

syphilitic. One previous child nine years before, who suffered from eruption and died of marasmus. The weight of the present fœtus was 7 lbs. The teeth were two lower central incisors, movable in their sockets, and the alveolar process for about three-quarters of an inch was elevated three-eighths of an inch above the level of the gums on either side, and was also movable. Below this hinge process was an exostosis in the middle line of the symphysis menti, which disappeared later. The mobility and elevation disappeared later, and the teeth became fixed. The mother's nipple was wounded before the teeth were discovered, and a mammary abscess resulted. A few days after birth the child developed pemphigus, and when six weeks of age, "snuffles" and a papular eruption appeared. The latter disappeared under the use of mercury. Simultaneously, the teeth became soft and were removed by the finger-nail, but the roots remained. At the age of 11 months, the roots were filled with granulation tissue level with the gum, and no other teeth had appeared. Some of the irregularities here might have been associated with the syphilitic state, but it was possible that the process was an extra-alveolar dental sac, containing two supernumerary as well as congenital teeth.—*Brit. Med. Jour.*, March 19, '98.

REMOVAL OF THE INFERIOR DENTAL NERVE THROUGH THE MOUTH.—Dr. Alexander H. Ferguson (*Chicago Medical Recorder*, May) reported to the Chicago Medical Society on April 13th a case of neuralgia in which all of the three branches of the nerve were affected. The tongue and ear were also involved. Medical treatment had proved useless. The inferior dental nerve was then removed in view of the removal of the Gasserian ganglion, a much graver operation. The head was thrown well back, and a gag put in the mouth. The distribution of the inferior dental nerve was then cut at its exit and from the mental foramen, and dissected out at that point and cut as it began to divide in its distribution. A half-inch trephine was then used on the jaw where the two last molar teeth were situated. After the gums had been separated longitudinally and the soft parts pushed to one side, a trephine was applied on the inferior maxilla and the nerve exposed where it travelled through the jaw. An incision was made parallel to the ascending ramus of the jaw and a little to the inner side thereof, cutting through the mucous membrane, and by blunt dissection the nerve was found as it entered the foramen on the inside of the jaw, a good guide being the sharp spiculum situated in that part. After the nerve had been severed at the mental foramen and exposed at its entrance into the inferior maxilla it was extirpated *in toto* by pulling it out from the middle of the jaw, and then hooking it from the upper incision until it hung loose, then following it up as far as