

dish as the liquid rushes through the holes in the inner. After remaining there a sufficient time the inner dish, or sieve, is lifted out by a handle attached to one side, then placed under the tap and thoroughly rinsed; or, in the absence of a tap, the sieve could be dipped into a basin of clean water which would answer the same purpose. After this process, we consider the instruments ready for the next patient. As the engine handpiece cannot be treated in that way, it is washed off with a cloth dipped in the liquid, after which it is dried with a clean towel. We do not think camel's hair brushes admissible, as one can hardly afford to throw them away, therefore we banish them from the operating room and use in its stead the inexpensive and cleanly cotton splint brush, only using them once. The revolving bristle brush meets the same fate.

Now, without wearying you further, we have indicated briefly the tremendous responsibility of the dental surgeon in dealing with this matter of septicemia, and still more briefly the methods and some of the appliances for the antiseptic treatment of the same. Dirt, like wealth, is a relative term—one hundred dollars may mean wealth to some, while to others a million would be required to have that meaning, so with dirt (someone has said that dirt is only matter out of place). To one, a speck means dirt; to another it requires the proverbial peck; but, after all, it is not a matter of taste or opinion. There remains the fact of the deadly nature of many micro-organisms, and there remains our duty, too, to our patients, ourselves and our God, to render them harmless by every means in our power.

VICARIOUS MENSTRUATION FROM THE GUMS.

BY W. GEO. BEERS.

Since last January I have had a very complicated case of contraction of the superior and inferior teeth to contend with, and during the frequent visits of the patient, aged seventeen, I had opportunity for observing one of the most interesting cases of vicarious menstruation, which the limitations of dental practice have ever brought to me. The day after I had taken the impression for models, the patient came by appointment, and I noticed such an effusion of blood, about the gingival margins specially, and the gums generally, that at first I suspected that the blood in the mouth came from the lungs. But upon careful observation there was no mistake about the matter, and the surprise was the greater because the gums were healthy and the teeth free from