

or the advantages gained in a delay of three or four weeks in the completion of the operation.

In the third class under consideration, we have what is called blind abscess or confined pus at the end of root, which is generally attended with more or less pain and soreness. In such cases it is better, first, to simply wash out the pulp chamber, and by passing a fine broach into the canals, facilitate the escape of gases, and thus, at least give temporary relief. If there be merely pericemental inflammation, it may be reduced by the persistent local application of counter-irritants, such as "iodine and aconite," or the capsicum plasters. Such applications added to systemic treatment acting on the secretory organs, will aid the matter promptly and reduce the pain in almost every case to a minimum. If there be much pus, iodide of potassium, in doses of five to fifteen grains three times a day, will prove a valuable remedy. It is a powerful resolvent and alterative.

When, as soon as the tooth and patient are in a condition to be operated upon, a more thorough removal of septic matter in the canals and dentinal tubes is commenced. Here, the great object after thoroughly cleansing the parts is to force the medicine used up through the canals into the sac.

Some very successfully pump it up with shreds of cotton wound round a broach, others with a judicious use of the hypodermic syringe. In this case a very good plan is to use a strong air syringe, which, in my opinion, cannot fail to force the medicine to the farthest extremity. Here, the choice of a proper medicine is of considerable importance. We have at the end of that root an amount of confined pus, which must be gotten rid of before any progress can be made. In such a case I think peroxide of hydrogen is of especial value. It will penetrate it and cleanse it by combining with the pus gases. It swells and effervesces and thus drives out the pus. Having satisfied yourself that the medicine has indeed got there, I would seal up the cavity temporarily and send the patient away to await developments. It may be that two or three such treatments will be necessary to restore the parts to their normal healthy conditions. Here, as in other places, perseverance and judgment in every step are necessary to final success.

In the fourth class, we have to contend with an abscess and fistulus. Here the proper course is to force some such strong medicine