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DOMINION DENTAL JOURNAL.

VOL. III.

TORONTO, MAY, 1891.

No. 3.

Original Communications.

Dental Dots Distilled.

By D. V. BEACOCK, L.D.S., Brockville, Ont.

Ninety-nine per cent. of ambition to try, and one per cent. of talent, is necessary to success ; in nearly everything we undertake most of us lack pluck and push.

The doors leading to success and prosperity usually fly open at the approach of those whose energies command it.

New sharp burs with rapid motion, not allowed to remain too long in one place, so as to avoid heating, is the most successful painless operating to be found. Rubber dam should always be used from the beginning of the operation.

Pain evidently follows the use of dull burs ; also sharp ones, if held in one position long enough to produce heat by friction.

Chloride of zinc and warm carbolic acid, also caustic potash, are as good obtunders as we possess, with rapidly cutting burs always cutting towards the periphery.

There are dentists who write D.D.S. and L.D.S. after their names who should hear the German farmer's comparison, "Oh, dat was noding ; I had vonce a calf vot sucked two cows, and he made noding but a common schteer after all."

Dr. A. S. Billings was told by the agent of a Dental Depot, that ninety-five per cent. of the dental profession cannot pay for the

material they buy at the time of purchase. The barber is the worst pay, the dentist next. What a sad commentary on our profession.

Pheno-camphor is easily prepared by dissolving three parts camphor in one part of carbolic acid. It is a good deodorizer, antiseptic and disinfectant, and prevents suppuration.

Cases have occurred in the experience of almost every dentist where a lady was going into a decline, with every appearance of consumption, who, as a last resort, has had a mouthful of old snags and diseased roots and teeth removed, and a comfortable set of artificial teeth inserted, who has completely recovered her health and strength, and has lived happily many years.

Take an ordinary watch crystal, such as can be obtained of any jeweller, set it in a lump of plaster of Paris, trim neatly and paint, color or bronze, to suit your taste. This makes a very handy and cheap little tray for holding amalgam or other fillings at the operating table.

Cast a little dome of lead or other soft metal somewhat in the shape of half a walnut, this will answer for a stand, insert a piece of knitting needle three inches long, sharpen the top, cut bibulous paper into little squares, say two inches or less, fill the wire full, one square at a time. This will be found handy on the operating stand of every dentist, as a square can be easily picked up with the plyers, and is much better than cotton.

Any dentist can sharpen his burs and drills when dull. There is no excuse for any one using dull instruments and inflicting unnecessary pain on his confiding patients. Take a thin corundum and rubber disk, such as is used for separating teeth: this will answer for all the medium and larger sized burs.

For sharpening drills, excavators, chisels and other small cutting instruments, use Dr. McLean's method, by making a disk of tin two inches in diameter, laying thereon a disk of cardboard and on the top of this a round piece of fine cutting emery paper, fasten them on an engine mandrel. There is nothing better for sharpening fine-edged small tools. I keep a dozen different sizes and grades of emery disks on hand all the time. No dull instruments used in this office. By using a leather disk similar to the above, you can make your excavators and chisels so sharp that they will split a hair.

Modelling Compound vs. Plaster of Paris.

By "PHINEAS," Ont.

So much is said and written at the present time about crown and bridge work, porcelain fillings, the construction of difficult regulating appliances, the treatment of pyorrhea alveolaris, the action of ferments, and the principles which underlie ordinary and extraordinary dental operations, that the writer almost feels as though he ought to apologize to the readers of this JOURNAL for introducing so common-place a subject as the taking of impressions. If the hundreds of young men who have just graduated from the dental colleges of the United States and Canada, were to be asked what material is the best for taking impressions, probably nineteen out of twenty would answer, plaster of Paris. That is what our college professors say, and that is what we learn from our text-books. By the average American graduate, a hint that such is not the case would be taken as an evidence of ignorance or incompetence; and yet it is safe to say, that after those young men have been in practice for a few years, many of them will use modelling compound for a large proportion of the cases where they now use plaster. Why it should be considered heresy to point out the advantages of the former, and urge its use, is a mystery, and yet such appears to be the case. A professor of prosthetic dentistry, whose name is known to dentists all over America, made the statement not long ago, that he dared not tell his students to what extent he uses the compound for taking impressions, and how seldom he uses plaster of Paris. The writer, however, although taught differently, has no hesitancy in stating his convictions that, taking all things into consideration, modelling compound is the better material, and that he rarely uses anything else in his practice, even for crown and bridge work.

In the first place, it is admitted by all that with the compound thoroughly softened, and at the proper temperature, an accurate impression with fine tracings can be obtained. The pressure necessary is not great, but is objected to by many because the soft parts yield readily, and are, therefore, compressed more than the roof of the mouth. This, instead of being an objection, is in reality an advantage. Under pressure the soft parts are forced into the

position they are likely to occupy under a plate, and the necessity for relieving the pressure of a plate on the roof of the mouth, so frequently referred to by dental writers, is removed. Then, too, its consistency is such that the loose tissues attached to the gum are pushed away, instead of imbedding themselves in the material and distorting the impression, as is often the case when a lower impression is taken in plaster. It is true an absolutely correct impression of a dovetailed space cannot be obtained by its use; and, judging from the emphasis which dental writers attach to this fact, one would suppose that the fitting of a plate to the bottom of a dovetailed space was a very important matter. To take an impression of a dovetailed space in plaster is no easy matter either, but supposing it is accomplished, what has been gained? The plate may be fitted to the floor of the space on the model, but it can never be inserted until it has been trimmed to the size of the opening, and then no longer fills the space at the bottom. If compound is used however, if removed at the proper time it will yield slightly by virtue of its elasticity, and the model, when made, will present a space to which a plate can be fitted, which in most cases will go into place in the mouth without trimming.

The absence of the air bubbles in the impression, the exactness with which the amount of material can be gauged, the ease with which the model can be separated from the impression, and the freedom from injury of the former in the process, might all be referred to, but are of little consequence compared with the comfort of the patient during the operation. While there is nothing disagreeable in the sight, taste, or smell of the compound, the use of plaster frequently produces nausea and loathing. The very sight of the white semi-fluid mass before it is put into the mouth is enough to turn a delicate patient sick, and when to this is added the insipid taste and the sensation of a creamy mixture gradually hardening in the mouth, with now and then an odd piece breaking off and dropping into the fauces, is it any wonder that many look upon taking the impression as worse than the extraction, and wear a temporary denture months longer than they ought sooner than submit to its repetition? The dentist who attends most closely to the wants and comforts of his patients will always be most successful, and the change from the use of disagreeable choking plaster of Paris, to the comparatively pleasant and cleanly modelling com-

pound, is certain to add not a little to a dentist's professional popularity.

Adhesion *vs.* Atmospheric Pressure.

By S. MOYER, L.D.S., Galt, Ont.

Dr. E. A. Teskey has evidently not yet experimented upon his own mouth, and is, therefore, incapable of intelligently deciding upon the true merits of a question, upon which he is supported by neither theory nor experience. He still asserts that "it is impossible to create a vacuum by withdrawing the air, or any portion of it, from the ordinary air-chamber."

While a number of our best dentists do not employ air-chambers, especially in permanent dentures, it is not for reasons mentioned by Dr. Teskey. In his objection, that of inability to form a vacuum, he stands alone. When he claims that I prescribe the air-chamber "for all known ills," he shows the error of his imagination. I know there are objections to its use, but Dr. Teskey has mentioned none of them. There are cases in which I would not recommend it, but not because of inability to evacuate it. All I claimed in my first article was, that they increase the retentive force that already exists.

In his efforts to support his theory, he ridicules one of the first axioms of science, the teachings of all dental colleges, the writings of all authorities on dentistry, and the experience of all experimenting dentists. He cannot get two per cent. of the dentists in Ontario to agree with him, that suction is never produced. This being the case, argument is of no avail. He persists in holding up "an idea that occurred" to him, against the researches, the experiments, and the teachings of the dental world, and has the audacity to say that others are "ancient theories."

When he tries to prove that a plate cannot be sucked to the roof of the mouth, by taking a thimble as an example, his argument is more worthy of the nursery than the columns in which it is found.

The only other point that he endeavors to introduce in substantiation of his theory, only the more fully proves him to be unaware of the first principles of physical science. I refer to his statement

in which he says : " In order to secure atmospheric pressure, there must exist an evacuated space." If Dr. Teskey will read the introductory chapters of some work on physics, he may be surprised to learn that atmospheric pressure is constant, that it is equal to about $15\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. to the square inch, and that it is transmitted equally in all directions. He will also learn from those chapters, that the article he referred to in the Encyclopædia Britannica, upon Adhesive Attraction, supports my contentions, and what he concludes is the force of adhesion, is nothing more than the adhesion of contact due to atmospheric pressure.

His quotations from my first article are incorrect, unfair and misleading. Instead of attempting to reply to my arguments, he shows his inability to do so, by claiming they were such as " I think," " I believe," " I don't believe," etc. Some men have " just enough learning to misquote," others misquote intentionally. " I think " was used but once in my article, and then as a quotation from Dr. Teskey. " I believe," was used but once by me, in which case I upheld one of his contentions. " I don't believe " does not occur at all in my article. The time spent by my professional brethren reading such erroneous statements and arguments could certainly have been more profitably employed.

Affected Antrum.

By D. MCPHEE, L.D.S., Arnprior, Ont.

Mrs. C——, aged thirty, called on me to have her upper teeth examined, and, if necessary, extracted. The case presented neuralgic pains, attended with considerable inflammation and swollen gums, the pupils also being much dilated. Having removed all the teeth, I found, on examination, a discharge of bloody pus oozing from an opening leading into the antrum, at the palatine proof of the superior left pre-molar. There was considerable necrosis going on, the palatine root being completely decayed, as I found in the operation of extracting. Through the opening I could insert an ivory probe, equalling in size the handle of an ordinary excavator. I at once shaped an instrument, with which I

removed all the sloughing process. I next cauterized the parts, syringing freely with warm salt and water mixture, alternated with a solution of aromatic sulphuric acid, continuing this treatment morning and evening for a week. On the fourth day from the beginning of the treatment, relief came in every particular. Hæmorrhage, which had all along been free, subsided. No tube was required, owing to the large opening which still remains, and which, being covered by the plate, does not form a harbor for any secretions. The patient had also been suffering from catarrh, which has almost entirely disappeared, owing to the free passage caused through the opening mentioned for the discharge of the fetid mucus, as well as for the convenient opportunity afforded for cleansing the antrum, which opening will, of course, always remain.

Dentistry in New Brunswick.

By C. A. MURRAY, D.D.S., Moncton, N.B.

Previous to April, 1890, New Brunswick was without a Dental Law, and consequently was an open field for quacks, college and office students with a keen desire for the almighty dollar, rather than any desire to give the public the equivalent for their money either in work or theory. But the dentists of the Province at last rose up in their strength, and by their united and untiring efforts succeeded in getting a bill passed at the last sitting of the Local Legislature, and feeling with pleasure and relief that it had become law, and the first step taken to elevate the standard of the profession in New Brunswick.

It remained in a state of quiescence until the Government appointed the three scrutineers, whose duty it was to examine the credentials of those claiming the qualifications for registration, and the three members of the Council required by the Act. The scrutineers were Drs. John M. Smith, St. John, N.B.; H. B. Torrens, Fredericton; and C. A. Murray, Moncton; who, on the morning of the second Tuesday in August, waded through the numerous applications for membership, rejecting or accepting, as the validity of their claims appeared to them. In the afternoon of the same day the first meeting of the New Brunswick Dental Society met in

Fredericton, and was attended by the representative dentists of the Province, who enthusiastically commenced the business of the meeting. Dr. A. F. McAvenny, of St. John, was elected President; Dr. H. B. Torrens, of Fredericton, Vice-President; and Dr. C. A. Murray, of Moncton, Secretary-Treasurer. A committee composed of Drs. Magee, McAvenny and F. A. Godsoe, were elected to frame by-laws, etc., for the Society. After devoting some time to important questions concerning the Society, the meeting proceeded to elect the four members of the Council to assist those appointed by the Government. The meeting adjourned, to meet in St. John on the second Tuesday in August, 1891.

On September 30th the Dental Council, composed of Drs. J. M. Magee, of St. John; W. H. White, of St. Stephens; W. D. Camber, of Woodstock; and H. B. Torrens, of Fredericton, elected by the Society; and Drs. A. F. McAvenny, of St. John; J. G. Sproule, of Chatham; and C. A. Murray, of Moncton, appointed by the Governor in Council; met in the office of Dr. McAvenny to elect their officers and prepare to do the business which devolves upon them. Dr. Murray was elected President, and Dr. Magee Secretary and Registrar. After the business of the meeting came an unexpected pleasure, Dr. McAvenny entertaining the members of the Council to a *recherche* dinner at the [Union Club, where an exceedingly pleasant evening was spent.

Humbug in Dentistry.

By L.D.S., Ont.

What a volume might be written on the part that humbug plays in the practice of some dentists. There is no profession, even the most sacred, which is free from the contamination, and when the very pulpit of every creed has its humbugs, it is no wonder that they *crawl* into medicine and dentistry. There is no country in the world where they are as prolific as in the United States, and often they settle in Canada, and frequently succeed in bamboozling the public, but very seldom the members of the profession they have in some way slipped into. Go to the root, and you rarely find these mortals possessing qualifications honestly obtained.

Unfortunately, anybody in the States once could, without any matriculation examination, get medical and dental degrees, long before Canadian students were admitted to their primary, and it was once safe when you were in a crowd, to shout "doctor," or "colonel," and almost every head would turn in response. Now, any one with half an eye could see that no first-class man would come to Canada to practise unless he had to leave his country for his country's good, or unless he thought we were a people more susceptible than our neighbors to humbug. It has been common for some of our best men to go to the States, because there is greater scope among a large population, and Canadian degrees justly obtain respect there. A graduate of any of the Toronto medical colleges, and also of McGill, at Montreal, carry with their parchments a claim to professional respect. The world knows and respects the many eminent men who have done honor to the professions in the United States; but these men do not choose Canada as a preferred place to practice. Look at the medical quacks who organize "Institutes," and travel through the land on the strength of a Canadian license. In dentistry, too, have we not men whose every instinct is that of humbug? the men who make use of the Church and the Sunday-school, lodges, and every possible means of making the public believe that they are "superior," or that they possess some infallible prescription brought down from the skies specially for themselves. Is it not disgusting and degrading to see the base use some of these men make, for business purposes, of the holiest things; bringing "shop" into the very communion, and the Bible they ostentatiously carry, containing a lot of their cards for distribution to children in their Sunday-school class? I have seen him with his Bible in his Sunday class with five or six cards projecting at texts he wanted. He would, perhaps half a dozen times a year, use these cards to write texts upon, which he would then give to his class, and tell them to get their parents to look up and explain those texts! I knew one who was very fond of addressing the school, and he never failed to begin a story as follows: "My dear children, in my office, yesterday," or "last week, a little boy came into my office with a toothache," etc. He made his children carry his cards in their pockets, and "toot" in the day schools, by getting them to bring the boys into the office to show them "all the wonderful things that pa has, *and no other dentist has.*"

Of course, such a sneak may have "success," but he loses what every honest man ought to desire—the respect and esteem of his brethren in the profession. "Humbug" is stamped in his face, though he can put on the look of a humble saint. We each and all have a right to desire success, but no professional man has an ethical "right" to send out "tooters" in the schools, day and Sabbath, and to use the vulgar and mendacious tricks of the quack gilded over. Old practitioners will recall by these lines two past and gone Ontario practitioners who resorted to these devices, and whose memory will ever be despised by every one but a few, who while professing to be open and honorable, are as sleek sinners in humbuggery as any New York or London quack.

[We have been asked specially to insert this. We do so, though we are unwilling to believe that there is any one now in the profession in Ontario whose head the cap will fit.—ED. D. D. J.]

Valedictory Address.

By WILLIAM RICHARDSON, L.D.S.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Faculty, Fellow-Graduates and Students, Ladies and Gentlemen,—Permit me, sir, on behalf of my fellow-graduates, to express to you the extreme pleasure and satisfaction which it affords us to meet you for the purpose which has brought us together. During the months that are past, we have looked forward to this occasion with hope, mingled with fear. Now that we have received from our Alma Mater, the coveted token of her approval of our attainments in our chosen profession, we cannot refrain from expressing the joy and satisfaction which fills our hearts.

Allow me also to express our pleasure in seeing so many fair faces smiling upon us in this the hour of our rejoicing. However glorious may be our achievements, however satisfactory may be our progress, however sweet may be our rewards, woman's approving smile seems necessary to complete our gladness and satisfaction.

The occasion which brings us together is one of special interest to the Board and Faculty of our Dental College, as marking the

completion of another year of successful labor in their chosen work of dental education. It is of special interest to the graduating class of this institution, as it brings to them the first fruits of the rewards of anxious days and nights of toil. But while of some special interest to these, it is by no means devoid of interest to the citizens of Ontario generally. By the wisdom of her legislators, and the intelligence and liberality of her citizens, Ontario is far in advance of her sister provinces in the advantages which she offers the student in every branch of literature, science and art.

In the past, some of our students in dentistry have been indebted for their instruction to colleges of American cities of earlier birth and more mature development. Now we receive didactic instruction in the Royal College of Dental Surgeons, equal to any that can be obtained on this continent, and if some features are not, as yet, so efficiently illustrated as in colleges in the States, we must remember that one of those colleges has just passed its fiftieth year, and others have had thirty and forty years of existence as richly endowed institutions in large and populous States, while our college is just commencing to spread its wings. And yet not one of these colleges has, so far, exacted the high standard of matriculation, or conditions of studentship, demanded of students in Ontario.

To my fellow-graduates permit me, sir, to say something in addition to the words of wisdom and encouragement, and the very excellent and appropriate suggestions addressed to us by Dr. Wood on behalf of the Board.

During our college course, I know of not one feud or estrangement to cause regret or mar the pleasant memories of the months we have spent together.

If our intercourse in the future with one another and with our brother practitioners be marked by the same good feeling and courtesy, the same willingness to learn, the same readiness to impart, which has characterized our college life, we will be more honest to ourselves and our patients, and to the noble profession in which we have been educated.

In entering on our professional career we should aim to excel; those who excel always have room and to spare. Let us, then, as we go forth from this hall, not rest satisfied with what we have already attained, but, using that as a stepping-stone, endeavor, by

careful observation, diligent study, and earnest labor, so to advance in knowledge and skill as to make all the advantages which Providence has placed in our way, tend to the advancement of our specialty, that we may attain to that excellence which will not only return rich pecuniary benefits to ourselves, but confer lasting benefits upon the profession.

Another very important truth which we are liable to forget, but which it would be well for us to remember, is that in this world the unalterable law of nature proclaims that every human being, however exalted or humble his position in life may be, exerts an influence on the destiny of every individual with whom he comes in contact ; whether we will or not, we make every one with whom we associate better or worse. As we go forth, therefore, gentlemen, to the active duties of life, to make for ourselves a name and a reputation, not only as professional men but as citizens, let us decide that in the homes where we dwell, in the social circles in which we move, in the community where we reside, in the nation which we are proud to call our own, our influence, be it great or small, shall ever be exerted on the side of right.

Accept, gentlemen of the Faculty, our grateful acknowledgment of your unwearied labor in the several departments which have been more immediately under your individual charge, to impart to us a thorough knowledge of our profession.

We trust that, however inattentive you may sometimes have thought us, you have not altogether been disappointed in the progress which we have made. We are conscious of not having profited to so great an extent by your painstaking and valuable instructions as greater application and more studious habits would have enabled us to do, but it is very gratifying to know that you have been able, we trust heartily, to sanction our entering upon the practice of dentistry. We accept it gratefully, and we hope, gentlemen, that our record in the future may in no wise disappoint your just and reasonable expectations concerning us. While the interesting and, we trust, mutually pleasant relation of teacher and student is now severed, we shall ever bear you in kindly remembrance, and shall always feel a lively interest in our Alma Mater.

Hoping that prosperity may continue to rest upon you, and upon the institution with which you are so honorably connected, we bid you a formal but affectionate farewell.

Selections.

The Necessary Peroxide of Hydrogen.

Read in the Section of Surgery and Anatomy, at the Forty-first Annual Meeting of the American Medical Association, held at Nashville, Tenn., May, 1890.

By ROBERT T. MORRIS, M.D., of New York.

Published by the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, Chicago, August 9th, 1890, page 216.

Stop suppuration! That is the duty that is imposed upon us when we fail to prevent suppuration.

As the ferret hunts the rat, so does peroxide of hydrogen follow pus to its narrowest hiding-place, and the pyogenic and the other micro-organisms are as dead as the rat that the ferret catches when the peroxide is through with them. Peroxide of hydrogen, H_2O_2 , in the strong 15-volume solution, is almost as harmless as water; and yet, according to the testimony of Gifford, it kills anthrax spores in a few minutes.

For preventing suppuration we have bichloride of mercury, hydronaphtol, carbolic acid, and many other antiseptics; but for stopping it abruptly, and for sterilizing a suppurating wound, we have only one antiseptic that is generally efficient, so far as I know, and that is the strong peroxide of hydrogen.

Therefore, I have qualified it, not as "*good*," not as "*useful*," but as "*necessary*." In abscess of the brain, where we could not thoroughly wash the pus out of tortuous canals without injuring the tissues, the H_2O_2 injected at a superficial point will follow the pus, and throw it out, too, in a foaming mixture. It is best to inject a small quantity, wait until foaming ceases, and repeat injections until the last one fails to bubble. Then we know that the pus cavity is chemically clean, as far as live microbes are concerned.

In appendicitis, we can open the abscess, inject peroxide of hydrogen, and so thoroughly sterilize the pus cavity that we need not fear infection of the general peritoneal cavity, if we wish to separate intestinal adhesions and remove the appendix vermi-

formis. Many a patient, who is now dead, could have been saved if peroxide of hydrogen had been used when he had appendicitis.

The single means at our disposal allows us to open the most extensive abscess psoas without dread of septic infection following.

In some cases of purulent conjunctivitis, we can build a little wall of wax about the eye, destroy all pus with peroxide of hydrogen, and cut the suppuration short. Give the patient ether, if the H_2O_2 causes too much smarting. It is only in the eye, in the nose and in the urethra that peroxide of hydrogen will need to be preceded by cocaine (or ether) for the purpose of quieting the smarting, for it is elsewhere almost as bland as water.

It is possible to open a large abscess of the breast, wash it out with H_2O_2 and have recovery ensue under one antiseptic dressing, without the formation of another drop of pus.

Where cellular tissues are breaking down, and in old sinuses, we are obliged to make repeated applications of the H_2O_2 for many days, and in such cases I usually follow it with balsam of Peru, for balsam of Peru, either in fluid form or used with sterilized oakum, is a most prompt encourager of granulation.

If we apply H_2O_2 on a probang to diphtheritic membranes at intervals of a few moments, they swell up like whipped cream and come away easily, leaving a clean surface. The fluid can be snuffed up into the nose and will render a foetid ozœna odorless.

It is unnecessary for me to speak of further indications for its use, because wherever there is pus we should use peroxide of hydrogen. We are all familiar with the old law, "*Ubi pus, ibi evacua,*" and I would change it to read "*Ubi pus, ibi evacua, ibi hydrogenum peroxidum infunde.*" That is the rule. The exceptions which prove the rule are easily appreciated when we have them to deal with.

Peroxide of hydrogen is an unstable compound, and becomes weaker as oxygen is given off, but Marchand's 15-volume solution will retain active germicidal power for many months if kept tightly corked in a cold place. The price of this manufacturer's preparation is about 75c. per lb., and it can be obtained from any large drug house in this country. When using the H_2O_2 it should not be allowed to come into contact with metals if we wish to preserve its strength, as oxygen is then given off too rapidly.

H_2O_2 must be used with caution about the hair, if the color of

the hair is a matter of importance to the patient ; for this drug, under an alias, is the golden hair bleach of the *nymph's despare*, and a dark-haired man with a canary-colored moustache is a stirring object.

Abstracts from the Journals.

Arsenious Acid in Pulp Canals.

In the April *Cosmos* Dr. Fletcher, of Cincinnati, advocates the use of arsenious acid in the treatment of pulpless teeth. Being a strong germicide, he claims that it destroys the gas forming bacteria, while the quantity used is so small that even if swallowed it would do little or no harm. He uses two grains of arsenious acid with one dram of precipitated chalk, sufficient glycerine being added to make a thick paste. This he works up into the pulp-canal with a nerve-broach covered with cotton, after which he fills both roots and crown with any material desired. He has treated one hundred and forty-eight cases in this way, and in only two cases was he obliged to remove the dressing for the relief of pain.

Dental Ethics in Ireland.

According to the *Journal of the British Dental Association*, candidates are required to make the following declaration before being granted a diploma entitling them to practise dentistry in Ireland :

"I — of — hereby declare, that I am twenty-one years of age and upwards, that if I shall be granted the Diploma in Dental Surgery of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, and so long as I hold the same, that I will not seek to attract business by advertising or by any other practice considered by the College to be unbecoming ; and I agree that such diploma shall be cancelled on its being proven to the satisfaction of the President and Council that I have done so."

Death From Swallowing a Tooth.

The *Birmingham Daily Post* of a recent date contains an account of the death of a servant girl from having swallowed a small artificial denture. She told her mistress that she had swallowed it

while taking a drink of water, and was advised to go to a hospital when all efforts to reach the plate proved unavailing. The symptoms, however, were not alarming and she was soon after discharged and resumed her duties. Some time after she was suddenly taken ill and emitted a large quantity of blood, death resulting a little later from syncope. The *post mortem* examination showed that the plate had lodged at the bottom of the œsophagus, where it had perforated the walls of that tube, one end injuring the lung and the other penetrating the aorta, causing the hæmorrhage referred to. The plate had been purchased for 7s. 6d., and the coroner in summing up, said it was a warning to people not to buy cheap artificial teeth. The jury returned a verdict of "accidental death."

A Neat Rubber Dam Holder.

Dr. Platt, of Sterling, Scotland, is the inventor of a clever little device for retaining the rubber dam in place when the use of a clamp is inexpedient. It consists of a pin with a bead head, which fits into a small tube also provided with a bead head. The tube is passed between the necks of two teeth from the buccal side, after the rubber has been adjusted, and the pin is then slid into the tube from the lingual side. This keeps the rubber securely in place and leaves the four walls and crown of the tooth to be operated upon, entirely free from obstruction. The pins are made in different lengths from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch, to suit different cases, and of about the same diameter as an ordinary small toilet pin. The tubing to match can be had in lengths from the jewellers' supply establishments, and cut to suit, while the beads used for the head of the pin and tubes, are the ordinary white embroidery beads, small size.

The Ten Health Commandments.

- I. Thou shalt have no other food than at meal time.
- II. Thou shalt not make unto thee any pies, or put into pastry the likeness of anything that is in the heavens above, or in the earth beneath, or in the waters under the earth. Thou shalt not fall to eating it or trying to digest it. For the dyspepsia will be visited

upon the children to the third and fourth generation of them that eat pie ; and long life and vigor upon those who live prudently and keep the laws of health.

III. Remember thy bread to bake it well ; for he will not be kept sound that eateth his bread as dough.

IV. Thou shalt not indulge sorrow or borrow anxiety in vain.

V. Six days shalt thou wash and keep thyself clean ; and the seventh thou shalt take a great bath, thou, and thy son, and thy daughter, and thy manservant, and thy maidservant, and the stranger that is within thy gates. For in six days man sweats and gathers filth and bacteria enough for disease ; wherefore the Lord hath blessed the bath-tub and hallowed it.

VI. Remember thy sitting-room and bed-chamber, to keep them ventilated, that thy days may be long in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

VII. Thou shalt not eat hot biscuit.

VIII. Thou shalt not eat thy meat fried.

IX. Thou shalt not swallow thy food unchewed, or highly spiced, or just before hard work, or just after it.

X. Thou shalt not keep late hours in thy neighbor's house, nor with thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his cards, nor his glass, nor with anything that is thy neighbor's.

—*Phrenological Journal*.

The Eyes and the Teeth.

In the *International Dental Journal* for March, Dr. George T. Stevens, of New York, has a very interesting paper on "Some Conditions of Mutual Interest to the Dentist and Oculist." He shows that diseases of the teeth may induce reflex disturbances to the sight, and that diseased conditions of the eyes may cause neuralgic pains, which are frequently attributed to the teeth. He quotes authorities to show that rebellious cases of corneal disease frequently arise from the reflex irritation induced by difficult eruption of teeth, and states that attention to the process of first dentition will often relieve the corneal ulcers and other ocular diseases which occur at that period. To illustrate his second proposition, that neuralgic affections arising from the eyes are frequently supposed to be of dental origin, he states that some years ago while

engaged in work which required long-continued and severe use of the eyes, he was suddenly attacked with a violent pain, localized at a certain point near the root of an upper second molar. He consulted a dentist, who assured him that there was an abscess at the root of the tooth and advised extraction. He refused at first, but after days of suffering, finally submitted to the extraction of a perfectly sound tooth. He then took to his room, and after remaining a week under the influence of morphine, learned that his eyes were weak, and that their severe employment induced a return of the pain. After a rest of several months he recovered, but even now, any severity in the application of the eyes if continued for a few days brings back the pain to the old spot.

Anchored Dentures.

The December number of the *Transactions of the Odontochirurgical Society of Scotland*, contains a remarkable paper, read by Dr. Wm. Dall, of Glasgow, on "A Method of Preventing Upper and Lower Dentures from Slipping Forward." His method is to fasten two gold pins to the denture, and have them enter either holes made by drilling into the jaw, or the sockets from which teeth have been extracted. Before drilling he painted the part to be operated on with a 50 per cent. solution of cocaine, and takes care to have the drill thoroughly aseptic. In the case of the lower jaw he drills somewhere between the mental foramen and the symphysis, the upper jaw he says may be drilled at any point, care being taken not to pierce the floor of the antrum. After the holes have been drilled, one on each side, the patient is supplied with an antiseptic mouth-wash and told to return the next day when the holes are thoroughly syringed out. On the third day the impression is taken, with pins inserted in the jaw as in the case of pivots, and the denture is constructed in the ordinary way. The pins do not appear to irritate the tissues, and Dr. Dall says that the first patient upon whom he tried the experiment was a lady from the country, who to this day does not know that the operation was in any way unusual. In the case of pins entering the sockets of extracted teeth his mode of procedure is very simple. The impression is taken the day after the teeth is extracted, and pins are attached to the model in the position they are expected to

occupy. They are left as long as possible, as they are apt to set up irritation and bring about absorption if too short. After the denture has been worn for some time the sockets become filled in about the pins, so that the adaptation is perfect, and in two cases he had been able to supply patients with upper dentures without palate plates. Dr. Dall has drilled ten cases in all, and in fifteen cases has inserted dentures with pins entering the sockets of extracted teeth, and in only one case has there been any suppuration, and that was quickly overcome by syringing with dilute carbolic acid and glycerine.

Proceedings of Dental Societies.

Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario.—Official Report.

CLOSING EXERCISES.

An enthusiastic audience, in which the fair sex predominated, assembled in the lecture theatre of the Normal School, on Tuesday evening April 7th, to participate in the closing exercises of the above institution. Dr. H. T. Wood, President of the College, occupied the chair, and was supported on the platform by Prof. J. Taft, M.D., Dean of the Dental Department of the University of Michigan, Drs. J. Branston Willmott, W. T. Stuart, Luke Teskey and W. Earl Willmott, members of the College Faculty, and Dr. W. B. Geikie, Dean of Trinity Medical College; E. B. Shuttleworth, Dean of the College of Pharmacy; Dr. J. G. Roberts, of Brampton, and others. The proceedings were opened by prayer, led by Rev. Hugh Johnston, D.D., after which the President made a few introductory remarks, presenting interesting figures, illustrating the growth and present position of the college, and concluding with these words of advice to the graduating class: "Keep your hands clean, keep your hearts clean, remember the poor."

Dr. J. B. Willmott, Secretary of the Board, introduced the Graduates, and the diplomas and certificates were presented by the President as follows:—

Master of Dental Surgery.—Thomas Henderson, D.D.S., L.D.S.; W. A. Leggo, D.D.S., L.D.S.; O. H. Zeigler, L.D.S.

Licentiates of Dental Surgery.—H. D. Boyes, Thos. Coleman, W. F. Corbett, O. W. Daly, S. W. Frith, C. D. Green, G. H. Henderson, J. E. Holmes, E. R. Howes, C. W. Lennox, D.D.S.; C. H. Lount, O. Lillie, Jas. Letherdale, G. S. Martin, A. H. Mabec, Jas. McBride, H. S. McLaughlin, F. R. Porter, W. Richardson, J. J. Sinon, M. J. Sisley, H. J. Stingle, H. R. Thornton, D.D.S.; A. T. Watson, D.D.S.; J. E. Wilkinson, W. R. Winters, G. F. Wright.

The college medals, which are offered for special competition in practical work, including all the operations usually performed by a dentist, were awarded as follows :

Gold Medal.—W. F. Corbett.

Silver Medal.—Thos. Coleman.

Mr. J. F. Chittenden, on behalf of the Hamilton Dental Manufacturing Co., offered a dental chair, and a dental bracket, to the students making the highest and second highest number of marks in the final examination. These prizes were obtained by Mr. H. J. Stingle and Mr. O. Lillie.

The prize of 6 oz. of copper amalgam, to the student making the best copper amalgam fillings, kindly offered by Dr. G. H. Weagant, of Cornwall, was won by Mr. G. H. Henderson.

The prize men were introduced by Dr. W. T. Stuart, and the prizes were presented by Dr. Willmott, Dean of the Faculty.

Rev. Dr. Johnston, in a witty speech, urged the students to remember that the reputation of a college was not made by its fine buildings nor its learned professors, but by the character and ability of its alumni, and that it was in their hands to make or mar that reputation.

William Richardson, L.D.S. followed with an eloquent valedictory, which was well received and frequently applauded. (See page 82.)

The President, in introducing Dr. Taft as the speaker of the evening, said that, although this was the first time the Professor had appeared in Toronto, his name was a household word with the profession as that of one who for thirty-five years had stood in the van and had done perhaps more than any man on the continent to advance the science of Dentistry.

Dr. Taft, in acknowledging the warm reception accorded him,

desired to specially address the few remarks he had to make to the graduating class, who after a few years of preparation were about to enter upon the duties and responsibilities of their noble profession. They must be conscious that, however diligently they had striven to fit themselves for their calling, they were only now on the threshold of knowledge, in fact, the science itself was yet in a transient state. Referring to the immense advances which this century had witnessed in all branches of art and science, the speaker claimed that in no department had greater progress been made than in that in which they were most interested. Half a century ago little was known, and the literature extant was practically worthless. In 1839 the first dental periodical appeared, and to-day there were 125 regularly published. In 1840 the American Society of Dental Surgeons was established—the first of its kind—and now about 150 of these bodies are in existence on this continent, while every important centre of population in Europe has its local organization. Co-operation in association had been of inestimable service in bringing about the present condition of affairs, not only in facilitating the increase of knowledge and research, but in obtaining wise legislation and the establishment of legally authorized colleges and schools. Of these latter there are thirty-three in America, fourteen in England, and others in nearly every European country. With this grand record of the past, the speaker urged his hearers to press onward into the glorious future; the forces which had done all this are stronger and abler to-day than ever before. The dental profession was a battalion in the grand army whose mission it was to attack ignorance, darkness and disease, and carry knowledge and healing to suffering humanity; and those before him as individual soldiers in that battalion must ever strive to equip themselves thoroughly and fight earnestly and untiringly.

The learned Professor was listened to throughout with close attention, and only interrupted by frequent applause.

The proceedings, which had been enlivened at intervals by orchestral selections, were closed by the national anthem.

Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario.

The School of Dentistry of this College has completed another year of successful work. The number of matriculated students in attendance was sixty-eight.

Lectures closed on March 2nd, and examinations before the Board of Directors and Examiners commenced the following day in the hall of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Toronto.

The Examiners were as follows :—

Anatomy G. C. Davis, L.D.S., London.

Physiology C. A. Martin, L.D.S., Ottawa.

Chemistry J. B. Willmott, D.D.S., M.D.S., Toronto.

Surgery R. M. Fisher, M.D., C.M., L.D.S., Warton.

Materia Medica H. T. Wood, M.D.S., Toronto.

Operative Dentistry . C. H. Bosanko, D.D.S., L.D.S., Barric.

Dental Prosthetics . . L. Clements, L.D.S., Kingston.

Thirty students presented themselves for final examination, of whom twenty-seven were successful. The names of these will be found in connection with an account of the closing exercises in another column.

Of those who went up for intermediate examination, the following were successful : R. Agnew, W. W. Alton, E. A. Billings, S. E. Braendle, F. C. Briggs, Joseph Brooks, W. A. Burns, S. R. Clemes, J. G. Coram, W. A. Crow, H. Darling, D. Davidson, Thomas Fairbairn, G. S. Fowler, E. S. Hardie, E. A. Harrington, George Hicks, H. H. Kinsman, H. G. Lake, James Loftus, R. J. Loughheed, W. E. Marshall, W. T. McGorman, G. A. McGuire, William McGuire, F. D. Price, J. C. S. Robertson, C. J. Rogers, D. E. Russell, G. D. Scott, E. B. Shurtleff, Colon Smith, R. J. Stevens, J. H. Turnbull, George Walters, C. H. Wartman, J. E. Wilkinson.

The "Act respecting Dentistry" of the Province of Ontario, makes it imperative that the examinations of dental students shall be conducted by the members of the Board as elected by the Licentiates.

For some time it has been recognized that a director might be of great value to the profession in that capacity, and yet not have all the qualifications for an efficient examiner.

When the Royal College of Dental Surgeons was affiliated with the University of Toronto, the possibility of holding joint examinations was discussed, but it was found that this could not be accomplished as the law then stood, unless the University would appoint as its examiners the whole Board of Directors of the Royal College of Dental Surgeons. This, of course, was not practicable.

In 1888 the Board consulted the Licentiates at the Biennial Meeting, as to the expediency of asking the Legislature for authority to appoint examiners, and the proposition was unanimously approved.

At the recent meeting of the Board, the Solicitor was directed to prepare an amendment to the "Dental Act" covering the ground referred to. This is now before the Legislature, in charge of Hon. G. W. Ross, and will doubtless become law in due time.

British Columbia Dental Society.

Pursuant to call, a convention of the dentists of British Columbia met in Victoria on the 16th inst., for the purpose of forming a Provincial Dental Society. There were present fourteen dentists out of a total of seventeen in the Province, and the proceedings were harmoniously carried out, resulting in the formation of the "British Columbia Dental Society."

A constitution and by-laws were adopted and the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: T. J. Jones, L.D.S., Victoria, President; C. H. Gatewood, D.D.S., Vancouver, 1st Vice President; A. J. Holmes, D.D.S., New Westminster, 2nd Vice President; Dr. A. C. West, Victoria, Secretary-Treasurer, and an Executive Committee composed of W. R. Spencer, D.D.S., of Vancouver, and W. J. Quinlan, D.D.S., and R. F. Verinder, M.D., D.D.S., of Victoria.

The object of the Society is mutual development, promotion of friendly intercourse, and to generally advance the status of the profession in the Province. Yearly conventions will be held, the next meeting to take place in Vancouver on July 17th, this year.

A. C. WEST, *Sec.*

Correspondence.

Letter From Dr. Truman W. Brophy.

CONSULTATION FEES, ETC.

The March number of the DOMINION DENTAL JOURNAL is just received. I find it filled with very interesting matter, and, therefore, I feel that the profession of Canada is to be congratulated on having at home so able an exponent of scientific dentistry.

The first, or leading article, from the pen of my friend Dr. W. C. Barrett, whose well-directed enthusiasm has on many occasions held the attention of the largest and most distinguished gatherings of dentists at home as well as abroad, will fill an important place in our literature. This article will make us all feel quite well acquainted with Dr. Miller, not only by reputation, but it really seems to establish intimate relations between us and our scientific friend.

The achievements of Dr. Miller may well call forth the applause of his countrymen.

The work he has done has contributed more to the scientific advancement of dentistry than all previous researches in this direction.

The warm friendship between Drs. Miller and Barrett, makes the article of far more than ordinary value. Personally, I feel under obligation to you for the JOURNAL, and to Dr. Barrett for the valuable article it contains.

An article from Dr. A. C. Cogswell, whose acquaintance I do not enjoy, and yet I feel that he is one of my brethren, and therefore I must know him, for do we not strive with the same problems, meet the same obstacles, and pass through the same experiences along the uncertain pathway of life? The article he presents on "Professional Advice" is of a nature to place many dentists in an attitude becoming professional men.

No dentist should do his profession so great an injustice as to habitually hold consultations with his patients without receiving a fee. Such a course, while no doubt quite prevalent, is far from elevating to dentists. It should be practised only in free dispensaries and hospitals. Among a few of the members of the profession of our city, hours for consultation and advice are announced on their

appointment cards, and during *those hours only* will the dentists see patients for consultation. Such a disposition of time makes it possible to see patients for short intervals, and, besides, what is of more importance, the dentist is not interrupted during the time he is engaged filling teeth, or performing other operations, which require careful continuous attention.

Nor is this all ; there is often an injustice done to patients by leaving them with rubber dam in place, in an uncomfortable position, while others occupy our time. This should not be so. There are some well-established rules of practice in other professions, which are equally as applicable to ours, and Dr. Cogswell has very tersely pointed them out. I trust members of the profession who *give* their time and the benefit of their professional knowledge to their patients during consultations, may see the injustice thus done to themselves, their families and the profession.

Whoever seeks the advice of a professional man does so for the purpose of benefiting himself, and there is no reason why a suitable fee should not be received by the consulted for the services rendered.

Many years ago a large class of physicians occupied about the same position that dentists do to-day in this matter.

It was, indeed, esteemed a compliment by them, to receive a visit from a citizen who desired medical advice ; and for advice alone, or for time occupied in consultations with other physicians, fees were not usually received.

A well informed dentist can do his patients, especially young patients, children, more good by advice than operations which involve great expense. If it were possible to awaken that interest in parents, which would induce them to consult a dentist with their children, and consult him frequently, much suffering would be avoided, besides the dentures of our people would very materially improve.

I have written more than I intended when I began this letter, but my interest in the subject has led me on.

Wishing the JOURNAL the highest degree of prosperity, which it so justly merits, and hoping that all our professional friends in Canada will attend our big dental meeting during the Columbian Exposition.

I am, fraternally yours,

TRUMAN W. BROPHY.

Personal.

Can any one tell us who is the oldest practising dentist in the Dominion?

The Buffalo Dental Manufacturing Co., of Buffalo, was burned out on March 10, 1891.

Just as we go to press, we learn with deep regret of the death of every dentist's friend, the revered genius, Dr. W. H. Atkinson, of New York. Dr. Atkinson was 76 years old January 23, 1891.

Dr. Hayden, aged 84, a son Dr. H. H. Hayden, who with Chapin A. Harris, founded the first Dental College, died in Baltimore last month. He had practised dentistry for forty years.

The "Commercial Exercises" of the various colleges in the United States have closed, with large class graduating lists. The past session will, perhaps, be remembered for the great number of its matriculates. May every honest graduate's honorable ambition be attained!

The Connecticut Valley Dental Society hold their annual meeting on June 10th, 11th and 12th, at Hotel Hamilton, Holyoke, Mass. Arrangements already completed indicate a most interesting and profitable meeting. Dr. Geo. A. Maxfield is the Secretary.

Our Corresponding Editor, and former Canadian friend and co-worker, Dr. W. R. Patton, President of the American Dental Society of Europe, sends a tempting invitation to the seventeenth meeting at Heidelberg, on the 3rd, 4th and 5th of August. We commend the meeting to any of our readers.

Editorial.

The Procession Growing.

The Dental Colleges in the United States have had in attendance during the last session, over 3,100 students. About eighty of these were from Canada.

Dental College Geography.

In the summary of matriculates in the Dental Colleges over the border, it is very odd to us to read as follows: Canada, 8; Nova Scotia, 2; New Brunswick, 2; British Columbia, 2; Prince Edward Island, 1.

It would be quite as wise, if in publishing the list we were to print: United States, 8; New York, 2; Pennsylvania, 2; Illinois, 2; Alabama, 1.

Practitioners' Course.

The Chicago Dental College Practitioners' Course will re-open on 1st June. This is a fine opportunity to rub up one's rusty knowledge.

The New Brunswick Act.

We have received (April 28) a reply from Dr. Murray, of Moncton, N.B., to an editorial criticism of the above Act. It has come too late for insertion in this issue, but will appear in the July number.

Nova Scotia Legislation.

At last the efforts of our co-editor, Dr. A. C. Cogswell, are bearing fruit, and we are glad to learn that the profession in Nova Scotia, are earnestly seconding him in the appeal to the Local Legislature for a Provincial Dental Bill. Dr. Cogswell writes us that they propose organizing a local Board of Examiners. It will likely be reserved for New Brunswick alone, of all the Provinces, to oblige their natives to go outside of the Province to get their education.

American Dental Colleges.

A good many of us have grown gray in dentistry, since the time when the Quebec Dental Board cut off from recognition two leading Dental Colleges in the United States, for granting diplomas in one short session of a few months to candidates who had never had a day's practice except as students, and who had no claim but their own "cheek" to be included in the qualifications for graduation in one year. We are still in possession of all the lively correspondence on that occasion, and the more we refer to it, the more confirmed we are that the Board did the right thing at the right time. It is a pity that there is no way of drawing the line between the D.D.S. as it was and as it is; because, much as we despise the degree as granted in hundreds of cases years ago, we must admit in all fairness, that a great advance has been made, and that the National Association of Dental Faculties, has revolutionized

the teaching and the system for the better. In the matter of the exaction of a high standard of matriculation ; as well as in the teaching in anatomy, physiology and chemistry, and the preliminary office studentship, we, in Canada, are really ahead of our cousins, but it is only fair to confess that it will be a long time before we can afford the facilities for practical work the United States Colleges enjoy. If any error exists in their curriculum, it is that students get the idea of being "practical men" much too soon. The basis of the highest dental education cannot condemn the fundamental principles of medicine and surgery, as well as of mechanics. We recognize with much pleasure, the determination of our best teachers in the United States Colleges, to leave nothing undone to improve the standard. They are away ahead of the world in practical teaching. There is no reason why they could not, at least, keep pace with it ; in the exaction of a classical and mathematical matriculation, so that the next generation of practising dentists would represent scholarship as well as practical science. But it would be well if students in their first year were prohibited from any clinical dental work whatever, and obliged to devote the entire first session to more thorough training in anatomy, physiology, chemistry, and materia medica. Doubtless, this will be one of the results of the new *regime*.

Reviews.

The *Pacific Dental Journal*, published by the Tacoma Dental Depot, Tacoma, Washington. This is the latest addition to the list of Depot Dental Journals. It is a quarterly.

Pearson's Dental Appointment Book for the vest pocket. Published by R. J. PEARSON & CO., Kansas City Dental Depot, Kansas City, Mo. Neat enough to open before a king. Handy enough to suit the man who is always leaving a bulkier book where he often loses it. Arranged to save time, trouble and patience. 50c. With name on cover, in gold, 75c.

The Genius (?) of Colonel Ingersoll. By R. BEALL, D.D.S. The author sends us a copy of this *brochure*, and asks for a review. It is written by a fool, about a fool, and any man who would put

aside good literature to read such trash would be a fool. Ingersoll was a bolder blasphemer of the Creator than he was a soldier. When this gallant "Colonel" went on his first and only skirmish down to Dixie, he allowed himself to be taken prisoner, and General Forest, learning who he was, offered to exchange him for a mule! He was a coward who ought to have been shot, and it was well for the cause of the men of the North that there were so few like him. The Almighty creates men like Ingersoll for some such hidden purpose as he creates skunks and mosquitoes. Even the skunk when dead is of use. Alive, Colonel Ingersoll was a curse. Dead—no doubt he will discover that fact for himself. Dr. Beall will excuse us for reiterating the statement, that in posing as an admirer of a fool, he might exchange his D.D.S. for ASS.

Catching's Compendium of Practical Dentistry for 1890. By B. H. CATCHING, D.D.S., Editor and Publisher, Atlanta, Ga. Copyrighted 1890. Atlanta, Ga.: Constitution Publishing Co., 1890. Price \$2.50.

"What is it all about?" That is just what we all wondered; and one has only to get the work of 259 pages to find that in getting an answer, he is practically in pocket a good many dollars; and that Dr. Catching has been garnering the best things in operative and prosthetic dentistry, crown and bridge work, orthodontia, dental medicine, oral surgery, etc., that have appeared in nineteen American, three British, five French, six German, one Austrian, two Cuban, two Italian, one Russian, one Spanish, one Swiss, and one Canadian Dental Journal for 1890. It is, in fact, a valuable compendium for the two classes of people in our ranks—those who read much and those who read little. It will refreshen the memories of the former, and revive the dulness of the latter. It will certainly add a new zest to each new year, in the expectancy of an annual successor.

A Dictionary of Dental Science. By CHAPIN A. HARRIS, M.D., D.D.S. Fifth edition, carefully revised and enlarged, by F. G. S. GORGAS, M.D., D.D.S., Author of "Dental Medicine," Editor of "Harris' Principles and Practice of Dentistry," etc. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston, Son & Co., 1012 Walnut Street, 1891. Price \$5, cloth; \$6, sheep.

Of some books there may be too many editions; of this dic-

tionary there have been too few. The plodding dental student of the past ten years was to be pitied, as he dived into old editions in search of terms and technicalities belonging alone to dentistry, and of brief explanations of the many additions to our knowledge of *Materia Medica*, the researches of Millar, etc. There has, perhaps, been no one work more missed by college students than this classic dictionary, and had its industrious author thrown further light upon the bacteriology of the mouth, of which dentists know too little, and condensed the lengthy descriptions of celluloid, extraction, the gums, etc., to which nothing has been added that was not known a quarter of a century ago, it would have, perhaps, been better. However, the man who once tried to satisfy everybody not only satisfied nobody, but died prematurely of softening of the brain, and when one considers the pruning as well as the additions Dr. Gorgas has made in this fifth edition, nobody but a chronic croaker would peck at flaws where there is so much solid fruit. The work is unique in dental literature in never having had a rival. In Dr. Gorgas' hands it never needs one. To our boys, and to the old ones, too, we need only commend the work as a good old stand-by. The publishers never issue inferior works. This is "as usual."

Strange Evolution in Women's Dress—Will American Ladies Dare Adopt it?

Some predict that the great change in the fashioning of the clothes which are to be worn by women this coming season is the most wonderful victory of the nineteenth century—if fashion leaders can be induced to adopt it, and appear just once in public so arrayed.

Men will hold their breath in wonder at the marvellous change it makes in lovely woman. "Few of the fair sex can help being beautiful in these glove-fitting costumes," says a writer in a recent number of *The New York and Paris Young Ladies' Fashion Bazar*. "This magazine is the only one in Europe or America which makes a specialty of giving those inclined to stoutness an unrivalled appearance of sculptured slimness," said Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales. Madame Patti has ordered from the Paris house, four magnificent costumes, the designs of which appear in the April number of this Fashion Bazar—and in this magazine only.

Mrs. Harrison is greatly fascinated with the exquisite gem, costume No. 4, in the April number. It is expected she will give an order for an exact counterpart of it, the whole front of which will be incrustated with pin-head diamonds. This gown alone will be worth a king's ransom.