

student of his own country, but in any event I would advise everyone who thinks of visiting the city to take with him that useful book "Berlin as a Medical Centre;" and, although I was informed by a native Berlin bookseller (who will shortly publish a similar work of his own), that Dr. Bigelow's book is "full of errors," yet much time and labor will be saved by the perusal of some such guide. Most of the German professors and their assistants speak English, but I would strongly urge upon students visiting Germany the necessity of learning enough German before leaving home to enable them to carry on ordinary conversation and to read the language fairly well. Having made this advance the visit will be infinitely more profitable and satisfactory than if he knows nothing of the language.

In pleasing contrast with the hospitals and schools of instruction of London and other medical centres, the visitor will not be obliged to spend such a large share of his time in going from one place to another widely separated from it. The methods of transit are also convenient, clean and rapid, a very noted difference from those of the English metropolis. As I mentioned in my letter from London, it is a hardship and a great loss of time to have to transport oneself from, say, Mr. Treves' Clinic at the London Hospital, in the east end of the city, some five miles to listen to a teacher, or to see an operation in the Soho Square Hospital, or shortly afterwards to make a pilgrimage to Guy's or St. Thomas'. With, perhaps, the exception of Koch's department (the Hygienische Institut in the Klosterstrasse), the buildings of medical interest are all within a few minutes walk of the *Charité*, the great hospital of some 1,500 beds, where all the medical and many surgical cases are treated.

The medical visitor to Berlin, be he transient or otherwise, should have his head-quarters near this extensive collection of buildings. He will find that he must rise early, if he wishes to make the most of his time, because several lectures and demonstrations begin as early as seven o'clock; at eight o'clock everything is in full swing, and by two p.m. the *dies medicus* is far spent. The origin of this early rising I could not trace, but I think it is preferable to our later hours. How the careless, beer-drinking and café-loving German feels like rising with the lark I cannot understand. Certain it is that he spends little time over his breakfast, that shadowy repast composed of a cup of coffee, rolls and butter, and is on hand while the

English student would be debating the momentous question; "to rise or not to rise?"

The major portion of American visitors to the German capital will like to see and hear all the men whose names are equally well-known in America as in their own land. Now, as ten years ago, Virchow is still the most prominent figure—*primus inter pares*—in the University group, and one looks with some wonder at the enthusiastic old (and yet, as far as energy and vivacity are concerned, one of the youngest) gentleman whose lectures on pathology still attract pupils from all parts of the world.

I would strongly advise the visitors to Berlin to make an early start and see how students are taught to make *post mortems* at the *Charité*. The supply of material, as one might expect from a hospital of this size, is practically unlimited, and it is judiciously utilized. Two of Virchow's assistants are almost constantly in attendance, and the student is taught practical pathology as he is instructed in practical anatomy in our dissecting rooms.

It will be seen at once the very great advantage in the way of teaching possessed by a concentration of material, such as we find in the *Charité*, over the scattered hospital system prevalent in London, New York and other medical centres. See the number and variety of illustrations possible in the lectures of Prof. Virchow, for example. He can draw not only from the *Charité*, but from any or all of the clinics connected with the University, and the result is that one of his lectures which I heard him deliver upon that comparatively rare disease—trichinosis—was profusely illustrated both by fresh and microscopical sections and preparations from patients lately dead in the hospital. So, too, with all the clinics, surgical and medical. The plan of centralization, doubtless a part of that military system which everywhere obtrudes itself upon the stranger, whatever disadvantages it may have for the patient, and however unsuitable to England and Canada, will commend itself to him who has tried both plans.

Schroeder's quarters are the *Universitat Frauen Klinik*, a beautiful modern building of brick—and they are well worth a visit. I suspect that the female patients are treated something after the *vile corpus* style of our forefathers. Prof. Schroeder gave a very lucid and well delivered lecture upon dislocations of the uterus, taking for his text a patient upon the table. The woman was examined in turn by some half dozen students called from the auditorium