

CORRESPONDENCE.

Library of the American Medical Association.

CHICAGO, Sept. 25, 1895.

To the Editor:—For the first time in several years, if not in its history, this library has been united and roughly sorted into periodicals, transactions, monographs and pamphlets. There are about two hundred and fifty incomplete sets of periodicals, mostly United States, with some English, French and a few German, Italian and Spanish. Some of these, mostly the older United States periodicals, have been bound in a cheap but durable style, but the greater majority are unbound. This number includes some not now received in exchange, but this deficiency is made up by new periodicals, so the number remains about the same.

By the terms of the contract, the library does not receive all periodicals and books sent to the JOURNAL. Some of these are kept for office copies and some become the property of the reviewers. The value of these sets is their incompleteness, as enabling the Newberry Library to fill up many of the deficiencies in its sets, particularly of the United States periodicals, a procedure which has been anticipated for some time.

There are some good things in the older United States periodicals, those now extinct. For instance, there is almost a full set of the *New York Journal of Medicine*, sometimes called *Purple's Journal*, from the name of the most prominent editor. This was in some sense the forerunner of the present *New York Medical Journal*.

There is also a set, fairly complete, of the *Medical Repository*, edited by Samuel Latham Mitchell, a distinguished New York physician and United States Senator. Started in 1797, this periodical turned the century and ran until 1824, to be practically succeeded by *Purple's Journal*, and this, later, by the present *New York Medical Journal*.

The *Philadelphia Journal of Medical and Physical Sciences* is nearly complete. This is the direct antecedent of the *American Journal of the Medical Sciences*. Strange as it may seem, the proverb of the shoemaker's child comes true in this library, for there is not a set or even a volume of the JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The Canadian journals are well represented, as also are the Central and South American periodicals. These latter are valuable as an exponent of what is being done in these countries which are so near to us, and which are opening such prosperous fields for commerce.

There are also a few French and German periodicals. About one hundred and thirty societies are represented by their Transactions, and in the majority of cases these Transactions as well as the periodicals are unbound.

Nearly all of the State medical societies are here, and the various local and national societies also. There are some valuable foreign Transactions, and these, as is well known, can only be secured by exchange. With the State Transactions already in the Newberry Library, these will, in many cases, make complete sets. The AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION heads the list with a full set of its own Transactions and the Index.

As to monographs or books, there are no especially rare or valuable works in the collection. A few old English works have drifted in, and these will be noted:

Heister, Lawrence: *Medical, Chirurgial and Anatomical Observations*, vol. II, London, 1755, quarto. This copy has lost both covers, and in addition the bands have been torn through. It is a raised band book, and why the vandal should have spoiled it by tearing the bands out is a mystery.

Astruc, John: *Treatise of Venereal Diseases in Nine Books*. London, 1754, quarto. There are two copies of this work.

Mead, Richard. *Medical Works*, London, quarto, 1762. Has a fine portrait of the author as a frontispiece.

Winslow, J. B.: *An Anatomical Exposition of the Structure of the Human Body*; 3d edition, two volumes in one, London, 1769, quarto.

There is an edition of Boerhaave in six volumes. London, 1742-1746.

Van Swieten: *Commentaries on Boerhaave's Aphorisms*. Eighteen volumes. 1766-1776. This has the stamp and signature of Dr. John Redman Coxe, a well-known Philadelphian, a man of note, a teacher, and editor of a dispensatory, who was born in 1773 and died in 1864.

There are two sets of works of Benjamin Rush, easily the first man in United States medicine.

There is an imperfect copy of the sixty volume, 1812-1822, *Dictionnaire Encyclopedique*.

The bulk of the books are those received during the last fifty years and represent all branches of science. There are comparatively few standard books among them. The pamphlets are largely reprints, but there are scores of hospital reports, health reports and college catalogues. The card catalogue and accession register, both of course imperfect and incomplete, are also here. These show that an attempt was made to carry on the library as a library.

The collection is now where it will do the most good, that is, in completing another and larger collection. It never was a library, simply a mass of unorganized matter.

Newberry Library. G. E. WIRE, M.D., Librarian.

Tuberculous Patients—a Misquotation Corrected.

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 27, 1895.

To the Editor:—In the JOURNAL of September 21 (in the report of the Society Proceedings), I am represented as having said at a discussion of the Mississippi Valley Medical Association, at Detroit, Mich., that tuberculous patients could not live in Colorado or New Mexico; that they would be more apt to die there quicker than anywhere else. I beg to say to you that I have never made such a remark anywhere, and that your reporter must have mistaken my statement. I did say something to the following effect: "That patients suffering with acute tuberculosis do not find a Colorado or New Mexico climate favorable, and that in such altitudes acute tuberculosis runs its course more rapidly than elsewhere at low altitudes." I had in mind simply acute tuberculosis, and nothing else. Please publish this letter in a prominent place among the Society Proceedings, in order that those to whom any injustice is done by the misquotation may read it. I remain,

Very truly yours, PAUL PAQUIN, M.D.

A Correct Nomenclature.

LA FAYETTE, IND., Sept. 28, 1895.

To the Editor:—There is a growing tendency by physicians to call their practice by the name of "business." While the practice of medicine has its business side, which should be carefully guarded, it surely is not all business, except with those fellows who prostitute the practice to get out of it all the money they can, by leaving out of sight all the other attributes which characterize a good physician's practice. When a physician calls his practice "business," we naturally look for those tricks of trade which are reprehensible in the practice of medicine. Often we do not have to look far to find them either. In the name of the good system under which we were reared, let us cease to lower ourselves in the estimation of others by calling what we do "business;" but rather let it be known by the name by which it has always previously been called, "practice."

Fraternally, GEO. F. KEIPER, M.D.

A pamphlet is an unbound book (that is, without a hard cover or binding). Pamphlets may consist of a single sheet of paper that is printed on both sides and folded in half, in thirds, or in fourths, called a leaflet or it may consist of a few pages that are folded in half and saddle stapled at the crease to make a simple book. For the "International Standardization of Statistics Relating to Book Production and Periodicals", UNESCO defines a pamphlet as "a non-periodical printed publication of at least... This guide was prepared to help researchers find periodical articles on subjects within the general areas of humanities and social sciences. Its scope, while very broad, is limited to reference material located within the reading rooms of the Humanities and Social Sciences Division. Such reference works may be identified from the table of contents, or the subject index at the end. With our clear manuscript guidelines and easy-to-follow checklists, submitting your finished work couldn't be easier. Once your final manuscript is submitted, our team of experts will guide your project through formatting and type setting to transform your work into a book in three powerful formats: eBook, Print Book and MyCopy. You can keep track of where your book is in the publication process in real-time by signing up for notifications alerting you of all the critical stages, including when your book is published online and ready to share with the research community.