

cocaine poisoning having come under our observation within the past five months in the service of two prominent dentists, prompts the note of warning here given. In one case, on enquiry, the percentage was not known—possibly ten or twenty, he said. He just took some crystals and added some water, and injected a few drops into the upper gum over a canine tooth. Poisonous symptoms were noticeable in less than three minutes; the collapse was severe, and only by energetic measures freely used was the patient's life saved. In both the other cases a ten per cent. solution was used, but the degree of poisoning was not alarming in one instance, while in the other it was exceedingly so. A very prominent dentist in the city told us that he frequently applies the pure crystal to the exposed nerve. We feel justified in calling attention to the very dangerous method of using a powerful poison. None of the active alkaloids should be used except in a solution of known strength, and then not in any indefinite quantity.—*Selected.*

SUCCESS OF THE VIENNA TREATMENT IN EFFECTING THE PASSAGE OF A SET OF FALSE TEETH. Henry L. Williams, M.D. (*Therapeutic Gazette*, January 15th, 1897).—A man, aged forty-two, swallowed a set of teeth while taking a drink of ice water. He made every effort to dislodge it by coughing and retching, but without result. His wife pounded him vigorously between the shoulder blades. The plate passed down the œsophagus with a sensation of scraping, followed by a feeling of relief. He was given two large pieces of apple to swallow, which he did without difficulty. The plate contained two central incisors and the left first molar, and having at each end a clasp. Measurement of plate was: Greatest length from tip to tip, one and three-quarter inches; the greatest width was three-fourths of an inch. The clasp encircling the left second bicuspid was of gold and projected one-quarter of an inch from the plate. The clasp upon the right side clasped right cuspid, and projected one-eighth of an inch from plate. It was explained to the patient that it would not likely pass the pylorus, also the danger if it did pass of being caught at some portion of the intestinal tract, and cause obstruction or perforation with fatal consequences. He declined to remain in hospital and also to take an emetic. He was told to drink copiously of luke warm water and mustard, and to eat only mashed potatoes for the next forty-eight hours. The patient returned the next afternoon. On reaching home he had taken a pint and a half of warm water with a tablespoonful and a half of Coleman's mustard. This failed to nauseate him but put him to sleep. At 2 a.m. he awoke and ate a large plate of mashed potatoes. After sleeping he again ate heartily of mashed potatoes at 9 a.m. He slept for an hour, and soon after