

perienced dentists, which, of course, he cannot do without praising himself, as the natural inference is that the critic is superior to the man he criticizes. I think if a young man feels it is necessary to his success to speak slightly of any respectable confrere, much less of those who have won success he has not, he is a pretty mean sort of a fellow.

Yours, ———

[So think we. But "curses like chickens come home to roost." Such mean conduct may have temporary success, but in the long run it does not pay. It hits back some time or other.—ED. D. D. J.]

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PREVENTION OF PNEUMONIA FOLLOWING ANÆSTHESIA.—W. F. Whitney (*Boston Med. and Surg. Journ.*, September 23rd, 1897) refers to the frequency with which pneumonia follows ether anæsthesia. It is of the same type as the ordinary fibrinous form, and shows numerous micro-organisms, especially the pneumococcus. The infection, he thinks, takes place from the mouth to the lungs through the air passages. He therefore recommends a thorough aseptic cleansing of the mouth two or three times in the twelve hours preceding anæsthesia. The nose also is to be douched, and the anæsthetic cone sterilized.—*British Med. Journal*, Nov. 6th, 1897.

A CASE OF SEPTIC PNEUMONIA.—The following case of undoubted septic pneumonia seems worth recording: C. H. H., aged 71 years, had been suffering from spinal paralysis for three years, and was in very feeble health. On September 25th he had a rigor, his temperature was 103° F., and the respirations 60. The following morning the right lung was almost entirely consolidated; he was scarcely conscious, and was breathing stertorously. I removed a dental plate from the upper jaw, and a gangrenous condition of the mucous membrane of the hard palate revealed itself; the stench was horrible beyond description. There is no doubt that the poison he had been inhaling and swallowing was the cause of the pneumonia. His man-servant, who had been in his service for several weeks, said he was certain that the plate had never been removed during that time. Death took place in less than three days from the beginning of the attack, the temperature reaching 108° before the end.—ARTHUR TROWER, *British Med. Journal*, Nov. 6th, 1897.