

crates, dogmas revered by the physicians of the sixteenth century as are to-day those of Calvin and of Luther by certain theologians. Prof. Roth has recently published an interesting paper (*Quellen einer Vesalbiographie*, Basel, 1889), in which he has given the results of his researches among the archives of the University of Padua, and he has determined definitely for the first time the date and place of the graduation of Vesalius—Padua, Dec'r 5, 1537. Please note, too, that he was a young man when he published his great work, another illustration of the theory upon which I am always harping, that a man's productive years are in the third and fourth decades. It is not a little remarkable that the skeleton should be in such a state of preservation; but above it lies another, prepared by Felix Plater, a renowned Basel professor of the 16th century, also in excellent condition.

The Basel Hospital is an old building but very conveniently arranged and with beautiful gardens, in the middle of which is a large summer ward for women and children. I am much indebted to Director Hoch for his kindness in showing me the different departments. In the operating room the table is constructed of zinc with a hot-water chamber, above which is a perforated plate so that irrigation can be carried out. The warming-pan—of which it is practically only a special example—is also perforated in the middle for the escape of the solutions. I am sure that for prolonged operations this is a great advantage in counteracting the depression so liable to occur both from the shock and from the anæsthetic. Not ten days ago I saw the same arrangement in use at the Physiological Laboratory of University College, London, in a prolonged experiment upon the brain of a monkey. Professor Schäfer told me they had found that the animals stood the operations very much better and revived more promptly if the body temperature was kept up in the artificial way. So important did he seem to think it that additional hot water was put in at the end of about an hour and a half.

We found Professor Socin in the operating-room with a class of about thirty men, a patient on the table, and a senior student in the arena, who, during the course of an hour, underwent a