EDITORIAL

The result, not unfrequently, is pericementitis and pathological changes in the tubuli, which produce infiltration of the coloring matters of blood, and more discoloration than would occur if the arsenic was removed in twenty-four hours. It is hard to discover any scientific operator prepared to defend to-day, the uselessness of removing the pulp after devitalization. I feel quite sure that it will be as difficult some day, with fuller knowledge than we now possess, to defend the use of arsenic, and even the destruction of many pulps we feel justified in now thus treating; but in the meantime, it is important to use our dangerous remedies with judgment and precaution, and leave no dead excuse behind, in the shape of putrid matter, for future trouble.

I began this article by saying that arsenic ought to be used as a last resort. In cases where a tooth has been fractured, leaving the pulp exposed, and it is necessary to devitalize: in cases where a crown has to be inserted, and in fact in all cases where the operation is possible, the most speedy and painless way, is to administer nitrous-oxide gas, and remove it surgically, by quickly enlarging the pulp-cavity with a sharp bur on the engine, and using the barbed broach. I have repeatedly done this ever since nitrous-oxide was first introduced, and I know many others use it. Some writers constantly deplore the necessity for the destruction of the pulp, while others have gone to the other extreme, and declare that its absence is better than its company; but antil the public are educated to the point of believing that they can avoid its exposure by timely examination, death will enter its little chamber as well as parts that are less hidden.

"GIVE THE DEVIL HIS DUE."-Typographical errors are always made by "the printer's devil." Not the traditional one; but a genuine imp, who hates letter-press and loves disorder. There is a fiendish ingenuity in the way which verbs are made to jostle adjectives; commas to pop into the best places to make false syntax and confusion, and drop out of places where they are especially needed, so that a writer would be ready to take his oath that he never sent the printer the copy. The cloven foot of our printer's assistant demon has kicked up a such row in our first issue, that we must beg our readers to paste the enclosed "eratta" opposite page 42. Were it not that the very Bible has seldom, if ever, escaped the Beelzebub of the printer, authors would despair. What more exasperating, for instance, than the following slips in Dr. Mills' notes on the case of Reflex Nausea:-Page 9, paragraph 1st, "contraction" for "condition," and the "tetanus vomiting centre" instead of the "central vomiting centre." As the doctor remarked, "it is enough to make Physiology epileptic."

Along with this number of the Journal we send "Errata" to our first number, which you will kindly paste opposite page 42.