

CORSETS.—One of the most successful dental surgeons in New York delicately suggests to his nervous patients when there is any nerve-rasping work to be done, that the easiest-fitting garments that can be worn will increase the powers of endurance. Some of the baneful things he has to contend with in the operating chair are new shoes, tight sleeves, high choking collars, and worst of all, corsets so tight-fitting that the patient depending on the high chest breathing is in danger of suffocation when the rubber dam goes on to protect the excavated tooth, preparatory to filling.—*N. Y. World.*

THE APPLICATION OF THE RUBBER DAM.—I have never been able to understand how anything is gained by using small pieces of rubber dam. It should be large enough to well cover the mouth, cheeks and chin, so that it may be held and kept out of the way during operations. Many breaks around the necks of the teeth after the dam has been applied are due to punching the holes too near together. Punch them far enough apart so that the rubber will not be stretched in the interdental spaces, and be sure to punch holes enough. The ligating is easily done by allowing the thread to extend from tooth to tooth on the lingual side without a single knot. Black carpet-thread makes a good ligature, and its color makes it possible to detect any fibres which may be caught on the cervical border of a cavity.—H. BARNES, in *Ohio Dental Journal.*

At a Union Meeting of the First and Second District Dental Societies, State of New York, Dr. Sidney S. Stowell, of Pittsfield, Mass., presented his rapid method of making partial gold plates. The impression is taken in plaster or modelling compound, into which "Melotte's metal" is poured, forming a metal model or die. Around this die modelling compound is built, forming a cup, with die at the bottom; the surface of the model exposed is blackened with smoke from a burning match. Melotte's metal (as cool as it will flow) is poured into this cup, forming a counter-die. Modelling compound is removed, and the die and counter-die separated. Gold plates, thirty-two gauge, are then swaged, making two or three duplicates, placed together, and swaged and then soldered. Hold all plates together with spring pliers. Result—a gold plate of any desired thickness and strength at any point required, perfect adaptation to the model as a thin plate is swaged between hard dies; perfect adaptation to the mouth, as the plate is fitted directly upon a model taken from the impression, as in vulcanite work. Teeth clasps and plate may all be fitted to the same model. No molding in sand or casting metal fused at high temperature; no dirt, no pounding.—*Dental Cosmos.*