

favourite, Olivier. Charles the Bold had no other surgeon in his domains except barber surgeons, and among his troops a barber surgeon was attached to each body of 800 men. This gave him twenty-two barber surgeons in an army of 20,000 soldiers.

Time and place do not permit of a review of the prevalence of the various forms of charlatanism which were then practised, especially in the country districts. The control of Catherine de Medici by her *parfumeur*, René, is but an example of this.

From the above brief context it will be observed that the surgical revival originated in Italy, and Germany followed suit, chiefly owing to the influence of Paracelsus. The progress of wars brought benefits in the path of the conquerors; chief among these was the removal of the library of Florence by Charles VIII and that of Pavia by Francis I. The art of printing followed in the path of the libraries, and Paris, supplanting Italy, became the greatest publishing centre of the century.

And now appears on the scene Ambroise Paré, and as Malgaigne justly stated: the time was ripe and all the world was waiting for a practical and observant mind such as he possessed,

“ Thundering and bursting
In torrents, in waves,
Carolling and shouting
Over tombs, amid graves—
See! on the cumber'd plain
Clearing a stage,
Scattering the past about,
Comes the new age.” (Matthew Arnold.)

Ambroise Paré was born in the little village of Bourg-Hirsent, close to Laval, in Maine, in the year 1510. His father was a “coffretier.” He had a sister, Catherine, who married Gaspard Martin, a master barber surgeon of Paris a brother, Jehan, who was master barber surgeon at Vitré, in Brittany, and another brother who followed his father's trade. Gaspard Martin died after an amputation performed by Paré, and was one of the first cases where ligature was employed. The brother at Vitré is mentioned in Paré's works for his skill in detecting the sham diseases of professional beggars.

As far as can be learned, he went to the village school and received a smattering of Latin from the chaplain of one of the seigneurs of the locality. The stimulus to take up surgery was received when a surgeon, Laurence Colot, came down from Paris to perform an operation and Paré assisted him. Shortly afterwards he went to Paris to try his fortune. The masters under whom he served his apprenticeship are