

rant of the advantages to be derived from a more extended experience. To show the necessity of improving these advantages, in what they consist, where they may best be sought and how, is the object of these few words addressed to American medical students about to graduate.

We all appreciate thoroughly the enlarged, cosmopolitan and eclectic views of our revered professors, who "prove all things and retain the best," but *exemplo plus quam ratione vivimus*, and however good our theories may be, we need actual experience also to fit us for our career. *Experientia docet*, and we should compare the experiences of many men and under varied conditions. We should study disease under different climatic influences, under the influence of different temperaments and of different habits of life. We should compare the maladies of widely separated lands, and endeavor to ascertain the causes of their dissimilarity. Are we to be general practitioners? Consider the responsibility of taking into our keeping the life of a fellow human being and the happiness of his friends. It is not enough to feel that we have done all that we could for his benefit; we should wish to feel that we have done all that any one could. Are we to be specialists? Science, thanks to the mechanical discoveries of the last few decades, has now progressed so far that it is impossible for any one man to master thoroughly all branches of medicine, and we should wish, after, it being distinctly understood, a thorough general course, to study our specialty in that place where, from any reason, this specialty has been most completely investigated. And bear in mind that the specialist must never neglect general extension of knowledge while devoting himself to intensifying his acquaintance with a particular branch. His rule of conduct is addition, not substitution.

In what do the advantages of foreign study consist? Generally, in the age and experience of Great Britain, the systematic method and accurate analytical investigation of Germany, and the bold experiments of France. Particularly, in the fact that whereas republics are slowly and unwillingly forced into establishing imperfect institutions by voluntary contributions, despotism compels at once the perfect formation on a grand scale of that which is seen to be needful. In La Charité at Berlin and Allgemeines Krankenhaus at Vienna may be found under one roof every department of medicine, and the entire quarters in the neighborhood of these grand hospitals are

ADVANTAGES OF FOREIGN STUDY TO AMERICAN MEDICAL GRADUATES.

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"HOME-KEEPING youth have ever homely wits," and we trust that, among medical students at least, no one can be found igno-

given up to medical students, who thus save every instant of time, passing directly from one lecture or clinique to another.

Moreover, the dense population of Europe, the poverty of the lower classes and the low tone of morality cause, first, aggravation in the forms of disease; then, an only too great willingness to seek the support of public institutions; and, finally, a perfect submission to the will of the physician, unknown in a land where independence and modesty are carried often to a degree incompatible with common sense. Here the patient is the first consideration, the disease the second; in Europe the disease is the only consideration. We state merely facts. Our business now is simply with the "what is," not with the "what ought to be."

Scire ubi aliquid possis invenire, magna pars eruditionis est. Let us therefore consider what things we cannot find at home and where we are to look abroad to remedy these deficiencies. And here we should say that it is merely to the more advanced age of foreign institutions, to their superior advantages in regard to number and quality of patients and endowments of money that we refer, for in intellectual capacity we consider our "Faculty" inferior to none. In surgery, in fact, we stand in the van, for here American foresight, presence of mind, versatility and inventive ingenuity, combined with manual quickness and dexterity, give us a preëminence over all others.

We lack, however, the gigantic museums of Europe, with their numerous and varied specimens. We lack its immense chemical laboratories, where whole classes work under the constant immediate supervision of a professor. We lack its hospital wards devoted solely to obstetrics, where the student may pass whole nights delivering all cases, and, under supervision, performing all operations. One of our friends has seen nearly thirty cases during a single night in Vienna, and we ourselves, *manu propria*, have delivered eleven cases in the same time. Here also difficult deliveries, with operations, are performed by both professor and students in public before the whole class, and, thanks to self-interest, preference is generally given to the foreign student. In clinical medicine the Vienna system is admirable. Each patient on admission is assigned to two students, who make the examination and diagnosis, prepare full reports of the case to be read before the class, and are responsible for the whole direction and care of the sick person. This is all done, however, under the ever watchful eye

of the professor attending, and both Skoda and Oppolzer spend perhaps one to two hours over a most thorough lecture upon their important cases.

With regard to diseases of the skin and syphilis, whole hospitals abroad are devoted exclusively to these subjects. Women as well as men are in Vienna completely denuded of all clothing for examination by the professors and students; and the comparative advantages of all methods of treatment are accurately investigated. Whole wards are devoted to variola. In Vienna the mortality is hardly three per cent., and pitting is rare.

Ophthalmology, otology, laryngoscopy, &c., and microscopy receive as much attention as with us surgery or clinical medicine, several professors devoting their exclusive attention to each of these branches. In short the student's sole difficulty will be *l'embarras de richesses*. In dentistry, however, as in surgery, America holds an enviable preëminence.

Let us examine now in detail what each great European city offers us and under what professors of world-wide reputation we can study.

The first medical school in the world at the present day is indisputably that of Vienna. Let the list of its "Faculty" speak for itself. Anatomy, Hyrtl; Descriptive Anatomy, Friedlowsky; Practical Histology, Wedl; Path. Anat., Rokitsansky; Anat. and functions of brain and spinal marrow, Meynert; Physiology, Brücke; General and Experimental Pathology and Microscopy, Stricker; Electrotherapeutics, Benedikt; Clin. Med., Skoda and Oppolzer; Auscult. and Percuss., von Schrötter; Laryngoscopy, Rhinology, &c., Ditto and Störk; Surgery, Billroth, von Dumreicher, Mosetig and Weinlechner; Operations on the Urinary and Sexual Organs, Dittel; Otology, Politzer (Adam) and Gruber; Ophthalmology, Arit and von Jaeger; Obstetrics, Braun, Späth and Mayrhofer; Dis. of Children, Widerhofer, Fridinger, Pollitzer (Max); Dermatology, Hebra, Auspitz, Neumann, Kohn (Moritz), Wertheim; Venereal Dis., Sigmund, Zeissel, Kohn (Emanuel); Chemistry, Heller. Lack of space prevents us from enumerating the many and various sub-divisions of these general branches and the numerous and able instructors in them, Voigt, Klob, Patrubau, &c. &c.

The University of Berlin takes the first rank in the world. The medical department is however inferior to that of Vienna. Comp. Anat., Reichert; Osteology, Lieber-

kühn; Physiology, du Boir Reymond and Rosenthal; Spec. Path. and Therapeutics, Hirsch and Frierichs; Pathology, Virchow; Laryngoscopy, Tobold; Venereal Diseases, Lewin; Surgery, Langenbeck and Rose; Clin. Med., Traube and Frierichs; Chemistry, Hofman; Nervous Diseases, Westphal, &c. &c.

Third on our list, *proximus huic, longo sed proximus intervallo*, comes Paris; but, alas! *Roma fuit*. Paris has "fallen from its high estate" of 80-20 years ago. France like America suffers from a lack of centralization of her medical talent. She has attempted to maintain three schools of the first rank, one at Paris, one at Montpellier, and one at Strasburg, and has therefore failed in all. The school at Paris still offers inducements to students from its immense mass of material, but the instruction is inferior to what it should be. Paris has receded, while Germany has made immense strides forward. This is due chiefly to the fact that, while Vienna and Berlin are ever solicitous to absorb all the talented men of the country by the proffer of superior emoluments, Paris not only does not do this, but actually drives away all young men of ability with a narrow-minded conservatism and jealousy which does discredit to her entire medical "Faculty." Add to this that in Paris, as in London, the hospitals, dispensaries, &c., are often miles apart, while the hours for visits and lectures are the same in all. A student is thus sadly restricted as to opportunities and compelled to waste much valuable time. Paris, nevertheless, offers certain advantages to the specialist. Surgery, Broca at La Pitié; Maisonneuve at Hotel Dieu; Verneuil at Lariboisière and Reverdin at La Charité, the first to transplant epidermis to old ulcers. At the Neckar Hospital Desormeaux, inventor of the endoscope; Ophthalmology, Liebreich, the probable successor of von Graefe at Berlin; Nervous Diseases, Brown-Sequard; Laryngoscopy, Fauvel; Diseases of Children, Roger; Pathological Anatomy, Cornil; Physiology, Claude Bernard and Ranvier; Dermatology, Lallier, Basin, Hardy, Guibout, Hillairet, Vidal and Paul, all at St. Louis; Venereal, Fournier, at Lourcine (Women), and Liegeois and Simonet, at Midi (men).

London.—Hospitals separated and the student must attach himself to one of the three schools at University College Hospital, at Gny's, or at St. Bartholomew's, and pay for his courses; whereas on the continent the larger part of the instruction is gratis. Ovariectomy, Spencer Wells at

Samaritan Hosp.; Clin. Med., Wilson Fox (Univ. Coll. Hosp.), and Marchison (Middlesex); Surgery, Sir. Henry Thompson, Christopher Heath (Univ. Coll.), Paget (Bartholomew's), Fergusson (King's College); Dermatology, Tilbury Fox (Univ. Coll.), and Hilton Fagge (Bartholomew's).

Edinburgh.—Surgery, Lister (Surg. Infirmary); Uterine Surgery, Keith; Anat. and Comp. Anat., Pettigrew.

Dublin offers peculiar advantages to the obstetrician, and students would do well to study here the theories which he will afterwards apply in Vienna. The chief lying-in Hospital is the Rotunda under the able supervision of Drs. Johnson and Maddon. To the ability and kindness of Dr. Maddon many in both hemispheres will eagerly bear witness. A valuable work by him on diseases of women will soon be published here. In the Rotunda there are 1000-1500 births per annum, according to the abstract of the Registry. Students receive cases in and outside of the Hospital, and are held strictly responsible for them. To become a licentiate in midwifery, six months attendance is necessary, and then an examination must be passed before the master and two assistants. The Stevens Hospital is also for diseases of women. So also various dispensaries. At Trinity College, Sinclair on Midwifery and R. Smith on Surgery. At the Hardwick Fever Hospital, H. Kennedy. The weekly meetings of the Dublin Pathological Society, free to all, are of special interest.

Munich.—Anatomy and Histology, Rüdinger, at the "Royal Anatomie." Surgery, Nussbaum (Gen. Hosp.). Laryngoscopy, Oertel. Dermatology, Liudwurm and Ditrach. A fine Orthopedic Hospital lies just outside the city.

Heidelberg.—Moos on Otolaryngology and Friedreich on Dermatology. At Würzburg, Scanzoni on Obstetrics, Recklinghausen on Pathological Anatomy, and Kölliker on Histology. At Bonn, Rindfleisch and Max Schultze on Histology. At Jena, Hallier. At Leipzig, Ludwig on Physiology. His laboratory is the best in the world, with most elaborate and extensive apparatus, animals gratis and most careful instruction. Prague, Seiffert on Midwifery; Waller and Petters on Dermatology. Famous also for diseases of children. (*Vide Viertel-Jahres Schrift.*)

To save time, learn at least the grammar of the language of your intended place of residence, before starting. Then take passage to Hamburg or Bremen, second class \$72 gold. Going also as steerage passen-

ger is now rapidly becoming fashionable. On arriving go to Brunswick, Hanover or Dresden, and enter a German family, avoiding all intercourse with English-speaking people. In three months you may go to Vienna or Berlin, and begin your studies. Courses begin in Vienna on April 1st and middle of October; in Berlin or Paris, the first week in April and November 1st. Take out a matriculation ticket which more than pays for itself by cheapening courses. In Berlin, students on presenting these tickets are admitted at half-price into the theatres, one of the best modes of acquiring a new language. Go to the Janitor at the Hospital and get catalogues and all other information. Living in Great Britain is not much cheaper than here. In Paris prices are half the English ones, and in Austria half the Paris, following the unit of currency, penny (2 cents), sou (1 cent), kreuzer ($\frac{1}{2}$ cent). In Vienna, one can live, *crede experto*, on \$20 per month, everything included, and on \$32 both the writer and other friends have "fared sumptuously every day." Our most earnest advice is, therefore, go abroad and stay as long as possible at all sacrifices; you will never regret it. The progressive West sends annually a noble quota; let the conservative East not tarry too far behind.