

exceptional circumstances. These points are left to the superior judgment and intelligence of the conscientious operator to decide. What the writer expects to do is to introduce the subject from a personal standpoint, and invite discussion and criticism, and thus lead up to a consideration of the many points involved. The subject is so wide, so big, so important, that a whole week could be spent on it, and the whole range of the curriculum gone over from Genesis to Revelation, in consideration of means to be adopted and ways to be pursued in saving teeth.

Let me ask you a question here, and let each one of you be prepared to give me an answer of some sort. I know each one of you will have an answer, and each one perhaps a different one, according to his personal practice, subject to local and personal qualification. The question is, When am I justified in using the forceps? Is it in the case of the temporary teeth? No, decidedly not; not under any circumstances, until the age of the child indicates that the time for action has arrived, and which to my mind is not until the new tooth is ready to take the place of the old one. More harm may be done at this age by premature removal than by delaying too long. Judicious treatment and filing (if possible) is always to be resorted to. Have a mind of your own and a policy to pursue and carry it out, and take the responsibility on your own shoulders without regard to parental or childish whims. In removing these teeth I have fallen into the habit of operating chiefly with my fingers or by an incidental application of a probe or excavator, and very seldom indeed resort to forceps, rather preferring to wait until such times as they are not a necessity, and prefer leaving roots until the full time for the new tooth to appear in a few days after operating. Is it in the case of the sixth year molars that I am to begin my maltreating practices, to do evil that good may come of it? That is my opinion in a general way of removing sixth year molars. To make a quotation for the occasion: "To be or not to be, that is the question. Whether it is better to suffer the stings and pains of outraged nature and present troubles, or to take up arms and fly to the evils that we know not of." No dentist is able to determine what is going to be the result of premature extraction of a sixth year molar upon the undeveloped maxillary. The facial derangement is more than he can foresee.

After years of careful observation and study of many cases in