

## THE JOURNAL OF THE TIMES.

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How soon may artificial teeth be inserted after the natural ones are extracted? This is a question put to us so very often that we think a few remarks upon the subject will not be amiss. There is no set rule to go by as to the length of time a person should wait, after the old teeth have been removed, before the new ones are inserted. Some dentists require their patients to wait (for a full set) six months, others eight months or a year: others again only two months or one month. In our own practice we have been guided by each individual case; and have stated the time according to the condition of the jaws, the age or constitution of the patient. The bones of some people readily absorb, while those of others change slowly, and as in the case of persons at an advanced age, where the bones are dry and hard, they change less readily than those of youth or middle age. Dr. White, of Philadelphia, says—"there is no such thing as setting a permanent set of teeth, in the strict sense of the word, as the mouth is changing during the whole life-time of the patient after the teeth have been extracted." We are aware that many changes take place in some cases during life, yet the changes during the first year that a person goes without teeth are greater than at any other period.

The most proper way to proceed, we think, is to insert a temporary set of teeth as soon as the gums have sufficiently recovered from the operation of extracting—say in six or eight days, or in from one to four weeks. The advantages accruing from this method of procedure are two-fold; first, the shape of the face will be preserved, which would otherwise be sunken, and the lips compressed in such a manner as to spoil the appearance of the countenance for all time to come. The second reason is, that the plate will cause the gums to contract if properly made, equally and evenly, so that the second set will better fit the mouth, feel more comfortable, and be more useful, as an artificial substitute for the natural teeth.

We think a temporary plate should be worn a year, if not two—the longer the better, as in cases where the second or what is commonly called the permanent set, is inserted too soon, it is found that after a time it does not fit: from the fact that it was inserted before the absorption of the alveolar process had taken place.

In regard to partial sets of teeth, we will say that a few weeks or months will suffice, in all ordinary cases, to prepare the gums so they will be in a fit state to receive the plate. Some times artificial teeth are inserted

without removing the roots of the old ones, and in such cases no delay is necessary, as the impressions for the plate may be taken at the patient's first visit to the dentist. To those coming to town to have us insert artificial teeth, we desire to state, that they had better if possible, have their mouths prepared by having the old teeth and roots extracted before they come, as it will cause less delay and often save them the trouble and expense of coming twice.

With the present number commences the second year of our paper. By past experience we hope to improve in the future; and to make each number of the "Journal" more readable than the last. We shall make such improvements in our paper as time and experience may dictate. In the present number we have discarded all the advertisements, except our own, formerly occupying the eight page.

Not unmindful of past errors and shortcomings, it is nevertheless very gratifying to know that our efforts in a literary way have been so well appreciated; and we heartily assure our readers that we shall "leave no stone unturned" to present such a choice array of matter that our paper may prove acceptable to all.

In our profession, as with our paper, we shall make every effort to keep pace with the improvements in the Dental art—profiting by past experience and by studying the wants of the community we hope for a continuance of that class of patronage with which we have thus far been honored.

THE SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN.—If a good book is called "a good thing" we do not see why a newspaper may not be called "a good thing!" or even a *better thing*,—especially when the paper so spoken of is really good.

The first six numbers of the new series of the *Scientific American* are now before us; and we have no hesitation in saying that there is not another paper published on this side of the Atlantic to equal it in appearance. When we say that its mechanical execution is faultless, we must also add that it is a splendid specimen of typography. Edited as it is with skill, industry, and talent, to say nothing of the practical and scientific character of its articles, we acknowledge that we cannot conceive of a position in which a man can be placed, no matter what his trade, profession, or occupation, where he would not be benefited by a perusal of its columns. In its pages may be read real practical articles upon the subjects of mechanics, agriculture, chemistry, manufactures, art and literature.

Send and get a specimen copy; and, should you not conclude to subscribe, it will be worth something to look at. Published by Munn and Co., 37 Park-row, New York. [Halifax: Hall & Beainish.

THE GREEK SLAVE.—It is impossible to remember a parallel instance of so much cruelty and imposition as has been practiced upon this poor slave girl. Hiram Power commenced the chapter of wrongs by *driving* the poor girl out of a block of marble. And, not satisfied with that, he put chains on her, then placed her on exhibition in a state of perfect nudity, regardless of all the laws which govern the finer feelings. There stood, day after day, "chained in the marketplace" exposed to the gaze of the vulgar, the scoffs and jeers of the crowd, without uttering a sigh or a complaint. But her master regarded filthy lucre more than beauty; so he sold her as a slave, and thereby not only became a slave-dealer, but was actually the first to re-open the slave trade. Then the Art Union got hold of her, and not being satisfied with exhibiting her "front" to the public gaze, they must needs go and publish "a back view" of her. Could anything be in worse taste? We cannot tell through how many hands she has passed, or how many have owned her during the last dozen years.

The last act of inhumanity towards this poor unfortunate was perpetrated by a London auctioneer, who *knocked her down with a hammer*. The Duke of Cleveland being present, took compassion on her and purchased her for the snug sum of \$9,000. We sincerely hope that the poor girl has at last found rest for her weary feet, and that his Grace of Cleveland will give her a good home and make her comfortable.

We have received from the publishers (Jones & White, Philadelphia), the first number of the *Dental Cosmos*; a monthly record of Dental Science. It is filled with interesting articles, neatly printed, containing fifty-six pages, and is edited by J. D. White, M. D., D. D. S., J. H. McQuillen, D. D. S., and Geo. J. Ziegler, M. D. After enumerating names of such high standing in the profession it is useless to make further comment.

WHERE IT CAN BE HAD.—Our friends can find the "Journal" at the Bookstores of Messrs. Hall & Beainish, in this city; C. S. Sturms, Truro; James Patison, Pictou; and at Mr. J. T. McLatchey's, Windsor.

We are always happy to explain the different methods of inserting artificial teeth, to those who may favor us with a call, whether they intend to have teeth inserted or not.

THERE are twenty-four different kinds of tooth-ache. So says a recent medical publication.

DR. MACMASTER will return from Newfoundland at the end of September, and remain in the office during the winter months.