

Abstracts.

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DR. H. H. SULLIVAN uses ordinary corks as handles for bench files. They are light and answer all purposes.—*Items of Interest.*

The Stomatological Gazette reports that Dr. Clyde Payne gave to the Stomatological Club of California, formula for a fusible metal for die and counter die: Tin, 4 parts; lead, 3 parts; bismuth, 15 parts; cadmium, 3 parts. Fusible at 150° F.

INVESTING.—Mr. Girdler uses the dust of burnt anthracite coal instead of sand or asbestos, in conjunction with plaster, for investing cases for soldering, and claims that the plaster does not crack so readily on the application of heat.—*Asst's Quarterly Circular.*

LIQUID SILEX.—The solution known by this name, or a soluble glass, chemically the sodium silicate, (Na_2SiO_3) is quite as effective a medium to prevent the adhesion of plaster to vulcanite as is tin foil, but certain precautions are necessary to procure the best results. The material should be kept in a moderately warm place and tightly stoppered. As soon as its viscosity becomes greater than a thin syrup, throw it away and buy a new bottle. Should it lose its perfect clearness discard it. The writer finds that about one-third of the four-ounce bottles in which it is sold is useful, the remainder is usually so deteriorated as to be worthless. Dilution with hot water and warming the solution restores its appearance; but, for dental purposes, not its virtues. The model, after investment, and also the teeth and entire investment, are freed of adherent wax by pouring over them a stream of boiling water. The excess of water is absorbed by means of bibulous paper. As soon as the wet appearance disappears from the plaster, it is ready to receive the silicate, not before.—*Ohio Dental Journal.*

REMOVABLE PORCELAINS FOR CROWN AND BRIDGE WORK.—Dr. W. S. Mason, Red Bank, N.J., has invented a system of detachable porcelain facings to be used in crown and bridge work. A metal dovetail on the back of the facing fits accurately in a groove in the backing, and when ready to insert in the mouth the groove is filled with chloro-percha and the facing pressed to place and finished off carefully. Dr. Mason enumerates the advantages of his plan, thus: (1) You do not have to place your tooth under the flame of the blow-pipe. (2) You have a solid