

of the tooth, and discharge the pus from the abscess through the gums. I then endeavor to pass the solution of nitrate of silver through the tooth and out through the external opening which I have made. After filling the nerve canal with cotton to stop any fetid matter from passing into it, I pass a tent of cotton into the external opening so as to prevent its closing, and stopping the discharge from passing out through it. One, two or more dressings may be required, according to the health and vitality of the patient, but I always feel *certain of success* if I have been able to adapt the treatment perfectly, in the manner indicated.

As soon as the tooth appears to be in a healthy condition, that is, when I find that it is firm in its socket, and no pain is produced on tapping it smartly, I, at once proceed to fill the root or roots, and the cavity of decay with gold. I do not think it is necessary to wait for the external opening to heal, as there is very little fear that any trouble will arise, after the nerve canal has been so perfectly closed that nothing can pass into it through the opening at the end of the root.

EXTRACTS FROM AN ESSAY

Read before the Union Dental Association of Ontario, at Toronto, January, 1869.

BY T. J. JONES, BOWMANVILLE.

MR. PRESIDENT,—Having been invited by the Committee appointed to arrange subjects for discussion—to prepare an Essay to be read at this Meeting—I have hastily thrown together a few remarks on Artificial teeth. There is no branch of Dentistry requiring more skill or talent than is necessary to constitute a good Mechanical Dentist. I do not refer to the mere preparation of the different materials employed for bases, or the working, fitting up and polishing of them, but to that *Art* which readily adapts the best means, through a close appreciation of that peculiar want which every case for inserting possesses, as a personal characteristic, which is seldom, if ever, found to apply, in all respects, to any other case, and consists in the perception of the particular size, shape and shade of teeth required to give a correct expression to the countenance, with the experience, patience, and skill required in selecting such materials as will fill the many wants demanded. * * * * A set of teeth may be of the proper form size and color, answering every purpose of an artificial substitute for mastication and enunciation, and yet