

of warm water containing one drachm of Boric Acid to every four ounces. Internally he invariably gives a pill of gr. 1-4 of Sulphide of Calcium three times a day. After they have disappeared, he puts the patient on a mixture containing Compound Tincture of Gentian, Tincture of Nux Vomica and Hydrochloric Acid, which should be taken for at least a month.

Selected Articles.

A CLINICAL LECTURE ON THE PREVENTION OF VALVULAR DISEASE OF THE HEART IN CASES OF ACUTE RHEUMATISM.

Delivered at the Liverpool Royal Infirmary.

BY RICHARD CATON, M.D., F.R.C.P.

Physician to the Infirmary.

GENTLEMEN,—It is your constant experience and mine day after day on the medical side of this hospital to meet with cases of organic heart disease. These poor people come to us suffering from dyspnœa, dropsy and weakness after too often a severe struggle to accomplish the daily task needful for the earning of a livelihood. They have striven hard against increasing difficulties, until at length Nature can do no more, and they come to us almost in despair. We treat them as out-patients, or more frequently take them, into our wards, and give what temporary help we can. Nearly always we get the same sad story from them—a bad attack of rheumatism, after which they were never the same as before ; increasing breathlessness, then swelling of legs and feet, and inability for hard work. It is a painful experience for the doctor, especially when, as so often happens the patient is young, and his whole life is blasted by this terrible breakdown of circulation, a breakdown the urgent symptoms of which we can often alleviate, but the underlying essential defect of which we can never repair. Under these circumstances it is not wonderful that some of us have felt the urgent need for efforts to prevent this injury of the cardiac valves in rheumatism from which so much suffering and disablement result. No one can deny that the inquiry is important and is worthy of our best efforts. Nevertheless it is the fact that the great majority of our profession at present, while treating the rheumatic affection to the best of