declared his the brightest name known to dentistry. He places him above all his contemporaries, and suggests calling the ninth decade of the century "The Miller Decade."

Wherever Prof. Dr. Miller now goes he is the recipient of distinguished honor. Last summer I was his guest in Berlin, and asked him to give me an account of the special distinctions that had been conferred upon him in Germany and elsewhere. In answer, he dug out from an old chest an armful of diplomas, each of which represented some distinction coveted by most men. Last autumn he made a brief visit to America, and wherever he went he was cagerly received and honored by professional admirers. He made Buffalo a visit, and every dentist and physician was anxious to meet him. It was the same in the very few other cities which he visited, and when on his way home he stopped in London, he was entertained by the best there, a grand dinner being given in his honor. Yet these are things which he never seeks, for he is not at all a self-assertive man in his manner. If you learn anything of a special honor which has been conferred upon him, it will not usually be from himself.

What has he accomplished? It is difficult to give an adequate idea within the limits of such an article as this. Before he commenced his studies, there was no accepted theory of caries. As many separate opinions were held as there were individual thinkers and experimenters; the most absurd views were advanced, for a majority of the writers had started out with a preconceived hypothesis, to which they endeavored to make the facts conform. Miller went to work the other way. He began his experiments without a theory, deducing that from his observations. It was, in brief, this;——

Dental caries is primarily produced by an acid, which is the product of a ferment organism. Fermentation in the mouth does not essentially differ from that out of it; but one of the byproducts of that process is this acid, which Miller demonstrated to be identical with lactic acid. This being produced in immediate contact with tooth tissue, dissolves the calcareous portion, thus forming a pocket in which fermentation proceeds with increased vigor. The inorganic elements of the tooth being first dissolved out, the organic portions are destroyed by yet other organisms, and thus decay proceeds.