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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

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EDITORIAL NOTES ON PRACTICAL SUBJECTS.

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A FEW HINTS ON EXTRACTING.

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BY W. G. BEERS, MONTREAL.

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In cases where it is necessary to remove a large number of teeth or roots, in both jaws, at one sitting, under the influence of an anæsthetic, a few hints occur to us which may be serviceable to somebody. Where Nitrous Oxide is used these hints will not apply as fitly as to chloroform or ether, as with the former but a few teeth can be removed before the patient awakens, while with the latter it very often happens that both jaws can be completely relieved of their denture before the patient recovers his sensibility.

First select your instruments. Everything needed should be at hand. The towel for chloroform should be starched stiff.

Cover the patient from neck to knee with a cotton cover or towel, pinned to each shoulder, to prevent the blood soiling the dress. Make a thorough examination of the work before you; fix in your memory the number, position and peculiarity of every tooth or root to be extracted: we lance the superior right and left dens sapientiæ—particularly at the farthest extremity—for reasons which we will give in detail in a future number of the Journal. Whenever there is any undue prominence of the alveoli, over the cuspids for instance, which, if left, would interfere greatly with the regularity of the arch for an artificial set, we sometimes cut it down on the labial face while extracting, or after extracting the tooth, as may be found most convenient.