The well water contained nitrate of potash in sufficient quantity to admit of its separation by crystallization; and the predominant constituent in the other specimens was sulphate of lime.

There is now every reason to suppose that the water of Winter River will be brought into Charlottetown before long, through a proper system of supply pipes, although the same partisan feeling on the 'water question' finds expression there as elsewhere.

ESTIMATION OF PHOSPHORIC ACID.—As our deposits of apatite continue to be opened up, a rapid method for the determination of the percentage of phosphoric acid will become more and more a desideratum. Several articles have recently appeared on this subject in scientific journals, and the following abstract of one of them is given in the Journal of the Chemical Society for March*:

"Two grams of the phosphate to be examined are treated at the ordinary temperature with 50 c.c. of dilute hydrochloric or nitric acid, the solution is filtered, and the filtrate treated with citric acid, and then with excess of ammonia; the phosphoric acid is then precipitated with solution of magnesium chloride in excess, whereby the precipitated ammonio-magnesium phosphate is made to subside more rapidly than it would otherwise do The supernatant liquid is now separated from the precipitate by means of an aspiration-filter, and the precipitate is washed with ammoniacal water, which is afterwards removed by the same means. The precipitate is next dissolved by means of a few drops of nitric acid and the phosphoric acid estimated with uranium acetate solution, according to a modification of Leconte's method.

Boussingault has stated that an excess of ammonium citrate holds in solution a considerable portion of the ammonio-magnesium phosphate; but the author finds that by using not more than 80 to 100 parts of citric acid to one of phosphoric acid contained in the substance, no loss is experienced.

He also finds that by adding excess of magnesium chloride, keeping the proportion of citric acid within proper limits, adding the right quantity of ammonia in excess, and not allowing the total volume of the solution to exceed a certain amount, accurate results can be readily obtained in presence of lime, iron and alumina."

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* Any one interested in this matter should consult Joulin's paper in the 'Chemical News' for May 9th.