5-1-1922

Howard Alumni You Ought to Know

David A. Ferguson

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Recommended Citation
Ferguson, David A. (1922) "Howard Alumni You Ought to Know," Howard University Studies in History: Vol. 2: Iss. 1, Article 4.
Available at: http://dh.howard.edu/hush/vol2/iss1/4

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HOWARD ALUMNI YOU OUGHT TO KNOW.

Dr. David A. Ferguson

David A. Ferguson, D. D. S., of the class of 1899 was born in Portsmouth, Ohio, June 8, 1875. His first acquaintance with his profession was when he served as an office boy in 1889. After being graduated from the Portsmouth High School in 1896, he took his course in Dentistry at Howard University and began the practice of his profession November 24, 1899, selecting Richmond, Virginia, as the field of his future labors. He has the distinction of being the first colored applicant to appear before the Virginia State Board of Dental Examiners, the Second Colored Dentist to locate in Virginia and is at present the oldest practitioner of the race in the State. He has been Secretary-Treasurer of the Richmond Hospital since its organization in 1903, and for more than fifteen years has served as instructor in Anatomy and Physiology in the Training School for Nurses.

Dr. Ferguson has been unusually conspicuous for his connection with professional organizations. When the Tri-State Dental Association was launched July 19, 1913, he was unanimously elected president and served for five consecutive years, declining nomination for the sixth term. During his presidency the Tri-State outgrew its name, becoming the Inter-State in 1917. At the annual session of that year, Dr. Ferguson was presented with a large silver loving cup by his colleagues of the State of Virginia, who affectionately dubbed him "The Father of the Virginia Dentists."