

know of nothing better for masticating surfaces. A good tin filling will condense upon the masticating surfaces of children's teeth, and, I think, save them better than anything else. I should use it much oftener than I do if it were not unsightly in the mouth. I endorse heartily and emphatically the tribute which the essayist has paid to tin.

MADAM TIBURTIUS HIRSCHFELD (of Vienna) heartily endorsed the use of tin and gold, after a practice with this material for twenty-four years. Like Dr. Darby, she tested the cohesive properties of tin, by building up some crowns with this material. Her practice has been mainly for children and ladies, and she thinks for filling children's teeth there is no better material than tin and gold. Sometimes these fillings were put in when the child was seven or eight years old, and at the age of seventeen the fillings were still perfect. She makes a filling of tin and gold that looks nearly as yellow as gold. For this filling, two sheets of gold No. 4, and one of tin, *very thin*, are used. It looks just as bright after having been worn two years, as when it was first put in.

DR. R. R. FREEMAN (Nashville, Tenn.)—You don't know how happy I feel to hear the subject of tin foil brought up before this Congress. I learned something of tin in the early school, when I had the honor to be upon the stage with Madam Hirschfeld, when we received our diplomas. I have written upon tin foil; I have talked upon it and advocated its use. I remember Dr. Truman said that tin foil was one of the best fillings, not excepting gold. I know what it is doing, and I know what it has done for twenty-five years.

All through our southern country we have those who are using tin foil for its therapeutic properties; it has that healing property for the dentine of children's teeth that hardens them, and it has been only a few years ago that one of our best practitioners said, "I must acknowledge that tin does retain teeth." A very wealthy family was once summering with me, and while there, their teeth needed some attention. Some of the teeth looked dark, and I found that the teeth were decaying. It was with considerable effort that I tried to save those teeth; and their dentist came to me with the enquiry why I had filled teeth for patients with tin, who were abundantly able to pay for gold. I told him, in order that the teeth might become developed and hardened under the tin, and that it did so was evident by the trouble he had in trying to cut away the tin fillings. I remember reading an article by Dr. Chase, of St. Louis, in 1869, advocating the placing of tin over sensitive dentine, in order to secure a gentle galvanic action—the galvanic action was said to be therapeutic and hardened the teeth. I remember a case in which I tried it. I made a tin disc and adjusted it very nicely over the soft dentine, and proceeded to fill