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to cause those operations to be classed among the regular operations of surgery.

Now, what is meant by essential conditions?

I mean to enunciate the proposition broadly, that a dead body or one severed from its vital connection, whether it be in the pulp cavity of a tooth, or lying out upon the open prairie, will inevitably undergo putrefactive decomposition. I mean to assert, too, that I can find no record save one in which I can place any confidence of the reforming of vital connection between the replanted or transplanted tooth-pulp and the socket into which it has been placed. Indeed, the process of luxation was devised for the special purpose of breaking, and thereby destroying, vital connection between the pulp and the soft parts within the socket, for the cure of toothache, long before the use of arsenic was thought of for the same purpose.

The single exception to this rule was in the case of the tooth which Hunter "transplanted to the comb of a cock," and which was the only success after many failures.

I think we may safely conclude from this that no teeth transplanted in actual practice had vital connection renewed in the pulp; hence they had a decomposed pulp within, in precisely the same condition which to-day is known to produce alveolar abscess, and which to-day we know so well how to prevent that I regard an alveolar abscess as an entirely preventable disease; not agreeing with the old writer who said that "the cause of toothache is known only to God."

Again, the antiseptic system has, I think, made some advances in these latter days; if not toward new discoveries, at last toward re-discoveries, with results that have been exceedingly fortunate in the domain of surgery. So that to-day we may reduce to a minimum, if we may not dispose of altogether, the danger of transmitting infectious diseases.

As experience has shown that replanted teeth do equally well after having been out of the mouth some hours as when immediately transplanted while still retaining their animal teeth, and as we are pretty well-assured that the virus we most dread carries no infection after once becoming cold, we may consider ourselves by so much in a better condition to make this operation successful than were the practitioners of a hundred years ago.

We now approach another part of this subject, and one, I will confess, offering to me far deeper interest than the one just reviewed, viz., the