

age teacher, having all he can attend to, so at least he thinks, does not make any effort to inform himself concerning the teeth, as he is not required to pass an examination as to what he knows about them, and certainly no physical examination is made of his own teeth, else many teachers would fall by the wayside in their efforts to obtain certificates, and might consider themselves lucky not to be reported to the Board of Health. Many members of the teaching profession, otherwise clean and neat, are so thoroughly negligent of their own teeth as to cause comment among the young pupils who are daily entrusted to their care, and it is safe to say that it does not add to their popularity with those young students who are accustomed to take note of anything appearing in their field of vision and to make use of it accordingly; but there is a deeper significance in this than mere popularity with the pupils. The teacher who trains his pupils to "do as I tell you, not as I do," will certainly find it more difficult than the one who sets the example by his own person. To illustrate, I may mention the common case of a man who is accustomed to drink only at his meals, but who is in course of time thrown into the society of others, who take their drink at odd times, when he gradually and almost imperceptibly to himself, drops into the same habit, and when that is extended to a number of individuals it becomes a force of custom, which is exceedingly difficult to change; and so it is with every other habit. There is not one of us who is not influenced by the nature of his surroundings, and especially is this the case with children.

The training which school children receive has a vast influence upon them in all their future lives. The good impressions formed and a little knowledge wisely distributed would go a long way toward ultimate perfection. While perfect cleanliness of the teeth exercises a marked influence on their prophylactic condition, there are other hygienic considerations of greater importance. It has been clearly shown that dental caries would not be possible with functional equilibrium. As the departure from normal alkalinity of the oral secretions, which renders decay possible, is probably connected with deranged alimentary functions, any course which would restore these functions to a proper activity would be a correction of dental caries.

It has been observed in several of the asylums for children coming largely from the unfortunate classes of society, that the health of the inmates soon becomes much improved under the combined

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