

**A mirror for medicine, II : some resources of the Wellcome Institute Library
: an exhibition, Monday 12 June - Friday 29 September 1989.**

Contributors

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A Mirror for Medicine: II



Frontispiece: Thomas Dowland, medical botanist and astrologer of Shadwell, London. Oil painting by J. Bowring, 1788 (Wellcome Institute Library Iconographic Collections no. CC 5338). The portrait has a programme : the sitter draws up his patient's horoscope which he will interpret with the aid of his astrological library. He will then turn to his cabinet of herbs to dispense remedies endowed with the properties corresponding to his patient's humoral/constellational pattern. This traditional methodology was perceived to have the advantage of bridging the chasm between the mathematical and the biological aspects of the medical sciences. (For further commentary see p. 32).

A Mirror for Medicine: II

**Some resources of the
Wellcome Institute
Library**

An Exhibition

Monday 12 June – Friday 29 September 1989

London

Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine

1989

A note on the title of the exhibition

There is a long tradition of literary and pictorial 'mirrors'. Our title might therefore be regarded as an inheritor of the short title of the **Spiegl der Artzny** by Laurent Friesz of Colmar [Strassburg: J. Grüniger, 1519].

But before this there were many other such 'mirrors', notably the **Speculum majus** of Vincent of Beauvais [13th century], consisting of the 'Speculum historiale' (history of mankind to 1254), 'Speculum naturale' (encyclopaedia of nature), and 'Speculum doctrinale' comprising all the learned, liberal, practical and mechanical arts, including medicine.

The first illustrated book to be published in England was Caxton's **Myrrour of the worlde**, 1481, an encyclopaedia translated from the French, which explained, *inter alia*, 'how moche the erth hath of heyght, how moche in circuyte, and how thycke in the myddle'.

Wellcome Library
for the History
and Understanding
of Medicine

WELLCOME
COLLECTION

/ (39)

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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

The text of this catalogue was prepared and typeset in-house by staff of the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine. Text was initially input with embedded \LaTeX typesetting commands using WordPerfect 5.0 on an Olivetti M28 IBM AT-compatible personal computer. The finished text was processed through the \LaTeX typesetting software, the output being converted to a PostScript file using James Clark's Dvips programme. A Hewlett Packard Series II laser printer with JetScript was used for proof copies. The final PostScript file was then sent via electronic mail to the University of London Computer Centre's Linotronic 300 phototypesetter.

INTRODUCTION

The present exhibition is designed to indicate the variety and richness of the material in the care of the Wellcome Institute. It is not intended to do more than outline to researchers the scope and historical depth of the Institute's primary and secondary sources in manuscript, printed and iconographic materials. Credit for the existence of these large, diverse, and unusual resources must be paid to the vision and drive of Sir Henry Wellcome [1853–1936], pharmaceutical magnate and philanthropist, and to his heirs the Wellcome Trustees who continue, among their numerous services to medicine, to fund the Institute and to support the study of medical history in the United Kingdom.

Only an indication of the scale and range of the Institute collections is possible within the compass of an exhibition, for the printed books alone number some 450,000 volumes and the periodicals since the mid-17th century total some 6,500 titles. Western manuscripts and the materials of the Contemporary Medical Archives Centre are an essential part of the primary sources which, with early printed books, post-1850 medical texts, the historical (or reference) collection, and the topographically distinct Oriental and American collections are all unsurpassed research sources in their fields. The diverse and numerous iconographic collections provide the indispensable visual record often absent from the manuscript or printed text. Material in all fields continues to be collected by gift, deposit or purchase.

The formation of the Institute's collection of **western manuscripts** began in 1897. It now contains more than 6,000 volumes and boxes of loose papers, and some 100,000 items of correspondence. It documents almost every aspect of medicine and science and incidentally provides research resources for a variety of other subjects. The manuscripts range in date from the 3rd century A.D. to 1900, and more than 800 of them were written before 1650. Their character is varied, from illuminated medieval manuscripts to the rough ledgers and account books of 19th century medical practitioners which are no less important as a source of historical information. More than twenty European languages are represented in the collection.

The **Contemporary Medical Archives Centre** was established within the Wellcome Institute in 1979 to locate, collect and catalogue the personal working papers of 20th century British medical practitioners and scientists in medical and ancillary disciplines. Such unpublished sources include laboratory or lecture notes, surveys, case notes, memoranda, diaries and correspondence, as well as audio-visual material, drawings or photographs. Readers are advised of the holdings of the Centre by lists and reports regularly circulated to the National Register of

Archives, major libraries, and interested societies and individuals. The Centre undertakes survey work on the archives and records of hospitals and other medical institutions and is concerned that such bodies should be aware of the need to preserve historical material. At present the Centre is compiling a comprehensive computerised register of information on hospital records in Britain with the help of grants from the King's Fund Centre.

The **early printed books** range in date from 1467 to 1850. The terminal date was chosen to take into account changes in medical science and practice in the mid-19th century, developments in printing technology, and the shift from the monograph to the periodical as a vehicle for medical publication. The basis of the collection is the books collected by and for Sir Henry Wellcome between 1897 and 1936. Many additions have been made since, most notably a substantial part of the library of the Medical Society of London purchased in 1984; but the character of the collection still recognisably reflects Sir Henry's interests. He had collected widely to create a general library of the history of mankind, with medicine seen as a central core. Judicious weeding in the decade after his death has refined this aim and imposed a greater homogeneity on the collection. The history of medicine forms the heart of the collection, including ancillary subjects such as pharmacy, chiropody and veterinary medicine, as well as popular medicine, 'fringe' medicine and quackery. There are also substantial holdings in the sciences, especially chemistry, biology and botany. Other subjects well represented are alchemy and the occult, travel, ethnography, cookery, general history and bibliography.

Medicine, like any human activity, is part of a continuum. The increasing specialist assurance of the scientific and rational mode is to be found in the wide range of the **modern medicine collection**, under rapid expansion during the past five years. Here may be identified the immediate genesis of the medicine of our own times, from clinical observation to pharmacopoeia, and from surgery to the discovery and use of the antibiotics. The collection includes, in parallel with other departments of the Library, a substantial holding of highly varied and informative medical ephemera.

The collections as a whole represent the catholicity of Sir Henry Wellcome's interests in the history of medicine. This catholicity, far from an accumulation of detail for its own sake, indicates an early understanding of the unity of mankind's attempts to seek and provide healing. Thus the **historical (or reference) collection** reflects the range of Wellcome's interests not only in the narrow sense of medicine, but also in such areas as anthropology and ethnology, archaeology, art and religion, and in much else: for example, alchemy, as the ancestor of

chemistry; astrology and astronomy, and medical botany; the ancestor of modern therapeutics. Other categories have of course since been added, while the core collections on the history of medicine and science have continued to expand rapidly. The historical collection serves as an essential key to the understanding and use of the primary collections of the Institute.

The **Oriental collection** includes over 11,000 manuscripts and some 3,000 books printed in oriental scripts. Forty-three different languages are represented, stretching from North Africa to the Far East. The span of time is wide. The earliest manuscripts – Egyptian demotic and hieratic papyri – date from the 6th century B.C. The materials used include bone, ivory, metal, and palm leaves besides paper and vellum. The collection is one of the major collections of oriental materials in Europe. As such, it includes many treasures. Because the history of medicine and science in oriental cultures cannot be separated from the civilizations of which it was a part, almost every related aspect of human endeavour of the East may here be studied in its primary sources.

The **American collections** include rare colonial and post-colonial texts from the Americas and the Caribbean, and materials from Europe reflecting curiosity in the new found world. Much interest centres on plant drugs as one of the categories of trade that the invaders had come to seek; but natural history, medical practice, health administration, medicine for Caribbean slaves and a small collection of manuscripts primarily from Hispanoamerica are also included. The collection of rare primary texts is supported by much background bibliographical, biographical, periodical and secondary material. Amerindian medicine, both of the great Mesoamerican cultures as well as of the smaller tribes, is also well represented.

The **iconographic collections** provide materials for the pictorial record of medical history, in the form of paintings, prints, drawings, photographs and other appropriate media. Medical iconography was a keen interest of Sir Henry Wellcome: M.H. Spielmann's **The iconography of Andreas Vesalius** (1925) was one of the first major historical publications issued under his imprint; he personally bought pictures for the collection, especially in Spain; and in his will he directed his Trustees to add to them by the purchase of 'pictures and other works of art' pertaining to medical history. Thanks to Wellcome's efforts, continued by his Trustees, the Wellcome Institute's iconographic collections, uneven though they are, are among the largest and most important of their kind in the world, and as such are consulted by historians from every continent. The geographic range is global, there is no cut-off date to restrict the chronological range, and the subject-range includes medical practice, medical science, and a profusion of matters which have a bearing on medical history (rat-catchers, railway-accidents, gym-

nastics, etc.). A catalogue of portraits of doctors and scientists (engravings and drawings only) by Renate Burgess was published in 1973, and other catalogues are in preparation.

The Institute's **conservation** enterprise, represented by three full-time conservators, which continually monitors materials and the factors leading to their decay, and which directs and undertakes appropriate measures for the amelioration of both, is an essential and unremitting part of the Wellcome activity. Our responsibility is not only to our own brief span of life, but to our heirs long hence, who, however strange and (doubtless) inimical their ideas, will still require the original evidence, and the material vehicle of that evidence, for their researches.

Diversity alone is not the purpose of this exhibition nor of the Institute, but the underlying unity that that diversity represents. The exhibition is of course intended to reflect the nature of the Wellcome collections, just as those collections themselves reflect as broad a picture of man and his healing as is yet attainable. The study of the history of medicine, necessarily selective as such studies must be – and ever dependent on the written and unwritten agenda of the viewer – cannot but reflect ourselves to ourselves in the mirror of the past. We may wish to ponder, as we see ourselves in that mirror, the multiform disguise of man and the paths that he chooses to mediate his healing.

Case 1

WESTERN MANUSCRIPTS

The collection of western manuscripts provides a unique resource for the study of European medicine and science from the 3rd century A.D. to recent times. The manuscripts on display show the wide range of the collection in both date and subject matter.

1. Pseudo-Galen. **Anathomia; Anathomia porci**. England. Mid 15th century.

Written in Middle English, this manuscript contains vulgarised versions of two anatomical texts. Both are attributed here to Galen. The first derives, in fact, from the **Practica** of Lanfranc of Milan, while the second is a version of the anatomy of the pig, attributed elsewhere to the Salernitan author Copho. The texts are finely illuminated, and accompanied by a remarkable series of illustrations showing the external surfaces of the body, the skeleton and nerves, 'wound man', and 'disease woman'.

2. **Ein buech züsamen gezogen ... wie ain zeüghauss samb aller Monition anhaimisch gehalten soll werdn** Germany. Mid 16th century.

This work on artillery describes how to keep an arsenal and ammunition in good order, and how to make gunpowder. It is illustrated with coloured drawings of fire-balls, bombs, incendiary arrows, cannons and other instruments of war. At the end are five folding plates showing an artillery train on the march.

3. Galileo Galilei [1564–1642]. **Letters to Galileo from various correspondents, 1592–1641.**

The western manuscripts include a large quantity of correspondence of doctors and scientists. The greater part dates from the 18th and 19th centuries, but amongst earlier correspondence is a group of forty original letters received by Galileo in the years 1592–1641. The earliest letter, dated 25 September 1592, is from the Paduan collector and patron of scholarship Gian Vincenzo Pinelli [1535–1601].

4. Caspar Magninus. **De linearum, nervorumque prognostico faciei humanae contingentium**. Italy. Mid 17th century.

This work on physiognomy is illustrated by numerous pen and wash drawings of heads. It purports to show how facial characteristics indicate a man's moral nature and reveal his fortune. The faces on f.20v indicate a bad moral character (above), and ingenuousness and probity (below). Those on f.21r show a changeable, deceitful character with unstable wealth (above), and riches and good fortune (below). Other predictions are more specific. One face foretells death in the galleys at the age of 39; another syphilis, loss of a testicle, and misfortune in marriage.

5. William Waylett [1728–1815]. List of women delivered by William Waylett, of Lydd, Kent, 1757–1815.

Waylett wrote his list at the back of a volume of medical recipes compiled by his grandfather William Waylett [1636–1702?]. In all he recorded 2,863 deliveries, of which he described 2,462 as 'natural', the remainder being mainly 'lingering', 'laborious', 'praeternatural', breech presentations or cases of twins. Waylett's normal fee, ten shillings and sixpence, varied according to distance and the patient's ability to pay.

6. Italian herbal. Mid 18th century.

This volume contains over 640 watercolour illustrations of plants, followed by a shorter section of flowers, fruits, quadrupeds, insects and sea creatures. The origin of the illustrations has not yet been identified, and there is no accompanying text. At the end of the manuscript (ff. 167–169) are three landscapes.

7. A surgeon-apothecary's ledger, 1774–80.

This ledger has recently been identified as that of William Lee [d.1780], of Odiham, Hants. It contains his accounts both for surgical treatments and for medicines dispensed. His patients reflect the whole range of local society, from the Rt. Hon. Welbore Ellis and Sir Charles Blunt to Thomas White, the Odiham butcher, and the poor of various parishes.

8. Oswald Beale Cooper [fl. 1825–33], M.R.C.S. Certificate of attendance at lectures on anatomy, physiology, pathology and surgery at the Theatre of Anatomy, Great Windmill Street, 1825–28.

Ten certificates awarded to Cooper during his medical education form part of the Institute's substantial, but as yet mainly uncatalogued, collection of diplomas. They show how a London medical education in the early nineteenth century was pieced together by attendance at a variety of public and private institutions. Amongst the latter was the Theatre of Anatomy, founded by William Hunter in Great Windmill Street. Cooper's certificate was signed by Herbert Mayo [1796–1852], physiologist and anatomist, and the surgeon Caesar Hawkins [1798–1884].

9. Thomas Herbert Bickerton [1857–1933]. Operations book and clinical photographs, c. 1886–c. 1901.

Bickerton was ophthalmic surgeon to the Liverpool Royal Infirmary from 1886 to 1919. His operation book records a variety of operations, iridectomies for glaucoma and iritis, tenotomies and re-adjustments of squints, enucleations of the eyeball, operations for cataract, lachrymal fistula and other conditions. Many of the clinical photographs relate to cases in the book. A few are 'before and after' photographs, including one endorsed 'Eyes put straight because his fiancée refused to marry him if he did not submit to an operation'.

Case 2

CONTEMPORARY MEDICAL ARCHIVES CENTRE

The Contemporary Medical Archives Centre was established in 1979 to collect and catalogue the papers and records of 20th century British medical practitioners and scientists, and to build up information on relevant collections held elsewhere. The archive reflects all aspects of modern medicine, from research leading to major scientific advances, through clinical practice and public health, to unorthodox and fringe medicine. Nearly 300 collections have been given to or deposited with the Centre.

The items on display in this case show the wide variety of material held by the Centre, both in format (manuscript letters, typescripts, photographs, and tape recordings) and in content (from the research papers of the eminent to routine administrative records).

Personal Papers

1. Sir Edward Mellanby, KCB,GBE,MD,FRS,FRCP [1885-1955].

Notebooks of dog diet experiments, c.1940. A small sample from a long series relating to the nearly 40 years of experiments conducted by Sir Edward Mellanby and his wife, May Mellanby, which resulted in valuable discoveries in nutritional science.

2. E F Griffith, MRCS, LRCP [1895-1988].

"Thraxis" drawings, made during the Jungian analysis undergone by Griffith in 1947. Griffith was a propagandist for birth control and sex education in the 1930s, and a founder of the Marriage Guidance Council. He subsequently became an analytical psychotherapist.

3. Sir Alexander Haddow, DSc,PhD,MD,FRS,FRCP [1907-1976].

Letters from Bertrand, 3rd Earl Russell, 17th November 1955 and 29th August 1956. Besides being an experimental pathologist and the Director of the Chester Beatty Institute for Cancer Research, Haddow took a great interest in issues of world peace and nuclear disarmament, which brought him into contact with Russell.

General Collections

4. H C Croadsell Ltd.

Pharmacist's Registers 1928-1931. Typical examples of the routine records kept by retail pharmacists.

5. Wathen Waller, MD,MRCP [d.1958].

'The Campaign in Iran: a paper read before the Hunterian Society, St George's Hospital, on February 26th 1920.' An account of service as captain, RAMC in the Middle East during World War I.

Societies and Associations

6. Association of Health and Residential Care Officers.

Minutes of the National Association of Masters and Matrons of Poor Law Institutions, 1915-1920. Set up in 1895 to represent the interests of married couples holding joint residential posts in Poor Law institutions, this association became defunct in 1984 as a result of changes in the administration of health care and general attitudes to health.

7. Lister Institute, formerly British Institute for Preventive Medicine.

Glass Slides, Bombay Plague Investigations 1905-1908. Correspondence between J L Pattison (of the Lister Institute), the India Office, and Lord Curzon, 1904-1905. The privately funded Lister Institute often entered into cooperation with government bodies—in this case, the India Office and the Government of India—for the eradication of epidemic disease.

8. Voluntary Euthanasia Society.

Press cutting book of C Killick Millard, 1931-1932. The issue of voluntary euthanasia is a recurrent subject of debate within the medical profession and in the media. In 1935 C Killick Millard and others founded the Voluntary Euthanasia Society to campaign for clarification of the legal position.

General Practice

9. **Examples of typical case records** held by an NHS general practitioner in East London, 1940s-1960s.

They were designed to hold only a very limited amount of correspondence and diagnostic evidence.

10. **GP Interviews**

Tapes of interviews conducted by Professor Margot Jeffreys and HESSIE SACHS with members of a group of general practices sharing a health centre in North London, the basis for **Re-thinking general practice: dilemmas in primary medical care** (Tavistock Publications, 1983).

Case 3

EARLY PRINTED BOOKS

The books exhibited demonstrate the range of topics covered by the collection, both in medicine and in other subjects. They range in date from the 15th to the 19th centuries and in physical form from substantial volumes to single broadsheets.

Venereal Disease

1. Joseph Gruenpeck [1473?–1532?]. **De pestilentiali scorra, sive mala de Franzos.** [Augsburg: J. Schaur. 1496.]

One of the earliest tracts on syphilis, written by a layman and suggesting an astrological origin for the disease. The woodcut on the title page shows a syphilitic corpse in the foreground while two afflicted women pray to the Virgin Mary and receive healing rays from the Christ child. At the same time the Virgin hands a crown to the German Emperor, armed as a crusader. This illustration is adapted from a similar woodcut published earlier in the year at Basle to accompany verses by Sebastian Brant.

Surgery

2. Hans von Gersdorf [c. 1455–1529]. **Feldtbuch der Wundartzney.** [Strassburg: H. Schott.] 1530.

First published in 1517. A textbook of surgery and related topics based on forty years of practical experience. It is notable for its striking illustrations of surgical instruments and techniques.

Metallurgy

3. Georgius Agricola [1494–1555]. **De re metallica libri XII.** Basle: Froben. 1556.

A comprehensive treatise on metallurgy, mining and refining. Georgius Agricola (Georg Bauer) practised as a physician in mining districts of Saxony and Bohemia and his work includes a section on the diseases of mineworkers. The work is lavishly illustrated. Shown here is an illustration of mechanisms for ventilating mineshafts.

Nutrition

4. Sir Hugh Platt [1552–1608]. **Certaine philosophical preparations of foode and beverage for sea-men, in their long voyages.** [London: H. Lownes. c.1607.]

Sir Hugh Platt, man of letters, scientist, inventor, and writer of cookery books, was consulted in 1595 by Sir Francis Drake and Sir John Hawkins before their voyage to the West Indies. This broadsheet setting out his advice was printed about twelve years later. Macaroni is recommended as a 'cheape, fresh and lasting victuall'. Platt recommends

his 'philosophical fire' (probably some form of bottling process) for the preservation of liquids, including lemon juice, already recognised as effective against scurvy.

The only other recorded copy of this sheet is in the Library of the University of California, Los Angeles.

Veterinary Medicine

5. Carlo Ruini [1530?–98]. **Anatomia del cavallo, infermità, et suoi rimedii.** Venice: F. Prati. 1618.

Ruini was a lawyer by profession. His work on the anatomy and diseases of the horse, first published in Bologna in 1598, is the first book devoted to the anatomy of a single species other than man. The illustrations irresistibly recall those of Vesalius's great treatise on human anatomy of 1543.

Naval Medicine

6. Great Britain, Commissioners for Sick and Wounded Seamen. **An abstract of certain instructions.** [London. 1664.]

Instructions for the care of the sick during the Second Dutch War of 1665–67. The Commissioners (one of whom was the diarist John Evelyn) were appointed by the Privy Council in October 1664, in advance of the declaration of war. Certain ports were designated as reception centres and this copy of the instructions has a handwritten note of the appointment of Hugh Salesbury to act as clerk at Portsmouth.

Neurology

7. Thomas Willis [1621–75]. **Cerebri anatome.** London: J. Flesher for J. Martyn & J. Allestry. 1664.

A detailed and accurate account of the brain and nervous system, regarded as a landmark in the history of neurology and marking the transition between medieval and modern theories of brain function. It includes the first use of the Greek term *Νευρολογία*, later anglicised as Neurology. The illustrations were provided by Christopher Wren, then Professor of Astronomy at Oxford (see also Case 8), and Richard Lower, later a distinguished physiologist. Shown here is the illustration of the base of the brain and the 'circle of Willis'.

Pharmacy

8. Claude Joseph Geoffroy [1685–1752]. **Specimen celeberrimis pharmacopoeis Parisiensibus exponendum**. Paris. 1703.

Produced to accompany the public preparation of three pharmaceutical compositions as the final act of qualification as an apothecary. Geoffroy was a member of a distinguished French pharmaceutical family. This engraved broadsheet, with a headpiece by Sébastien Le Clerc showing Aesculapius recalling Hippolytus to life, is analogous to the pictorial theses popular in the 17th and 18th centuries, of which there are several medical and surgical examples.

Occupational Medicine

9. Bernardino Ramazzini [1633–1714]. **A treatise of the diseases of tradesmen ... now done in English**. London: A. Bell, etc. 1705.

The anonymous first English translation of Ramazzini's classic treatise on occupational diseases. The work was first published in Italian at Modena in 1700. It includes sections on the occupational diseases of surgeons, apothecaries, midwives, wetnurses and physicians.

Chiropody

10. Nicolas Laurent La Forest. **L'art de soigner les pieds**. Paris: The author, etc. 1782. La Forest held a court appointment as 'Chirurgien-Pédicure' to the King and Royal Family. His book, first published in 1781, is regarded as the earliest significant work on chiropody and has been translated into German, Danish, Italian, Spanish and English. The edition of 1782, shown here, includes a section on the importance of the proper care of soldiers' feet. La Forest offered to train selected soldiers to serve as regimental chiropodists.

Hygiene

11. John Howard [1726–90]. **An account of the principal lazarettos in Europe**. Warrington: W. Eyres. 1789.

Howard's interest in prison hygiene was stimulated by his appointment as High Sheriff of Bedfordshire in 1773. The rest of his life was devoted to a campaign for the reform of conditions in prisons, hospitals and similar establishments. He made tours of inspection in Britain and Europe and his writings contain a wealth of information on matters of design, hygiene, etc. His account of the lazarettos is particularly concerned with plague and quarantine.

Travel

12. Mungo Park [1771–1806]. **Travels in the interior districts of Africa ... in the years 1795, 1796, and 1797.** London: W. Bulmer for the author. 1799.

Many great explorers and naturalists were originally trained as medical men. Mungo Park, a surgeon, explored the course of the Niger and Gambia and his account of his travels in 1795–97 includes information on the natural history and diseases of the area. He met his death in 1806 on a second expedition.

Military Medicine

13. Dominique Jean, Baron Larrey [1766–1842]. **Mémoires de chirurgie militaire, et campagnes.** 4 vols. Paris: J. Smith. 1812–17.

Larrey was chief surgeon to Napoleon and his memoirs cover the various campaigns of the Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars. He organised the rapid provision of aid to the injured and introduced 'flying ambulances' for the removal of casualties from the battlefield. Shown here (from vol. I) are the panniers devised for the transport of the wounded by camel on Napoleon's campaign in Egypt and Syria in 1799.

Plastic Surgery

14. Joseph Constantine Carpue [1764–1846]. **An account of two successful operations for restoring a lost nose.** London: Longman. 1816.

The first modern European use of the technique of rhinoplasty, the restoration of a lost nose by grafting skin from another part of the body, in this case the forehead. The technique was practised in India in very early times. In 16th century Italy it was successfully performed by Tagliacozzi but then dropped out of use until in the late 18th century interest was revived by surgeons who had seen the operation in India. The patient in the case shown here was an Army officer who had lost much of his nose from the use of mercury for a liver complaint contracted in Egypt.

Case 4

MODERN MEDICINE COLLECTION

The Modern Medicine Collection contains the Wellcome Library's holdings of printed medical and scientific texts published after 1850. Many different kinds of publication are represented: clinical manuals, research reports, statistical surveys, 'family doctor' books, pharmacopeias, government documents, suppliers' catalogues, as well as the standard professional journals and a wide selection of pamphlets and offprints. Also included are ephemeral materials such as advertising leaflets, product labels, trade cards, postage stamps and first day covers, songs and play-bills, posters, invitation cards, etc.

The collection is still undergoing physical organisation and cataloguing in order to maximise its exploitation. It is being actively extended both by purchase and donation.

The selection of monographs in Case 4 demonstrates the wide variety of subjects covered.

Medical botany

1. Georges Dujardin-Beaumetz [1833–95] and E. Egasse. **Les plantes médicinales, indigènes et exotiques: leurs usages thérapeutiques, pharmaceutiques et industriels.** Paris: Doin. 1889.

A reference work containing some attractive coloured plates.

Surgery

2. Sir William Fergusson [1808–77]. **A system of practical surgery.** 3rd ed. London: John Churchill. 1852.

Fergusson was a founder of conservative surgery, encouraging the preservation and reconstruction of body parts whenever possible.

3. Eldridge L. Eliason [b. 1879]. **Practical bandaging, including adhesive and plaster-of-Paris dressings.** Philadelphia, London: Lippincott. 1914 (1915 printing).

Bandaging is a well-developed art and has engendered many illustrated manuals, of which this is an example.

Public health

A field in which the collection has particularly good holdings; they range widely, including such subjects as slum clearance and town planning, water supply and sewerage, peacetime and wartime emergency planning, infectious disease control, environmental pollution, food hygiene, health and social services, occupational

health, first aid, and mortuary practice. There is also one of the nation's best sets of Medical Officer of Health reports.

4. Arthur Hill Hassall [1817–94]. **Food: its adulterations, and the methods for their detection.** London: Longmans, Green. 1876.

Concern about the adulteration of food has been expressed since ancient times.

5. **Annual report of the Principal School Medical Officer, 1958.** [Truro:] Cornwall County Council. Education Committee. [1959.]

6. **Annual report of the Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer for the year 1971. (The health of Brighton 1971).** Brighton: County Borough of Brighton. Health Department. [1972.]

7. **Annual report of the Port Medical Officer for the year 1967.** [Exmouth:] Exeter Port Health Authority. [1968.]

8. **Annual report of the Health Organisation for 1929.** Geneva: League of Nations. 1930.

9. William Tebb [1830–1918] and Edward Perry Vulliamy [d. 1902]. **Premature burial, and how it may be prevented: with special reference to trance, catalepsy, and other forms of suspended animation.** 2nd ed., by Walter R. Hadwen. London: Swan Sonnenschein. 1905.

Tebb was one of several authors fearful of burial while still alive. This book contains illustrations of 'Count Karnicé-Karnicki's ingenious invention', which at 'only about twelve shillings' would enable the victim to communicate with the world above.

Pharmacy

Written communication between the practitioner and the pharmacist is a more complex subject than might be imagined.

10. Hugh C. Muldoon [b. 1884]. **Lessons in pharmaceutical Latin and prescription writing and interpretation.** New York: Wiley. London: Chapman & Hall. 1916.

A formal grammar.

11. William Watson Will. **Prescription reading: a text book for pharmaceutical students, comprising a collection of physicians' & surgeons' prescriptions, mixtures, lotions, pills, ointments, powders, etc.: to which are added a Latin dictionary and vocabulary, tables of abbreviations used in prescriptions, & doses of official & unofficial medicines, and a commentary upon British poison laws.** London: Metropolitan College of Pharmacy. 1898.

Anatomy

12. Henry Gray [1825–61]. **Anatomy, descriptive and surgical.** London: Parker. 1858. The first edition of Gray's text-book of anatomy, which is currently in its 37th edition and which remains the standard work in the English-speaking world.

Evolution

13. Charles Darwin [1809–82]. **On the origin of species by means of natural selection, or the preservation of favoured races in the struggle for life.** London: Murray. 1859 (1860 printing).

One of the most controversial books ever to be published, its first edition sold out on the day of publication.

Microbiology

14. Louis Pasteur [1822–95]. **Études sur la bière, ses maladies, causes qui les provoquent, procédé pour la rendre inaltérable, avec une théorie nouvelle de la fermentation.** Paris: Gauthier-Villars. 1876.

One of the works in which Pasteur set out his thinking on the causes and mechanisms of fermentation.

Therapeutics

Countless techniques of diagnosis and therapy are represented in the collection, some of them highly unusual and outside the bounds of both conventional and modern complementary medicine.

15. Friedrich Eduard Bilz. **Das neue Naturheilverfahren: Lehr- und Nachschlagebuch der naturgemässen Heilweise und Gesundheitspflege.** Million-Jubiläums-Ausgabe. Leipzig: Bilz. [1902?]

16. Friedrich Eduard Bilz. **The natural method of healing: a new and complete guide to health, translated from the latest German edition.** Leipzig, London: Bilz. 1898.

17. Friedrich Eduard Bilz. **La nouvelle médication naturelle.** [Paris?:] Bilz. [190-?]. Bilz [1842–1922] was an advocate of natural methods, which he practised at his sanatorium near Dresden. His books are notable for their bindings and illustrations, some of which are in ‘pop-up’ style.

Chemistry

18. J. Carrington Sellars. **Chemistianity (popular knowledge of chemistry): a poem: also an oratorical verse on each known chemical element in the universe, giving descriptions, properties, sources, preparation, and chief uses, arranged for familiar or memory reading.** Birkenhead: The author. [1873.]

Incorporates a scheme for dividing the metals into ‘Klans’ and for renaming the elements alphabetically; Hydrogen becomes ‘Abgen’, Boron, ‘Amyan’, and so forth.

Cases 13-15 display a selection of the ephemeral material in the Modern Medicine Collection.

Case 5

HISTORICAL COLLECTION

The Historical Collection comprises some 50,000 post-1850 secondary sources on the history of medicine and related sciences. Much of the collection is on open access in the Reading Room of the Library and in the Periodicals Room. Some 500 current serials are received in a wide range of languages and numerous offprints are sent to the Library by their authors. New accessions average 100 monographs per month and cover such subjects as population studies, social history, biography, medical botany, anthropology, witchcraft and general bibliography as well as more central studies on the history of medicine and science. Shown here are examples of the various categories.

Biography

1. John Chancellor. **Charles Darwin**. London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson. 1973.

The Library buys widely in the field of biography – not only lives of individual physicians and surgeons, but lives of famous patients both individual and collective – as well as general collected biography and such works as university and school registers. The Library holds a complete run of the **Medical Directory**, directories of societies, and post office directories, all of which aid biographical research.

Histories of medicine

2. Jean Starobinski. **Geschichte der Medizin**. Lausanne: Erik Nitsche. 1963.

Histories of medicine, both general and national, and histories of systems of medicine such as Greek, Roman, Chinese, Indian, Egyptian, form a substantial part of the collection.

Histories of specialties

3. Louis Dulieu. **La pharmacie à Montpellier**. Avignon: Presses Universelles. 1973.

Included in the collection are histories of various specialties such as pharmacy, nutrition, orthopaedics, ophthalmology, dermatology, venereal diseases, obstetrics, gynaecology, surgery and veterinary medicine.

Histories of Institutions

4. **Sint-Janshospitaal Brugge 1188/1976**. [Exhibition catalogue.] Bruges: Commissie van Openbare Onderstand. 1976.

Translations and editions of texts

5. Galen. **On prognosis: edition, translation, and commentary** by Vivian Nutton. Berlin: Akademie Verlag. 1979.

Closely linked with the histories of systems of medicine are the modern editions and translations of classic texts.

Library catalogues

6. Stanford University Libraries. **The Barchas Collection: the making of modern science**. Stanford, Calif.: Stanford University Libraries. 1985.

In addition to the published catalogues of its own early printed books, the Library holds a large number of catalogues of other libraries, both general and medical; for example, the British Library's catalogue of printed books and the catalogue of the National Library of Medicine, Washington. The Library also holds catalogues of manuscripts, archives and local records.

Dictionaries

7. Bengt I. Lindskog and Bengt L. Zetterberg. **Medicinsk terminologi lexikon**. Stockholm: Nordiska Bokhandelns Förlag. 1981.

The Library possesses an important collection of dictionaries from the earliest period onwards, both general and medical, including the **Thesaurus Linguae Latinae** (still being published) and the twenty-one volumes of the **Oxford English Dictionary**.

Bibliography

8. Marc Drogin. **Medieval calligraphy: its history and technique**. Montclair, N.J.: Allanheld, Osmun & Co. 1980.

A large section of the collection is devoted to general bibliography including histories of printing and publishing, book illustration, binding, water-marks and paper manufacture.

General history

9. E. Royston Pike. **Human documents of the Lloyd George era**. London: Allen & Unwin. 1972.

As background reading for students studying the history of medicine the Library has built up a collection of general historical reference works, which includes the standard Oxford and Cambridge histories well as other national histories.

Interface Subjects

10. Venetia Newall. **An egg at Easter: a folklore study**. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul. 1971.

This is an example of the wide range of subject matter to be found in the collection. Under the umbrella term 'history of medicine' come such topics as archaeology, folklore, art, religion, literature, all of which can be studied from the medical viewpoint.

Facsimile reprints

11. Hieronymus von Brunschwig. **Experyence of the warke of surgeri (1525)**. Amsterdam: Theatrum orbis terrarum. 1973.

Parallel to the collection of edited and translated texts is the increasing number of facsimile reprints of texts from the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries. Even where the Library possesses the original it is usually an advantage to make a facsimile available on the open shelves.

Periodical Publications of the Wellcome Institute

12. A recent issue of **Medical history** published quarterly by the Wellcome Institute.

13. **Current work in the history of medicine**

A quarterly bibliography of the history of medicine published by the Wellcome Institute.

Case 6

ORIENTAL COLLECTION

The collection of oriental manuscripts and printed books – comprising over 11,000 manuscripts and some 3,000 printed books in 43 different languages – is one of the most important in Europe. While medical history is central to the collection, many cognate topics are represented. Variety of subject matter and language is matched by diversity of medium. Besides paper and vellum, the collection includes manuscripts written on bamboo, bone, ivory, metal, tree bark and palm leaf.

1. Amulets

Amulets were employed to protect man or his possessions from evil influences, including illness. The amulet is found in the East and in the West, among both tribal and settled peoples; and it exists to the present day. Assyrians and Egyptians, Greeks and Romans, Jews and Christians, fostered this ancient tradition – which, among the Jews, has a history of some three thousand years. Three Hebrew medical amulets are displayed:

- i. **Amulet for a fruitful marriage.** c.17th century; written in Italy in iron gall ink on paper.
- ii. **Amulet for the protection of Bela daughter of Rachel from plague.** c.18th century; vellum.
- iii. **Amulet for the protection of Moses David son of Esther from plague.** c.18th century; vellum contained in parchment case.

2. Medical notebook

This beautifully copied Hebrew manuscript, probably the notebook of a physician called Elhanan (f.11v), contains marginal annotations. Patients are named, including Moses, the writer's son (f. 10r), and Dulcita his wife (ff. 15v & 16v). The opening shown includes a remedy for pain in the ilium. Copied c.17th/18th century, in a fine Italian hand.

3. **Birkot ha-milah u-minhag wa-sepher ha-milah ke-phi ha-nahug ba-z'ot ha-kehillah.** London.

'Blessings of circumcision and the conduct and service of circumcision as it is led in this congregation ... London'. This finely executed Hebrew manuscript was copied by Isaac Luria in London during the late 18th or early 19th centuries: it lays out the form of service for the rite of circumcision to be followed by a London congregation.

4. **Sharḥ Qānūnča.** 'Commentary on **K. Qānūnča**,' a resumé by al-Jaghmīnī of **K. al-Qānūn**.

K. Qānūnča, a once popular medical work written by Maḥmūd b. 'Umar al-Jaghmīnī [d. 1344]. The Arabic commentary shown here was written by 'Alī b. Kamāl al-Dīn Maḥmūd Muḥammad Ṭāhir of Constantinople. It is transcribed in the Naskh style and dedicated to the Ottoman Sulṭān, Bāyazīd Khan b. Muḥammad Khān b. Murād Khān.

5. 'Alī b. al-'Abbās al-Majūsī (fl. 10th century). **Kāmil al-sinā'a al-ṭibbiyah**, 'Complete art of medicine'.

Undated (14th century) Arabic manuscript copied by Ḥannā, a physician, in Naskh and containing Book I (treatises one to five inclusive). 'Alī b. al-'Abbās al-Majūsī, commonly known in the west as Haly Abbas, dedicated his great medical work to the ruler of Shiraz 'Aḍud al-Dawla. For this reason the work is often known by its alternative title – **al-Malakī** – 'the royal book', known in medieval Latin translations as **Liber Regius**.

The table of contents belonging to the fifth book, relating to the effect of environment on health, is displayed.

6. **Ikhtiyārāt-i Badī'i**

Persian manuscript containing a materia medica composed by Zayn-al-Dīn 'Alī b. al-Ḥusayn al-Anṣārī [1329–1403] and completed in 1368/9. It comprises two parts, the first on simple medicaments in alphabetical order, the second on compound medicaments in sixteen sections. The manuscript exhibited was copied in 1669/70 in Naskh script within gold rules. The opening displayed is from the first section. It describes simple medicines beginning with the Arabic letter ṣīn.

7. Svāmi Haṃsasvarūpa, **Ṣaṭcakraṇirūpaṇacitram** (Muzaffarpur, Bihar: Trikuṭīvilas Press, [n.d.]).

The **Ṣaṭcakraṇirūpaṇacitram** or 'pictures illustrating the six cakras' is a relatively modern edition of a medieval Sanskrit work, probably published at the turn of the century. The illustrations and commentary demonstrate particularly clearly the collision of two completely different scientific world views. On the one hand we have the modern medical view of human anatomy, imported to India by the East India Company doctors and British education, while on the other there is the yogic view of the body as containing a series of *cakras*. A *cakra* (literally 'wheel' or 'circle') is described both as a physical point of junction in the vertical axis of the body (e.g., the upper cerebrum as illustrated) and as the locus of particular physical and spiritual experiences, in this case the sense of spiritual liberation.

The *cakra* of the 'thousand-petalled lotus' in the right-hand illustration has the full moon in the middle of the lotus, enclosing a triangle. It is here that the final integration of the person is believed to take place. The path of energies from lower in the body is called the *brahmanādī*, 'conduit of the spirit', and is shown as the grey line rising from the nose to the forehead. The lotus petals are inscribed with the letters of the Sanskrit alphabet.

By presenting the yogic and anatomical models side by side, the editor plainly claims a status for the *cakras* in modern anatomical terms, a view elaborated in his Hindī introduction.

8. Cāmuṇḍa Kāyastha, **Jvaratimirabhāskara**. Sanskrit paper manuscript dated A.D. 1880.

The **Jvaratimirabhāskara** or 'Sunlight on the shadow of fever', composed in 1490, is a monograph on fevers arranged in sixteen chapters. Chapter one deals with the mythical origin of fever and its names; chapter two describes the examination of the pulse and the

urine, and the value of fasting; chapters three and four describe fever medicines; chapters five to seven are concerned with the symptoms of fevers in relation to the humours or combinations of humours producing them; chapter eight is about fevers caused by trauma, lust, anger, grief, fear and poisoning, etc.; chapters nine and ten describe certain irregular fevers; chapter eleven describes fevers affecting the seven types of tissue in the body; chapter twelve discusses fevers of long standing; chapter thirteen is about a number of therapeutic measures; chapter fourteen is about the symptoms and treatment of twelve particular fevers; chapter fifteen deals with the influence of the lunar mansions on the course of fever, and religious observances for averting fever; the last chapter describes ten types of complication which can arise in fever.

9. **Ling-t'ai i-hsiang t'u**

This volume was compiled in China by the Jesuit father Ferdinand Verbiest [1623–88]. It illustrates the astronomical instruments installed by the Jesuits at the observatory which they built in Peking for the Emperor K'ang-hsi. These instruments were modelled on those depicted in Tycho Brahe's *Astronomiae Instauratae Mechanica* (1598) which influenced many generations of later astronomers.

Exhibited in panoramic display are six of the 105 woodcuts published in Peking in 1674. These illustrations provide valuable insights on the technical achievements of the Jesuits in Peking and demonstrate how 16th and 17th century craftsmen constructed their instruments. Although carried out in the East, the technology was Western.

10. **Dhammacakkappavattana sutra sannaya**

The Sinhalese paraphrase of the Pali text of *Dhammacakkappavattana sutta*, the first sermon of the Buddha. This Sinhalese manuscript was transcribed on to palm leaves during the 19th century. It is held within wooden boards painted with illustrations of the contents of the manuscript. The inside of both covers exhibited show the *sittāra* or traditional painting of Prince Siddhārtha leaving Princess Yasodhārā and the newly born Prince Rāhula. Subsequent incidents are depicted, such as the crossing of the Nerañjarā river, and the Brahmārādhanāva, or the request made by Sahampati Brahma to Buddha to preach the Dhamma.

11. **Samut tamrā thāi daō**, 'Manual of prognostication from the sun, moon and stars.'

Thai manuscript transcribed on paper in the form of a folding book c.1880. The orange spheres represent the sun, the yellow the moon: the astrological significance of each is explained in the text to the right of each illustration. Three examples are displayed:

- i. Sun with clouds and 'ear' appended above indicate that a woman will plot to kill the ruler.
- ii. Moon with frog in its centre indicates that the land will decline and that the people will eat their own flesh: presumably a famine is foreseen.
- iii. Flames surrounding the lunar sphere indicate disorder throughout the land; but if the flames are yellow, as here, the ruler will obtain great fortune. If, on the other hand, the flames are white or black a period of disease can be expected.

Case 7

AMERICAN COLLECTIONS

Requiescat in pace: burial and health in the late Iberian Empires

Until the late 19th century the Christian dead were, by custom and by law, buried. Both burial and its accepted equivalent, entombment in vaults in, under, or adjacent to city and monastic churches, aroused well-informed and passionate criticism on the grounds of the stench of decay and ill-health to the living.

Long before Victorian London complained of the visual and pungent evils of overcrowded city churchyards, the Spanish and Portuguese Empires had confronted the problem through viceregal proclamations, supported by professional opinion, promoting well-built and well-ventilated general cemeteries outside city perimeters.

Recognising the need in Madrid by 1777, the Spanish Empire had by the early 19th century discharged its responsibility to the living in Colombia, Cuba, Mexico and Peru, and the Portuguese Empire likewise in Brazil.

It is a measure of the vigour of the late 18th century Enlightenment throughout the Europeanised world that it so trenchantly won its public health case against ecclesiastical tradition. The living too could dwell in peace.

In early 19th century New Spain the death of the great was celebrated, as elsewhere, with pleasurable solemnity. The **accompanying title-page** provides the ceremonious portal for the elaborate and mannered oration preached by a learned friar of the Discalced (unshod) Carmelites to whose conventual Church in Mexico City the remains of the eminent Cosme de Mier y Trespalacios [d. May 1805] had been transferred six months after his death, following ritual exhumation from the Chapel of our Lady of Guadalupe in the Cathedral.

1. **The monument** here shown, to which the remains of Cosme de Mier y Trespalacios were transferred, was designed by the celebrated architect and sculptor Manuel Tolsa [1757-1816]. Mier, regarded with extreme respect as an incorruptible and arduous civil servant and aristocrat of the old school, filled many of the senior appointments in New Spain, including that of presiding officer of the *ad hoc* committee for administering aid to smallpox victims during the epidemic of 1797/98. His disinterested zeal for modernity during life did not prevent the deposit of his remains in a traditionally noxious manner.

2. Félix Vicq d'Azyr [1748-94]. **Essai sur les lieux et les dangers des sépultures (dans les villes, &c.)**. Paris: Didot. 1778.

French translation, with substantial additions, of the **Saggio intorno al luogo del seppellire** of Scipione Piattoli [1749-1809]. The progress of translations of this essay on the dangers of burials within churches and cities and their environs epitomises the rapidity of dissemination of practical reforms during the enlightened late 18th century. As an

anatomist of distinction, Vicq d'Azyr was well-placed to influence events. The work, in parallel with other essays on the same theme, appeared in Spanish (Madrid, 1785); and, as this exhibition testifies, in Portuguese (Rio de Janeiro, 1812).

3. Félix Vicq d'Azyr. **Ensaio sobre os perigos das sepulturas dentro das cidades, e nos seus contornos**. Rio de Janeiro: Impressão Regia. 1812.

Translated by José Corrêa Picanço [1745-1825/6], Councillor to Joao VI, Professor of Medicine in the University of Coimbra and *Cirurgião-môr do reino*, from the French of Félix Vicq d'Azyr. Picanço's professional seniority is likely to have lent considerable weight to local pressure in favour of places of burial distant from churches and cities.

4. **Papel periódico de la Ciudad de Santafé de Bogotá, 6 & 13 December 1793 (núms. 119 & 120, pp. 528-31 & 536-39).**

The cemetery concept had reached the most remote areas of the Spanish Empire by the end of the 18th century. The periodical, passionately devoted to the sanitary idea and unsparing in its description of burial abuses, recounts the Archiepiscopal Benediction of the provisional *Campo santo* outside the city and encourages 'charitable and generous' citizens to improve upon their contributions for its completion. The *Mercurio peruano*, equally participative, had run a similar campaign in Lima in 1791, greatly assisted by the energetic achievement of such a cemetery by the Intendant of Tarma whose under-ventilated and fever-ridden domain particularly required it.

5. Felix Devoti [c. 1760-1828]. **Discurso sobre el cementerio general que se ha erigido extramuros de la Ciudad de Lima por el orden, zelo y beneficencia de su Exc.mo. Senor Virey Don José Fernando de Abascal y Sousa**. Guadalajara: J.F. Romero. 1814. Devoti, a physician of energy and repute, threw his professional support behind the Viceroy of Peru's establishment of a general cemetery outside Lima for reasons of public health. His published opinion provided first-rate ammunition for similar proposals for Mexico City and Guadalajara in New Spain. First published in Lima in 1808, it was published again in Havana in 1809 with an accompanying heavyweight description of the cemetery's magnificence.

6. Mexico. Archbishop. **Nos el Doctor Alonso Nuñez de Haro y Peralta ... Arzobispo de Mexico ... Por quanto esta N.C. con vivos deseos socorrer a este público en la presente calamidad de viruelas que le affixe (&c.).** Mexico. 1779.

The edict, issued by the energetically reformist Archbishop of New Spain (subsequently Viceroy *ad interim*), requires the provision of special burial-grounds for victims of the smallpox epidemic of 1779. The epidemic, claiming at least 8,000 deaths in Mexico City, caused considerable administrative and general health problems. Dated 8 November 1779, with the Archbishop's *rúbrica*.

7. Mexico. Archbishop. **En Real Cédula de 15 de Mayo de 1804, con referencia a otra de 27 de Marzo de 1789, se sirvió S.M. prevenir el establecimiento de cementerios ventilados (&c.).** Mexico. 1809.

This circular by the Archbishop-Viceroy of New Spain, Francisco Javier de Lizana y Beaumont, probably addressed to his parish priests, encourages interments outside towns

for reasons of health. It accompanied the signed circular by the *Gobernador* of the archdiocese also here exhibited.

8. Mexico. **Hospital Real de Indios. Copia de la representación, que en 14 de Octubre de 1764, hizo al Exmo. S(eñ)or Marqués de Cruillas, Virrey de este Reyno, manifestando el Estado, en q(u)e se hallaba el R(ea)l Hospital de los Indios de esta Nueva Esp(a)ña.** (Manuscript). Mexico. 1764- 65.

The Administrator of the Royal Hospital for the Indians reports the many additions and improvements (in yellow on the plan) to it during his stewardship, and the serious shortfall in the major item of income derived from the *medio real* tax due to the severe typhus and smallpox epidemics of 1762. The plan includes the enclosure of further waste ground for an enlarged *Campo santo* for the permanent accommodation of those patients whose treatment had not been successful. Distancing of cemeteries from the living was not yet an issue.

9. New Spain. Viceroy. **A esfuerzos de mis estrechas providencias para que se cortara y estinguiera, o quando menos se evitase la propagación de la terrible enfermedad de viruelas (&c).** Mexico & Orizaba. 1797.

These stringent and confidential regulations issued by the Viceroy provided for isolation of smallpox cases, for general quarantine and for fumigation; and it made detailed *ad hoc* administrative arrangements for the period of this major epidemic. It required separate burial of its victims. Dated Mexico 28 February 1797 (and Orizaba, September 1797), it was issued to administrators well in advance of the full efflorescence of the epidemic.

10. Isidoro Sainz de Alfaro y Beaumont. **Circular, que dirige el Señor Gobernador de la Sagrada Mitra a los parrocos, eclesiásticos, y fieles cristianos del Arzobispado de México, sobre erreción de cementerios fuera de las poblaciones.** Mexico: María Fernández de Jáuregui. 1809.

The lay administrator of the archdiocese argues that ancient opinion, good custom and law, as well as public health and plenary indulgences, favour the use of cemeteries at a distance from churches and towns. Dated 24 October 1809.

CASE 8

ICONOGRAPHIC COLLECTIONS

The Library's Iconographic Collections serve to document the iconography, or pictorial record, of medicine in history. The collections are remarkable as a comprehensive demonstration of pictorial and graphic genres: the selection exhibited ranges in medium from the old master drawing to the videocassette, in time from the Renaissance to the 1940s, and geographically from Shadwell to Shanghai. The ten items are equally divided between relatively recent acquisitions (acquired since 1981) and relatively old ones (acquired by Sir Henry Wellcome before his death in 1936). The fact that the recent acquisitions include both the oldest exhibit (no. 1, dated 1515/1520) and the youngest (no. 7, dated 1947), shows that weak points in the collections are being strengthened even-handedly at both ends of the time-scale. The documentation of the collections is also being improved: an illustrated booklet, **The Iconographic Collections of the Wellcome Institute Library**, will be published during the period of this exhibition and will be available for purchase at the Enquiry Desk on the second floor.

1. Drawing. **The anatomy of the lower limb.** Red chalk 275 x 200 mm. by Michelangelo Buonarroti [1475–1564], c. 1515/1520.

Anatomy is important in the history of medicine firstly as a science in itself, secondly as a foundation of medical and especially surgical practice, and thirdly as the progenitor of both pathology (formerly called morbid anatomy) and physiology. But though now claimed as a medical science, in the early sixteenth century it was developed primarily by philologists and, in Italy, by artists. Michelangelo's experience of dissection, revealed in this drawing, surpassed that of most physicians and surgeons of his time.

The present drawing is one of a group of which other examples are in the Royal Library, Windsor, and in the Teylers Museum, Haarlem : they seem to have been previously in the collection of Prince Livio Odescalchi of Rome [1652–1713], who had acquired many Italian drawings, possibly including this one, from the collection of Queen Christina of Sweden. It later passed to the Gathorne-Hardy estate from which it was bought by the Wellcome Institute Library in 1982–3 with funds provided by Drs Richard and C.A. Heller in memory of their parents, the medical historian Dr Robert Heller [1907–1980] and Mrs Anne Heller.

2. Print. **Miracula Christi.** Copper engraving 239 x 184 mm. by Hendrik Goltzius [1558–1617], 1578.

This rare print, which the Wellcome Institute bought at auction in 1988, has hitherto been overlooked by medical historians. It is a compendious illustration of medical themes from the Old and New Testaments, centering on the role of Christ as the physician-surgeon. Christ carries a case of surgical instruments hanging from his shoulder, and examines a

urine flask containing a discharge of sins. At his feet, St Mary Magdalene, representing the *Anima morbida*, holds up an albarello with which she receives the blood from the wound in Christ's side (the nature of that blood was a subject of medical controversy in the seventeenth century). The snake on the cross (right) represents the Aesculapian aspect of Christ and compares him typologically with Moses as the sculptor of the brazen serpent (**Numbers 21**). Subsidiary scenes in the borders illustrate Christ's healing miracles and the Good Samaritan pouring oil and wine into the wounds of the traveller.

Hendrik Goltzius spent most of his life in Haarlem and in his maturity became one of the most proficient artists of his day. This print is an early work made when he was twenty, and it reflects the style of Antwerp engravers such as Philips Galle, who was Goltzius's first publisher.

3. Print. **An artificial tomb in the museum of Frederik Ruysch.** Copper engraving 382 x 404 mm. by Cornelis Huyberts, c. 1709

The engraving shows an exhibit on the second shelf of the eighth cabinet in the museum of Frederik Ruysch [1638–1731] in Amsterdam. Inside the tomb was the mummified body of a 5-month foetus born c. 1689, whose opened skull, showing the dura mater, is seen protruding on the lower left. Above, the tomb is 'planted' with arteries and arterioles which were injected with red wax giving the effect, in the original, of a forest of coral. On each side is the skeleton of a twin 7-month foetus, which mourns its fellow in the tomb and wipes away its tears with a handkerchief of capillary tissue. The exhibit combines lessons from fields now regarded as separate and independent: embryology, anatomical technique, the moral tradition of the *memento mori* and the art of the baroque still-life. Ruysch intended it to remind us of the frailty of human life, but it also reminds the modern viewer of the frailty of the divisions between different branches of learning, a particularly apt lesson for the medical historian.

4. Painting. **Thomas Dowland, medical botanist and astrologer.** Oil on canvas 44.5 x 35.3 cm. by J. Bowring (*fl.* 1787–1808), 1788.

The painting was bought by Henry Wellcome in 1912 and is shown here after cleaning in 1988–89. The sitter and the author are identified from the mezzotint copy, also exhibited here, which bears the legends "Mr Thomas Dowland, Botanist and Student in Astrology" and "Bowring pinx[i]t". The artist J. Bowring is documented as a miniature-painter who exhibited at the Royal Academy on eighteen occasions between 1787 and 1808. Of the sitter, Thomas Dowland, nothing has so far been discovered. A letter in the rack on the back wall in the painting gives his address as Great Spring Street, Shadwell, and the almanac behind the sitter's head is dated 1788. In the mezzotint copy, which was published by Bowring, the address is changed to "Milk Street" [*recte* Milk Yard] (which was near to Great Spring Street) and the date to 1790. It is these, and other changes, which give us the confidence to exhibit the painting as the original model for the print, rather than the other way round.

Thomas Dowland was evidently a fringe practitioner who dispensed herbal remedies in accordance with astrological and chiromantic indications: a figure with many counterparts in the modern medical world. Belonging to no guild or corporation, he would have left no

trace of his existence were it not for this portrait and—perhaps—any information which may come to light as a result of his presence in this exhibition.

The Wellcome Institute Library possesses editions of the three identifiable books in the portrait : the **Merlinus liberatus** associated with the name of John Partridge; Henricus Cornelius Agrippa **On the occult philosophy**; and William Lilly's **Anima astrologiae**.

5. Print. **Thomas Dowland, medical botanist and astrologer**. Mezzotint 255 x 200 mm. by J. Bowring, 1790 (Burgess, **Portraits in the Wellcome Institute**, 1973, no. 844.1). On the subject and the author see the description of no. 4. The print was acquired in one lot with the painting.

6. Print. **Ex-voto offering on behalf of the people of Naples to the Virgin and Child and Saints Gaetano, Roch, Martha and Januarius**. Lithograph 518 x 404 mm. by F. Apicella, 1884.

In 1884 Naples fell victim to the cholera epidemic which had been occurring sporadically throughout Europe. Between 21 August and 30 September 1884 alone, 10,957 cases with 5,778 deaths were reported in a population of 500,000. In the lower half of the print onlookers express horror at the violence of the symptoms and sorrow during administration of the last rites to the dying man. The location of these events in Naples is indicated by the smoking Mount Vesuvius in the lower left and by the inscription beneath the image. Four saints flank the Virgin and Child: to the outer right, S. Januarius holds the phial of his blood which is still preserved in Naples Cathedral; above him, S. Martha; to the lower left, S. Gaetano, a local saint; above him, S. Roch, the plague-saint. Through the medium of the lithograph this heavenly host is entreated to intercede on behalf of the people of Naples and to free its inhabitants, shown below in torment, from the terrible grip of cholera.

7. Drawing. **Post-mortem dissections of the lung and heart in a case of primary pulmonary arteriosclerosis**. Pen and ink, watercolour and bodycolour 342 x 410 mm. by B.E. Nicholson, 1947 (Ashford drawings index no. 87/1947).

Miss B.E. Nicholson made illustrations of interesting surgical and medical cases at Ashford Hospital, Ashford, Middlesex, under the supervision of Mr N.M. Matheson FRCS. Between 1943 and 1959 Mr Matheson built up at the Hospital a large collection of her drawings and watercolours, which were given to the Wellcome Institute Library in 1988.

The present drawing is a worthy example of Miss Nicholson's craftsmanship. It shows part of the lung and the heart of a man who died at Ashford Hospital at the age of 44 in 1947. The case notes, which are attached to the lower left corner, are as follows : "*H.H. Male*. Admitted 8.10.'47 with a history of four years increasing dyspnoea, one week's swelling of ankles and legs. Past history pneumonia 1941. *Examination* showed full signs of congestive failure. W. R. negative. Hb 92%. E.C.G. Right axis deviation, right ventricular hypertrophy. Patient failed to respond to Digitalis therapy and died in ten days. *Autopsy*. Extensive pulmonary arteriosclerosis extending into the small vessels. *Heart* greatly enlarged, weight 650 gms. due entirely to hypertrophy of the right ventricle. An ante mortem thrombus found in right auricle. Tricuspid ring dilated."

8. Photographs. **Frau Schlawe.** Two albumen prints each cut to ellipse 151 x 119 mm. by L. Haase, Berlin, 10 March 1865 and 23 April 1865.

These two photographs come from a large archive which may have been built up by the orthopaedist Heimann Wolff Berend of Berlin [1809–1873]. In the 1860s he was preparing a collection of such photographs for a pictorial atlas of nervous and orthopaedic disorders, which was never published. He has been described as “the first doctor who systematically photographed his patients before and after treatment” (Bruno Valentin, ‘Die Anfänge der medizinischen Photographie’, *Ärzteblatt Baden-Württemberg*, 1969, offprint p. 3). The present photographs probably show a patient with Bell’s palsy (facial palsy), in which paralysis of the seventh cranial nerve causes involuntary closure of one eye.

9. Photographs. **Patients at the West Riding Lunatic Asylum, Wakefield, Yorks., and prisoners at Wakefield prison.** Seventeen albumen prints, *cartes de visite*, c. 91 x 55 mm., attributed to Dr Henry Clarke, c. 1869.

The Wakefield asylum was an important centre of neurological/psychiatric research in the 1860s and 1870s : its medical reports 1871–1876 included papers by James Crichton-Browne, Herbert C. Major (on cerebral histology) and David Ferrier (experiments on epilepsy). Alienists’ interest in the physiognomy of insanity materialized in the photographs of the insane which were taken at the asylum, probably by Henry Clarke, a member of the staff. Prints of these photographs were kept with the case notes (now in the West Yorkshire Archives, Wakefield) and, mounted as *cartes de visite*, sent out to scientists. A set of the *cartes de visite* (now in Cambridge University Library) was sent to Charles Darwin while he was working on his book **The expression of emotion in man and animals**, 1872 . The present set, inscribed with diagnoses, was bought by the Wellcome Institute Library at auction in 1988. It also includes four photographs of prisoners at Wakefield prison : they are distinguished from the “lunatics” by their violent behaviour and their standard-issue uniforms.

10. Photographs. **The Henry Lister Institute of Medical Research, Shanghai.** Cinematic film, 16 mm., anon., n.d. [193–?], exhibited in a videocassette copy, 1989.

The original film is in three reels, now very brittle. Reel I (8 minutes) shows the buildings of the Henry Lister Institute, its white-coated staff (British and Chinese) and some scenes in laboratories. Reel II (13 minutes) shows different kinds of work including pathology (the Cambridge Rocking Microtome is used), bacteriology and the animal house, and also the Director (presumably) taking afternoon tea at 4.25 p.m. Reel III (10 minutes) shows an outing on the river by staff of the Institute, views of the countryside, the city of Shanghai, and dockers unloading goods in the port.

The film was acquired by the Library in 1985.

Case 9

CONSERVATION

The many weeks spent in repairing a volume would be lost if after a few years the paper became acidic or if the binding began to decay. Much conservation research has therefore gone into every aspect of papers, adhesives, solvents, leather and linen. They have to endure hard usage, changes in climatic conditions, numerous atmospheric pollutants, and excessive light. Materials used in conserving a book are usually of natural origin and are always of the highest quality.

The conservator has to combine appropriateness of materials with the aesthetic appearance and historic structure of the completed work, its future durability, and even the reversibility of the processes used, in order to ensure the best possible result for present and future use.

The materials displayed are examples of those most commonly used in conservation.

An Introduction to Conservation Materials.

1. Handmade Papers

A selection of Western and Islamic handmade papers used in the conservation of documents and in certain aspects of book conservation

2. Japanese papers and tissues

These papers, handmade from varying lengths of mulberry fibres, are used in the restoration of manuscripts, prints, drawings and watercolours.

3. Heatset tissues

Machine-made tissue for contemporary archive conservation is coated on one side with an acrylic-based adhesive and is applied with heat and pressure.

4. Photographic materials

Silversafe Photo Store is used for the conservation and archival storage of silver-image photographic prints and negatives. It is machine-made from pure cotton fibre without an alkaline buffer; it is acid-free and sulphur-reducible.

5. Millboard and acid-free board

Millboard is used exclusively for books. Various thicknesses are made in order to provide for the many sizes and forms of books. Acid-free board is used to make boxes and slip-cases for those volumes which warrant it.

6. Leather

Leather used in conservation is usually goat, calf or pig skin. For many years calf was preferred but research has shown that it absorbs moisture more readily than goat or pig, and that it therefore absorbs such harmful chemicals from the atmosphere as sulphur dioxide.

Goatskin – flexible and reasonably hardwearing – is now the most widespread fine-binding medium. Alum-tawed pigskin is the most durable of skins but it is extremely difficult to work.

7. Vellum and parchment

Vellum is also an extremely durable binding medium and, like pigskin, it is difficult to work. True vellum is the unsplit skin of a calf; it is cleaned, preserved by soaking in a lime solution, scraped to remove the hair and dried under tension on a frame. Parchment, the product of split sheepskin, undergoes the same treatment.

8. Tapes, thread, cords

The sewing of any book is the most important of any technique used in conserving a book. If the sewing structure is incorrect it can create many additional problems. Materials used, i.e. tape, thread and cord, are all of the finest quality of linen. This provides strength, and resistance to atmospheric pollution.

Cases 10–12

EARLY PRINTED EPHEMERA

Although it is an integral part of the early printed books collection, **single sheet material** and small items such as **cosmetics labels** and **trade cards** call for special treatment because of their physical form. Much of this material, which ranges in date from the seventeenth to the mid- nineteenth century, is ephemeral, including advertisements, handbills, song sheets and posters; more formal publications include theses, teaching aids, membership lists and the official proclamations of societies and governments. Medical and pharmaceutical topics predominate, but the subjects covered also include historical and political satire, astronomy, law, religion, bibliography and folklore. Items are in German, French, Dutch, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese, as well as in English.

The major part of the Library's large collection of **bookplates** is inseparable from the early printed books, many of which bear the bookplates, book labels and book stamps of previous owners; in addition there are approximately 500 separate bookplates and book labels, of which about 300 represent the libraries of medical collectors and institutions. These date from the eighteenth to the twentieth centuries and are mainly the work of European and East European designers and engravers.

Case 10. Birth, death and disease

1. **Heureuse délivrance de son Altesse Royale la Duchesse d'Orléans, et la naissance d'un Prince.** Paris: Chassaignon. [1838]

Announcement of the birth of Louis Philippe Albert d'Orléans, Comte de Paris, grandson of King Louis Philippe of France, at the Palais des Tuileries on 24th August 1838. This poster conforms to a strict definition of ephemera as produced—quickly and shoddily—on the day of the event.

2. **[Hebrew amulets to avert Lilith.]**

a. Undated amulet printed in Hebrew square and rabbinic scripts for the protection of a male child against Lilith, held in medieval and more recent Jewish superstition to seize new-born infants. To the right Adam is shown, to the left Eve, who, according to some rabbinical tradition, was preceded by Lilith as Adam's first wife.

b. Undated amulet printed in Hebrew square and rabbinic scripts containing prayers for the protection of a female child against Lilith, held in medieval and more recent Jewish superstition to seize new-born infants. Until comparatively recent times Lilith was the chief figure on 'childbirth tablets' hung on the walls of lying-in rooms in the East and Eastern Europe. (Courtesy of the Oriental Collections.)

3. Northampton. **To the worshipful Richard Meacock, Esq; Mayor, the aldermen ...and inhabitants ...this yearly bill of mortality is presented, by ...John Cox. [For the year 21 Dec 1787 to 21 Dec 1788.]** [Northampton: s.n. 1788.]

Prior to the creation of the General Registry Office in 1836 and compulsory registration of births and deaths, the accuracy of bills of mortality was limited; it took the further efforts of William Farr, appointed compiler of abstracts in 1839, for the need for accurate notification of cause of death to be recognised.

4. **[A collection of plague orders from Ferrara (1682,1683), Bavaria (1691) and Swabia (1723).]**

From the Black Death of 1348 until the last quarter of the seventeenth century, plague repeatedly swept through Western Europe. The Italian Health Boards which were created to enforce plague control measures served as a model for public health officials in other parts of Western Europe. In the early eighteenth century, less frequent but devastating outbreaks of plague served as a reminder of the need for continued vigilance in the control of the disease.

5. Rome. Sagra Consulta Magistrato Supremo di Sanità. **Regolamenti ...per la disinfezione delle robbe, e camere dei tisici.** Rome: V. Poggioli. 1825. M. Dumotiez. **Désinfection Guytonienne.** [Paris: s.n. after 1805.]

These Italian public health regulations against tuberculosis rely on the method of disinfecting the air using chlorine which was evolved by Louis Bernard Guyton de Morveau [1737–1816], a self-taught chemist. He devised a simple apparatus for manufacturing chlorine which could be used anywhere, and it is this that is advertised on the handbill for M. Dumotiez of Paris.

6. Hamburg. Polizei-Behörde. **Polizei-Warnung.** [Hamburg: s.n. 1831.]

Asiatic cholera spread to Europe in the 1830s and Hamburg was amongst the first cities to suffer from it, with an outbreak early in October 1831, four months after this reminder of public health regulations was issued. The city's poor sanitary conditions, combined with the resistance of the mercantile interest to enforced public health control, made Hamburg especially vulnerable to recurrent epidemics, which persisted to the very end of the nineteenth century.

7. Clerkenwell. [Text begins]. **To the inhabitants of the Parish of Clerkenwell. His Majesty's Privy Council having approved of precautions proposed by the Board of Health.** [London:] T. Goode. 1831.

The presence of cholera in Hamburg prompted the Privy Council in England to issue an order, dated 20th October 1831, that the rules and regulations regarding cholera drawn up by the newly-established Board of Health, together with an account of the symptoms and treatment of the disease, should be officially publicised. This broadside, issued in response to the order in Clerkenwell, employs the display types introduced by Robert Thorne and other London typefounders to draw attention to its message.

8. [Above case 10.] Paris. Hospice Central de l'Inoculation de la Vaccine. **Avis.** [Paris:] Imprimerie des Sourds-Muets. [1801?]

Vaccination against smallpox was successfully introduced to Paris in August 1800 despite the difficulties of obtaining fresh vaccine whilst Britain and France were at war. This poster advertises the free vaccination programme run by the Central Committee of Vaccination along the lines of Dr George Pearson's Vaccine Pock Institution in London. The Imprimerie des Sourds-muets was established in December 1800 by l'abbé Sicard, who carried on the work of l'abbé de l'Épée in teaching the deaf and dumb.

9. Antoine Portal [1742–1832]. **Avis sur les moyens pratiqués avec succès pour secourir l' les personnes noyées ... 5^e celles qui ont été empoisonnées.** Paris: Imprimerie royale. 1787.

Portal provided the text for a number of posters such as this publishing life-saving instructions and it has been claimed that he was the first to advocate mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, which is recommended here to revive the apparently still-born. However the earliest report seems to have been made by William Tossach in 1744, on the case of a suffocated miner who was successfully revived. The techniques of artificial resuscitation were widely promulgated later in the century through the work of the many societies founded to promote the recovery of the apparently drowned.

Case 11. Advertising

1. **By the King's letters-patent, a water closet ...invented and made by Joseph Bramah.** [London: s.n. c.1800.]

Joseph Bramah was granted a patent for his invention on 27th January 1778 and business was still being conducted under his name in the 1840s. The success of such ventures depended on advertising by means of posters, handbills, trade cards and, particularly, newspapers. The various sanitary services illustrated here demonstrate the use of these different advertising media.

2. Benjamin Tiffin. **Buggs effectually destroyed.** [London: s.n. before 1770.] John Williams. **Buggs.** [London. 1739?] Newspaper cutting. Edward Edwards. **Chimney sweeper and nightman.** London: W. Cole sculp. Trade card. Samuel Foulger. **Nightman.** [London?] W. Newman, engr. Trade card.

3. Trade cards

The Library has a small collection of approximately 200 trade cards, of which about half advertise medical and pharmaceutical firms. The selection of these on display includes the cards of former apprentices to Lea & Perrins of Worcester (H. Lee), Savory & Moore (E. Peat) and Bell & Co. (G. Southam). Before the establishment of the Pharmaceutical Society by Jacob Bell in 1841, with its official School of Pharmacy, apprenticeship to a reputable firm was recognised as the best qualification to be obtained.

4. **Mrs Walker's address to the ladies and gentlemen of Maidstone and its neighbourhood.** Canterbury: Simmons and Kirkby. 1784.

The section on proprietary medicines at the end of this verse advertisement provides an interesting list of current remedies, most of which are represented by advertising bills, pamphlets and newspaper cuttings in the early printed books collection. Daffy's Cordial Elixir, for example, was being advertised in 1675 and continued on sale into the nineteenth century.

5. **Letters of publication in favour of Thomas Weir, Chyrurgeon in Edinburgh.** Edinburgh: Heirs of A. Anderson. 1694. **Grana angelica: the true Scots pills ...are faithfully prepared only by James English.** [London: s.n.] 1761.

When Addison singled out 'the several Proprietors of Dr Anderson's Pills' as an example of advertising polemic in 1710, this patent medicine had another two centuries of commercial success before it. The main rival to the formula bought by Thomas Weir from Katharine Anderson, daughter of Dr Patrick Anderson, was sold in London by Isabella English, probably a former family servant, and later by James English.

6. Lionel Lockyer [1599–1672?]. **Lockyer's Pill, call'd by the name of Pilula Radiis Solis Extracta: or, the universal medicine.** [London: s.n. after 1672.] **Dr Lockyer's famous pills, called Pilula Radiis solis extractae: being an universal medicine.** Northampton: Dicey & Smithson [c.1820.]

Advertisements from the seventeenth and nineteenth centuries for a proprietary preparation advertised as a cure for a wide variety of diseases from the 1660s. Lockyer's wealth enabled him to leave instructions in his will for an elaborate funeral, generous charitable donations and the erection of an impressive monument, still a prominent feature in Southwark Cathedral.

7. [Above Case 11.] Rouen. Police. **Médicaments composés et dragées confisqués. Sentence de la police ...qui condamne le nommé Le Marié.** Rouen: J.J. Le Boulenger. 1756.

The Apothecaries' and Grocers' Companies in Rouen were responsible for examining and licensing their members as qualified to sell medicines and for identifying and prosecuting unqualified sellers of drugs. An official report of July 1754 showed up the difficulties in exercising this control, particularly in rural areas, but some successful prosecutions were made, as shown by this poster announcing the fine and distraint of goods imposed on Le Marié of Rouen.

Case 12 Satire

1. Jon Ambel, pseud. **A letter to that vast larned man Doctur Luccus.** [Bath? c.1757.] Satire against Dr Charles Lucas [1713–1771] Irish patriot and M.P. Lucas's writings about the waters at Bath offended the medical establishment there and it seems likely that this satire derives from Lucas's visits to Bath in 1753 and 1757. The phonetic spelling may be a jibe at Lucas's attempt at orthographic reform. The contemporary inscription reads, 'We are still your patients Dr Lucas, first you fluxed us, now you puke us.'

2. **Don Mateo Dulcamara.** Bolzano: Eberle'sche Buchdruckerei. [1830s?]

A satirical advertisement for a German charlatan couched in the extravagant language used by itinerant quacks to attract custom. Donizetti's comic opera **L'Elisir d'Amore** which includes a quack named Dr Dulcamara was composed in 1831 and first performed in 1832.

3. **Zalmo, High German Doctor.** London: J. Barfield. [1790s.] **By the King's authority. The High-German Doctor** [London? after 1660?]

After the Restoration, Italian and German quacks were rife in London, and advertised themselves under a variety of unlikely names. The term High German Doctor came to be used as a general satirical epithet, for example in the periodical **The High German Doctor** by Philip Horneck [1674?–1728], a primarily political satire which defines the term as 'a title importing an ostentatious quack, or pretender to physick'.

4. **The High German Doctor and the English Fool.** London: for G. Bickham. [c.1750?]

This satirical engraving is directed at both the mountebank and his credulous audience. Lady Mary Wortley Montagu commented 'The English are easier than any other Nation infatuated by the prospect of universal medicines' and declared that where Popish superstition had previously prevailed, Protestant Englishmen now swallowed the quack's message instead.

5. **Pharmacopola circumforaneus, or the Horse Doctor's harangue to ye credulous mob.** [London:] T. Harrison. [c.1737.] **The Quack Doctor's Speech.** [London:] Munday and Dean. [1800?] **The Quack Doctor's Speech to the Credulous Mob. Supposed to be spoke by the famous Lord Rochester.** [London? s.n. 1800?]

The origin of the text used in each of these three satires is uncertain, but it is not that of the handbill put out by 'Alexander Bendo', the quack pseudonym of John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester, c.1676. Rochester had fallen into disfavour at court, and set up briefly as a quack, an escapade which must have been widely popularly known for the story to remain current a century and a quarter later.

6. [and above case 12.] **Medical songs**

These song sheets satirise a variety of medical fads and frauds. **The quack doctor** [c.1840] ridicules William Lee, of Leeds and La Ferté Imbault, who promulgated brandy and salt as an universal cure. **Morison's Pills** attacks James Morison 'The Hygeist' [1770–1840] whose Hygeian Vegetable Universal Medicine was marketed from 1825 onwards. The fortune he made from this "medicine"—prescribed and taken in enormous, sometimes fatal, doses—financed his British College of Health at 33 Euston Road. The building no longer stands but is shown in the background here, satirically renamed the British College of Wealth.

7. **Bookplates**

A selection of the bookplates of medical men from the eighteenth to the twentieth centuries. Recurrent medical symbols are the caduceus, books, pharmaceutical apparatus and designs based on the struggle of medicine against disease and death. Many of the designs are the work of Henry-André, for example the bookplates of F. Bargallo and Lucien Bailly.

Cases 13–15

MODERN MEDICINE COLLECTION: EPHEMERA

Cases 13-15 show some examples of the ephemeral materials in the Modern Medicine Collection.

Case 13. A selection of advertising ephemera arranged in four subject groups:

- i) pharmaceuticals
- ii) dentistry
- iii) equipment
- iv) publishing

Case 14. Ephemera relating to:

- i) organisations and their conferences
- ii) medical education
- iii) public health advice

Case 15.

- i) postal ephemera
- ii) theatrical ephemera
- iii) diagnostic aids

