

evolution of more modern methods. The reproach of vulcanite still continues, but the author anticipates that in the "not distant future," a better base will take its place. The introduction of vulcanite made the practice of prosthetics so easy that it brought into the profession an inferior class of dentists, and even caused some degeneracy among the better class. One of the best blows that could be aimed at the quack and the cheap advertiser would be to convince the public that this filthy non-conducting base is only used by respectable dentists, as a rule, under protest. The base most desired would be one that could be used with plain teeth. Not much that is new can be added to the subject of the vulcanite base, but the *rationale* of the process of vulcanizing, which is generally a bug-bear to students at examinations, is very clearly discussed in a long extract from a paper by F. Alb. Boeck, of Berlin. The author fairly well covers the ground of fuels, appliances, metals, alloys, etc., while the treatment of the mouth preparatory to the insertion of artificial dentures, the materials and appliances used, and the entire routine from start to finish are very comprehensive. The author gives importance to the subjects of irregularities, defects and the appliances used, and concludes with a chapter on electricity and its application to dental mechanics. The work of the publisher is above the average, the paper, type and illustrations are beautiful. It is a welcome relief to find so many original illustrations. Altogether the work is well worthy of the highest commendation.

---

THE history of the Bubonic Plague is told, and its nature described, in *Appletons' Popular Science Monthly* for May, by Prof. Victor C. Vaughan, of the University of Michigan, who also considers the conditions that contribute to its spread, and presents the results of the latest studies of the bacillus by which it is supposed to be engendered.

---

"Is there danger of the plague being imported to this country?" "Yes," Prof. Victor C. Vaughan answers in the May number of *Appletons' Popular Science Monthly*, "there is danger, but this, being foreseen, may be easily avoided." No effective treatment of the disease, however, which is a septicæmia, is known. Professor Vaughan's whole article is a valuable contribution to the knowledge which the public is seeking of this fearful disease.