

watched the process by hours, and had yet to see the phenomenon referred to. Admitting Cohnheim's observations to be correct (which he was not disposed to do), the propriety of drawing deductions from pathology to sustain physiological theories was a very defective and illogical method of reasoning. The number of persons who had seen ultimate nerve fibres was exceedingly limited. Only those who had employed the higher magnifying powers could lay claim to this distinction. The corpuscles rolling through the capillaries might appear to pass through the sides of the vessels, but it was only an ocular deception. The caliber of an ultimate nerve fibre was infinitesimally smaller than that of a white corpuscle, and, in addition, it was made up of three distinct structures, the neurilemma, the white substance of Schwann, and the axis cylinder. How, then, can a corpuscle make up such a nerve fibre? The same objection held good with respect to muscles being formed from the red corpuscles. The ultimate muscular fibrillæ (which consists of the myolemma, a membranous sheath inclosing the sarcous elements) is much more minute than the red particles of the blood. Many years ago similar views to those presented here were advanced by Doellenger and Dutrochet, and their fallacy was then exposed. The perfection at which microscopy has arrived, and the use of good instruments, enable us, by comparing with precision the size of different parts, to completely refute this untenable theory.

Dr. Wetherbee stated that, two years ago, when he spoke of the use of the oxychloride for capping pulps, Dr. Atkinson expressed his doubt of its adaptability. He gave his experience in a number of cases where he had succeeded in its use. Frequently there was pain for a short time, but without subsequent uneasiness. He does not consider the pain dangerous, or the material in any manner endangering to the pulp; it acts as an astringent. Two cases in which the pulps bled, two years ago, now have all the indications of living structures.

Dr. J. S. Dodge, junr., said, if the effort to preserve exposed pulps were any new thing that had not been tried heretofore, he would go home to try it with a good deal of zeal. But this was not the case; it had been a favourite practice years ago with the old practitioners, and when he commenced his practice he was somewhat enthusiastic about it, though even then the old men had begun to shake their heads about it, and since that they had been shaking them harder and harder, until the operation of filling over exposed dental pulps had gone out of date. Now a new material was coming into fashion, it appeared, for the same purpose, the oxychloride of zinc. Put this in a sensitive tooth and it would cause severe pain, and its effects upon an exposed pulp, he believed, would be ultimately to destroy it.