XIV. Description of an improved German key for extracting teeth

Mr. Charles Brown

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From the description that has been given of the process, no person can be at any loss in resorting to the same kind of fumigation. It is only necessary to observe, for the sake of those who may not be versant in chemical pursuits, that the ingredients ought to be pure, and that metal vessels or rods must not be employed. Any kind of metal getting among the ingredients would cause the vapour to be very noxious, instead of salutary. The fumes that rise should be white; if they are of a red colour, there is reason to suspect the purity of the ingredients.

The importance of this discovery need not be insisted on: it is equally applicable to every species of putrid contagion, even to the plague itself. It should therefore be used in all hospitals and parish workhouses; and should be constantly resorted to by the proprietors of all large works, on the first appearance of infectious disease among the people employed in them:—indeed, it should be employed even as a preventive in all situations, where a number of people, from the nature of their business, are obliged to be crowded together, or where, from local circumstances, there are reasons for suspecting that the purity of the air is injured by noxious exhalations or other causes. If there be any circumstances in which its utility might be called in question, it can only be in cases of inflammatory diseases; for, in such, super-oxygenation has been found hurtful.

XIV. *Description of an improved German Key for extracting Teeth.* By Mr. CHARLES BROWN, Surgeon. Communicated by the Inventor.

THE observations with which you accompanied the announcement of my improvement in your last number, renders any introduction to the description of the instrument unnecessary.

The handle A (Plate II.) is made of ivory, very large and heavy, with the view of giving greater purchase to the operator.

B is

Photo. Mus., Vol. II, Pl. II.

Drawn & Engraved by Lowry

B is a circular milled projection on one end of the lever BK, and serves as a thumb-piece to be pressed into the flank against a spring placed below the same end of the lever; by which means the end K is raised so as to unlock the claw when it is wished to be turned to another side of the instrument.

H shows a section of this part of the instrument, where I represents the spring that is acted upon by pressing down the thumb-piece B, so as to raise the end K of the lever, to discharge it from the notch in the heel of the claw when the latter is wished to be moved to a new position.

C, the claw, is made to come off flat at its lower extremity, and roughed on the inside, which, with the shoulder E, forms a bed to receive the tooth.

D, the bolster, is made concave, to answer to the convexity of the teeth.

G, the heel of the claw, has four, six, or a greater number of notches round it, fitted to receive the end K of the lever.

The improvements introduced into this instrument are such as I hope will be found to remedy the defects complained of in all former ones; and the facility with which a tooth can be drawn by its means, will, I am sure, render its adoption in practice universal, as soon as it shall be generally known.

XV. *On the Use of the new Metal called Chrome, the Oxyd of Chrome, and the Chromic Acid. By Cit. VAUQUELIN. From the Journal des Mines, No. XXXIV.*

THE fragility of chrome, the resistance it offers to the action of fire, and the smallness of the masses in which it has hitherto been naturally found, do not leave us any hopes that this metal can ever be of great utility in the arts. This assertion, however, may be going rather a little too far; for a new substance, the properties of which do not at first seem likely