

Palmer was passed (which the Secretary was instructed to have handsomely engrossed) for the manner in which he had presented, by means of plaster models and diagrams, an advanced method of preparing and filling teeth, and an appropriate classification of fissures where teeth are most liable to decay.

The report of the Committee on Voluntary Essays was presented and adopted.

Dr. M. S. Dean, from the Committee on Dental Education, presented a report on the importance of a thorough preliminary education for dental students, and was followed by Dr. S. B. Palmer, with an essay on "Dental Education for the People."

Dr. Palmer advocated the diffusion of knowledge in regard to the preservation of the dental organs by means of tracts or periodicals. He believed there was great necessity for such information, and that it would be highly appreciated.

Dr. Cobb indorsed the sentiments of the essayist; he was greatly impressed with the ignorance of educated people in regard to their teeth; all that the community know in regard to such matters is the little information they pick up in the dentists' offices. He held it to be the duty of practitioners to instruct their patients. Many more people would have their teeth preserved if they knew that it was true economy to do so. He strongly commended the plan of the *People's Dental Journal*, and was much in favor of the distribution of tracts to increase popular dental knowledge. There would be vastly more dental work done if people knew the importance of it; something in the form of a catechism, or instruction which might be introduced into schools, was a *desideratum*. No branch of knowledge was more neglected, and none would insure more immediate good results by its propagation. It was a common idea that the charges of dentists were exorbitant, whereas they were far more moderate in proportion than those of physicians and general surgeons.

Dr. McDonald advocated the preparation of tracts, under the auspices of the Association, for distribution among the people. Early instruction in regard to the value of the teeth, and proper means of caring for them, would be of immense value to the American people and to American dentists. A great many more teeth would be filled, but there would eventually be a great many less large operations to be performed, and, consequently, a great deal better condition of the teeth might be insured at much less expenditure of money.

The Committee on Dental Literature had no report.