UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ERNEST ROBERT TAIT, OF OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA.

CREOSOTED CHARCOAL POINT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 637,303, dated November 21, 1899.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ERNEST ROBERT TAIT, a subject of Queen Victoria, (but having declared my intention of becoming a citizen of the United States,) residing at Oakland, in the county of Alameda, State of California, have invented a new Creosoted Point for Treatment of Abscesses, especially abscesses situated in the alveolar process of the superior or inferior maxillary bones, which creosoted charcoal points are prepared in the following manner.

I take the best porous charcoal, preferably that of the willow, and reduce it to tapering rods or "points" of a diameter of about one-thirtieth ($\frac{1}{30}$) of an inch at the thickest part and of a length varying from half to one inch, more or less. These points are prepared by rolling between sandpaper or other means to obtain the requisite shape and size, so that they may be inserted in the root-canal of a tooth. After being so formed these points are medicated by being saturated with a mixture of paraform, one; alkanet, three; beechwood creosote, one hundred; or other antiseptic, and are supplied for use in a glass tube containing the points and an excess of the medicament, and the tube is stopped with a stopper.

The points so prepared are to be used in the following manner: The presence of pus or pericementitis may be altogether neglected in using these points according to these directions. Having first removed all debris from the cavity and canal, clear and straighten the root-canal with a Gates-Glidden or other root-drill, pass a nerve-broach through the apical foramen to insure contact of the infected matter with the charcoal point, wipe out the root-canal with a shred of cotton, and insert one of the points. Tamp the point down well, so as to break it up and fill the canal with the charcoal. Seal the canal with a suitable cement and after two or three days' rest insert the filling.

Should there be a fistulous opening on the gum or cheek, probe well with a carbolized probe and pack in one of the points ground to powder. Prevent the fistula healing except from the bottom by occasionally cauterizing with carbolic acid and injecting a little peroxide of hydrogen.

Be careful to avoid overstimulation or excessive irritation of the seat of the injury.

I claim as my invention—

The herein-described medicated point for dentists' use consisting of a tapering easily-frangible rod of charcoal of a size adapted to be inserted in the root-canal of a tooth and saturated with paraform, alkanet and creosote as specified.

ERNEST ROBERT TAIT.

Witnesses:
C. T. JARVIS,
FRIEND E. MOORE.