

good as those manufactured by S. S. White and other American manufacturers. The Egyptians also stopped teeth with gold, as proved by the mummies from Thebes. We have also historical evidence that the Greeks and the Romans paid considerable attention to diseases of the teeth, and the wearing of artificial teeth formed the subject of satire for some of the Poets.

Having shown the autobiography of our profession I will not attempt to treat of its progress down to the present time, in an elaborate way; suffice it to say that the dental science can not only claim antiquity, but that it has kept pace with the march of science. Not only so, it has made greater strides of advancement during the last half century, than any other.

Although we can claim antiquity in connection with our calling, yet as I have before said, we are, in many respects, a young profession, for the reasons that I have already stated.

To our cousins, to the south of us, we must, in honesty, give the credit of doing more to advance the science and art of dentistry than any other people.

While this may be attributable in a great degree to the energy of character, ingenuousness, and practical turn of mind which characterizes Brother Jonathan; it may also be attributed to the much greater necessity that exists among them for dentistry being a distinct branch of professional science, than has existed among their forefathers; and true to their flexibility of character they have adapted themselves to circumstances. What dentist of experience on this continent has not observed that the dental organization of to-day is not inferior to that of former years? The causes of this difference I will not attempt to give on this occasion, deeming it of sufficient importance for another paper, and of sufficient importance to call for the particular attention of every parent, and medical and dental practitioner; believing as I do that there is something seriously wrong when organs playing such an important part in the animal economy fail so prematurely.

How common and how sad it is to see our rising generation, from infancy, almost continually suffering, and their constitutions shattered in consequence of a defective and abnormal dental organization.

After a good many years experience and observation in dental practice, I have been led to the conclusion, that there is not one person in fifty in this country, whose dental organs are in a healthy and normal state. Some may talk lightly of our profession and consider us only tooth-pullers, but I feel that the field of our labour affords as ample a scope for benefiting our fellow-creatures as that of any other profession. The human