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EDITORIAL NOTES ON PRACTICAL SUBJECTS.

ON CARBOLIC ACID IN CONNECTION WITH DEVITALIZATION OF THE
PULP.

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The prime essential, for obtaining painless devitalization, is doubtless, to have complete exposure of the pulp tissue, so that the destroying agent, may come into absolute contact therewith.

If arsenious acid be used, the next point of importance is to combine with it some powerful obtunder of sensibility, hence, the employment of morphia, creosote, &c. The most successful form of this mixture that I have ever tried is that recommended by Dr. Flagg, of Philadelphia, viz :

Arsenious Acid, 1 part.

Acetate of Morphia, 2 parts.

Creosote, q. s., to make a stiff paste.

When there has been but little previous inflammation of the pulp, this paste gives very little pain, if thoroughly applied, but during the past two years, I have found the number of successful *painless* cases largely increased by the use of pure carbolic acid, as follows.

The acid is obtained in a crystalline state and liquified by slightly warming the bottle over a spirit lamp, while liquid add a few drops of spirits of wine, which will keep it liquid in any ordinary temperature. Having exposed the pulp, and dried out the cavity with a little bibulous paper, I take a portion of cotton, on the probe, and dip