

I apprehend that there is no difference of opinion, that all modern operators do make an attempt, and generally successfully, to save such a case. The point of debate and hesitation is generally when a few of the teeth are in need of treatment, or in case of a few good ones remaining, and the others more or less involved in doubt as to the advisability of attempting their salvation. In the light of present progressive dentistry, we can scarcely be excused in our action if we recommend a resort to extraction, except in cases of badly wasted roots. I hold a strong prejudice against removing even sound roots, preferring to fill them where they cannot be crowned, and protecting the soft tissue and upholding the alveolus as long as possible. A sound root may be serviceable for years, especially so after treatment and filling or capping.

Looking at the æsthetic effects of removing teeth and restoring by the factory-made article, I presume that many will consider me wild when I make the assertion, that it is a physical impossibility to restore or reproduce the natural expression to a face when once the roots of the teeth are removed. Yet, I make the statement, and challenge the artist in dentistry to get up and say so. It cannot be done.

The canine eminence cannot be prolonged on the outside of the maxillary sufficiently high, without interfering with the free action and motion of the lips. As soon as the six anterior teeth are removed, there begins a change in the body of the jaw as well as the alveoli, too high up for any outside artificial contrivances to be placed for the comfort of the patient.

It may be possible that this is the reason why our English brethren do not, as a rule, remove the roots in substituting the natural teeth; and, if so, I commend them for their good taste, from an artistic point of view, while from a sanitary or economic point, perhaps there is not so much to be said in its favor.

My faith in the dentist of the present and of the near future is unbounded, as to their action in regard to saving teeth. Everything is promising, their inclination is in that direction, their education is directed in that way, public taste is being directed more in that way, humanity calls upon them to do so, progressive ideas must prevail, and the time is coming when the forceps will be a quarterly or semi-annual issue, instead of a daily. This will