

consider it a valuable remedy for normalizing the renal function, for promoting the active elimination of uric acid and to calm the congestive conditions of the kidneys and of the urinary mucous membrane."

EXPERT TESTIMONY AS VIEWED IN ILLINOIS.—Illinois is still very far from being completely civilized. Circuit Court Judge Creighton, of Sangamon County, has recently been unburdening his mind on the subject of expert testimony and allied topics, and the burden drops off with a gentle splash that recalls the fall of the buffalo chip, in days when that animal roamed over the judge's prairies. Speaking of experts, he says that "of course, the court has no power to compel an expert to make an examination or prepare himself to testify without payment; but he thinks that an expert can be made to testify, provided he is not obliged to make special preparation." From which it seems that the judge thinks the chemist or surgeon or physician can go and testify upon any case, if he chooses, without preparation. The learned judge furthermore says that physicians in Illinois are "favored children of the State." "A department of the State Government," he says, "is maintained very largely for their benefit, and they are so protected by the laws of the State and by public opinion and confidence that in five minutes' time a doctor may earn more than an ordinary laborer could in a day!" If our Illinois *confrères* are really earning \$2.00 every five minutes, we trust that the fact will not be made known, for all other regions of the country will immediately lose their medical citizens. The argument that the doctor is so favored by the State that he can earn \$2.00 in five minutes is worthy of a giant mind, and deserves to go down in the history of medical jurisprudence emblazoned in letters of gold, or wafted through the empyrean by the swiftest and most characteristic cyclonic whirlwind that the prairies of Illinois can generate. The theory that the State of Illinois has a department of its government—viz., the Health Department—largely for the benefit of the medical profession is also extremely unique, and could hardly have come from any mind but one highly trained in Sangamon County. To the common-sense of mankind it has heretofore seemed that the creation of the Health Department was, if anything, prejudicial to the medical profession, since it cuts down mortality and prevents sickness and epidemics, by all of which the medical man is supposed to, and does, gain his livelihood. Medical literature is at least enriched by the marvellous brain of Judge Creighton, which thus, in one single effort, is able to overturn common knowledge and place before the eyes of the astonished world more facts in medical jurisprudence than were ever dreamed of by any philosopher from Descartes to B. O. Flower.—*N. Y. Medical Record.*