

We do not wish to be considered as coinciding with M. Delabarre in all his views, though on the whole, we regard his Treatise on Second Dentition, as decidedly the best that has ever been published. He has, it is true, in many places, while attempting to point out errors in others, fallen into very palpable ones himself, which, should we, as it is our intention soon to do, ever publish the whole work, we propose to notice. He has, as must be acknowledged by every one acquainted with his work, discussed the subject on which it treats, in a very able and masterly manner.

The general principles laid down by Fox, for the treatment of Second Dentition, evince a thorough knowledge of the subject, and have constituted the basis of the established practice ever since, but he did not enter sufficiently into detail. There are many things connected with this subject, which are necessary for the practitioner to understand, unnoticed by him. Upon these M. Delabarre has treated at large.

ACCOUNT OF A REMARKABLE TOOTH, WITH DRAWINGS,

By E. BAKER, DENTIST, NEW-YORK.

The tooth represented in the figure below, was extracted by me nearly twenty years since, from the mouth of a boy about twelve years of age, in Norfolk, Virginia.

The history of the case was as here represented. The child, when about eight years of age, fell, and this tooth coming in contact with a stone was broken about where the crown of the tooth joins the fang, and in such a manner, that the crown forms a right angle with the fang.



The phenomena attending this case, are, that the broken part of the tooth should be retained in the mouth after the accident, and that a secretion of ossific matter should take place, so as to completely join those two parts together. Having stated the fact, I will not obtrude my opinion concerning the *modus operandi* of nature, in joining those two almost separated parts together, but submit it to more able physiologists.

I may, however, observe, that this case will perhaps entirely settle the

conflicting opinions concerning the organization and vitality of the teeth. Dr. Hunter was of opinion, that they were extraneous bodies; that they had no circulation in the bony part, yet possessing a living principle.— Since his time, the opinion has been constantly increasing, that they are not only connected by their organization to the system in general, but have nerves, blood-vessels, and absorbents; and are analagous in this respect, to other bones. That there are in the internal cavity of the teeth, nerves and blood vessels, has not been disputed; but whether these essential components of animal organization, *do* or *do not* enter into the composition of the teeth themselves.

In conclusion: does not the case prove, that the teeth are not only *like* the other bones of the human body, but possess as actively the living and self preservative principle? For it must be recollected, that the healing of the tooth here represented, was accomplished notwithstanding its exposure to the atmosphere, to the effects of the aliment taken into the mouth and to the danger of disturbing the fractured part by the tongue and other teeth, while in the process of healing.

An extraordinary instance of the force of the hereditary principle; in which is seen an example of the tendency of every thing in nature to produce its like.

BY SOLYMAN BROWN, NEW-YORK.

That constitutional peculiarities, whether they be excellencies or defects, are propagated from parent to offspring, even to remote generations is a fact too well established in physical as well as moral science, to admit of doubt. In this respect, the human teeth conform to the general law of nature, as will be evident from the following facts among thousands of a similar character, which are familiar to every experienced Dentist.

In the summer of 1834, the writer of this article, spent a few days in the pleasant village of Frederickton, the capital of the British province of New Brunswick, situated on the River St. John. A lady of that place, presented to me her three little daughters, each of whose left, superior, lateral incisor was black and glossy like polished ebony.

On examining the mouth of the eldest child, who was some twelve years of age, I was so struck with the appearance of a tooth absolutely black, that I put several questions to the mother, the answers to which threw no satisfactory light on the subject. When the second daughter displayed a