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CLINICAL LECTURE

UPON A CASE OF MITRAL VALVE DISEASE.

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GENTLEMEN,—At our visit the day before yesterday we examined together a new arrival into the clinical wards, Jean F., whose history is instructive and interesting. You had an opportunity of hearing him tell his own story, and we examined together the physical signs presented. To-day I propose to resume the study of the case. F—— is an old country Frenchman, aged 50. He is intelligent, and gives a well-connected personal history. He has led a roving life, having been a soldier in the French army, subsequently a miner and western adventurer, and now he describes himself as a teacher of languages, having in his travels learnt Spanish, German and English. So far as we can learn he has never been intemperate, nor has he ever had syphilis. In childhood he had scarlet fever, and he has suffered from three attacks of rheumatism—the first at the age of 20, while a soldier; again in 1871 he was laid up for three months, and lastly in 1886 while he was working at the silver mines in New Mexico he was exposed on one occasion to great cold, and immediately afterwards was attacked with pain in nearly all the joints. This illness lasted nine months, and he understood from his medical attendant that it was of the nature