

nature for these conditions. The almost universal agents of decay were most certainly those organic acids manufactured from the food and buccal secretions, by the various kinds of fermentation carried on in the mouth. In the localities indicated by Dr. Arthur, between the teeth when in contact, and in cavities and crevices where these matters are protected from lavement by the saliva and the abrasion of mastication, all the elements for producing these various fermentations are abundant. In these undisturbed laboratories are produced successively renewed portions of *acetic*, *lactic*, and *butyric* acids, which combine with the lime of the enamel and dentine, and at the same time continually enlarge the capacity of these localities for a continuously increasing supply of these corrosive agents.—*Amer. Jour. Dental Science*.

AMERICAN DENTAL CONVENTION NEW YORK, JUNE, 1868.—J. A. McClelland of Louisville, Ky., patentee of the "Rose Pearl" (collodion) base, presented the merits of his patent. He claims that it is twice as strong as vulcanite, withstands the action of acids, and may be nicely adapted to the mouth. Plain teeth are employed, as the color of the base is a near approximation to that of the natural gums.

Dr. Atkinson spoke in favor of the collodion base. He was wearing a partial plate in his own mouth, with which he was greatly pleased, and he believed it would eventually supersede all other materials for fractional cases.

Dr. B. W. Franklin highly commended the collodion base.

A number of solders for aluminum were presented.

A. P. Preterre said that chemically pure zinc made a very good solder for aluminum, and one that is not easily affected by acids. A solder composed of pure zinc 90 parts, and aluminum 6 parts, is not affected by sulphuret of potassa, and hence does not blacken in the mouth.

A. Starr shewed a specimen of aluminum base soldered with an alloy composed of alumina seven-eighths, and tin one-eighth.

Dr. Atkinson advocated the preservation of dental pulps. He is able to save them, even when suppuration has commenced. He dries the cavity perfectly, applies creasote, and then a little oxychloride of zinc, of a creamy consistence, which is adapted as a cap over the pulp by gently tapping it while soft. In a moment this sets sufficiently to permit the addition of the balance of the oxychloride. This temporary filling may remain some weeks or months, the major portion then cut out and the cavity filled permanently. Should the pulp be inflamed and