Sweden. The Royal Society of Public Medicine of Belgium awarded him its bronze medal for his work in connexion with public health. He was president of the Public Health Section of the British Medical Association held at Bristol in 1894 and of Section I. of the Congress of the Sanitary Institute held at Newcastle-on-Tyne in 1896. It was through his determined efforts that the International Congress of Hygiene was held in London in 1891, under the presidency of the King (then Prince of Wales). Dr. Corfield acted as foreign secretary to that Congress and through his personal acquaintance with many of the leading hygienists in various countries was able to obtain the formation of committees for making the Congress known abroad and for thus insuring the attendance of foreign hygienists. He was for more than 20 years chairman of committee of the Sunday Society, the object of which is the opening of museums, picture galleries, and public libraries on Sundays; he played a leading part in the movement which has resulted in the opening of our national museums to the public on Sunday afternoons; whilst his literary talents were by no means too exclusively devoted to professional purposes, as is witnessed by his papers on "Mountain Climbing," on "Etna in Winter," on "The Volcanoes of Auvergne," and on "Pile Dwellings in the Swiss Lakes."

Dr. Corfield represented His Majesty's Office of Works at the International Congress of Hygiene and Demography held in Paris in 1900, and was elected an honorary president of the Congress. He presided at the conference held by the Sanitary Institute in Paris in August, 1900, under the auspices of the Société Française d'Hygiène, and in 1902 he was elected President of the Epidemiological Society. No one, however, can be incessantly at work and most men who work hard have "hobbies." Dr. Corfield's hobbies were geology, fishing, golf, and, as is the case with many medical men, art. He amassed an extensive collection of geological specimens and discovered the presence of lithodomi in the Silurian strata, thus removing to an earlier age than had previously been known the existence of boring bivalves. He had been an ardent angler all his life, being especially fond of salmon fishing. He had a choice library of works on angling and was well known as a Bewick collector as well as a collector of fine bindings.

Dr. Corfield married in 1876 Emily Madelina, youngest daughter of the late Mr. John Pike, F.S.A., and leaves six children, the eldest of whom was a mathematical scholar of Pembroke College, Oxford. Although Dr. Corfield died in a foreign land he was not entirely amongst strangers in his last hours, his daughter and one of his sons being with him.

EDMOND ISIDORE ETIENNE NOCARD.

PROFESSOR NOCARD, director of the Veterinary School at Alfort, near Paris, who has just died in his fifty-fourth year, enjoyed a European reputation as an original investigator on the subject of the epidemic and communicable diseases of the lower animals. An outline of his career has been already given by our Paris correspondent in THE LANCET of August 8th, p. 430. Of his exceedingly comprehensive work perhaps the most important related to tuberculosis and its results were embodied in his "Tuberculose des Animaux Domestiques." He was a firm believer in the identity of tuberculosis in all circumstances, irrespective of the animal affected, and his views were therefore totally opposed to those held by Professor Robert Koch as to the existence of an essential distinction between the *Perlsucht* of bovine animals and human tuberculosis. Mention must also be made of his important contributions to our knowledge of actinomycosis, anthrax, pneumonia, and rabies. His investigations were therefore mainly bacteriological and his name has been given to a bacillus found in the superficial ulcers of cattle suffering from farcy and also called *bacille du farcin du bœuf*. Professor Nocard was a member of the Royal Agricultural Society of England and was well known in Ireland where the practical value of some of his recent scientific work has been gratefully recognised. The sanction of the French Ministry of Agriculture having been obtained, he was induced by the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland to go to Ireland for the purpose of investigating the cause of the high death-rate in calves which prevailed, especially in Munster. A bacteriological laboratory was provided for him in Limerick and he arrived in that country in March, 1901. His report was forwarded

from the Veterinary School of Alfort under the French Ministry of Agriculture in October, 1901. His paper, which appeared in the Transactions of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland, proved of great practical value and as an example of methods of research in this comparatively new domain of bacteriology is of much interest to scientific medical men. Sir Horace Plunkett stated of him in the official Government report as follows: "The department feels that Professor Nocard has placed the agriculturalists, not of Ireland only, but of the entire world, under obligations by the most successful issue of his admirably conceived series of experiments and investigations."

Professor Nocard was engaged for many years in inquiries in connexion with outbreaks of disease among domestic animals in France. In a communication read at the International Congress of Hygiene held at Madrid some six years ago he made known the discovery of the germ of contagious pleuro-pneumonia which had long baffled bacteriologists all over the world. He made many other important discoveries in bacteriology and since Professor Pasteur—whose enthusiastic pupil he was—has probably done more than anybody else in his own special line of investigation. Professor Pasteur, as is well known, was not a medical man but a chemist and bacteriologist. Nobody can doubt, however, the admirable and far-reaching effects of his work for the benefit of humanity. Professor Nocard's investigations and discoveries in connexion with diseases in the lower animals—some of them in affinity with our own and some of them infectious to man—may perhaps have a similar outcome. His life-work has been widely recognised by many honours and decorations in his own and in foreign countries. Professor Nocard was, moreover, the recipient of many purely medical distinctions. It is 17 years since he was elected a member of the Académie de Médecine and at his funeral, which was conducted with military honours, the chief pall-bearer was the President of the Académie de Médecine.

POST-GRADUATE WORK ABROAD.

I. PARIS.

BY A. A. WARDEN, M.D. GLASG. AND PARIS,
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DURING most of the nineteenth century English and Scottish graduates flocked to Paris to complete their medical education. From the middle ages their forefathers had gathered at the Sorbonne and the University of Paris to study the humanities and the philosophies of the time. Since 1870—the *année terrible* when for a time the destiny of France seemed clouded over—the graduate has turned rather to Berlin or to Vienna, either because of the reputation for careful and thorough original work that these schools have obtained or more probably on account of the effort made in them to meet the wants of foreigners and to supply them with the necessary opportunities for further research. And yet, if Paris no longer attracts English-speaking medical students, their place has been taken by others and the Parisian clinics and operating theatres are crowded with men from Russia and Germany and Southern Europe generally, as well as from the Republics of South America. In the last decade, also, the tide seems to be turning and, owing possibly to the gradually increasing appreciation of the immense services rendered by Pasteur and his Institute to both medicine and surgery, the Paris school bids fair to hold its own even against the latest of post-graduate institutions—those on the other side of the Atlantic.

It is always difficult to measure one's contemporaries but we may be sure, if "there were giants in those days," there are giants still to-day and that as there were brave men before Agamemnon, so there have been brave men since. Pasteur, Trousseau, Louis, Laënnec and Dupuytren have left worthy successors and Duclaux, Dieulafoy, Lancereaux, Doyen, Hartmann, Lannelongue, and Terrier are some among many that might be named. It must surely also be considered a period of exceptional activity and brilliancy when the authors of much remarkable work are still to the fore. It is not yet ten years since Roux made his first injection of anti-diphtheritic serum in Grancher's, Descroixille's, and Jules Simon's wards in the Hôpital des Enfants Malades in the rue de Sèvres. Feb. 1st,

1894, was the date at which the average mortality from diphtheria in these wards fell from 50 to 24 per cent. Only the other day another of Pasteur's pupils, Metchnikoff, succeeded in inoculating syphilis into one of the lower animals, the genuine nature of the chancre being attested at the sitting of the Academy of Medicine by Fournier himself. Brouardel, Netter, Roger, Chantemesse, Bouchard, Robin, Babiniski, Hayem, Chaffard, and Debove well represent scientific medical practice. Berger, Pozzi, Segond, Broca, Tuffier, Kirmisson, Legneu, and Lejars are names in surgery known all the world over.

Useful as the special post-graduate courses are, the chief interest of a visit to Paris lies in the fact that the clinical lectures, the operations, the ward visits, and the examination of the patients are, each morning and in every hospital, freely open to any physician, French or foreign, who has only to present his card to the *concierge* of the hospital and to ask by name for the surgeon or physician he may wish to see. The value of this privilege is well seen in the experience of a young graduate of my acquaintance who came here last year with the intention of doing further work in nervous diseases. The physician whose service he visited with a card of introduction soon gave him charge of a certain number of beds in one of the great nervous clinics, where he was admitted to the ordinary privileges of the other *internes* as to library, laboratory, and even meals, and where he remained for nearly six months. An informal post-graduate course, if you like, but invaluable in the opportunities it offered. It may be added that the hospitals of Salpêtrière and Bicêtre possess between them several thousand beds available as clinical material.

Paris in fact offers a unique field and unlimited opportunity to the man who wishes to work and who knows what he wants to work at. In my "Handbook to the Paris Medical School"¹ I have endeavoured to sketch the general course that should be pursued, giving a fairly complete account of the details of scientific medical education in Paris and summarising them in a table in the form of a diary.

The visitor's first difficulty is, naturally, where to pitch his tent and this is not lessened by the knowledge that the various hospitals in which he proposes to spend most of his time are considerably scattered. None the less, it may be said that for him the central locality is the so-called Quartier des Ecoles or Quartier Latin on the left bank of the Seine. Here, within a few hundred yards of each other, on the streets running off the Boulevard St. Michel, are the school of medicine buildings with the anatomy rooms and laboratories, the Sorbonne, the Collège de France, most of the medical publishers and booksellers and surgical instrument-makers, and a little further off such important hospitals as La Charité, Lâennec, Necker, Sick Children's, the Clinique Baudelocque. Here, too, will be found hotels and *maisons meublées* with furnished rooms and board at reasonable rates. The boulevards St. Michel and St. Germain are the chief thoroughfares of this quarter and countless generations of students have lived in the streets off them, such as the rue des Ecoles, the rue de l'Odeon, and the rue Monsieur-le-Prince where Oliver Wendell Holmes (not to speak of the great Auguste Comte) had his rooms about 70 years ago.

The hotel chosen, the next step is to arm oneself with the *carte d'entrée des hôpitaux* issued gratuitously on presentation of one's card at the offices of the Assistance Publique 3, Avenue Victoria. This card carries a formal request to the various directors of hospitals, &c., to facilitate the visit of their establishment and to give information. While neither absolutely necessary nor always asked for, this card is a veritable passport, especially if the bearer's knowledge of the French language is limited. It is also useful, as on it are printed the names of all the general and special hospitals under the jurisdiction of the Assistance Publique. Next a visit to the buildings of the Faculty in the Place de l'École de Médecine and a glance at the many placards and notices there exposed will show the official courses of lectures and cliniques going on at the time. Many physicians and surgeons who have wards and who may perhaps give special attention to the development of post-graduate instruction, having no chair, are unconnected with the Faculty and their names find no place here. Notices of these and other extramural courses will only be found in the hospitals themselves or in the medical journals, such as the *Bulletin Médical*, *La Presse*

Médicale, &c. I should strongly advise the new arrival to purchase the last few numbers of one such journal in order to put himself *au courant* with all that may be going on. For the whereabouts of the hospitals, the names of the men on the visiting staffs, the days of operations and ward visits, he must rely upon the *Guide Médical* published in 1900 by Maloine and now a little out of date or my own handbook to which I have already referred.

In the last six years facilities for post-graduate work in Paris have so greatly developed that there is probably now no department in medicine and no period of the year in which abundant opportunities are not available. The invaluable and complete course in bacteriology at the Pasteur Institute is of such duration—three months—that it takes place at most twice in the year and names must be sent in for it some time in advance to Dr. Roux or his assistants. With regard to most of the other courses there is frequently an *embarras de choix*. Thus, at present, during the summer months, between July and September, there are no fewer than four separate practical post-graduate courses in laboratory methods applied to clinical medicine, under the direction and in the wards of Dieulafoy, Landouzy, Cornil, and Brissaud. Similar courses are given in surgery, operative surgery, midwifery and gynaecology, children's, genito-urinary, and tropical diseases, and in most of the specialities. Other official and free courses are given in summer by those temporarily replacing the professor, usually in clinical medicine and surgery. In operative surgery courses may be taken practically all the year round from the prosectors under Dr. Hartmann's superintendence. Five years ago the number of graduates, chiefly foreigners, following these courses of operative surgery was 22; this summer (between March and July) there have been 240. They are divided into several series, thus: (1) operations on the male genito-urinary tract; (2) gynaecological operations; (3) bones and joints; (4) stomach, intestines, liver, &c.; (5) emergency operations; (6) nervous system; and (7) neck and trunk. Valuable clinical experience can also be obtained at the outdoor consultation departments of the larger hospitals. These are well organised, the number of patients is large and the number of students is small, the teaching is good, and the morning there is often far more profitable than that spent on the seats of an operating theatre at a distance that makes the finer and more important details of the operation invisible.

In concluding this brief sketch let me add that there are English, Scottish, Irish, and American practitioners in Paris ready to bear a helping hand to any countryman in difficulty or doubt.

(To be continued.)

VITAL STATISTICS.

HEALTH OF ENGLISH TOWNS.

IN 76 of the largest English towns 8478 births and 4616 deaths were registered during the week ending August 29th. The annual rate of mortality in these towns, which had been 14·3, 15·7, and 15·7 per 1000 in the three preceding weeks, further rose to 16·0 per 1000. In London the death-rate was 14·3 per 1000, while it averaged 16·7 per 1000 in the 75 other large towns. The lowest death-rates in these towns were 3·5 in Devonport, 8·3 in Bournemouth, 8·7 in Hastings and in Blackburn, 8·9 in Croydon, 9·2 in Leyton, and 9·8 in Willesden, Walthamstow, Bristol, Smethwick, and Swansea; the highest rates were 21·0 in Nottingham and in Burnley, 21·8 in Wigan, 21·9 in Hull, 22·3 in Sunderland, 22·8 in Rotherham, 23·0 in Aston Manor, 25·2 in Middlesbrough, and 26·3 in Sheffield. The 4616 deaths in these towns included 1060, which were referred to the principal infectious diseases, against 717, 887, and 1006 in the three preceding weeks; of these 1060 deaths, 821 resulted from diarrhoea, 62 from diphtheria, 61 from whooping-cough, 60 from measles, 32 from scarlet fever, 22 from "fever," and two from small-pox. No death from any of these diseases was registered in Bournemouth, Devonport, Burton-on-Trent, King's Norton, Coventry, Halifax, or Tynemouth; while the highest death-rates from the principal infectious diseases were recorded in Aston Manor, Birkenhead, Wigan, Burnley, Sheffield, Rotherham, Hull, and Middlesbrough. The greatest proportional mortality from measles occurred in Ipswich, Sheffield, Middlesbrough, and Sunderland; from diphtheria in Salford and Rotherham; from whooping-cough in Rochdale and Burnley; and from diarrhoea in Aston Manor, Grimsby, Birkenhead, Bootle, Wigan, Bolton,

¹ An English Handbook to the Paris Medical School. 1903. London: J. and A. Churchill.