

**THE MINERAL THERMAL  
SPRINGS AT CHATEL-  
GUYON, AUVERGNE**

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The mineral thermal springs at Chatel-Guyon, Auvergne by G. H. Brandt

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**G. H. BRANDT**

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*With the Author's Compliments.*

THE  
MINERAL THERMAL SPRINGS  
AT  
CHATEL-GUYON  
AUVERGNE

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LONDON  
H. K. LEWIS, 136 GOWER STREET, W.C.  
1881

151. o. 619.

## CONTENTS.

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	PAGE
INTRODUCTION . . . . .	5
SITUATION AND HISTORY . . . . .	7
SPRINGS . . . . .	11
CHEMICAL COMPOSITION . . . . .	12
THERAPEUTIC ACTION . . . . .	15
DISEASES TREATED AT CHATEL-GUYON . . . . .	20
DIFFERENT KINDS OF BATHS . . . . .	22
DURATION OF TREATMENT . . . . .	23
COUNTER-INDICATIONS . . . . .	24
PHYSIOLOGICAL EXPERIMENTS . . . . .	26
CLIMATE . . . . .	30
AMUSEMENTS . . . . .	30



THE  
MINERAL AND THERMAL SPRINGS  
AT  
CHATEL-GUYON.

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INTRODUCTION.

DURING my summer residence at Royat les Bains for the last two years, I have occasionally met with cases which from their complicated nature, involving liver, spleen, and kidneys, in a more or less congested condition, required, after the treatment at Royat, an after cure. The proximity of Chatel-Guyon has allowed me on more than one occasion to visit this interesting station, which affords an abundant supply of thermal mineral waters, most valuable in the affections above mentioned. I have, therefore, availed myself of this locality by sending several patients there, and have been surprised at the rapid results obtained.

Although but little known, its success has been



of late so marked that the number of invalids who seek its waters has increased to such an extent that accommodation has been wanting. This year, however, a large Hotel is built, with every comfort that can be wished for.

The bathing establishment is very complete, and well fitted with every arrangement that can be desired. The springs are very abundant, and new springs have been discovered which could supply water to an establishment four or five times the size. I feel confident that when once known a large number of patients will find their way there, and will derive considerable benefit for a class of ailments most distressing, not only from the active local symptoms, but from the mental impressions produced by these symptoms, and by the obstinacy with which they resist our several methods of treatment. The numerous cases of cure I have seen during my visits to Chatel-Guyon, and the decided benefit met with by those few cases which I have hitherto sent there for an after cure from Royat, are, I think, a sufficient apology for bringing before the profession a brief notice of these remarkable springs.

## SITUATION AND HISTORY.

THE thermal springs of Chatel-Guyon are situated in a charming and picturesque valley in Auvergne (Department of Puy de Dome) at the foot of a hill surmounted by a cross, where formerly stood the Feudal Chateau of Guy III., duke of Auvergne ; it is approached by a splendid road leading to it from the old town of Riom, one of the railway stations on the Paris, Lyons, and Mediterranean line, it lies three miles from Riom, six miles from Clermont Ferrand, and two hours by rail from Vichy. Any one going to Chatel-Guyon should certainly stop at Riom, one of the most interesting towns in Auvergne, formerly it was the rival town of Clermont Ferrand owing to its privileges, liberties, and municipal customs, often confirmed by its Dukes, and by the Kings of France ; to this day the courts of Justice at Riom rank higher than those of the head of the department. It has been the birth-place of many celebrated men, chiefly men of the Bar, Historians, and Acade-

micians. The two principal streets, which intersect the town crossways contain many fine specimens of architecture of the 13th century: several houses in the renaissance style, well designed and richly decorated with finely sculptured stone. The most remarkable is the Hôtel des Consuls which may be classed among the historical monuments of France. The Court of Appeal is also a fine building remarkable for the Sainte Chapelle which is attached to it, and which constitutes a perfect gem of the fifteenth century: it was built by the Duke of Berry, and is a fine type of Gothic architecture: its stained glass of the same epoch is perhaps the finest in France. The Sacristie of the Church Saint Amable, half Gothic and half Roman, is remarkable for its sculptures of the Eighteenth Century. Every year, on the Sunday following the 11th of June, the Grande Fête of St. Amable is celebrated with great pomp. The Relics of this Saint are supposed to have the power of curing the insane; on that day the Relic is carried by the inhabitants of the town, dressed in the old costume, in front of the Relic a large wheel formed of flowers is also carried in the procession