

To avoid breaking blocks, when vulcanizing, grind the tops square and don't let the rubber come over them ; in waxing up the case scrape off the wax level with the face of gum, then when the rubber shrinks it will draw over the square ground surface without cracking the thin porcelain. I learned this from casting aluminum, the smallest overlap anywhere, when using this metal, will result in fracture. Another caution is not to have any air-bubbles in the plaster at the back of the gum, and be careful when pressing the flasks together to give the rubber sufficient time to spread and adapt itself over the matrix left by the wax. Broken blocks are the result of either carelessness or ignorance.

Registering Operations.

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Under the heading of "An Improved Dental Ledger," in the December *Quarterly Circular*, Dr. Bryan enumerates some of the advantages of making "a simple and full record of daily operations for regular patients."

From the very first of my practice, eighteen years ago, I began recording but the date and location of all fillings inserted, and from time to time improved thereon, until now, when I find it of more importance than ever.

It is not alone a matter of self-protection against designing persons, as to the doing of our own or others' work over again without recompense, but some system of registered operations becomes, in due time, still another means of educating ourselves up in any branch of work we like.

Probably most of those already in full practice will think of the extra time required, but if they will but consider that it is for the future—is very quickly noted down with pencil for the time being—the habit will be readily formed, and becomes a portion of the operation itself. We come to love our chosen profession the more when striving to improve on our past labors, but to do this we must have facilities of referring back in any given instance.

I dare say all dentists have at times felt the lack of some past record in particular cases that come up again for attention, and