

The same treatment for bicuspid. The buccal surfaces with gold, and the lingual with the gum margin, with amalgams. If the teeth are hard, use hard amalgams, containing (or supposed to) more silver and some gold. If the teeth are of a soft character, then amalgams of tin and copper amalgam. I could enumerate innumerable cases where combinations are of value, but I have taken up too much of your time, and will close with the hope of hearing later of still greater development in this direction, when a *false shame* has been conquered, and practitioners will own up to having *patched up their own failures*, and even by that means preserved teeth, comparatively, for the suffering patient.

When the time arrives when Dental magazine recorders will give us their real daily practice, and not rush to press with the *extraordinary*, I fancy more benefits will be gained by our fraternity at large, than that of competing with the yarns of the angler, whose reputation is so unenviable.

Failure leads to success, and nothing succeeds like the latter.

"Among the disadvantages of a young man of our profession, when writing his ideas regarding any of the many subjects inviting close attention and subsequent thought, stands predominant his fear of being looked upon as conceited, and his crude observations be lost on his hearers, under the damping verdict of inexperience. In this connection I must plead guilty to a feeling of depression when noting the few remarks I have to make on this subject—and which I have consequently made as concise and unobtrusive as possible—through the fear of being gobbled up by some distinguished scientist in dental theory, to detail the conditions of the fluids in mouths where I would fill teeth in a certain way; whether the exciting causes of caries in these cases might be *chemical, vital, chemico-vital, parasitic-electric or galvanic-electric*, etc., which is exactly what I am thoroughly incapable of doing, and when I read—to quote the language of a prominent writer, that "the pulp-vessels should be charged with negative electricity, the normal pulp with positive electricity, but, in a pathological state, the surface of the dentine as well as the roots would be charged with negative electricity," etc., my nervous system receives an electric shock, which pervades me with an indescribable feeling of meanness when I recognize that *I* cannot discover the exact state of the tooth I am to operate on, in this connection, so as to arrive at that great goal—the *infallible filling*.