

THE TALLERMAN SHEFFIELD PATENT LOCALIZED HOT AIR APPARATUS.

Through the kindness of Dr. James Stewart, the members of the profession in Montréal and its vicinity had an opportunity of witnessing at the Royal Victoria Hospital an exhibition of the application of this method to cases of chronic rheumatism and gonorrhœal arthritis. The condition of the patients was described by Dr. Stewart. Mr. Tallerman, the inventor of the apparatus, who is a retired merchant from England, then explained the mechanism of, and method of using the invention. There are two pieces, one a cylindrical oven for single limbs, the other similar to a cot with a half cylinder top enclosure over the central part. The joints were covered with strips of lint, and lightly bandaged, and the body wrapped in sheets and blankets. The gas jets were lit, and a thermometer at the top registered the temperature of the air surrounding it. It registered as high as 240° F, the patient remained some 40 to 50 minutes. Little change occurred in the body temperature as taken in the mouth, the volume of the pulse was increased and the patients perspired freely. After removal, the patients admitted feeling a decided relief in the affected joints. We understand that Mr. Tallerman is giving exhibitions of this kind in the chief cities of Canada and the United States, the object being to induce hospitals and practitioners to use the method and his patented apparatus, for which a somewhat exorbitant price is asked. Mr. Tallerman has not given any very scientific explanation as to how this local application of dry heat cures these chronic affections. We understand that fairly good results followed the use of the method here. We must feel grateful to the authorities at the Royal Victoria Hospital for the privilege of witnessing a demonstration of this method of treating a class of affections which respond but poorly to medicinal treatment, and feel assured that much benefit will accrue from indicating a line of therapy which has been somewhat neglected by the profession, and suggesting a thorough scientific examination of the action of the local application of superheated air. But we do not see anything very striking about this patented apparatus in distinguishing it from somewhat similar methods which have