sent from the views of Heitzmann and Bœdecker. In fifty-two cases of gun-shot and lance wounds of elephant's tusks, and one hundred abscess cavities, Dr. Miller did not find a single case to afford the slightest indication of any inflammatory reaction on the part of the ivory. Discussing Abbott's views on the inflammatory theory, Dr. Miller conclusively shows that the "cellular elements," " clusters of protoplasm," " medullary elements," etc., illustrated in Abbott's figures to prove his case, are "masses of micro-organisms mixed with the débris of the decomposing dentine. Among the thousands of preparations of decayed or decaying dentine that I have examined, I have not found anything which I could identify with the process of inflammation, suppuration, etc., illustrated by Heitzmann and Boedecker. Heitzmann's attempt to explain the inability of others to see things under the microscope just as he sees them, on the ground that they work with inferior lenses or that their eyes have not been properly educated, can scarcely be said to meet all the requirements of a final argument. Any one disposed to make use of the same sort of argument might be led to inquire whether Heitzmann and some of his followers have not sometimes seen just a bit too well."

The original investigations on decay of the teeth by the author, as lucidly described and beautifully illustrated in Chapter VII., is a feast of practical thought. In the etiology of dental decay, the author asks and answers the question, "What is the cause of dental decay? Dental decay is a chemico-parasitical process, consisting of two distinctly marked stages : decalcification, or softening of the tissue, and dissolution of the softened residue. In the case of enamel, however, the second stage is practically wanting, the decalcification of the enamel practically signifying its total destruction." The author shows, then, that the acids which effect decalcification are derived chiefly from particles of amylaceous and saccharine substances, which lodge in the retaining centres and there undergo fermentation. The dissolution of the softened dentine is caused by bacteria. The parasites of the mouth "do not make holes in the dentine by boring into it, as a worm bores into wood, or by gnawing it, as a dog gnaws a bone. Bacteria have no apparatus for boring. They nourish themselves alone by substances in a state of solution ; and if we present them solid substances, they themselves must