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view to be held with every degree of certainty. In this letter it is recorded that Granville Penn was concerned with the correspondence in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, and that he 'also took a considerable interest in correcting the works of St. Bel, and rendering them more to the public taste'. Some of the other statements in this letter are not believed to be accurate but Clark knew St. Bel intimately and no doubt we can accept his information regarding Penn. If, in fact, Penn wrote as 'Phillipos' in the correspondence in the *Gentleman's Magazine* during 1790, it is strange to read in the second letter dated 21 October 1790 that he had been absent from England since his first letter in March of that year. Penn was elected to the London Committee of the Odiham Society on its formation in August 1790, and for want of further evidence we must presume he was present at this meeting. If he was 'Phillipos' such a statement must have been made in order to conceal his identity. If Penn wrote as 'Zoophilos' also, such harmless deceit can no doubt be excused, considering the importance of drawing the attention of the readers of the correspondence to such a worthy cause. This examination of evidence is not intended to detract from the worth of Professor Pugh's story but rather to underline the interest which it can raise when set against the accounts of these events previously available.

It is tempting to speculate what one might read in the proposals circulated by St. Bel in 1788 and 1789 but no record of these is known to exist. Unknown to Professor Pugh, another copy of the *Plan* around which his book is written was discovered by chance some ten years ago (and therefore prior to the finding of the copy in Bath), but was known only to the present owner and a few others to whom he had communicated his discovery. A protracted and diligent search might well lead to the discovery of the two earlier plans and to further evidence of the part played by Penn in St. Bel's introduction and the acceptance of his proposals.

We are told that Granville Penn had a severe illness in 1794-5 after which his interest and drive were never the same. His absence from the scene at a critical time, when Coleman was chosen as Principal of the College, would seem to have been a great misfortune for the young Institution, and it is to be regretted that those who replaced Penn in authority were content to allow the training of the students to remain in such hands.

The few references in the text and the scarcity of footnotes makes it difficult, at times, to decide whether the author is expressing his own opinion or referring to previously available evidence. We are, however, given a number of important documents in full in the appendices. This finely and lavishly illustrated book will, no doubt, stimulate further study of this formative period in the history of the veterinary profession and will, it is to be hoped, encourage an equally detailed investigation into the subsequent events in veterinary history.

J. BARBER-LOMAX

Catalogue of Printed Books in the Wellcome Historical Medical Library, vol. 1, Books printed before 1641, London, The Wellcome Historical Medical Library, 1962, pp. xv, 407, £10 10s. and \$30.

It is planned to publish a complete catalogue of the Wellcome Library, and the enormous undertaking starts, very wisely, with this volume, which has just been followed by another, on the manuscripts. The rest of the books, between 1641 and 1850 will be dealt with alphabetically in subsequent volumes, leaving it for another generation to decide what to do about the growing later collection.

For medical historians this volume covers an important and easily identifiable field, and because of the scope of the Wellcome Library it is more than a local catalogue,

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it is almost a list of sources: its 7,000 volumes are nearly the literature of the subject. There are, of course, gaps in the library, such as the original Latin texts of some books, a few important ones such as Watson's *Cures of the Diseased in Remote Regions*, 1598, a classic of tropical medicine, and some fringe-items like *The Metamorphosis of Ajax*. The library does contain some books even further on the fringe, such as Rampigollis' *Biblia Aurea*, in which the nearest approach to medical matters are 'Continence in Widows' and 'Caution in Virgins', and the *Restoration of Decayed Intelligence*, which although a lovely little book, is even less concerned with psychiatry than *The Anatomy of Melancholy* is with anatomy. But Sir Henry Wellcome was a very catholic collector, and ranged beyond strictly medical history through the history of science (Agricola, for instance) into such subjects as *The Peregrination into the Holy Land*. It is an index of the splendour of the library that one should even think about its coverage.

The catalogue, preceded by an interesting foreword by Sir Henry Dale, is admirably done, on the same general system as the *Short Title Catalogue*. The cross-references are generous and useful: it does not matter if the reader looks up Hunain ibn Ishaq or Johannitius, he gets the reference to the Isagoge in Galen's *Articella*, and there are interesting cross-references to autographs and notes by authors in other books. It would have been helpful if references to G. W. (where possible) or Hain numbers had been given to all *incunabula*: they are given in some instances, making exact identification easy with a minimum of verbiage: it would surely have been better to have been consistent. But it would be a pity to cavil over trifles, and in any case details of the *incunabula* can be found in Dr. Poynter's already-published catalogue. I take it that the present volume is the work of Dr. Poynter, although he is extremely reticent about it. It is a quite admirable catalogue, and the most valuable tool put into the hands of medical historians for a long time.

G. NEWMAN

Nicolás Bautista Monardes. Su vida y su obra [ca. 1493–1588], by F. GUERRA, México, distributed by Lathrop C. Harper and Department of the History of Medicine, Yale Univ. Publs. No. 41, 1961, pp. 226, 105 illus., \$12.50

At the beginning of the sixteenth century Spanish soldiers and merchants returning from the New World brought back with them plants and surprisingly accurate accounts of their medicinal use. It was not, however, inevitable that American drugs should have been accepted by the medical profession. Both medical tradition and popular suspicion were strong. In 1536 Monardes, in his *Pharmacodilosis*, showed distrust of the new exotic drugs which, he said, were probably collected at the wrong time and were old and corrupt. Timothy Bright in England in 1580 voiced similar dislike and much preferred wholesome English drugs. The epidemic nature of syphilis nevertheless encouraged experiment, and so guaiacum became popular, especially after the publication between 1517 and 1519 of the works of Poll and von Hutten. That Paracelsus opposed this remedy with mercury may have predisposed conservative physicians towards the new drugs which were at least not chemical. If they were not so disposed, Escluse and the Fuggers, who had a monopoly of guaiacum and feared for its sales, certainly did their best to persuade the medical profession to use it. More encouragement came with the books of Poll (1535) and Vesalius (1546); then in 1563 Garcia da Orta published in Goa his *Coloquios dos Simples e drogas . . . da India*. . . . Although da Orta, like Monardes, had been brought up on Dioscorides (and particularly admired Laguna's Annotations), this catalogue of exotics was something of a break with the past. At this point, as Dr. Guerra now clearly shows, Monardes set about producing his work on American plants, which was published