

MORF DANGERS IN CONVALESCING.—A young man, married last fall, had pneumonia. His wife was in Minnesota, where he intended to join her soon. A telegram was sent to her and she arrived in season only to see her husband alive. "He seemingly fought against death to see her once more. As she entered the room he rose in bed and remarked, 'I wanted to see you and am now willing to go!'" After these words were spoken he fell back upon the pillow, turned upon his side and expired. As an exchange says: It seems a pity to spoil such an interesting and romantic story, but the fact is that it illustrates, not the power of the mind, (which is sometimes great), in prolonging life, but the peril of physical exertion when life is trembling in the balance. The poor fellow no doubt precipitated his death by rising in bed; and he might perhaps be living to-day, and have missed newspaper fame altogether, if he had kept on his back.

HOW DOCTORS ARE IMPOSED UPON.—This is how the Boston Journal of Health "goes" for those who do not pay the doctor: Not only are the income of physicians, as a rule, smaller than those of men of other professions, notably the legal and ministerial, but even the sums which they receive are grudgingly yielded. It is notorious that the last bill to be paid is the doctor's. Tradesmen's claims are always "preferred." If it happens that the services of an undertaker have been employed, he, too, is among the first creditors to be paid. If anything is left, and there is no prospect of its being needed for any purpose, why then the doctor's bill is considered; but it would be violating old customs were it to be paid in full. A complete settlement, in nine cases out of ten, is only effected after he has deducted a large per cent. of what is due him. Even the most honest of patients seem to have little or no compunction about asking him for discounts, even when they well know that the physician's bill rendered is not only just but reasonable. "The doctor makes his money easily," says the average patient, and full of that belief, he adjusts his sense of right and equity and drives a sharp bargain if he can. It is safe to say that but few physicians in general practice manage to collect more than half of their bills. It is certainly not pleasant to contemplate that a large share of our people are dishonest, and swindle their physicians; and yet such is actually the case. It is doubtful if there is any class of men in business who would be content to receive such treatment. Why, in the name of all that is right and proper, should physicians be

obliged to put up with it? Probably they themselves are, in a measure, accountable for it. Were they more exacting, and making the practice of medicine a trade, insisted upon the full and immediate payment for their services when rendered, their patients would, in time, learn to be honest. Very few doctors would care to take such a course if they could, and yet it is an open question if all concerned would not be better in the end for it.

SEWAGE PURIFICATION—THE MAGNETIC PROCESS.—The Sanitary Record says: We have been watching for some time with interest the development of this process. The method is called the Magnetic Process of Sewage purification, and consists: Firstly, in effecting rapid precipitation of the solids, and deodorization of the supernatant liquid. Secondly, in the removal of the organic matter in solution by passing an effluent fluid through a specially constructed filter-bed of "Polarite." The precipitate and deodorant is called "Ferozone," and the filtrant "Polarite." The chemical compositions of both these materials is given in Sir Henry Roscoe's report. We have made searching inquiries, and the evidence obtainable from very numerous well-qualified authorities—including the inspectors of the Local Government Board, professors of the Army Medical School of Military Hygiene, and many leading engineers and sanitarians—goes to show the great importance of this process, both from an economical and from a sanitary point of view. The effluent produced by at the Acton Sewage Works is admittedly the purest, and the sludge the least in quantity and one of the best in quality yet produced. We note with pleasure, the Record adds, this real and solid step in the march of knowledge in the study of the public health, and look upon it simply as the natural product of the immense amount of attention this all-important subject has commanded, during the past ten years.

BERLIN SEWAGE DISPOSAL.—Mr. Councilor Margraff, of the Berlin Municipality, has written to Mr. Hancock, F.S.S., of London, expressing the utmost satisfaction with the sewerage and irrigation system adopted there fifteen years ago. "The Berlin Sewerage Farms are now beginning to yield a better revenue—even to the extent of giving a profit of two per cent. on the outlay—which I hold to be a very favorable result, considering the very extensive costs we have been put to in the preparation of the land, its levelling, draining, etc. We hope in the future for further favorable and even better successes, and we do not by any means think of giving up our system or adopting any other. I