

citizens, its learned men, its medical profession, and its institutions. My interest in the American medical profession was awakened many years ago by your dentists. I said to myself, behind those teeth there are good heads. As my knowledge of American authors increased, I was confirmed in my conviction that it is so.

In general, I am of opinion that from the United States will come a complete renaissance of modern social life. You have profited by all the traditions of European nations, and you do not suffer from the drawbacks of these traditions which weigh so heavily on European evolution. In your whole life, and therefore in your institutions, individual intellect and energy of will have ample scope for plenty of evolution. The multitude of representative parliaments afford opportunity for all sorts of social improvements and of legal reforms without being hampered by the fatal social organizations of different classes as on the old Continent.

The rich evolution of individualism has created in America a highly interesting species of gentlemen. In Europe every progress is an outcome of the "Schools." You have an original species of men, whom I should name the problemists. In technical questions they form a "profession of inventors," also in science it may happen that a gentleman is stroked by a problem. They may be not enough prepared scientifically. Then they appropriate to themselves as self-made men the necessary knowledge and the necessary dexterity for the solution of the problem.

I hope to be able to shake hands with one or the other of them, and I say to you, my dear sir, "Au revoir a St. Louis."

Yours faithfully,

PROFESSOR M. BENEDIKT.

Vienna, March, 1904.

Thyro-iodine in Goitre.—The interesting discoveries made in recent years as to the curative properties of iodine in respect to such diseases as goitre and dropsy, were the subject of a paper read at the Canadian Institute on April 9th by Prof. Macallum, of the University of Toronto. In cases of goitre, he said, the presence of iodine has been discovered in the thyroid gland, and a compound isolated from the gland, and known as thyro-iodine, has been found to possess extraordinary remedial powers, preventing the progress of dropsical tendencies, and the clogging of the tissues associated therewith in such diseases as goitre and myxedema. The Professor said that a vegetable diet, owing to the greater proportion of iodine which it contains, is more favorable to the development of goitre than a mixed diet. Chalky soils also favor the disease.