

profession at the International Medical Congress. He follows no beaten track in his work, for his inventive genius has led him to branch off in original methods by which he has achieved eminent results. He is a strong advocate of advancement in science; and in nearly all his writings he urges the medical schools to adopt the new methods in oral and facial surgery, by adding to their curriculum men qualified to teach the treatment of diseases resulting from affections of the teeth. The present high-standing requirements to enter upon the study of dentistry in the State of New York were, we know, the outcome of his suggestion and work.

Dr. Curtis is often called into consultation, not only by observing men in dentistry, but by general medical and surgical practitioners, and his genial nature has made him many friends among the latter who have witnessed the skilful and original treatment of difficult oral and facial cases in his hand.

SOME SUGGESTIONS ON THE TREATMENT OF PYORRHEA ALVEOLARIS.*

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In my remarks I shall not attempt to exhaust this subject, which is broader than the present status of knowledge. I, however, make a few suggestions, with the view of drawing out discussion that may lead to widening this field. I shall not think it strange if some of my hearers disagree with me, for I differ somewhat with most authors upon the subject. I think that Dr. Pierce has fallen into the error made by some other writers, who claim that uric acid is the cause instead of the result of rheumatism and gout, of which pyorrhea alveolaris is a symptom, seen only in certain classes of the discrasia. I have found that it is not always safe to adopt some views, especially those found in some books. Not only dentists, but physicians sometimes depend too largely upon literature, for their practice in most oral diseases.

Perhaps all dentists do not have facilities for thorough experimental work, but they certainly deserve credit for the persistent manner in which they have endeavored to cure, by devoting their time almost wholly to the treatment of a single symptom. I believe that very few recognize the importance of general treatment, with the view of eradicating from the system the conditions

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