

Dr. J. M. MAGEE—I cannot criticise Dr. Wetmore's paper, but *there is one thing we find in our practice—at least, I have found it.* In cases where a gold cap crown has been in the mouth some time, I have found the adjoining tooth, sometimes on one side and sometimes on each side, extensively decayed. I have always attributed it to chemical or galvanic action, though could not prove it. I knew caries was chemical action, therefore I supposed it was due to chemical action. I know they will decay very extensively and very rapidly. The only way I could cure them was to excavate and fill with amalgam. I use a cement under the amalgam. That seems to stop the chemical action between the fillings and gold crown, acting like an insulator. It requires two metals and an intervening space containing moisture, to make a galvanic battery; but where cement was used, chemical action has ceased. The direct current between the crown and adjoining tooth had been stopped by the intervening layer of cement.

Dr. COGSWELL—I would like to ask the gentlemen if they have ever used Condy's fluid in cleaning out cavities, and what effect it has upon teeth. I imagine it removes the sense of touch. You see the action of the alkali upon the acid. It always turns white upon two or three dressings. I find it satisfactory, and there is a chemical action, one destroying the other.

Dr. SANGSTER, Sackville, N.B.—In the application of potassium permanganate to remove the acidity, etc., is it intended to be left in any length of time, or removed at once at the same sitting?

Dr. COGSWELL—I merely use it as an antiseptic to wash the cavity out, and it is excellent to aid in counteracting the effects of the acid upon the tooth. You will notice the action immediately. It goes in a crimson color and comes out perfectly white, and there is perfect proof to the patient that there is acid there. It cleanses it entirely, and my experience proves that it removes the acid. I only put a few drops in a little water. I use Condy's fluid.

Dr. ROBERTSON, St. John, N.B.—From my knowledge of drugs, if that is not used (in Condy's fluid form), sufficiently diluted it will lose its value. If used on your hands, they will turn sometimes to the color of russet leather, and I think the same effect would be produced if not used sufficiently diluted.

WILLIAM H. POTTER, D.M.D., Boston—You have very kindly thrown the meeting open to strangers. I happened to be here from Boston, not knowing about your meeting; but I must say I have gained a great deal of pleasure and information from the little I have seen. I am interested in the paper which you have just heard, about the practical value of chemistry, because I believe it is by consideration of this sort we are going to establish our reputation and consider it as scientific men. We have heard much of the mechanical side of our work; but if we can go into the scientific side, about what is going on in the mouth, about fermentation,