

Abstracts.

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VARNISH FOR LINING CAVITIES.—Gum-mastich dissolved in chloroform makes a varnish which excludes all moisture and acts as a non-conductor.—*J. C. Brewer.*

A TWO per cent. aqueous solution of trichloroacetic acid to moisten the pumice is perfectly harmless. I have used it in my practice for some time, and find it far superior to tincture of iodine for removing the green stain on children's teeth.—*W. H. Jones.*

COMBINATION FILLINGS.—"Combinations of filling materials are often far more valuable than the use of any of them separately. Thus an osteo lining adds to the value of an amalgam filling. Amalgam at the cervical part often adds to the value of gold fillings on the approximal sides of molars and bicuspsids, and guttapercha, at the cervical part of osteo fillings in certain approximal cavities, also is valuable."—*W. Cass Grayston, L.D.S. in Dental Record.*

THE RISKS OF ANÆSTHESIA.—It is stated that sixty-one deaths under anæsthesia have occurred within the past year in the United Kingdom, of which fifty-two were from the administration of chloroform. This would be a fearful indictment against the use of the anæsthetic if unsupported by statistics of the relative number of patients subjected to its influence and to the influence of other anæsthetics. But if the number of chloroform cases was fifty-two times the number of nitrous oxide cases, chloroform would appear to be no more dangerous, although it might have caused fifty-two deaths for one death caused by the latter anæsthetic.—*Medical Press and Circular, Jan. 22, 1896.*

ALLOY AND CEMENT.—Dr. W. E. Driscoll, writing to the *Dental Digest*, describes his method of using alloy with cement, in filling teeth. He mixes the alloy with mercury, as dry as will work well, and presses it into a flat button about the thickness of a silver dime. The cement is then mixed so as to be in its stickiest condition, and the cavity filled. Before it has had time to set, the button of amalgam is pressed onto it, the cement squeezing out being cut away from edges and the amalgam burnished down. Dr. Driscoll has not filled a cavity without amalgam in eleven years, and believes the time will come when it will be considered malpractice to use amalgam without first lining the cavity.