To the Editor of the CANADIAN JOURNAL OF MEDICAL SCIENCE.

DEAR SIR,—Leipsic, a city of about 225,000 inhabitants, is celebrated, as a fellow-traveller expressed it, in these particulars: as a place of business, as a place for the study of science, and on account of its presenting great facilities for the cultivation of art, especially music, the Conservatory being the most renowned in Europe. To the medical world it is of special importance on account of the pathological laboratory. The latter is a large building which affords every facility for making *post-mortem* examinations, and for microscopical work. In the histological room there is an immense amount of material arranged and classified, so that the student can easily find what he requires for section. Cohnheim's microtome is very much used here. It is especially good for cutting fresh specimens, as they can be easily frozen, and beautiful sections made. Medicine is well taught by Professor Wagner, who is now, perhaps, the best clinical lecturer in Germany. He was for years Professor of Pathology, a course which has eminently fitted him for the position he now occupies. One is struck with the very thorough manner in which *post-mortems* are made. They are done according to a certain system, and every organ is thoroughly examined.

I shall, however, leave Leipsic and hurry on to Vienna. The latter city presents many features peculiar to itself as a place for medical study. The vast amount of material afforded by the hospital, and the large staff of teachers, render it an easy matter for a medical practitioner, who has only a few weeks at his disposal, to spend his whole time in the study of one or two subjects. One can, for instance, spend ten hours a day at gross pathology and pathological histology, or at dermatology, or surgery, &c.

In gross pathology I might give a short list of some of the rare specimens presented during the last three weeks. 1. A case of peritonitis produced by collection of hardened fœces in the form of nodules in diverticula of the intestine. These, by their presence, excited inflammation and ulceration. 2. A heart with stenosis of both mitral and tricuspid valves. 3. Cholesteatoma at the base of the brain, which, although of considerable size, did not produce any marked symptoms during life. 4. A dermoid cyst of the ovary, somewhat larger than a child's head, the walls of which had undergone carcinomatous change and ulcerated through into the duodenum. The interior of the cyst was partly filled with matter which had passed out of the intestine, and partly with hair and other epidermic growths. 6. Uterus unicornuus with narrowing of the internal os. 7. A case of suppurative hepatitis, produced by the pressure of an ascaris lumbricoides in the common bile duct. The latter had been distended by the passage of gall stones, and the worm had found its way into the liver from the duodenum. The great advantage they have here in teaching pathological anatomy is the way in which they can often group specimens. For instance, they presented on the same day three different forms of ovarian tumours, and on another three different kinds of ulceration of the bowels.

In the medical department, a case of hydronephrosis in a floating kidney was shown and lectured on by Dr. Bamberger. In the skin clinic there were no less than three cases of scleroderma at one time. This is remarkable considering the rarity of the disease. The more one sees of this obscure affection, the more one is convinced that we know little of its true pathology. The cases here presented very remarkable pigmentary changes. A case of multiple sarcoma of the skin, of the fungoid character, was also shown. Primary disease of the skin of this form is very rare, and most of the cases have been of the pigmentary or melanotic kind. Only four or five cases of the fungoid variety have yet been reported. A case of pityriasis rubra has also been under observation, which presented, on the lower extremities, small gangrenous patches.

One of the most interesting features of the Vienna Hospital is Prof. Billroth's clinics. He operates every morning, usually, from two to three hours, and during the time that the patients are being anæsthetized gives short lectures on the abundant material always at hand. He has ten assistants, each of whom appears to have his own special duty, so that, although they are always busy, there is no