

to the difficulty of excluding saliva from an operation. Has used almost every method and appliance that has ever been suggested or brought to the notice of the profession, and finds something, and usually much, to commend in almost every one of them; uses napkins much in the manner suggested by Dr. McClelland, more than any other single appliance, but very frequently, and usually quite efficiently, employs bibulous and blotting paper, the rubber dam, and two or three forms of saliva pumps, together with the various tongue compressors; but least efficient of any of these, is the old fashioned tongue-holder or speculum, held by the patient, for there is not more than one patient in fifty that will retain them properly in place, but when a little fatigued will relax the hold and then all is lost; regards the rubber dam as a very great acquisition, and one by which some cases that have hitherto proved almost uncontrollable, are by it completely manageable. To Dr. Barnum is due the lasting obligation of the profession for the introduction of this material.

Dr. Morgan has used and relied very much upon blotting paper and napkins of fine linen, about eight inches square; folds into the proper shape and packs them in about the teeth, so as to make pressure upon the mouth of the salivary ducts; never permits the instrument to touch the lips.

Dr. Hays described a little appliance in the form of little round pads, made of porous clay and properly biscuited, for closing the mouths of salivary ducts; they are made plano convex and double convex, from one-half to three-fourths of an inch in diameter; others are made crescent shape. The form and size should be governed by the locality they are to occupy; they are the invention of Dr. Southwick, of Buffalo.

Prof. Cutler read an essay on development of the teeth, in which the idea was advanced that the roots of the teeth, and especially the molars, are not fully formed till a period much later than is generally supposed; that at the time the crowns of these teeth seem to be fully developed, the roots have very commonly large cone-shaped openings at their ends, in which, the destruction of the pulps becomes a serious consideration. The removal of pulps from teeth, the roots of which are in this condition, will be liable to occasion very serious injury to the living parts beyond. The careless or inexperienced operator is very liable to pass entirely through the canals. The roots