

livered in careful, plain English that every man in the jury, whether he is a bricklayer, or whether he is a coachman, or whether he is a merchant, or whether he is a professor in college, may understand it. That has as much weight in the success of a case, in the view the physician gives as almost anything else. I think the profession realize the growth and the importance of expert medical testimony. The courts, certainly in this country, have had more physicians before them in the last ten years than they had twenty-five years ago. The most eminent men in the profession are called frequently, and I have seen them in court, and it is a very important branch of your professional work. Probably there is some criticism employed, one or the other differ in their expert opinion as to whether a man is sane or insane, whether injured permanently or not, whether he will die or live from the effect of an accident. It might be better if the court could pass rules that there should be a certain number of experts on each side, that their fee should be recovered as part of the costs of the case, and regulate the fee and rule that the number of witnesses should be the same on both sides, except where an accident happens, where the family physician comes in. In this instance the family physician would be presented by himself on one side, and then the other side should have a right to call a person opposed to him. I have always found in the trial of accident cases that the family physician generally gives a very fair and truthful statement of the case. The greatest source of difficulty when expert medical testimony is brought into court is to find on one side able men who have one view of the case, and on the other side able men who have another view. Even when it holds with our theory of the case, we are sometimes startled by the testimony given by distinguished physicians, who are known as specialists, either alienists or neurologists, for instance, when they tell you a man, who is looking perfectly well, is doomed to live a life of misery or to die. It is very difficult to understand. At the same time I must admit that when I have been on commissions to determine whether a man

was sane or not, and from my own conversation with and examination and observation of the man, I, as a layman, could not clearly decide as to the insanity, having confidence in and relying upon my medical associates, I have felt perfectly satisfied that our views on the subject, when they said the man was insane, were correct. They could give me reasons I had not known of how the man we were examining was insane. So, when a jury is treating a question of insanity, they do not see any particular defect in the man's eye or peculiarity in his manner, but still the physician can come forward and tell them and they are convinced. Thus, I say, the medical profession, in the line of experts, is every day becoming more and more important in their bearing on man's life and liberty and upon his retaining business and his property, and I feel a great interest, and am very much gratified at being called to say these few words before the medical profession, for my brother members of the legal profession have the highest regard for the work that you gentlemen are doing.

"Years ago the expert testimony of physicians did not have the great weight that it does to-day, so the profession should be profoundly impressed with their grave responsibility as expert witnesses."—Philadelphia Polyclinic.

OPERATING GLOVES.

Dr. W. B. Brinsmade said that the question of operating-gloves was attracting considerable attention in the surgical world and he wished to exhibit the gloves which were being used at St. John's Hospital. He said that at first cotton gloves were used, and while his experience is too short to say anything very definite about them, yet they have been used with great success, and with a certain amount of moral certainty that the nurses and assistants have clean hands. He stated that one feels much more comfortable with these gloves on.

Another style is the seamless rubber glove, pressed rubber, a little cheaper than the more elaborate ones exhibited by him, but not made as well. The ideal glove at present, in his judgement, is the thin rubber