Dr. Daniel M. Parker

CMA President, 1870
University of Edinburgh (Scotland), 1845
General practice, surgery

Before leaving to study in Scotland, says the Dictionary of Canadian Biography, Dr. Parker apprenticed with a doctor in Halifax and “learned to prepare and dispense medicines, dress wounds, extract teeth, and, eventually, prescribe for patients.” Upon returning to Canada after medical school he opened a “lucrative” private practice in Halifax, where he witnessed a colleague use chloroform for the first time in Nova Scotia at the Poor’s Asylum in 1848. He was also active in organized medicine, and was one of the founding members of the CMA and a Past President of the Medical Society of Nova Scotia. Later in his career, according to the Dictionary, he became a dedicated disciple of Lord Lister and a vocal advocate of antiseptic medicine. Parker, who was a lifelong friend of the CMA’s first President, Sir Charles Tupper, had the distinction of serving as the second President, after Dr. Tupper had served three terms. He died in 1907.