

Rome January 1, and remained there until April 1. Of course people could not find out I was there until about the middle of February. From that time until the close of March, a period of six weeks, I made 52,000 francs. Since coming to Paris the following items show the work done and soon to be done: April 22, operation, 25,000 francs; April 28, operation, 1,500 francs; April 29, operation, 15,000 francs; April 30, operation, 20,000 francs; May 3, operation, 5,000 francs. Total 65,500 francs. In addition to these I am to operate in the next ten days as follows: First case, 10,000 francs; second case, 10,000 francs; third case, 5,000 francs; fourth case, 15,000 francs. Total, 40,000 francs. This makes the incredible sum of nearly \$22,000, all compressed within about one month; but many of these cases followed me from Italy, and you must not think this an average showing. It is an accidental *blocking*. But if I were to settle down here anywhere in a great, ample centre, I am sure I could make with ease \$50,000 a year; so you will see that my self-expatriation for health is justifiable."—*College and Clinical Record*.

PROFESSIONAL SECRECY.—The sacredness of the confidential relations between physicians and their patients has lately received fresh recognition in Belgium. According to a brief account given of the affair in the *Union Médicale*, a physician was prosecuted and convicted, and the conviction was affirmed at a second trial, for having refused to reveal the mother's name in a birth certificate. What we interpret as a recognition of the inviolability of the confidence given by patients to their medical advisers is the reply made by the Minister of Justice to a question raised by the occurrence in the Chamber of Deputies, to the effect that there was no legal means of compelling a physician to betray his patient's secrets. It is said that the Belgian Society of Medicine has determined to make a thorough study of the whole question, which is one that is continually coming up in one shape or another. It is easy to see how private grief and humiliation may be greatly intensified by the public record of the parentage of an illegitimate child, and we think it is very much to be questioned if the

assumed advantage to the community is great enough to warrant the infliction of such an amount of pain.—*N. Y. Med. Journal*.

A PRINCE OF QUACKS.—The audacity of quack doctors is their chief stock-in-trade. Judging from what a Parisian correspondent states, it is very evident that charlatanism is carried on in Paris in a much more pretentious style than is attempted in this country. Some weeks ago a quack opened a splendid suite of rooms in a building on the Grand Boulevard. He had footmen in plush and pages in livery, distributed handbills by the million, and announced that he had an infallible method of curing hoarseness and diseases of the throat by inhalation. This prince of quacks did not purchase a degree, like many of his compeers, but had himself heralded on bills and in the newspapers as Dr. Pitchitchine, Beloochistan, Member of the Academies. The big, foreign-sounding name, which the doctor had culled at random from an atlas, and the style of his rooms, are said to have produced a great impression on the minds of those unsophisticated people who, despite the enlightenment of the age, still abound, even in the great centres of civilization; and among those was an actress, who sought this pseudo-throat-healer for hoarseness from which she was suffering. The patient, we are told, went to Pitchitchine's magnificent establishment on the Boulevards. The folding doors were thrown open by a gorgeous flunkey, and the great quack was discovered dressed in Oriental garb. The actress's head was first enveloped in a cloud of cashmere, and she was told to inhale the contents of a tube. She did so, and in a moment fainted away, being nearly suffocated. The quack became alarmed, and had to send for a *bona fide* medical man, who revived the victim. The actress went home in a cab, and found that, besides being incapacitated from singing, she was hardly able to speak, and had to cancel her engagement. She has consequently brought an action against the pseudo-native of Beloochistan, who had simply made her inhale a concoction which contained a large quantity of chloroform. Sahib Pitchitchine is also to be proceeded against by the *Parquet* for the illegal practice of medicine, and