

Dr. Daboll said if Morgan's gold is allowed to remain perfectly still while being annealed, the polarity of the particles will be changed, without its becoming hard and brittle. It is the shaking and jarring during the annealing, or the moving of the gold about that hardens it. Dr. Cook said he formerly used sponge gold to a great extent in his practice, but has nearly abandoned its use now; there are cases, however, in which he prefers it to any other form of gold. He thinks it requires a longer time to make a good filling with it than with foil in the form of cylinders, and cannot understand why dentists repudiate soft foil when they see, every day, good soft foil fillings of twenty or thirty years standing.

Second day. Afternoon Session.

The President stated that there were several members of the Association who were living in open violation of the rules of the code of ethics, and he thought a committee should be appointed to make inquiries as to the facts of the case, and report at the next meeting.

Dr. Whitney thought the subject ought to be deferred to the discussions under the head of miscellaneous business.

The next subject for discussion, "Mechanical Dentistry," was opened by an essay by Dr. Straight, of Buffalo.

Dr. Whitney said that it was unfortunate that every member of the profession was not willing to make known whatever knowledge he possessed, relating to mechanical dentistry. He considered the patenting of new inventions, or discoveries to be wrong, all wrong. We are not mere mechanics, but professional gentlemen, and should divulge all we know, for the benefit of the whole profession, instead of covering it up with a patent.

Dr. Bristol had no objection to any man's obtaining a patent for anything that was really new; but he did most seriously object to the patenting of old things. Several patents had been obtained for methods of practice which had been in use for many years.

Dr. Barrett said that he was in the habit of purchasing everything that was new, and very frequently found that his purchases were valueless; still if any dentist wished to know what the latest new thing was, he should go to him as he could never refuse to buy every novelty. He described, in speaking of the Folsom patent, a case in which he had been unable to put up a set of teeth that was satisfactory to himself or the patient, for which he put up a plate after the Folsom patent, which answered the purpose perfectly.