

A woman, aged 24, had mitral regurgitation without evidence of hypertrophy or dilatation. The action of the heart was quick and irregular; 5 minims of tincture of digitalis were ordered, and she improved slightly. Her condition then became alarming. The action of the heart became tumultuous, there was great pain, and a presystolic murmur developed. The pulse was almost imperceptible, and she was apparently dying. Only 16 ozs. of urine was passed in the 24 hours, and there was incessant vomiting. The digitalis was omitted, and $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. of morphia was injected hypodermically every 12 hours, she slept soundly, which she had not done for several days. She immediately began to improve; the vomiting ceased, the urine became normal in amount, and the tumultuous action of the heart subsided, and she recovered.

The Treatment of Neuralgia and Rheumatism by Currents of Hot Air.—W. R. Taylor, M.D., F.R.C.P., Ed. (*Lancet*, November 26, p. 1,385) has invented an apparatus for this purpose. It consists of two glass tubes one within the other connected with a chamber containing a fan. The air is heated by passing an electric current through a wire coiled on the inner tube. The fan revolves at a rapid rate and sends through the tubes a current of air which in its transit becomes heated and leaves the mouth of the outer tube in a condition suitable for direct application to the affected part. Intermediate between the source of electricity and this apparatus is placed a lampholder supplied with lamps of such calibre as to interpose a suitable resistance to the electric current. By means of these the temperature of the heated air can be suitably regulated. (If the voltage be from 100 to 130, as in many parts of London, two 16 candle lamps may be introduced into the circuit. If the voltage be 230, as in Edinburgh, two 32 candle lamps may be used.)

The movement of the air whether hot or cold is an important factor in the effects. Thus a beefsteak can be cooked in 33 minutes in a still temperature of 260°, but if the air be blown on the meat by bellows it can be cooked in 13 minutes.

In treating neuralgia Dr. Taylor often finds thermal anæsthesia present; blisters may result. A woman, aged 22, who had suffered from facial neuralgia for 13 months, was cured. Toothache was also cured by five minutes' application. For the treatment of lumbago, torticollis and painful affections of the knee joint and other large surface, he uses a much larger apparatus. In this the air is blown in a much stronger current. The glass tube is from 14 to 18 in. long and $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. in diameter. It is adapted for the full voltage of the electric supply without the intervention of resistance lamps, and is effective in these diseases as well as in those cases of herpes which are accompanied and followed by persistent pain.

A Case of Hæmophilia Treated by Inhalation of Oxygen.—Mr. W. H. Brown (*Lancet*, December 3, p. 1474).—A boy, aged 13, was admitted into the General Infirmary, Leeds, on November 6, 1897, with a large swelling on the outer side of the right thigh. A fortnight before he had "sprained" his thigh whilst getting into bed. He had six brothers who, according to the mother, all died from bleeding. His