

tonsils, thickened palatine folds, relaxed velum, or nasal thickening. Or the case may be different: the speaker may have chronic throat affection, severe enough at times to render his duties harassing, if not positively painful; he consults for the case, and the examining physician may be the first to have clearly detected that there is an imperfection of voice which, indeed, others may have felt after a fashion, but could not analytically account for. I have such a case now under treatment. The patient had no distinct notion of having had nasal catarrh; he did not recognize that slight but characteristic lack of resonance which is wholly different from any of the peculiarities of voice produced by affections of the vocal cords; in fact, in this case, the vocal cords were not seriously at fault. The prognosis as to complete recovery of good voice when due to a considerable degree of paresis of the velum, or to much thickening of the nasal mucous membrane, is bad; but by persistent treatment, much improvement may be effected; and what is of great importance in all such cases, the individual may be taught, by a little training, how to use the portion of the sounding-board that remains intact to the greatest advantage. Of course to impart this knowledge successfully implies an accurate and practical knowledge of voice production both in speaking and singing, and some acquaintance with the science and art of music; in fact, without a quick ear and some skill in elocution, possibly also a little ability to sing, it is difficult to understand how a physician can effectually deal with the troubles experienced by public speakers and singers, for very often the cause of the whole matter lies in some faulty use of the voice, and the diagnostician must be enough of a musician and elocutionist to be able to detect the error. If this cannot be made out in the office at the time of consultation, it may be necessary to actually hear the patient during the performance of his functions in public.

Very frequently in diagnosing affections of the vocal cords that are concerned in faulty voice production, it may be necessary to put the patient through a series of vocal gymnastics with the mirror *in situ*, as only then, it may be, will the special weakness be discovered. Fortunately public speakers