

tributes annually a number of prizes, many of them of value, Bouchardat presides and Souberain is Secretary.

Biology has lately become a science in Paris, and the Société de Biologie for its propagation, counts among its members, Velpeau, Magendie, Andral, Bouillaud, Barth, &c., the latter being president.

The British, German and American Physician, congregated in Paris, have each a society (Parisian Medical Society, Verein Deutscher Aerzte, American Medical Society), in which are discussed what of interest has occurred in the hospitals during the preceding week. *Messieurs les Medecins des Hopitaux* little dream of the over-hauling they sometimes get at the hands of these worthies.

I will hazard a short sketch of the French Physicians for (although I much doubt my ability to give a correct one) the nature of this paper imperatively demands some such attempt. But far from wishing to thrust any observations of mine upon the reader, to be received as articles of faith I would beg to mention them merely as impressions. If we follow a physician through the wards of an hospital, or attend him in the walks of private professional life, we soon learn to form an estimate of his character, and to estimate, at something approaching to an equivalent, his professional worth. Of individuals, however, it is easy to speak, but, to reduce a class composed of such heterologous material to a general standard, is, to say the least of it, a matter of no small difficulty.

Regard in what aspect we may, the Parisian Physician and Surgeon (for such I take as the type) the conclusion at which we cannot but arrive, is, that they are, generally speaking, men of high scientific attainments, and, in the principles of their noble profession well versed. Few there are who deny this, and were we content to admit all that is told us concerning

"The way toe heale diseases rare
As if by plummet rule and square."

the high opinion preconceived of them would be greatly strengthened. Indeed, on first visiting Paris, I was half inclined to think that I had spent too much time in cruising about among the hospitals of Britain and Germany picking up the little crumbs of knowledge. How much more might I have learned, thought I, had I sooner directed my steps hither where they seem to have the happy knack of curing diseases in *half* the time. But the charm with which novelty invests all things, soon wore off, "and then came a change o'er the spirit of my dream."

The *Chefs de Clinique*, especially those of *renommee* seem placed in a false position, as it were. Great things, in the form of novelties, are expected of them, and their utmost endeavour is exerted in catering to this morbid taste. But taking matters by the fore-lock is frequently the