separated from the aorta by a section through the middle of the ascending arch, and a stream of water run into the orifices of the pulmonary artery and aorta before the heart is opened. To test the mitral and tricuspid competence the apex of the heart is cut off to open the ventricles, and the openings held under the stream of water. After the organ has been weighed and the competence of the valves tested, it is taken to the left hand with the anterior surface above, and, after careful inspection of the visceral pericardium, the right ventricle is opened by a V-shaped incision with blunt pointed or bistoury scissors; one blade of the scissors is then passed into the cavity, and a cut made on the extreme right of the inter-ventricular septum, through the left side of the pulmonary artery, by this means showing all three semi-lunar valves entire. The contents and surfaces of the right ventricle and pulmonary artery are now viewed. To open the right auricle, the scissors are directed up the posterior surface of the ventricle through the tricuspid valve, opening the venæ cavæ inferior and superior, and the right auricle is inspected. The left side of the heart is examined in a similar manner. but, to preserve all three of the aortic valves entire, the cut must be directed upwards about one-third of an inch to the left of the septum. The left auricle is opened as on the right side, the pulmonary veins being on either side of the in-The thoracic aorta is then opened from below cision. upwards, right through the arch, to join the cut made, opening the ascending arch to expose the valves. After the cavities have been inspected and the valves examined, the thickness of the walls should be measured by a steel rule and these compared with the normal dimensions. The circumference of the valves must also be measured, for the method of inserting one or more fingers through the orifices, though instructive to an expert, and suggestive of the actual facts, is neither sufficient nor scientific. It is only by very careful measurement that we can determine with any degree of accuracy such conditions as dilatation, hypertrophy, atrophy, etc., etc. It must be borne in mind that the stopping