Jean-Baptiste Charcot Encyclopedia Article

Jean-Baptiste Charcot

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Jean-Baptiste Charcot

1867-1936

French doctor, scientist, and explorer who, after becoming a doctor, turned his hobby of sailing into a means of doing scientific research in and exploring the North Atlantic and Antarctica. Believing France should be among those countries sending exploratory and scientific expeditions to Antarctica, he purchased the *Français* in 1903 and sailed to the region. He also led other Antarctic expeditions aboard the *Pourquois-Pas* and later on, annual expeditions to the North Atlantic.