

Miscellaneous.

An Operation on the Operator.

M. Doyen's newspaper report of his operation on Radica and Doodica has been made the subject of an amusing parody in that eminently respectable paper, the *Temps*. The author records how he operated upon Dr. Doyen, whose exceptional cerebral activity had doubled his personality.

"By ill luck the scissiparity was incomplete, the two persons remained attached to one another by a membrane extending from the umbilicus to the sternum. To distinguish them it was necessary to call one Radoyen, and the other Doyenka. This at first caused no inconvenience, but with increase of age troublesome disagreements, grave incompatibilities of character and temper became manifest between the two doubles. . . . It was determined to separate them, and my scientific aid was invoked. The operation did not last twenty minutes. I had invited my friends, the phenomena of Barnum and Bailey's circus, who are now indispensable to me. They were of the greatest use to me, particularly the man with the elastic skin. By stitching the skin of his abdomen to that of the abdomen of the living skeleton, I constructed artificial Siamese twins on whom I made most interesting preliminary experiments. There were also present the armless man, who wrote at my dictation with his foot, and the pincushion man, who played a modest but indispensable part, as will presently be seen. The two monsters, Radoyen and Doyenka, were placed upon a table invented by me, covered with a sheet sterilized by means of a preparation which is my property. I took up my position on their right, so that the cinematograph should lose nothing either of my movements or my features. The superficial part of the portion of the membrane was formed by a cartilaginous plate of a certain thickness which I divided with a bistoury made according to my directions. As is usual in my clinic, anesthesia was produced by means of chloride of methyl. As I ceased to require my needles, my scissors, and my forceps, I stuck them into the cheeks of the pincushion man, that is what he served for. Underneath the cartilaginous plate I found, as was to be expected, a bridge of liver, seven centimetres in breadth by four in thickness, traversed by a large number of arteries, arterioles, veins, and venules. This was the time or never to use my original method of hemostysis. I therefore performed extemporaneous crushing of the hepatic pedicle by means of my large double lever forceps from Creusot, which weighs a million tons, but which can be set in motion by one