

The lateral movement of the bicuspid does not produce a lateral movement in the case of the molar, but a very distinct rotation. To our mind, here is the chief source of the failure. The tooth must rotate, the bridge must spring, or break, for the pressure of mastication is very considerable. Again, a number of teeth, say five or six, are to take the place of that many natural ones; instead of the five or six roots bearing the pressure, two are generally called upon to do the work, and inflammation often follows from their being over-taxed. In closing, we would not say that bridge work should not be practised, but that a very careful study of the individual case should be made and the obstacles to be overcome kept clearly in mind.

Dentistry as a Fine Art.

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A great deal of time and attention has been given at conventions and in dental literature to what may be termed the abstract in dentistry, and no one who has kept pace with the reports of these conventions can but be gratified at the depth of research attained by the scientific men of the dental profession. The pioneers, with the late Dr. W. H. Atkinson at their head, have done for the present generation of dentists more than can be measured, and it might be well here to pay a tribute of respect to that one who, during the year, has passed away, leaving behind him a record of intelligent research and honest toil for the good of his brethren, as well as for those who come under their charge, whose name will ever, in the minds of those who have come in contact with him, be a synonym of broadness and courtesy. Many of these old standard-bearers have passed away since this Association met last year, and this and the coming generation of dentists will do themselves honor if they pursue their calling with the same diligence, making it honorable as well as useful. All honor to their names. The lives and teachings of these men have made it easy running for those who now come into the field, as the difficulties, to a very large extent, have been overcome. Still, the requirements of the man entering this domain are as many and varied as ever, as the demands are greater.

What constitutes a fine art? Is it not the brain power and delicate manipulative skill of the workmen? It has been said by some who are to be considered learned in medical lore, that to fill teeth well does not constitute a dentistry, and as to making teeth, that belongs to the mechanic. When it is considered that this is the occupation of some ninety or more out of every hundred of the dentists of the land, I think it must be a very important item in