

TREATING DISCOLOURED TEETH.

By X. Y. Z.

I have tried many things for bleaching discoloured teeth ; have succeeded with some ; failed with mostly all. Some are too caustic, others too easily deliquesced and their normal effects neutralized.

In all cases of discoloration which I can have under my control, I thoroughly remove every particle of decay, dead pulp, &c., and take chloride of lime 1 part ; oxy-chloride of zinc 1 part, mix as usual with the fluid of the latter, and fill the cavity, renewing several times in the course of a month. The chloride of lime must be fresh and have been kept close corked. I was indebted to a friend a long time ago for this simple method of treatment. It has served my purpose very nicely several times.

PREPARED CHALK AND LIME WATER.

BY W. G. BEERS, L.D.S.

Among the varieties of dental decay met with, none present a more ominous appearance than those cases in first dentition where the enamel softens and flakes off, and the caries attacks points of the teeth the most exposed as well as the most remote. It is frequent in large families of children, and peculiar to certain families, and seems to prevail where hygienic treatment is most conscientiously observed. Salivary calculus does not form to any usual extent upon these teeth ; though the gums are generally inflamed, and covered at their margins with a slimy, yellow scum, as if deposited from the food, but evidently a salivary deposit.

In the rage and rush after novelties, we are all too apt to ignore remedies effectual for such conditions of the teeth, which were once very popular, and I think those who have ceased to prescribe prepared chalk and lime water, for such cases as above mentioned, have not succeeded in discovering anything better.

In one American family of five children, whose teeth were extremely sensitive, and decaying very rapidly—the youngest five years of age having fourteen cavities, I attribute a decided improvement, to the regular use of chalk and lime water as prescribed, and I might illustrate from several other families, to show the positive healthy reaction in the acid secretions of the mouth, and the improved state of the blood, and a modification, or cessation in the character of the decay. The method of administration is simply to use the chalk as a dentifrice, rubbing it at night between the teeth in every direction with the finger, and taking a wineglass full of lime water three times a day for from two to four months.