

filling and tooth substance. Oxyphosphate cement, in my own practice, has been my ideal. A good method is to line the cavity with cement—the consistency of thick cream—then forcing a large piece of amalgam into the cavity with a rotary motion from the centre to the edge, thus forcing the amalgam into the cement, and driving the cement to the edge of the cavity. Then, with an excavator, remove a little of the filling along the edge, finish the filling with small pieces of amalgam burnished to the edge of the cavity.

If one never has attempted to remove an amalgam filling put in with cement, he has no idea how difficult it is to do. Circumstances often prevent our filling bicuspid, and the posterior surfaces of cuspids with gold. This method allows us to fill these teeth with good results, much to the satisfaction of patient and dentist.

The advantages that may be claimed for a filling inserted in this manner are :

- 1st. Adhesion to the wall of the cavity.
- 2nd. It is more compatible with tooth structure.
- 3rd. It prevents discoloration of tooth substance.
- 4th. It strengthens the tooth.
- 5th. It avoids weakening of the walls with heavy undercuts.

Another method of using cement is the one recommended by Dr. Strong, of Connecticut, where he mixes the two into one mass, using one-third cement; grinding the amalgam and powder together, then adding the liquid, and grinding all together again.

The cavity must be kept dry, and when the mass is similar to putty it must be worked rapidly, and pressure brought to bear, and kept there for a while. I use this mixture in the temporary teeth with good results. To get the best results with a mixture of this kind one must employ a matrix. I use one of German silver, it is cheap and convenient; then I can pack the filling with force, and am sure it will adhere to the walls of the cavity. After the matrix has been removed the filling should be polished. But to expect success with this filling two things must be kept in view: dryness of cavity and a matrix, and the matrix kept there until the filling is hard.

Another use of cement that has given me satisfaction is in the repair of a broken porcelain facing from a Richmond crown. When the facing breaks off the pins are left in the backing already headed. I take a duplicate of the broken tooth, cut off the pins, and drill out what is left in the tooth, enlarging the hole as I go down, or take a large tooth, drill new holes, and cut the tooth to the right size. Then cement the tooth to the pins and backing, having both dry.

I have had better success in repairing Richmond crowns and bridge-work with this method than any other. You do not weaken your backing by cutting large holes for the nut when you screw it