

How many pitiable instances does this very useful paper recall of friends whom we have known as public characters, whom we knew by their portraits, whose whole physiognomy has been utterly changed by their dentist! Perhaps the contour of Washington's majestic face could not have been preserved after he was forced to trust himself in the hands of the dentist, but one cannot help thinking that if some of our skilful practitioners of to day had had the shaping of that immortal *ratelier* which lies behind the lips to which the statuary and the painter tried in vain to give expression, the Father of his Country would have looked upon us with a still nobler aspect. And with what a sad surprise do we greet our friend who has just come from the hands of some tasteless workman in dental porcelain, who has filled his mouth with a set of "dominoes" as the pugilists call them, staring, and glaring, and cheating him of all his natural expression, so that to talk with him is like making a new acquaintance, and we feel as if we were taking a liberty in speaking without an introduction!

The Dental Profession is doing itself great honor by the breadth of the studies which it encourages as well as by the vast amount of ingenuity which it calls into exercise. The debt of mankind to its labors is incalculable. Many a man, still more many a woman, would rather not live at all, than live disgraced by the wrongs of nature—if we may lay the fault to nature and not to artificial habits—shut out from all the charms of social intercourse by imperfect articulation and the sense of deformity, and it may be, condemned to invalidism by failure of the first process of reduction of the food. There is nothing the dental art does not attempt, and hardly anything within the bounds of reasonable belief it does not accomplish. It fills the teeth that would have gone in a year, and makes them last a life-time. It builds up a new fabric on what seemed the most worthless foundations, until like a monarch, the ancient fang wears a crown of solid gold, and the miracle of the legend is made an every-day fact. It straightens the most perverse irregularities, weeds the over-crowded arches, fills the gap which disenchanted the smile of beauty, enamelling the delicate substitute to the exact shade of the lost pearl, hurls the patient into a pleasing trance while it clears away the incumbrances that no longer serve him, and makes him once more comely and happy with a third dentition of gold and porcelain.

ALVEOLAR ABSCESS.

BY DR. W. H. SHADOAN.

(Continued from page 182.)

POINTS OF ESCAPE.

There are, perhaps, as many points of escape of the pus of abscesses