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EDITORIAL NOTES ON PRACTICAL SUBJECTS.

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ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE OVER THE ALVEOLAR RIDGE.

In spite of the most perfect impressions and every possible precaution, it is not uncommon to meet with rubber upper sets which drop down at the front of the mouth, in ordinary conversation. No size of palatine air-chamber seems to obviate the difficulty, and if adhesion is obtained at all, it is after considerable time, *and a perseverance* on the part of the wearer, which the majority of patients do not possess. We have had our share of trouble with these cases, and particularly of late. One case was that of a lady whose alveoli had absorbed with but little accompanying absorption of the gums. The latter remained soft, though healthy to all appearances, and two years after the insertion of the set of teeth there was no perceptible change. The set gave way in front, and dropped. The other case was that of a lady wearing an upper set made by a confrere, which he had perseveringly renewed three times in hopes of securing adhesion, but to no avail. The gums in this instance were hard, and the alveolar process rather more absorbed than usual—the front part being less than the sixteenth of an inch above the level of the palatine bones. We take these two cases as extremes of a condition of gums and alveoli, to which artificial sets are difficult to adapt.

In both these cases, as in all others which we afterwards tried, the