

## Who's Who in Orthopedics

the journal of SICOT. Then he encouraged the board of La Revue to produce an edition in English. He also wrote two autobiographies, one mainly clinical, the other an illuminating book in French written in the style of a good-natured raconteur.<sup>1,2</sup>

The last few years were clouded by failing strength, which gradually brought a remarkably active life to a peaceful close on October 11, 1989 at Achères-la-Forêt.

## References

1. Merle d'Aubigné R (1982) Surfing the wave: fifty years in the growth of French orthopedic surgery. *Clin Orthop* 171:3-23
2. Merle d'Aubigné R (1987) *Une trace*. Paris, Editions de la Table Ronde



## Fritz De QUERVAIN

1868-1940

De Quervain was a most distinguished general surgeon and succeeded Köcher as Professor of Surgery at Berne University. He was born at Sion in the Valais Canton of Switzerland, where his father was pastor. After studying at Berne, he settled as a surgeon in the watch-making district of La Chaux-de-Fonds. After 8 years he returned to the university as reader in surgery under Köcher, becoming involved in the enormous program of clinical and scientific work on goiter.

He was responsible for the introduction of iodized table salt. His interests were very wide and he made contributions to most branches of surgery.

Grey Turner visited his clinic in 1908 and was vividly struck by his resource and imagination.



## Jacques-Malthieu DELPECH

1777-1832

Jacques-Malthieu Delpech was born in Toulouse, where he began his medical studies at the age of 12 years under the aegis of Alexis Latrey, the uncle and first teacher of J. Dominique Larrey.<sup>6-8</sup> At the age of 15 years he enlisted as a surgical dresser in the French Army, in which he served for 5 years. Returning to his studies, he was awarded a medical degree by the faculty of Montpellier in 1801. He continued his studies in Paris, where he divided his life into two parts: at night he worked to educate himself, and during the day he tutored other students to earn money to live. His particular interests at this time were wound healing and scar tissue. In 1812, as the result of a competitive examination, i.e., *concours*, Delpech was made Professor of Surgery and Chief Surgeon of the Hôpital St. Eloi in Montpellier.

Delpech's first important publication<sup>1</sup> dealt with hospital gangrene, *pourriture d'Hôpital*, a condition with which he had had substantial experience both in the army and in civilian practice. He was one of the first surgeons to point out the importance of direct contact with pus, dirty dress-