

but let the one exempt from the sins referred to, cast the first stone.  
—*Gynaecological Journal*.

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### DENTAL ASSOCIATIONS.

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Within the last decade of years numerous dental societies have sprung into existence with an almost magical bound. They exist in nearly every State and city of any importance in the Union. They have appeared beyond our territorial borders on this continent; and away across the broad Atlantic they are multiplying in numbers, as the large cities of Europe can testify. Prior to 1859 there were very few dental societies in the United States; perhaps none outside, or but one or two at most; now their name is "legion."

The American Dental Association was organized at the period just stated, and its influence has pervaded every part of our land; indeed, its sphere of usefulness has no limit within the bounds of civilization. It is needless to state that dental associations have been productive of great good to the profession. They have been of *incalculable* benefit, not to the profession only, but to the world at large. This everybody *ought* to know, but surprising as it may seem, there are some people so stupid or stubborn that they are unwilling to admit this fact. None are so blind as they who will *not* see, and this characteristic too often crops out in the human family.

Through the teachings of societies, dentistry has advanced wonderfully within a brief period of time. Through their influence, colleges have been established and maintained. They have infused a new spirit into members of our profession, urging them to strive for higher attainments and for greater usefulness. In concert assembled, members of the various associations discuss all matters relating to their practice, and compare the results of individual experience. They are the *nuclei* of professional and social intercourse. There suggestions are presented, theories propounded, speculations debated, and opinions advanced on the mutual aid plan, where each gives freely of the fruits of a labored experience, that all may partake largely from the rich and bountiful repast.

No one, of course, supposes that every member of an organized association is an active worker, for dentists are not different from