

provocative, and requires more elaboration than it receives in the concluding pages of the monograph.

None the less, the book's strength lies in its ability to identify a systematic natural philosophy that underlies Hildegard's medical material. Sweet does so by studying Hildegard's views of humours and *viriditas*, and by revealing the experiential and botanical underpinnings of Hildegard's life and thought. In all of this, Sweet hints at the relevance of Hildegard's medical ideas to the connections between gender, natural science, and medicine.

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Andreas Vesalius, *On the fabric of the human body. Book V: The organs of nutrition and generation*, transl. **William Frank Richardson** in collaboration with **John Burd Carman**, Novato, CA, Norman Publishing, 2007, pp. xix, 257, illus. \$275.00 (hardback 978-0-930405-88-5).

The penultimate volume of the Auckland translation of Vesalius' *Fabrica* deals with the organs of nutrition, the urinary system, and the male and female reproductive system. The final section is a detailed and highly informative guide to how Vesalius expected his readers to go and dissect these organs for themselves. This volume has all the qualities of its predecessors: the elegant printing and broad layout complement the fine reproductions of the illustrations, although some of them may not be quite as sharp as those in earlier volumes. The quality of the translation is high, although the non-anatomist may be baffled by what Herophilus meant by the "glandulous bystander" and the repetition of these words may cause confusion in the Greekless.

There is one unfortunate change. Will Richardson, who was the translator, died unexpectedly in 2004, although he had

completed the translation of the whole *Fabrica*, including the index, and also of the *Epitome* (which has also recently been republished in a new edition and French translation by Jacqueline Vons, Paris, 2008). He had also completed almost all his revision of this volume, but he did not have a chance to write a translator's introduction and, inevitably, one misses some of the comments that he would assuredly have made in the notes. As this volume shows, he was a careful and accurate translator, with a mission to translate some of Renaissance medicine into English. Only those who have attempted similar versions can appreciate the scale of his achievement, for the sheer size and technical language of the *Fabrica* imposed problems not always to be met with in Renaissance medical texts. Although I met him only four or five times, I can echo the warm words of his co-author about him as a person. We look forward to publication of the final volume, and to the completion of this *magnum opus* in every sense.

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Rosemary Elliot, *Women and smoking since 1890*, Routledge Studies in the Social History of Medicine, No. 29, London, Routledge, 2007, pp. xiii, 225, illus., £65.00 (hardback 978-0-415-34059-5).

In the hundred or so years that cigarette smoking has been associated with women in this country, the ultimate irony is that a product so long associated with female emancipation is now strongly linked with subjugation. At the end of the nineteenth century, cigarettes were the symbolic manifestation of the "new woman" who sought to cast off social convention in her pursuit of professional, emotional and intellectual advancement. By the end of the twentieth century, however, middle-class women were far from being the most