

years ago, never dreamt of sitting down to the same table as his captain, who was most probably ignorant of his existence on board his vessel. Our specialty has also made great strides of late years, and our position as educated men and useful members of society is freely granted by all right-thinking people. But we are not only all brought in contact with people who do not think rightly, but scarcely seem to think at all. It is when feeling a want of consideration—to say nothing of gratitude—from people of this sort, that our knowledge of human nature helps us, as we know the genus "snob" to be as much a branch of the great human family as it was when Thackeray wrote. Finally, a few words of the great philosopher, Marcus Aurelius, may well be borne in mind: "Be satisfied with your business, and learn to love what you were bred to; and as to the remainder of your life, be entirely resigned, and let the the gods do their pleasure with your body and your soul. And when this is done be neither slave nor tyrant to anybody."—*British Journal of Dental Science*.

AN UNPLEASANT EXPERIENCE WITH COCAINE.*

BY J. CHARTERS BIRCH, L.D.S.I.

A few weeks ago I had a very unpleasant experience with cocaine, particulars of which may prove useful.

I was fitting gold collars for crowns to left mandibular canine and bicuspid, first trying each one to place separately, and using some little pressure to slightly cut the surrounding gum. I applied to the neck of each of the three roots, on a pellet of wool, one minim of 5 per cent. solution of cocaine. I am particular in saying one minim to each, for the small glass container in which I place my solution, which is freshly prepared for each case, holds ten minims, and I roll up and place in the cup, at starting, ten wool pellets or rolls; these absorb all the fluid.

Placing a roll of absorbent wool between the tongue and alveolus to absorb any solution that might run down with the saliva, I waited about two minutes, changing the position of the pellets occasionally. I then removed the wool and tried the collar upon the first bicuspid. Finding the gum still sensitive, I applied a fresh pellet of wool to that root, leaving the others in their place. In about another minute or so I tried the collar upon the posterior root, and finding the gum insensitive, pressed the collar down to place and burnished it close; then, removing the remaining pellets of wool, also the one under the tongue which was now in my way,

* Read at a Meeting of Leeds and District Section of Midland Branch.