

the patient may not come in contact with the heated metal. Glycosuria is not a contraindication for the hot-air bath, but in anemia, fatty degeneration and arterial sclerosis it may be dangerous. The rise of pulse and temperature, and a certain tendency to increase of blood-pressure, would seem to make it unadvisable to use it in such cases.

When a limb is subjected to hot-air treatment, there is first a lessening and then an increase in the circulation of the skin, with the injection of the peripheral capillaries and a sense of warmth. The pulse gradually rises until it is from ten to twenty-five beats higher than it was when the treatment began. There is a rise of temperature of from one to five degrees. There is usually an increase of respiration up to twenty-two or twenty-four per minute. A general sense of comfort comes over the patient and continues as long as the treatment is doing good. After a time, which is variable in different patients, a nervous depression supervenes, which should not be allowed to continue. As a rule, the treatment should stop just short of this, and then it will have its maximum effect.—*Gaillard's Medical Journal*.

THE RATIONAL TREATMENT OF PNEUMONIA.

SIR HERMANN WEBER, in a recent article in the *Practitioner*, gives some interesting summaries respecting the results of different methods of treatment pursued in Bonn and in London in the treatment of pneumonia. The mortality is higher in Bonn than in London, being from fourteen to seventeen per cent., while in London the death rate is twelve to fourteen per cent. The remedies recommended are blood abstraction and tartar emetic, opium and salicylate of sodium. One would not expect to see a very great difference in the results, whichever one of these remedies might be employed.

It is very strange indeed that the profession is so slow to lay hold of the powerful therapeutic means offered by hydrotherapy for combatting this disease. It has been shown again and again by statistics of undoubted reliability that the mortality in pneumonia may be reduced to four or five per cent. by the judicious use of hydiatic measures. The cooling compress (applied at 60°, changed every fifteen to forty minutes), the prolonged neutral bath (88°-94°), and especially wet-sheet packing prolonged to the sweating stage, have been shown to be therapeutic measures of the highest value in the treatment of this grave malady.

The writer had a good opportunity to observe the value o