

chief reason for this he finds in the horde of improperly educated graduates annually turned out of the dental colleges. The majority of them are not in reality qualified to practise, and in order to live they resort to methods which lower the standing of the profession and reduce the profits resulting from its practice.

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### Oral Hygiene.

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Dr. J. Taft has an excellent article in the *Dental Register*, in which he impresses upon dentists the necessity of instructing their patients in the care of the mouth and teeth. When a patient places himself in charge of a dentist, everything that will minister to the welfare of that patient should be done, but too frequently the dentist contents himself with an operation upon one or two teeth, and dismisses the patient with the mouth in such a condition that the best work possible in the way of filling is of little permanent value. There is too little taught in dental colleges, and too little written in the journals, upon the subject of oral hygiene. It should be discussed more in dental societies so that practitioners would have a better conception of the relation they should bear to their patients. While this is true, however, he thinks that neglect does not arise so much from ignorance as from a lack of recognition of the importance of the subject.

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### Clean Instruments.

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Dr. George S. Allen, of New York, in the *International Dental Journal*, recommends the use of a one to one thousand solution of bichloride of mercury in rosewater, as an elegant and efficient disinfecting fluid for instruments. Contrary to the common opinion that steel instruments suffer from the use of any solution of the bichloride, he finds that they remain perfectly unaffected after being dipped in it hundreds of times. By the use of rosewater the bug-poison taste of the simple solution is entirely supplanted by an agreeable rose-flavored one. As the plain bichloride decom-