

Now, I wish it to be understood that I have no desire to make any radical changes in the laws which, with great labor and heroic struggle on the part of a few men, have been enacted in the interest of the public as well as the profession. My object is to point out vices within the professional body politic, so that we may set to work to reform and bring about a change before the diseases have become incurable.

Yours,

"PHILO MEDICUS."

Weston, Dec. 13th, 1894.

Selections.

FAUVEL WRITES: "Yes, odors have an injurious influence on the vocal cords, and I have obtained from several directors of singers, managers of opera, a rule forbidding any bouquets or flowers being sent to dressing-rooms or presented on the stage. There is, following the inspiration of strong odors, such as violets, pinks, lilies of the valley and mignonette, a vibratory struggle between sonorous undulations. The vocal cords, at contact with odors, go into a state of paresis, from default of contraction; they become halting, or crippled." —*Cincin. Lancet*.

APPENDICITIS.—*Food* quotes Swain as saying ninety per cent. of cases recover spontaneously, and that therefore early operative interference is not justifiable. The editor of the *Medical Arena* corroborates and asserts, as the result of personal experience, that every case is amenable to persistent conservative treatment. He would, however, advise an operation when abscess has formed. Nevertheless, the fact remains that too many continue to recommend the knife, and that indiscriminate cutting for pain in the region of the cœcum is the rule rather than the exception.—*Medical Age*.

MODERN SURGICAL TECHNIQUE.—Dr. Henry O. Marcy, of Boston, emphasizes the importance of a most careful bacteriological training on the part of him who would become proficient in surgical practice. In the preparation of the operating-room, Dr. Marcy pointed out the ease and safety with which an ordinary living-room, by preference the kitchen, is made comparatively sterile, when from necessity the surgeon is called upon to act promptly and suddenly. In abdominal wounds, where irrigation is not advised, he substitutes for it a slowly flowing stream of oxygen gas from a compressed