

those mats, or attach ribbons to these pellets. Whether I am to use gold or amalgam, in all cavities over the average size, I insert fully three-fourths of bone cement. It is better than metal in contact with the dentine, because it is a non-conductor, because it is more compatible with the tooth-structure, because it is easier upon the patient. When it is covered by secure gold or amalgam, it is better than an all-metal filling. If it was no more insoluble in the mouth than it is out of it, who would use metal as a filling?

In frail cavities, I am in the habit of imbedding in the cement a platinum or gold screw-post; sometimes bent at an angle so as to sustain the force of mastication, and building gold or amalgam on this strengthener. In dead teeth I have, for experiment, imbedded ordinary safety pin wire into the pulp-cavity, bent from one canal to the other, sometimes soldering a cross piece on top, which seemed to secure the attachment of fillings, and even of a crown.

How to get Clean Joints.

By CHAS. SUTTON, Coaticook, Que.

I have often read statements in the journals that the way to get clean joints is to grind closely, or to insert plaster, cement, etc., between the joints. Yet in spite of instructions, joints do come out with those reproachful dark lines which offend the eye. I do not pretend that I have made an original discovery, but I worked out the matter for myself, and I never have a dark joint, and this is the way I avoid it:

1. I never let wax get between the joints in preparing the set for the flask. I never melt the wax before or behind, where the blocks meet.

2. One of the last things I do when the case is waxed up, is to remove each block, one at a time, rub the joints on a piece of fine and clean sandpaper and replace them, taking care never to melt the wax where the blocks meet.

3. I then flask the set as usual, and when opening it, I avoid heating it so much that the wax will melt and run into the clean joints. I then *pick out* all the wax possible, especially in the vicinity where the blocks meet.

4. Now comes the secret. If you have not melted the wax into the joints before flasking, or when heating it to separate the flask, you have now perfectly clean joints. But you have to pour hot water into the case to melt out wax you cannot pick out, and when you do that, you just run the melted wax into those joints, and