

ranting at all. We think that there seemed, at least, to be a thought to let everything stand on its merit. The advocacy of an independent journal was strongly put, and, we think, righteously, for there can be no reasonable opposition if it can be supported. We think we see, more than before, a larger prospect of there being an independent journal, and, as it was intimated, it may be one of the outcomes of the new National College. Why not? In a circular issued in '85, advocating the formation of an International Dental Association, a chronicler, or official organ, was a firm thought with us. We sent this tract to our most representative men both in this country and abroad. This circular was more in the thought of a suggestion. We were much gratified to receive so many approvals. In Europe we selected from a goodly list furnished us by the late Dr. White, editor of the *Cosmos*, and one of the answers we valued highly was from Sir E. Saunders, of London, England. He was exceedingly pleasant regarding the idea. One man felt called upon to sit down on our simple suggestion because, as he put it, it was not backed up by *authority*, just as though one inspired by a noble, helpful purpose must be debarred from the privilege of trying, at least, to be useful. We have often acted on the *good* inspirations that have come to us. Some of them have taken root and bore fruit that has remained. We refer to our individual effort to provide the city of Brooklyn with a local society, and we had the extreme satisfaction of seeing it grow into a decided success, and Brooklyn dentists are reaping a larger benefit, and it could still become a larger and continuing source of elevation to a larger number of practitioners, if they would not forget the assembling of themselves together once a month, instead of once in a year or so. There are active societies doing much good, but they can only be kept alive by men that are alive to the opportunities of doing the greatest amount of good to the greatest number. Nothing can so much create an ambition among practitioners as healthful, fraternal appreciation. The lack of it has done much to lessen the attractiveness of societies. Say what we will, societies wisely managed will do much to neutralize the tendency to "quackery."

Commerce is a mighty power and incentive to progress if unselfishly applied. There was much brought out by the papers at the meeting we have referred to that leads up to the live thoughts we have emphasized. As we have said elsewhere, there is a spirit of *esprit de corps* in our calling, and as it is more and more manifested it will continue to generate the results of better dealing in better things. There is an honest desire to be rid of the evils that exist in the trade journal system. We say they are necessary evils from a business point of view. Profession and strictly business lines *cannot* harmonize. A profession is not in business; we