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## ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

### NOTES ON OPERATIVE DENTISTRY, No. II.

(Continued from page 130.)

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In connection with my previous remarks on the subject of Operative Dentistry, I will try and show some of the benefits to be derived from the use of the os artificial in the restoration of the natural teeth to health and usefulness.

It is most deplorable that with so much sacrifice and suffering, the teeth, under almost every stage of decay, are condemned and removed as worthless by the ignorant charlatan, (and too often by many who make greater pretensions), and replaced by artificial substitutes which are so ill adapted in size and color, as to be noticed even by the most careless observer.

Now I do not claim that all teeth can be permanently saved, but it is certain that a large majority of them may for years of usefulness, and I respectfully submit that even a few years' use of the natural teeth will amply repay for the trouble of restoration.

In dealing with frail shells of teeth the most important point is to secure support, and for this purpose I have found os artificial most invaluable. I first remove, as thoroughly as possible, all disintegrated dentine, syringe well with tepid water, in order to a most perfect cleansing of the cavity to be filled; or what is better still, to facilitate the work of cleansing, is the repeated washings with a rubber ball syringe; (an instrument I would hardly know how to do without during the process of excavating or drilling,) dry with sponge or lint perfectly. Mix the os to the consistency of thin paste, and introduce a small quantity to the bottom of the cavity, spreading it over the surface thin with