

'Ilios' contains some very interesting material. But what has engaged my attention and interest most has been to observe the humanity and indefatigability displayed by the great man in the service of the poor and sick. To read of his constant, practical exertions in behalf of the miserable population of Hissarlik; how he taught the aborigines the efficacy of chamomile and juniper, which grow about them, unnoticed and unused, in rare abundance; how a spring he laid open for archæological purposes has been called by them 'the physician's,' and is believed to have beneficial effects; how he was, on leaving the neighborhood, loaded with flowers, the only thing they had and knew would please him, has charmed me intensely. To admire a great man for his professional labors, eagerly undertaken and successfully carried out, is a great satisfaction to the scientific observer; to be able to love him, in addition, for his philanthropy and warm-heartedness, is a feast of the soul."

Virchow's life work has been the study of the processes of disease, and in the profession we revere him as the greatest master that has appeared among us since John Hunter. There is another aspect of his work which has been memorable for good to his native city. From the day when, as a young man of twenty-seven, he was sent by the Prussian Government to Upper Silesia to study the typhus epidemic, then raging among the half-starved population, he has been one of the most powerful advocates in Germany for sanitary reform; and it is not too much to say that it is largely to his efforts that the city of Berlin owes its magnificent system of drainage. His work in this department has been simply monumental, and characterized by the thoroughness which marks the specialist.

To his exhaustive monographs on camp-diseases, cholera, military medicine, and other cognate subjects, I cannot even refer.

It will be generally acknowledged that in this country doctors are, as a rule, bad citizens, taking little or no interest in civic, state, or national politics. Let me detain you a moment or two longer to tell of one of us, at least, who, in the midst of absorbing pursuits, has found time to serve his city and his country. For more than twenty years Virchow has sat in the Berlin City Council as an alderman, and to no feature in his extraordinary life does the Berliner pöbel with more justifiable pride. It is a combination of qualities only too rare, when the learned professor can leave his laboratory and take his share in practical, municipal work. How much his colleagues have appreciated his efforts has been shown by his election as vice president of the Board; and on the occasion of the celebration in 1881, the *Rathhaus* was not only placed at the disposal of the committee, but the expenses of the decorations, etc., were met by the council; and to-day comes word by cable that he has been presented with the freedom of the city.

The years succeeding to Virchow's student days were full of strong political feeling, and with the French Revolution in 1848, came a general awakening. In Germany the struggle for representative government attracted many of the ardent spirits of our profession, and it was then that Virchow began his political career. The revolution was a failure, and brought nothing to the young prosecutor but dismissal from his public positions. His participation might have been condoned had he not issued a medico-political journal, *Die Medicinische Reform*, the numbers of which are even now very interesting reading, and contain ideas which to-day would be called liberal, but were then revolutionary. It is a striking evidence of the deep impression which even at that time Virchow had made upon his colleagues and the profession, that he was reinstated in his office at the urgent solicitation of the medical societies of the city. He relates in his "Gedächtnissrede auf Schönlein," who was the court physician and not at all in harmony with the views of his prosecutor, that on one occasion in 1848, at a post-mortem, in which the diagnosis of hemorrhage into the brain had been made by the professor, Virchow demonstrated an obstructing embolus in the artery. Schönlein turned to him in a half vexed, half-joking manner and said, "Sie sehen auch ueberall Barrikaden." His active political life dates from 1862, when he was elected to the lower house from one of the Berlin districts, and has, I believe, sat as member almost continuously from that date. The conditions in Germany have not been favor-

able to a man of advanced liberal views, and Virchow has been attached to a party which has not been conspicuously successful; but he has been an honest and industrious worker, a supporter of all measures for the relief of the people, a strenuous opponent of all class and repressive legislation, and above all an implacable enemy of absolutism as personified in Bismarck. A man of such strong individuality would make his presence felt in any assembly; and he always commanded the attention of his colleagues, and oftentimes his speeches have been reported fully both in England and in America.

As an illustration of his capacity for varied work, I recall one day in 1884, in which he gave the morning demonstration and lecture at the Pathological Institute, addressed the Town Council at great length on the extension of the canalization scheme, and made a budget speech in the House, both of which were reported at great length in the papers of the next day.

Naturally, amid such diverse occupations, it has been impossible for him to enter with his old vigor into the minutiae of pathological anatomy, and his attitude of late years has been critical rather than productive; but his interest in all that pertains to our profession is unabated, and is a feature of his character to which I must allude. Too often with us, in our gatherings and society meetings, the "men of rather and riper years" are conspicuous by their absence. In this respect our great master has set a notable example. Amid cares and worries, social and political, with a thousand and one ties and duties, he has never held aloof from his brethren; but, as the weekly medical journals testify, no man in Berlin has been more active, and for years he has held the presidency of the Berliner Medicinische Gesellschaft, one of the most important medical societies of Europe.

Surely the contemplation of a life so noble in its aims, so notable in its achievements, so varied in its pursuits, may well fill us with admiration for the man, and with pride that he is a member of our profession. The influence of his work has been deep and far-reaching, and in one way or another has been felt by each one of us. It is well to acknowledge the debt which we every-day practitioners owe to the great leaders and workers in the scientific branches of our art. We dwell too much in corners, and, consumed with the petty cares of a bread-and-butter struggle, forget that outside of our routine lie Elysian fields into which we may never have wandered, the tillage of which is not done by our hands, but the fruits of which we of the profession (and you of the public) fully and freely enjoy. The lesson which should sink deepest in our hearts is the answer which a life, such as Virchow's, gives to those who to-day, as in past generations, see only pills and potions in the profession of medicine, and who, utilizing the gains of science, fail to appreciate the dignity and the worth of the methods by which they are attained. As Pausanias pestered Empedocles, even to the end, for the details of the cure of Pantheia, so there are with us still those who, "asking not wisdom, but drugs to charm with," are impatient at the slow progress of science, forgetting that the chaos from which order is now appearing has been in great part dispelled by the work of one still living — by the man whom to night we delight to honor.

BOOK-REVIEWS.

Across Russia from the Baltic to the Danube. By CHARLES AUGUSTUS STODDARD. New York, Scribner. 8°. \$1.50.

STODDARD's journey, the story of which is told in this volume, began at Paris, and extended through Sweden and Finland, to Russia, which he entered at Cronstadt. Much time was spent at St. Petersburg, and then the journey was resumed to Moscow, to which again much attention was given. The closing chapters of the book contain the account of what the author saw, or thought, while he was at Nijni-Novgorod, or was journeying west through Warsaw, the Carpathian Mountains, and Hungary, to Budapesth.

The book is the narrative of one who knows how to make the stories of his wanderings entertaining. The style is that of a conversationalist rather than of the writer. Skipping along lightly from one topic to another, the author almost seems before you armed with stereopticon views of the scenes he is describing. And

here it may be said that a dozen excellent illustrations are given, all of which are by the "half-tone" process from photographers, — so admirably suited to purely descriptive work. These are good examples of this kind of work, and seem unusually uniform in their clearness of detail and free from the blotches due to imperfections in the photographs.

Stoddard made no attempt to study Russia, but went to see the sights, and in this book gives a chatty account of them. At this time, when so much attention is attracted to Russia, this picture of Russian scenes will aid in gaining a clearer insight into the difficult social problems which are calling for solution within her borders.

AMONG THE PUBLISHERS.

THE following tribute to the work of an American magazine is contained in the report of the Secretary of the Interior just submitted to Congress: "Your attention is also requested to the paper contributed by Mr. John Muir to the number of *The Century Illustrated Monthly Magazine* for November, 1891, entitled 'A Rival of the Yosemite — the Cañon of the South Fork of Kings River, California.' It furnishes maps of this section and is illustrated by most admirable engravings of the wonderful scenery there existing. The engravings are chiefly from the pencil of Mr. Charles D. Robinson. These gentlemen, as well as the editors of *The Century*, especially Mr. Johnson, have taken a great personal

interest in the forest reserves in California, and are worthy of great consideration, both from their experience and intelligence. The magazine article mentioned advocates the extension of the Sequoia National Park so as to embrace the Kings River region and the Kaweah and Tule Sequoia groves. The boundaries are there set forth. The subject is recommended to your favorable consideration and action."

— The Scientific Publishing Company has arranged for the following books, which are now in Press: "The Phosphates of America: where and how they occur; how they are mined; and what they cost; with practical treatises on the manufacture of sulphuric acid, acid phosphate, phosphoric acid and concentrated superphosphates, and select methods of chemical Analysis," by Dr. Francis Wyatt; "Manual of Qualitative Blowpipe Analysis and Determinative Mineralogy," by Dr. F. M. Endlich; "The Chemistry of a World," by Dr. T. Sterry Hunt.

— A series of papers, "Stories of Salem Witchcraft," by Winfield S. Nevins, is begun in the December *New England Magazine*. The first article gives an account of the witchcraft cases in New England previous to 1692; the outbreak in Salem Village; the court and places of trial; a history of the trials of accused persons, and copious quotations from the remarkable testimony in the court files are given, and the article is embellished with portraits and drawings. The article is interesting at this time, as

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