

"Well, I would rather be a moonshiner down in Tennessee than a uterus up here in the hands of you New York doctors."—*Southern Practitioner*.

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### The Dentist Wins.

It has been held by Judge Knapp, of the Hudson County Court (N.J.), that a dentist may pull the wrong tooth without making himself liable to damages. According to the *New York Times*, that was the decision arrived at in the case of Joseph McManus, of Jersey City, against dentist E. F. Hanks. It appears that one of Mr. Hanks' assistants extracted a wrong molar for the plaintiff, who instituted proceedings to recover \$1,000 damages. It was shown by the evidence that the tooth drawn was defective, and the Judge instructed the jurors that unless it could be shown that the dentist did not use ordinary skill and care in performing the operation, the plaintiff had no right of action against him, even if the wrong tooth had been drawn. The verdict was in the dentist's favor.

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### A Safe Local Anæsthetic.

If we are to believe the statement of Dr. C. T. Meaker, of Carbondale, Pa., in the *Items of Interest*, a few drops of a five per cent. solution of carbolic acid in water, injected under the gum on each side of a tooth to be extracted, makes an excellent and safe local anæsthetic. Its effect, he claims, is almost instantaneous, and is particularly marked when there is swelling and inflammation about the tooth. As only one drop of carbolic acid is contained in twenty drops of the solution, the quantity used is too small to cause any constitutional disturbance.

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### Electricity in Extraction.

The last number of the *Journal of the British Dental Association* contains a letter written by Dr. H. F. Briggs, giving his experience in having a tooth extracted with electricity as an anæsthetic. He says that the sensation during the operation was like being "the central figure" at a miniature execution by electricity, and that he not only felt the pain of the tooth being taken out, but pain about the head, face and arms as well. To this was added the helpless feeling of not being able to let go the handles while the current was on. He informed the dentist that it hurt a good deal; but the dentist replied: "With due deference to you, I must say it didn't." He says that he would much prefer having a tooth extracted without an anæsthetic of any kind than submit again to the electricity.