

Records of St. Thomas's Hospital / by W. Rendle.

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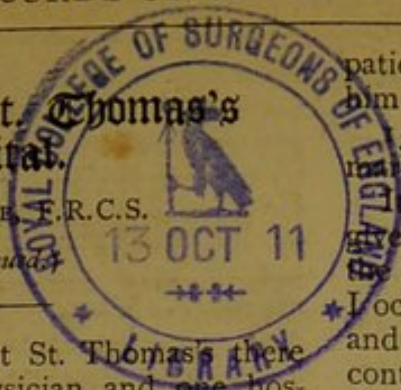


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Records of St. Thomas's Hospital.

By W. RENDLE, F.R.C.S.

(Continued)



ANCIENTLY at St. Thomas's there was one physician and one hospitaler, two fit and meet women, sisters, to attend to the poor, one fit expert chirurgion, and an honest, sober, and religious man to supervise the revenues, all of which over and above, not otherwise expended, to be spent for the poor sick and weake, and not otherwise. The hospitaler comes next in order to the clerical personages noticed in the last paper as a curious mixture of lay and clerical duty. In the thirteenth century, as the chronicles of Jocelin of Brakelond tell us, the hospitaler provided for the reception of strangers, pilgrims, and visitors. His apartment was the hostrey, the domus-hospitium or guest-house, which it was his duty to keep well furnished with beds, seats, tables, towels, and with sufficient cheer. In the monastery of St. Edmund there appear to have been two of these officials, one named the outer, the other the inner hospitaler, but in our chronicler's time there was but one. That will sufficiently indicate the early hospitaler. In 1552 he becomes more clearly and especially a much needed official for a hospital proper, and is a religious and lay official blended. "The hospiteler's duty is to visit the poor in their extremes and sicknesses, and to minister unto them the most wholsom and necessary doctrine of God's comfortable worde. To receive for use of the poor victuals and other provision, to deliver to be dressed certain victuals, to admit the poor and call the surgeons, to inquire what money or valuables the poor admitted have and keep it safe for their use, to see as to those who die and to those who recover, and to give these last when they go a passport.* He shall see and declare any who maintain slander or disorder. On recovery the hospitaler shall charge the

* The passport was to prevent arrest of the person as an idle and masterless vagabond roving about the country.

patient as to his thanksgiving, and to cause him to learn it without the book."*

1569. The wages of the Hospitaler is 20 marks by the year.

It is part of the design of these papers to give in small matters the true character of the periods and incidents referred to, hence I occasionally emphasize the diverse spelling and use of strange words and phrases; the context will generally imply this, moreover it would be wearisome to continue servilely this kind of spelling, etc.; often it comes only from the differing pronunciation by different persons, and the unconscious use of the phonetic method.

Some particulars of the duties of this official as well as of hospital conditions may be gathered from the following:

1569. He is to receive all night lodgers that come, and to take down all names ready when called for. To this ward a special sister, Mary Long, was appointed; the same Mary Long afterwards "cōplayned of for keypyng of cōpany wth George Clark."

1569. The night lodger is to have a sealed passport.

1570. The night lodgers' (or, as we should call it, the casual) ward was in full use; too full apparently in 1603, as the order to admit only wayfaring people implies.

1570. Money is gathered from the poor for clothes which the hospitaler sells to them; and, on the other hand, the poor work and earn something; he gathers the profit for the men and the matron for the women, and they have it at their departing.

1571. He has the key of the coleseller that he may deal out coals to the poor.

1578. Wassall Weblyng, beare brewer, serves the hospital with good beere at 3s. 4d. the barrel; the allowance for the hospitaler, presumably for himself and servants, a gallon daily.

1579. Someone from Budge Row asks a night lodger's admission, the answer is yes, but for a fortnight and no more.

1584. In the days before tea and coffee, beer was the staple, and this was liberally supplied, in the hot weather to the patients a quart at dinner and a pint at supper.

In the transition stage, probably before he acts fully as a minister of religion, when the

* Thomas Vicary, by F. and P. Furnivall, E.E.T.S.

chapel bell rings, the hospitaler warns the men and the matron the women. They are conducted to the service, and the doors are locked. He will not lack a congregation, as "all are to attend chapel for prayers, preaching, expounding, and the Sacrament." We see in the catalogue of the hospitaler's duties that "he may rede and say divine service to the poor between 9 and 10." He is constantly among the sick at reading and prayer, advising and consoling them. At the present day he is the minister of religion to them. I cannot help the thought that I should greatly have liked to walk the wards with Maurice at Guy's, and have heard what he had to say to the afflicted people there. He was a man of infinite sympathy, the most Christ-like man I ever knew.

It is interesting to glance at the old doctors, the physicians, and surgeons of the hospital; but that we may not expect too much of them, let me note the condition of the medical profession at the time. We do not lack material. Southwark was a notable centre for printers. A very renowned printing-press (James Nycolson's) was in St. Thomas's Close, and from this press came the first English Bible printed in England. Not in the Close, but near at hand, at the sign of the Wodows,* was another well-known press, that of Peter Treveris. He printed *The noble experyence of the vertuous handywarke of Surgeri, practysed and compyled by the moost experte mayster, Jherome of Bruynswyke, and The Grete Herball, which giveth parfyt knowlege, &c., of herbes and their gracyous vertues, which God hath ordeyned for welfare and helth, practysed by wyse and expert masters.* These books give us a fair notion of the medicine and surgery of 1525, and they are further well illustrated in the Early English Text Society books by Messrs. Furnivall, already mentioned. Jherome recommends young students and servants of barbers and surgeons to read with diligence his "lytell boke." In this book he gives a plate of the man with the signs of the zodiac and figures of the principal planets surrounding him, showing in what parts of his body they have dominion. The books are curious reading; the plates of instruments

* A sort of "Green Man," or wild people, showing our first parents clothed, apparently, if clothed at all, in skins, the printer's emblem.

are rather fearful. You are not to be above a white fib, for by imagination the wounded person may be made "to thynke that he bledid no more." The cautery is used for the staying of blood, and I think I have read of hot pitch; among the common people the favourite cautery is "the kaye of his chyrch." There was plenty of rude surgery, and very rude it was, in the early times of frequent conflict, lawlessness, and violence. Long after this, in 1665, in one of the Southwark churches, the preacher's mind was so impressed by the savagery about him, that he preached three Sundays running from the text, "Do violence to no man." Life was of no value, and practical Christianity was nowhere; and now, alas! it is somewhat a phrase for mammon worship. But I am straying. The monks at their blood-letting season (*minutio sanguinis*) and in other ways taught a little medicine and surgery, and they understood herbs. We see how rude and unpractical it all was; and, indeed, it has been more or less so within the last 200 years—perhaps, it may be said, within this century.

Some instances of the violence referred to as finding practice for surgery are especially interesting to me, as occurring in Southwark and near to our hospital. The book of practice for young chirurgions, 1591, refers to some, and Bulleyn in his dialogues to others. "I saw myself," he says, "a lusty young man who came to see a bull-baiting at Parys Garden; the bull rent him in the thigh, and the doctor sewing it up, he nearly died of it. Sewing is not good." The registers of St. Saviour's note several deaths. "Killed by the bear-garden bull," "by the bear," are not uncommon; and the wardens' accounts show "a shrowde for the boy killed at the Bear Garden, 1 shilling." From the falling of the circus in Paris Garden one Sunday in 1580, cases of fracture of the skull, of the legs, and what not in that great catastrophe are given in *The Young Chirurgion's Practice* of 1591.

Before I introduce the reader to our Phissicians—the word is spelt, the custom of the time, in all manner of ways—I must mention our first distinguished doctor or surgeon to the Kings Henry VIII. and Edward VI.—the barber surgeon, Sir John

Ayliffe, Aliff, or Aylophe. In the accounts is a payment to him of vij^{li} xv^s for a year's duty; 4th Edward VI. he is appointed the first alderman of Bridge Ward Without, Southwark, "albeit that thitherto there had been no suche warde or alderman within the citie." Probably his name, not perhaps as a surgeon, would be found in the voluminous records of the governor's meetings, which are now at the Thomas's Hospital offices by Westminster Bridge. I have not as yet noticed it; those records would take a year thoroughly to examine them. Ayliffe's likeness is shown in the celebrated painting of Henry VIII. granting the charter which is now in the hall of the Barber Surgeons, a company which he quitted in 1550. We shall see what apt and expert chirurgions these are likely to be by the occasional helps forced upon them, and by the practices permitted.

1562. We find at the College of Barber Surgeons, among some more of the same sort, that "Peter van Duran, a straunger professing surgery, is licensed to sett (bills) upon posts so as to give the people knowledge of his said science;" and 1573, "John Smythe may make open shewe of his doinge at and against his owne house and dore and not elsewhere." Certainly a wise old precept says, "If you want to sell your cow, you must say the word;" and Messrs. van Duran and Smythe wanted to sell their cow. We do so now one way or another—by the press, by circulating monographs, by an occasional dispersion of cards, or by a dinner. Our colonials do so; the settled doctor reminds his friends of his hours of consultation, and where he is to be found; the press and his well-wishers do the rest. It is very much as the custom of the time. There is no harm in it, good taste of course ruling, and not over stepping the bounds, and that can be without undue squeamishness. And now let us see the supplementary company forced upon the doctors; but, in the first place, we observe how they were hedged in, in certain matters purely professional, not to be done without the sanction of the lay-masters of the hospital. But in our own time, even in matters gynecological, the treasurer of a hospital, I observed, was to have one or more of his fingers in it. Look at it rightly, human nature is, as the man said, "much of a muchness at all times."

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But as to our supplementary company, who often sadly vexed the old doctors. It was, however, partly their own fault; in consequence, as was said, of the greed of the licensed folk, a statute, 32 Henry VIII., expressly allowed the unlicensed to cure common ailments and outward wounds by herbs, waters, and like means—by a sort of exorcism even. The surgeon, standing in the official list between the shoemaker and the barber, could not be surprised at having to recognise various and divers strange fellows.

1562. Mother Edwyn may try to cure a boy that is burstin, he has hernia, for 13s. 4d.; if she does not cure him, she promises to return half the money. She succeeds, and the governors go to additional expense for a truss. Mother Bowman gets 4s. 4d. for helling William Mylles's child of the plague. Two poor women are "put to bed" at the Lock Hospital in Kent Street, and the midwife is paid 2s. 6d.

1566. Sore heads are "soundly healed" at 8d. a head. There must have been something unsatisfactory here, for by-and-by Thomas Hollyard, the surgeon, is appointed to cure scalled heads, and to have a special salary of £20. These bad heads imply bad living, uncleanness, neglect, and a degraded state. In my time, my parish practice in the Mint supplied these perpetual pests in abundance. Thanks to sanitary medicine they are going, as the ague disappeared before effectual drainage. It is noteworthy that with our almost awful population we have no plague or sweating sickness or black death. Sometimes, indeed, the bad thought creeps in whether the Reverend Mr. Malthus will not have to come back with his preventive checks. A grievous slur on the surgeons, a bonesetter is appointed who will take cases to his house, with the sanction of the governors—cases the surgeons "mark as incurable, and if he cures them he shall be paid." The apothecary is, later on, side by side with the herbwoman, who has £4 a year for physical herbs.

1574. John Brygge is appointed by the Court to serve for the poor, and is to make the poticary's stuff to Mr. Bull's liking. His salary, which was £9, is advanced afterwards; in fact, it mounts up more or less rapidly.

In 1577 a wonderful scheme of a "dyett drinke" is in hand; it is stipulated that the

apothecary shall find, in consideration of the rise in salary, everything except coals and a kettle for the boiling. This diet drink is much run after; the out-patients and the disease, which was more or less of wrong living or vice, appeared greatly to increase.

1584. The apothecary's salary became £36, and £36 was an enormous sum then; 210 patients were soon counted, and the salary became £40. Soldiers and sailors come in, and £5 more is added in 1597. The diet drink got so popular that it is not too much to say that it might have crippled the finances; so it was checked, and in no long time abandoned. The apothecary, Mr. Brygge, announces to the governors that "he is going to give over the trade," and Mr. Young is appointed at a salary of £60. Mr. Brygge now appears as a Barber Surgeon; but he soon dies, and his widow is to have the reversion of Mother Cornelly's shoppe in the Close.



Bibliographical and Literary Notes on the Old English Drama.

By W. CAREW HAZLITT.

(Continued from p. 63.)

DAMON AND PYTHIAS. — By Richard Edwards, 1571 and 1582. Printed from a collation of these two editions in my Dodsley. No undated one is known, although the former has the year as portion of the title, apparently to induce the public to believe that it was a new play in 1571; whereas it had been registered by the printer in 1567-8.

Dead Man's Fortune. — Johnson and Steevens, in their edition of Shakespear, 1793, vol. ii., give the plot in letterpress only; but it was printed by the late Mr. Halliwell-Phillipps, folio, 1860, 26 copies, in full, with two other similar relics.

Destruction of Jerusalem. — By Thomas Legge. This is referred to by Francis Meres in his *Palladis Tamia*, 1598. It also occurs as a printed book in the list at the end of the *Old Law*, 1656.

Device (A) of a Masque for the Right Honourable the Lord Mountacute. — By George Gascoigne. In his *Posies*, 1575; *Flowers*, xliii. (Hazlitt's Gascoigne, i. 77).

Device (The) before the Queen's Majesty at her Court at Greenwich, the 12th November, 1588. — Entered on the Stationers' Registers, but not otherwise known.

Device (The) of the Pageant borne before the Right Hon. Martyn Colthorpe, Lord Maior of the Citie of London, 29 October, 1588. — Licensed for the press this year, but not at present known. See my *Handbook*, 1867, p. 450.

Device (The) of the Pageant: set forth by the Worshipfull Companie of the Fishmongers for the right honorable John Allot, established Lord Maire of London, and Maire of the Staple . . . , 1590. — By T. Nelson. 4to., 1590. Reprinted entire in the *Antiquary*, xiii. 54-56.*

Device (The) for the Queen's Day [Nov. 17], 1592.†

Device (The) for the Queen's Day, 1595.‡

Devis (The) to enterlayne Hir Ma^{ty} at Harfild, the house of S^r Thomas Egerton, Lo. Keeper, and his Wife, the Countess of Darbye [in July, 1602]. — Printed from the Conway MS. in the Shakespear Society's Papers, ii.

Deuill (The) of Dowgate. — By J. Fletcher. See Dyce's Beaumont and Fletcher, xi., Introd. to the *Night-Walker*, of which Weber conjectures that the present play was an alteration by Shirley.

Dick of Devonshire. — Printed by Mr. A. H. Bullen from the Charlemont MS. now in the British Museum, for which it was probably acquired at Lord Charlemont's sale in 1865. On the 16th October, 1594, was licensed to E. White "A ballad of the Devill of Devonshire, and William of the West, his sonne."

Dick Scorne. — Doubtless an error for *Hickscorne*. It is also mentioned in the list at the end of the *Old Law*, 1656, where it is called a comedy.

Dido. — It is not perfectly clear to me that the *Dido* exhibited before the Queen at Cambridge in 1564, and that variously

* See my *Collections and Notes*, 3rd Series, p. 160.

† See Bacon's *Conference of Pleasure*, ed. Spedding, Introd.

‡ *Ibid.*

sational drama, founded upon actual fact, long popular at all the country fairs. The president and members of the Society embarked once more at Petit Andelys on the Seine, which at this point is very picturesque, with foliated islands below the renowned Château Gaillard, which, with the church of St. Sauveur and the hospital of St. James, are the three principal points of interest. The church, built at the end of the twelfth or beginning of the thirteenth century, is admirable for its proportions and elegant spire, and more especially as being of one uniform style of architecture of the same date. There are three bells which deserve attention, the most ancient being dated 1462.

The steamer passed up the Seine in full view of the fine hospital of St. James, built at Petit Andelys by the Duke of Penthièvre. The archives at the hospital are very complete. They have also some curious relics of St. Evode, and two chasubles or copes, richly embroidered in gold, the gift of the Duke of Penthièvre. In 1753, Pierre Blanchard, the intrepid aeronaut, was born at Petit Andelys. He invented the parachute, and before his death in 1848, had made at least sixty balloon ascensions. The president and members on one day visited the pleasant town of "Conches," and inspected the scanty remains of its Benedictine abbey. The ruined castle of the twelfth century, once the residence of the Sires de Tosny, and the church of St. Foy of the end of the fifteenth or beginning of the sixteenth century, which contains twenty-three remarkable stained-glass windows with many coats-of-arms, of which an elaborate description has been given in a work of much research, entitled, *L'Eglise Sainte-Foy de Conches (Eure) et les Vitraux*, par Monsieur L'Abbé A Bouillet.

It is said that his Majesty King Louis Philippe offered a million of francs for the windows to place in the chapel of St. Louis at Dreux. In the octavo work of Monsieur l'Abbé Bouillet, containing 159 pages, illustrations are given of the church and windows. There are pews with doors in this church, and it was stated that there are other instances in Normandy. Monsieur de Maire, of Cenches, extended his kind reception to the Society by giving this numerous party an excellent champagne lunch at the Hôtel Cheval Gris. The town

of Louviers and its museum were also visited. The ancient church of St. Taurin, the clock-tower of the fifteenth century and museum at Evreux, were the subjects of much archaeological interest; and the Society also visited the stained-glass establishment of Monsieur Duhamel Marette, whose restorations of ancient stained-glass windows are marvellous. The process is one which interested all who had the good fortune to visit the atelier near the church of St. Taurin. There is an excellent museum at Evreux, especially of the Gallo-Roman period. One of the gems of the collection is a large glass bowl curiously chased by hand, which was found, with other objects of the Gallo-Roman period, in a tomb found near the Roman road from Evreux to Chartres. It is a perfect example. There are also two statues in bronze of Jupiter Stator and of Apollo, found at old Evreux. There are also some rare manuscripts in the library of the eleventh and twelfth centuries. After Brionne, with its church and castle had been visited, the Society reached, by carriages, the celebrated Benedictine abbey of Le Bec Hellouin — Herluin was the name of its founder, in 1034, and Bec is the old Norman name for a small stream. Very little of the ancient building remains, but the fine stone tower of St. Nicholas, commenced in 1457, and the extensive cloisters, rebuilt as late as the eighteenth century, now used for stabling horses. The section from Bernay of the Free Society of the Arrondissement de l'Eure, which is presided over by the Duc de Broglie, the once-celebrated Minister of France, who had the honour of entertaining the Shah when he formerly visited Paris, had taken this occasion to meet for the inauguration of an inscribed tablet commemorating a history of the abbey, which had been agreed upon at a previous meeting, upon the suggestion of Monsieur l'Abbé Porée, the author of a voluminous and exhaustive history of the abbey of Bec Hellouin. It was the good fortune and privilege of the president, Comte de Marsy, with many ladies who had accompanied the excursions of the congress, and about forty members of the French Archæological Society, amongst whom were MM. Palustre, directeur honoraire de la Société Française d'Archéologie; le Comte de Dion; Emile Caron, vice-president de la Société Française de

Numismatique; l'Abbe Sauvage; Eugène Marie; le Courtois du Manoir; le Comte de Lambertye; Moulin, secrétaire de la Société historique de Château-Thierry; Armand Adam; Jules Lair; Léon Germain; Hubert Smith and Hellier Gosselin; Herbert Jones, de la Société royale des Antiquaries de Londres; Adolphe Francart, avocat à Mons; le Baron Alfred de Loë; le Comte Lair; Charil de Ruillé; l'Abbé Lécaudé; Maxime Buisson; le Baron [Pinoteau]; Gustave Prevost; l'Abbé Blanquart; Victor Mignon; Louis Cauchepin; Louis Regnier; Maurice Pinoteau; Letellier-Alaboissette; Gouverneur; Laignel; Jules de Lauriere, etc., to assist upon the occasion of this interesting ceremony.

After an eloquent extempore address from Monsieur Join-Lambert, vice-president of the archæological section of Bernay, a most interesting paper was read by Monsieur l'Abbé Porée, in which he alluded to the fact that the abbey, now in ruins, near which we were standing, had produced one pope, three Archbishops of Canterbury, numbers of bishops and doctors, and even knights, who had been educated on the forms of the schools of the Abbey of Bec-Hellouin, and with graceful allusion to the purpose of the commemorative tablet that day to be inaugurated, he read some most interesting notes of an episode in the history of the Abbey, in connection with Mazarin, very little known.

In the course of the meeting Monsieur Eugène Niel, as the representative of the Academy of Sciences, Belles Lettres et Arts, at Rouen, and of the Historical Society of Normandy, gave an interesting discourse, in which he alluded to the Abbey of Bec-Hellouin as having sent forth so many talented men to England who had contributed so much to the renovation and the advancement of scientific and moral culture of Society in England after the Norman invasion.

The following is the concise and commemorative inscription on the tablet now placed near the Abbey gateway:

Abbey of Bec,
Of the order of Saint Benoit,
Founded by Herluin
In 1304.

The Schools celebrated throughout the West were under the control of Lanfranc and Saint Anselme.

The hospitality of the Order was large;
Their Charity boundless;
Their attainments equalled their piety.
The Empress Matilda was buried in the church
in 1167.

Saint Louis staid here in 1256.

The Abbay was fortified in 1356.

Pillaged by the English in 1421.

Was restored by the Abbé Geoffroy d'Epaignes in
1453.

She adopted the discipline of Saint Maur, and cast a
last light upon literature.

It was suppressed in 1790.

On the occasion of the Archæological Congress, the
Free Society of Eure, Section of Bernay, with the
concurrence of the Archæological Society and
subscribers,

Have decided to perpetuate these souvenirs,
July, 1889.

This must close the first part of the archæological notes upon this interesting congress of the Société Française de Archéologie, and there is no doubt that in a country so full of prehistoric and antiquarian interest that the people of France are now commencing, by the formation of archæological societies and the production of many philological and historic works, to take more pride in those relics of ancient time which are so numerous and are to be met with in such variety in every province without exception throughout la belle France.

HUBERT SMITH.

Paris, August 15th, 1889.



Records of St. Thomas's Hospital.

BY W. RENDLE, F.R.C.S.

(Continued.)



HOPE the editor will allow me, even at the cost of seeming iteration, to go on a little further with the surgeons and barber surgeons. We shall the better understand their *theoretical* status by noting a passage or two from the *Anatomie of the Bodie of Man*, by Thomas Vicary, 1490—1551, the first master of the Barber Surgeons' Company, the actual will,

of course, vary very much. "A surgeon," he says, "must be a temperate and well-made man, and good-looking;" and the annotator, Mr. Furnivall, says: "He must know anatomie, and not drink; his left hand is to be as ready as his right. He must have 4 qualities—learned, expert, ingenious, and well-mannered; he must know his principles, not onely in Chrurgerie, but also in Phisicke. He must not flatter, not be proude nor presumptuous, not covetous nor no nigarde, as privie and as secrete as anye Confessour as to what he hears or sees in the house of his Pacient."

This book, published by the Early English Text Society, is worth reading, if but for the spelling and quaint descriptions; for instance, "it is the bone of the pot of the head which keeps in the Braynes."

The brain has, among other qualities, the cogitative vertue. In the third ventricle is the vertue memorative. Generally, the brain "is" (a most admirable exposition) "the governour or treasure of the fyve wittes." The whole body is discoursed upon in some seventy-four printed pages of Mr. Furnivall's book, in which is also noted the wages paid by the kings Henry VIII. and Edward VI. to the physicians, surgeons, apothecaries, barbers, etc. Thomas Vicary has 100 shillings, and John Aliff, as before stated, £7 15s.

At St. Thomas's, Gregory Joye and Wm. Caylle are the surgeons in 1568; Warbeck 1569—1574. "Oliver Warbeck, one of our surgyons, is granted a house in the Close, payinge as moche mony as any other wylle." 1574 Cox succeeds Warbeck, and so on. 1572 the surgeons are to decide which cases are curable, and those only to be admitted.

The status and duties of the physician in the early time must have been loosely defined—in some points confounded with the barber surgeons; in others very differentially marked, as when the latter is not to prescribe medicine for a patient, that being at the time the exclusive duty of the physician. I do not observe any physician's name before that of Dr. Bull, appointed in 1566, and holding his office until his death in 1577; his salary was 20 marks by the year, and he had a house in the Close. His position was markedly subordinate, but doctors and surgeons alike

were very much under orders. A distinguished physician and F.R.S. once told me that they, the modern ones, were kept standing in "the presence"; so I suppose the tradition has come down to us. Mr. Bull held his office, as the governors express it, "according to their well liking." June 25, 1571, "It ys agreed at this courtt that whereas Mr. Bull, phissission, hathe byn a sutor for a howsse wⁱⁿ the Closse, and for y^e thir ys not on to be had to his contentmentt, wherfor in cōsideracion of the same y^e ys agreed that the sayd Mr. bull shall have allowed hym yerely to be payd liijs. iiijz., to be payd quarterly, to begyn at myghelmas next comyng, this payment to cōtynew tyll he have a howse of thys ospyall." I copy here and elsewhere, sometimes with exactness, to preserve the quaintness of words and spelling. At a court in 1577, Mr. Doctor* Wlf, or Wolfe, applies for the gown, meaning the physician's gown, or office. Someone had been beforehand with him, and had begged that he might have it on Mr. Bull's death, as he said; but Mr. Wolfe is "freelie elected and chosen to be phisicon to this house in room of Mr. Bull, deceased; this graunt is to have contynuaunce duringe so long tyme as he shall serve the place him best to the well likinge of the governours of this house . . . for such like for as Mr. Bull had before, w^{ch} is xx mke by the yere." Let it be remarked that he is "freelie elected," and is very tenderly dealt with in very trying circumstances afterwards. He probably had very useful and partial friends among the governors—"friends at courtt." It is a time of plague, and Southwark is always fearfully afflicted; notably, also, the worst time now—July, August, and September. The new doctor at his post is evidently scared out of his wits, except his wits for self-preservation. Almost directly he orders fires, morning and evening, in the wards, as well as in houses near, for the avoidance of infection; but no doubt unintentionally for the spread of terror. Places are to be selected for those sick of the plague. In August the doctor, ill or frightened, asks three months leave of absence, and he will provide a good substitute. Others, not so much afraid, make a good thing of it; the

* Mr. Doctor, or Doctor indifferently, without apparent reason.

hospitaler and under-surveyor admit people having the plague, and "take for their own use reward for so doing" May 25, 1578, the doctor is not back. He is warned that another will be appointed; but his substitute says he is still sick and unable to travel, and prays delay. October he is still not back. His deputy, Mr. Hall, is to have 20 marks. Shortly, the governors make an end of it all, paying the affrightened doctor £3 6s. in full of all claims. Now, as a set-off to this—albeit, it is some time after—it is entered to the great credit of Dr. Rice that he "did expose himself in the late dreadful plague when all the chirurgions that were in office deserted the service in regard to the hazardousness thereof," and so is chosen surgeon, although there are already four. "After the death of anyone it shall be only three, according to the ancient constant usage of this hospital."

Another brilliant example later on, is that of Fairfax's doctor; he also stuck to his post in the time of plague. When so many fled, he stayed in London, attending to the poor of the hospital, as well as to his own patients. It will be interesting to note how he was rewarded. He was at first to be physician to the king; but, on second thoughts, a message comes to him from the Court that it cannot be. He may have an honourable augmentation of his paternal arms, and for this he had to pay Sir William Dugdale £10. No doubt in the time of Charles II. this good physician went to the wall, and the rascals got the day. As I am a little in advance—it is now 1669—I may mention that our Dr. Torlesse has a method of treatment for certain patients in the hospital, which curiously he keeps to himself. The governors demand to know what it is, as a test of honest supply; but the doctor keeps to his secret. Evelyn, in 1689, comes from the Privy Council, ordering that half the beds shall be kept for the sick and wounded in the war, an allowance of 6s. 8d. being made for each case. It appears that Torlesse and Surgeon Elton kept the money as their right, which it was not; so our greedy doctor and Elton were dismissed. These two appear as a couple of black sheep. The latter assaults Ridout, another surgeon, in the wards; that must have been amusing to the patients.

The incident reminds me of the ludicrous battle between Dr. Slop and the nurse in *Tristram Shandy*, and may, as in that encounter, have driven away some melancholy and helped recovery.

Incidentally the wards are now (1658) named and spelled, Kings, Jonas, Queens, Magdallins, Abrams, Isaiahs, Arons, Jobes, Judiths, and Zebedees. In 1693 they are a little altered and somewhat better spelled, *i.e.*, Cookes, Kings, Jonah, Noah, Tobias, Queens, Magdalen, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Dorcas, Job, Lazarus, Judith, Susanna, and Abdiel; and the patients in them are 163 in all.* Doubtful practices now and then crept in. It was ordered that no garnish money or footing was to be taken from poor persons, and to meet lax methods the chirurgions were to see the poor well and orderly dressed "before 10 of the clock in the forenoon in winter, and before 9 in the summer," and again it is said that no money must be taken. It will now be convenient to notice a very interesting point, that Thomas's Hospital became early very famous for cutting for the stone in the bladder—lithotomy; how early I don't know. The earliest date I have in my notes is 1661, but so worded as to imply that the operations were specially performed at Thomas's long before that. Fairfax's Doctor Wharton, and Hollyard are here, two good men; Wharton, already spoken of, and Hollyard, curer of sore heads, is appointed also to cut for the stone. Rev. John Ward, the diarist, whose MS. book is now in the London Medical Society's Library, and famous for some important Shakespearean notices, says, in 1661, Dr. Wharton and Mr. Hollyard are here; there are four wards for certain diseases, for those who are cut for y^e stone, for lepers, scald heads and divers diseases. Ward interested himself about it, and asked the porter who told him "y^t Mr. Hollyard cut thirty of the stone one year, and all lived" (very extraordinary if they did), "and afterwards he cut four, and they all died." One of these last cases was, he says, "a ragged stone hard (*sic*) to get out, and very dangerous."

What he says of the plague in the diary is at least curious. "You doe nothing in the plague unless you swet twice a day" (from this practice the ward was probably named the

* MS. British Museum, 2728.

swet ward), "and when the malignitie is collected into one bubo" (or boil), "the best way is to paltis and ripen itt, that itt may break and so dissolve itt." "In the plague itt was observd that fatt people catcht it sooner, but lean people died two for one, the plague preyed uppon their fat as they thought. . . . The plague ordinarily begins with vomiting, there are in it bubos which appear in the emunctories, carbuncles which come anywhere, the blaines are things like blysters, the tokens are spotts of a bright flaming red colour."

Very soon after the date in Ward's Diary, the plague happily and finally disappeared from among us, but in this last visit in 1665, there were in the five parishes, St. George, St. Olive, St. Saviour, St. Thomas, and Bermondsey, 9,235 deaths, probably a fourth or fifth of the total population. Generally in these old pestilences it was not uncommon for persons, even of distinction, to entirely disappear, leaving no clue, and never being heard of more.

About 1700, Elton and Ridout are the surgeons for lithotomy, and afterwards Ridout is the principal and Pepper is his assistant; and now "patients are at the hospital in waiting for the proper season for cutting." At this time, much to the annoyance of the surgeons, the governors were in treaty with one Dr. Cypriano to "instruct three of our surgeons in his method of cutting for the stone." The doctor came to the hospital at the request of the president and did cut several of the patients, but I do not observe what measure of success he had. The sweating-room, used apparently in the plague time and now for cutting, was found too small, accordingly this to us astounding alteration is made. The same is enlarged by carrying out the building from the south end to the passage or door leading to the burial place, and finished according to the advice of Dr. Cypriano.

In 1697, the minutes record that "the old burying ground being full is no longer to be used; it is convenient to build outwards *thereon* for certain designated patients." Dr. Cypriano does not appear to have much fear of hospital gangrene, erysipelas, or defective healing power in such an atmosphere after operation. In 1715 the special ability was probably more equal, as then, for the first

time, all the surgeons were empowered to operate for stone. In 1718 Cheselden was appointed, a complete anatomist and a magnificent surgeon; an important matter in the time before anæsthetics, he was a quick* as well as successful operator, and whether from careful selection of cases or from a happy skill, out of forty-two of his operations in five years, only four were known to have been fatal. This successful practice was by contrast a sort of scandal, and his position was accordingly made too unpleasant for him. How could such a man as Cheselden live among envious mediocrities? In 1732, John Erle who was licensed to cut for stone by the Grand Committee, was the first to lecture upon anatomy and surgery at the hospital, and may be considered the founder of their fine school. A satisfactory minute may be spent in inspecting that triumph of medallie art; Wyons Cheselden, prize medal at St. Thomas's. Pope testified in some happy lines of two of his friends, these stars of St. Thomas's Hospital:

Late as it is I put myself to school,
And feel some comfort not to be a fool;
Weak though I am of limb and short of sight,
Far from a lynx and not a giant quite,
I'll do what Mead and Cheselden advise,
To save those limbs and to preserve those eyes.



Gleanings from Recent Book-Sales.

BY W. CAREW HAZLITT.



WHEN I originally graduated as a bibliographer about five-and-twenty years since, I had before me and at my service a very considerable assortment of works purporting to follow similar lines to myself, ushered into notice and favour by men whose names are very

* Cheselden had by far the largest practice in England, and is said to have completed an operation in fifty-four seconds, but I have seen it done a time or two in forty seconds. Cheselden was a teacher at his own house, and a diligent searcher after "subjects," that anatomy might be well taught and perfected; and here he got into trouble with the College of Barber-Surgeons, but the affair was compromised in some way, and the surgeon went on with his work.

familiar to all such as feel an interest in our earlier literature, either as literary inquirers, antiquaries, or amateurs. The publications of such painstaking compilers as Ames, Herbert and Dibdin, Ritson, Lowndes, Haslewood, and Brydges, among those of the older school, and of Collier and Corser among later admirers and students of early English books, were of course under my eyes. In all these sources of knowledge or information, I saw much which was excellent and much which I thought capable of improvement, so far as the account of the works themselves was concerned; and while it did not enter into my plan to follow the principle adopted by Ames and his successors, and, coming nearer to our own time, by my friends Mr. Collier in his *Bibliographical Catalogue* (1865), and the Rev. Thomas Corser in his *Collectanea Anglo-Poetica*, I formed the design of going further than any and all of them by a system of consolidation, or, in other words, by combining by degrees in one alphabet all which they had printed, and more than as much again, which they had not been enabled to describe.

I started on my enterprise about 1864, the year of the dispersion of the marvellous library of George Daniel, of Canonbury, and I offered the public the result of my labours in 1867 in the shape of my now pretty well-known *Handbook to the Early Popular, Poetical, and Dramatic Literature of Great Britain*.

This large volume, extending to over 700 pages in two columns, was very indulgently received, and no doubt it contained a vast amount of new and interesting detail. I had made free use, by the courtesy of the officers of that grand institution, of the treasures of the British Museum, as well as of a variety of other public libraries and of many private collections, including that of the late Mr. Henry Huth, whose acquaintance I made in the winter of 1866. Mr. Huth became warmly interested in my undertaking, and put in my way everything in his possession which he conceived it likely that I had not seen. The *Handbook* was very greatly enriched by his instrumentality, especially in the latter half of the alphabet, and altogether I felt rather proud of my venture when it saw the light nearly a quarter of a century ago.

I did not believe that I had done all that it was practicable to do, for I was perfectly conscious that I was dealing with a science emphatically progressive. But I had no clear or defined ideas as to a further development of the scheme. I had, as I proceeded, awakened to a livelier sense of the magnitude of my task, and I entertained a dim conception of the possibility of carrying it to a more advanced stage at some future period. I refer to my state of feeling in 1867.

But I must own that I did not know then how little I had accomplished, much as I had advanced beyond all my predecessors. In the volume in the hands of the public, and appreciated, I venture to think, in excess of its deserts, there was a good deal of valuable matter unquestionably; but from an inability to procure particulars of many books and tracts mentioned by others, or specified in auction catalogues briefly, I had permitted myself to alloy the sound first-hand information with only too heavy a percentage of statements and details borrowed from sources generally regarded as trustworthy, but which, as a rule, did not bear the test of verification.

I had made a twofold discovery. In the first place, addressing myself, under the influence of the encouragement extended to the *Handbook*, to a closer scrutiny of the bearings and scope of the matter, I found that I had made little more than a beginning, and secondly I became convinced that much that I had done required to be rewritten. Not merely the older bibliographers, but much more recent workers, as Mr. Collier and Mr. Corser, proved to be inaccurate transcribers even of titles before them. I formed a resolution to take a new departure, and the *Bibliographical Collections and Notes* was the result.

The first series appeared in 1876, when the *Handbook* had been in print nine years. The *Supplements to the Third and Final Series* have only just been published by Mr. Quaritch. The set consists of four volumes altogether, and, with the *general index* to follow, my labours in this direction will spread over six volumes and a period of about twenty-five years (1864-1889). I have now exhausted nearly all our public and private libraries, and all the yield of the auction-