

dental knowledge. The field of the dentist is the oral cavity. His work is to keep in good condition that which is the gate-way to the whose system of life, and he who loves his work is never better pleased than when he takes hold of a mouth a very *cavus averni*; the teeth covered with sea weed, the gums festooned with patches of alternating blue and red—a pest-house for the breeding of all kinds of wiggle-tails—each the embodiment of nastiness—and brings it to a condition of health and beauty, to a very temple of Apollo, with its columns of ivory and gold; or if the equally important operation of substituting artificial dentures, his skill brings him on the plane of fine arts. No one who sees the many wearers of artificial teeth but can see the entire absence of the artistic—a simple mechanical appliance fulfilling its mission, it may be, as a grinding mill, but altogether wanting in what only genius can give it, a perfectly natural expression. Many people are utterly disfigured by the wearing of artificial teeth, though the variety of colors and shapes are counted by the hundred. The habit some dentists have of inserting teeth in mouths after extraction, as a permanent set, is not consistent; to say the least, with sound knowledge. The great mass of people can afford, and would be willing to wear, a temporary set of teeth for one and a half or two years before having a permanent set inserted, but this commercial spirit is about in the land and this is an avowed enemy to high art. The tin peddler should stay out of dentistry—a growing profession, based on the lives and teachings of those men I spoke of in the first part of my paper, has no place for such, and if our course is to be onward and upward, the sooner the colleges guard their doors from these the better.

Dental Dots Distilled.

By D. V. BEACOCK, Brockville, Ont.

Ethylate of sodium is good to use on hypertrophied gums, free from pain and danger even if used in excess.

Cocaine dissolved in chloroform, one grain to one-eighth ounce of chloroform, is good to extirpate pulps without pain.

Take a small-sized sewing needle; at the distance of, say, three-quarters of an inch from the point, bend into the form of an S, the point of the needle forming the long leg, useful in filling labial cavities under the gum; stick the point into the neck of the tooth below the rubber dam, just above the edge of the cavity, lift the upper edge of dam over the eye end of the needle, and the resiliency of the rubber will keep the needle in place and the cavity dry. It is far ahead of any clamp for the above purpose. To prevent the eye of the needle penetrating the dam, put a little bead of shellac on the end.