

sometimes excitable, and again depressing; stronger inhalations produce a feeling of suffocation. The workmen guard against this by means of a muzzle made of moistened flannel folded several times, which they hold between their teeth. They prefer this to respirators. The sulphurous acid that condenses on the muzzle held between the teeth will in time attack and impair them. The majority lose their teeth in a very short time. One workman who was employed for three years in St. Helens, and, previously, four years in Widness, has lost all his teeth; he was then only 22½ years of age, having entered the factory when 15½ years old. Also in the manufacture of sodii sulphas (Glauber's salt), which is made by the action of sulphuric acid on heated salt, the workmen principally suffer from the fumes of hydrochloric acid, and they also guard themselves by holding muzzles of moistened flannel between their teeth. In these the gaseous hydrochloric acid condenses and attacks the teeth. The commission reported on this as follows: The inhaled hydrochloric acid fumes have a suffocating and irritating effect on the respiratory organs, cause coughing, followed by a kind of bronchitis; especially does it affect the teeth, giving them a dull feeling, and finally destroys them. Many of these workmen, too, have lost all their teeth from this cause.—*Journal für Zahnheilkunde.*

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AN INTERESTING COMMUNICATION FROM DR. HAFNER.

In November, 1898, I was consulted by a young engineer, who in the course of conversation related the following: While engaged as engineer in the construction of the Jungfrau (mountain in the Swiss Alps) Railway, and after having been at work at an altitude of 2,600 meters above sea level for about ten days, he suffered pain in three or four contiguous teeth. The pain was of a beating, pulsating nature and pretty severe so that headache followed. Edematous swelling in cheek and jaws. During the second and third days the pain increased and extended over the whole side of the jaw. Mastication was impossible on the affected side of the mouth, and the teeth appeared to have elongated. The malady lasted about five days and then disappeared completely. During a stay of six weeks there was no recurrence of the trouble. In external symptoms the affection appeared similar to periostitis; but a peculiarity is, that the teeth to this day are quite healthy, without any fillings, and no dead pulp, nor is anything pathological (scar, etc.) to be noticed in the surrounding soft tissues. The communication is noteworthy, as not only one person was affected, but every one employed, the engineer as well as the Italian laborers. The appearance of the malady was not of an epidemic nature, but every new hand received this "mountain baptism" (as the people called it) after having been in the locality eight or ten days.