

if so, give it a day or two longer to slough off. Make a little thread of absorbent cotton, saturate it in oil of cloves and pack into the canal and place a temporary filling in the tooth. On the following day, or the second following, remove the filling. Withdraw the cotton, and if there is no bad odor therefrom, the root is fit to fill. If there is a slight one, repeat the purifying process until you get the distinct odor of the medicament used upon the cotton. Success in root filling depends very much upon the antiseptic condition of the canal, especially that part nearest the apex.

Now, what shall we use as a root filling? There are lots of agents we can employ and use them with safety, taking care to carry the filling to the very end of the canal, and also to avoid pressing any through an enlarged apical foramen. In a tortuous canal we might use a thread of absorbent cotton, saturated in oil of cloves or carbolic acid, or a thread of raw cotton with cosmoline upon it. Both are good root fillings. Or we might fill with gold or tin foil where the canal is of easy access, or with gutta percha or temporary stopping or oxychloride of zinc or phosphate of zinc. Perhaps a small piece of temporary stopping at the apical end and the balance of the canal filled with phosphate of zinc cement, makes as desirable a root filling as we can have. Having completed the root filling, we can fill the crown with whatever material is indicated, and, when other conditions are favorable or normal, we can look forward to the tooth being of service for many years to come.

Necrosis.

By A. J. MCKENNA, D.D.S., Kentville, N.S.

Mr. President and Gentlemen :

On December 17th, 1890, a lady came to my office to have her mouth prepared for an upper denture. Upon examination, I found her teeth in a very decayed state, only one crown being intact, while the roots of all the bicuspid and the root of the right central incisor were completely covered over by the gum. Before extracting, I examined the palatum durum, and directly opposite the apex of the root of the right central incisor there was a slight enlargement. Upon inquiry, I was informed that this swelling or puff had been noticed for more than a year, but had not given any trouble. Upon examination, I found that the palatum durum had been destroyed to the extent in diameter to that of a five cent piece. For the removal of the root and the dead part surrounding the root, I used cocaine—a four per cent. solution. But mere fragments of the root remained, and not only