

A CONVENIENT DENTAL INSTRUMENT.—A jeweller's pin vise, or wire holder, is a tool having a round wooden handle and a clutch, controlled by a clutch screw at one end. It may be purchased for twenty-five cents, and makes a very convenient dental instrument. It is a nerve brooch carrier, canal plugger (made of spent nerve brooches) carrier. By clutching the two ends of a loop of wire, makes a splendid dentimetre. It will hold post wire while a post is being shaped and sized. It also does excellent service as a needle clutch.

Dental Hints.

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A broken gold filling, where foundation is solid, can be made perfectly good by applying rubber dam, drying gold thoroughly with hot air syringe and commencing with Hubbard's No. 4 leaf gold folded twice, using deeply-serrated points. In this way I have built up as much as two-thirds of a central incisor and have yet to hear of one fracture, although some are of three years' standing.

The use of aluminum in connection with a newly-made amalgam filling will give off salts of aluminum, which, if watched closely, will be found forming and piling up very quickly. I first found this out by filling cusps of set crowns to make them stronger, then tested it in the mouth and found the same thing occur. It will do so, no matter how dry it is made, but will not do it with an old filling.

Partial impressions can be taken in plaster, no matter how bad the case may be, either lower or upper, by building up impression cups with wax and fitting them perfectly to the mouth. If there are any dove-tailed spaces between the teeth, place in piece of wax, trim evenly with edges of same. Take impression as usual, removing before plaster sets too firmly. Then slide wax out sideways from between the teeth, place in position in impression, run mould as usual; when hard, separate and trim teeth, and you have a perfect reproduction of the mouth—one you can rely on at all times. Use a little more care to avoid air bubbles than when teeth are absent.

You will hear from me again in some future issue on Pyorrhœa Alveolaris, the treatment of which I have been comparatively successful with.