

1st. That after trying several, the arsenious acid paste, composed of equal parts of arsenious acid and morphia, or of three parts of the arsenic, to two parts of the morphia, is the best devitalizer in use. I know that some condemn the employment of morphia with the arsenic entirely, and allege that it aggravates the pain of the destruction of the nerve, but it has proved so very beneficial in my practice, that I cannot help thinking that the fault has lain in the manner in which those parties have applied it. It is seldom that a person complains of anything more than a slight uneasiness after I have made the application. I feel sure that in most cases where severe pain has been produced by the use of the paste it has arisen either because there was a layer of partially softened dentine between the paste and the nerve, or the covering placed over the paste to retain it, has been driven too firmly into the cavity, so as to produce pain by direct pressure on the nerve.

2nd. In applying the devitalizer, whether arsenic or anything else, I use as little as will do the business effectually, and apply it directly to the exposed surface of the nerve if possible, and allow it to remain for twenty-four hours.

3rd. In removing the dead nerve, to do it thoroughly and at the first sitting, thus leaving nothing to decompose and generate gasses. It is not an easy task to do this in every case, but it should be done as thoroughly as possible, and as success depends in a great degree on this part of the operation, I spare *no pains* in doing it. If necessary I drill through sound enamel and dentine to enable me to gain direct access to the root canals, as it is far easier to work on a line with the axis of the root, with a straight broach than with curved instruments through the cavity of decay.

4th. After removing the nerve I apply whatever dressing the circumstances of the case seem to demand, (I seldom employ more than four remedies, viz: creasote, carbolic acid, iodine, and nitrate of silver,) and I see that it is perfectly covered. If a topical remedy is applied to any part of the body, it is essentially necessary that it should remain in contact with the affected part to effect a cure, and it is fully as essential in treating a tooth, for if the dressing is not covered so as to prevent it, the saliva will find its way into the root canals, and dissolve the remedy or force it out, and then decompose itself, thus hindering, if not actually preventing the action of the drug. I