

alveolaris. This I did because I could not find the egg-skin eschar, and when the blood was examined and seemed to substantiate my suspicions I refrained from giving specific treatment. To settle the question I placed several patients suffering from suppurative gingivitis under specific treatment. This caused such unfavorable symptoms that I was soon forced to abandon it. In one case where the alveolar process, on the palatal surface of the teeth, was nearly destroyed, and where it was practically in a normal condition on the buccal and labial surface I was puzzled to know why this affection was not general. When septic pulps, salivary calculi, and syphilis were excluded I concluded the trouble to be caused by the pressure from a vulcanite plate, to which was attached an artificial velum that had been worn twenty years.

In another case, the cast of which I have here, the disease was extreme in character. There was great destruction of the interdental process, accompanied with a discharge of pus. Many of the teeth could readily be forced by the finger one eighth of an inch farther into the socket. A tumor, osseous in character, extended along nearly the entire length of the alveolar process on the buccal and labial surfaces of the upper alveolar ridge. There was, however, a break in the line of the tumor between the right central and right lateral incisor. The right central incisor had been extracted several years earlier. In this space was an artificial crown attached to a small bridge-piece, as indicated on this cast.

The cast of the lower jaw showed by the hypertrophied condition of the gum the extent of the pocket. At first this patient persistently denied ever having syphilis, but the evidence of it was proved by examination of the blood. After I had gained the confidence of the patient, however, he admitted that he had contracted the disease a dozen years before, but had been under treatment for it. He gave as a reason for denying the fact that he did not wish it known to any one except his physician, who had positively stated that he was absolutely cured. The patient now returned to this physician, told him my views as to the cause of the tumefaction, and telling him I said he was still suffering from the taint. The physician made light of the diagnosis and persuaded the patient not to return to me. I regret not having an opportunity to finish the treatment of this case as it would have been an excellent support to my belief that this class of tumors is the result of this dreadful poison.

It is fair to state, however, that within a year the health of the patient so completely failed that he was advised to visit the hot springs for syphilitic treatment. Where rheumatism is found to be present in a large percentage of cases I believe it to be a coincidence, though not the cause. I believe that syphilis so reduces the resisting power of the constitution, that rheumatism more