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PORCELAIN WORK.*

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So great has been the demand for invisible dentistry in these modern times when our patients give so much attention to their dental organs, that a new interest in porcelain work has been forced upon the profession.

How numerous are the fair sex who are beautiful to gaze upon until they open their mouths and dazzle you by a dozen enormous gold fillings, or worse than that, stagger you with a full set of artificial teeth, arranged in a beautiful row.

Porcelain work has come to the rescue of such unfortunate people, and now broken down teeth can be restored to their former appearance to such a degree that imperfections can scarcely be detected, even by the professional eye.

Porcelain work, skilfully done, has no equal for durability and artistic effect, but when unskilfully done there is perhaps no class of work that is apparently more discreditable to the operator. Like every other branch of dentistry, it has its imperfections, and its uses are limited, but it has great possibilities and a brilliant future is in store for it.

While the number of dentists practising porcelain work is steadily on the increase, there are yet very many who are opposed to it, some of whom have experimented with it in an unskilful and careless manner, and had the inevitable disappointing results; and some, having seen the unskilful work of others, have said harsh things about it, emphatically denouncing it for all time. Yet this

* Read at eighth annual meeting of Ontario Dental Society, Toronto, 1896.