

trary, if the occlusion disclosed the fact that it came under the subdivision of Division 2, Class 2 (Angle)—viz., unilateral distal occlusion—extraction was perhaps necessary; but it would be interesting to know if the corresponding lower right first bicuspid was also sacrificed.

The appliances shown and the engraving following certainly indicate most efficient work, but it would seem as though photographic reproductions would be more satisfactory to all concerned, because of the surprising progeny of one Thomas by name and erstwhile doubter.

The question of retention, surely a vital issue, is not touched upon; but if the lower arch has been left uncorrected, as I am perhaps wrong in assuming, it is not exactly clear to one who accepts occlusion as a basic principle what means will be employed to permanently insure their position.

Perhaps the author assumes that the answers to many of my questions are self-evident, but to me a scientific article at its very best is always more or less obscure; and there can never be too much detail in the description of a mechanical operation.—*Dental Cosmos*.

AMALGAMS.

BY J. FOSTER FLAGG, D.D.S., SWARTHMORE, PA.

That I should be writing an article upon amalgams may seem to others, as it does to me, peculiar, in that I have already written so much about them; but until my resignation from the Philadelphia Dental College, some four years since, I had such opportunity to *talk* them that further writing appeared unnecessary; but so much is being done with them now, so many papers about them and their workings are being contributed to our societies, and so much consequent discussion is being indulged in, that these, together with the extraordinary and questionable claims as to attributes, and more than usually curious lists of "testimonials" which are being presented to "the profession," are my warrant for this contribution.

In addition to this, I have already replied to many letters of inquiry, and am in receipt of so many more yet unanswered, but which evidence an encouraging interest, and in some cases misconceptions that seem too general, that I think I can make one reply more serviceable than many.

In regard to the making of amalgam alloys I have for twenty