

### ARE COMPOUND FILLINGS DESIRABLE ?—YES, AT TIMES.\*

1. In cases where pulp is alive and nearly exposed, a metal applied directly to pulp would cause irritation and finally death of the pulp. In this case we use some non-irritating guard filling.

2. In cases of pulp exposure, a capping is necessary, if it is desired to try saving pulp.

3. For purposes of economy, *e.g.*, in gold filling may fill bulk of cavity with cement and finish with gold.

4. In approximal cavities cement is useless, where it approaches the cervical border. If desired to fill with cement, use amalgam or some substitute at gum margin. Amalgam may often be combined with gold by filling lower half of cavity with amalgam, either waiting until the amalgam sets before finishing with gold or packing gold on the soft amalgam.

5. When the pulp is removed the roots are seldom filled with same material as the crown. This may be called a combination.

6. Tin and gold rolled together has the advantage in point of color. Have never used it.

7. Where walls of enamel are thin and translucent, cement should be used under gold or amalgam. Care should be taken to have all margins free of cement before filling over it, as otherwise a leaky filling will result.

8. Aluminum fillings are incorporated with the powder of cement fillings. The utility of this is doubtful, as the maker has by experiment already what is to him the exact amount of rocky base to form best resistance. Burnishing of aluminum points down over cement will not make complete covering, and the metal interferes with setting, leaving a pitted surface.

9. A large amalgam may be faced with gold by using judicious undercuts or pits. This is nearly as much or perhaps more work than to make a gold crown.

10. Where a gold filling has become defective it may be repaired with amalgam. Like the matrix, this should be used with caution.

11. An inlay of porcelain may be called a compound filling. If the space between inlay and tooth be wide, some of the cement

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\* Answer by Dr. Leggo, Ottawa, before the eighth annual meeting of Ontario Dental Society, Toronto, 1896, to question, Are compound fillings desirable, if so give proper combinations and utility?