

that mortar is bound to the lath on walls and ceilings. When the plaster has set I cut away all that will be in the way, and having prepared the plaster for the impression, I pour it into this made-up cup and putting it into the mouth I press it home in the usual way. I should say, however, that the plaster for the impression should be rather thin, so as to flow into all the spaces between the teeth. I allow it to set thoroughly before attempting to remove it, as it is less likely to break in doing so. Being far less thick and clumsy than the ordinary impression cup, almost any one can bear it in the mouth for ten or twelve minutes without much inconvenience, thus enabling me to take my own time in the removing of it from the mouth. In doing so, I first cut away, with a sharp pointed knife *all* the plaster from about the teeth, that I think will be likely to break away, and then, with some small instrument, very gently pry it away from the teeth, until it can be removed from the mouth without difficulty. From this impression I draw a cast and make the plate in the usual way, but of course, the teeth must be arranged in the *mouth*, as this is only an impression of the palate and lingual surfaces of the teeth.

PREMATURE DECAY OF THE TEETH.

BY R. TROTTER.

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In my last paper under this caption, I endeavoured to impress upon the reader the importance of viewing it in connection with physiological and pathological laws, in order to commence at first principles in the discussion of this important subject. From this position I shall try to point out wherein those laws have been violated, and the result of such infraction, in so far as the dental organization is concerned. The cause of the premature decay of the teeth dates from a period far remote from the time it is seen or felt. In what is usually called the better and middle classes of the people of this continent, the little misses, who are to be the future mothers, instead of getting plenty of out-door play, exercise and air, are put by their parents to their books and school, years before they ought to leave the nursery or play grounds, with the idea of making prodigies of them. And teachers with an ambition to get a reputation and please the parents, over-tax both mind and body at school, and send them home at night,