

Clinic by Dr. A. J. Sawyer, of Manchester, N.H.—Subject, selected
Clinic by Dr. Melotte, of Ithaca, N.Y.—Subject, selected.
Adjourned to 7.30 p.m.

EVENING, September 1st, 1898.

Meeting opened at 7.30 p.m. Dr. Cogswell in the chair.

Minutes of preceding meetings read by the Secretary.

Paper read by Dr. H. C. Wetmore, of St. John, N.B.—Subject,
"The Practical Value of Chemistry in Dentistry."

DISCUSSION.

On motion, the privileges of the meeting were extended to strangers, members of the profession, present.

Dr. CATES—Assuming that two of the principal points in this paper be correct, and if teeth are caused to decay by fermentation caused by an acid that would form from the secretions of the mouth, we are led to acknowledge that in one of the latest discoveries, being an anti-ferment, or having the property of killing or destroying the fungi that produce caries, we have a very valuable thing, and for myself, and those I think who have used this new anti-ferment—formaldehyde—I think we have in that substance something that will stop fermentation; and you will find another valuable solution, called Wampole's Antiseptic Solution, in which this ingredient is found. You will find that will also stop fermentation, and this is one of the valuable chemicals we have lately added to our list, and I think if it were more generally used than at present, our patients, especially, would be benefited by it. It has been a mooted question for a long time. We know where there has been fermentation an acid will be formed *by secretions of the mouth*. The heat of the mouth, 98 degrees, and secretions, mixed with particles of food, will cause fermentation and an acid will be formed. If we have some simple wash that may be used daily by our patients, and can stop this fermentation, it must be a valuable thing to them. I recommend Wampole's solution, which contains this anti-ferment. You may procure it also in the form of powder.

Dr. C. O. WEBSTER, of Pictou, N.S.—I would like to say that I am indebted to Dr. James Daley, of Milton, Mass., for recommending milk of magnesia to be used in cavities that are caused by acid. I have found that by treating the cavities with milk of magnesia, it will leave a slight scum that will remain sometimes for a month. By using a steel instrument on the tooth, the scum will entirely disappear; but unless friction be applied, the cavity will remain coated for some time. It appears to arrest the caries altogether, and I think the other members of the profession will find it as beneficial as I have found it.