

essential, which you all understand, and as much longer as skill and modern advanced dentistry may enable me to. Use your utmost skill in the case of these teeth, without regard to remuneration or desire of the patient, and a crown of glory awaits you. A duty awaits you and you must not shirk it. It does not excuse you to say that it is ulcerated, or the nerve is dead, or the patient is poor or ignorant. Save the tooth and put it down to charity, and cover a multitude of sins otherwise laid against you. As far as individual cases of extracting are concerned, as they are presented to the dentist for relieving present pain and where a denture is not immediately the question, I apprehend that there is no difference of opinion that all modern operators do make a decided attempt, and generally successfully, to save such a case. The point of hesitation and debate is generally when a few of the teeth are very much in need of treatment, or in case of a few good ones remaining and the others more or less involved in doubt as to the advisability of attempting their salvation. In the light of present progressive dentistry we can scarcely be excused in our action if we recommend a resort to extraction, except in cases of badly decayed roots. I hold a strong prejudice against removing sound roots, preferring to fill even these, where they cannot be crowned and protecting the soft tissue and upholding the alveolus as long as possible. A healthy root may be serviceable for years, especially so after treatment and filling or capping.

Looking at the esthetic effects of removing teeth and restoring by factory made articles, I presume that many will consider me wild when I make the assertion that it is a physical impossibility to restore or reproduce the natural expression to a face when once the roots of the teeth are removed; yet I make the statement and challenge the artist in dentistry who imagines he can to get up and say so. It can't be done. The canine eminence cannot be prolonged on the outside of the maxillary sufficiently high without interfering with the free motion of the lips. As soon as the roots of the six anterior teeth are removed there begins a change in the jaw too high up for any artificial contrivance to be placed for the comfort of the patient. It may be possible that this is the reason why our English brethren do not, as a rule, remove the roots when about to introduce an artificial denture, and if so, I commend them for their good taste from an artistic point of view, while from a sanitary or economic point, perhaps there is not so much to be said in its favor.

My faith in the dentist of the present and of the near future is unbounded as to their action in regard to saving teeth. Everything is promising. Their inclination is in that direction; their education is directed in that way; public taste is being directed more in that way. Humanity calls them to do so, progressive ideas must