

the grossest delusions of witchcraft era. The subjection of holy reason to "hear-says" could hardly go further. "Beware of the night wind; be sure and close your windows after dark!" In other words, "Beware of God's free air; be sure and infect your lungs with the stagnant, azotized, and offensive atmosphere of your bedroom." In other words, "Beware of the rock spring, stick to sewage." Is night air injurious? Since the day of creation that air has been breathed with impunity by millions of different animals—tender, delicate creatures, some of them—fawns, lambs, and young birds. The moist night air of the tropical forests is breathed with impunity by our next relatives, the anthropoid apes—the same apes that soon perish with consumption in the close, though generally well-warmed atmosphere of our northern menageries. Thousands of soldiers, hunters and lumbermen, sleep every night in tents and open sheds, without the least injurious consequences. Men in the last stage of consumption have recovered by adopting a semi-savage mode of life, and camping outdoors in all but the stormiest nights. Is it the draught you fear or the contrast of temperature? Blacksmiths and railroad conductors seem to thrive under such influences.

DOCTORS' FEES IN ENGLAND.—English fees have lately been ventilated in the London High Court of Justice, *Med. Stand.* Dr. Keetley, Senior Surgeon of the West London Hospital, sued Prof. Banister Fletcher for \$2,000 for attendance upon the latter's son, who was badly hurt in the terrible railway disaster at Burgos some time ago. Prof. Fletcher paid \$500 into court, declaring that to be an adequate payment for the services rendered. Dr. Keetley testified that he thought \$150 a day was a fair remuneration for his undivided attention, even for a day's work in London. He received \$75 a day whenever he attended court for an insurance company with which he was connected professionally. Dr. Alfred Cooper testified that, in his opinion, the charges were moderate in the extreme. For himself he should charge \$2,000 for a trip to Paris, and \$150 or \$200 a day while he remained there. For going to Burgos he should charge \$5,000. For bringing a patient home from Burgos and taking care of him during a three days' journey, he should charge \$2,500. For devoting his whole time to a patient in London,

he should not consider \$40 an hour an excessive charge. Other surgeons gave similar testimony, and finally the jury decided that Mr. Keetley was entitled to \$1,750, a verdict that gave him a substantial victory.

[Good, say we. It is time the world was educated to understand that a first-class doctor should be worth as much per day as a first-class lawyer.—ED.]

A NEW METHOD OF POLITZERIZING.—Everyone who has tried it knows how difficult it is to get the patient, whom it is intended to "Politzerize," to swallow at the proper moment (*Med. Times and Hosp. Gaz.*). Under these circumstances, and as this plan of clearing the Eustachian tube is just now very much in vogue, our readers may be glad to know of a novel and vastly more simple way of attaining the object in view. In Politzer's method, as is well known, in order to prevent the air insufflated into the nose from escaping through the pharynx instead of passing into tympanic cavity, the patient is asked to sound certain vowels or to swallow a mouthful of water, because in uttering certain vowel sounds, and during the act of deglutition, the soft palate is applied to the posterior wall of the pharynx. The naso-pharyngeal cavity, however, is only partially occluded by these means, and that for a very short time. Dr. Roydan therefore suggests that the patient be directed to take a deep inspiration and then to blow out the air through a small aperture between his closed lips. So long as the patient blows the velum palati remains in contact with the posterior wall of the pharynx, and Politzerization can be performed without the slightest difficulty.

#### MEDICAL NOTES.—*Med. Summary:*

Glycerin has decided power in preventing fermentation in the stomach.

Dr. HARE says that hydrochloric acid is only indicated in dyspepsia where the digestion is very slow, preceded by fermentation.

Dr. CAULDWELL has stated that one full dose of picrotoxine, 1.40 gr., at bedtime is sufficient to control the night sweats of consumptives.

Dr. G. W. DURGA, of Le Raysville, Pa., states in the *Medical Bulletin* that cimicifuga is of value in states of mental depression occurring in subjects of uterine disorder.