

**M0013450: Page from 'Ivory Apes and Angels' paper on anatomical manikins.**

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Model of woman with removable organs, mounted on marble socle

being represented usually by a red silk thread. In some of the figures the lungs are hinged with pink silk, the veins and arteries are drawn in, and the liver, heart and other organs are stained flesh color. Although most of the organs are movable, others are carved *in situ*. One of Dr. Luckhardt's most interesting models is symbolic. The circulatory system is represented by a figurine of a man pounding on an anvil with a sledge hammer (the thump of the heart beat); bellows represent the lungs, a seed pod of a composite flower symbolizes the organs of reproduction, fermenting grape-juice in a vat signifies the stomach, and a cauldron with flames beneath represents the liver, for the liver was once considered the seat of warmth in the body.

Two models of male figures show all the superficial muscles of the body after removal of the skin. The muscles were originally tinted red, but in the course of the centuries most of the red paint has faded.

For many years the function of these manikins was indistinctly known. But a document dated 1786, found in a case containing a pair of these figures, stated that they had been used for teaching barber surgeons and medical students so that they might know something of the pelvic anatomy of the female, particularly in the pregnant state.

It is believed likely that they were used for this purpose for two centuries earlier. Various types of evidence point to the serious regard in which

these manikins were held during quite a lengthy span in the history of medicine.

Also a poem bearing on the subject was found by Dr. Capparoni in a case containing one of these manikins. The script is in old French, of which the following is a translation:

*In Life's full bloom when labour's toil so  
near  
My fellow sufferers' lot and perils I do  
fear  
Come ye fair pupils, Lo, I cast away my  
shame  
That Midwifries' secrets may reveal my  
frame.*

*Pierce it with keen inquiring eye, and may  
The child and mother's nature then convey  
New manifold devices to your skillful art  
That pining women may not henceforth  
smart  
Through cruel untaught efforts, and not  
gasp  
With their unborn in Death's unpitiful  
grasp.*

—JOSEPH FUARDI DE FOSSAU, 1786

"Written by Joseph Fuardi de Fossau, Professor at Vercel during the vacations of 1786, who had been struck by the extreme ignorance of those persons who practice midwifery and the bad effects which often ensued from it. He was ashamed that his pupils in surgery should not be better taught, and he constructed this figure for the purpose described in the above lines."

The models unquestionably did



Manikin on velvet bier, showing conventional position of movable arms