

length of the eye teeth. 6th. Too great length of the back teeth, especially in upper sets. 7th. Too much evenness or similarity. 8th. The size of the arch—often too large or too broad, sometimes very much so. 9th. The horizontal line, or line of occlusion, is too straight, often looking as though both sets were made together on one piece and cut apart with a knife.

Turning from this dismal page of failures, let us give a momentary glance at the expression of character as shown in the teeth and physiognomy of animals in connection with man; for being all revelations of one power and parts of one system, they must all bear some analogy to each other.

How often we have all enjoyed the pictures of animals dressed as human beings, exclaiming "Capital!" at these burlesques on humanity. But it is not the picture that burlesques—the animals themselves do.

That the physiognomy of the lower animals and that of man bears the same imprint may be brought to mind by the fox with his sharp-pointed teeth, his narrow dental arch, neatly covered with his trim, delicate lips. Observe how meek and quiet he looks, with his twinkling eyes half shut and his nose over his paws. Now arouse him with a rod, and how his whole expression changes; his second nature—his savage side—is uppermost, and his teeth have a most offensive look.

Then look at one of the rodents, as the rat, with his narrow, displayed incisors, with their mean, contemptible look. He is the fellow that sneaks around at night, makes holes in your cupboards and gnaws your lead-pipes, and occupies your drains. There is expression in his teeth, but to me it is of an ungenerous sort.

In contrast to these, look at the incisors of the horses, and one can hardly look at the skeleton in the Natural History Society rooms without feeling that he is grinning at you. Observe the teeth of this animal, for they are worthy of a great deal of study. It almost seems that this was the pattern that dentists took for making teeth. Observe the centrals, how broad and flat they are; how unobstrusive the eye teeth, or canines, if you like the term better. Observe the horizontal line of occlusion, and the broad, regular arch. Do we see malice in this expression? Do we not see a broad, generous nature, perhaps a little coarse, but highly amiable? Who has not heard of a *horse-laugh*, that condition of laughter when the head is thrown back, and from central to molar all the teeth are shown in the plenitude of their ivory lustre!

But my limits forbid following this train of thought further.

You will say, What has all this to do with the expression of artificial teeth? Have a moment's patience and you may see.