

THE
CANADA JOURNAL
OF
DENTAL SCIENCE.

VOL. II.]

OCTOBER, 1869.

[No. 3.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

EDITORIAL NOTES ON PRACTICAL SUBJECTS.

RUBBER TUBING FOR INSTRUMENT HANDLE COVERS

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We find fine rubber tubing, such as that used for regulating teeth, a very soft and comfortable covering for the handles of steel excavators, pluggers, and pivot and other files. It can be drawn over the instrument from the butt to the polished surface, and may be slipped down towards the point in cases where the instrument has to touch the lips or cheeks in working at cavities difficult of access. It prevents the instrument from slipping around in the fingers; absorbs moisture; saves the steel from rust; is easily cleaned; and entirely obviates the irritating effect on the fingers from the prolonged use of steel handles. In every respect it is comfortable to the operator, and in no case unpleasant to the patient. Rubber tubing may be utilized for many such purposes, such as a cover for pen handles. &c.

Another little convenience may not be unworthy of mention in these days of labor saving, and luxurious economizing, viz: a half glove or mit, to fit over the back and the palm of the hand, with fingers cut away a little below the knuckles. I find this very convenient and comfortable when extracting a large number of difficult teeth at one sitting, when the cross-cut backs of the forceps irritate the palm of the hand, and the fingers. It gives one a safer grip too, and prevents slipping in the hand. An old kid glove, nicely fitting, is as good as anything else for the purpose.