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"Yesterday."

By J. A. BAZIN, L.D.S., Montreal.

Entering the profession in 1852, at Boston, ignorant of its scope or condition, my environment very circumscribed, I was as a man in a thick woods, with no guide. Having a mechanical training for many years, I soon became of value to my preceptor "at the bench," doing things in a mechanical way, but not badly, for the rule of the office was to do "honest work." My horizon bounded by the walls of the office, with occasional visits to the dental depot of Jones, White & McCurdy, who had opened a branch two years before, in a very small way, the first of the kind in that part of the country.

These visits to the dental depot were like an exchange or board of trade. There we met, talked with or listened to older and wiser than we, consulted as to special cases, often saw work from other offices, and were stimulated to excel. They were as seeds to the society and convention movements that have since become so common.

Bear in mind that railroads had not yet passed their 'teens (in 1839 the first road leading to New York had been opened, and that year, and also in 1841, the beginning of the express business in a crude way, the first conveyance to collect material and parcels being a wheel-barrow and hand-cart—postal accommodation infre-