

glycerine, the parts moistened with this three or four times a day. This last prescription he has used in the ear three times a day in serofulous otitis, dropping in a few drops after washing the ear out, and excluding the air by cotton wool—*Oregon Med. and Surg. Reporter.*

CLINICS.

CLINICAL LECTURE ON ABSCESS IN DIFFERENT LOCALITIES BY FREDERICK C. SKEY, ESQ., CONSULTING SURGEON TO ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL, ETC.

There is no disease more universal than abscess, and none that demands from the surgeon clearer pathologic views, and the consideration of which will afford you material for much profitable reflection. It may be preceded in its formation by a deposit of solid lymph, greater or less in magnitude; or an abscess may form without previous indication of its existence. Such examples are not infrequently found under the skin, and in various parts of the frame, following diseases which exert an unusually depressing influence on the system—such as fever, dysentery, phthisis, &c. This latter variety is invariably the product of extreme debility. Now, is this purulent deposit in the tissues of the body the result, as is too often supposed, of real inflammation—that is, of an active hyperemia—or not? Assuredly it is not. It is associated with, and, more than that, it is the product of, a weak condition of the arterial system, and necessarily of all the vital powers. You will find the pulse, when the disease is extensive, weak; for, even if full and large in calibre, it is readily compressed. I wish you especially to recognize this feature in the formation and progress of simple abscess; the indications of weakness being, of course, greater when the abscess is large. The greater the debility the larger the abscess, and the slower its progress towards maturity and recovery.

You will naturally infer, then, that all abscesses occurring spontaneously, or rather without external and obvious causes, demand treatment by tonics and stimulants, and of such I select especially bark and wine. There is no remedy in the Phar-