

been said the profession are most lamentably lax when it comes to the observance of true hygiene of the mouth. It is not here intended to make an unjust arraignment of the profession nor charge its members with willful neglect, but the persistent ignoring of this important phase of practice on the part of many otherwise excellent operators constitutes a grave reflection on their professional integrity and correspondingly lowers the standard of dentistry. The people can be educated in this matter only by the most conscientious and earnest effort of their dental advisers, and no man practicing dentistry is doing his full duty unless his patients are constantly being schooled into the necessity for painstaking care in cleanliness of the mouth. It is not within the province of the present work to go minutely into the pathology of this subject, and yet it would seem desirable to briefly indicate some of the deleterious effects produced by deposits when allowed to remain.

The encroachment of calculus along the neck and root of a tooth, if left unchecked, results in an absorption of the gum, the periodontal membrane, and even the alveolar process, so that finally the support of the tooth is destroyed, and it is allowed to topple over and fall-out. It is estimated by many observant practitioners that more teeth are lost as the result of diseased conditions in the tissues surrounding them than from decay of the teeth themselves; and, if this be true, it is very important that dentists should pay especial attention to the agencies calculated to bring about such conditions. It is undeniably a fact that calculus in a mouth subject to its continual formation will, if allowed to accumulate, sooner or later work the destruction of the teeth.

Figs. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 illustrate some extreme cases of calculus formation about the teeth. Figs. 1 and 2 show the mesial and distal aspects of two lower incisors with calculus attached, actual size. Fig. 3 is a mass of calculus detached from the buccal surface of an upper molar. The patient applied to her dentist for examination relative to some "growth" which she said was forming in her mouth, and the result was the removal of this piece of calculus, here reproduced in two views, actual size. Figs. 4 and 5