

should be first cleaned by the dentist, for no amount of brushing would remove these deposits from them.

#### NECESSITY OF FILLING THE TEETH.

Success in filling and preserving the teeth, depends upon three things. The quality of the teeth themselves; the manner in which the operation is performed; and the character of the material employed for this purpose; or in other words, if the teeth are but poorly developed, defective in their structure, or the operation is imperfectly performed, either with good or poor material, the teeth will surely decay sooner or later.

I have seen teeth which had been filled for over forty years, and they looked as well as they did when first filled. Four essentials are requisite in the personal qualifications of every dentist. A high order of intellectual culture in the direction of his specialty; surgical and mechanical ability; integrity and faithfulness. These qualities combined will render him thoroughly acquainted with the human organism, especially the teeth, will be a guarantee of his capability to perform whatever he perceives necessary to be done; will enable him to determine the line of practice in every instance irrespective of contingencies which will result in the highest good to his patients, and secure in every case the most finished results in workmanship. Some teeth are frail and require great skill to save them, but more teeth are lost from poor operations than all other causes combined. It by no means follows that because a tooth is