

scription likens his appearance to that of "King's Charles" (*sic*), but the resemblance is really more to a Skye-terrier, and reminds one of Leech's sketch of the hirsute youth who failed to see the beauties of his sister's "ugly beast of a dawg!" The son, Fedor, is only three years old, and the hair is so much lighter in colour and less thick that the skin is much more perceptible. The resemblance between father and son is, however, unmistakable.

A remarkable feature in both father and son is their nearly edentulous condition. The father is said to have had no teeth up to the age of seventeen, and then to have had four teeth only in the lower, and one in the upper jaw. The boy has only four incisor teeth in the lower jaw, and his gums give no evidence of there being germs of other teeth within them. These remarkable individuals have been examined at Berlin by Professor Virchow, who has published some remarks upon them in the *Berliner Klinische Wochenschrift* (No. 29, 1873), a translation of which appeared in the *Edinburgh Medical Journal* for September.—[Lancet.

### PROFESSIONAL REMUNERATION.

Sensational newspaper paragraphs respecting the large fees occasionally received by or offered to medical men are not only in the worst possible taste, but do harm to the profession, by giving false impressions respecting the incomes of the bulk of its members. Whilst a few may be fortunate enough now and then to secure large windfalls, the majority are necessarily content to plod on from day to day, perhaps making both ends meet, perhaps not—possibly laying by something for a rainy day or old age. With the great increase of wealth in the country and with the greatly enhanced cost of living, by which the value of the time-honoured guinea is so much depreciated, it becomes a serious question whether the leading members of the profession ought not, in justice to themselves and their brethren, to raise their scale of charges. The medical might well take a lesson from the dental profession in this matter, for whilst many a physician or surgeon of good repute devotes an hour to the careful investigation of a case, and is content with the usual honorarium, a leading dentist would have no scruple in asking two or three guineas for occupying the same time in stopping teeth, and the patient would be quite prepared to pay the fee asked.

One or two leading consultees already adopt the plan of asking two guineas for a first visit at their own houses, and we wish this rule were extended. The rule, also, that a consultation, whether personal or by letter, with the ordinary medical attendant, necessitates a double fee to the consultee, should be more clearly understood by the public and enforced by the profession, all members of which are interested in maintaining the proper recognition of its services. We believe that half of the difficulties which arise on these subjects are due to the false modesty of the doctor, who hesitates to inform the well-meaning but ignorant patient (who is fumbling with some-

thing wrapped up in a piece of paper) what is his proper fee.

So long as the best advice in London can be had for a single guinea—too often a sovereign—so long must the charges of general practitioners be kept down to their present scale. The well-to-do patient who has been content with three visits for a guinea because the guinea represents in his mind the cost of a physician's prescription, would, we believe, be perfectly ready to accept the scale of say four visits for two guineas, if this last were the physician's honorarium. The increase of consultees' fees is, therefore, one which affects the whole profession, and we shall be glad to elicit the opinions of all grades of it on the question we have propounded. [Lancet.]

### EUCALYPTUS GLOBULUS.

A paper by M. Gimbert on the Cultivation of the Eucalyptus Globulus was read at the last meeting of the French Academy of Sciences. M. Gimbert has not only unbounded faith in the febrifuge qualities of the plant, but asserts that when cultivated in a fever-stricken locality it destroys by the camphorous vapour all miasmatic influence, and by its singular capacity of absorbing water is capable of converting a pestilential swamp into a dry and healthy district. The data given from the results of extensive experiments in various unhealthy parts of Algeria are apparently sound and reliable and are worthy the attention of our Government. Sierra Leone offers an excellent field for the cultivation of the Eucalyptus globulus, and who knows but that a few years' benign influence of the plant will convert the "white man's grave" into a health-resort as fashionable and as much sought as the Riviera! We greatly fear, however, that the qualities ascribed to the tree are ideal, and that in reality it is as void of protective power as the fabled upas-tree is innocent of malign influence.

### TREATMENT OF BRONCHOCELE

In an interesting letter written from London, by Dr. Beverly Robinson, for the *New York Medical Journal*, it is stated that bronchocele of a hard and fibrous nature are now uniformly treated at the Hospital for Diseases of the Throat by injections with the compound tincture of iodine, B. P. The injections are made on an average, at the beginning of the treatment, once a week. At a later period, and when the tumour has notably diminished in volume, the injections are employed less frequently. The quantity of the liquor used on each occasion is thirty minims. This is injected directly into the tissues of the gland. A syringe very similar to the one familiarly known as that of Pravaz is adopted. Great care is to be exercised in washing it out immediately after the operation with rectified spirits, in order to palliate the hurtful action of the iodine on the joints of the syringe. During a brief period after the injection some few patients complain of severe pain or smarting in the goitre and its immediate neighbourhood, but this is of a very temporary nature. Swelling of the tumour takes place very shortly after the injection. In

twelve or fourteen hours diminution begins, however, and the tumour gradually lessens in density and bulk. At the expiration of a few weeks to a few months but a small portion of the original formidable tumefaction remains. Of the diverse treatments we have seen employed in this form of bronchocele this shows itself the most successful.

The softer and, as it were, more generalized form of bronchocele is treated successfully by ordinary counter-irritation with the liquor epispasticus, B. P. The cystic form of bronchocele is treated by tapping the cyst and drawing off the serous or, as is more frequently the case, thick, coffee-coloured liquid, and then by the injection of one or more drachms of a solution of perchloride of iron, one hundred and twenty grains to an ounce of water. The object of the injection of iron is to coagulate the blood which immediately follows the escape of the cystic fluid. This coagulated blood after a few days becomes purulent, and the cyst is converted into a chronic abscess. Sometimes more than one injection of the solution is necessary previous to the encysted liquid becoming purulent. The duration of this treatment, like that of bronchocele of a fibrous nature, is of course variable, depending upon the size of the cyst. Its success, however, appears certain we can bear witness to having seen many admirable cures result from its adoption. In a case in which the bronchocele had reached an enormous size—the patient's chin being pushed up by it to the farthest extent—after the cyst had been destroyed by the plan mentioned above, it was found necessary to use the injection of iodine into the walls, as they in themselves formed a considerable tumour. The result was a complete cure.

In *enlarged tonsils* excision is almost the exclusive treatment used. The tonsillitome is of simple construction, without the fork often seen made with them; and the operation is materially facilitated by external pressure, made by an assistant, below and behind the angle of the jaw. When the flow of blood becomes a source of anxiety, the hemorrhage may be immediately arrested by the patient swallowing small quantities, at short intervals, of a saturated solution of tannin in water. In comparatively acute cases we have seen the ablation of the tonsils lead to very excellent results. In more chronic ones, especially in children, persistent attacks of nightmare may often be stopped and the general nutrition very much improved by the same operation.

In *functional aphonia* we can testify to the astonishing effect of the electric current. In patients who have been completely aphonic for a number of years we have seen the voice almost magically restored in a single sitting.

Esmarch's plan of bloodless operations has been introduced into the Adelaide Hospital, Dublin.

At the recent conclave of the Irish Roman Catholic bishops at Dublin, it was resolved that the erection of a new school of medicine and university hall on Stephen's-green shall be commenced without delay.