Dominion Dental Journal

VOL. IX.

TORONTO, DECEMBER, 1897.

NO. 12.

Original Communications

TREATMENT OF PULPLESS TEETH.

By VINCENT M. MURIER, D.D.S.

When I read of the different methods of treating devitalized teeth, I marvel that we have in our profession, gentlemen who seem to think that there are cases that require so many treatments before bringing a tooth in a condition to fill.

Only the other day, I read of a gentleman who opens the pulp chamber of a tooth in the quiescent state and after thoroughly cleaning out the canals, washes with hot water and bi-chloride of mercury, then packs cotton saturated with spirits of camphor in the canals and leaves it for twenty-four hours. When the patient returns he pursues the same treatment with iodoform. Then the same gentleman goes on to say that when the tooth is ready for filling he uses hot air and goodness knows what not and finally fills the tooth.

For a dentist who desires to linger over his work this method is excellent, or a dentist who hasn't much to do it is the finest kind of a fine treatment. But, when you are in a busy office you must boil things down to the smallest kind of a margin as is consistent with first class workmanship, and get rid of all the horrid smelling remedies which go to make a dental office a young hospital.

The simplest method for treating a pulpless tooth is the method employed by the late Prof. Frank Abbott, the Dean of the New York College of Dentistry. This treatment with one addition is the method I use and have yet to record my first failure.

It is a clean, neat and odorless treatment and a patient would not know they were within ten miles of a dental office as far as the odor of medicine is concerned.

A patient presented herself at my office with a swollen face and