

ments on the human body, and he stated that the constant current was a much more useful agent. Its application is to produce a soothing influence on the nervous system, although at the time when it is applied it stimulates all the nerves of the body.

It was not long, as you may imagine, before a galvanic battery was obtained for the use of the Hospital for Epileptics and Paralysed, and, under the superintendence of Mr. Radcliffe, the statements of Remak were confirmed. In consequence of what I heard, I paid a visit to the institution, in company with Mr. Branford Edwards, when Mr. Radcliffe was good enough to show us some of his cases. There was one of a man who had been suffering for some months with wasting and paralysis of the right arm. Faradisation was powerless in producing contraction of the muscles, and therefore valueless as a remedy, whilst the new machine was producing a rapid cure. When the poles were applied a sudden contraction of the muscles ensued, and they were daily growing in strength. As we had always taken a great interest in the subject of electricity as a means of cure at Guy's Hospital, we had at once a galvanic machine fitted up in our room, consisting of a hundred cells, which can be used in any number at a time. Mr. Edwards has been indefatigable in his trials of the instrument, and the results have fully borne out all that was anticipated—in fact, some of the cures have been most remarkable. Its value has been greatest where the faradisation had previously failed. Thus in lead paralysis, where very little result had previously been seen by the induced current, a more marked effect was here obtained. This was not only seen in the final cure, but in the greater susceptibility to the influence. Thus in the man now in Stephen Ward who is recovering from lead palsy of the arms, an action was produced by the combination of fifteen cells, and a most marked result by twenty-five, whilst in a healthy man there was no evident effect. In the progressive muscular atrophy the constant current had been recommended not in the course of the muscles or nerves, but along the spine, and faradisation is said to be useless. Now, the first statement we have proved to be true, but not the last. The case which I have already mentioned of the girl who was little more than a skeleton, and who quite recovered under the use of faradisation, is sufficient to show this, at the same time we have already had cases which prove the assertion of Remak. Dr. Fagge has had under his care the case of a man with commencing progressive muscular atrophy, and who rapidly recovered by the use of the continuous current down the spine, one pole being placed over the nape of the neck and the other over the lumbar region. That the whole nervous system is affected is certain from the sensations which the