Hydrobromic Acid in Tinnitus Aurium.

—(Lennox Browne, F.R.C.S., Edin., Weymouth Street).—
The following case, selected out of several (from notes by my senior clinical assistant,) Mr. Douglass Hemming, of the successful treatment of long standing tinnitus aurium by hydrobromic acid, well illustrates the principles laid down by Dr. Woakes in the Journal of June 23rd. I commenced using hydrobromic acid in tinnitus immediately after hearing Dr. Woakes's remarks at the meeting of the Harveian Society. It will be seen that in this case the tinnitus was of the knocking or pulsating kind, and therefore probably due to a congested condition of the labyrinthine blood-vessels. In other cases in which the tinnitus was of a continuous roaring or rushing character, the administration of hydro-bromic acid had no beneficial effect.

J. S., aged 34, applied at the central London Throat and Ear Hospital on May 11th. He had been deaf and had loud "thumping" noises in the head for twelve years. There was no history of otorrhœa. On examination, the meatus of each ear was fairly healthy; hearing power was extremely defective; voice was only heard when much raised, and the watch not at all; the tuning fork was heard on the mastoid process. The tinnitus was complained of as the most distressing symptom. He was ordered benzole-inhalation, and hydrobromic acid in fifteenminim doses three times a day. On June 4th, he reported that the noises had quite stopped and said that his ears felt much clearer and more healthy since taking the medicine."—June 11th. There was no return of tinnitus.

A similar successful result has attended the administration of this drug to a young lady aged 22, suffering from a sense of continuous pulsation in the right ear and deafness, the watch being heard only on contact. The hydrobromic acid entirely removed the distressing tinnitus.