

forty, may be drilled from the cutting point nearly an eighth of an inch without reaching the pulp,—then, just so far may the crown be *filed* without feeling. And in the case of dwarf teeth, which are usually without any pulp or visible blood-vessels, the centre being perforated, the entire dentine is insensible to the file. And here, let me observe, nerves are not always accompanied with blood-vessels.

There are four classes of teeth where nerves are found, but no blood-vessels or capillaries.

The first class consists of nearly all dwarf teeth and supernumeraries (generally dwarfed); these, very soon after development, will be found without pulp or blood-vessels.

Although not entirely nerveless, the dens sapientiæ are often of this class, as well as malformed and dwarfed lateral incisors.

To the second class belong the teeth of old persons when the pulp, always pregnant with dentine, has perfected deliverance, exhausted itself and is no more.

Of the third class are the teeth whose crowns are worn up, and having excited both the exhaustive energies and the recuperative action of the pulp, have filled the natural pulp-canal with dentine, leaving only a still sensitive nerve.

The fourth, and less common class, comprises the teeth where tartar has insinuated itself quite to the point of the root, exciting the capillaries to hasten their work and retire.

So far as my observation, in a practice of fifty years, has gone, these are the only cases that furnish grounds for the remarks of Professor McQuillen on "Calcification of Dental Pulp," in the October number (1868) of the DENTAL COSMOS. That nature intends the ultimate entire conversion of pulp to dentine is attested, not only by the four classes of cases alluded to, but by her invariable habit of yielding the substance of the pulp to the supply of dentine in our cattle and sheep as they fill up the allotted term of life.

And for the evidence of nature's handiwork in this life, one needs but to examine the teeth of cows past the age of twelve years; what remains of the pulp canal not worn up, will be found filled with dentine. It is not singular that in the work of converting its own substance into dentine, the energies of the pulp should sometimes be overtaxed, and its action become spasmodic, resulting in the formation of incoherent nodules, and in protracted pain, culminating