

dependent upon European investigators for their knowledge of dental histology. The advantages and opportunities enjoyed by European investigators were contrasted with the difficulties surrounding such efforts in America; yet it was contended that there was no reason why rich results should not be obtained here, by those who would devote themselves untiringly to scientific investigations. The only way to gain knowledge, in new and unexplored fields, is to keep trying; even though blundering ever and anon. Persistence in such efforts frequently yields results gratifying to the investigator, surprising to the world, and constituting a valuable addition to the annals of science.

In addition to the specimens of pulps, he exhibited some sections of an injected sheep's kidney, showing the Malpighian corpuscles; also a number of preparations made within the last six months illustrative of that terrible disease, trichiniasis, which is either more generally recognized or fearfully on the increase in America. The former supposition was the most probable, and many cases of death, with the cause shrouded in obscurity, have been doubtless due to the presence of these horrible parasites. The specimens were: No. 1. A woman who died in the Philadelphia Hospital last winter; showing the trichina inclosed in cysts. No. 2. A young girl who died in Clay City, Illinois, with the trichina very numerous, unencysted, and in migratory condition. No. 3. A woman who died in Elgin, Ill., with the trichina very numerous and coiled up, apparently preparatory to becoming encysted. Judging from the presence of large quantities of oil globules, the muscular tissue had apparently undergone fatty degeneration. No. 4. A portion of pork containing trichina eaten by the person from whom the preceding specimen had been taken. The trichina, although not very abundant in the pork, were well marked. As a series of specimens, these preparations were very valuable, particularly for educational purposes, in showing the parasite in various conditions, and in the fact that the last two specimens bore the relation of cause and effect, in the development of the disease of which the person died.

Dr. Atkinson said the European scientists were so near to one another that they had to confine themselves to a single tissue in order to avoid collisions; and they spent a whole lifetime in following up one train of investigation. It is the prevailing habit of Americans to spread their investigations over so large a field as to be necessarily superficial; and therefore foreign opinion could not be very compli-