

The Library of the Royal College of Surgeons of England / by James Blake Bailey.

Contributors

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Royal College of Surgeons of England

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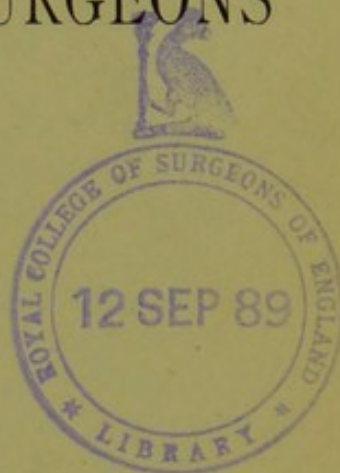
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THE LIBRARY
OF
THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS
OF ENGLAND

BY
JAMES BLAKE BAILEY
LIBRARIAN OF THE COLLEGE



A Paper read before the Library Association January 14th 1889 and reprinted
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1889

DRYDEN PRESS :

J. DAVY AND SONS, 137, LONG ACRE, LONDON.

The Library

OF THE

Royal College of Surgeons of England.



IN the present paper it is proposed to give a sketch of the rise and progress of the Library of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. It may not, however, be out of place to preface this sketch with a short account of the College itself.

In the year 1745 the Barbers and Surgeons, who, from 1540 until that date, had formed one company, separated, and the latter were incorporated under the title of "The Masters, Governors and Commonalty of the Art and Science of Surgery." Having no building of their own in which to meet, the new Company found a home at Stationers' Hall until 1751, when their premises—known as Surgeons' Hall—in the Old Bailey, were ready for occupation. By a somewhat curious accident the Company came to a premature end in 1796. It was decreed by the Act of Incorporation that the Court of Assistants should consist of a Master or Chief Governor, and two Governors or Wardens, with other Members, of whom the Master and one Governor, together with one or two Members, should form a Court for the despatch of business. On July 7th, 1796, a Court was held at which neither of the Governors was present. One of them, William Walker, had died in the previous May, whilst the remaining one, John Wyatt, was in Warwickshire, blind and paralysed. Great efforts were made to bring Wyatt to London so that there might be a properly constituted Court: his state of health was, however, so bad that this was found to be impossible. The meeting was nevertheless held, but, on taking Counsel's opinion, it was found that the Corporation had come to an end by the holding of this illegal Court. It was attempted to put matters right by a Bill in Parliament, but there was so much opposition from those who were practising without the diploma of the Corporation, that the Bill, after passing safely through the Commons, was thrown out by the Lords. In the following year attempts were made to come to terms with the opponents of the Bill, and finally it was agreed to petition for a Charter from the Crown to establish a Royal

College of Surgeons in London; one of the conditions insisted upon by the opponents being that a Library should be part of the new College. These negotiations were successfully carried out in 1800, and the old Corporation having disposed of their Old Bailey property to the City Authorities, the College took possession of a house in Lincoln's Inn Fields, the site of the present building. In 1821 a supplemental Charter was received, and in 1843, by a further one, the name of the College was changed to that which it at present bears—The Royal College of Surgeons of England. During last year (1888) another supplemental Charter was granted to the College.

Before proceeding with the history of the College Library, it may be interesting to notice a much earlier one with which the surgeons were connected. Mr. Sidney Young, one of the Court of Assistants of the Barbers' Company, who has in the press a History of the Barbers and Surgeons, has been good enough to favour me with the following extract from his MS.¹

"When the Surgeons were separated from the Barbers by Act of Parliament in 1745, there was a very good library of surgical books embracing early editions of ancient writers and a quantity of old surgical MSS. By the Act it was declared

"That such of the Books, Papers and Writings which now belong to the said United Company of Barbers and Surgeons and relate to or concern the Surgeons or Surgery only shall be delivered by the said Company of Barbers . . . to the said Company of Surgeons."

"The Barbers handed over to the Surgeons such Books, Papers and Writings, as related to Surgery, so far as they concerned the Company; these were probably very few, such as the Registers of "Foreign Brothers," the Registers of Examined Surgeons, the Journals of Sea Surgeons and the like. All other business entries relating to Surgery were entered in the general books of the Barber-Surgeons, and these are still kept at Barbers' Hall. The Library was retained by the Barbers and considered by them as their personal property."

"In 1747, Mr. Whiston (the eminent Bookseller) was employed by the Barbers' Company to make a catalogue and valuation of the Library and MSS. "A learned physician" had offered the Company twenty-five guineas for the Library, together with a skeleton and some other curiosities, but the Court of the Barbers "being desirous to manifest their esteem for and preserve the friendship of the Surgeons," gave them the refusal of the Library and skeleton, &c., for twenty-five guineas. "And that in case of their acceptance thereof, the rich

¹ The Annals of the Barber-Surgeons of London, compiled from their Records and other sources, by Sidney Young.

and ancient pall belong to this Company should be at their service as a free gift."

"The Surgeons would not accept this offer, but said (for the first time after a two years separation and division of the property) that they considered the Library belonged to them under the provisions in the Act of Parliament."

"Various attempts were subsequently made by the Barbers' Company to sell the Library, and in 1751 it was disposed of to Mr. Whiston for £13. ! It is greatly to be regretted that the Surgeons' Company did not purchase it and so preserve to the Royal College of Surgeons, what must undoubtedly have been a most curious and unique collection. Dozens of these old books had bosses and chains attached to them, and in the old days were guarded with a jealous care. In 1701 Dr. Tyson made some proposals to the Company for the regulation of its Library, and a Committee of the Court being thereupon appointed drew up a great many rules, all of which are set out in the Barber-Surgeon's Minute Book of that date."

No list of the books is now known; there were two in MS., but Mr. Young tells me they have both disappeared. I have not been able to see any of Whiston's Catalogues issued about 1751-2: in all probability these would contain the titles of many of the books in this lost Library.

The following extract is from the United Company of Barbers and Surgeons' expenses for 1638.

1638-1639.

The charge and settinge upp our books and auntient Manuscriptes
in our new Library.

Paid for 36 yards of chaine at 4 <i>d</i> . the yard, and 36 yards at 3 <i>d</i> . the yard, cometh to	xxijs. vi <i>d</i> .
Paid to the Coppersmith for castinge 80 brasses to fasten the chaines to the bookes	xiijs. iiij <i>d</i> .
To porters at severall tymes to carry these books	ijs.
Paid to the booke bynders for new byndinge 15 books	xlvijs. vi <i>d</i> .
Paid for Claspinge 19 large and small bookes, and fasteninge all the brasses to the chaines, in Three score and foure books, 8 <i>s</i> .; setting on old bosses, js.; mending ould claspes, ijs.	xxxjs. viij <i>d</i> .
Paid for makeing Ringes, swiffles, and fittinge all the iron chaines	xijs.

Somme is vj*li* xviijs.

The Library of the College dates from the year 1800, that is the same year as the Charter of Incorporation. It had, however, been the intention of the old Corporation of Surgeons to form a Library, although they had never carried their intention into

effect. In the minutes there is, on more than one occasion, mention of the Library Room, and in 1753 a resolution was passed "That the Clerk do provide a dozen of chairs and a table and grate for the Library." The subsequent history shows that this accommodation was more for transacting College business than for the foundation of a Reading Room. In 1790 the Library had not made any progress, for on the 1st of July in that year, Mr. Gunning, who was the retiring Master of the Company, rated the Court of Assistants soundly for, their misdoings, and, amongst other things, charged them with neglect in not founding a Library. "Your Library room without books" (said the irate master), "is converted into an office for your Clerk." In another part of his address, Mr. Gunning thus again refers to the want of a Library. "I must now mention what I early thought right, and what many Gentlemen have agreed with me in, which is that the Society ought to be possessed of a Library, which, when completed, should, under certain restrictions, be open to the students in Surgery for their information. I could wish that a sum not exceeding £80 per annum might be appropriated for the completion of this purpose, and I hope the Gentlemen will think this a proper way of disposing of their money likewise."

At an earlier period than that of Master Gunning attention had been drawn to the want of a professional Library by a much greater man than the angry master. In August, 1786, John Hunter addressed the following letter¹ to the Corporation :—

GENTLEMEN,

At this period, in which the surgeons of Great Britain have deservedly acquired the highest reputation in Europe, both by their practice and publications, it appears to be a reflection upon them that the Corporation of Surgeons of London should not be possessed of a public Surgical Library, a circumstance so extraordinary that foreigners can hardly believe it.

If a custom had been established at the time the surgeons were incorporated, that every member should send a copy of his publications to the Company's library, it would have at present contained the works of many of the best writers in Surgery, which might have proved a valuable collection of instructions for the improvement of the profession.

As the smallest beginnings may in the end lead to the greatest acquisitions, I have done myself the honour of presenting to the Company, through your hands, the few observations on Anatomy and Surgery which I have published ; and should the other members of that body be induced to follow my example, and by presenting their works establish a Library which shall hereafter become both a public benefit and an

¹ The original letter is in Mr. T. Madden Stone's Collection of Autographs.

honour to the Corporation of Surgeons, I shall consider it as one of the happiest events of my life to have been at all instrumental in such an establishment.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

JOHN HUNTER.

Leicester Square, August 14, 1786.

These books of Hunter's may fairly be looked upon as the foundation of the Library, although fifteen years were yet to elapse before his letter bore any fruit. It is with the Museum of the College that the name of John Hunter is inseparably connected, but it is pleasing for us in the Library to feel that he really took the first practical step towards founding the valuable collection of books now housed within the college walls.

As before stated the present Library dates from the year 1800, the first grant of a sum not exceeding £50 being made in July of that year. For some years the expenditure on the Library averaged less than the modest sum of £80, as originally proposed by Mr. Gunning, the authorities relying more on donations than on purchases. Thus Sir William Blizard, in his Hunterian Oration in 1823, speaking of the recent death of Sir Charles Blicke, says: "Sir Charles was a consistent benefactor. Although from the beginning of the collegial establishment a Library of reference was a declared part of the system adopted for the communication of scientific knowledge, and notwithstanding invitations to members of the College and other persons to promote that object, until Sir Charles became a liberal donor of books the appearance of the Library was poor indeed." It should here be mentioned that in 1816 Sir Charles Blicke invested the sum of £300, the proceeds of which were to be devoted to the purchase of books. Among the principal donors should be mentioned Dr. Baillie, Sir Everard Home, Sir Charles Blicke, the widow of Mr. Sharp, Sir Ludford Harvey, Dr. Fleming, Mr. Cotton and Mr. Long.

The progress of the Library for the first 26 years of its existence was very slow; there was no librarian and frequent complaints were made of the inaccessibility of the books. In 1827 great efforts were made to put the Library in a thoroughly good condition, and in that and the two subsequent years the sum of £5,269 was spent in the purchase of books. In 1829 the first Librarian was appointed, and there can be no doubt but that to the knowledge and energy of Dr. Willis the Library owes much of its completeness, particularly as regards the older medical writers and the scientific and medical periodical literature of the early part of this century.

In 1833 a Library Committee was appointed, and this form of government continues to the present day. As before mentioned, the first Librarian was Dr. Robert Willis, who continued to hold the office until his resignation in 1845; from that date Mr. Thomas Madden Stone superintended the Library work until the appointment of Mr. John Chatto as Librarian in 1853. On Mr. Chatto's death, in 1887, I had the honour of being elected as his successor.

In 1799 Parliament voted £15,000 for the purchase of John Hunter's Museum, and an offer of it being made to the Corporation of Surgeons it was accepted on the terms proposed by the Government. In 1806 the sum of £15,000 was voted by Parliament in aid of the erection of an edifice for the display and arrangement of the Hunterian Collection; a second grant of £12,500 was subsequently voted, and upwards of £21,000 having been supplied from the funds of the College, the building was completed in Lincoln's Inn Fields, in which the Museum was opened for the inspection of visitors in 1813.¹ This edifice was erected for the College by Messrs. Dance and Lewis. At its opening two rooms were allotted to the Library, but the accommodation soon proved inadequate. In 1818 it was resolved to put book-cases in the Court Room, and in any other necessary part of the College and Museum, and again in 1829 the Cabinet Room was appropriated to Library purposes.

The first building suffered much from dry rot. This was stated by Sir Anthony Carlisle in evidence before a committee appointed by the Lords of the Admiralty in 1835 to enquire into Kyan's patent for the prevention of dry rot. The patent process consisted of using corrosive sublimate on the timbers, and Sir Anthony, who must have been an enthusiast on the subject, informed the committee that he had chewed a mouthful of sawdust from timber so treated, and could distinctly taste the sublimate.

The College was practically rebuilt by Sir Charles Barry in 1835-6; during the re-building the books were packed in cases and stored in the Museum Gallery. Before the Select Committee on Medical Education in 1834, Mr. Guthrie gave evidence as follows: "Concerning the Library I beg to add that the College has formed a collection of books consisting of nearly 18,000 volumes, and will add to it several thousands more as soon as the new building, which is now in hand, is completed. One great object in re-building the College was to have a Library in which the books might be displayed and made accessible to everyone."

¹ Quoted from the College Calendar.

The Library was re-opened on the 15th Feb. 1837. The small Library had been opened in the previous October in the evening from 7 till 10 on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. This was not successful and was discontinued in the following year.

In the new building the rooms allotted to the library were the present Reading Room and the Librarian's Room, then known as the small Library. From the date of the new building until last year very little extra accommodation had been provided for the Library. A small Committee Room had been fitted up with shelves, and room made for a few books under the Theatre.

The munificent gift to the College by the late Sir Erasmus Wilson enabled the Council to very materially increase the accommodation for books, and also to thoroughly re-decorate and improve the old Library.

In addition to the re-decoration of the existing premises the electric light has been installed throughout the building, and a new and improved style of heating has been adopted.

Besides the extensive alterations to the old building a very handsome addition to the Library accommodation has been provided. The house occupied by the conservator of the Museum, at the east end of the College, has been pulled down, and, on its site, the Library extension now stands. The old Library is considerably enlarged by the addition of another room; these are connected by four archways, two on the ground floor and two in the gallery. Beneath this extension is a handsome book-room, and below that a commodious store-room. The new building, as at present shelved, gives accommodation for 26,000 volumes. It should, however, be mentioned that all this is not additional space: in the old reading-room the shelves were exceptionally deep, and in these the books stood in two and, in some places, in three rows—the labour of finding books under these circumstances can be easily imagined. A marble bust of Sir Erasmus Wilson has been placed at the east end of the extension.

It is impossible to give any trustworthy figures as to the growth of the Library from year to year, on account of the various modes adopted for counting the books at different periods. In fact, if it were necessary to bring forward any argument to show the misleading character of comparative statistics, I do not know of a better one than is afforded by the published figures of the contents of this Library. In the preface to the catalogue of 1849, it is stated that the Library then contained 48,390 volumes; at the present day the number of volumes is 40,000. The difference is accounted for by the methods adopted in counting; in 1849 each thesis and pamphlet

was counted as a volume, even though several of them were bound together. In the later figures, the number of volumes represents the books as they actually stand on the shelves.

The great increase in scientific periodical literature during the last quarter of a century is well shown, by comparing the list of journals and transactions entered in the catalogue of 1860, as then in progress, with those taken in by the College at the present day. The number in 1860 was 152; it has now risen to 360. I am not unmindful that statistics of this kind may be very misleading. The increase might be accounted for not so much by the greater number of journals published, as by this class of literature being now more diligently looked after in the library. This, however, is not the fact. To have the journals and transactions well represented has always been the aim of the library committee, and the fact that five-and twenty years ago no less than 152 journals were taken in in this—a special—Library, is a proof of this.

The growth of this class of literature is appalling to the librarian from the great demands made not only on the funds of the Library, but also on the shelf accommodation. There can, however, be no doubt that any librarian or library committee, who endeavoured to cut down this part of a scientific library, would sadly cripple its efficiency. It is pre-eminently the class of literature which cannot be found in private libraries; and it is only in institutions such as this College that a reader can hope to find a good, complete collection of these invaluable aids to research.

The first catalogue of the Library, an alphabetical one of authors only, was issued in 1831, and makes an 8vo. volume of 578 pages. A classed catalogue was prepared by Dr. Willis, and was in use in MS. for some years; in 1838 a synopsis of it was printed, and the work itself was issued in 1843. Although this catalogue was arranged with great skill it met with the same fate that nearly all similar compilations have done; there is no index of authors, and therefore readers must have experienced great difficulty in finding any information of which they were in search. This is proved by the following resolution passed by the library committee in 1848. "It having been stated to the Committee that the classed catalogue "had been of little assistance to readers in consequence of the difficulties experienced in using it as a book of reference, and that "great complaints had been often made respecting the same, the "Committee do not consider it desirable at present to proceed with "the work of collating the classed with the other catalogues."

Four supplements to the author catalogue were issued between the

years 1840 and 1860, and since that date no catalogue of the Library has been printed. The books received subsequent to 1860 are entered in MS. in a separate volume with the titles considerably abridged: so much so, in some instances, as to make the books difficult of identification. In 1853 an index of subjects was issued: this was mainly prepared by Mr. B. R. Wheatley, and revised by Mr. Chatto. It is somewhat on the plan of the Index to the catalogue of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, but is inferior to it from the fact that no dates are given, and the authors' names under the subject headings are in alphabetical instead of chronological order, this makes the index much less valuable than it would be were the dates given.

For some time before his death Mr. Chatto had been at work on a new catalogue: he proposed to prepare an author catalogue, with, I presume, a list of subjects, much on the lines of those previously issued. As none of this was in print on my taking charge of the library, and feeling, as I did, that a subject-catalogue would be the most useful one for the readers, I resolved to begin afresh, and re-catalogue the library.

The catalogue in course of preparation is in one alphabet, authors and subjects. The titles under subjects are repeated as many times as necessary, but are not given with the same fulness as in the author entry: for instance, a book which it is necessary to enter under several subjects has only that part of its title given which relates to the subject under which it is entered, care always being taken that the main title is given with sufficient fulness that there can be no difficulty in identifying the book.

The contents of the journals are not given: to have done this without a large staff would have been impossible, and further it has already been so well done in the catalogue of the Surgeon General's Library, that it would be a waste of labour and of money to print the material over again. Many reprints of important papers are, however, sent to the Library, and these are all catalogued, so that a large number of papers from journals and transactions are really included in the catalogue.

Dr. Billings' catalogue of the Surgeon-General's Library is now generally admitted to be one of the best, if not *the* best, catalogue we have; it will therefore, perhaps, not be out of place if I state one or two ways in which I have not followed this excellent guide. In the first place I have not given the name of the publisher or the number of pages in each book: for an ordinary working catalogue this, I think, takes up too much space and does not, so far as I can

see, give any corresponding advantage. Under the subject heading the entries will be arranged in chronological instead of alphabetical order. Working often with the Surgeon-General's catalogue has strongly impressed me with the superiority of this method. In Dr. Billings' catalogue the entries under subjects are arranged alphabetically, and if the most recent books are wanted, it is necessary to go through 4 or 5 columns of titles to get the information required, whereas if the arrangement were chronological it would be possible, by beginning at the end of the list, to get the same information with very much less labour and expenditure of time. The only difficulty which has presented itself is the arrangement of books whose editions range over a considerable period. With modern books it seems best to place all under the date of the last edition; it would greatly add to the space required, and also to the cost of printing, if each edition were set out in its place and, moreover, there is an obvious convenience in being able to see all editions of the same book at a glance. With books published previously to the beginning of the present century I propose doing exactly the reverse, that is to say, the editions of any book originally issued before 1800 will all be found under the date of the earliest edition we possess. This is absolutely necessary, or we should have Hippocrates appearing as a 19th century author.

The catalogue is being prepared on cards; these are kept in a cabinet at the west end of the reading room, and are available for use by the readers. When the work is finished the cards will form the copy for the printer.

The alterations made in the Library during the summer of 1888 seemed a good opportunity for partly re-arranging the books. One great object I had in view was to place the journals and transactions in a more accessible form than had hitherto prevailed. The journals were mixed on the shelves with other books, and in some instances the sets themselves were scattered in different places. To carry out my plan it was necessary to remove all the books from the reading room, so that the shelves might be available for the journals and transactions. The books were moved into the new part of the building, and now occupy the upper and lower rooms in the extension.

The shelves in the reading room are now arranged as follows. Starting in the S.E. corner we begin with journals and transactions dealing generally with Medicine and Surgery: these are arranged in countries, and occupy cases 82-95. Then from case 96 to 109 are journals, &c. devoted to special subjects, in the following order—

Diseases of Women and Children, Pathology, Nervous and Mental Diseases, Journals relating to Special Organs, Dermatology and Syphilis, Therapeutics, and Biology. In the two next cases is a Collection of encyclopædias, dictionaries and books of reference.

The shelves in the windows being narrower than the rest of the room, are allotted to University Calendars and to sets of journals of small size.

The ground floor of the reading room did not give sufficient space for the whole of the journals. I have therefore placed the principal scientific academies, together with some completed journals which are not in much request, in the gallery and basement.

The current numbers of the journals are displayed on tables down the middle of the reading room : four of these are fitted with sliding trays, in which books too large for the wall cases, and illustrated works still in progress, and which therefore cannot be bound, are kept. The new books are placed on a special case in the centre of the room ; these are catalogued directly they are received, and are at once available for readers. A list of the additions is posted in the Library.

The state of the bindings in the Library is not as good as could be wished. This is being gradually remedied by re-binding ; half morocco, buckram and vellum cloth, being the materials used. In a report made to the Commissioners of Sewers of the City of London in 1854, Dr. Letheby spoke of the great damage done to bindings in this Library by gas. Gas, no doubt, has very much to answer for, but I cannot help feeling that it is sometimes made the scapegoat for imperfect ventilation, for over-heated rooms and for bad material. In his "Enemies of Books," Mr. Blades, writing of gas, says : "No one who loves his books should allow a single jet in his library unless, indeed, he can afford a 'sun-light,' which is the form in which it is used in some public libraries, when the whole of the fumes are carried at once into the open air." If Mr. Blades had seen the mischief caused here by the sun-lights, he would, I am sure, in a future edition, omit his saving clause, and condemn this mode of lighting as much as any other. It was a very common experience to find the books on tables under the sun-burners spotted with dirty water, formed by condensation in the tubes and dropped down from thence. When there was a high wind the soot accumulated in the sun-lights was blown down, covering everything in the room. For some of the cases of rotten bindings in this Library I feel sure that some cause other than gas must be looked for. There are several examples in the Library which will

illustrate this. Many of these books have been kept at no great height from the floor, and in a room where the amount of gas used has not been sufficient to account for the bad state of the binding. My own opinion is that the binder has, in many instances, used an utterly unsuitable and improper material. The books were ordered to be bound in half morocco and were paid for as such; had good morocco been used I feel sure these volumes would be practically in as good a condition now as when they were bound. Instead of morocco an inferior Persian goat skin has been used, and the result is that the books must be rebound.

The Library being strictly professional does not contain many bibliographical curiosities. There are some Manuscripts of John Hunter, including a series of letters to Jenner, the MS. of the latter's original paper on the Cow Pox is also in the Library. A large number of books were bought from the library of Sir Anthony Carlisle, who was a constant supporter of the College Library. Sir Anthony must have been a lover of books, as nearly all those now belonging to the College, which were originally in his possession, have some note in them, referring either to their rarity or to some peculiarity in the particular copy. Mr. Briggs, the translator of Scarpa, and the first chairman of the library committee, also deserves special mention for his efforts in putting the Library on a sound footing.

Amongst the rare books may be mentioned a fine copy of the scarce first edition of Celsus, published in 1478; the first edition of Galen, "*Therapeuticorum libri xiv*," *Venetiis*, 1500; of Hippocrates, "*Opera Omnia (Græce)*," *Venetiis*, 1526; Aselli, "*De lactibus*," 1627, with the four coloured woodcuts—the earliest anatomical coloured illustrations, and a book of great rarity. Harvey's "*Anatomical Exercitationes concerning the generation of living creatures*," 1653. Mr. Hazlitt says of this book that 150 copies were printed, and of these 115 were destroyed. All the copies I have been able to examine are, with the exception of the two in this Library, on thick rough paper. The College copies are both printed on fine paper: one is a very poor one, and has no portrait; the other is a fine copy, and has the portrait. Mr. Wallis, of Exeter, at whose sale the latter copy was purchased, made many inquiries about the book, and told me he could not find another fine paper copy. There is in the Library a copy of "*Approued Medicines and Cordiall Receiptes*," by Thomas Newton, 1580. The interesting part of this particular copy is that it has the signature "*W^m Shakespeare*" on the title-page, and many notes through the book in the same handwriting. The volume came

from the Library of W. H. Ireland, and the writing is part of his Shakesperean forgeries.

From the Heber Library there is the "Tractatus Magistri Arnaldi de Villa nova de arte cognoscendi venena cum quis timet sibi ea ministrari," said by Brunet to have been printed from type used at Mantua in 1473.

Bound up with this is "Tractatus de Venenis a Magro Petro de Abbano editus," 1475.

There is a copy of Wolveridge's "Speculum Matricis," 1671, in the Library. It is not quite complete; the missing pages being supplied in MS. This and the one in the Radford Library, at Manchester, are the only two copies I can trace. In the Bodleian there is a copy dated 1670; this has a different title-page—"Speculum matricis Hybernicum," and is, as far as I know, unique. There is no difference between the 1670 and 1671 copies except as regards the title.¹

The large illustrated works on Zoology, Anatomy, &c., are well represented in the Library. Many of the copies of the works of surgeons of this century are interesting from the fact that they are presentation copies from the authors, and bear an autograph inscription to that effect. In some instances, too, we have the author's own copy, with MS. additions and corrections.

The collection of portraits is extensive, and contains the "Wadd" and "Young" Collections. The former of these was originally put together by Fauntleroy, the forger. After it passed into Mr. Wadd's hands he issued a catalogue of it, with biographical notices, under the title of "Nugæ Chirurgicæ," a very inaccurate and unreliable book.

The Library is open each week day to Members of the College, from eleven A.M. to six P.M., except on Saturday, when it is closed at one P.M. During the month of September the Library is closed.

Members have the privilege of personally introducing a visitor.

Persons, not members, desirous of admission, must make application in writing to the President or to the Chairman of the Library Committee, specifying their Christian and surnames, rank or profession, and residence; which application must be accompanied by a recommendation from a Member, that a ticket may be granted to the applicant. In the case of students the application must be accompanied by a recommendation signed by two of their teachers, members of the College.

Tickets of admission, which are not transferable, are granted for six months, at the expiration of which time application must be made for their renewal.

¹ See *Athenæum*, November 17th, 1888.

THE HISTORY OF THE
CITY OF BOSTON
FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENT
TO THE PRESENT TIME
IN TWO VOLUMES
BY NATHANIEL BENTLEY
OF THE BARR

VOLUME THE FIRST
FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENT
TO THE YEAR 1780
PUBLISHED BY
J. B. BENTLEY
AT THE SIGN OF THE
CROWN, IN THE
NORTH-WEST CORNER
OF THE OLD SOUTH CHURCH
DOOR, IN THE CITY OF BOSTON
1822