

Progress of Medical Science.]

MEDICINE.

SPECIAL HOSPITALS FOR CONSUMPTIVES OF LIMITED MEANS.

James M. Anders, in the *Therapeutic Gazette* of December 15, 1898, treats of the value of sanatoria and special hospitals for the treatment of poor consumptives. The statistics and facts which he advances point to the following conclusions :

1. That pulmonary tuberculosis is proportionately far more common, as well as more inauspicious, among the lower than among the higher classes.

2. The lack of proper facilities for the treatment of the poor afflicted with pulmonary tuberculosis is a potent factor in maintaining the enormous death-rate from this disease.

3. Special hospitals in which every hygienic detail can be arranged with precision are far superior to separate wards in general hospitals for the treatment of cases of pulmonary phthisis.

4. The admission to, and care of such patients in, the wards of general hospitals with those suffering from other forms of illness, as is the custom still in some and to a limited extent in many institutions, is to be energetically deprecated. There is serious danger of transmitting the disease under these circumstances, particularly when the breaking down or suppurative stage is reached.

5. The mortality figures show a reduction of nearly 50 per cent. in consequence of the creation and continued operation of special hospitals for consumptives.

6. Sanatoria near large cities afford better advantages