

nometer for the weather. This, too, can be made a feature of considerable interest, by arranging the names of the months down the left side of a broad sheet, and the years across the top margin, and then at the close of each month entering the cash receipts thereon. After several full years are filled up, begin at the bottom of the first year and trace a red line, representing that year's total amount, on through the succeeding years—you are ever pleased to see it rising through the record of months. Then, by-and-bye, your aspirations are in a degree chilled when the same line drops a little, as it sometimes must, in succeeding years. However, it is an object lesson, which we are the most interested in.

I feel that there is ample room for a further development in dental book-keeping, and believe it worthy of still further thought than has yet been given it.

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### The Cast Filling.

By OLIVER MARTIN, L.D.S., Ottawa, Ont.

For some reasons the porcelain filling has been called plastic filling. It appears more reasonable to call it porcelain filling, as a plastic filling has reference to soft substances, when placed in the teeth, as the many amalgams in use. The porcelain filling is cast, or moulded, baked before it is placed in the cavity; the process has been explained, but I wish to simplify it, so as to place it in the laboratory of every dentist. When you have not the material for the purpose, take a piece of fine earthen-ware, such as a cup, grind it as fine as flour between two flat-irons, make a paste with water. You now wish to test the strength of your porcelain, dry it on your stove, take a clean crucible of small size; this is your furnace. If you place it inside of a sheet-iron cylinder it will retain the heat better. Place the crucible on its side in the cylinder, which is also on its side, place the porcelain in the crucible; being on its side, gives you surface enough for three or four fillings, then use the blow-pipe; in a few moments your filling is brought to a red heat, which is sufficient to unite the particles together. Care should be taken not to bring the filling to a white heat, as it renders it brittle. If the stone-ware is of sufficient strength no other ingredient will be necessary, but should it prove otherways, use one-third of ground