

part of the temporary set. The upper cuspids are often called "eye-teeth" from their position in the arch.

The teeth themselves, both temporary and permanent, are made up of consecutive layers, as is shown in cross-sections of a cuspid tooth and also by cross-sections of the teeth of one side of the permanent set.

That part of the tooth projecting into the mouth cavity is called the crown and the part held in the jaw bone, the root or fang. This, of course, has illusion only to healthy teeth, as in some diseased conditions the roots are more or less denuded of bone and project into the oral cavity.

The outer layer of the crown is the enamel and is the hardest tissue in the body. It extends only a little beyond the edge of the gum and is replaced on the root by the cementum or *crusta petrosa*. The next layer is the dentine, and it makes up the bulk of the tooth, containing within itself a cavity which is filled by the pulp, often called nerve of the tooth. There is still another layer which, while not a part of the tooth itself, adheres to it when the tooth is extracted. This is a very vascular, fibrous membrane which envelopes the root and is called the pericementum.

Ramifying from the pulp through the dentine are numerous microscopic tubules which, while they have never been demonstrated to contain nerve tissue, nevertheless convey sensation. It is the cutting of these tubules that is accountable for most of the pain of the dental chair.

It will be seen that the anatomy of the temporary teeth, with very slight differences, is the same as that of the corresponding teeth of the permanent set. This may seem strange to many, as they only see the baby teeth after they have been shed. While the second set is being formed the roots of the deciduous teeth are being absorbed, so that when a tooth is about to erupt its predecessor is ready to drop out. Sometimes through one cause or another the root of a temporary tooth is not absorbed at the proper time, and in consequence the tooth which is to replace it appears in an improper position.

#### DISEASES OF THE TEETH AND SURROUNDING TISSUE.

Diseases of the teeth may be divided into two classes: Firstly, those which attack the teeth themselves, causing cavities and attendant troubles. Secondly, those which attack the alveoli or sockets of the teeth, thus producing "loose teeth."