

How Sir James managed to attend to the duties of his enormous practice and also devote so much time and energy to his numerous scientific investigations, to his antiquarian and literary studies, and still take a prominent part in so many public and philanthropic movements, is a mystery, which can only be explained by the fact that he was never idle—indeed, many of his best papers, he used to tell his students, were written at the bedsides of his patients.—*Dub. Med. Press*, May 11, '70.

### DEATH OF PROFESSOR SYME.

We regret to learn that Professor Syme, of Edinburgh, Scotland, died there suddenly of apoplexy, on Monday afternoon, June 27th.

We also have to announce the death of Sir James Clarke, the author of several works of value, on the treatment of consumption. Simpson, Syme, and Clarke, all gone, a worthy trio, whose names will long live in the annals of British medicine.

### Miscellaneous, &c.

#### Medical Instruction in Paris.—Expenses.

A correspondent of the *Presbyterian Banner* of Pittsburg, writing from Paris, says:

Being in Paris this winter, attending the Hospital and lecture at the "*École de Médecine*," a few words from me on the Medical Institutions of this metropolis may not be uninteresting to some of your readers. As all the institutions are under the control of the Government, it appears to me they are conducted much better than those of our own country. Here there are greater facilities for the practical study of the profession, perhaps, than in any other city in the world. The hospitals are all free to the students, not alone to Frenchmen; but to foreigners. The physicians and surgeons are appointed by "*concours*" (competitive examinations), and are paid by the Government. The hospitals are supported by funds from the Imperial Treasury, and also by a special tax levied on theatres and other places of amusement.

You must not, however, infer from what I have said that there is no expense attending the attainment here of a degree of medicine; as, not to mention the living in Paris, which is very high, the student has to enroll his name at the *École de Médecine* every three months, each time paying a fee of 30 francs or \$6. At the end of his first, second and third years, he passes an examination, paying at each a fee of 30 francs. At the end of the fourth year (the earliest time in which he can take the

degree), he pays a fee of 600 francs for the final examination. The whole amounts to about 1,260 francs, or \$252.

Although a diligent student can take his degree in four years, the greater number do not succeed in less than six or eight years, and as every one must be eighteen years of age before he commences his medical studies, you will see they are not very young when allowed to practice.

Each year a number of *Interne* students (clinical students in hospitals) are elected to the various hospitals by "*Concours*." They make all the dressings and write all the prescriptions; so that at the end of their year of office they have acquired a great deal of practical information. Some of them are always in the hospitals to treat accidents and urgent cases.

The students follow one of the physicians or surgeons for three months, and then go to another for the next three months, and so on. When a man has passed one year at a hospital, he goes to another for the next year, and in this way makes a round of them all. The hospital visit commences about 8 A. M., and lasts until 10 or 11 A. M. All the lectures at the *École de Médecine* are in the afternoon. Thus the clinical instruction does not interfere with the theoretical.—*Med. and Surg. Reporter*.

#### Addison's Disease.

Dr. Gordon gave the following summary of the principal facts known in respect to Addison's disease, at a meeting of the Army Medico-Chirurgical Society, held at Portsmouth, *à-propos* of a case reported by Dr. Wales. 1. It is a matter of doubt whether "Addison's disease" may not at times be hereditary. 2. It is equally so whether, under certain conditions, it may not be connected with syphilitic cachexia. 3. It has no necessary connection with pulmonary tubercle. 4. Nor with albuminuria. 5. The presence of the characteristic disease of the supra-renal capsule is not necessarily attended by regional pain. 6. In only one of the cases described did medical treatment appear to retard the disease. 7. The symptoms of the disease are, for the most part, peculiar and characteristic. 8. Bronzing of the skin may occur where "tubercular" matter is not after death found in the supra-renal capsules. 9. It may be matter of doubt whether in some cases the bronzing of the skin described as Addison's disease, may not really be the discoloration which attends secondary syphilis. 10. The exact relationship between bronzing of the skin and supra-renal disease are still open questions. 11. There is some reason to believe that Dr. Addison himself was aware that the connection between