

**M0000123: dedication page from Thomas Geminus:
Compendiosa...anatomiae delineatio (1559)**

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To the ientill readers and Surgeons of Eng- lande, Nicolas Tisdall in the Lorde gretynge with encrease of good knowelage.



THAT whiche Galene in the sixth booke entituled *de Sanitate tuenda* saieth that he would haue men for the diete and preseruacion of their bodies not to liue like bruit beastes, nothing regardynge what is good or ill for them, but rather diligentely to obserue and marke what agreeeth with them, and what not, and what serueth for their helth, & what is hurtfull, the same thynge woulde I wishe that all men should dooe in all other pointes also, concernyng the state and habite of their bodye to bee knowne. Whiche if it so wer, some parsones perchaunce in a luxacion or vnknyttynge of their owne lymes or of their childrens armes & legges should lesse maruayl at the case, & be better hable wpth lesse coste to helpe thesame. And not onely for luxacions and wrenches doe I this saie, but also

for the reducyng of the bodye withinfoorth agreued, to a better temperature, which might the moze easely be dooen, if euery person, or at leste wise suche as wer mozte apte, did knowe all the membres and partes of h bodye, together with the placynge, the natures, the propretees, the vse, and the operacions of the same. For by knowynge the office of euery parte and membre, in case there should happen any impedimete, thei should easely bee hable to knowe and to iudge where the impedimete late, how it grew, & how thesame wer to bee remoued. And for so muche as vnto this purpose no- thynge is so effectual, as the Anatomie of mannes bodye, that is to saie, the cuttyng of euerie parte and percel seuerally: I cannot but commende the studious industrie & labour of suche, as either by description of the partes of mannes bodye and womans bodye with their peine, or els by the liuely setting foorth of the same to the yie by apte figures and portu- ratures, haue trauailed to shewe vnto all men, where euery membre and lymme and other parte of oure bodyes lyeth, where it taketh his beegruiynge, where it endeth, what the nature of it is, and what operacion, what vertue, what effecte or propretee is annexed vnto it. Neither can I well determinie whether of bothe dooeth moze effectually helpe towarde the knowelage of the premisses, he that by his high learning and profound science of naturall thynge dooeth sette it foorth in wrytyng, or els he that by playn figures and pictures dooeth propozcion out euerye thing to the yie of the vn- learned. For some haue we knowen, whiche beeyng vnlitred haue been hable to sette in again any membre that by anye vtiolent iniurie hath bene broken or sette out of iointe: and veray fewe there bee, whiche by the description of the leaued haue been hable to espre how to dooe the same in mennes iointes or lymmes, excepte suche as after longe practyse and experyence, haue by Incision and cuttyng of beade mennes bodies (whiche we calle Anatomie) gotten a perfect knowe- lage of the premisses. And not vnto many, noz but in fewe places, hath this knowelage or experyence happened (wheras harmes are common in all places and to a greate nombze) but vnto a veray fewe, chiefly surgeons, which haue for their better knowelage been fain to begge dead mennes bodies & them to cutte, and some partes to view and the rest to let alone till an other tyme, because of the putrefaccion soone commynge in matter so subiect to corrupcion, as mannes flesh is. If therfore any persone through the helpe, partely of bookes wrytten by cunnyng men of experyence, and partely by practyse of incision which they haue been present at, & partely by imitacion of other expert artificers in this misterie, hath employed his industrious studie and peinefull labour, not without greate costes and charges, to teache euery man that is disposed to serche & marke it, how he may knowe euery Bone, Iointe, Veine, Arterie, Sineawe, Tendon, or Ligament of the bodye, where it lyeth, and how it standeth in the bodye: is woorthie of immortall thanks, not onely of Surgeons for whose ease and profitable instruccion this present woerke is sette foorth, but also of all others that maye in tyme of nede receiue any benefite or commoditee thereby.

Accepte therfore in good parte ientill reader this treatise of Anatomie

and thankfully take the vse therof ientily interpreting the labours of Thomas Gemini the workman. And

in case any shal by his cunnyng or experyence see where it maye be amended or better perfected: he that

with his greate charge, watche & trauaill hath so liuely sette out this in fygure and portura

ture, will (I doubte not) shewe hym selfe mozte willing, bothe to amende thesame his

owne woerkmanship, and also to honour and folowe the partie by whom he shall

bee admonished how this maye bee made moze perfecte. Thus willing and

wyshing euery one man thakefully to take and entreprete an other

mannes good studies & labours, I bidde the Ientill

reader: mozte hertely well to fare, at

Windsore the .xx. of July.

1552

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