

## Tit Bits from the Editors.

WHEN it is remembered that no two cases in practice are precisely alike in all their details, it will be seen how important it is to have the reasoning faculty well developed in order to always attain the best results. Unfortunately, it is not within the province of the teacher to deal with all the variations of all the special cases. The most that he can do is to teach the principles of his subject, and appeal to the intelligence of his students to apply those principles to individual cases. Happy is the teacher who has for students a class imbued with the necessity for reasoning out the relations of cause and effect in all they do. The student who early learns to think for himself will not only prove a source of satisfaction to his professors, but he will each day of his college course be paving the way for future proficiency in practice. Think and reason, reason and think.—DR. C. N. JOHNSON, in *The Bur*.

REFERRING to the great discovery of Professor Rontgen, and the applicability of the rays to gunshot injuries, and the impaction of foreign bodies, the editor remarks: "From the considerable difficulty experienced in adjusting the apparatus to the mouth the results, so far as the teeth are concerned, have perhaps not been quite as perfect as they were expected to be, still a good deal has been done. . . . This suggests the value of the method of examination in those cases in which the unerupted bicuspid is removed to allow the incisors to fall back—an operation sometimes attended with considerable difficulty when the bicuspid is abnormally placed to the second temporary molar. The production of a photograph, such as shown by Mr. Harrison (at the meeting of the Midland Counties Board of the B. D. A.), would be a valuable preliminary to the operation. Owing to the difference between the density of the tooth issues and the open bony tissue of the alveolar portion of the jaws, the teeth stand out in Rontgen photographs quite clearly from the surrounding bone, but usually—especially in the upper jaw—show a considerable amount of distortion. As far as methods are concerned, we believe the best results have been obtained by using a sensitive film in the mouth rather than a glass plate, the film, of course, incased in some light, tight material impervious to moisture, being capable of firm adaptation to the mucous membrane of the mouth. We cannot but think that there is still a future for this method of diagnosis in dental surgery, and with the more perfect knowledge of the nature of these mysterious rays, which time will assuredly bring, many of the difficulties attending the production of the radiograph will be removed."—*Journal of British Dental Association*.