

TREATMENT OF PULPLESS TEETH.*

By A. J. HUSBAND, L.D.S., Toronto.

For convenience of description, we will divide pulpless teeth into those presenting with pulps recently dentalized by medication; second, with putrescent pulps; third, with acute alveolar abscess without fistula; fourth, with fistulous opening; and fifth, preparatory to inserting pin crowns.

In the first case we will suppose the pulp decalcified but not removed. Adjust the rubber dam after cutting away the decalcified dentine, make a free opening into the pulp chamber, not hesitating to sacrifice good tooth substance in order to secure light and thoroughness of manipulation. Endeavor to remove the pulp by inserting a barbed brooch well up the root, twisting and withdrawing it with very often the pulp attached. In refractory cases I find that with the Evan's root-drier inserted hot the pulp will adhere to it and come away easily. Having the pulp removed, check the hæmorrhage, if any, by injecting into the canals pyrozone; for this purpose use the minim syringe. Whether there is any bleeding or not, I wash out with pyrozone, followed by sodium-peroxide, this last for the purpose of saponifying any remains which may be left; wash this out with applications of water and dry thoroughly with Evan's drier or hot air or both. Wipe out the roots with oil of cinnamon on a fine brooch, fill with chlora-percha, using one or more gutta-percha cones to displace surplus liquid. In this class of teeth I deem immediate filling the best.

Second: Putrescent pulps. Secure all the cleanliness possible by removing softened dentine and washing out the cavity with tepid water before adjusting the dam. After the dam is applied swab out the cavity with pyrozone and evaporate moisture with hot air, secure free opening into canals, reaming them out if the margins are soft; wash out thoroughly with repeated applications of pyrozone. In washing the canals with H_2O great care must be exercised not to use too much at a time. I use the minim syringe and inject a very small drop at a time, wiping out and applying repeatedly until effervescence ceases, followed by sodium-peroxide; wipe out canals with cotton wound round a fine brooch until all discoloration ceases. Again use hot air or Evan's drier, followed by an application of oil of cinnamon, and fill as in the previous case.

If it is impossible to check the discharge I fill the root with cotton

*Read before Toronto Dental Society May 12th, 1897.