

ACCOUNT OF THE

PARISIAN INSTITUTIONS FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION.

SESSION OF 1835-36, COMMENCING IN NOVEMBER 1835.

In the first number of the Volume of THE LANCET for the present year, we gave, according to our annual custom, an account of the different schools of medicine attached to and near the London hospitals. The approach of a new session in the school of Paris, now induces us to lay before our readers a review of the medical institutions which are devoted to the instruction of students in the French capital, for the benefit of those gentlemen who may intend to visit that capital for the purpose of completing their professional education as physicians or surgeons.

In London the number of medical schools is at once very great and extremely perplexing. With each hospital is incorporated a school, and near to it are numerous teachers possessing theatres or rooms for lecturing, extensive changes taking place amongst them every year. In Paris there is but one school of medicine, the "Faculté de Medecine de Paris." This body is composed of a dean, two assessors, and twenty-four professors, who are all chosen by concours. The locale of the faculty is a handsome quadrilateral building, which contains a museum, a library, cabinets of botany, surgical instruments, and every other requisite for instruction, and an immense amphitheatre, in which all the lectures of the

faculty are delivered, and which is capable of containing from 1500 to 2000 persons.

The instruction of the medical youths in Paris is confined, in a great measure, to the twenty-four professors who compose the school, no private teacher being permitted to lecture, without express permission obtained from the minister on the recommendation of the dean of the faculty. Dissections are not permitted to be prosecuted in any part of Paris, except in the two establishments devoted to anatomical purposes, which are attached to the institution of the faculty. However, the authority to teach is granted readily to any respectable medical man; and students, as we shall have occasion to notice by and by, may receive abundant private assistance in their anatomical studies, at the two immense establishments of Clamart, and the *Ecole Pratique*.

The medical session in Paris commences on the first of November, and terminates on the first of September. It is not divided, as in London, into Winter and Summer Sessions, but the greater part of the professors continue to lecture during the whole season. The following is a list of the professors of medicine, and the subjects upon which they lecture &c.

FACULTY OF MEDICINE—SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

Anatomy.....	{ M. Cruveilhier (physician to <i>Salpetriere</i> , and lately appointed professor of Pathological Anatomy) .....	Lectures delivered gratuitously to the audience.
Physiology .....	M. Berard .....	Ditto.
Medical Chemistry	M. Orfila .....	Ditto.
Medical Physics....	M. Pelletan .....	Ditto.
Botany .....	M. Richard .....	Ditto.
Pharmacy .....	M. Deyeux .....	Ditto.
Hygiène .....	M. Desgenettes .....	Ditto.
Practice of Medicine	{ M. Andral (physician to the Hospital <i>La Pitie</i> ) and M. Dumeril.....	Ditto.
Surgery .....	{ M. Marjolin (surgeon to the Hospital <i>Beaujon</i> ) and M. Gerdy (surgeon to the Hospital <i>St. Louis</i> ) .....	Ditto.
Operations and Bandages .....	{ M. Richerand (surgeon to <i>St. Louis</i> ).....	Ditto.



Medical Pathology and Therapeutics..	M. Broussais (physician to <i>Val de Grace</i> ) ..	} Lectures delivered gratuitously to the audience.
Legal Medicine ....	M. Adelon .....	
Midwifery .....	M. Moreau (accoucheur to the <i>Maternité</i> ) ..	Ditto.
Clinical Medicine ..	MM. Fouquier and Bouillaud ( <i>La Charité</i> ) ..	} Ditto.
	MM. Chomel ( <i>Hôtel Dieu</i> ) and Rostan ( <i>Hopital Clinique</i> ) .....	
Clinical Surgery ...	M. Cloquet ( <i>Hopital Clinique</i> ), M. Velpeau ( <i>La Charité</i> ), M. Roux ( <i>Hôtel Dieu</i> ) .....	} Ditto.
	[The fourth professorship is yet vacant, having become so by the death of Dupuytren. The last seven-named clinical lecturers do not "profess" at the Faculty, but at the several hospitals to which their names are attached.]	
Clinical Midwifery..	M. Dubois ( <i>Hopital Clinique</i> ) .....	Ditto.

The lecturers on the different branches above enumerated, commence their labours at ten o'clock in the morning, and continue to follow each other without interruption until five o'clock in the afternoon. The amphitheatre is open to every student who chooses to become an auditor of the lectures. It is understood, however, that each French student has taken out an "inscription," which he receives in the form of a card, at a cost of forty francs; and that foreigners have received a "card of admission," which is afforded *gratuitously* to them, on the presentation of a diploma in medicine or surgery, whether French or foreign. However, as the exhibition of the entrance ticket is never required, except for admission to the library, or sometimes for admission to the museum, the whole of the lectures at the School of Medicine may be regarded as essentially public and gratuitous.

There are two establishments for the prosecution of anatomical studies connected with the faculty of medicine. One is at the *Ecole Pratique*, in the Rue de l'Ecole de Medecine, within a hundred paces of the school. The establishment contains four large dissecting-rooms, very lofty, well aired, and well lighted. The building was originally intended for the exclusive use of the pupils of the *Ecole Pratique*; but any student who has an inscription, or any foreigner without one, may obtain access to it with ease. The other establishment is at Clamart, near the Jardin du Roi, situated about twenty minutes walk from the School of Medicine. This magnificent establishment is composed of four distinct buildings, or dissecting-rooms, each being separate from the other, very lofty, and possessing every accommodation that is necessary for the purposes of dissection. Each room contains (as well as we can remember) about twelve tables, and there is abundant accommodation for between two hundred and fifty and three hundred dissectors. Pupils are

admitted, without distinction of country or claims, to the amphitheatres at Clamart. The name of each is taken down in a register by one of the demonstrators. Five pupils must join together for the exploration of each subject, and the only preference shown to any one is in favour of the internes or the externes, who have the first choice of bodies at the daily distribution, which takes place at twelve o'clock. The price of each subject is regulated by a decree of the Council, and amounts to about 4s. 2d. for every unopened body. For those which have already been examined in the hospital, the cost is about half-a-crown. By a recent regulation, the medical officers of the hospitals are forbidden to open more than one third of the patients who die in their wards. This rule, which is not very strictly observed, was obtained by M. Orfila, in order to ensure as far as possible a supply of unopened subjects for the schools. As all the *unclaimed* patients who die in the various Parisian hospitals (and the practice of claiming the bodies does not prevail to any great extent) are carried to Clamart and the *Ecole Pratique*, the supply of subjects at the amphitheatres of those places is most abundant, particularly so near the close of the session. Two prosectors, and several sub-prosectors, or aids, are attached to the amphitheatres, but we cannot say that the pupils obtain much of their assistance, as they are never to be seen in the rooms. Those who require aid generally pay a small sum for dissecting with an interne, who undertakes to supply the student with subjects, and afford him demonstrations. During the session the prosectors are chiefly occupied in giving courses of lectures on operative surgery, which last for four or six weeks. The pupils perform each operation at least twice, and pay only *one pound for each course*.

Having already given a detailed account of the Parisian hospitals, we shall now only notice such particulars as are more immediately connected with medical instruction. The Hospitals most frequented by the students are, the *Hôtel Dieu*, *La Pitié*, *La*



*Charité, L'Hopital de l'Ecole* (the clinical hospitals), the *Hôpital des Enfants Malades*, the *Veneréal Hospital*, and the *Hôpital St. Louis*.

THE HOTEL DIEU.

This hospital is situated at a distance of about ten minutes walk from that part of the city in which the students generally reside. It contains one thousand beds, distributed in

nineteen large wards. The service of the hospital is performed by eleven physicians, three surgeons, nineteen internes (corresponding to our dressers), and 84 externes, and students in pharmacy, who act as apothecaries. The number of patients received during the year averages about seventeen or eighteen thousand. The following table exhibits the days and hours on which the medical officers visit the hospital, with such other particulars as it is necessary for us to mention.

Surgeons.	Lecture Days.	Hours.	Fees.
M. Roux .....	Clinical Lecture every day except Thursday	7 to 8 a.m.	None.
M. Sanson .....		6 to 7 a.m.	None.
M. Breschet .....		8 to 8 a.m.	None.
<i>Physicians.</i>			
M. Chomel .....	Mon. Wed. and Fri.	7½ to 8½ a.m.	None.
M. Caillard .....		8 to 9 a.m.	Lectures occasionally from the remainder
M. Recamier .....		7 to 8 a.m.	
M. Petit .....		8 to 9 a.m.	
M. Magendie .....		7 to 8 a.m.	
M. Husson .....	Clinique Tu. & Thurs.	7 to 8 a.m.	—
MM. Piorry and Bally ..		7½ to 8½ a.m.	—
M. Guineau de Mussy ..		7 to 8 a.m.	—
M. Honoré .....		7 to 8 a.m.	—

The above hours are those of attendance during summer. In winter the time is generally one hour later. The clinical lectures commence immediately on the visit of the surgeon or physician.

The only physician at the Hotel Dieu, whose practice is, much followed by the pupils, is M. Chomel, and it is but justice to say that the reputation which he has obtained as a clinical teacher is richly deserved. The other medical wards are comparatively deserted. However, valuable information may be collected by the more advanced student, in the wards of M. Magendie and M. Recamier, which always contain many highly interesting cases. Clinical surgery, formerly professed with such *eclat* by Dupuytren, is now taught by M. Roux; but the latter, though a brilliant

operator, will never, we fear, be calculated, as a lecturer, to sustain the reputation once possessed by the School of the *Hotel Dieu*, as the first surgical clinique in Europe. We should mention that a clinique of diseases of the eye is entrusted to M. Sanson, and that a highly useful course on the application of the stethoscope in diseases of the chest is given at three o'clock by an interne, M. Roger, in the wards of M. Recamier. During this course, which costs the moderate sum of one pound, the pupils have an opportunity of daily applying the stethoscope in a variety of thoracic diseases, under the direction of one who is fully competent to instruct them. Similar courses have been given at *La Pitié*, at *La Charité*, and at *St. Louis*. The operating day for the clinical patients is Saturday; for the other wards there is no fixed day.

HOPITAL DE LA PITIE.

Physicians.	Surgeons.	Hours of Visit and Clinique.
M. Andral .....	.....	8 a.m. every day.
—	M. Blandin ..	7 a.m., clinical observations 3 times a week.
M. Parent Du Chatelet	.....	7 a.m.
M. Clement .....	.....	7½ a.m.
—	M. Lisfranc ..	8 a.m., clinical lecture daily.
M. Louis .....	.....	7½ a.m., clinical observations daily.
M. Serres .....	.....	8 a.m.



The Hopital de la Pitié is situated to the south of the *Jardin des Plantes*, about twenty minutes walk from the *Ecole de Medecine*. It contains more than 600 beds, and receives annually about 8 or 9000 patients. We are not aware that any fixed days are appointed for operating at the hospital, but the student has always sufficient notice of the most important operations which are to take place.

It is unnecessary to make any comment on the names of MM. Andral, Lisfranc, or Louis. The latter is the most minute observer of disease in France, and is chiefly followed by the English and American students, M. Lisfranc has long been the most popular teacher of surgery in Paris, but his wards are always so crowded, that we would

almost advise the English student to follow any other surgeon. M. Andral passes through his service without ever making a remark: his wards are therefore more fit for those who have already completed what is called their education, than for students who require the hand of a master to guide them. The neighbourhood of the hospital of *La Pitié* is perhaps the best situation in Paris, in which a student can fix his temporary abode. Comfortable board and lodging may be obtained at any of the *pensions* in the rue Copeau, rue neuve St. Etienne, rue des Postes, &c., for from sixty to eighty francs a month (from 2*l.* 10*s.* to 3*l.* 5*s.*). The dissecting-rooms at Clamart are within a few minutes walk, while, close to the hospital, indeed on the opposite side of the street, is the *Jardin des Plantes*, with all its *agremens* and its boundless scientific treasures.

#### HOPITAL DE LA CHARITE.

Physicians.	Surgeons.	Hours of Visit and Clinique.
—	M. Guerbois.	
M. Fouquier.....	—	7 a.m., clinical lectures at the bed-side of the patient.
M. Maury.....	—	Ditto.
—	M. Velpeau..	7 a.m., clinical lectures daily.
M. Rullier.....	—	
M. Rayer .....	—	
M. Bouillaud.....	—	7 a.m., clinical lectures three times a week.

The number of patients contained in this hospital amounts to about 500; its annual population is from 5000 to 6000. The operating days still continue, we believe, as in the time of M. Roux, to be Tuesdays and Saturdays. Students who propose attending the cliniques of M. Velpeau or M. Bouillaud may dissect at the *Ecole Pratique*. The consultations of M. Rayer on diseases of the skin are also well worth attending.

This hospital is the next largest in Paris to the *Hotel Dieu*, but its situation, which is at the northern extremity of Paris, renders attendance on its practice very inconvenient for the student, except during the summer months. It contains more than 700 beds,

receives annually from 5000 to 6000 in-patients, and affords relief to more than 23,000 out-patients. The clinical lectures of M. Alibert and Biet are followed by all those students who desire to become acquainted with the various forms of cutaneous disease; while the lectures and practice of M. Lugol afford numerous advantages for the study of scrofula. Students who follow the other hospitals, which are situated more near the school of medicine, and the anatomical amphitheatres, will perhaps find it most advantageous to follow merely the clinical lecture which M. Alibert gives once a week, on Wednesday mornings, at 10 o'clock.

#### HOPITAL ST. LOUIS.

Physicians.	Surgeons.	Hours of Visit.
M. Alibert.....	—	10 a.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and a Clinique every Wednesday.
M. Biet .....	—	9 a.m. Clinical lectures 3 and 4 times a week.
—	M. Gerdy.....	8 a.m. Daily.
M. Emery.....	—	8 a.m. Daily.
—	M. Jobert ....	8 a.m. Daily.
M. Lugol .....	—	9 a.m. Clinical lectures on Scrofulous Diseases during the summer.
—	M. Richerand..	Attends very irregularly.



## THE VENEREAL HOSPITAL.

*Surgeons.*—M. Cullerier, M. Ricord, and M. Manec; attendance at 7½ a. m.—Clinical lectures occasionally given.

This fine hospital, containing more than 600 beds, for patients of both sexes, is situate in the Rue des Capucins, not very far from the School of Medicine. It affords the best opportunities for the study of the venereal disease; and although the number of students admitted to the practice is limited, M. Ricord, whose politeness to foreigners is proverbial, grants the latter every indulgence in his power. Thursday, being a kind of idle day at the great operating hospitals, is the day which is generally chosen by strangers and students for "a visit to the Venereal." M. Ricord from time to time publicly examines the whole of the female patients under his care, with the speculum, when a "turn up" takes place which visitors would certainly see in no other country.

## HOPITAL DE L'ECOLE.

This small hospital, which has just been finished, occupies one side of the *Place de l'Ecole de Medecine*, immediately opposite the Ecole itself. It contains about 150 beds, distributed amongst medical, surgical, and obstetrical patients.

*Physician.*—M. Rostan; Clinical Lecture three times a week at 7 a. m.

*Surgeons.*—M. Cloquet; Clinical Lecture three times a week at 7 a. m.—M. Dubois; ditto at 8 a. m.

This hospital is specially destined for the instruction of students who have entered on their "fourth year," but every student is requested to attend the practice without discrimination. The clinique of M. Rostan is, perhaps, one of the most instructive that the student can follow. Not content simply with remarks which are full of interest, delivered at the bed-side, M. Rostan frequently selects a pupil from amongst the crowd which follows him, requests him to examine the patient, and requires a diagnosis of the nature of the disease, and a plan of treatment, with the reasons for its adoption. Thus a regular consultation is held in the presence of the pupils, who become accustomed to form a judgment for themselves, and are not induced or compelled, as is too often the case in clinics, to adopt implicitly the opinions which are given out by the teacher.

The clinique of accouchement, which is placed under the direction of M. Paul Dubois, is accessible only to French students who have entered upon their fourth year of study; foreign graduates in medicine are not

admitted. We are not, however, to accuse the hospital functionaries of selfishness on this account. The number of beds appropriated to accouchements, in this small hospital, is not sufficient to satisfy the wants of French students themselves. Foreigners cannot, therefore, complain with any justice. It is right, however, to mention that all students (a circumstance which is not generally known) are permitted to attend the clinical lectures of M. Dubois, and to follow his visit through the wards, where he frequently makes some clinical observations, the only privilege reserved for the French student being that of delivering the women, and practising the toucher.

We may here remark, *en passant*, that midwifery is the only branch of medicine which is not well taught in Paris. Let no foreigner who desires to pay special attention to this branch of the science, think of remaining an instant in the French capital, but proceed at once to Heidelberg, or, still better, to Vienna. There are, indeed, numerous private teachers of midwifery at Paris, who give a course of lectures for five or six weeks, during which they deliver two or three women in presence of the class, and demonstrate the positions of the fœtus and the mechanism of labour upon what are called "mannequins," i. e. a stuffed pelvis, with an artificial fœtus. The pupil also has an opportunity of practising the toucher a certain number of times during the course, but as the same women are "touched" in nearly all the theatres, and frequently we believe by several different classes in the same evening, the state of parts is such that very little can be learned from them.

## HOPITAL DES ENFANS MALADES.

*Physicians.*—M. Jadelot; at 10 or 11 a. m.; very irregular. M. Guersent; at 9 to 10 a. m. M. Baudelocque; at 8 to 9 a. m. M. Bouneau; ditto a. m.

*Surgeon.*—M. Baffos; at 6 to 7 a. m.

This hospital contains 560 beds, about 500 of which are appropriated to medical diseases. The service of the hospital is divided into four parts; viz: the acute diseases of boys; the acute diseases of girls; the scrofulous patients, and the skin diseases, principally comprising the itch. Each physician takes a division for six months, at the expiration of which he exchanges it for another. The great distance of this hospital from the school of medicine is, perhaps, the reason why it is comparatively deserted by the students. It is a rarity to see the physicians of the acute wards attended by more than four or five pupils; however, it affords a good opportunity for studying the diseases of children,

and is, moreover, the best place for becoming acquainted with the stethoscopic phenomena accompanying disease of the lungs, which is here very frequent. There are no clinical lectures delivered at this hospital, a circumstance which may perhaps account for its neglect by the pupils.

There are several hospitals besides those we have enumerated, but as they are never frequented by the student, the usefulness of our present object will not in any way be promoted by declaring them in this place, more especially as an account of them, as we have before observed, has already appeared in our pages, and may be found in *THE LANCET*, for Jan. 17, 1835, at page 569. We do not mean to say that they are *never* visited by students. For instance, at the *Hospital Necker*, which contains 121 beds, and occupies a situation immediately close to that of the *Enfans Malades*, M. Civiale delivers clinical lectures on lithotrity, and operates at 9 o'clock on Saturday mornings. These lectures and operations some persons who wish to see the process attend; but here all connexion between strangers and the institution ceases.