

the same with that vended by the confectioners, as very often, very injurious substances were introduced into it.

Women when occupied with the many cares of the toilet, habitually hold between the teeth the pins used for adjusting their laces, collars, etc. It is a very injurious habit—in fact the reiterated contact of the pins wears away, very soon, their teeth.

During the dancing parties of the winter months, Ladies, young and old, are accustomed to exhibit themselves in the halls, drawing-rooms etc., dressed in robes of fleecy gauze and ornamented with flowers etc. The coquetry, inherited from Eve, our common mother, causes them to forget the rigors of temperature. Little care they! They desire to shine! Very well, let them know, if they are ignorant of the fact, that the sudden changes of temperature, can exercise, on the teeth principally, the most injurious influences during the menstrual period. Hippocrates in his 18th Aphorism, Section 5, says that cold is very injurious to the teeth. Experience has shown that that which injures this part of the mouth particularly, is the sudden transition from cold to heat, from heat to cold. This transition affects the enamel, and if we expose to the air the sensitive part of the tooth, caries very soon makes its appearance. The same effect takes place with porcelain.

These precepts are so much more important as the loss of the teeth occasion the strangest modifications on the general outlines of the physiognomy. Again the teeth are the key-beard of the voice—the orator Cicero, who dipped successfully into physiology, compares with reason the teeth to the chords of a lyre, the sounds of which can be more or less harmonious according to the perfection of the instrument. You must have noticed that persons who had lost the superior and inferior incisors are much changed in features, and that they pronounce with difficulty the guttural consonants. Then, these precious organs, without the double relation of utility and beauty, are subject like the other portions of our bodies to numerous diseases. These affection, more or less serious, depend some on the physical constitution of the individual, and others on nervous anomalies, defects in the mucous membrane of the mouth, occasioned by mercurial preparations, etc. Let us preserve then the distinction, the aristocracy of the mouth, the temple of speech and harmonious sounds, which hides so many secrets and reveals them with such unreserved confidence. Let us say to mothers of families,—O, ye mothers, pretty or handsome, who have no more cherished desire