## DISSERTATION ON THE DISEASES OF THE MAXILLARY SINUS. READ BEFORE THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF DENTAL SURGEONS, AT THEIR THIRD ANNUAL MEETING, HELD IN BOSTON, JULY 20, 1842

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# **CHAPIN A. HARRIS**

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### DISSERTATION

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Read before the American Society of Dental Surgeons, at their Third Annual Meeting, held in Boston, July 20, 1842.

#### BY CHAPIN A. HARRIS, M. D., D. D. S.

PROFESSOR OF FRACTICAL DENTINYAY IN THE BALTINGRE GOLLEGE OF DENTAL SUBGRRY; KANber of the Nedical And Cetrubeical faculty of Martland; Corresponding Mamber of the Westkey Academy of Rayoral Sciences, etc. 870.

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#### MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN :---

At the last meeting of this association, I had the honour to submit to your consideration, a memoir on the "Characteristics of the Teeth, Gums, &c. &c." and I now beg leave to submit another, on the diseases of the maxillary sinus; and in doing this, I am actuated by the belief, that a short, and at the same time, comprehensive treatise, on the morbid affections of this cavity, would not be altogether unacceptable to the members of the dental profession.

Few works, devoted exclusively to these diseases, and none in our own language, that I am aware of, have ever been published. Most that has been written upon them is contained in works on general surgery; many of which are either out of print, or can be obtained only

#### PREFATORY ADDRESS.

with great difficulty. Mr. Thomas Bell, it is true, in his excellent work, entitled, "The Anatomy, Physiology, and Diseases of the Teeth," treats upon them at considerable length; but, it could hardly be expected that, in a publication of this kind, as much space should be given to the diseases of this cavity, as their importance demands. The description given of them, however, by this able and accomplished writer, discovers an accuracy of observation that could only be possessed by such as have made them a subject of close and thorough investigation. I might also mention the names of others, who have written upon one or more of these affections, but it is unnecessary to do so now; I may hereafter have occasion to refer to some of their opinions.

But, although the diseases of the maxillary sinus, have engaged the attention of many able writers, little, comparatively, of what has been written upon them is accessible to the members generally, of the dental profession; and in view of this fact, I have been induced to attempt the preparation of a brief treatise upon them. That one is needed, all, I think, will unhesitatingly admit; and that it is important that the dental practitioner should understand the pathology and curative indications of these affections, none, I believe, will deny; for, caused as they in most instances are, by an unhealthy condition of the teeth, their treatment, as is remarked

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by Mr. Bell, "is so intimately connected with that of these organs, as to be universally considered as forming a part of the legitimate object of this branch of practice."

With these prefatory remarks, I shall proceed, firstly, to make a few general observations on the morbid affections of this cavity, and afterwards to notice separately each of the diseases to which it is liable.

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