

tion, and while in many parts of an elementary character, containing facts well known to the average student, yet it is well to repeat what is apt to be forgotten.

The publisher informs us that "the book is not intended to be a cyclopedia of operative dentistry; does not aim to be considered a repository of all available information in that broad field, and in that view it may perhaps appeal but feebly to the intelligence of those who are in the front rank of operators.

"Its real aim is to describe in clear, plain language, practical, successful methods of filling teeth under almost all circumstances, for the benefit especially of those whose experience has not covered all the phases of dentistry. This is the standpoint, as indicated by the author's preface, from which its teachings should be judged."

We must dissent from the statement that "the main reliance for the salvation of teeth which have decayed must be upon gold;" also, that "the only excuse for using porcelain is the hope of matching the tooth in color; this is only accomplished by accident; it becomes impossible to bake porcelain specially and produce a desired shade. This alone is enough to make the method disappointing, if not worthless," etc. Granting the porcelain inlays are not yet perfected, the public expect from dental artists some progressive improvement upon the barbarian exhibition of great masses of gold in conspicuous places. Unquestionably, we are moving in that direction, and we look forward to the day when one of the occupations of the coming dentist will be in removing these gold masses to replace them with porcelain, and works on operative dentistry, condemning porcelain and extolling the sacrifice of enamel and the pounding in of gold, will be placed among the curiosities of dental literature.

That, however, is no reason why, in the meantime, the work of the author should not receive a welcome from the profession.

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