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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

EDITORIAL NOTES ON PRACTICAL SUBJECTS.

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BLACK RUBBER.
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For the last five months I have been using quite extensively, black rubber as a base for artificial sets of teeth, in place of the red gum. I adopted it because, after one or two trials, I found it to be very much stronger than red, and can, therefore, be made only about one-half the thickness which it is necessary to make plates of the rubber now in common use. It is susceptible of as fine, if not a finer polish than the red gum, and when neatly manipulated, it makes a very beautiful denture.

The objection so often urged against red rubber, viz: that the coloring matter—the sulphuret of mercury—has a deleterious effect upon the mucous membrane of some mouths, if it has any foundation at all, in fact, which I very much doubt, is entirely overcome by using the black gum, as it contains nothing but the pure caoutchouc and the sulphur which causes it to harden by steam. It is cheaper, too, for there being no heavy mineral coloring matter in it, it takes a much larger quantity to make a pound. It hardens at a little higher heat than red gum.