

PLAIN TEETH VS. GUM.

There are many more plain than gum teeth used. There are two reasons for this: 1st, They are cheaper. 2nd, They are easier to adapt, saving cheap dentists and unskillful mechanics a lot of trouble. Whatever may be said in their favor in these directions offers no compensation for their weakness, and the ugliness of pink vulcanite as a substitute for pink porcelain. The pivots are asked to do more than they can do. What grip is there in the thin scrap of rubber which surrounds the two pivots of a plain tooth, especially the thin pivots of badly made cheap teeth? The real trouble is that it costs much more to select the proper gum set required, as well as to make the set. In an emergency it is easy to cut a block and give the teeth any irregularity desired. One can divide any gum block with a pair of scissors. Another obstacle in the way of using gum teeth is the fact that it is so hard to get a good selection in any of our local depots in Canada. They have to carry a large stock and distribute it among travellers and city practitioners, and it has become customary to rely upon the local depots. Every dentist ought to have a good stock of his own in his office.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE "virtuous indignation" of reformed offenders would make one of the most amusing chapters in the literature of dental practice. Jones is seized with the brilliant idea that if he can make the public believe that he has some qualification his rivals do not possess—even if he bought it in Illinois—he will get a good run of business, so he announces himself in the press as having these "superior" qualifications. Brown is bound he will not be behind Jones, so he "goes it one better," and gives out the public impression that he is specially a specialist of especially special skill. Robertson then makes the big sensation of advertising by the yard, boldly claiming to be an expert and an inventor, and a genius, when, in fact, he is a botch and a good bit of a ripe rascal. Then the virtuous Jones and Brown are indignant. They want Robertson prosecuted. If he had only lied in their modest manner it would have been no reproach, but to lie so much more audaciously is intolerable. The fact is, Jones and Brown, as the pioneers of the degradation, are the biggest sinners of the three.

IN making his editorial bow to the readers of *The Dentist*, Dr. J. Leon Williams very aptly remarks: "But a good dental journal cannot be made by an editor alone. He must have the cordial and persistent support of a considerable circle of readers