

THE JOURNAL OF THE TIMES.

HALIFAX, MAY, 1860.

We wish to have it distinctly understood that we print and circulate the *Journal of the Times* for no other purpose than to become known through the country and to have an opportunity of posting the public mind in matters pertaining to our profession.

The trouble of preparing even so small a paper as our own is not inconsiderable; indeed, we consider it more than to prepare matter for a large journal, as in our case the length of each article must be closely calculated in order to give a varied and interesting table of contents.

The object we had in view when we commenced to pen this item was to ask any and all who may receive a copy of this paper to read it themselves, and either put it away for future reference, or give it to some neighbor or friend, so that as many as possible may have the reading of a paper at once profitable and instructive.

REMARKS ON THE TEETH.

Nothing disfigures "the human face divino" so much as a loss of the teeth.

We have been intending for a long time to write an article making claims for dentistry as one of the fine arts. No one will deny, we think, that to carve a tooth so perfectly imitating nature as to deceive the eye, and to select a shade or color that shall correspond to the complexion of the person for whom the tooth is intended, requires both artistic talent and artistic taste.

However, it must be admitted that dentistry has done much towards beautifying and remedying the defects of nature.

The teeth are moreover an index of health. When a person shows a mouth full of natural teeth—regular, unimpaired, and clean—it betokens strong constitution, good health, and healthy ancestors. It needs but an experienced eye to judge of the physical condition of a person by simply examining the teeth. The laws of life we cannot disobey with impunity. We may cheat nature for a time, but she will have her account balanced in due time.

When a race or a family lives to excess, and nature wishes to punish, she usually does so by inflicting some fearful malady which, in itself, is punishment enough; but often it proceeds further—it goes even to "the third and fourth generation." It is not always that the child inherits the father's or mother's misfortune, but there is usually a decrease of vitality in the child.

When nature begins to curtail man's fair proportions, she narrows the chest and the jaws, causing the under one to recede,—makes crooked the ankles,—spreads out the feet; and, as the jaw is small, mean, and contracted, the teeth must be crowded, irregular, and some of them turned sidewise. We do not care to describe the consequences of this de-vitalized condition as exhibited in the offspring of two such persons as just mentioned. But we cannot help remarking that children of such parents can hardly be expected to have healthy teeth, healthy minds, or any of the organs of the system healthy when their parents, ignorantly or otherwise, have sought an alliance on a low physical plain.

Therefore we hold, that as the face is the index of the mind, so are the teeth of the general health and constitutional structure.

THE VULCANIZED RUBBER BASE.

We have introduced the above new style of work into our practice, believing that it has many advantages over any other style of mounting Artificial Teeth ever heretofore in use.

Some of the advantages of the Rubber work we may briefly enumerate, as follows:—

It is made in one solid and complete piece, consequently, there is no chance for any of the acids or secretions of the mouth to lodge around or under the teeth. It has no metallic taste; nor has it any taste of the rubber, or anything disagreeable. It is lighter than any metal used for mounting Artificial Teeth. It is not acted upon by acids of any kind. It is very durable. It is cheaper than gold. And as the Rubber Base is made upon a plaster cast of the mouth, instead of being struck by metallic dies, it is sure to be a perfect fit.

This new kind of work is highly spoken of by those who have worn it, as being superior to any other kind now in vogue. Specimens of the Vulcanite Base may be seen at our office.

DR. MACALLASTER will visit Windsor, professionally, about the end of May. Persons desirous of having Dentistry done are respectfully requested to hold themselves in readiness. Due notice will be given by circular.

OSTEOPLASTIC FILLING FOR DECAYED TEETH.—We have been using this new filling for some time, and must say that it is admirable for stopping many teeth which otherwise could not be saved.

This filling is put into the tooth while soft, giving no pain, as it requires no pressure; it soon becomes hard as the tooth, to which it firmly adheres, rendering it next to impossible for the filling ever to come out. Sensitive teeth can often be filled with it when they will not bear a gold filling. This filling too, besides being cheaper than gold, is peculiarly adapted to filling front teeth, as it is very near the color of the teeth when it is dry.

Pivot teeth, when cemented to the roots with the Osteoplastic, are as firm as the natural ones. As no decay of the roots can follow this mode of inserting pivot teeth, we cannot see why such an operation as this would not be rendered permanent for life.

HOLLELY'S PATENT BLOW-PIPE.—We have been using for the past year a couple of Hollely's Blow-pipes; and we are free to say that we have never been acquainted with anything to equal them for soldering purposes. We cordially recommend the above as being cheap, portable, convenient, and every way suited to the use of dentists, silversmiths and others. For information address Joseph Hollely, No. 2 Pitt street, New York city.

We learn from one of the city papers that an American publisher has lately printed an edition of the "Essays of Elia," which, from its being the first on this side of the Atlantic, they have no doubt will find many readers. We hope the same publisher may be induced to publish an edition of Shakspeare, which being a novelty might also take with American readers.—*Com.*

SHOW THE JOURNAL OF THE TIMES to your friends.

BOOK NOTICES.

COUSIN MAUDE AND ROSMOND, by Mrs. Mary J. Holmes. New York: C. M. Saxton, Baker & Co., 1860; Halifax: Hall and Beamish.

This book is composed principally of two stories, written in that pleasing and chaste style for which Mrs. Holmes is noted. She always writes with an ease and purity peculiar to herself, ever bearing in mind that to a greater or less extent the light reading of the hour has a powerful influence in shaping the characters of many, and especially the young.

Like all her productions, these two commend themselves to all lovers of pure and entertaining reading. The press and public have been alike unanimous in the praise of all this author's works, among which may be named *Homestead on the Hillside*, *Leana Rivers*, *Dora Dean* and *Maggie Miller*, and *Meadow Brook*. Having lived at the North, and afterwards at the South, Mrs. Holmes sketches Yankee and Southern character to the very life.

Of the characters in the book now under notice we will only say that they are all extremely well drawn, and especially Dr. Kennedy, who, with his "maxims" and other peculiarities, strongly reminds us that we have seen just such characters in real life. The character of Maude, too, is truthfully drawn—kind, gentle, winning the readers confidence and esteem. But we do not propose to give the plot of either story, but leave it to be found out by those who are yet to read the work.

It is for sale by Hall & Beamish.

A SYSTEM OF DENTAL SURGERY, by John Tomes, F.R.S. With Two Hundred and Seven Illustrations. Philadelphia: Lindsay & Blackiston, 1859.

It was our intention to have noticed this work some time during the winter; but having many things to attend to we were obliged to let it go till "a more convenient season." We have no hesitation in saying that this is the best work, taken as a whole, ever written upon the subject of dental surgery. Though incomplete in some respects it has merit, and that too of a high order, sufficient to give it a permanent place as a book to be consulted in matters pertaining to practical dentistry. The physiological view of the subject is very complete, showing that the author has been untiring in his efforts to get at facts and to substantiate them.

We may incidentally notice that the author seems to have modified, and in some measure changed his views in regard to the destroying of nerves, since the publication of his former work. There are some improvements which have been tested in practice, which, though generally known through the agency of the Dental journals, the author seems somehow to have overlooked,—we may mention improvements in the regulation of teeth. We should be glad to enter into a detailed account of this work; but as our paper is read mostly by non-professional persons we deem such a course inappropriate.

The American edition of the work, which is the one under notice, is well printed and nicely bound in library binding.

This work will also serve to show the rapid advancement of dental science in England during the past few years.