

sented by Dr. John Allen, who regretted that, while the operative branch of dentistry had advanced so much within a few years, in this department the general course of dentists had been to make the cheapest instead of the best work. The difficulty of obviating the discrepancy between the mouth and the dies made from the impression was admitted, but the idea of remedying this by resorting to a plate of lighter material was controverted as false in principle, which was exemplified by the simple experiment of a sheet of paper supported upon the mouth of an inverted tumbler full of water. There is demand, then, for a process which shall ensure mathematical accuracy in the fitting of the plate; as well as great need of skill in the arrangement of teeth to conform with the characteristics of the face.

He was followed by Dr. S. B. Palmer, of Syracuse, with an essay on "Repairing Vulcanite," and by Dr. J. A. McClelland with an essay on the "Collodion Base."

The essay of Dr. Palmer is explanatory of a method of thoroughly repairing broken rubber-plates by varnishing the surfaces, to which the new rubber is to be attached, with a creamy solution of rubber in chloroform; to be kept on hand for such use. He states that repairs made in this way are perfectly reliable, even if the broken edges are only beveled, without dovetailing or perforating the old piece. Wax, gutta-percha, oil, or soap are agents which prevent rubber from being vulcanized, and they should, therefore, be carefully kept from contact with any piece to which it is intended to apply this process.

The essay on "Consolidated Collodion, Pyroxlin, or Rose Pearl," is an enthusiastic description of the method of preparing that material for use in dental plates. It is prophetically characterized as "the coming base." The time required for the evaporation of the ether seems to be an inconvenience, "because we have become so demoralized in our ideas of time by the use of a cheap substance (rubber) that requires but a few hours and little skill to make into plates." "In practice the time required for 'Rose Pearl' to fit *herself* for the mouth is soon regarded as gain rather than loss." The shrinkage of the material is said to be controlled by such simple means that the cry, "It shrinks!" becomes one of ridiculous insignificance to the friends of "Rose Pearl."

Dr. Corydon Palmer exhibited an improved moulding flask, and explained its advantages in difficult cases. A vote of thanks to Dr.