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## **Original Communications**

## RESECTION AND REPRODUCTION OF THE MAXILLÆ.\*

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The purpose of this paper is to show the profession the importance of special study and instruction in oral and facial diseases, and that these are worthy of the same consideration as is given to any of the fully recognized specialities in medicine. Until they do appear in the curriculum of the medical school, the faculty will not have done its duty toward the student. The field covered by the general surgeon is altogether too great for a careful consideration of any part where such minuteness is required to save and assist nature in doing her work. The surgeon most capable of successful teaching in this line, is he who has been a thorough and conservative dentist.

Like produces like; this applies to every department in nature. The periosteum, under favorable conditions, will reproduce the substance it covered. That of the ramus of the jaw will only make the thin lamina of bone which nature has originally placed there, while that of the malar and the body of the jaw reproduces a dense structure differing materially in texture.

If the function of a part be permanently lost, reproduction is not a necessity, nature supplying only that part which is required. If

<sup>\*</sup> Read before the American Medical Association at Philadelphia, June, 1897.