

hold aloof entirely from that. A dentist, in Chicago, I know, has been studying this subject, and has been making alloys more or less for sometime, and he has tried to make these alloys. Unfortunately, he has not properly equipped instruments yet, and is depending on somebody else for examination of the alloys. The Dental Protective Supply Company has been making a great effort in this direction, have been studying this subject closely and experimenting. Their instruments are not as perfect as I could wish. A number of specimens that I have examined for them, I have found very close, generally within one half of one point. I don't know of anyone else who has undertaken to provide themselves with instruments except the Dental Protective Supply Company. I have agreed to give a course of instruction, especially for amalgam makers this next summer. How many will avail themselves of that course, I don't know. If they will undertake that, I think they will learn to make alloys, if they send men who have already some experience in the handling of physical instruments. A man totally ignorant of physical instruments cannot learn to use them in six weeks or six months.

Dr. CÆSAR—I would like to ask Dr. Black if he were to take an ingot of the best alloy that he knows, and filed from that sufficient to make several fillings, and at same setting insert them in the mouths of different patients, if he can always depend upon the same result. I would also like to hear Dr. Johnson's views on that point.

Dr. BLACK—Do I think that fillings made with the same amalgam, practically upon the same day, for several different patients, will be equally satisfactory? Yes, if each of the patients is fifty years old, and the evidences are prominent that decay has practically ceased in all the cavities of each mouth. But if a young girl comes in to me with decay rapidly advancing, and I attempt to compare her teeth with those others, it will be an entirely different case. We cannot compare results in that way, and expect that they will be equally satisfactory as results. The conditions are not the same. Fillings of the same alloy in different mouths will not be equally satisfactory, and even with gold, with the best of our efforts, we will not get equally satisfactory results with different people. No, the results are very different. With gold less so. You see, gentlemen, that the gold under that pressure (referring to the gold block under pressure) remains the same. The gold does not condense under that pressure, but stands firm; but the amalgam is flowing completely away. Gold is the king of filling material.

Dr. JOHNSON—There is just a feature of that question that I don't think Dr. Black quite grasped. Dr. Cæsar, in asking this question, referred to a similar class of patients, as I understand,