

free use of creasote. I never purposely destroy a pulp, and that dentist is weak or wicked who would do so.

Dr. Bogue. How would you preserve a pulp that is exposed and partly suppurated?

Dr. Atkinson. That question can best be answered by detailing my procedure in just such a case. A portion of the pulp had sloughed away. I resorted to my usual treatment in such cases, sopping the pulp with creasote, and covering with cotton and sandarac varnish; this dressing was continued for three weeks; at the end of that time the whole of the body of the pulp was converted into a mass of carbolate of albumen, and came away upon taking hold of it, leaving the legs in the roots in healthy and sensitive condition. Six other pulps in similar condition in the same mouth were treated in the same manner without appreciable loss of substance. He was down on the death penalty; as long as there is life there is hope. Every man in dentistry should bring all his best powers into exercise in the practice of his profession, or he is a sinner.

Question. Does the application of creasote tend to lessen the vitality of the pulp?

Dr. Atkinson. Creasote destroys the periphery, which must be thrown off; and a pulp may be thus destroyed by continued applications. Iodine has such an affinity for some tissues as to stimulate some and destroy others, according to the amount of vigor they possess; the sick being killed and the weak being restored.

Question. Has not the liquid part of the oxychloride of zinc the same action as the creasote?

Dr. Atkinson had never known a case of even a similar action; identity of result is an impossibility, because each exerts its own specific function according to its nature. That they each coagulate albumen is certain.

Dr. Wetherbee. Is it not true that if the oxychloride of zinc is used, without any excess of the fluid, the same result may be obtained without creasote as with it?

Dr. Atkinson. That depends upon the temperament; in a low organization such a result might be attained. I always use creasote with it.

Dr. Wetherbee, when he finds an exposed pulp which has not bled, applies the oxychloride directly to it, only using creasote when the pulp is exposed and bled by the instrument (as will sometimes happen even to the most skilful operator), and that merely as an astringent.