

transplantation of dead teeth, or teeth that have long been out of the mouth.

One of our guests at our last meeting pronounced this part of the question "unmitigated nonsense," and hinted that we should perhaps next be called upon to believe that porcelain teeth could be transplanted and made to grow in the human jaw.

I am disposed to think that this gentleman did not receive his invitation to attend this meeting sufficiently early to enable him to examine into the question that was announced for discussion; for a gentleman who has forgotten more than most of us ever knew can surely not be ignorant of the physiological facts bearing upon this matter, and recorded in the pages of Billroth, Kölliker, and Tomes, and other investigators of that field.

Billroth found that ivory pegs that had been driven into living bones had osteoklasts upon them, and Kölliker found in such a case that Linhard had not only typical Howshipian lacunæ, but also polynucleated giant cells, showing the continued vital action of the parts surrounding the intruding substance. Mitscherlich relates instances of partially successful results from the implantation of dead teeth, in which cases the inserted tooth becomes fastened by osseous tissue which grows into the dentine from the maxillary surface. This observation is quoted also by Wedl, at the end of a sentence giving his views as to the cause of the results of transplantation, being upon the whole not favorable, because the roots of corresponding teeth, in different individuals, vary so much in thickness, length, and curvature; consequently, the alveolus is either injured or incompletely filled, and the subsequent inflammatory processes prevent the desired fixation.

In conclusion, then, it seems that the weight of testimony in favor of the implantation of dead teeth equals, if it does not surpass, the testimony in favor of transplantation and replantation; while these latter operations, with our present knowledge, offer a field for increased usefulness to our fellows that promises to be of far greater value than was formerly supposed to attach to them.

PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF DENTAL SURGEONS.—The committee on mechanical dentistry reported that the *cuspid*s in gum section are too small and narrow, and not sufficiently prominent. These teeth should be fully as wide as the central incisors. Notice was drawn to the error made in having separations between the over-lapping or crowded teeth in