

been in vogue for centuries. It is but a modification of the Turkish bath, where the temperature of the air ranges from  $210^{\circ}$  to  $300^{\circ}$ , and a still slighter modification of the old household remedies of raising the bed clothes by a few barrel hoops, and using a spirit lamp for heating the air ; or using a cane-bottomed chair, and surrounding the patient with blankets. We do not object to this plan of treatment being modified and developed to the full extent of the benefit that may be possibly obtained from it, but we hope that the patent will not prevent the use of hot air by the numerous contrivances which may suggest themselves to any physician of a mechanical turn of mind ; if so, we should be sorry to encourage the introduction of this expensive so called invention any further than its mechanical worth as a piece of convenient apparatus.

For some months back, without any knowledge of Mr. Tallerman's apparatus or methods, a somewhat similar method has been in use at the Western Hospital here in the medical wards. A number of cases of chronic rheumatism having been but little benefited by the ordinary methods, an attempt was made to imitate the Turkish bath by using the large ward bath tub. The patient is surrounded with a sheet and blanket, and placed in a semi-prone position in the tub, which is covered with blankets and rubber sheeting, the body being entirely covered in except the head ; a Bunsen's burner enclosed in a wire basket was used to heat the air, and temperatures of  $200^{\circ}$  to  $285^{\circ}$  were obtained. Very free perspiration is induced, and surprising results have been obtained in some stubborn articular cases, which we hope to publish shortly in detail.

### OUR SELF-PRESCRIBING PATIENTS.

At no time in the history of Medicine has it become so imperative for the members of our profession to take into serious consideration matters which affect their financial interests ; more especially the general practitioner, who has so many difficulties to contend with, which all tend to lessen his income. Specialism takes from him some of his most remunerative cases, many of which he could take care of as successfully as the specialist. The surgeons connected with