Then follows a graphic description of the siege of Metz and the desperate defence of the French under the gallant Duc de Guise. He is the same warrior who bade Paré place his foot on his face in order to get purchase enough to pull out the lance head which had wounded him as mentioned above. His conduct during the siege placed him in an enviable position, and he left the city mounted on a fine bay horse, a present from Guise himself, with his man riding behind him on guard over his valise of instruments, salves and dressings. The towns en route were filled with wounded, hospital gangrene was rife and fever was raging. He helped wherever he had the time and arrived back in Paris about the end of January, when he began his lectures on anatomy. By 1552 the second edition of his book on Gunshot Wounds was finished and dedicated to the King., but his work was interrupted by another campaign.

The story of campaigns must be cut short to follow his life in Paris. Let him be viewed now, not as an army surgeon, but as a citizen of Paris, a peaceful gentleman, whose face got to be as well known in the streets as the face of the King himself, and much more welcome. In 1541 he was admitted as a master barber surgeon, and it is just half a century to the year of his death in 1590. The year of his admission he dined with Sylvius and discussed fully gunshot wounds. Sylvius urged him to write a book on the subject and this he fulfilled four years later. The traveller of to-day, after crossing the Seine to the Place St. Michel, may well study with interest the group of houses on the right just by the corner of Rue de l'Hirondelle, for there Paré lived and worked and collaborated his knowledge. The locality was well chosen as being near the Hotel Dieu and the Pré-aux-Clercs, where duels were frequent.

Within a few months he married Jehanne Mazelin, little being known of the circumstances which drew them together. His first two children died in infancy, the third. Catherine, survived the mother, who died in 1573. The family life, though so much disturbed by his many campaigns, was a happy and contented one. Though far from wars, he was quickly involved in the surgical strife waged so bitterly in Paris at this time. Mention has already been made of the triangular duel of the Faculty of Medicine, the St. Cosmo confraternity, or "Royal College of Surgeons," and the corporation of barber surgeons. He was admitted to the confraternity in 1554. In 1569 he had his controversy with Le Paulmier, a member of the Faculty, and in 1575, when he published the first edition of his collected works, began his conflict with the Faculty, which lasted almost to his death.