

found an excess of tartar, and his system full of lime, I insisted upon it that his real difficulty was gravel or calculi, and advised the free use of mucilages; his medical advisers consented, as it would not interfere with their treatment. In about two weeks from the commencement of the free use of mucilages, at about five in the morning, after a night of intense suffering, that specimen passed, and his son came running to me in a very excited manner, completely overjoyed, bringing that little *porcupine*, saying you have beat all the doctors; and there was as great rejoicing in that family as there would have been over the birth of twins, with fully as much suffering experienced; the spasms at times having been terrible.

I also present some specimens of lime and other ingredients held in solution, from different locations and deposited in the Stilwell heaters in an incredibly short space of time. These heaters are calculated to render more pure the water where there is a great amount of foreign matter; some are the accumulation of one week, some two weeks, some nine days; the labels will show the time.

PLASTER OF PARIS.—I have come to the conclusion that there is as much difference in the quality of plaster, at least for dental purposes, as any other article indispensable to the dentist. The fine "*dental plaster*" advertised by many, I regard as worthless, especially in Rubber work. I have found coarse ground, well calcined plaster the most desirable, less likely to give in pressing together the flasks, and setting more quickly.

I find great advantage gained in damp weather by taking, say a quart pail of the plaster and setting it on the stove, until all the moisture is dried out; when cool, it will set much sooner as any one may see by trying the experiment. Plaster that has been stored for any considerable time in cellars or damp store rooms, is not fit for use until reheated. The grade of plaster I refer to is known to the dealers as "*casting plaster*."

GENTLEMEN:—Allow me in closing this "Roving, rambling, miscellaneous paper" to suggest, and I think the suggestion was made very early in the organization of this society, that each member, not only prepare an essay, but present some peculiar specimen, connected with the profession. We all meet to learn something, all in pursuit of knowledge, we get a better idea by examining a specimen, of the manner of doing a thing, than we can by a written or oral description. Be the subject ever so small in our own estimation or of others, it is a big thing to somebody; if it does nothing more it suggests an idea,