

GLIMPSES OF MEDICAL EUROPE

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Glimpses of medical Europe by Ralph L. Thompson

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RALPH L. THOMPSON

**GLIMPSES OF
MEDICAL EUROPE**



The first step

1894

GLIMPSES OF
MEDICAL EUROPE

BY
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*ILLUSTRATED FROM PHOTOGRAPHS
AND FROM DRAWINGS BY*

TOM JONES



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TO
K. W. M.

INTRODUCTION.

ONE who lays no claim to being a literary man should not write a book to begin with. And of all subjects that might be chosen, a book on Europe is the one that most requires an apology. However, I am not going to apologize for the present volume, because I didn't want to write it, anyway. It began by my sending home a few letters to an editor who wanted to fill up a certain amount of space. Once started, it just naturally grew into its present form.

There has been no attempt at making this book a guide-book in any sense, although things of importance to a man who is going to study medicine abroad have crept into it despite the author. It does not intend to describe anything accurately (modern art doesn't allow that), but it tries to sketch the things medical in Europe that I have happened to see, as they appeared to me: *comme je l'ai vu*.

All books should have a purpose, and if this book didn't have one I wouldn't have spent my evenings writing these chapters instead of joining my friends in the more con-

INTRODUCTION

genial occupation of holding down a chair in one of the famous cafés on Friedrichstrasse or the "Boul' Mich." If you see the purpose, then you will pack your steamer trunk at your first opportunity, and perhaps we'll touch elbows in some of the places to which these pages may attract you.

The author is indebted to the *St. Louis Medical Review* for permission to reprint such of these chapters as first appeared in that publication; and to the Anglo-American Medical Association of Berlin for the information concerning courses offered in Berlin for American students.

R. L. T.



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