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CANADA
Journal of Dental Science.

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VOL. IV.—AUGUST, 1879.—No. 4  
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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

—
DENTISTS AS MEN OF BUSINESS—No. 2.

BY AN OLD DENTIST.
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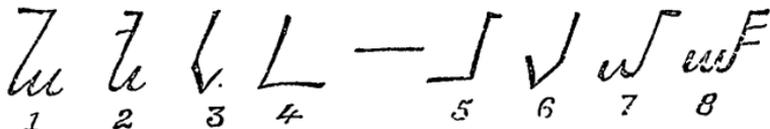
I propose in this paper to say something about the matter of recording the operations of the day, and of generally keeping track of what we do professionally.

I believe it is a practice with nearly all Dentists in the country and a few in the city not to make appointments, but to attend to patients as they come, "first come first served." Of course no first-class Dentist in cities can do this except in special cases, and so it is unnecessary to say anything to them. But from many years experience of the practice of country confreres, I am convinced that one of the principal reasons why their patients come into cities for dental services, is that they may be obliged to drive a long distance at home to their Dentist to find him pre-occupied, or so hurried that if he attends to them at all, he must do it in an unsatisfactory manner. I have been often told in my city office, that it takes less time to come to the city and run the chance of getting some Dentist to put off a city appointment, than to visit the country practitioner at home. Now it seems clear to prove that if country Dentists encourage their patients to make appointments by post or telegram, or otherwise it would be more satisfactory to all concerned. That country patients would be better attended to at home, providing the Dentist is qualified I feel sure, because not only has the country practi-

tioner more leisure, but he is at hand in the event of pain consequent upon operations, or of misfits, or alterations in artificial dentistry. Therefore I think it would promote the success of such Dentists to develop the practice of making appointments several days in advance.

Where a patient has a great deal to do in the way of filling, I find it a good plan to make appointments several days in succession, and thus complete in one week what is commonly extended over several.

"Can we charge for broken appointments?" I once did. I got my fee but lost my patient. I keep a very small ivory book in my vest pocket in which I enter charges, accounts paid, etc., when my regular appointment book is not handy. Before I used this I found I forgot to enter many items, as my appointment book is like an old lady's spectacles, likely to be found in one room as well as another. I enter everything I do in business, as well as all cash received each day, and accounts paid in my appointment book as soon as I finish my patient, or receive money. If I simply extract a tooth and receive the miserable pittance of fifty cents which has ruled us for over fifty years, I mark in a right-hand corner 50c. paid. Whatever I do in operating I mark down at once, opposite patients name, and use the following symbols instead of the troublesome register; for which I am indebted



to Dr. Oliver Martin, of Ottawa.

The molars are represented by three cusps, as in No. 1 and 8. The Bicuspsids by two cusps as in 2 and 7. The cuspids as in 3 and 6, the laterals and centrals, as in 4 and 5. No. 1, is shown to be the first molar of the left side by the single dash to the left; No. 2, is shown to be the second bicuspid of the same side by two dashes: In fact the particular molars and bicuspsids are represented by dashes to right or left according to their position in the mouth. The laterals are represented as in No. 5 with a dash. The centrals, as in No. 4 without any dash. The above diagram represents the teeth of the upper jaw. The lower are indicated by simply turning the figures upside down. Now supposing I insert a contour filling in No. 4 for instance. Not only can I mark the place, but the exact outer shape; and so if a filling is inserted in a

bicuspid crown or elsewhere, I can make the situation as exactly as by any other register.

My appointment book, for instance, has John Jones at 9 o'clock a.m. I fill the left lateral incisor on the left proximal side with gold. I mark it thus.

9 John Jones, 7 / (g) \$3.

and so on. If I extract that tooth I mark down the symbol merely, adding "Ext." What's more simple and trustworthy? Until I adopted this plan I could never be bothered with registration.

I like the plan in rendering accounts, of merely stating "For professional services from January until June" though I find that it will require many years to naturalize it among our patients. They expect detailed accounts, yet they do not get them from their physicians. And yet, they may reply, that they get them, attested too by the prothonotary from their lawyers.

The system of demanding cash or part cash in advance ought to be an elastic rule, for otherwise it savors of charlatanism. Artificial dentistry at least, ought to be cash, and all accounts should be rendered a day or two after the operations are completed, if not to be paid, at least to be then and there found fault with if one is disposed to do so. Professional men lose a great deal by laxity in keeping their books and prompt collection. It is bad too, to run up large accounts.

I enter from my appointment book into a day book, entering every night, my assistant entering into a ledger. When accounts rendered are paid me in the office, I use the blank Sundays in my appointment book to record dates, names and amounts. I'm sorry to say that I have very many Sundays which have remained blank.

"DENTAL ENGINES"

BY HERMAN E. HEYDE, BRANTFORD, ONT

In answer to a communication in the Journal of March, upon the sub-

ject of "Dental Engines," I thought the author judged not only the instrument, but more particularly his profession too harshly. On this account, I felt as though it were my duty, and pleasure, although not a grey-headed sire, to make a few words of objection, since I am such an ardent admirer, as well as vindicator, of the crowning benefits, derived from its proper use, not only to the operator, but to the patient as well, which is I assure you, a matter of great consideration.

We must admit, as he proclaims, "that dentists are human beings", and equally tempted to unfair dealing, as other professional men, and no doubt have more favorable opportunities; since the public are so little educated in matters appertaining to good dentistry; and indeed, even were they it would still be impossible for them to know, whether the cavities were properly cleansed, and excavated, providing the external appearance of the operation was satisfactory. And it seems to me, it was equally convenient, and the same incentive, which prompts the dentist to be now unjust, must have, and did cause him to be correspondingly so, in times past, when he was *minus* the engine. "Of the division of dentists into three classes, those of honor and moral standing, those of would-be honor but far sooner ease and comfort, and those similiar to which, we find in all callings and stages of life, men who are ever willing, to condescend to do something of a dishonorable character," is appropriate; and always shall be, not only to the dental profession, but to the medical, to the legal, and to all other classes of workmen, whether they be in possession of scientific appliances, or not. Now if the first class use the engine, they can accomplish their desired object better. For by its assistance, and more particularly in those very large difficult posterior proximal cavities, wherein, its use proves not only so successful, but convenient, and to be now an absolute necessity, (yes with all the possible emphasis) in obtaining that nice smooth dove tail cut, which is always to be desired, and without producing that unnecessary labor, pain, and fatigue to both patient, and operator, thereby enabling the latter to discharge the different stages of the operation, with more interest, more ease, yes, and more pleasure; three conditions, which are not only favorable, but necessary for the proper accomplishment of a successful filling. The members of the second class are most of all benefitted, and through their influence, as a matter of course, thousands of sufferers obtain relief, since, he now a man of ease, has in his possession a device, by which he is assisted in obtaining his desire, without necessitating, that amount of arduous labor, which his avocation

called for, previous to the acceptance of this useful, and most adaptable appliance. More especially, since our premises admitted, that he was gifted with the requisite honor, while the third class, I contend are thankfully, far in the minority, instead of as our writer claimed the majority. Be they few or many, are but little influenced by dental engines, or any other instrument, since their crowning desire, seems to be, *to obtain* the greatest amount of cash, for the least amount of labor. And finally, since I have shown, that the two better classes of dentists are benefitted, and find the employment of the dental engine advantageous, and embracing, as they do three fourths of the profession, it must necessarily follow, that the community at large are also more satisfactorily cared for, since, that which influences the fountain head, must affect the stream, not only in its general course, but throughout its many little ripples. Of course far be it from me to say three fourths of the operations, which are now performed are successful, nor never were they, either in times past, or at the present; but I do most emphatically deny, that the engine has spread, and promoted failures, *which would not otherwise have taken place*, but owing to incompetent dentists, unprofessional and unskillful work has been executed, irrespective of dangerous instruments. As to the dentistry of to-day, I think it is far superior, to that which has been performed at any time previous. But living as we are, in such an enlightened age, where skill, and manipulative power have gained their way supreme, and have exercised their potent influences we are enabled to judge art in all its branches with an educated eye, which dentists had not so keenly cultivated in the past days, and thereby causing us to speak disparagingly of a fair filling, which fifty years ago would have been considered even excellent; and too, dentistry has now been elevated, to the rank of an honorable, and respectable profession, instead of being considered, and classed as it was, among the ordinary works of a mechanic. Again we admit our profession has since its very infancy, had men of honor, and talent, who would not for a moment be guilty of, or cherish any thoughts relative to a disreputable act, and who executed work, which was always, and ever will be a credit to them, and standing even on an equality with that which is performed now, assisted as it is with all the modern contrivances. But yet, let us fairly ask the question, how many of these brilliant lights, had we shining in those days? and we must in all candour, answer that they were both few, and far between, while to-day we have many dentists both in our own Dominion, and the neighbouring Republic,

as well as elsewhere, who have gained for themselves both fame, and reputation, and many of whom are but young men in their profession, but gifted as they are, with those necessary natural abilities, and that keen eye of perception, together with that aspiring diligence, and unsatiable ambition.

Since "the removal of the enamel is accomplished in two ways", as our writer stated, and that he failed to see, wherein the instrument can speed the preparation of ninety per cent of the cavities presented to the dentist, I may say, that it matters not, whether there are, but two, or six modes the dental engine has proved to my entire satisfaction to be a source of unspeakable assistance in the quick, and ready preparation of simple, not to say difficult cavities such as I alluded to previously, and of course by using such drills as are applicable to each particular case, we shall attain more satisfactory results, and produce less pain, than by the old tedious hand boring process. No doubt the friction produced by the instrument, engenders heat, which naturally gives pain to sensitive, and newly exposed dentine, but when I reach this stage, I usually stop, as I find it necessary to examine my cavity, for often I learned that that portion of the tooth had been freed from its diseased connections, but I now ask you advocates of hand burs, have you not also experienced these same results? I have also failed to see in any tooth, which I ever filled when the nerve died after the insertion of the plug, that it was owing to heat produced in drilling my retaining points in such close proximity to the pulp, but usually, and in fact invariably found that pressure was exercised upon it, as well as not being sufficiently capped and protected from the deleterious influences of heat and cold which it was afterwards subjected to. I must also say, both with the use of the engine, and by hand drilling, I unconsciously have been deceived by the extended surface occupied by the pulp cavity, and have drilled into it, and thereby inflicted injuries, which resulted in the death of the pulp. Also, when my own patients, as well as patients from other dental offices, visited me on account of poorly filled, ulcerated, and aching teeth, never did I deem it necessary, to enquire, "whether that whirling machine had been used or not," as I invariably found other much more prominent, acceptable, and far more satisfactory reasons, relative to their difficulty; as for example, the anterior teeth were dark, and discolored, and appearing, as though they had been perfectly filled, while in their palatine surfaces, they usually unravelled the mystery, for in nine cases out of ten, I found

them only half filled, while the other half, or third was filled with food, or other extraneous matter. I think there are about five, or perhaps ten per cent of the cavities, which come under the dentists observation, which are and always can be prepared most satisfactorily by the excavator, while I most sincerely believe, that the remaining ninety per cent, are more or less assisted by the use of the engine, so that I feel, as though, it should be prized, and no doubt it is, as being the most valuable instrument yet brought before the profession.

Finally, "should it be placed in schools of dentistry?" I answer most certainly, yes, and there teach the student its proper use, its advantages, its disadvantages, and endeavour to inculcate principles of honor into him by which his future life shall be guided, so that he may be enabled to command the confidence, as well as, the esteem of his fellow citizens, and also cause him to exercise, and direct his manipulative faculties, to the formation of a good, and well shaped cavity, and the introduction of a sound and solid filling. And if he finds it "together with all its paraphernalia," as no doubt he shall, a source of great assistance in the "work shop" where our writer deemed it most advisable to place it, use it, and even then put forth an effort to mould, to fashion, and to frame his thinking, and perhaps inventive faculties, so that he may in after life prove to be a blessing to mankind, as well as, a noble, and shining light to his profession.

PREPARATION OF THE MOUTH FOR ARTIFICIAL DENTURES.

BY JOHN LAUDER, L.D.S., D.D.S., MONTREAL.

It cannot be denied but that a large proportion of artificial dentures are not worn with perfect comfort. A good many are merely tolerated, and a fair proportion not used at all, but thrown aside as uncomfortable.

I propose in this paper to examine some of the causes which lead to misfits, and some of the precautions to be taken preparatory to their insertion.

I. PARTIAL SETS,

Demand more care and skill than full dentures, sufficient attention is not paid to the complete absorption of the gums and alveolus, and the remo-

val of salivary calculus in standing teeth. It is necessary to remove all tartar from the necks of the teeth ; but to secure a particularly good fit, where the tartar has accumulated to such an extent as to intrude upon and inflame the gums, I would remove it *some days before taking the impression* ; because if the impression is taken at the same sitting, sufficient time is not given for the subsidence of inflammation and the change which is sure to follow, and which is quite sure when it occurs after the set is inserted to alter the nice adaptation of the plate at the margins of the gums. In fact, where the gums are swollen in any case about the necks of the teeth, either from simple inflammation, the discharge of purulent secretion, etc., a few drops of equal parts of Fleming's Aconite, and Liniment of Iodine should be painted on the gums before taking the impression.

Care must be taken not to leave in loose teeth which would destroy any good fit in course of time. It may at times be allowable and perhaps preferable to leave a healthy root. No rule but the judgment of the Dentist can dictate. Of course any cavities in standing teeth should be filled and the patient instructed to use the most absolute cleanliness when wearing the set.

One very sound reason why a root should occasionally be left, is that after its removal the adjacent teeth change their position if the plate is not constantly worn : and if the plate should be left out for any length of time by reasons of illness or otherwise, even the articulation of these teeth with their lower antagonists is in a measure destroyed. A root may be often an invaluable retainer, healthy roots are no more liable to become diseased than before the crown was destroyed—that is, if the pulp was de: d. If left in they should be dressed down with the corundum wheel on the engine as for pivot teeth.

It is a custom in preparing for upper sets, where all the other teeth have to be removed, to sacrifice the cuspids in almost every case, even though they should be sound. Nature has implanted these teeth like the pillars of an arch to preserve the contour of the face. The length and the prominence of their roots show that they are specially adapted to preserve the shape of the face. I prefer to save them whenever possible, because they preserve this contour, and prevent the ugly falling of the face under the nostrils, where no artificial substitute ever can extend high enough to remedy the defect. Blocks of four can be obtained or carved to be fitted neatly in one section to the space between the cuspids. Of course it is

suppose, that these teeth are really worth preservation, and are of good enough structure to justify their retention. I have very often found this to be the case, and I may here say, that a set skillfully made in this way is worth a larger fee than the ordinary full upper set.

FULL SETS. UPPER OR LOWER.

As a general thing the root should be entirely removed when a single full set is to be inserted on atmospheric pressure. There may be circumstances in old people where springs could be used, and the healthy roots left. In the older countries of Europe, roots seem to last better than here, and the pulp cavities are often opened, filled with gold, and may remain for many years; but a perfect fitting set cannot be thus made, as nature effects the ultimate dislodgment of the roots, and as they are ejected they cause the plate to loosen.

There may be special reasons, such as ill-health--when all healthy roots should be retained. Ordinary cases are treated in an ordinary way: but take mouths where there is a great protusion and excess of the alveolus with a short lip. No matter how thoroughly the mouth heals it is not probable that the absorption will be sufficient to allow of the insertion of *gum teeth* at any time. There may be cases where the alveolus has absorbed so little at the upper part *under the nostrils* that the lip does not recede at this point, and plain teeth may be used; but the larger proportion turn out quite the reverse, and while the bone changes but little at the lower front, a deep absorption results just where it is most noticed, and just where no substitute can be applied on account of the shortness of the lip, which would expose any vulcanite placed over front teeth. To forestall this difficulty in such a case I would prefer after the extraction of the teeth, to cut down the alveolus with alveolar or excising forceps, from the second bicuspid on both sides towards the front: dissecting the gum if necessary, and cutting both inner and outer plates as well as removing the transverse processes and adjacent sockets. The result must be that the absorption is greater, and the mouth a better shape eventually than if all the sockets, &c., were left to the slow and natural process of change.

Another alternative may be resorted to in some cases. If the roots of the ten teeth can be preserved in a healthy condition by excision and dressing down, and plugged: and then plain teeth adapted over these, with gum molar blocks or wings behind, the difficulty may be overcome.

The *den sapientiæ* ought to be extracted invariably, they are no sort

of use in any case, and ninety times out of a hundred if left, only involve the loss of suction and the renewal of the set at some future time.

The question of retaining roots has provoked a good deal of discussion in England. It is held there that by their removal you destroy the shape of the face, as well as the alveolar ridge. As I said in a previous part of this paper, there may be special cases where the retention of healthy roots is desirable and even preferable: but it seems a fact that roots do not remain as healthy in America, as in Europe, and that we cannot follow the practice here as indiscriminately; and even those who advocate in Europe their retention, admit in many cases that any artificial substitute can only be temporary, placed over roots: that the time must come when they will cause trouble, and that their extraction has at last to be resorted to. Yet there are more serious arguments against their retention. If patients have to wear artificial teeth at all, the earlier they become accustomed to the greater bulk of gum teeth and vulcanite, the better will the plate be worn. Besides a plate worn over roots has no lasting comfort. It is also always exposed to fracture over the roots as the roots elongate. Another objection may be offered, viz., that neuralgic pains in the head, nausea, and bad breath are frequently present when roots are retained. Obscure pains in the head may be often traced to this cause.

After extraction where roots have been ulcerated and pus has discharged, the patient should be instructed to rinse the mouth thoroughly several times a day with water as hot as it can be borne, and indeed the hot water after extraction, used frequently, is one of the most useful applications to reduce inflammation and tenderness.

After a couple of days of this treatment I would recommend an astringent wash of Pyrethrum Root.

Where the patient has been chloroformed, I recommend a Turkish Bath, as tending to cleanse the system of its influence.

THE NEW DEPARTURE.

BY C. H. WELLS, L.D.S., COWANSVILLE, QUE.

Would you permit me space in your Journal to refer to the merits of gutta-percha and silex compounds as temporary filling, having read

several articles entitled the "New" departure, it strikes me that it is merely the revival of an "old" one, but it may be none the less valuable. My experience with this material although partially accidental has been very favorable within the last three weeks. I have examined sixteen of these "temporary" fillings, which have stood intact from six to thirteen years and are to-day in as good condition as the time they were inserted. One particular case is that of Mr. C. S. Boright, of Sweetsburg. Thirteen years ago he came to have several teeth filled, among the rest was a left second superior molar, with a cavity in the crown, which was in so bad a condition that I was doubtful of being able to save it. It was a mere shell; so frail that it would have been impossible to fill it well with gold. The pulp was inflamed, I amputated a part of the latter; wiped out the cavity with carbolic acid, and capped with oxychloride of zinc and filled with a gutta-percha preparation. The patient was asked to return within six weeks if all was well. He would not, however have it touched; and I recently examined it and found it as good as the day it was inserted except that it was worn a little in the centre. *The walls of the cavity are covered to their very edge as hermetically as when the filling was inserted.*

I find that the gutta-percha and silex filling answers beautifully in the incisors, where the dentine is decayed to such an extent as to leave the enamel so thin that nothing but a plastic filling can be well inserted. I prefer to restore the contour with this filling than with gold. I would do for my patient what I would like to have done for myself or my child in a like case: that I would prefer to insert this filling and renew it if even necessary, rather than have an ugly gold one showing. I use a piece of white paper in some cases between the enamel and the filling, but generally the filling alone.

There is also another class of cavities in which I consider this filling unexcelled: those peculiarly chalky white teeth with frail structure, extremely sensitive and in the mouths of people of delicate constitutions—those high-strung nervous people, whom you can scarcely approach. There is no affectation about them either; they cannot help their nervousness and sensibility. Now it is far better to use the gutta-percha and silex filling here than metal; even if it is temporary. But if Dr. Flagg finds it a *permanent* filling, or thinks it is so because it has stood thirty years in his experience, I am more disposed to think him honest than careless, and that others who doubt it have not been as careful as the Dr. in their manipulations.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"AMERICAN DIPLOMAS IN CANADA."

My attention has just been drawn to an article under the above caption in the "Missouri Dental Journal," which is professedly based on statements made in an editorial article in the "Evening Recorder" (Brockville,) of 15th March last.

When the proprietors of the "Missouri Journal" are as well acquainted with the utter unreliability of the statements of the "Recorder," on matters Dental, as are the Dental profession in this Province, they will doubtless accept them with something more than the proverbial "grain of salt."

For both, the ability, and the disposition, to "misstate" and "misrepresent," the Editor of the "Recorder" is certainly entitled to front rank among the members of the "fourth estate" in this country, and the article in question, which is before me as I write, is one of his happiest efforts in that direction.

As the writer in the "Missouri Journal" has written under an evident misapprehension, he will doubtless be pleased to learn the facts which are briefly as follows:—

1st. There are now eighteen Graduates of American Dental Colleges, members of the Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario. Of these twelve passed the examination here subsequent to graduation, and five were Licentiates when they received the American Degree.

2nd. No Graduate of any American College has applied for examination who was not born and educated here, and had studied Dentistry in Ontario, under the Law and regulations then in force.

3rd. No Graduate of [an American Dental College has applied for examination before our Board, but has received our degree of L. D. S. and with it the legal right to practice Dentistry in this Province.

It is true, that three of them failed on their first attempt, but after another year's careful study succeeded, one of them receiving the silver medal at last examination.

4th. No Graduate of any American College has ever been refused admission to our examination, nor has any been subjected to any examination otherwise than in common with our students.

In view of these facts, the alleged "dissatisfaction of the American Colleges" can scarcely be considered as based on any sufficient foundation.

If it is urged that we should not subject their graduates to an examination, we reply that we know of no respectable American College which is sufficiently reckless to grant its Diploma to an individual, without examination, simply on his producing a Diploma from some other Institution. And quite right they are. And quite right we think, are the Directors of our College when they pursue a similar course. In fact, our College is the more liberal, for under certain conditions the Candidates are admitted to an examination without attendance on Lectures, while they, the American Colleges, all profess to require attendance during at least one term.

Nor are we less liberal than our American brethren in other respects. In no State so far as we have been able to ascertain, where there exists laws controlling the practice of Dentistry, can a Canadian practitioner, unless a graduate of an American College, legally enter upon practice without first going before the properly appointed Board, and demonstrating by examination his qualification.

Nor is the "Act" proposed by the New York State Society, a copy of which is now before me, much more liberal, notwithstanding some pretty "tall talking" on the subject of our illiberality by some of our Western New York friends. Let it be distinctly understood that we do not complain of this. On the contrary, we think it eminently proper that every country should fix its own standard of professional qualifications. What we do complain of, however, is that we are accused of illiberality for exacting precisely the same conditions as are required of us by our would-be mentors.

But it has been further objected that the terms of our "Act" excludes all but "British subjects," while the charge of exclusiveness does not come with a very good grace from a people whose commercial policy towards Canada, has, for many years, been exclusive to the very verge of prohibition. The most effective reply to such a charge is the fact, that the Ontario Board has not only examined, but admitted to membership and to practice, those who were not "British Subjects" but who were "American citizens to the manor born," and they will doubtless do so again when the opportunity occurs.

It is much to be regretted, that the cordiality and good feeling existing between the members of the Dental profession on either side of the line, should be endangered by the unintentional misrepresentation of the position and action of the Board of Directors of the Royal College of

Dental Surgeons of Ontario, by some American Dental Journals. May we hope they will take the same pains to correct them.

Our Annual Announcement is usually issued about the first of August. Any of our professional friends across the border, who are really desirous of obtaining correct information as to Dental matters in Ontario, will I am sure, be cheerfully supplied with a copy on application to Dr. J. B. Willmott, Secretary of the Board, Toronto.

Apologizing for the length of this communication permit me to subscribe myself a

CANADIAN.

“THE NEW DEPARTURE” IN FILLING TEETH.

In our last issue we published a report of “the New Departure” proceedings in the Odontological Society; and have pleasure in giving space to the following letter from Dr. Flagg.

106 N. 11th Street, Philadelphia.

April 13th, 1878.

MY DEAR SIR,

Accompanying this I send you a copy of the “Stenographic report” of my New York effort for the establishment of some new “Basal Principles” for practice.

Before publishing, the report has been much *shortened*, as considerable material was of a purely *personal nature* between the gentlemen of the Odontological and myself, but the rest (all that is of general interest) is published just as it was spoken, and therefore the expressions of opinion are in no wise altered.

If you will do me the favor to peruse it, you will see that many things your March correspondent makes me say, are naturally very much more what *he thought* I said than what I *did* say! I *desired* that a short-hand reporter should be present. I thank you however, for having published even that which you had, for it will keep the ball rolling.

It was at Prof. Townsend's suggestion that I commenced the systematic investigation as to the merits and *demerits* of amalgam, but I did not say that it was at his suggestion that I introduced my “trial fillings.” That was merely *my way* of beginning the work.

When I was, incidentally, upon "conduction" as a quality liable to increase electrical action, I said that, "for non-conduction in our practice gutta-percha was A 1. Amalgam 2, and Tin 3 of our *reliable* filling materials," this *excluded* from this list, the "Zinc Plastics" which though lower in conductivity than amalgam are not *yet* (any of them) reliable fillings, and the *zinc chlorides* eminently unreliable, though eminently useful.

Article VI. "I have never removed, &c., &c. "That is my record!" is to say the least a very funny record for so *careful* a man as I! don't you think so? I really think you will find *my* Article VI. a much more satisfactory "report," and *hope* you may regard it as well worthy *much thought*—I certainly have given a great deal to it.

When I am made to say that "a poor gutta-percha filling is better than a good gold one!" I can only hope that my past record will shield me, but when I make the *peculiarly qualifying* condition "*in its proper place*," and only require the *proper place* to pertain to the gutta-percha, then I think I have a position as strong as the other would be ridiculous. But so it goes, I think it will come out "all right" as you good Canadians say.

I sympathize with you in many of your views. I know as fully as you do, the hindrance which our journals, as conducted, are to the progress of our profession. I know the farce of *years of study instead of thorough examinations*, and I am openly and strongly upon the side of "eligibility for graduation," being "ability to stand respectably under a *thorough impartial and fair* examination, fair to the candidate, fair to the public, and fair to our profession—*That's what we want*."

With kind regards, I remain truly yours.

J. FOSTER FLAGG.

PROCEEDINGS OF DENTAL SOCIETIES.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF DENTAL SURGEONS OF ONTARIO.

MEETINGS OF LICENTIATES AND OF THE DENTAL SOCIETY.

The Meeting of licentiates took place for the purpose of electing a Board of seven Directors for the ensuing two years, and was held at the

Canadian Institute, commencing at two o'clock in the afternoon. There was a numerous attendance of members of the profession, and considerable interest appeared to be manifested in the proceedings.

Dr. Chittenden, President of the Board, was appointed chairman, and also to act as returning officer. It was decided that the vote be by ballot, and that a majority of the votes cast be required to secure an election.

Mr. Harvey moved, seconded by Mr. Bowes, "That before proceeding with the election, the Secretary be requested to report the proceedings of the Board during the past two years." Carried.

Mr. J. B. Willmott read the report of the Directors for the two years ending July 16th, 1878, as follows:—

Immediately after the election on July 17th, 1876, the Directors elect met and organized by electing officers as follows:—President, C. S. Chittenden; Secretary, J. B. Willmott; Treasurer, H. T. Wood; Registrar, C. P. Lennox; C. W. R. Biggar was appointed Solicitor. In addition to the ordinary routine business several very important matters have engaged the attention of the Board. The first of these was the complete organization of the School of Dentistry and the revision of the curriculum prescribed for students. The first was attained by the passage of By-law No. 15, as published in the announcement for 1876-7. The latter involved serious consideration, and resulted in amending By-law No. 7, so as to shorten the term of pupilage to two years and to require of all students attendance on two full courses of lectures in the school established by the Board. At the first meeting an effort to enforce the provisions of the Dental Act was made by appointing Wm. Smith, detective, as prosecutor on behalf of the Directors. During the two years since elapsed he has successfully carried through a number of prosecutions for violation of provisions of the Act respecting dentistry. In December of 1876, the Solicitor of the Board drew attention to the fact that the statutes of Ontario were then being consolidated, and if there had been found any defects of detail in the working of our Act which required amending, such amendments could be secured much more readily at that time than at any future time. After consultation with the President, a special meeting of the Board was called, and the solicitor instructed to embody in a draft the amendments with which you are doubtless now familiar. The matter was then entrusted to the Solicitor and the Secretary, and all that we asked, with trifling and unimportant exceptions, was granted by the Legislature. We have now, we believe, the best Dental Act in the world, and one which can be very easily enforced. Those provisions providing for an examination for a degree, which shall be wholly a degree of merit, we hope to see taken advantage of by all the progressive members of the College, a by-law having been passed to give effect to the section. A good deal of feeling having been manifested by our American friends because they were opposed to be precluded from practice in Ontario, not being British subjects, the opinion of our Solicitor has been taken as to whether they could be admitted to examination. That opinion is to the effect that though none but British subjects who have complied with the requirements of the law could demand examination, there is nothing to prevent the Board from specifying conditions on which other than British subjects might be admitted. The Directors being of opinion that the

interests of the profession would be advanced by identifying it with the American Dental Association—an organization composed of delegates from the American Dental Colleges. State, District, and other Dental Societies, have resolved to send a delegate to the meeting to be held at Niagara Falls, on August 6th, 1878, and have named the President, Dr. Chittenden, to represent the College at that meeting. During our term seventeen persons have applied for license without examination under the provisions of the Act; those have been granted, and so far as we are aware none of this class are now unlicensed. A subject which has from time to time given trouble again came up during last winter. There were in practice at the time our Act was passed a good many persons who had not been practising five years, and so could not take advantage of that clause. Many of these came forward during 1869-70, and passed the almost formal examination then demanded. A number have read up and successfully passed the more severe examination of later years. From some cause there were several who had not complied with the Act. The visits of the prosecutor to these parties waked them up to the fact that something must be done. Some left the country. One took another course, and petitioned the Legislature to amend the Act so as to respect the rights of those who were in practice in March, 1868. The Draft Act was prepared and ready for introduction when the Board sought an interview with the member having it in charge, and after long consultation the Act was withdrawn on consideration that three individuals, all known to the Board, who had any rights in the premises, were to be subjected to such an examination as would have been required in 1869. This was done and license granted—thus disposing, we hope, of all claims in respect of vested rights, no other cases being known to the Board. Forty-nine applications for examination have been received, and 33 have been passed, 18 having failed. In all, during the two years 53 licenses have been granted. In the ten years since 1868, 153 students have been articulated; of these about 23 have left the profession or the country, so that the average addition will not exceed 13. During the year just closed 14 have been articulated. Allowing for deaths and removals from the country the actual increase will not exceed 11 per annum. As will have been observed from the announcement for last year the Board have offered for competition among the students a gold and silver medal. Hoping for much good from the stimulus to study and application, these medals have again been offered for competition at the next examination. With a view of getting the best return for the moneys on hand in December, 1876, \$700 was invested on mortgage at nine per cent. Owing to the expense attending the loan and difficulty of obtaining first-class security the balance of funds on hand have been placed in the savings department of the Bank of Toronto at five per cent. half-yearly. Commencing our term with a balance to our credit of \$1,096.44, we have increased it during the two years to \$2,210.23, notwithstanding several exceptional expenses incurred during that time. At the meeting in March last, a Committee was appointed by the Board to report on the advisability of changing our by-law on matriculation. After thoroughly examining into the matter, they reported in favour of adopting the third-class teachers' certificate ensuing two years, with a view to the adoption at that time of the High School intermediate certificate as the standard of matriculation. This report has been received by the Board and laid over for the consideration of their successors.

J. B. WILLMOTT, Secretary.

The report was adopted.

The Treasurer of the Board reported that the receipts for the two years including the balance on hand, was \$4,287; the expenditure was \$2,777, leaving a cash balance on hand of \$1,510, besides a mortgage bond of \$700. The report was adopted.

The election of a Board of seven Directors was then proceeded with, the candidates being: Messrs. C. S. Chittenden, L. Teskey, J. G. Sinclair, F. G. Callender, W. C. Guthrie, J. B. Willmott, T. Rowe, D. V. Beacock, L. Clements, H. T. Wood, H. H. Nelles, T. J. Jones, C. P. Lennox, A. McKinney, N. Pearson, R. J. Husband, C. H. Bosanko, M. E. Snider, and R. G. Trotter.

Messrs. Bowes, Harvey and Fisher, were appointed to act as scrutineers and a vote was taken. The scrutineers reported that the ballot resulted in the election of Messrs. Chittenden, Teskey, Willmott and Wood. A second ballot was taken for the election of three others, the result being the choice of Messrs. Lennox, Clements and Rowe.

The Chairman accordingly announced that these seven gentlemen were duly elected as a Board for the ensuing two years.

The meeting adjourned.

Immediately afterwards the tenth Annual Meeting of the Ontario Dental Society was commenced, the President, Mr. C. H. Bosanko, in the chair.

The President, in a few remarks, congratulated the Society on the large gathering of members, and expressed the hope that the proceedings would result with benefit to all.

The minutes of the last Annual Meeting were read and confirmed.

The following licentiates were elected members of the Society:—Messrs. G. H. McMichael, London; A. Lough, Millbrook; W. R. Nobbs, Selkirk; F. B. Coulter, Strathroy; D. Watson, Brussels; C. D. Workman, Glenvale.

The election of officers for the ensuing year then took place, the result being as follows:—President, T. J. Jones, St. Catherines; Vice-President, W. C. Guthrie, Toronto; Secretary, J. G. Sinclair, Hamilton; Treasurer, M. A. Snider, Toronto, (re-elected). The officers elect having been introduced, thanked the Society for the honour conferred upon them.

The Business Committee reported the arrangements which they had made for conducting the meeting, and the report was adopted. Messrs. Guthrie, Harvey and Fisher, were appointed members of this Committee for the ensuing year, and it was decided that they also form the Finance Committee.

The Society rose till eight o'clock.

The Society re-assembled at eight o'clock, when the President elect, Mr. Jones, was introduced and took his seat.

Dr. Willmott said that in order to induce students to strive for higher attainments than merely those required to pass, the Dental College had offered a gold and a silver medal, to be awarded to the two highest candidates at the examination for diplomas. This examination took place in March, and the presentation of the medals was to be made that night. He had much pleasure in announcing that Dr. J. George Hodgins, Deputy Minister of Education, was present, and would take part in the presentation. Mr. Willmott then related briefly the history of the Society and the College. When the Society was organized ten years ago there was no law regarding the practice of dentistry, and every one did almost as he pleased in this respect. Consequently, the standard was a very low one. But a change took place with the organization of the Society. A regular course of study was adopted, and all wishing to practice the profession were subject to an examination before being admitted as licentiates. Other steps in advance were made, and in 1876 the College was opened. The result of the last examination bore testimony to the efficiency of the institution, which was now beginning to bear fruit. He concluded by presenting the gold and silver medallists, Messrs. David Watson and G. N. McMichael, respectively, to the Deputy Minister of Education.

Dr. Hodgins, in handing these gentlemen their medals, congratulated them on the success which had attended their studies, and hoped that it would stimulate them to further pursuits in their profession.

Prof. Stewart introduced the faculty honour men, viz:—Messrs. Watson, McMichael and W. B. Colter. The first named was presented with a gold medal, and the other two received certificates of honour.

Dr. Hodgins then addressed the Society. He felt somewhat at a loss among them, as he had very little information concerning either the College or Society. But in person having an interest in education, he could not but be pleased with what had been said in regard to the efficiency of the College and the record of the Association. Dentistry was an old art; we read of it being practised by the ancient Egyptians, and it was not unknown among other people of long ago. But, although it was so old an art, it was a remarkable fact that very little progress had been made in it up to about twenty-five years ago. From that time eminent men devoted their time and attention to dentistry, the result

being that numerous discoveries and improvements had been made in the practice of it. He referred to the dental exhibits at the Centennial as evidence of the rapid progress made in the science—for dentistry could now justly be termed a science—and said these specimens were of much value to the profession, and would greatly assist one in the study of dentistry. He hailed with great satisfaction the establishment on a sound basis of the Dental College, and hoped that those connected with it, and in fact all dentists in the Province, would apply themselves to the prosecution of special departments in the science, with a view to a diffusion of information concerning it. If the Society at their future Annual Meetings would make recognitions for pursuits in this line, so as to excite a greater interest in the profession, he felt sure there would be benefit to all in the information one would impart to the other.

Dr. Rowe read a paper on deciduous teeth. He referred to the general prevalence of disease in deciduous teeth, and the difficulty experienced in its treatment. There were a few points in connection with the treatment that should almost be universally taken into consideration, viz. :—The general condition of the teeth; the state of the tooth or teeth to which especial attention had been directed; and the age, and in many cases the health of the patient, never forgetting the fact that masticators were quite as necessary for the child as for the adult, and that the lost natural organs could not be replaced with artificial substitutes. The writer went on to refer to the mode in which he usually treated diseased temporary teeth, and pointed out several objections to premature extraction.

Considerable applause followed the reading of the paper, which was then discussed by the members, several of them related their experience in the treatment of temporary teeth. Numerous causes were assigned for decay in these teeth, the principal being: (1) eating food in a pulpy state; (2) want of pure air; (3) an over-quantity of blood in the head, causing too much heat; (4) neglect in taking children to the dentist; (5) bad blood; (6) bad food and over-eating, and (7) premature development.

The discussion ceased at ten o'clock, when the Society rose until nine this morning.

SECOND DAY'S SESSION.

The first feature of yesterday's meeting was the address of the retiring

President—Dr. C. H. Bosanko, in which he said that in that paper which was called the address of the retiring President, there was such latitude for ventilating ideas which might make the paper both long and uninteresting, that he was almost at a loss what to do. For instance, he might take advantage of his position to bore them with a history of dentistry in America, but that would not please them, when a much more elaborate and complete one might be purchased for a small sum. Again, he might read a history of the science in Ontario, the compiling of which would involve a great deal of labour, and from its incompleteness would prove a failure. He might also write a history of dentistry in his own county, that again, he was sure would neither interest nor edify many of his hearers. He thought it better, therefore, to confine himself for the few minutes during which he proposed to occupy their time, to the consideration of three or four of the leading questions, which he thought would be of interest to every one of them. Perhaps he might be pardoned if at this point he referred to what he had proposed to himself a year ago viz, the compiling and introduction of a constitution and by-laws for the better government of this Association; his reason, however, for not doing so was that as they met but once a year, and then only for about a day and a half, there seemed a probability of their being thrown out through fear of too much time being lost in discussing and adopting them. Yet he was still of opinion that there was great need of something which might be depended upon as an authority in many cases which might come up in the business of this meeting. Another matter which he considered of vital importance to the interests of dentistry, and which had evidently been overlooked by those asking for them, which was that there was nothing in the Dental Act, or in any of the amendments to it which gave them a legal right to call dentistry a profession; what he advocated was that they should have a clause in the Act which would entitle them when giving evidence in court as *dentists*, to the same fee as would a graduate in medicine or a Provincial Land Surveyor. He contended that while the law had given them such protection as it had given to druggists, it had not allowed them the same fees as it would a doctor or a Provincial land surveyor. They all knew the powerful influence of the law, having had an example of it the other day in Montreal, when nothing under Heaven would have prevented those men from attempting to walk the streets, but the unearthing of a forgotten and almost obsolete Statute; and as he considered it a very great task to make dentistry take a place as a liberal profession, while the law of the land said it was not,

he would strongly recommend that at their next application to Parliament, for any amendment, they would not fail to attach a clause to that effect. Again, their Educational Institutions should not be forgotten, first among which he would notice their offices and libraries, which should be generously supplied with all the text-books having reference to dentistry, for the benefit of students and themselves. The College too, should be kindly remembered, as they had to look to it for much theoretical knowledge which the students had to receive. On the revival of the scheme, three years ago, he was sceptical as to its benefit to dentistry, and had he been at the meeting he would have opposed it as being premature. With regard to the advisability of the Board of Examiners being teachers in the Toronto School of Dentistry, it was not in the province of this paper to discuss; but he hoped when that question did come up for discussion, it would be in a meeting called for that purpose, and before a new Board should be nominated by the ghost of a man who had neither been sprinkled nor baptized. With regard to professional literature, he thought the profession should support and give it their countenance by subscribing to such serials. He felt satisfied that such publications had been a power for the dissemination of knowledge in the past, and that if they all worked together its power might be doubled many times.

Dr. Chittenden said he would like to make one or two remarks with regard to dentists being entitled to rank as professional men; in the matter of fees. He felt satisfied that a little agitation would place them on the same footing as land surveyors and others. He did not believe in the Association being hampered by by-laws or a constitution.

Dr. Bosanko remarked that there were certain rules already on the books which would govern the Society during the coming year.

A vote of thanks to the retiring President was moved by Mr. M. A. Snider, and seconded by Mr. J. Bowes, for which that gentleman briefly returned thanks, after which a paper on "The New Departure" was read by Dr. Chittenden. A long discussion ensued, in which Dr. Willmott and several other gentlemen took part.

The next paper read was on "Failure of Fillings," by Mr. J. G. Sinclair the discussion of which occupied the attention of the members till the meeting rose at noon.

The members re-assembled at 3 p.m. In the absence of the President, Mr. Jones, the chair was taken by the Vice-President, Mr. W. O. Guthrie,

Papers on "Air Chambers" by J. R. Dickson, and "Cohesive Foil and Leak Fillings," by C. P. Lennox, were read and elicited much discussion

The report of the Finance Committee was presented for adoption the remainder of the time up to 5.30 p.m. was occupied by the discussion of cases in Practice, etc., when the meeting adjourned.

Very few members were present last evening, most of them having been driven from the city by the intense heat, consequently there was no business transacted, with the exception of the report of the Finance Committee, when the meeting stood adjourned till the second Tuesday in September.

The annual examination of the Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario was concluded on March 7th, 1879, when the following gentlemen were admitted members of the College, and received License to practice Dentistry in Ontario, viz :—

Edward Hart, Brockville, Faculty Gold Medallist, and College Silver Medalist ; A. S. Vogler, St. Thomas, College Gold Medalist ; W. A. Brownlee, Orangeville, Honor man ; G. C. Davis, London ; C. H. Pearson, Berlin ; C. B. Hayes, Brockville ; H. H. Manning, Peterboro' ; Wm. Brace, Smith Falls ; H. J. Broadfoot, Port Hope ; C. L. Pearson, Berlin ; C. H. Hills, Hamilton ; G. E. Hanna, Kemptville ; R. A. Harvey, Orillia ; C. Fitzsimmons, St. Thomas ; W. Cartwright, Stratford ; T. A. M. Murtry, Port Hope.

Certificates of License were also granted to M. Kenney, Tilsonburg on time examination, and to J. J. Masson, Drummondville, on time application.

During the Session there have been in attendance on Lectures, at the Dental School in Toronto, 23 students ; 14 of these went up for final examination, and 12 of them were successful.

In a few cases the parties are not of age, and the License is consequently withheld for a time.

The Examiners' report the recent examination as, on the whole, the most satisfactory yet held, a result due to the fact that owing to the raising of the matriculation, a more intelligent and better educated class of men are entering the Dental Profession.

The following attended Lectures this Session :

E. Hart, Brockville, O. ; A. Vogler, St. Thomas, O. ; W. A. Brownlee, Orangeville, O. ; C. Hays, Brockville, O. ; C. L. Pearson, Berlin, O. ; W. H. Manning, Peterboro, O. ; R. A. Harvey, Orillia, O. ; W. J. Broad-

foot, Port Hope, O.; F. E. Crysler, Niagara, O.; W. Cartwright, Stratford, O.; T. A. McMurtry, Port Hope, O.; Geo. C. Davis, London, O.; J. F. Taylor, E. Richardson, Hamilton, O.; H. A. Wilson, Wardsville, O.; J. D. Shunk, Toronto, O.; T. Collins, London, O.; H. B. Weagant, Morrisburg, O.; J. Mills, Brantford, O.; Gordon.

SELECTIONS.

THE ENGLISH DENTAL ACT.

Sir John Lubbock deserves well of those who are unfortunate enough to have bad teeth, for trying to shield them against quacks. He has introduced a Bill which provides that no one shall have the right to call himself a dentist who is not properly qualified, and it is to be hoped that there will be no serious objection to its passing.

In this country we have so great a respect for individual liberty, that we usually shrink from imposing limits upon it, but we do think it is rather too much that any blockhead should be allowed to pretend that he is competent to undertake a dentist's very complicated and difficult duties. Of course, if a man chooses to have his teeth attended to by the first person who professes to know all about their ailments, nobody can prevent him; but the State can prevent imposters from conveying the impression that they have knowledge and skill which they do not really possess. And it is surely high time that the power was exercised. An ignorant fellow who, because he has failed in other callings, thinks he may as well have a brass plate with the word "Dentist" put upon his door, may inflict an incredible amount of unnecessary torture, and do mischief to thousands which can never be remedied. We may be quite sure that it is not from respectable dentists that objection to the proposal would come; but in any case the Legislature is bound to think only of the public interests. The poor would especially benefit by an arrangement which would enable them to avoid practitioners altogether unfit for their work. (*The Graphic*, London, Eng.)

ART AND ABSTRACTION.

The San Francisco *News Letter* tells the following story of one of the most prominent dentists of the city, who is also noted for his skill as an

angler. Recently he was called upon to extract a tooth of unusual size from the mouth of a lady. Her entrance had disturbed him in a reverie about the approaching trout season, and even while inspecting the patient's mouth he was absently engaged in his own mind in a tussle with a ten-pounder in the middle of Lake Merced. After gazing on the decayed molar, which was firmly set in the jaw, he went to his instrument drawer and pulled out a pair of tweezers nine inches long, which he hid up his sleeve. "Don't be afraid, madam," he said, vacantly; "I've got you well hooked, a hundred yards of line and a double gut leader, and I'll kill you within thirty minutes if I have to drown you in the tules!" The wild, weird shriek which followed the speech was heard a block off, and the next door neighbors thought that the doctor was vivisectioning a parrot. Then there was a deathly silence. The lady had fainted. When she came to again the dentist was applying smelling-salts to her nose, and her tooth was out. He never knew what scared that lady so badly until after she had left, and when his assistant told him he would not believe it, until he found himself stringing false teeth on a gut-line and fixing trout-hooks into a set of false teeth. How often do art and abstraction go hand in hand.

BOOKS FOR REVIEW.

MECHANICAL DENTISTRY.—A practical treatise on the construction of the various kinds of artificial Dentures, comprising also useful formulas, tables and receipts for gold plate, clasps, solders etc. By Chas. Hunter, Mechanical Dentist Philadelphia, Lindsay and Blakiston, 1878.

This book is written by an English mechanical dentist—whom, we presume is not an operator. For many years there has been this division of labor in England, that mechanical dentists earn good livings at their speciality, receiving the models from regular practitioners who may never manufacture a set of teeth in their office. Now with all fairness, and remembering that this book is not written for this continent, we do not see that Mr. Hunter's volume was wanted. It is evidently written by a practical man, but by one who either does not know everything about this branch, or has not the art of writing all he knows. Mr. Oakley Coles' work on Dental Mechanics published by Lindsay and Blakiston is a better work of its kind. Mr. Hunter's has many faults; while there is nothing new in it. This is not generally the criticism applied to English contributions to dental literature, —such as the works of the two Tomes, Salter Heath, Richardson &c.

ON HARE LIP AND CLEFT PALATE. *By Francis Mason, F.R.C.S., Surgeon and Lecturer on Anatomy at St. Thomas Hospital, etc. 66 Illustrations, London, J. & A. Churchill, 1877.*—This work by a pupil and former colleague of the late Sir Wm. Ferguson, whose confidential assistant he was for twelve years, is of great interest. It treats concisely of the various forms of hare lip and cleft palate. The second division of the work, that on cleft palate will of course—be more interesting to Dentists, though Mr. Mason rather depreciates mechanical apparatus, and leaves his readers entirely in the dark as to the modern improvements in obturators, etc. This might consistently have been added, as experience proves that in a fair proportion of cases of congenital cleft, mechanical apparatus has been preferable to any surgical operation. The work, however, is valuable as a study to the Dentist.

PHYSIOLOGY. *Preliminary Course Lectures by Jas. T. Whittaker, M.A., M.D., Professor of Physiology and Clinical Medicine in the Medical College of Ohio. Illustrated, Cincinnati, Ohio. Robert Clarke & Co., 65 West 45 Street, 1879. Price \$1.75, 272 pages.*

There is excuse for amplification in a course of lectures. The author of this little work has perhaps indulged too much in the literature and romance of physiology to put within its covers the gist of a physiological course; but it is interesting reading for non-students. Dr. Whittaker's book ought to popularize this special study, for after all, the more palatable one can make a science the more easily it is digested.

TREATMENT AND PREVENTION OF DECAY OF THE TEETH. *By Robert Arthur, M.D., D.D.S. Second edition, 50 illustrations, 216 pages. Philadelphia, J. B. Lippincott & Co., 1879.*—Anything from the mind and pen of Dr. Arthur is sure to command respect. His name has long been associated with a more conservative treatment and prevention of decay than generally prevailed. In the present work he has undertaken to show:

1st, That all the teeth of every individual, with rare exceptions, may be preserved.

2nd, That decay of the teeth may be *prevented* from occurring at places where it is most destructive and requires the most difficult, painful and expensive operations for its arrest.

3rd, That all the attention necessary for the certain preservation of the teeth, provided it is given in time is of simple character, and quite within the ability of any dentist of ordinary acquirements.

4th, *That the pain usually attending dental operations may be entirely voided.*

5th, That, as the operations required are of simple character, the cost of the preservation of the teeth will be diminished.

In the present edition, the author while still adhering to the general principles involved in his method, "because aware of certain defects of detail which formed very serious objections to their adoption" which have however, "been entirely obviated during the past five years."

Dr. Arthur's life-work is certainly commendable; and few will dispute the soundness of his theories; but the question of its practicability arises in a country where as yet the dentist is merely regarded as an operator instead of an adviser. Dr. Arthur's views if impressed upon us as a profession, ought to do something towards serious thought in this direction. But this needs not only an education of parents, but of physicians as well. Yet there is no reason a dentist in his office should not impress the facts and theories of the author upon his patients.

We hope the book will have a large sale in Canada.

AMERICAN HEALTH PRIMERS. *Edited by W. W. Keen, M.D., Fellow College Physicians, Philadelphia, Lindsay & Blakiston, Publishers, Phil.* We earnestly hope for a large circulation of these primers, not only over the border, but in the Dominion as well. The American men of to-day are not as good a stock as their ancestors who came out in the "Mayflower"; while the women are the prettiest, sickliest, most fascinating invalids of any women in the world. The tide of European emigration will yet make the American a nonentity in his own country, unless such advice as these primers are intended to give, reaches the ear and heart of the people. If the people went through such a curriculum, quack medicine and domestic dosing would be below par. The popularity of the style, the avoidance of technical terms, the reputation of the authors and the object in view will commend them largely. The following is the list already in press to be issued about once a month.

I. Hearing, and how to keep it. II. Long life, and how to reach it. III. Sea Air and Sea Bathing. IV. The Summer and its Diseases. V. Eyesight, and how to care for it. VI. The Throat and the Voice. VII. The Winter and its Dangers. VIII. The Mouth and the Teeth. IX. Our Homes. X. The Skin in Health and Disease. XI. Brain work and overwork.

Other volumes are in preparation, including the following subjects:—

"Preventible Diseases," "Accidents and Emergencies," "Towns we Live in," "Diet in Health and Disease," "The Art of Nursing," "School and Industrial Hygiene," "Mental Hygiene," etc., etc. They will be 16mo in size, neatly printed on tinted paper, and bound in paper covers, Price, 30 cts; flexible cloth, 50 cts.

SCRIBNER FOR APRIL. The April SCRIBNER has several conspicuous personal attractions, three of the illustrated papers being devoted respectively to "Henry Bergh and his Work," "John Ericsson" and "Actors and Actresses of New York," all these covering, what is for the magazines, almost untrodden ground. The paper on Ericsson is by Col. W. C. Church, of the *Army and Navy Journal*, and is, singularly enough, the only authentic sketch of this remarkable engineer (no less remarkable as a man) which has appeared in popular form. Among the topics treated are the precocity of the young engineer, who, in the depths of a pine forest, at the age of nine, invented, among other contrivances, a ball-and-socket joint upon hearing one mentioned, at the age of thirteen was put in charge of 600 men in the survey of the Gothic Ship Canal, with an attendant to carry a stool to raise him to the height of his leveling instruments; his career in the army and in England; competition with George Stephenson for best locomotive; superior speed of Ericsson's *Novelty* engine; invention of the steam fire engine and of the caloric engine; the invention of the screw propeller and how England lost Ericsson; the romantic story of the Monitors; the torpedo vessel, the *Destroyer*; his last invention, the solar engine (first complete description); character and personal habits. In interest and importance this paper is thought by the publishers to be not inferior to the one on Edison in the November number, which has been so popular both here and in England. It is fully illustrated.

The paper on "Henry Bergh and his Work" is largely anecdotal, and is written by C. C. Buel, and illustrated by Kelly and Muhman. The personal appearance and history of Mr. Bergh, his early interest in humane work, his dangerous and courageous fight against opposition of all kinds, the routine of his work, and his methods of carrying his points from part of the subject matter, while the sketches show Henry Bergh on duty, "Milking a Cow in the Street," "An Ambulance at Work," "The Bull-dog of the future," etc.

The paper on "Actors and Actresses of New York," by J. Brander Matthews, contains sketches of some of the best of the metropolitan

players, with drawings in character, by Abbey and Reinhart, representing John Brougham as *Sir Lucius O'Trigger*, Charles Coghlan as *Charles Surface*, Mrs. Gilbert as *Mrs. Candour*, and Harry Beckett, James Lewis, Mrs. Booth, Miss Jewett, Miss Claxton, Mr. Thorne and Mr. John Gilbert in other parts.

In the same vein is a short paper in the "Home and Society" department of the number entitled "H. M. S. *Pinafore* for Amateurs," with directions as to setting of stage, dressing of characters and cast of parts for this delightful and popular opera. Three drawings by Mr. Reinhart (one of Mr. Thomas Whiffen as *Sir Joseph Porter, K. C. B.*) are intended as suggestions towards the production of the piece by non-professionals. The writer concludes with a recommendation that part of the receipts of any such performance should be sent to Mr. Gilbert or Mr. Sullivan, whose addresses are given.

"In a Snailery," by Ernest Ingersoll, is a natural history paper on an out-of-the-way-subject, upon which Mr. Henry Marsh has expended some delicate engraving.

"The Stickeen River and its Glaciers." by Maj. W. H. Bell, describes the wonderful scenery of the perilous passage from Fort Wrangel to Glenora.

"The Measure of a Man," by William Page, the artist, is an account of his rediscovery of the ancient proportions of the perfect human figure, with diagrams in explanation of the theory.

The unillustrated material includes an unsigned paper, entitled "A Journey to a Political Convention" (the Cincinnati Convention, 1876), which may be read with interest in connection with Presidential forecastings; an essay by Rev. Dr. C. C. Tiffany on "The tendency of Modern Thought as seen in Romanism and Rationalism," the author finding in the antipodal systems a certain drift toward the same general method of thought; a short story by Miss Adeline Trafton, called "Fraülein," and another by Kristofer Jenson, a well-known Norwegian author, entitled "Half-witted Guttorm." written especially for the Magazine, and turned into English by Mr. Boyesen. "Falconberg," by the latter, comes to an end with this number. Mrs. Burnett's story of "Haworth's," reaches a sixth instalment. The poetry is contributed by R. H. Stoddard, Edna Dean Proctor, Elaine Goodale, Andrew B. Saxton, David S. Foster, Augusta Moore and Mary E. Bradley.

The departments are fuller than usual. In "Topics of the Time," Dr. Holland discussed "Some Thin Virtues." "Improving Politics,"

and "The Medical Profession and the State." In a "Communication," Rev. Augustus Blauvelt contributes some curious experience of his own towards the solution of the question, "Are our Insane Retreats inhuman?"

"Home and Society" contains the "*Pinafore* for Amateurs," already mentioned, "In Tea-cup Time," and "Duties of a Nurse." The reviews in "Culture and Progress" are a Cook's "Conscience" (a striking notice), "Drone on Copyright," a comparison of Black's "Macleod of Dare," and Hardy's "Return of the Native," etc., etc. "The World's Work" has descriptions of "Lighted Buoys," "The Pedo-Motor," "Stone Planing Machine," "Paper for Roofing Domes," "Butter-package for Express, etc., etc." "Bric-à-Brac" is considerably enlarged and has a *ballade*, some negro and Irish dialect, a satire on the decorative mania, etc., etc.

EDITORIAL.

END OF VOLUME IV.

This is the end of volume IV. Like the Millerites "last day" it has been a long time coming, but unlike that day, it has come. We have been taught a lesson, even in the attempt to publish a quarterly, which will not be forgotten, and by which future subscribers will profit. That is, that a dentist in active practice, and having other hobbies and horses to ride, is over-weighted in trying to *publish* as well as edit a journal. Yet this is no reason why it should become an advertising medium for any one depot, college or manufacturer, and it will not.

We propose now to secure a responsible publisher, well known in Canada, with whom subscribers and advertisers will have to deal. The whole responsibility of bringing out the Journal *regularly*—a very great drawback we must admit; all business correspondence, advertising and payment of subscriptions will be out of our hands. We can then give plenty of time to our legitimate work; the Journal will be better managed, and every body will be better pleased.

It will be a few months before the next number is issued. It will speak for itself.

FEES.—When in England two years ago, we found that the question of dental fees was pretty much settled in the same way as the question of recompense in any profession. No one scale of charges would be either

fair or honest. One dentist will fill a cavity for a shilling : another for nothing less than a guinea. The shilling man is looked upon as getting his proper fee : the guinea man as getting *his* proper fee. Just as one barrister will charge you a guinea for advice, for which another would charge you ten.

The best dentists never charge less than a guinea for extracting each tooth, destroying pulps and any and all similiar operations : also for consultations. In the artificial department, for one tooth on plate, from five guineas : for a full upper set, from twenty-five guineas.

OUR CANADIAN DENTAL COLLEGE. We had great pleasure lately in visiting the Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario, and seeing with our own eyes the advantage of such an institution in Canada, and the progress already made by the Students. A very attentive and gentlemanly class is on the roll, and without an exception, a credit to their teachers. Drs. Willmott and Teskey labor indefatigably, and at much sacrifice of personal and professional time and money. Dr. Teskey's microscopical collection prepared by himself since his return from his higher studies in Europe does him great credit. It would pay any Dentist in active practice, and who has not had the advantage of a college course, to attend even one Session. Of course the College is not the *summum bonum* that many might desire. Neither are any of its rivals on this continent. At any rate it is not a manufacturing establishment for titled conceit. Its aim is solid and its work will endure. Mr. Bosanko of Barrie, one of the Clinical Instructors gave an interesting clinic in gold filling while we were present.

DENTAL COLLEGES OVER THE BORDER.—From an address delivered before the American Academy of Dental Science on the 30th Oct., of last year, by Dr. Chas. W. Eliot, LL.D., President of Harvard, we learn that the movement in favor of higher qualifications in Dental Colleges is gaining ground. Dr. Eliot maintains that the American Colleges "set before the young men who do enter them much too low a standard"; complains that they do not demand a preliminary education : "No matter how ignorant and untrained a man may be, most dental schools are open to him. Three schools, two of which are by no means of the strongest sort, state in effect that a knowledge of the ordinary branches of an English education is necessary for admission. This statement is obscure ; but it probably means that candidates for admission

must be able to read, cypher and write." The Dr. then pays a deserved compliment to the high requirements of the Dentists Act in England; urges an "admission examination" at Dental Schools, and a longer period of study for the degree. "Two schools have very lately required three years study, and one other has given notice that it intends to make that demand. On the other hand, two schools offer their degree upon examination after attendance upon a lecture course of four months duration, without further inquiry into the candidates qualifications. He also objects to "the irrational division of the year into a fall term, a winter session and a spring term." "The Harvard Dental School stands alone in renouncing completely this division of the year, and carrying its instruction consecutively through the academic year from Oct., 1st, to July 1st. For the orderly and progressive treatment of Anatomy, Physiology and Chemistry, it is difficult to imagine a worse division of the Academic Year than that which has so long prevailed in American Medical and Dental Schools."

The Dr. then speaks out against the fraud of accepting five years practice instead of one year of study. "If a man can bring evidence that he has practised dentistry five years—no matter how ignorantly, he can obtain the degree of one of these schools in a single Session."

"Is not the public right in regarding the American Dental Diploma as small evidence of general culture? Is it always good evidence even of thorough acquaintance with dentistry?" The Dr. further pleads for a change in the system of examinations; and proposes the endowment of a number of the Colleges.

We regret that we have not space to print the whole of this interesting address. It has struck a key note which must have an influence upon the future of dental education. It fully corroborates impressions we have long held and often expressed as to Dental Colleges; and will no doubt, waken up the teachers as well as the taught.

"WITHOUT HIRE, GAIN OR HOPE OF REWARD."—The Quebec Board some time ago prosecuted a person for practising without a license, not only in the office of a licentiate but outside of it. The father of the Defendant swore in Court that his son, a lad on the shady side of thirty, was, and had been practising for him "without hire, gain or hope of reward," and that he (the father) had been personally responsible for actions for damages caused by his son. The Board lost the case. We call attention to the necessity of amending this among other clauses of

the Act. Why should any one be allowed to practise dentistry "without hire, gain or hope of reward," unless qualified to do so? No druggist can dispense poison unless he is licensed.

IN OUR MOTHER-LAND. On the 22nd of last July, the Dental act, whereby Dentists of the Great Britain and Ireland secure legal recognition and a professional status became law. After August of the present year it will prevent unqualified men from entering the profession. In conjunction with this we find the existing connection with the Royal College of Surgeons, the Board of Examiners for the Diploma in Dental Surgery of the College; the Dental Hospital of London and Medical School, the courses of Dental Lectures and the appointment of Dental Surgeons in the various Medical Hospitals of London, etc., the National Dental Hospital and College, the Liverpool Dental Hospital, various Dental Dispensaries and Dental Hospital throughout the Kingdom; such Societies as the Odontological Society of Great Britain; the Odonto-chirurgical Society of Scotland; the Students Society of the Dental Hospital of London; the Diploma in Dental Surgery obtained from the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland, &c. One can see from the character of the papers read before the Societies: the absence of wild speculations; the close alliance with medicine and surgery, at least a higher standard of education than has yet been hinted at on this continent. We do not believe it is possible at present for our American cousins to make such a curriculum compulsory as is required to obtain the diploma in Dental Surgery from the R. C. S. of England. Of late years a great deal of time and labor has been devoted to improving the professional standing of the profession, but the solid work of education has been going on without brag or ostentation, and those who get English diplomas go through a course of no ordinary character, both as to preliminary and final examination. British dentistry lacks a good deal in the operative and practical direction; but this is improving every day. Its standard of educational requirement at least, has no rival.

The Act passed last July, compels registration before the first of August of this year, and gives a privilege of "practising dentistry in any part of Her Majesty's Dominions." Of course this is an error so far as Ontario and Quebec are concerned, as our local legislation in this matter has precedence of legislation in England. Any Dentist anywhere can register before the first of August. This is surely more than democratic. The fee is £5, Dentists in Canada can be registered as colonial dentists;

our American cousins as foreign dentists. The License of Ontario and Quebec is recognized as qualifying for registration. The register is divided into three classes; 1st, dentists in Great Britain and Ireland engaged in practice at the passing of the act; 2nd, Colonial Dentists; 3rd, Foreign Dentists. The Registrar's address is W. J. C. Miller, Medical Council Office, 315 Oxford Street, London W. England, who will give all particulars required. A number of Canadian Dentists have already registered.

INSTRUCTING THE PUBLIC.—A subscriber has sent us a little pamphlet taken largely from the standard works upon dentistry, and which contains Goodsir's old theory of dental development. The dental germ is now known to be contemporaneous with the enamel germ, and by reference to the *later* editions of our standard works, our friend could have seen his mistake.

However, the point which we wish to make in alluding to the pamphlet is that which was announced in the first number of this Journal issued, and which has been consistently adhered to ever since, viz., that these pamphlets are objectionable if they are imposed upon the public as original, and used to advertise one dentist exclusively. As far back as 1868, we urged special means of instructing the public by introducing questions and answers in school books, by anonymous pamphlets, impersonal contributions in the press, public and private lectures, etc. We believe that the Quebec Board propose issuing a short form of instruction to be inserted in our school books. There can be no objection to dentists enlightening the public on dental questions, provided they do not plagiarize, or assume as their own, matter they have copied from text-books. It is very easy to instruct the public, and any legitimate means ought to be encouraged. Of course one ought to avoid any personal allusions, or personal advertisement, which would savor of self-praise. The small wits of our press would find therein food for weak wit, and the motives, perhaps quite disinterested might be misjudged.

If it is legitimate for Dr. Jones to lecture before the public on the Eye, why is it not proper for Mr. Brown, Dentist, to lecture on the Teeth? Let us all have as much scope as possible to instruct the public decently and professionally.

OBITUARY.

PROF. JOHN HUGH McQUILLEN, M.D., D.D.S.

SUDDENLY, on March 3, 1879, JOHN H. McQUILLEN, in the fifty-fourth year of his age.

Dr. McQUILLEN was born in Philadelphia, February 12, 1826. He was the son of Captain Hugh McQuillen, who served under Decatur during the war of 1812. The ancestors of his mother, Martha Scattergood, came to America with William Penn. He received his early education in the Friends' schools in Philadelphia, and at the age of sixteen entered as clerk in an importing house with the purpose of devoting himself to commercial pursuits. His tastes, however, inclined him to medicine, and after attaining his majority he commenced its study in the Jefferson Medical College, from which he graduated in 1852. Meantime he was also studying dentistry, and in 1853 he received the honor degree of D.D.S. at the first commencement of the Philadelphia College of Dental Surgery. In 1857 he was elected to the chair of operative dentistry and dental physiology in the Pennsylvania College of Dental Surgery, holding the position for one year, and relinquishing it to take the chair of General Anatomy and Physiology, which he resigned in 1862. In 1863, principally through the efforts of Dr. McQuillen, a charter was obtained for the Philadelphia Dental College, of which Institution he was made Dean and Professor of Physiology, retaining position until his death. In 1859 the publication of the Dental Cosmos was commenced, Dr. McQuillen became one of its editors, which relation was continued until his retirement in 1871.

Dr. McQuillen has been a frequent contributor to the literature of the profession from the first connection with it, and has held important positions in various dental societies, including the presidency of the American Dental Association, of the Pennsylvania State Dental Society, and of the Odontographic Society of Pennsylvania.

As an operator Dr. McQuillen was recognized as possessing more than average skill, supplemented by an earnestness and conscientiousness which were a guarantee of faithful service.

As a teacher he was enthusiastic and ambitious, labouring to the best of his ability to prepare those whom he instructed for the intelligent and successful practice of their vocation. Hundreds of the alumni of the institutions in which he taught will hear of his decease with sincere sorrow.

Dr. McQuillen was by nature an organizer. To his organizing faculty, as well as to his zeal, energy, and tact, the success of the Philadelphia Dental College is largely due, and it was these qualities which caused him to be recognized as a power in the profession at large. If ever any man was consecrated to the chosen work of his life, John H. McQuillen was. He devoted to the original organization of the American Dental Association, to its development and to the general educational interests of the Dental Profession, the best efforts of his life. Other men may be found of greater natural gifts, of larger attainments, and of more brilliancy, but none who have contributed more freely, more constantly, more unselfishly to the general good. And though he possessed personal gifts and graces which won the respect and esteem of a large circle of friends, professional and otherwise, who will hold his memory in affectionate remembrance; though he was courteous, genial, and kindly in spirit and manner; though he was hospitable to a fault, it was not to these qualities chiefly that he owed his position and his usefulness in the profession, but to a life devoted to its improvement and elevation. Considering his energy, his industry, his unselfishness, the worthiness of his aims, the work he has done, the influence of his example as an advocate of educational progress and reform in his profession—an influence which will be felt for good through many years to come—the sudden termination of his earthly career is a calamity, not alone to his family and personal friends, not alone to the institution of which he was the recognized head, but to the practitioners of dentistry wherever located, and especially to American dentists. His place will be difficult to fill; perhaps not in this generation will it be in all respects completely filled.

The sad side of the history is that he allowed his interest in the school with which he was associated, and the general interests of the profession as an organized body, to make exhausting and damaging drafts upon him, involving the sacrifice of time, money, practice, ease and pleasure. Had he brought the same ability, the same industry, the same energy, the same concentration, the same persistence to the accumulation of means by the practice of his profession, he might have left his family handsomely provided for. That he did not do so not only constitutes a cause of regret for their sakes, but calls for a substantial recognition of his valuable labors and services in the advancement of the dental profession in usefulness, self-respect, and public regard, and in strengthening fraternal courtesy and co-operation among its members.

Dr. McQuillen leaves a widow and four children, one of whom, Dr. Daniel Neall McQuillen, a graduate of the Philadelphia Dental College, has but recently engaged in practice. Mrs. McQuillen will receive the hearty sympathy of hundreds in the profession who have shared the hospitality of her home, and who will remember with what interest and kindness she received and ministered to her husband's friends.

The resolutions appended show the estimate in which Dr. McQuillen was held in his own city, and by his colleagues and pupils.

At a meeting of the dental profession, held at the Philadelphia Dental College, March 5, called with reference to the decease of Dr. John H. McQuillen, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted by a rising vote:

Whereas, Dr. J. H. McQuillen has been suddenly removed from among us by death, it becomes our privilege as well as our sad duty to make record of the event, and to express our estimate of his worth and our sense of the loss thus sustained; therefore,

Resolved, That Dr. McQuillen has been for many years so identified with the interests of the dental profession, and so earnest in their advancement, so indefatigable in his efforts in behalf of the elevation of the standard of education, of graduation, and of practice, that his death leaves no one man who in all respects fills the place thus made vacant;

That while as an operator he was gifted with more than ordinary ability; while as a teacher he was conscientious and earnest, his labors in the organization of the profession and in promoting its educational interests gave him marked pre-eminence;

That, more ready to serve than to be served, more solicitous for the advancement of the profession with which he was identified than personal advantage, he, indeed, too often ignored the latter in the effort to promote the former;

That a life devoted to the self-sacrificing service of his profession, and to the promotion of all plans having for their object its improvement, made him an example of concentration, of industry, and of persistent effort worthy of imitation;

That, while thus recording our appreciation of his professional attainments and labors, we desire also to express our affectionate remembrance of him as a genial, generous, sympathetic gentleman, and to tender to his bereaved family the assurance of our profound sympathy.

At a special meeting of the Faculty of the Philadelphia Dental College, held on Wednesday, March 5, 1879, the following preamble and resolutions were offered, and, after appropriate remarks by members of the Faculty, were adopted:

Whereas, The sad intelligence has reached us of the sudden death of Dr. John H. McQuillen, practically the founder of this institution, and its Dean since its establishment, sixteen years ago; and,

Whereas, It is fitting that we should place on record a testimonial of our high appreciation of his ability, industry, untiring zeal, and steadfast consecration to the interests of this school; therefore,

Resolved, That to his organizing faculty, his earnest efforts, and to his unselfish devotion to its interests, the Philadelphia Dental College owes to an extent not to be estimated, its successful career as an educational institution, and its high reputation both at home and abroad; trials, impediments, opposition—circumstances which operated as discouragements to others—only serving to stimulate him to fresh endeavor;

That in his death the dental profession has lost one who has done as much perhaps as any one man to elevate the standard of dental education and practice in this city, in this country, and to no little extent throughout the world; his consecration to the furtherance of all efforts which in his judgment would advance the interests of the dental profession having so won the confidence of his brethren as to command their recognition of him as an able and trustworthy leader;

That, appreciating his talents, his attainments, his labors, his earnestness and self-sacrificing spirit in all that concerned the interests of this school, we especially cherish the memory of his numerous manifestations of personal interest and kindly helpfulness;

That, with a copy of this expression of our appreciation, esteem, and affection, we tender to his widow and children our sincere sympathy.

At a meeting of the Alumni Association of the Philadelphia Dental College, held March 5, 1879, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, We have received the painful intelligence of the decease of our beloved and honored professor, Dr. J. H. McQuillen; therefore,

Resolved, That in his death the Philadelphia Dental College has lost one who was ever ready to devote his time, talents, and best efforts to the promotion of its highest interests;

That the profession has lost an earnest worker in the cause of dental education—one to whose indomitable energy and perseverance the college was indebted for its success, in which every graduate and student feels a legitimate pride;

That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to his bereaved family, with the expression of our sincere sorrow and sympathy.

At a meeting of the students of the Philadelphia Dental College, Wednesday morning, March 5, 1879, the following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, Our friend and beloved teacher, Dr. J. H. McQuillen, has been removed from our midst by death; it is hereby

Resolved, That we receive the intelligence of his sudden decease with deep regret and heartfelt sorrow;

That in his death the Philadelphia Dental College loses a most able instructor, the dental profession an arduous and conscientious worker, and society a useful and honored member;

That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of the deceased with the assurance of our deep sympathy in their bereavement, also that a copy be furnished the *Dental Cosmos* and the city papers.—*Cosmos*.