

At that period Dr. F. P. Abbot, so well known in the dental world, was a leader in the so-called "American Colony" in Berlin, and had his regular reception days for American visitors. He had married the daughter of the American Minister to Germany, and this, with his own talent and merit, had given him a high standing in German, as well as American circles. During the convalescence of Miller, he naturally drifted into this charming atmosphere, which was made yet more enchanting by the lovely daughter of Dr. Abbot. Both father and daughter became interested in the young student, and Dr. Abbot submitted to his chemical knowledge a number of professional problems, one of which was the action of tin and gold upon each other, when combined in the filling of a tooth.

This period was the turning-point in the life of Miller. The influences then at work changed the whole current of his future, and gave to dentistry the man who has done more for its scientific advancement than any other; and it is only fair that we should know to what chain of circumstances we are indebted for our present comprehension of the etiology of dental caries. There is little doubt that dentistry owes more to Miss Abbot than to any other woman. The tale of Miller's selection of dental practice as an avocation has been told in this wise, and while neither of the parties of the first part have ever confirmed it, I do not know that they have ever given it a denial. Of course, it is a purely domestic matter of their own, but as the story is not new, perhaps a repetition of it will not seriously offend any of the proprieties.

The affinity between the two young people became so unmistakable, that Miller went to the father and proposed a union, and received a decided negation. Dr. Abbot gave him to understand that he could not spare his daughter. Living as he was in a strange country, he could not have his family circle broken up, and his only daughter taken away to America. Such a separation would be too painful for him even to consider. There was contemplation and consultation on the part of the young people, and Miller went a second time to the father, and said: "Do I understand that you have no *personal* objection to me?" Dr. Abbot answered that he knew of no one to whom he would more gladly give his daughter, were it not that Miller's aims in life and his contemplated profession would take him back to America, and thus