

at the gate of the garden of Eden, when in fact it was not practical to use only two or three of the movements. They patented spring plates, the manner of using which was as old as the practice of dentistry. Allone had to do was to forward on the money and take his license. They patented Aluminum Star Solder, eight parts aluminum and one tin.

It would not be surprising to receive a notice of a patent granted on the application of forceps, or the manner of holding them. Should such a demand be made, rather than contest, I should be inclined to settle and save annoyance and expense, in fact I expect to see a patent on the use of the bur, an instrument as old as the profession, since one of the close communion dentists of the present day,—and thank God they are few,—said he had invented a new “Tool” for cleaning out cavities, and as a great favor showed, and explained to me how he made nothing but the old ancient discarded bur ; and when I said to him, why Doctor that form of an instrument is as old as the hills, said he never knew that: he had actually sent on to the patent office and filed papers for an instrument, nothing more or less than the old jewellers pin tongs, worked with a nut on the end of the handle.

When I asked him why he did not attend our meetings and see all the improvements of the times, he replied “I never mix up with other dentists.” A severe loss to the profession.

If there could be a patent obtained, and I see no impediment under the existing easy manner of obtaining patents in the United States, by which we could take the parents, and put them through a course of purification and regeneration, and compel them to observe strict conformity to all the natural laws, previous to begetting offspring, and a strict observance after, with just the right kind of food, exercise, temper, bone, muscle and blood making material, much might be done to mitigate the suffering of the coming and rising generation. That man would be a public benefactor, and I do not think there would be found any one mean enough to claim priority of invention.

Exostosis.—I present a few specimens for your examination that have fallen into my hands during my practice ; each one has its private history that I have not time now, nor you to spend with. I only present them and refer to the subject to show the importance of a careful, thorough examination of cases we are called upon to relieve. It will not always do to dismiss a patient suffering from pain about the jaws or teeth, with the assurance that their teeth are perfectly sound, and that their trouble is only neuralgia, or the effects of a cold, as you can-