

LETTER TO EDITOR

Raymond Tripier (1838-1916) An Eye on His Life and Scientific Work on Cardiology

Dear Editor,

Raymond Tripier (1838-1916) (Figure 1) was not only a distinguished university Professor in Lyon, but also a great figure in medical research, who decisively influenced the establishment of the French cardiology and internal medicine, this is while his contribution remained etched in world history of cardiology.

During 1858-1862, Raymond Tripier was a resident of internal medicine at Lyon's hospitals. In 1863, he supported his doctoral thesis in Paris medical school entitled "*De l'anéurysme artério-veineux spontané de l'aorte et de la veine cave supérieure*" (On the spontaneous arteriovenous aneurysm of the aorta and of the superior vena cava). From 1866, he worked as an internist at Lyons hospitals, while from 1884 to 1908, he was the Professor of Pathological Anatomy at the Medical School of Lyon.¹

He devoted all his scientific work to anatomo-clinical observation, faithfully following the doctrines of anatomo-clinical Paris school of thought. That is, he believed and applied the theory that the diagnosis should be confirmed by autopsy. As a professor, he had a great influence on students and breathed unwavering conviction to rigorous scientific observations. His

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1- Dufey, 2000: 1-149.



main work is “Études anatomo-pathologiques” (1909) (anatomopathological studies), in which he presented the results of his clinical studies on the heart, blood vessels, lungs and pleura.²



Figure 1. Raymond Tripier (1838-1916)

His contribution to cardiology is summarized as follows: he studied the jugular pulse, the inorganic breathing and the opening clang of mitral valve. Until recently, the term «Tripier-Devic breath» has been used in Lyon to describe the inorganic pulmonary respiration. He was a great professor and had influenced the work of the cardiologist Louis Galavardin (1875-1957), who is considered as one of the pioneers of the introduction of new technologies, for their time, to cardiology.³

Apart from his medical work, he loved fine arts and is featured as Maecenas. During his retirement, he devoted his time to the administration of Lyon’s museum. He donated an amount of 8000 English Pounds to Lyon’s museum, so that every five years, a work of art will be bought by the interest.⁴

Acknowledgment

The figure presented in the manuscript (Figure 1) was taken by Musée d’histoire de la Médecine et de la Pharmacie of Lyon and I, Konstantinos Laios, the corresponding author hold the scanning copyright.

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- 2- Tripier, 1909: 1-604.
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4- Obituary, 1917: 247.

