

origin in a notion of reciprocity, and where this in any form exists the dentist doubtless does well to attend both the medical practitioner, and those for whom he would in reality be paying, without fee; but there is no obligation that he should do so, and it must be remembered that the consumption of time in dental operations is very heavy, so that to any dentist in busy practice to see one patient involves the refusal of another; hence the dentist cannot reasonably be expected to see without fee the families of medical men who are perfect strangers to him. A short time since a curious result ensued from this waiver of fees. A dentist, himself medically qualified, had been in the habit for years of attending a medical friend, and of accepting from him in return medical attendance upon himself and his family. There had been no thought of payment on either side, but both being of business habits noted in their day books all attendances. The medical practitioner died, whereupon his executors sent in a claim for attendances, and intimated that they should enforce it by legal measures if need be. The dentist thereupon sent to them a counter-claim, which happened to amount to a good deal more, and this the executors declined to pay unless compelled. The result was that both claims were dropped; but the legal point was brought out that any medical man can claim fees from any other, and that any waiving of fees is merely a piece of good fellowship, not binding upon executors or trustees in bankruptcy. It is therefore a matter upon which each must judge for himself. A great deal of gratuitous work is done by dentists for medical men and their families, and vice versa; on the other hand, there are many medical men who will not accept it without making some return, and many dentists who, whether medically qualified or not, insist upon paying fees for medical attendance for themselves or their families.—*British Medical Journal*, Jan. 21st, 1899.

THE RELATION OF DISEASED TEETH TO GENERAL DISEASES.

In a recent work by Oscar Amoedo (Paris, 1898) on the medico-legal aspect of affections of the teeth, there is an excellent chapter on the relation of diseases of the teeth, gums, alveoli, etc., to various general diseases. Infectious diseases, such as la grippe, scarlatina, variola, typhoid fever, crysipelas, etc., provoke dental troubles, which vary in accordance with the patients' age. In teething children trophic or follicular troubles, which, according to their intensity, produce erosions or total loss of the gum. Infectious diseases, and particularly the grippe, are frequently accompanied by periostitis and alveolo-dental abscess, and may also cause sinus disease. The alveolo-dental periostitis of diabetes is characterized as an initial sign of that affection by a period of