

to apparently unrelated lesions. Certainly we should neglect no source of information which would strengthen or enlarge our means of fighting disease. So, and so only, shall we be able to confer upon our patients the highest benefits within the limits of our profession.

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Translations.

FROM FRENCH WRITERS.

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At the meeting of the Odontological Society of Great Britain, Mons. P. Hv. Poinot sent a communication referring to investigations he had made in the electric annealing of gold. Mons. Poinot presented to the Congress of Bordeaux last year an essay on the molecular modifications that occur in the constitution of metals in general by electric currents of sufficient intensity ; and in the paper to which we allude, he discusses the point of gold as a filling. He makes use of a 110-volts apparatus, with an intensity from 80 to 100 amperes. Such currents will volatilize gold foils, for the amperage must be in direct ratio to the section of the metal amenable to electric treatment. He does not exceed, in consequence, two and a half amperes ; uses No. 3 foils, supplied him by S. S. White Company. Every sheet is cut in two parts, and rolled into a rope, or folded into tape ; then each piece is cut into two equal parts, and each extremity of every string so formed is placed on two flat posts (*bornes électriques*), one fixed, the other being movable, in order to apply to the variable length of the strip. Through this gold passes an electric current, giving progressively from 0 to 2.5 amperes—the operation lasts half a minute. The gold is then cut into pieces required. It can be used at once, or kept for use ; must be kept very clean and very close, and passed lightly above an alcohol flame before using. It keeps the whole softness and malleability of soft gold ; every morsel is spread out with facility, without any tendency to shrink. It is pliant under pressure ; does not curl ; does not harden at its surface, as cohesive gold commonly does, but possesses to a superlative degree the cohesive properties. It realizes fully the ideal sought for in vain until now—the easy adaptation of soft gold united to the resistance of cohesive gold.