

Her general health in consequence of her long continued suffering was greatly enfeebled. Examination of the mouth was unsatisfactory, so I looked further for the cause, which I apparently found in two large "seed" moles, one of which was situated immediately in front of the ear, and the other three inches below on the affected side of the face. A few drops of cocaine were injected beneath the tissues at the base of these moles, and the skin dissected sufficiently for a small ligature to be thrown about them and firmly tied. The moles were snipped off with scissors and the stumps cauterized with nitrate of silver. The ligatures came away with the sloughs which formed, and the wounds healed without further treatment.

An examination of the moles revealed an exposure of the nerves, which were also intensely inflamed.

Several months subsequently I received a letter from the patient's son, stating, "Since the simple operation which you did for my mother, she has not experienced the slightest pain and daily blesses you."

Similar cases are common where patients have travelled nearly the world over consulting physicians in search of relief at an enormous expenditure of time and money.

The operations described are not new to those familiar with the progress of oral surgery as worked out by the more advanced members of the dental profession, but the fact remains that the general information given to the medical student is insufficient for the proper handling of these cases.

I speak within bounds when I say that maltreatment at the hands of men ignorant of the higher development of this branch of surgery has given me the greater number of my patients.

There is no question that the more cultivated dentists know the surgery of the mouth better than the surgeon who has been only generally trained; know better also the relations of disorders of the oral cavity with contiguous and distant tracts, and are better prepared to diagnose the cause of many obscure lesions connected with those relations.

I would therefore recommend to the surgical profession, particularly to those who have had no special opportunities for studying the diseases of the mouth, the calling in of a skilful dentist, preferably one who has been medically educated, at least for the benefit of his judgment in diagnosis, whenever there is room to suspect oral complications.

Our medical schools will not do their entire duty by their students until they add to their list of teachers dentists of the ability to instruct their students in diseases following affections of the teeth; and our text-books will be lacking until they give proper attention to oral surgery as viewed from a conservative standpoint.

—*N. Y. Medical Journal.*