

a quarter of an inch (the depth of the hole) on the wire ; the pin's full length is about three-quarters of an inch. This gives half an inch of projection, still the length of the pins must be judged according to the nature of the case if the teeth are long or short. In order to regain the natural expression, it must not be supposed that the drilling of four small holes with a sharp drill in the alveolar is a painful operation. When the position is ascertained, the drill is passed quickly through the soft tissue, which is the most sensitive. When the pins are screwed in the jaw bone, in nine days the bone is formed firmly around the pins. Why it is called the gum-focus principle. The thread on the gold pin taps the bone, no other tap is necessary ; the holes should not be drilled before you are ready to insert the pin, that is, one hole is drilled and the pin is inserted, and so on for the four holes. A small cork is placed over the first pin as soon as it is in position, and the same with each pin. This protects the pin from being twisted by the antagonizing teeth, the gums from being wounded by the pins. When a denture is to be made on this principle, the impression is taken and the rim plate stamped in the ordinary way, before the pins are inserted. Although the impression can be taken with the pins in position, it may be an advantage to do so, as it marks the position of the pins accurately ; but I prefer to take the impression before the pins are in position, as there is less danger in removing the impression, and there is no difficulty in getting the position of the pins through the plate when the rim plate is well fitted. From the form of the plate, as well as that of the cast, the position of the pins is ascertained, the holes are drilled through the plate and the plate placed in position in the mouth. Then the holes are drilled in the alveolar through those in the plate, and the pins screwed in as soon as each hole is drilled ; the holes in the plate are a little larger than the pins, as they are to admit the tubes in which the pins are held. In a full denture of the upper jaw, as this example is made to represent, gum teeth are used, and the teeth are in sections. The well known method of fastening section teeth on a gold plate is superior to lining single teeth, being much cleaner. My method has been to rivet thin pieces of gold to the sections, cutting off the head of the pins ; the gold backing, being thin, is turned into