

this second baking there are any evidences of shrinkage of the porcelain and platinum at the edges, again place the filling in the cavity and burnish down the platinum, and after adding porcelain bake a third time. This is frequently necessary.

Now remove the matrix with a pair of fine pointed pliers, commencing at the edge and working to the middle to avoid chipping the edges. As a last step, with a diamond or rubber-and-corundum disc, cut a groove around the entire cavity portion of the filling, parallel with the edge. Now apply the rubber dam whenever possible, and with a good cement (Justi's preferable) mixed to a creamy consistency, carefully place the filling into position, and after about fifteen minutes protect the edges from moisture by a thin coat of Gilbert's varnish and melted paraffin over that.

In very large cavities on the labial surface of incisors and cuspids, the shrinkage of the porcelain with the matrix after the first baking is sometimes so great that the filling will rock when placed into the cavity for the second burnishing. In a case like this simply break the porcelain in two in the centre and it can then be pressed into position very readily.

Large tips and corners should have pins baked into them to extend (in the case of devitalized teeth) into the root canal, and in living teeth wherever your judgment allows you to drill without endangering the pulp. In the insertion of these pins I usually burnish the foil into the cavity as in ordinary cases and thrust the pin right through it into position in the retaining point drilled for it, then apply my porcelain to the matrix while the pin is in position, and after extracting the moisture carefully withdraw and bake.

The chief objection to all kinds of inlay work, *i.e.*, the belief that the cement with which it is retained will wash out and leave an empty joint, is reduced to a minimum if skilful work is done and joints are good.

The porcelain system has many advantages in the operation of crowning, and offers various means of overcoming difficult cases where "store" crowns are impracticable. Operators are few and far between who are skilful enough to fit a Logan crown to a root as perfectly as a porcelain crown can be made for the same case. Then the all-porcelain crown is exceedingly strong. The crowns that come back to us to be repaired are, in the great majority of cases, those with metallic backs which would appear on first thought to be the stronger of the two, but which are in reality very much weaker, because there is no perfect union between the metallic back and the facing, the porcelain being simply held in position by two small platinum pins. On the all-porcelain crown the backing and facing are perfectly fused together into one solid piece.