

New Technology, Old Fashioned Service

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start. The Comedy of Errors was the first. Then the Two Gentlemen of Verona. I felt more comfortable with the meter and the vocabulary. Taming of the Shrew was different. This evening I hope to finish Love's Labour's Lost. Shakespeare has a way with words and the irony and humor even from over 400 years ago is something that just about anybody can relish.

To be honest, relating the prior Shakespearean treatise is tough to relate to dentistry. The people had teeth, supposedly, but I doubt they flossed. Even the royalty in the plays probably did not have really great dental hygiene. Toothbrushes were probably not common if existent at all. I wonder what bad breath was like then. It is prevalent today of course, but could you imagine Hamlet having bad breath. They probably ate a lot of fish so that could do it. There was quite a bit of wine and beer I suppose. Maybe that cleaned off the tongue so it wasn't so bad.

Toothaches must have been horrendous then. I haven't come across it yet but maybe Shakespeare has a toothache somewhere in his works. Probably the town blacksmith would try to pull it out with those big, black, bulky pliers. It certainly does not seem like a very good option compared to dental care today. Well, I hope I learn something from this experiment.



DOCTOR TALKER

Spring has Sprung. I love it and I am sure most of you do too. Even the skiers may be looking ahead to warm weather. Of course that also could mean yard work and activities like that.

A few weeks ago I was pondering some things that I could do for the next little while that I haven't done before. Suddenly it dawned on me. I looked up from my desk at home and saw this big heavy book that was sitting on the shelf. It is entitled The Yale Shakespeare. It hit me. Yes, I should study the complete works of Shakespeare this year. So each week I am reading one of his plays.

It is more enjoyable that I imagined. When you dig into something that is uncomfortable or foreign it can be stimulating. The vocabulary that the Bard used is really something. That particular English vocabulary is certainly different that what we use in this day and age, but the more one reads the more understandable it becomes. I don't know how to say that any other way. I have some ancillary books too. One is written by a Yale professor named Harold Blood who takes each play and discusses it. I sometimes read what he has to say before I (Continued on Page 4)

Dr. Oman's Reading List

Our Kids: The American Dream in Crisis by Robert D. Putan ♥♥♥

The Prisoner of Zenda by Anthony Hope ♥♥♥♥

Flint by Louis L'Amour ♥♥♥1/2

The Endurance: Shackleton's Legendary Antarctic Expedition by Caroline Alexander ♥♥♥♥

QB: My Life Behind the Spiral by Steve Young with Jeff Benedict ♥♥♥

To America with Love by A.A. Gill ♥♥♥

The Evolution of Thomas Hall by Kieth Merrill ♥♥♥1/2

Pogue's Basics: Life by David Pogue ♥♥♥

Who Really Wrote the Bible?: And Why It Should Be Taken Seriously Again by Eyal Rav-Noy and Gil Weinreich ♥♥♥

Education of a Wandering Man by Louis L'Amour ♥♥♥♥

Coming Up for Air by George Orwell ♥♥♥

Gosnell: The Untold Story Of America's Most Prolific Serial Killer by Ann McElhinney & Phelim McAleer ♥♥♥♥

Three Days in January: Dwight Eisenhower's Final Mission by Bret Baier & Catherine Whitney ♥♥♥

The Decline and Fall of California by Victor Davis Hanson ♥♥♥

What If...?

In the journal Scientific Reports we find an article that is shared by Josh Hrala. His article is entitled Fingers Crossed.

Scientists apparently have found a drug that was used in clinical trials for Alzheimer's Disease. Evidently it improves the tooth's ability to heal itself. It activates stem cells in the pulp chamber prompting a regeneration of the hard dentin material that surrounds the pulp and supports the enamel. The drug's name is Tideglusib. It helps the pulp increase production of dentin to replace decayed dentin. The idea is the entire tooth structure could rebuild itself. Hence, no need for a filling. Tested on mice, the drug was placed on bare pulp tissue then covered up. It is reported that dentin was produced in the mice.

There is plenty of research to be done to see if the results can be duplicated and controlled in a human tooth. They are going to test it on rats next and then hopefully human trials. There are other studies with material that caps the pulp and another one with highly concentrated fluoride on early forming decay.

Excuse Our Dust

Usually you will see that phrase in a building or office that is under construction. We don't have a lot of dust, but there will be a few changes to the decor in our office over the course of the next few weeks. We will be laying new carpet, painting and doing a few things to the ambience. We hope you like it when it is done.

Patient Relations

Whenever there is communication from one person to another there can always be some assumptions in that communication that could be slightly misunderstood or totally in error. We sincerely work at this human challenge. Occasionally there is a misunderstanding about insurance, for example. If you have dental insurance coverage there are some points to remember. First, the insurance company dictates everything pertaining to the fee of any dental care or procedure. Legally, the client must pay their co-payment at the time service is rendered. We try to be diligent and forthright with everyone dealing with dental insurances. Secondly, we do not always know what the insurance provider is going to do. Generally they are constant in their requirements but sometimes a claim is rejected for some unknown reason. We will do all we can do to work on behalf of the insured to receive benefits from the insurance company. It is possible that the insured patient may have to communicate with the insurance company on their own behalf. So, please understand that insurance companies are organizations that are really looking after themselves. We have had experiences where it takes some months to receive an insurance payment for services rendered and the same procedure from other insurance providers is paid within a few weeks. Insurance claims are almost universally submitted digitally over the internet. We rarely send paper claim forms anymore. This tends to expedite matters but sometimes it will gum them up. We are careful in selecting dental insurance providers to associate with. We do not act as providers for very many of them. It is a bit frustrating that the insurance companies can receive premiums for insurance but not allow the insured people to use their agency and choice to go to the dentist they would like to. This is a sad commentary and a terrible change from 30 years ago.