature to so an intelligent an audience as that here assembled, and which in the hands of some of them might have been the milk of the anniversary cocoanut.

Dr. Wood has done ample justice to his subject, which may be with no little propriety called "The Past of Dentistry." His association with many of the incidents covers most of the ground, and this added to his cultivated propensity for making himself familiar with the details of the history of the profession, admirably adapt him to the number he has just given with so much acceptance.

Dr. Willmott fittingly observed at the opening of this complete little building, that "in the beginning dentistry as a profession in Ontario was without form and void." To my mind, that beginning maintained until that memorable third day of January, 1867, when the initial organization meeting was held in Toronto on the invita-

tion of a hitherto modest dental-medico of the City of Kingston—Dr. B. W. Day, who up to that time had possessed and nurtured a little thought seed—an organized dental profession.

All told, nine good men and true responded to the call, and constituted the first dental society in Canada, and thus at one bound the little embryo developed into a society of nine members, full of enthusiasm and a determination to apply for adoption papers in the form of an Act of Parliament to recognize this new birth as one of the adopted children in the family of Miss Ontario.

After organizing with due formality, with Dr. Day as president, the first issue discussed was that of legislation. It was unanimously decided to ask Parliament at its next session for an Act of incorporation. On duly considering the situation and arranging as much detail as possible, it was decided to draft a bill before the next half-yearly meeting to be held at Cobourg in July, where they hoped to further discuss and finally mature the undertaking. The progressive spirit was fast gaining ground, and as a result of a notice that appeared in a Toronto paper that the dentists had organized, the July meeting was attended by more than seventy-five members of the craft, each one of them desirous of joining the association. At this meeting the draft of the proposed bill was received with much favor, and the majority endorsed the sentiment expressed at the previous meeting, to petition the Legislature.

The third semi-annual meeting was held at Toronto on January 20th, 1868, with a very large representation of the dentists of the Province. The scene is rapidly changing, the bill as drafted is favorably received at this meeting by a fair majority, and a petition signed praying the Legislature then in session to grant its adoption.

The scheme is ripe, the time has come, and Dr. Boulter, M.P.P. for North Hastings, has kindly promised to lobby it through; but at this point Dr. H. T. Wood, who was always ready with bright ideas, moved that they adjourn to the Parliament buildings in a body to present their prayer in as forceful a manner as possible. The result was that it was read a first time on the 30th of January, a second time on the 11th of February, although it was greatly imperilled by the agitation of the minority, many of whom feared the effect of it should it become law. So on this account a great deal of bitter antagonism had to be overcome before its final evolution from the embryo which had been in gestation exactly fourteen months.

It was brought forth, its adoption papers signed, and it received the euphonious title of "The Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario," on the 4th day of March, 1868, which is to us an important date in dental history; the thirtieth anniversary of which we this day celebrate.

The new dental Act was far from being perfect, but it was equal to anything that could be framed at that time, for the profession itself being imperfect would not have tolerated a perfect statute could one have been constructed.

The promoters of the Act found that they could not move much in advance of the times, and so governed themselves accordingly. However, the Act was a grand effort; it was not copied, it was not improved, it was designed. Without compass or luminary in the dental horizon, without pillar of cloud by day or pillar of fire by night other than the indefatigable zeal and admirable courage of a few ambitious men, tempered with good judgment, a keen sense of justice, the wisdom of serpents and the harmlessness of doves, a frail craft had been launched and safely guided over an unknown sea.

The members of the Provisional Board incorporated in the Act held their first meeting in Toronto—where all annual meetings were to be held—on the fourteenth and fifteenth days of April, 1868, for organization and transaction of business, which, while it fully occupied their time, consisted largely in perfecting the necessary arrangements to insure as much success as possible to the management of this huge innovation. ✓

The twelve members judiciously selected so as to represent all parts of the Province were present, and elected the following officers: President, B. W. Day, Kingston; Secretary, John O'Donnell, Peterboro'; Treasurer, C. S. Chittenden, Hamilton; Registrar, H. T. Wood, Picton. Of these four, one—H. T. Wood—is present with an unbroken record on the board to his credit; one, Dr. Chittenden, has gone whence no weary traveller returns; the other two, Drs. Day and O'Donnell, though absent in body, are with us in spirit.

Of the eight members of that board, Dr. J. B. Meacham—who still cherishes a warm spot in his heart for dentists, although not following the profession now—has promised to be present, and hopes to be refreshed by the repetition of the critical events of thirty years ago, and by associating once more with the old boys. Dr. Relyea of Oswego, N.Y., eighty-two years of age, and still at the operating chair, is in evidence with a short sketch and a greeting. John Leggo of Ottawa is alive and well, and has a recognition, while Scott, Lalonde, and probably G. L. Elliott have gone to their reward. Kahn and Callendar left the Province, and have been lost to us until quite recently when their addresses were obtained, but unfortunately too late for any reply to be obtained from them in time for this meeting.

It was a fitting mark of recognition that the presidency was given to Dr. Day, who had immortalized himself by his noble purposes of raising dentistry from the condition of a mere craft to that

of an honorable learned profession, vouchsafing its emoluments to those who thoroughly equipped themselves to handle in an intelligent manner all the operations that fall under the category dental, and at the same time protecting an innocent public from the rapine and jugglery of unprincipled devotees, who on serving a few weeks or months and the payment of a small sum of money, would publicly proclaim themselves both capable and reliable.

Allow me to introduce to you this hero and benefactor. The central portrait on the wall before you represents Dr. Day as he appeared about the time of which we speak. Will you rise and welcome him? While referring to the first president and his noble efforts, permit me to state that his hands were ably supported by such men as G. V. N. Relyea, John O'Donnell, A. D. Lalonde, J. S. Scott, M.D., F. G. Callendar, H. T. Wood, whose portrait all will recognize at Dr. Day's right, and who held the position of president from July, 1870, till '77, and C. S. Chittenden, who was president in all something over sixteen years, and whose portrait appears to Dr. Day's left.

In courtesy we cannot pass from the portraits without referring to the other two, Dr. R. J. Husband, our genial president, who has occupied the chair with much acceptance since 1893, and, as his position indicates, nobly supports his predecessors; and last, but not least, that of Dr. J. B. Willmott, our worthy dean and secretary, whose individuality has made itself felt in no common degree in maturing the many worthy and progressive schemes of the last twenty-five years.

These portraits, gentlemen, regularly adorn the walls of our board-room, and have just been placed here for the anniversary.

Asking your pardon for this little digression, we will return to the subject and follow up the thread of our history in a few particulars.

The board met twice a year, in July and January, for the purpose of granting licenses and the transaction of business.

All must be familiar with the "five years' office practice prior to 1868" clause, and the source of annoyance it has been of recent years, and from that can form some idea of the effect it had at that time of clogging the wheels of the machinery. Although great caution was observed and strict requirements exacted, nevertheless many applied for licenses and even got them fraudulently, notwithstanding the affidavit and the certificates of two medical men as to their knowledge of some of the subjects required, and from two clergymen as to their moral character.

One of the greatest difficulties to cope with was the numerous tramp dentists, many of them Americans, who from their wandering proclivities left their mistakes behind them, and this, added to their inability, rendered them a scourge to the country and a

stentch in the nostrils of respectable men. Even these applied for licenses, and in some cases obtained them.

For those who had not been in office practice for five years examinations were set, and from the deplorable manner in which the candidates attempted these it was clearly demonstrated that in order to develop capable talent to meet the demand, a school was absolutely necessary. Some such step, too, must be taken to add dignity, so that the rising men might command some degree of respect from men of other professions.

Dr. G. L. Elliott made an effort in 1868 to establish a school, The Canada Dental College, but it was an ephemeral attempt, and in direct opposition to the wish of a majority of the board, and the result was that its existence was short, and its usefulness lost in insignificance.

In 1869, the board, realizing that the educational interests were not enhanced by the terms of the Act, while things remained as they were, decided to open a school.

So in the latter part of that year F. G. Callendar and John O'Donnell undertook to conduct the dental subjects, and I think physiology, at the corner of Church and Court streets, associating with them Drs. Day and Chittenden, while the remaining subjects were dispensed at the medical school, and in the classes with the medical students.

This arrangement lasted but one session on account of mismanagement in the dental department. While no fault was ever found with the teachings or the teachers, one thing seemed certain, and that was it had no recognized leader.

Further, too, a reckless disposition of the funds brought about embarrassment to such an extent that the furnishings had to be realized on to meet the demands of the creditors.

You may easily imagine the deplorable condition that maintained in respect to the theoretical as well as the practical departments of the profession. Of course text-books were available, and so far as preceptors were able and willing, some vague ideas of the knowledge required might be secured, but one and all must confess that even then with a change from a few weeks' instruction to that of two years' training under a preceptor and regular examinations, there was as yet nothing more than the first faint glimmerings of the light of the present day.

The gloom that prevailed so appalled the minds of the progressive men of the board that a committee was formed to cast about and discover some enterprising individual or individuals who would undertake to open a private institution under the patronage of the board, and relieve the tension by some means or other.

Drs. F. G. Callendar and W. C. Adams were interviewed, and volunteered to step into the breach, but it was the same old story,

and in school boys' parlance "they played hockey," and the beginning was the end of their educational enterprise, leaving the situation more galling than before, as the promoters of the enterprise felt the effects of defeat as well as the reproaches of those slow coaches who antagonized the movement.

About this time, too, Dr. Day was prevailed upon to leave his native Canada and locate in Chicago, and thus sever for all time his connection with those faithful coadjutors who had participated in many a fierce battle, contending with all the courage of their convictions and a dogged determination to elevate dentists and dentistry to the level of a learned and honored profession, and so well did they eventually succeed that a fitting monument perpetuates their efforts.

In 1870 Dr. J. B. Willmott, whose services during the succeeding years cannot be overestimated, was elected to the board and became its secretary. On the removal of Dr. Day, his mantle fell most properly on the leader of the future, Dr. J. B. Willmott, when all the indomitable energy and courage that characterized the former in securing legislation and in taking the first steps to elevate the profession, were doubly intensified in the latter, who sedulously set himself to work out the balance of the scheme so cleverly inaugurated by his great predecessor, but hampered by no considerable obstacles.

The Dental Association now began an agitation for a school, and urged the board to make another effort, when Dr. Willmott, having associated with him the astute and capable Dr. Teskey, in the autumn of 1875 opened, at the corner of Richmond and Victoria streets, a school, which, from its inception, supplied the proper material for the production of a robust and progressive following.

Certainly its beginning was small, and the very maintenance of its existence taxed to the utmost the determination of the courageous promoters of the scheme. Their efforts, however, finally prevailed, and with the addition of Dr. Stuart they formed an exceptionally strong trio of educators, and under their able tuition proper instruction was amply supplied to those hungering and thirsting for a higher dental education.

But, as time moved on, a marked increase followed in the number of students, and as circumstances permitted better facilities were adopted in all the appointments of the institution. Dr. W. E. Willmott was added to the staff, and new quarters secured to meet the requirements of the augmented classes, and thus was an honest effort made to furnish the very best compensation to the students in return for the time and money spent in acquiring the profession.

Matriculation, at first nominal, was soon made a matter of consideration. Indications pointed to the possibility of the profession becoming filled with an illiterate element, and this possibility, added

to the fact that a good general education is an essential element in the structure of dignity, induced the board to adopt a high standard of matriculation, which has kept pace with the advance in all departments of the institution.

From nothing in 1868 to a level, with the matriculation into any of the learned professions in 1898, is the evolution that has obtained with regard to the first move in the game of entering the profession of dentistry.

Societies have played an important part in the advancement of every department of the profession, and through these agencies much good has been suggested, and ultimately developed into benefits which, when concentrated, form in Ontario the most complete system in existence to-day.

The Dental Association of Ontario was the first, and rendered splendid service, even if many vigorous, wordy battles did occur (and it is even whispered that by the coarser element bare knuckles were used on one occasion).

Some of these disputes resulted, less than two years after inauguration, in the organization of an offshoot society called the Ontario Society of Dentists; but in less than a year, both societies meeting in Toronto at the same time, councils of war were held, the pipe of peace was smoked, the hatchet buried, and the united wigwam was called the Union Dental Association.

This Society moved on in the even tenor of its way, suggesting amendmenis to the Act, reforming abuses, and engaged in the mutual improvement of its members generally.

Although the name has changed more than once or twice, yet the fact remains that by a sort of apostolic succession we are here to-day, the same old, original Society which formerly had an admission fee of \$4.00, and gave each member an elaborate certificate.

Many city and district societies have sprung up at several times and rendered good service in their way, but perhaps the most notable of these is the Eastern Ontario Dental Society, which I have been led to believe was established for the purpose of investigating and correcting the supposed crooked ways of the board.

Consequently at the following annual meeting of the Union Dental Association a number of wise men came from the East to participate in the election of the board, with the result that Drs. L. Clements of Kingston and C. A. Martin of Ottawa were elected. Dr. Martin being the spokesman, made a close scrutiny into the past conduct of the board, and on his return to the East reported to the E.O.D.A. that he had been well received, and although a few hot shots had passed between him and Dr. Willmott, he found him a capable man, well qualified to guide the board on a broad and progressive platform; a man of strong religious principles, aggressive, and hard to conquer in debate. His report as to the

other leading members of the board was equally favorable, as, *e.g.*, Dr. Chittenden was a whole-souled, genial companion, capable in many ways, and honorable in his intentions and actions. Dr. Rowe was a most conscientious man, straightforward in all his actions on the board. Dr. Wood is by nature incapable of doing a dishonorable act, justice and right-doing is his invariable motto.

Instead, then, of finding anything crooked, he had to report most favorably of the majority of the board, and was impressed by the integrity and force of character of the leaders.

These incidents are mentioned to show how truth and error may very easily, and frequently do, become misplaced.

We have traced some of the incidents down to our affiliation with Toronto University. Much agitation had been maintained along the line of the degree of D.D.S. This agitation began shortly after the passing of the Act, and among other suggestions was a proposed amendment to the Act giving the College University power. To this the Government objected and suggested affiliation. After the lapse of fifteen years affiliation was accomplished, and now a combined Board of Examiners sets the examination, and thus does away with the necessity of two separate examinations.

The outcome of a recent agitation by the E.O.D.A. was that the regulations were ratified whereby the board was to take over the full management of the College. Ontario was to be divided into seven districts, and the board was to consist of one representative of the faculty and seven members elected, one from each of the seven districts of the Province.

The members of the first board under the present system took office in 1893, since which time their labors have been most marked in the accomplishment of the stupendous undertaking of building and furnishing this Alma Mater—a lasting monument to the united and harmonious efforts of the board to render the best service possible to the electors of the several districts.

If it were possible to place this institution with all its appointments side by side with that of 1869, a comparison of the then and the now would be as the light of a tallow candle contrasted with the light of the sun.

In preparing this paper the records of the board have not been utilized. Many of the irregular fragments have been gathered from the memory of the patriarchs of the profession. And most of these men, in referring to incorporation, the rapid pace set in working out the whole scheme of almost perfect legislation, enforcement of the Act, matriculation pupilage, thorough teaching in a costly and well-equipped building of our own, and the ample provision made for maintaining a reliable management, have expressed themselves as simply amazed.

OUR RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FUTURE OF DENTISTRY IN ONTARIO.

By R. J. HUSBAND, L.D.S., D.D.S., Hamilton.

We have met here at this time to recognize in a fitting manner the anniversary of one of the most important events in the history of dentistry in Ontario. You have heard from Dr. Wood of the disadvantages under which the pioneers of our profession labored, and the struggle they had to secure the legislation that has done so much in giving us the high standing that dentistry occupies to-day. Dr. Marshall has spoken about the development of dentistry since the passing of the Act, and it remains for me to say something as to the manner in which we assume our responsibility for the future of dentistry in Ontario. Our responsibility does not mean the responsibility of the Ontario Dental Association or any other dental association as an association, neither does it mean the responsibility of the Board of Directors of the College of Dental Surgeons, as a board, nor the Faculty of the College as a faculty, but it means individual responsibility, what is expected of you and what is expected of me as individual practitioners. This being the case, the responsibility of guarding the door of entrance to our profession rests upon the shoulders of the preceptor, he alone being responsible for the quality of the material he allows to enter our ranks. If the future be what we desire, greater discrimination must be used in selecting this material. I believe the time has arrived when students should be taken on a three or six months' probation before being articulated, in order to ascertain whether or not they possess the necessary qualifications for proceeding with the study. The standard of matriculation has been fixed so that there is no short cut along this line in entering the profession, but there is, however, another standard which we must insist upon if the future of dentistry is to be what we hope. It is not enough to be endowed with mechanical ingenuity and manipulative skill, but combine with these qualifications, a good moral character, purity of mind, word and action, quiet dignity and self-respect, with no taint of malice, deceit, or falsehood, and you have a standard worthy of attainment. We cannot shut our eyes to the fact that many of the brightest men in our profession came from the most unpropitious material, but times have changed, former customs have given way to better civilization and better judgment, and so it is our duty to do all in our power to select the material that will do honor to the future of dentistry. The student must be faithful and diligent, devoting his time to study

and research, and keeping personal pleasure in the background or as a means of necessary recreation only. His devotion to his work should commence with the first period of his student life that each day's instruction may be prepared for by what has gone before; there is no doubt that the deficiencies of many in practice can be traced to waste of time and inattention while at college. The student must do battle daily and hourly against indolence, self-indulgence, and the various temptations that beset him on every hand, thus fitting himself for the higher form of struggle growing out of competition with other minds, and for that still higher, the impulse to reach the highest state of professional life. Having set up a high standard which we want our students to reach, the question may well be asked: Is the College in which these students must spend three years, abreast of the times, and does it occupy an honorable position amongst the colleges of to-day? I believe that it is fully up to date in every particular. This College with its splendid equipment is owned by the dentists of Ontario, each of whom has an equal share both in ownership and management. It is conducted with the one sole aim of turning out the best possible dentist and not as a money-making institution. Couple with this the fact that it has affiliation with the leading University of the Dominion and you must come to the conclusion that the Royal College of Dental Surgeons occupies a position second to none in the world. There must be no standing still or going back; every upward step makes another needful, and so we must go on till we reach the highest standard. We have extended the curriculum from time to time, till it now embraces every subject taught in modern dentistry. The question may be asked here, Can the average student in the three and a half years now demanded of him, master all the subjects embraced in this extended curriculum? I believe he cannot. He may get a good general knowledge of the work required of him, but cannot become thoroughly master of it. I believe the time has arrived when another year added to the term would be of great advantage to the student as well as to the future of dentistry. Some one may ask, "What about the teaching staff?" I answer, that while they have done good work in the past, they must do better in the future. A teacher who has to convey instruction to students who are faithful readers discovers that they expect the best, and that they know the genuine from the inferior. It is a greater gratification to the well-prepared lecturer to have just such students under him than to have those who are careless, stupid and indifferent. But naturally the strain upon the lecturer, week after week, of supplying the demand for such a high standard of perfection, and at the same time attending to his own professional and domestic duties is too great. The future of dentistry demands that students of to-day get the best

possible teaching, and it is next to impossible for any teacher to do the best that is in him unless he is quite able to ignore the superior claims which press upon him in his struggle for daily bread. I believe the time has arrived when such liberal remuneration should be given our lecturers as would enable them to give more time to research and instruction. A few words now to the young man who is just commencing practice. Much of the burden of responsibility for the future must of necessity rest upon your shoulders, the temptations to stray from the "straight and narrow path" of professional rectitude which will beset you are more numerous and more strenuous than is generally supposed. After sitting in your office for some time waiting anxiously for the patient that comes not, it seems hard to think that the loud advertising quack in the next block has his office crowded with patients, and you will no doubt reason somewhat after this fashion, "Does it really pay after all to live up to the highest standard of professional morality? Why not just step aside for a short time and do things that are not just right for the sake of the money I so much need?" To all such I would say, there will come times of discouragement, and times when everything seems to go wrong, times when receipts are small and expenses large, these are the times that try men's souls. The future of dentistry demands that you take fresh courage and not allow yourself to be tempted under these trying circumstances, to do anything unbecoming to an ethical dentist. Do the right because it is right. When tempted, pause and look around you and see how many have gained by questionable methods. Count up the advertising men who have attained to permanent success from any standpoint. They may seem to flourish for awhile, but is it not the fact that they invariably become disappointed men? It is impossible for them to secure an established position in the minds of intelligent men, for advertising is known to be opposed to all real professional principles. The patronage of an advertising dentist must of necessity be made up of the poorer classes of people who are ignorant of professional relations, and who never become permanent patients. As soon as the loud advertisements are stopped, or when some other dentist with a new kind of attraction makes his advent, the old one is forsaken and drops into poverty. Should misfortune overtake him when he has passed the most energetic period of his life, he finds himself with no established practice, no old families upon whom he can rely, because his practice has been made up of transient people. He must always accept low fees, and his profits are swallowed up in advertising. The only way to succeed so that your influence may be felt upon the future of dentistry is to keep within professional lines, and by steady perseverance secure the settled confidence of the community. *Be honest*; by this I do not mean the honesty

that impels a man to pay his just debts and to refrain from cheating his neighbor, but I mean that higher and nobler spirit which makes the true professional man scrupulous to a nicety in everything touching professional honor and personal verity.

Allow me to sound a note of warning regarding the use of stimulants which has grown to be such an evil in our land. These are the concluding words in a paper on the "evolution of the mind," by no less a person than David Starr Jordan, President of Leland Stanford University: "The influence of all drugs which affect the nervous system must be in the direction of disintegration, the stimulant which gives false pleasure forces a lie upon the mind, the drug that disposes to reverie destroys the sanity of life; the healthy mind stands in clear and normal relation to nature. Here lies the one great unanswerable argument for total abstinence, not abstinence from alcohol alone, but from all nerve poisons and emotional excesses. No great work was ever accomplished under the influence of drugs or stimulants; the great thoughts and great works which have moved the world came from men who have lived pure noble lives."

This is a deliverance in favor of total abstinence, from one of the best minds on the continent, and should receive from you the respect it deserves, and should be a stimulus to us to encourage in every way a high temperance sentiment in our profession, so that the men of the future will be clear of mind and steady of hand.

It would be in the best interests of the future of dentistry had we a thoroughly organized system of dental associations, local societies, in all towns and cities; in fact, wherever two or three members of the profession could be got together, they should meet regularly for interchange of thought. Over these local societies, district associations which should meet quarterly, and over these a provincial society, such as the Ontario Dental Association, meeting once a year. I believe we should extend our limits, and I look forward hopefully to the time when we shall have a Dominion Association meeting in different parts of the Dominion, say every second year. Imagine a thoroughly organized system of dental associations extending over this Province when every dentist would be called upon to contribute in some form or other his share of value, and you can form some idea of the stimulative effect. The local societies would act as training schools where the timid and over modest brother would become accustomed to the sound of his own voice.

Through the influence of these training schools some of the younger members of the profession by some professional achievement which would give them standing and recognition among their brethren, might seek distinction at the meetings of the larger societies. These local societies or training schools would have a

tendency to rub off the rough edges and sharp corners from the men whose respect for the profession is bounded by their own selfishness, and who would, if possible, crowd every other practitioner out of existence. Under this organized system of associations what a lively interest would be manifested, and with what eagerness would we look forward to the time when we would go up to the meetings of the Ontario Dental Association, not empty-handed and empty-headed as many of us do now, but bearing with us our individual responsibility for the success of the meeting, and with a feeling of brotherly love to compare our experiences in a spirit of emulation rather than rivalry, always bearing in mind that there is some single point in which the humblest may stand as a teacher to those most experienced. The best future of dentistry demands that we make a faithful and honest effort for the enlightenment and education of the public. Lack of professional qualification and moral responsibility in the past are accountable for much of the present want of confidence in us. Irreparable harm is worked by destroying public confidence. The inefficiency and deceit of the dregs of the profession are recognized by the few, but not by the many. We need some method of establishing a change of sentiment on the part of the public, giving information concerning their dental need and possible betterment, directing attention to the source of service, denouncing evil, and announcing good, thus counteracting the effect of fraudulent and inefficient practice. The audacious quack is the educator of the masses to-day. With his deceitful advertising, he attracts and educates right or wrong. There is a grand field in Ontario to-day for mission work in educating the public regarding the functional value of the teeth. Individual members of the profession are responsible for the wide spread of ignorance and misinformation about dental affairs which prevail everywhere.

It is a low and unworthy view anyone takes of his office, when he assumes that he has nothing to do with public ignorance except as he may be called upon to operate for a compensation. Dignified silence does not enlighten the public, and while we owe a debt of gratitude to Dr. Beers and his noble band of helpers for the healthy, educational sentiment contained in the columns of the DOMINION DENTAL JOURNAL, this means of circulating information does not reach the general public.

The masses read the newspaper, when they read anything; therefore to ignore this channel for circulating information is to shut out the dawning hope of popular dental education. The newspapers are our best friends and would, I am sure, be glad to insert well-written articles on various subjects relating to dentistry. Of course we would use discretion by not asking them for space during an election campaign. Why will our leading men not vie

with each other for prominence and precedence in taking up this work? I trust that we may be so impressed with its importance that this association will appoint a committee to take charge of it before the close of this meeting.

By the record of the present time shall we be judged by posterity? The century which gave birth to modern dentistry and which has witnessed in it a growth unprecedented in the history of all professions draws rapidly to a close, and those who fill an active place in the profession now will occupy a conspicuous one when the history of the present shall have been written. It rests with us whether this century shall witness one more triumph, the establishment all over the Dominion of a uniform standard of qualification for graduation, and between the Provinces reciprocity in dental diplomas. While we in Ontario are face to face with an overcrowded profession, the newer Provinces, whose population is so rapidly increasing, need more men, and as their dental educational advantages are not so fully developed as ours, they will be shortly calling to us in Ontario to come over and help them. This would relieve the congested condition of the profession here and supply these Provinces with the best possible dental service. I trust this subject, which I have only touched upon (but which I believe to be of vital importance to the future of dentistry), will be taken up at this meeting, and, if thought feasible, a committee appointed to confer with the other Provinces.

Look forward into the dawning twentieth century and contemplate the advance that dentistry will make to the yet higher and broader plane which it is destined to occupy, and in that vision will be foreshadowed the place which will be accorded to you in the future. Let us "work while it is called to-day, for the night cometh when no man can work." Let us seek a definite and worthy end—a future limited only by the possibilities of our united wisdom and energy. Let there be no going back, but ever onward and upward, emulating in professional, public and private life the noblest qualities of our predecessors.

Listen, my brothers, your profession is calling,
 Time strikes the hour for the brave and the true;
 Now, while the foremost are fighting and falling,
 Fill up the ranks that have opened for you.

You whom the fathers made free and defended,
 Stain not the scroll that emblazons their fame;
 You whose fair heritage spotless descended,
 Leave not your children a birthright of shame.

THE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE OF THE PROFESSION IN ONTARIO.

By C. N. JOHNSON, L.D.S., D.D.S., Chicago, Ill.

Gentlemen of the Ontario Dental Society: When an invitation came from one of your officers to contribute something to your anniversary exercises it forced upon me a mood half reminiscent and half prophetic, because it so chanced that I am one of that number about midway between the scenes. I have not lived long enough to be called a pioneer, but I am fast approaching that period where I can no longer boast of being one of the boys. To attempt to say anything from personal experience upon the subject of "dentistry before 1868" would, of course, be folly, because my personal experience in any line of thought was exceedingly limited at that date. And yet I cannot allow myself to pass lightly over the pioneer period. I want to take this opportunity with the rest of you to pay my tribute of respect to those men who went ahead in the dark and lighted the way for us to follow. I wonder if we of latter days stop often enough to consider the difficulties which these men had to surmount, the discouragements they encountered by the way, or the sum total of their magnificent achievements?

The obligations of the present generation of dentists to the men of an earlier era were vividly brought to my mind by an interview I had some months since with the late Dr. Thomas W. Evans of Paris, France. On the occasion of his last visit to America, shortly before his death, it was my privilege to meet him and receive from his own lips the recital of many intensely interesting reminiscences connected with his early practice in Europe. When Dr. Evans first went to Paris he found the profession of dentistry practically in the mire. They had a phrase among the French people of that day to designate any one of a particularly unreliable nature—"he lies like a tooth-puller." This phrase originated with the fakir tooth extractors who plied their trade on the street corners, and vociferously proclaimed that it would not hurt to have teeth extracted. This evident misrepresentation soon forced itself upon the people to such an extent that they went away declaring that all other monstrous liars should be compared to these liars. And this, in the minds of the majority of French people of that period was the sum total of the legitimate practice of dentistry.

Dr. Evans related to me with much feeling the chagrin and humiliation which he suffered in those early days when, on being

introduced into any new circle of society, he was invariably subjected to a look of the most utter contempt when the fact was made known that he was "nothing but a dentist." Said he, "In the course of my career I have met some of the most noted generals of modern times, and I have always contended with them that the pursuit of their calling did not demand of them as high a degree of courage as was exacted of me in the beginning of my professional experience abroad. If a soldier goes to the battlefield the most that can happen to him is to be killed. If he is killed—well, that is his business any how, and he dies on a field of glory. There was no such incentive for me in my early struggle to maintain the dignity and importance of dentistry, and if there is anything connected with my professional life in which I can take some degree of satisfaction, it is the fact that it has been given me to accomplish something in the way of placing dentistry in its true light before the world and demanding for it a just appreciation."

But, in passing, let me say that if Dr. Evans' early experience was bitter, his final achievement was in some respects the most unique and pronounced of any man who ever lived. He was possessed of such a marked individuality, was favored with a demeanor at the same time retiring and forceful, and he had such a genius for making and retaining friends in high places that during the course of his career he was on terms of intimate friendship with most of the crowned heads of Europe. This man who went to France from America a mere boy, unheralded and unsung, ended by being the confidant and comrade of kings and emperors, of potentates and presidents; and in all the personal aggrandizement that fortune showered upon him he never failed to turn it to account in the elevation of his profession by an insistent and unceasing declaration of the fact that the man who received these favors was a dentist. It is hardly too much to say that the dental profession of the entire world stands to-day on a higher plane of appreciation on account of the influence of this one illustrious pioneer.

And so, on this occasion, I feel like paying a just tribute to the memory of the men who did so much for us in the past when the status of dentistry was such that much required to be done. These men of Ontario who labored in advance of the present generation of dentists are entitled to the respect and homage of every practitioner and every student who is now enjoying the fruits of their early sowing. We are too often prone to accept the advantages and privileges of the present without stopping to consider the difficulties of the past or to give credit to the men who surmounted those difficulties.

These old pioneers deserve a fitting recognition from the profession, and, more than this, they deserve it while they are yet living. We should not wait till the grim reaper has asserted his inevitable

prerogative, and then come when the ear is closed, the eye dimmed, and the tongue is stilled forever, and pour out our poor praise upon the silent casket. Let us shower upon these men the blessings we feel in our heart of hearts, and do all we may to sweeten their lives and lend a fragrance to the pathway of their declining days.

In speaking of the present progress of the profession in Ontario my own personal experience practically dates back to the autumn of 1880 when I entered as a student in the school of dentistry of the Royal College of Dental Surgeons. Looking back over those few years and recalling vividly as I do the college and equipment of that day when we were located in a little "tumble-down" at the corner of Victoria and Richmond streets, with few of the facilities that are considered necessary for students to-day, and then contemplating the magnificent structure in which the present meeting is being held, I am profoundly impressed by the advancement that has been made since then and the earnest it gives us of what may be attained in the future.

I cannot pass this phase of the subject without reference to one feature which seems to me worthy of note. In the days of my studentship in this institution the three principal teachers were Professors Willmott, Teskey and Stuart; and I hold it to be a significant fact illustrative alike of their fitness for the work and of the stability of Canadian institutions when we find these same men occupying their positions to the present day, I wish to take this opportunity, as one of their old students, to pay my tribute of appreciation for the benefits received at their hands. In those days I knew not so well as I do now the trials and anxieties of a teacher's lot, and if I unwittingly did aught in the thoughtlessness of student life to add in any manner to their burden I am here to-day to offer my apologies and amends. The relationship between professors and students should be of the most cordial and reciprocal nature, and the ties that are formed in college should not be allowed to loosen when the student passes outside the doors and becomes a practitioner.

But I must pass to a consideration of the third feature of the subject on the programme, "What shall be the future of the profession in the Province?" And now, with your permission, I shall address my remarks mostly to the younger element. The contemplation of a body of young men just starting out into the practice of dentistry is invariably a source of inspiration to me. I am always impressed with the possibilities of what may be accomplished by them in the course of their professional career, and I realize more vividly even than they do themselves how much the future of the profession depends upon them. Just stop and consider for one moment the significant fact that the young men graduating to-day are to form the bone and sinew of the dental profession a decade

hence. If we could make them realize the full import of all this in the early part of their professional experience, it seems to me that they must thereby enter upon their work with loftier aims and a higher consecration to the exacting duties which their relationship with humanity makes incumbent upon them.

If, for instance, a young man could look ahead far enough to see that, with the proper kind of application, it would be given him to finally attain the position held by some of the leading lights of the profession to-day, that he should be enabled to ascend to the prominence of those whom we of the present generation delight to love and honor for the good they have wrought to dentistry—if, looking to a broader attainment even than this, he could see clearly enough and broadly enough to estimate the sum total of his service to humanity through the perfection of our beloved profession, what an incentive such a vision would be for him to consecrate himself to the loftiest aims of the highest manhood within him.

After all, the great thing for a practitioner of dentistry to keep in mind is not the attainment of wealth, not the plaudits of his fellows, nor the fleeting fame of an occasional achievement. Desirable as all of these may be, they sink into nothingness compared with the obligation that every true man and every true dentist owes to the world in the betterment of the human race. It is given to us as dentists, in the practice of a profession which is eminently humanitarian in its highest possibilities, to add materially to the sum of human happiness, and he who does this must be accounted a benefactor to his race. What more noble or holier service can be conceived than the relief or prevention of human suffering? This phase of our professional duty does not often enough appeal to us, or we do not often enough recognize its true significance. Let every young man take cognizance of the fact that the more proficient he becomes in his professional work the better he is able to serve humanity. Let him go further than this and consider the possibility of good he can do by spreading the knowledge he has attained freely among his fellows through the medium of societies so that they may in turn benefit humanity by such diffusion of knowledge. This continual expanding of one's usefulness in the profession is the most inspiring feature connected with society work. It is also the one thing of all others to which, when bowed by weariness and worn with care, the teacher in a dental college may resort for his chief solace and compensation. No matter what his discouragements may be, no matter how meagre may sometimes seem the results of his most earnest and painstaking endeavor, he may always console himself with the fact that in his humble way he is laboring toward the far-reaching betterment of humanity. Every time a student goes out of college and, by virtue of the knowledge obtained while there relieves human suffering, he is adding a benediction to the man who taught him.

Think of the power for good in the world that a conscientious teacher may thus exert. And think also of the responsibility that such a view of the question imposes upon a teacher. Every man who stands before a class of students should be imbued with the seriousness of his influence, and should consecrate himself to the fulfilment of the highest aims and objects of such a position. He should see to it that his teaching is of such a character that his students are well equipped to go out in the world and serve their fellow-men.

Reverting to the question as to what the future holds for the profession in Ontario, I am impelled to say a word of congratulation and encouragement. You men of the Province have much for which to be thankful. In one respect at least you are far in advance of the profession in the United States. Your requirements for matriculation are such that none but young men of superior attainments can gain admission to your college. I am frank to confess that we of the United States are simply grovelling in the dust in this particular. We are admitting young men whose early training has been practically no training, and who have not been sufficiently developed in methods of thought and study to enable them to readily grasp the complex problems that are necessarily presented for their solution in college. To those of us who have the best interests of the profession at heart these are unpalatable facts, and our only encouragement lies in the hope that we are just on the verge of a reform along this important line. But with you this reform has already come, and it is to the everlasting honor of the profession in Canada that your institution was among the pioneers in this respect.

With such a foundation for your dental educational system you have it in your power to rear a class of professional men that shall stand as the peers of any of their kind in the world. It is to the consummation of such a prospect as this that I commend your united efforts. On this the occasion of your anniversary exercises let me appeal to you to dedicate yourselves anew to the observance of those principles which make most for the advancement and welfare of the profession. It is only thus that you may hope to accomplish that which is your bounden duty, not only to yourselves, but to that other and more important entity of human life—your fellow-man.

TREATMENT OF CHRONIC ABSCESSSED TEETH.

By DR. D. C. SMITH, Stouffville, Ont.

Modern dental literature is replete with papers and discussions relating, among others, to the subject of abscessed teeth; and probably in no other department of dentistry is there more diversified modes of practice advocated than in the widely divergent methods and means brought forward in the treatment of chronic abscessed teeth. Teeth diseased with alveolar abscess, having fistulous opening, is occasionally one of the most stubborn to yield to treatment, especially when of long standing. Every practitioner will bear me out when I say that the prolonged treatment of chronic abscesses entail more arduous work and gives far less remuneration, proportionately, than any other branch of the dental surgeon's practice. I venture to affirm that there are few in the profession who have been in practice any length of time, but have on record a failure in the treatment of "abscessed teeth." For these reasons and for the benefit of any who have not, and who wish to experiment with the campho-phenique powder method of treatment, I will endeavor to give my mode of treatment with the above-named drug.

After securing a good opening and washing out debris and foreign matter from the cavity and bur canal where possible with Gates-Glidden drill, syringe and dry canal. Pump hydrogen-peroxide, or better, pyrozone well up the canal. Mix the powder on a glass slab with 95 per cent. carbolic acid into a creamy consistency, and after thoroughly drying out, force the carbolized powder up the canal with a smooth coarse broach. Fill up canals and chamber of the tooth with drug, and seal with phosphate cement or gutta percha. Leave for two weeks to a month (according to the gravity of the case). When the dressing is removed and the roots filled with chlora-percha, and tooth permanently filled, a second application is rarely necessary, which in itself is an item in the saving of time and material.

In all the drugs with which I have experimented, this has been to me the most successful, having yet to record a failure, after passing what I now consider the experimental stage. The question has been asked and may again be asked, "Can we not get as good results from the campho-phenique liquid?" I say most emphatically we cannot; the therapeutical action being more concentrated, active, penetrating and curative; and, again, the escharotic danger in application is minimized. I need hardly say that a careful review of the practice of dentistry will present in many

directions many methods to attain any given end. The ever recurring case calls for repetition of experimentation, and many of us who, wearied by it and seeking rest, have fallen into ruts, are frequently not a little mentally disturbed at the intimations received, that our rut is, after all, a side track when compared with that of another equally conscientious brother who advocates his as the main one.

P.S.—Since reading above paper at Ontario Dental Association, I have had many enquiries in regard to the composition, properties, and mode of preparation of the campho-phenique powder. All I can say in answer to this is, that it is a grey powder, much resembling ground pumice in consistency, and is manufactured and put up by the Phenique Chemical Co., of St. Louis, Mo., U.S. It is used largely by surgeons as a germicide and antiseptic dressing. It is questionable if it is kept in stock by any Canadian druggist, as my druggist was compelled to send to New York for it.

D. C. S.

PRESERVATION OF THE DENTAL PULP.*

By DR. W. A. SANGSTER, Port Perry.

In this paper I desire to enter a plea for the preservation of the dental pulp, and also a protest against indiscriminate pulp-capping. I am aware that this subject opens up a wide field for discussion. We are told by one school of practitioners to destroy a pulp on sight, "because dead men tell no tales." By the others, "never to injure the pulp." My own impression is, that were cases for capping selected with more judgment than is generally the case, we would hear less about the number of failures attributed to the operation. It would seem almost unnecessary, in the light of our knowledge of to-day, to advance reasons for preserving pulp when possible. A few words on that point will be sufficient.

Dr. Garretson, speaking of the dental pulp, says: "Through this body the internal structure of the tooth is nourished, in its death the organ loses its translucency, becoming discolored and opaque, being indeed devitalized, except as nourishment is received from the periodontum.

Dr. Black, whom we have the honor to have with us at this meeting, speaking before the American Dental Association, says: "The teeth from childhood up to forty-five years of age, increase in

*Read before the Ontario Dental Society.

density. The moment the pulp is dead, this increase in density stops. Whenever a tooth has lost its pulp, and begins to show discoloration, the dentine strength is impaired. It may weigh all right, but its strength, as tested by the dynamometer, is impaired; and there is a peculiar disposition of the enamel to chip off from the dentine. A vital tooth does not show this latter peculiarity."

There can be no question but that many pulps, which have never been exposed, are ruthlessly destroyed by the pernicious habit of placing large metallic plugs in very deep cavities, with, perhaps, but a very thin floor of parti-devitalized dentine intervening between the living tissue and the filling. Not only does the pulp in such cases receive violent thermal shocks, but the pounding presses the floor inward. To this may be added the injury caused by a certain amount of expansion, if a silver-tin amalgam be used. Such practices are little less than criminal. You have all seen in your own practices, as I have in mine, the victims of this treatment, presenting, with putrescent pulps, fistulae opening through the gums or through the palate, and sometimes necrosis of the alveoli. All such cavities should be varnished with some non-conducting varnish, and then cement flowed over the entire cavity, being careful not to fill the undercuts, or to cover the margins of the cavity. It is the part of wisdom when we meet with exposed pulps, to obtain in every case as full a history as possible. The prognosis may be regarded as favorable when :

1. The patient is moderately healthy.
2. If the pulpitis is acute, and we can resolve it by vigorous anti-phlogistic treatment, such as counter-irritation, depletion, cathartics, hot-pediluvia, etc., combined with the use of local anaesthetics.
3. If the exposure is accidental through careless excavating, and where there is no pulpitis.
4. If the patient is not exposed to sudden changes of temperature.

On the other hand, the prognosis is unfavorable when :

1. The patient is recovering from, or is subject to, any disease that tends to lessen the general vitality; such as syphilis, fevers, cancer, etc., or is asthenic, *z. e.*, badly nourished; or,
2. The pulpitis has advanced to the chronic condition.
3. Any condition, or conditions, are present which, in our judgment, would contra-indicate the operation.

When the prognosis is unfavorable we should devitalize.

Of capping materials and methods of operating we have many. Some are good and some invite failure. I, myself, have never been successful with oxychloride of zinc as a capping agent. We are told to use it thin, and to dry quickly with bibulous paper. It is supposed to produce just that amount of stimulation necessary to

cause the pulp to produce secondary dentine. I have always found that sooner or later it devitalizes the pulp. A method with which I have been very successful is as follows: Take a small pine block and, with ball-headed instruments of different sizes, burnish small depressions in the pine. Now take lead disks and burnish in any sized depression you wish with the corresponding ball-headed instrument. You have now a lead concave disk, trim with file and fill flush with Dr. Iever's pheno-banum. Invert this, concave side down, over the exposure, being extremely careful to use no pressure. Should patient complain, remove instantly, quiet the pulp with cocaine or oil of cloves, and then replace the cap. After the cap is in position, flow thin oxyphosphate of zinc over cap, floor and walls of the cavity, being careful to keep margins and undercuts free, and allow it to become perfectly hard. Finish with gold or any other material you judge best.

Sometimes we fail because there may be more than one exposure, one of which we have not seen. A good large magnifying glass should be used.

It is impossible to condense within the limits of a short paper like this, even a bald synopsis of the practical points that bear upon the question. My aim has been to be suggestive rather than exhaustive, to call your attention to the great importance of pulp-preservation, and to start a discussion in which the fathers of our profession here present may give of their experience and practical knowledge, for the benefit and guidance of the more youthful members of the craft. If I shall have succeeded, gentlemen, in pressing the matter on your attention, I shall have reached the end I had in view.

IN THE MATTER OF ADVERTISING.*

By MARK G. MCELHINNEY, D.D.S., Ottawa, Ont.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Ontario Dental Association:

The question to which I desire to call your attention, that of advertising, is one that has come in for much consideration of late by dental writers. The frequent reference to this subject indicates that it troubles the profession, and presses for some kind of a settlement. The code of ethics is antagonistic to all sorts of recognized advertising, but there are many kinds of advertising which

*Read at Toronto, March 3rd, 1898.

do not come within the meaning of the code, and which are not very closely defined.

Prominence in social, religious and fraternal organizations is, with most professional men, a popular and pleasant method of bringing themselves before the public. To such an extent is this true, that success in many cases depends more upon a man's social attainments than upon his professional skill, and we sometimes see the strange sight of a professional incapable in possession of a large practice and considerable reputation, based alone upon social prominence and a winning personality.

Men occupying such a position are the first to assail a more retiring confrere, who seeks by other means, more distinctly understood as advertising, to bring himself before the public in his professional capacity.

Let us divest ourselves of all prejudice, escape from the thralldom of preconceived ideas and face the question upon its merits in order to reach a rational conclusion. Primarily, it is admitted in modern philosophy that it is impossible at any time to fix standards of right for all time, because ideas of right change with the requirements of the age. Most of us accept, to a greater or less extent, the law of evolution as applied to the social organism. Let us, then, as befitting members of a profession, calling itself learned, show that we are indeed possessors of higher knowledge by applying it to the solution of those problems that confront our profession as a part of the social organism. "The survival of the fittest" is an expression which is much abused, often mentioned and widely misunderstood.

We, who claim to be members of a learned profession, which claim is mere impudence if we cannot prove more or less knowledge of the advanced thought of our age, should not lie under the popular misapprehension of the term. We should be able to apply its underlying principle to those circumstances that govern the intercourse of ourselves as professional men with the general public.

The extreme difficulty of obtaining and maintaining a footing in the professions is the direct cause of the appearance of this new question which will undoubtedly persist in thrusting itself upon our attention until we attempt a solution, or until, in the course of events, it solves itself.

Certain indolent persons are in favor of letting all such problems work out their own solution, but that is not the method of procedure in the treatment of bodily disease, or even bodily discomfort.

We continually interrupt, divert and hasten physical phenomena in order to produce effects that we desire. Why should not matters of social disease and disorder be interrupted, diverted or hastened in order to produce a condition of things more in keeping with our requirements and more conducive to our development?

In the good old days, when all things advanced in a slow and dignified manner, professional men found it to their advantage to adopt methods in keeping with the existing state of affairs. In these days, the rapidly intensifying struggle for existence advances those only who rush into the front of battle, and by sheer force of character seize upon the results desired.

When things went slowly, and knowledge was reserved to the favored few, professional men were respected for the possession of what was hidden from the masses. They were more or less leaders of their times. To-day, the spread of education has produced, to a certain extent, an intelligent and critical public, whose opinions, even upon matters looked upon as strictly in the province of the professional man, are not without considerable value. We now have a most peculiar spectacle. The general public, stirred by the rapid progress of late years, has acquired a momentum, arising from their newly discovered inherent tendency to advance, that threatens to overturn the ascendancy of those very professions to whom the world is indebted for most of its knowledge. This effect is greatly due to the fact that the vast majority of men in all professions have lost, or perhaps never possessed, that wider view of their purposes and destiny, and have turned their efforts toward selfish aims which, though frequently successful in the individual, work certain ruin in the aggregate.

While the professional man is fully entitled to adequate recompense for his services, sufficient to enable him to exist according to the requirements of his position, he must not forget that he has a mission to perform, a duty to his fellows, and that is the persistent educational effort for the benefit of humanity. In no other field of human endeavor has there been opened up such magnificent opportunities for good as in the profession of the dental surgeon. In no other department can be found a field of labor that brings such immediate and beneficial results, both to the masses and to the practitioner. In no other progressive movement of the age do the benefactors themselves stand so good a chance of recognition and reward during their own lifetime as in dental surgery, and this last consideration, if no other, should be sufficient to stir the most selfish member of the profession.

In the good old days before mentioned, it was considered that patient industry and unassuming merit would eventually win, and undoubtedly they did. To-day, a fever is on the people, a hurry, a heedlessness, in all an unthinking selfishness that has no time to seek out deserving individuals. It wants the best that science can provide, and cares little for the individuality of the provider. In these days a man must say, "I am here, and have something of value for you."

How many patient, industrious and meritorious persons there are in the profession of dentistry to-day who lacked one thing for success, and that was "push." It is all very well for older practitioners, whose places are well won and safe, to decry any attempt to introduce new methods of reaching the public. Some of these old practitioners won easily, seeing that they had no competitors. Now their long establishment and reputation makes life an easy matter. They do not need new methods, and therefore, with that unreasoning narrowness so common in the old, declare that no one needs what they need not themselves. A young man, starting to-day in dentistry, if he possesses no capital, commences a struggle that those only who have labored under similar circumstances can form the slightest idea. The older practitioners who love to tell of their early struggles, and hold them up as far beyond present possibilities, would be surprised beyond measure to find out that as time goes on the struggle becomes, not easier as they fondly imagine, but harder, yea, almost impossible.

It is not the writer's intention to go into the economic questions that pertain to our modern social conditions; such a subject is not within the compass of an article of this description. Few men have time, and fewer the inclination, to wade through the mass of reading, interesting though it be, that is essential to clear thinking on these subjects; but there does not exist to-day a man, in whatever position in the social arrangement, that does not feel that the expression, "struggle for existence," is no fancy figure of speech, but a statement of fact that day by day grows into harder and sterner significance.

In view of this fact, which few are prepared to deny, it becomes clear that some action is necessary to provide for the numbers that are rushing pell-mell into an already full profession. In commercial life this problem has been already met and in some degree solved. The profession must increase its scope by making the people alive to their wants, by educating them to a full appreciation of their necessities. There are two methods by which this may be accomplished:

First, as a profession acting through its various societies, popular dental literature could be spread broadcast over the land, until not a man, woman or child could long remain ignorant of the importance of the dental organs. This is the ideal method that would result in great general good to the profession and to the world at large, but its realization is a utopian dream. This is the reason: The individuals that practise the dental profession are not, as a class, sufficiently intelligent, sufficiently broad-minded or sufficiently unselfish to recognize an individual benefit arising from general welfare. To recognize this principle requires more or less philosophy, and the majority of men of any age, any profession or any condition are not philosophers.

In the dental profession to-day are many men whose acquirements would grace any walk of life. In the dental profession to-day are too many selfish, ignorant, egotistic, jealous, small-minded creatures, whose horizon is bounded by the streets on which they live, and whose highest interest is the number of dollars that they can wring from the public in a given time. Without the co-operation of the whole profession, concerted action in the direction of popular dental education is impossible.

As you cannot show these selfish ones exactly how much benefit in figures they will reap in a given time, they will have nothing to do with it, and so co-operation is impossible. These men want practical results, the frequent cry of those who cannot think; those to whom abstract ideas are as Greek, and first principles as foolishness. This is the class that, priding itself upon its practicalness, has always barred the way of progress, and shall undoubtedly prevent the dental profession to-day from reaping the benefit of a policy which but for them would become an accomplished fact. At some future time, when this derogatory element shall have become eliminated, as it probably shall, the dental profession may attain that high position of which it even now gives strong indications.

The second method, and which is attainable now, is popular dental education by individual practitioners. This practically assumes the garb of modern advertising, for while it cannot fail to educate the people, it also cannot fail to bring into prominence the names of those engaged therein to their advantage, and possibly to the disadvantage of the practitioner who fails to avail himself of similar means.

This the writer regards as a coming condition, and it behooves those of the profession who think, to see to it that in coming it possesses as few evils and as many advantages as possible.

It is to be hoped that the new method will not follow the model of modern commercial advertising, which is a battle of prices, misstatements, glaring falsehoods and misrepresentation of competitors. Though this method may eventually educate, its good taste is questionable.

The direction in which dental education and advertising combined would tend to produce the best results, would be in the form of short articles elucidating dental questions, and pertaining to the relations between dentist and patient. These articles would be required to be couched in non-technical language, language simple, brief and forcible, that could not fail to carry its meaning to the most humble capacity. In such it would be well to omit all reference to prices and special methods or claims that might tend toward the detriment of brother practitioners. The writer should certainly omit recommending himself, or, in fact, all reference to

himself, leaving the effect to be produced by the merit of the production and his signature. While such a method might also, in some cases, indirectly benefit less liberal-minded practitioners, such benefit should not be begrudged since the time is certainly coming when these non-progressive members shall need all the consideration that can be accorded. For self-seeking, in the narrower sense, ever defeats itself in the long run.

From these considerations it will be seen that the writer defends and encourages the work of popular dental education by means of pamphlets and similar publications as advertising media, providing always that the methods used shall not contain anything beneath the dignity of a learned profession, or derogatory to the character of fellow-practitioners.

The writer further commends these few ideas to his confreres for their consideration, and trusts that at least his efforts indicate that he has the welfare of his profession at heart.

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THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE JOURNAL.

One of our best and first friends, who has occupied different positions of trust, lately told us that he heard it said that this Journal was subservient to the Board and the College, and in fact, that nothing in regard to these bodies was inserted until it had been read and revised by their officials. It is quite true, and quite untrue.

When we receive any official report or communication from these bodies, or any material for which they become publicly responsible, the common courtesy of journalism obliges us to submit the proof-sheets for correction; but when, as has more commonly been the case, we have been left in the lurch to fish out proceedings from the daily papers, we have never felt under any obligations to apologize for mistakes which a little official attention could easily have prevented. We have never been asked, directly or indirectly, to advocate any views of the Board or the College, or support any one of their proposed measures.

One of our grievances has been, that officials upon whom we had a claim for information, rarely if ever gave us any, excepting when it was sent in common to the whole profession. So scrupu-

lously careful have some of our official friends conducted themselves, in the fear that they might be suspected of "running the Journal," that we felt we had cause to complain. Official life carries heavy burdens, and we cannot ask the servants of the craft to be its slaves. But there is not a licentiate in Ontario who gets as little information from the Board and the College as the editor. Any one can get answers for the asking. So do we. In no way, directly or indirectly, individually or collectively, have the powers that be in Ontario tried to influence the policy of this Journal. For that much they are entitled to every confidence and respect.

DR. BARRETT'S "ORAL PATHOLOGY AND PRACTICE."

In our next issue will appear a review of the above deeply interesting work by the friend of our Canadian Associations, Dr. W. C. Barrett. It is published by S. S. White Co. at \$2.50. and can be obtained through any of our advertisers. We advise every student and practitioner to get it at once.

DENTAL ASSOCIATION OF QUEBEC.

The meeting for the election of a Board of Examiners for the next three years will be held in Montreal on Wednesday morning, the 14th of September. The Secretary will send notice to every licentiate. The Treasurer intends giving the members a full and detailed report.

THE MARITIME ASSOCIATIONS.

We repeat the notice of the Joint Convention of the New Brunswick and Nova Scotia Dental Associations, to be held 1st and 2nd September, at Digby, Nova Scotia. Reduced rates, and a fine programme.

OWING to the late receipt of a number of the photographs to complete the different groups in sets, the balance will not appear until the September issue.