The principal objection, however, that he urges against this operation is, that the root of a tooth, often losing its lining membrane, ceases to possess vitality, and becomes obnoxious to the surrounding living parts—besides, that there is always a formation of matter in it or at its apex, and which, by the usual method of attaching the artificial crown, is prevented from escaping through the natural opening in the roots, and that this obstruction gives rise "to gum boils, or small fistulous abscesses."

The root of a tooth is supplied with blood vessels, nerves, &c., from its investing as well as its lining membrane, and often retains a sufficient degree of vitality, to prevent it from becoming hurtful or obnoxious to the socket for many years after the destruction of the latter; consequently, the first objection will not apply to, at least, all cases; and as it regards the accumulation of matter in the root, that may be prevented in a much better way than that proposed by Dr. Koecker, which consists in the insertions of the tooth, so that it may be from time to time removed by the patient for its escape. The necessity for this, is superceded by the formation of a groove on the side of the pivot, as recommended by Dr. L. S. Parmy, of New Orleans. A tooth inserted in this way will often remain from five to ten or fifteen years without producing any unpleasant effects whatever; and to subserve too, all the purposes of a natural organ.

The concluding part of the work, describes the manner of forming and applying "artificial obturators and palates," which every dentist should understand.

In conclusion, we would remark, that the whole work is replete with instruction and valuable information on this part of the art of the dentist, and had the author dwelt a little more minutely on the various manipulations connected with the construction of the various descriptions of artificial teeth on which he has treated, its value would have been greatly enhanced, and as it is, we regard it as one of the best—if not the very best treatise extant on the subject in the English language. It is, in short, a work that should be in the hands of every one engaged in the practice of dental surgery.

BALT. ED.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

To the conductors of "the American Journal of Dental Science," it is always a source of pleasure to receive communications from their friends and patrons; yet they would remind those writing to them, whether to either of the editors, any of the Publishing Committee, or Treasurer, that the postage should in all instances, except by agents enclosing remittances, be paid. To their correspondents individually, the amount is but small, but to the conductors of the Journal, it is a burthensome item, and when it is considered that their subscription is barely sufficient to defray the expenses of publication, their request cannot be regarded as unreasonable.

We are requested to state, that the Mr. Clark alluded to by Mr. Noyes, in his article on "Metallic Pastes and Amalgams," was not Mr. F. H. Clark, of Baltimore; but Mr. A. Clark, of Pen Yan, whose inquiries had been given in a previous number of the Journal.
USE OF THE PLATE. A margin is left around the cut which represents a complete set of teeth both upper and lower. On this margin figures may be placed opposite to each tooth—corresponding with the figures in the column of reference. For example—figure 1, placed opposite any tooth denotes that the operator has stopped it with gold. Figure 4, denotes that an artificial tooth has been inserted on a root. And so of the rest.

A black line drawn with a pen across any tooth, may be used to signify that such tooth requires to be stopped, in those cases when the operator desire to give an individual a statement of the condition of the mouth.

The important object attained by the dental operator by keeping his accounts in the Recorder, marking every tooth with a letter indicative of the kind of operation performed, is, to enable him to know exactly at any subsequent period, which of the patients' teeth he has stopped, filed, set, &c. thus securing him against imposition and mistake. New-York, 13 Park Place, 1840.

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