

period, but it cannot be wholly thrown aside. Towards the latter part of the time it may be worn occasionally only, but even after the lapse of twelve months, should the teeth show any indication of moving from the desired position, mechanical restraint must be resumed."

A CASE IN PRACTICE.

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In the latter part of December, 1869, I was consulted by a hardware merchant of our town relative to a front incisor, which he told me commenced to decay on the grinding surface about twenty-two years since. He had been in the habit of "digging it out with his tooth-pick after every meal," but latterly suffering considerable inconvenience in doing so, concluded it was high time (patient soul) to consult a dentist. After a little examination of the case I found the bony structure entirely gone, indeed on one side of the wall of the fang was broken through. I considered it a doubtful case, though I made an appointment with him, hoping to find some other tooth decayed in the event of condemning the one in question. Having removed part of the accumulation, I filled it up for the time being with a little cotton saturated in tinct. krameria and cologne. He kept his appointment, and the first word he said was "the cotton you put into my tooth pained me and I took it out," from which I concluded there was no prospect of doing anything for that tooth but to extract; nevertheless I commenced to excavate, determined to "make a spoon or spoil the horn." The orifice was enlarged, and I continued to excavate the fang, avoiding the break, until I had it completely cleaned out. The opening in the side was nearly as large as a grain of wheat, and bled slightly. I washed out the cavity and introduced carbolic acid for about ten minutes, and then filled with Dr. Smith's oxychloride of zinc. I prepared him for the worst, expecting naught but evil report from it. I did not see my patient to speak to him, for ten days, but meeting him one morning, he said "that tooth is doing splendidly, it has not pained me in the least; did you intend that as a permanent filling, or only temporary?" It is now near three months since said tooth was treated, the bone filling is not perceptibly worn, but which will be capped with gold should it be found necessary.