

which control human life and happiness. The need of effort in this direction has been abundantly shown in England and this country by men eminent in our profession, in the collection of facts bearing upon it, by such men as Dr. George Cunningham, D.M.D., and Dr. Carpenter, in his "Principles and Practice of School Hygiene," goes so far as to say: "Large schools should always have dental officers attached to them, who, by a periodical inspection of the teeth of children, will be able to prevent decay, remove loose fangs before they produce general disorder, and this may be the means of preventing much dental mischief." Such information, simple as it seems to us, is yet of invaluable importance when placed in a text-book for study in our schools, such as the following, in a text-book prepared by C. H. Stowell, M.D.: "The importance," says the doctor, "of the teeth to the personal appearance as well as their relation to the digestive function is so evident that it is a matter of surprise that so little attention is given to their care and preservation. The teeth should be cleansed at least once a day, and it would be much better to cleanse them both morning and evening. Use a small soft brush and only the best powder or washes endorsed by some responsible dentist. Consult a dentist as soon as a cavity is discovered, although a better plan is to have the teeth examined every few months." There can be no doubt that the placing of such simple information before the young will be a means of preventing the general neglect of this subject until it is too late to be remedied.

The seventeen thousand dentists in the United States are surely able to exert an influence here which would reflect credit upon the profession, while at the same time enlarging their business and profits. The more intelligent people are, and the more impressed with the importance to health of attention to their teeth, the more will they seek the assistance of those qualified to render them aid. Our best patrons, and those for whom we can do the best work, with the best results, are those who are intelligent, and therefore disposed to give care to their teeth; while the ignorant remain away altogether, or only seek our aid in desperate and hopeless cases. It is also a question how far we owe it to ourselves and the public to utilize more than we do that greatest of organs for the disseminating of intelligence and the influencing of public opinion, the Press. The newspaper goes where books and pamphlets seldom come. Those read newspapers who read nothing else. The quack understands this, and our papers are filled with advertisements in which disease is described, but so evident is the purpose to make market for their cures that it deceives none but the unintelligent; yet it does beguile many into the purchase of their nostrums. The use of the Press for the purpose of disseminating information that is preventive in its nature and purpose is not open to the objec-