

not known, nor is it certain whether he served all his time in Paris or not. From a skit published long after his death some idea of the lean years of Paré may be gleaned:

"The cock has scarce done crowing when the apprentice must arise, sweep and throw open the shop lest he lose the least payment that the tricks of the trade may bring him—some early bird to be shaved. From this time on till two o'clock there are fifty customers. He must comb the wigs, hang about the parlour or the staircase selling his stock, put folks hair in curl papers, cut it or singe it. Towards the evening, if the young man wishes to improve his mind he will take a book, but the dullness and weariness of learning which comes of his not being used to it soon brings him to sound sleep, with interruptions from the door bell warning him that some rustie wants his hair cut. Never did any one ask so much of a servant, never 'in the Islands' did a white man seek so greedily to get profit out of a black man as a master barber surgeon tries to make gain out of the bread and water he gives his apprentices. If it is not their afternoon off he will not let them leave the shop, not even go to lecture for fear of losing the worth of some beard which, perhaps, will not come after all. That is why, out of kindness, the professors give their lectures to these unhappy young men at four o'clock in the morning."

These lectures were delivered by physicians, not by surgeons, and in Latin, as the dignity of the university forbade the use of French, and the apprentice did not understand Latin. The value of the teaching of these pedants can readily be imagined.

In 1533 he was in Paris and the plague was raging there. Paris was a walled city of about 150,000 inhabitants: the criminal class was very numerous, quite 6,000 to 7,000, and the paupers numbered 8,000 to 9,000.

He worked at the Hotel Dieu, and while yet unqualified was given a resident appointment, "*compagnon chirurgien*." For three years he lived in the hospital and here his true work began. Sylvius was one of his teachers, and Vesalius and he just missed meeting as students by a year or two; afterwards meeting in consultation over the case of Henry II. It is certain that during these years he had abundance of work. He had charge of the patients, privilege of making dissections and post mortem examinations, and some opportunity of teaching the students. As an example to any interne he worked well with everybody in the hospital.

Full of practical knowledge he left his beloved hospital and faced the question of the future. From this time forward, for over thirty years, his life followed two separate channels: with the army in times