

sure to dwell at any length upon it, for few, I am convinced, who are at all conversant with French literature, can be ignorant of the advantages which have resulted to the whole scientific world from the labours of this *non-pareille* institution. The scientific world is also indebted to the Institut, for being the first to permit to their distant co-labourers in science—competition for prizes. Even at a time when the most deadly hatred existed between the French and English nations, when all foreigners, especially Frenchmen, were excluded from taking part in, or competing for honours in the learned societies of England, the Institut under Napoleon, threw open “the lists,” to persons of all parties, and of all nations—which were freely entered—and more than one Briton has borne off laurels from the Capital of France. The Institut is divided into eleven sections. The first five pertain to mathematical science scilicet: geometry, mechanics, astronomy, geography and navigation, physics; the latter six belong to the physical sciences, they are: chemistry, mineralogy, botany, rural economy, anatomy and zoology, and lastly medicine and surgery. Each section is represented by six members, François Arago, whose loss, science has since had to deplore, was present in his place of perpetual Secretary, when I last saw him, in April 1853. Several prizes are given annually. Those relating to medicine are the following: 1. Pour récompenser les perfectionnements de la médecine et de la chirurgie, et les découvertes ayant pour objet le traitement d’une maladie interne, et celui d’une maladie externe. 2. Pour récompenser ceux qui auront trouvé le moyen de rendre un art ou métier moins insalubres, et à décerner aux ouvrages ou découvertes qui auront paru dans l’année sur des objets utiles. 3. Prix de statistique. 4. Prix de physiologie expérimentale.

**ACADEMIE DE MEDECINE.**—Founded in 1820, for the purpose of furnishing to government information concerning the public health. This is considered the highest medical society in Paris—and to be *member* of it, is a distinction much coveted, and bestowed with care and discrimination. The President is M. Berard, and the foreign British associates are Brodie, Lawrence, Marshall Hall and Travers, all of London.

**SOCIETE DE CHIRURGIE.**—This society, founded in 1843, for the purpose of advancing the interests of surgery, is composed of 36 members. Candidates for membership must present an original *memoire*, addressed to the society, accompanied with a written application. The character of the Essay, and the professional reputation of the writer, decide the voting. The President is M. Guersant and 15 distinguished foreigners are members, among whom are Brodie, Guthrie, Lawrence, and Travers