

stick of orange wood; I have been using it about a year, and, to my knowledge, it has never failed to relieve the patient. I apply it, in the early stages of inflammation, once in twenty-four hours; in very severe cases, twice. In my office practice, and in the Infirmary, I have opportunity of observing its workings to quite an extent. There are advantages in its use over other remedies which you will readily observe on trying it.

One other little thing I have just discovered; it may be old (it is certainly good enough), but is new to me. To prevent exudation from the gums, where it is difficult to use the rubber dam, dry the gum well, then paint with collodion. If not *disturbed*, it will remain dry as long as you wish.—*Cosmos*.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALUMINUM AS APPLIED TO DENTISTRY.

Dr. Starr gives the following as his observations made in two years, in regard to the advantages and disadvantages of aluminum as compared with other bases for artificial teeth. "As compared with gold, which many consider as the best article upon which to insert artificial teeth, the advantages which gold possesses over aluminum, is greater strength and capabilities of a higher finish; while aluminum has the advantage over gold in being only about one-sixth its specific gravity; is more easily worked, and is capable of resisting the actions of the alkalis and acids of the mouth nearly as well as gold; what has been said of gold as compared with aluminum, will apply to platinum as well. Aluminum in comparison with silver has many advantages. Silver will corrode, while aluminum will not. Silver has four times the specific gravity, and has about the same strength, but is not as easily adapted to the mouth as aluminum. Rubber is thicker, heavier, more brittle and no cheaper than aluminum."—*Dental Register*.

NITROUS OXIDE.

The Quebec journals mention two cases of surgical operations successfully performed under the influence of nitrous oxide in that city. In one case, —removal of a cancerous cicatrix—the gas was respired during twenty-five minutes without producing, it is said, any derangement of the stomach or causing any depression of the heart's action. In the other, Choparts operation was performed, and occupied so long a time that the gas was all used up, and then the patient who had hitherto felt nothing, began to suffer. Dr. Pourtier, a French dentist, of Quebec, administered the gas. Protoxide has been used at the Middleton Hospital in two cases, one of which, the removal of an in-growing toe-nail, furnished a good test of the power of the agent to produce insensibility to pain. Dr. John Murray administered the gas to the patient, a lad, whilst Mr. Hulk split up his nail and removed it in halves. No pain was experienced. The whole process occupied one minute and a half, and in thirty or forty seconds afterwards the patient was able to get up and leave the theatre.