

cases in which the nerve died, the creosote neutralizing the gases and the tooth giving no trouble up to the time it was examined; but these are rare, and it will be found that inflammation will supervene in a short time after the temporary filling has been introduced, if everything is not all right. When there has been but very little previous irritation, we do not stop to treat with antiseptics, but moisten the cavity with creosote or carbolic acid and fill immediately with zinc. In numbers of cases where the tooth has been presented in an aching condition, it being the first instance, we have treated and filled with perfect success.

We do not claim infallibility, but give this as our mode of treatment, from which the percentage of failures has been so small, that we feel justified in claiming for it the careful consideration of every man that is not already practicing it. We can save teeth by extirpating the pulps, and if it comes to the worst it is beyond a doubt a great blessing; but as compared with the salvation of the pulp and restoring the organ to its normal condition of health and usefulness, it is not a question for argument.

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION.

BY W. C. HORNE, D. D. S., NEW YORK.

REPORT AND DISCUSSION ON DENTAL PATHOLOGY AND SURGERY.

Dr. Atkinson's report opened with the statement that discoveries in this field followed one another so rapidly that there seemed to be little definitely settled, and even that was always open to revisions and allowances for error. The seat of function is not generally agreed upon, but the power of appropriation and rejection of substances is usually attributed to the *cell*, though that term is a very ambiguous one. In a sense, all contained within the dermal sheath of the entire body is cell-contents, and this sheath or skin the cell-wall proper. The inception and slight degrees of pathological movements are only perceptible to the informed and specially erudite mind, while grave and continued disturbance is readily recognized by the commonest observers. Hence the beginnings of serious troubles are unrecognized, or permitted to declare themselves, with the delusive hope that they may be overcome by the natural forces of resist-