

University of Aberdeen

Special Libraries and Archives

The Medical Collections: The Leaves of Life

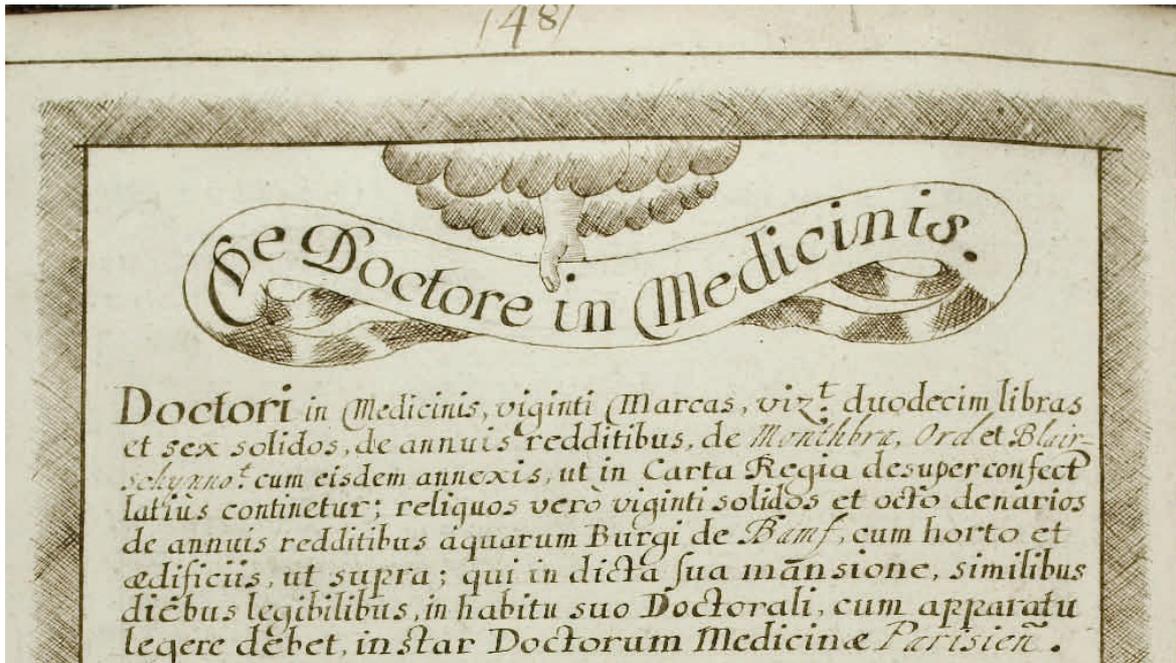


Hortus Sanitatis, Man mixing drugs, (Mainz: Meydenbach, 1491). Inc 3

An Information Document

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King's College Foundation Book, (1514). MSK 1, p.48

King's College, Aberdeen (established 1495), was the first English-speaking university to teach medicine. Thus, the University has been involved in medical teaching and collecting medical books, papers, and material objects for over five hundred years. It has also long been associated with major medical advances and discoveries.

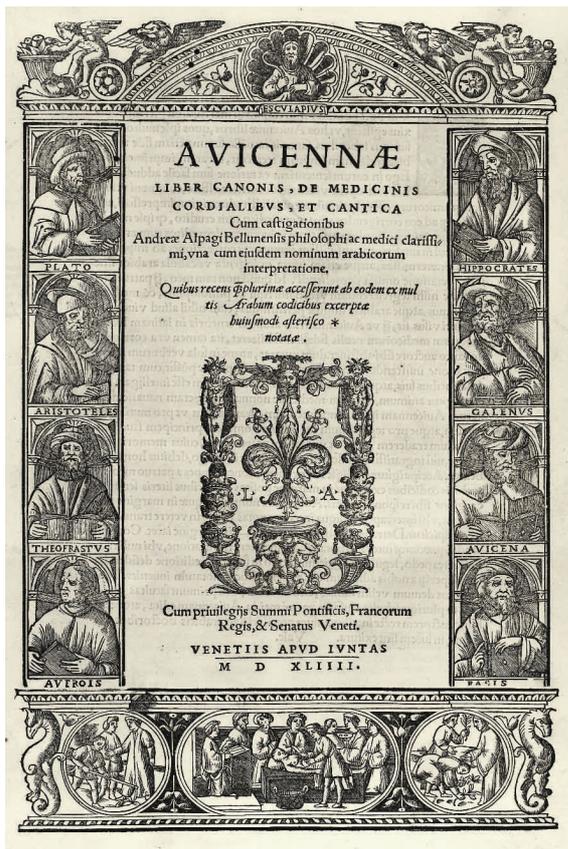
From its beginning, the University taught Medicine as well as Theology, Law and Arts. The King's College Foundation Book provides for a Doctor in Medicine to have a house and garden and a salary of £12 and six shillings per annum. Significantly, he was to be clothed like the medical doctors of the University of Paris, then the most eminent medical school in northern Europe, in which the first two "Mediciners" of Aberdeen had their education.

The first principal, Hector Boece, brought with him to Aberdeen a 1494 Paris edition of Marsilio Ficino's *De Triplici Vita* (Of Threefold Life). This audacious product of Renaissance Florence, the most advanced and speculative medical text of its day, contains a final section on the magical medicine of the ancients. Boece's signature, with his wonderful calligraphic knot floating like a balloon from the initial 'H', occurs twice on the opening pages and annotates the margins throughout the volume. Later notes on the endpapers confirm that the book passed into the possession of

Robert Gray, Mediciner from 1522 to the 1550s. In his hand we also have notes of medical preparations, such as parsley and camomile being used for the treatment of gallstones.

Other 15th century holdings include a 1462 copy of Bernard de Gordon's *Lilium Medicinae*¹, medical notes by an Aberdonian student at Paris², and a 1469 partial manuscript of the great Arabian physician and philosopher Avicenna's Canon³, as copied by a Scottish scribe. Among the early donations to the library of King's College is a magnificent folio of Avicenna, printed at Venice — that is, at the confluence of east and west — in 1544. The first Scottish medical publication, the 1568 *Ane Breve Descriptioun of the Pest* (plague), was by the early-modern Aberdonian Mediciner, Gilbert Skene.

The University's collection holds substantial material witnessing medical practice and medical belief from the eras before the Renaissance. Among the fragmentary texts which survive from the Mediterranean world of late antiquity are Papyrus 8, dating from the 2nd century, which is a fragment of Dioscorides' book on medicinal plants, *De Materia Medica*, and Papyrus 9, a fragment of a medical treatise of the first or second century, which may be part of one of the lost books of the gynaecologist Soranus of Ephesus.



Avicenna, *Liber canonis, de medicinis, cordialibus, et cantica* (Venice, 1544). *pi. f. 6102 avi 1, title page*

Papyrus 10 is an actual prescription from the first century, while Papyrus 11 consists of two fragments from a treatise on the eye.

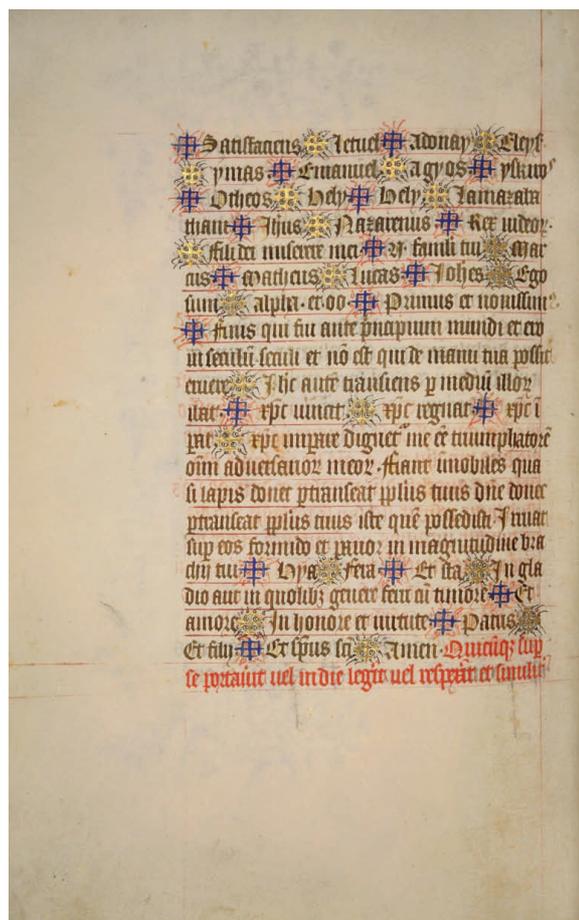
From the middle ages, we have a manuscript on vellum of devotional texts, illuminated in Flanders in the earlier 15th century, and known as *The Burnet Psalter* after its donor, the Marischal graduate Bishop Gilbert Burnet, adviser to King William III. Among its miscellaneous prayers and invocations are texts which themselves are magico-medical; in one case the very act of reading the page itself is a protection against physical or spiritual harm. In another, the invocation of the names of God is offered as a charm against plague:

These are the names of Our Lord, to guard against plague, for women in labour or whoever are afflicted by fire or water.

The strange layout of the page, with the stary crosses in gold between the names of power, emphasises the magical status of the words themselves.

Our holdings also include a unique book of enormous significance: a late 14th / early 15th - century compendium of medical receipts⁴, written principally in northern Middle English, which has yet to receive serious academic attention. As a piece of early vernacular scientific writing, it will be of undoubted interest to historians and linguists alike. There are five hands identifiable in the manuscript, several of them from the later sixteenth century, when the book was in the village of Brinkeley in Cambridgeshire. Its Elizabethan owners continued to add new recipes and cures and annotating the original ones, and the latest annotations seem to date from as late as the mid seventeenth century, thus suggesting that the manuscript was in actual use as a practical handbook for a period spanning nearly two centuries.

Another book which remained in use for a remarkable time is the *Hortus Sanitatis* (Garden of Health) printed at Mainz as early as 1491.

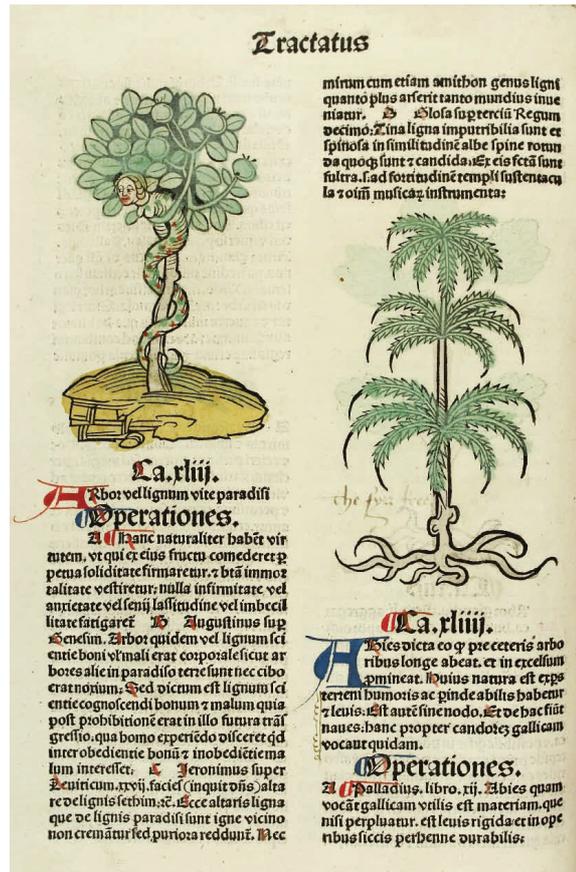


Burnet Psalter, showing magico-medical invocations of the names of God. MS 25, f. 67v

Notable for the exceptional hand-colouring of its numerous woodcut illustrations, the book runs through *materia medica* in the widest sense in which it was then understood including plants, herbs, animals, and fishes, and ends with a treatise on diagnosis by the appearance of the urine. This book appears to have spent the later sixteenth century in the Aberdeen area in the hands of the Ogilvy family, at which time it passed (as a gift from the Provost of Aberdeen) to a member of the expanded medical staff of the second of Aberdeen's University Colleges, Marischal College (founded in 1593.) By 1619, it was in the possession of "Georgius Pavius pharmacopus", that is, George Peacock, apothecary/pharmacist of Aberdeen, and possibly a Regent of Marischal College. Peacock writes beside all the coloured plates of medicinal plants their common Scots names thus indicating that the book formed part of a continuous process of pharmacological teaching stretching from 1492 until at least the 1620s.



Hortus Sanitatis, Doctors diagnosing by inspecting urine, (Mainz: Meydenbach, 1491). Inc 3



Hortus Sanitatis, page showing the Tree of life and a pin tree, annotated in Scots, (Mainz: Meydenbach, 1491). Inc 3

With the foundation of Marischal College in 1593, the city was unique in having two universities awarding degrees in medicine. Duncan Liddel (1561–1613) endowed Marischal College with his personal library. A professor of medicine, he had spent his working life in prestigious positions on the continent, latterly holding the chair of Medicine at Helmstedt in Saxony. Through Liddel's magnificent bequest (it includes the fine illustrated anatomy book of Andreas Vesalius, one of several which the University holds), the medical texts formed the foundation of the Marischal library with holdings representing the latest medical knowledge of the day. We have some of Liddel's own work including his thesis *Themata de Melancholia* (Helmstedt, 1596) and working notes for what was to become his *Opera Omnia*, his collected medical works, published at Lyon in 1624. Subsequently, his *Ars Conservandi sanitatem* (The Art of Preserving Health) was published at Aberdeen in 1651, the first major medical work to be published in the city. One of his Scottish pupils at Helmstedt, Patrick Dun, not only edited his tutor's *Ars Conservandi*, but was

himself the author of a 1621 dissertation on colic. The collection also includes his notebooks⁵.

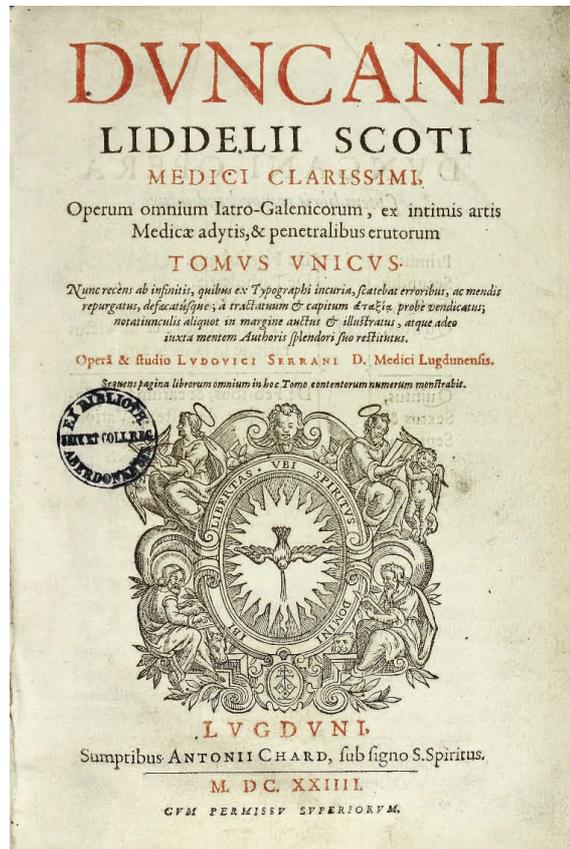


Andreas Vesalius, *De humani corporis fabrica libri septem* (Basel, Oporinus, 1543), anatomical plate, pi f. 611 Ves 1, p. 174

The 1630s and 1640s were a high-point of medical teaching in both Colleges: one witness to this is the petition of the Mediciner at King's, William Gordon (who was also celebrated as an alchemist), to the Privy Council in 1636, pleading to be allowed to have the bodies of criminals for dissection. Aberdeen's historical collections also hold a curious work on this topic: the Latin dissertation on the law relating to the corpses of executed criminals with which Sir Walter Scott sought admission to the Faculty of Advocates in 1792. The seventeenth-century library of Marischal College also held one of the most extraordinary achievements of European anatomical illustration: the *Catoptrum Microcosmicum* by Johannes Remmelin, published at Ausburg in 1619. The three illustrated plates of this book are a

complete course of anatomy for those who cannot themselves attend dissections — from the surface figures, flap after flap can be lifted to show what lies below the skin. At its deepest, there are 25 layers of anatomical engraving, an extraordinary achievement for the engraver and assembler of the book.

Both King's and Marischal Colleges (united in 1860 to form the modern University of Aberdeen) maintained close links with other early European universities, and Aberdeen students often continued their medical studies in Edinburgh, London, Paris, Leiden, and Utrecht. As a result of this exchange, the University's medical holdings are a rich resource for British and European medical history from the medieval through to the modern period.



Duncan Liddel, *Duncani Lidellii ... operum omnium* (Lyon: Chard, 1624). SB 6102 Lid O, title page

In the first two centuries of their existence, the Colleges collected medical books widely and discriminatingly. The great physicians of the Middle East are handsomely represented from the very beginning and Liddel's bequest includes a considerable corpus of Arabic medical writing in



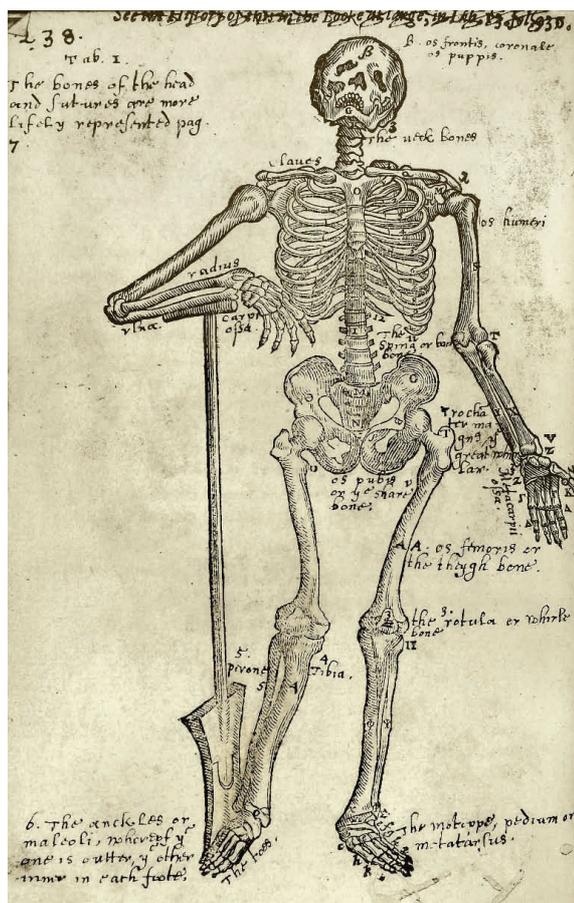
Johann Remmelin, *Catoptrum microcosmicum*. The anatomy of the male, folding anatomical plates (Augsburg: Franck, 1619). SB ff 61084 Rem

Latin translation. The collection ranges further: in 1682, within fifty years of the establishment of the first western residence in Beijing, Andreas Cleyer's *Specimen Medicinae Sinicae* (A Specimen of Chinese Medicine) was published in Frankfurt. Our copy is in pristine condition, and contains a compendious survey of traditional Chinese Medicine: diagnosis by pulse and appearance of tongue, diagrams of acupuncture points, and a list of Chinese *materia medica* with Latin translations. We also hold the English translation of the work of one of the Jesuits resident in China — J.B. du Halde's *A Description of the Empire of China and Chinese-Tartary*, published at London in 1738. There is much medical material here, including fine copper-engravings of medicinal plants and herbs.

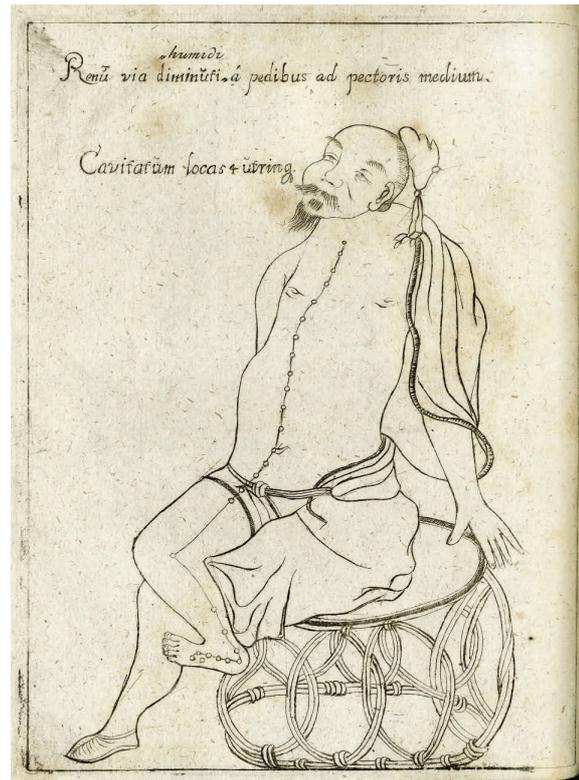
From the other side of the world, Dr Jonathan Troup's illustrated record of his 1788-c.1791⁶ residence in the Caribbean is set down in a dashaway style which gives an extraordinary feeling of immediacy to his jotted sentences and his hasty drawings of the passing moment — an

island seen from the sea, the movement of clouds, figures in a dance. Of the greatest interest are his notes on medical practice among the enslaved Africans of Dominica, of which this journal offers an intimate view. Marischal College also led the English-speaking world by being the first institution of higher learning to offer medical degrees to Jews as early as the 1730s. The later history of the Colleges and the University is enriched by the achievements of many distinguished Jewish doctors.

A very strong feature of medicine and the sciences at Aberdeen is the establishment of scientific dynasties. The Reids, large-scale donors of books, were major figures in the development of the University in the early seventeenth century. Alexander Reid, a well-known surgeon, gave his scientific (mostly medical) books to King's. Many of these survive, with his meticulous annotations. We have his copy of the prized English version of Nicolaus Monardes' treatise on the herbs of



Alexander Reid, *Somatographia Anthropine; or, a Description of the Body of Man*. Copy marked up and annotated by the author in preparation for the second (1634) edition, (London: Jaggard, 1616). pi 611 Rea



Andreas Cleyer, *Specimen medicinae Sinicae*, plates 21 and 22: diagram of acupuncture points, (Frankfurt: Zubrodt, 1662). HN 1 49

North America: *Joyfull Newes out of the New Found World*, (translated into English in 1577), in which he is interested above all in two purgative plants, mechocoan, from central America, and sassafras. Seventeenth-century medical theory stressed the importance of purgation; it is clear from his marginalia that good, safe, purgatives are the most highly valued of possible additions to his repertory.

Another immensely important medical family, the Gregorys, held numerous medical and scientific posts in the Colleges of Aberdeen. Key figures in this family include David Gregory (1661–1708), mathematician and astronomer, John Gregory (1724–1773), physician and pioneer of modern bio-ethics, and James Gregory (1753–1821), physician and inventor of 'Gregory's Mixture'. The personal and professional papers of approximately 20 members of this internationally renowned scientific family are now held in Special Libraries and Archives.⁷ This collection of more than 70 manuscript volumes reflects the family's outstanding record of sustained academic achievement over the period 1582–1912, a point underlined by the fact that no fewer than 16 professors emerged from within it in five genera-

tions. It includes lecture notes from Aberdeen, Edinburgh, St Andrews and Oxford; physicians' case notes and accounts; addresses to the Edinburgh Medico-Chirurgical Society; personal correspondence, diplomas and personalia; and medical treatises by family members and contemporaries including Alexander Monro (1697–1767), William Cullen (1710–1790), Sir John Leslie (1766–1832), and Sir William Edmond Logan (1798–1875). We also hold a copy of Gerard's *Herball* which belonged to three members of the Gregory family: James, David and a later James. This is a most evocative volume with medical memoranda scribbled on the flyleaves and grasses and flowers pressed in the text pages which describe them. The Gregory copy of Gerard is the beginning of a tradition of *horti sicci* (pressed flower collections) of which our finest example is that of Professor William Knight, a collection made at Marischal in the early nineteenth century. Many of its specimens come from the Physic Garden attached to the College.

The University collections hold a variety of medical students' notebooks from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. They illustrate the internationalism of the student body, and the extent

of Aberdeen's involvement with an international community of learning. The most important of these is a rare 10-volume set of manuscript notes of the course of lectures of the Leiden professor, Herman Boerhaave (1668–1738), widely regarded as the first great clinical teacher. Preliminary investigations of these notebooks suggest that alongside the medical aphorisms for recognising and curing diseases there are authentic case studies by Boerhaave himself. This manuscript⁸ not only embodies Boerhaave's ideas in



John Stuart, 3rd Earl of Bute and 8th Chancellor of Marischal College.
Oil Painting by William Mosman (1763). ABDUA 30028

their maturity but also documents the moment of their transmission, a witness to the birth of scientific medicine in Europe.

There are also many small collections — typically between one and ten volumes — with detailed and varied medical content, created by, or under instruction from, significant medical figures of international stature. These span a wide period and an equally wide variety of medical interests.

In addition to those already mentioned, they include Isbrandus de Diemerbroeck (1609–1674)⁹, John Hope (1725–1786)¹⁰, George Fordyce (1736–1802)¹¹, Alexander Gordon (1752–1799)¹², and Sir John Forbes (1787–1861)¹³. These consist of a wide range of medical lecture notes from the 17th to 19th centuries, and original manuscripts of seminal medical texts such as Monro's *A treatise of comparative anatomy or the dissection of the bodies of terrestrial, arial and aqueous animals* (1720)¹⁴, and Alexander Gordon's *Treatise on the epidemic puerperal fever of Aberdeen* (1795)¹⁵. A much larger medical donation was that made by John Stuart, Third Marquess of Bute and Chancellor of Marischal College, in 1782 when he gave 1300 volumes from the library of Sutton Hoo.

Aberdeen played a significant part in the scientific revolution of the eighteenth century. William Small, who gained his degree at Aberdeen (by attestation, as was typical), became professor of natural philosophy at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia, where he taught Thomas Jefferson and became acquainted with Benjamin Franklin. Health considerations then took him back to Europe, where he settled in Birmingham, becoming a founding member of the famous Lunar Society and an early supporter of James Watt. Eighteenth-century Aberdeen was an important centre of the Scottish Enlightenment. Some of the most significant figures in the movement were physicians and polymaths, such as David Skene (1731–1770)¹⁶, whose voluminous medical case notes provide wonderful detail for medical historians, particularly in the field of obstetrics and gynaecology. These are supplemented by a considerable volume of writings on improvements in medical delivery, including proposals, from c. 1758, for the establishment of a certificated training programme in midwifery for the country areas of Aberdeen. His other personal papers provide a full and engaging account of his intellectual and leisure interests. Viewed alongside the papers of his contemporaries, such as fellow Aberdeen Philosophical Society members, Thomas Reid (1710–1796)¹⁷ and James Beattie (1735–1803)¹⁸, the whole collection offers extensive scope for multi-disciplinary research, collaboration and re-interpretation.

But the eighteenth century is also the age of the development of intercontinental trade. One of the University's most humanly engaging medical documents is the casebook of Robert Wilson (1787–1871), Marischal graduate, surgeon to the East India Company and traveller through 'almost every country which has emblazoned the page of sacred or profane history, from Carthage to the Indus'¹⁹. In his youth, as a surgeon employed aboard a series of East India Company ships in 1806 and 1807, Wilson made a vivid collection of notes on individual cases which takes the reader straight into the world of Patrick O'Brien's fictional Stephen Maturin. We read, for example, of Mr Wilson amputating a seaman's leg at three AM in the middle of a storm:

'[he] was employed during the raging of a storm in furling the Foresail, when his knee was unluckily jammed between the Yard and Mast. At 3 o'clock in the morning I was called up, on examination found a mass of lacerated muscles & pieces of Bone, with a great effusion of blood from the popliteal artery ...'

Wilson reports scrupulously on the man's progress, and is able finally to report on October 30, 'Constructed a wooden leg for him, which he made use of today with great ease.' In an uncharacteristic moment of self-congratulation, he adds, 'I have reason to be proud of having formed so good a stump under the existing circumstances. At the time of operating there was no expert assistants, no steady Table, no per-

pendicular light, but a ship aggitated by a heavy gale of wind.'

His vivid medical journal offers continual insight into the real world of the four-masters:

A violent gust of wind took the ship aback and carried away the three topmasts. This man with three others was handing the main topgalantsail. In his fall he struck the main Top and fractured three of his Ribs [tore] away his Thumb and forefinger & from thence fell forty feet upon the iron piston of a Pompe, which nearly went through the midle of his Thigh.'

Four months later, Wilson is able to write 'a complete cure is now effected'.

Another fascinating set of eighteenth-century case-notes in the Aberdeen collections relates to the practice of David Skene. He has left us a variety of material, including an alphabetical list of the medicaments available to him, which give an interesting insight into the pharmacopoeia of the eighteenth-century doctor. His casebooks indicate his willingness to experiment and to be persuaded. One of the most interesting of his sets of notes is on inoculation against smallpox, then a comparatively recent development — it was introduced to England in the 1720s by Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, who encountered the practice in Turkey.²⁰

15
Henry Harris

Seaman Attatis 34 of a strong Athletic Habit
Was employed during the raging of a storm, in furling the Foresail, when his knee was unluckily jammed between the Yard, and Mast. At 3 o'clock in the morning, I was called up, and on examination found a mass of lacerated muscles & pieces of Bone, with a great effusion of blood from the popliteal artery; Applied the Tourniquet to the femoral artery which suppressed the hemorrhagy, and after washing the wound with a sponge & warm Water, I found the end of the thigh bone, the knee pan, and the head of the tibia, crushed to pieces, with a separation of the largest blood vessels and muscles. My Patient was in very great pain, and requested that his limb might be taken off immediately, as it was then blowing a heavy gale of wind I deferred the operation until 9 A.M.

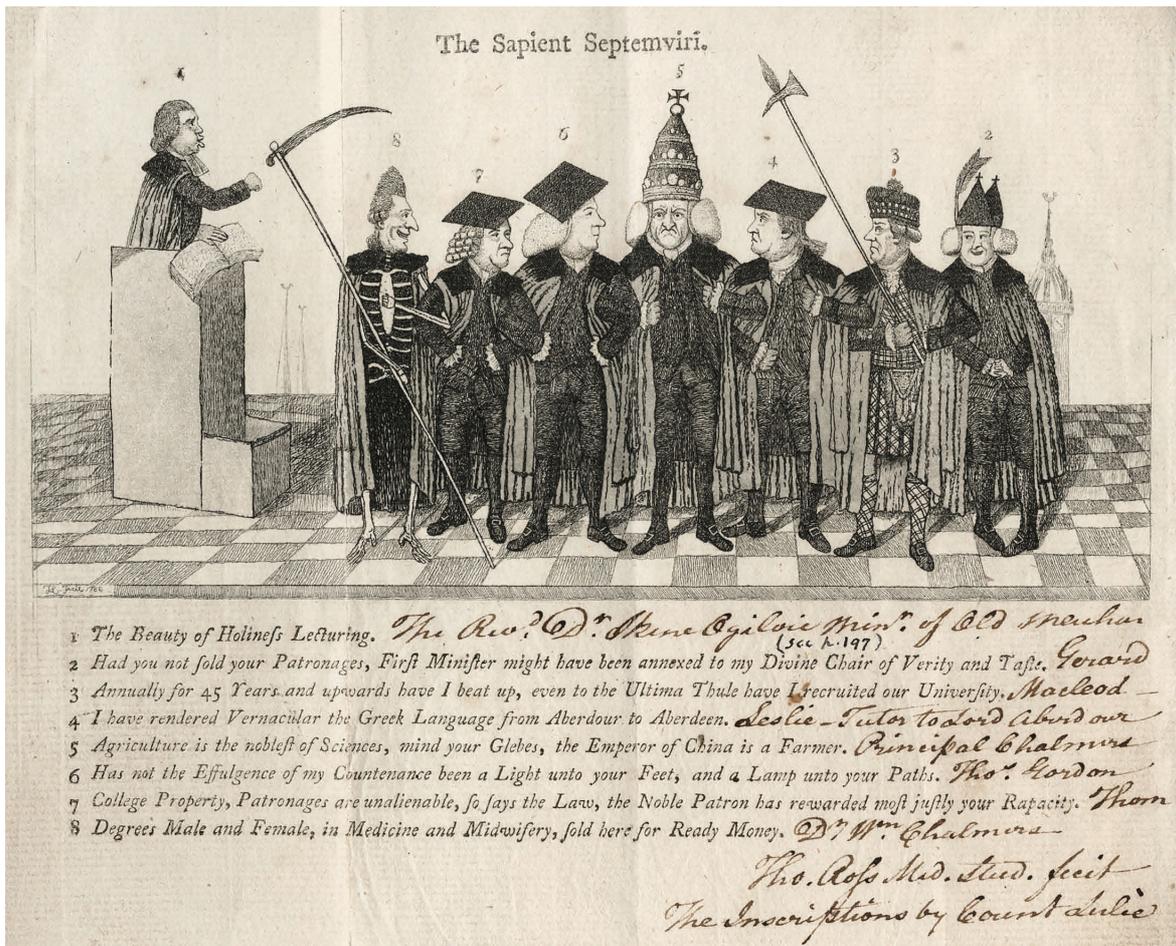
The account of the aforementioned amputation. From the papers of Robert Wilson (1787-1871). MS 430.

On Friday May 19 1769 I inoculated William and Peter Forbes of a slight scratch in left arm. Wm. was 4 5/12 years old and of a healthy habit and clear complexion ... Peter agd 3 5/12 yrs very thin but healthy except an athsmatic tendency ... Observations. It is now 14 days since sickening & 12 since the Eruption — the pox on W. face begin to set down on the 9 or 10 since Inoculation those on body & extremities are scarce begun.'

The little boy's progress through his illness is thus seen to match the classic march of full-blown smallpox, with which Skene was evidently all too familiar. He had been somewhat hesitant about inoculating the less-robust Peter, but records that he did so at the parents' insistence, an indication of the extent to which medical advances were seized upon by the patient community. Both children, attended daily by Dr Forbes, recovered. Looking back on their progress, he notes, with legitimate pride, 'Since the year 1753 I have inoculated & attended Thirty two Patients. None of them have died.'

Another area in which the eighteenth century affected a quiet revolution was in the management of childbirth. The Scottish universities were early in their support both of a scientific approach to gynaecology, and of women training as doctors. In a satirical print from 1786, *The Sapient Septemviri* (King's College council), the current holder of the oldest medical post in Britain offers dubious "Degrees male and female in Medicine and Midwifery, sold here for ready Money". Women were not in fact taking degrees at Aberdeen in the 1780s; the reality reflected in this distorting mirror is that of the university-trained male midwife, Alexander Gordon (1752–1799), the first man to train in Aberdeen specifically as an *accoucheur*. His treatise on puerperal fever (post-natal sepsis) was a turning point in the understanding of this condition, which killed untold numbers of new mothers throughout Europe.

Aberdeen continued to contribute to medical advances in the nineteenth century, as well as turn-



John Kay, printed caricature, 'The Sapient Septemviri'. Detail of the Doctor (Dr William Chalmers—no.8— is the mediciner in question), (1786).
ABDUA 30603



J.J.R. Macleod, 1923 Nobel Prize Medal in Physiology or Medicine. ABDUA 31289

ing out large numbers of doctors, many of whom worked abroad. The medical course was entirely overhauled in the nineteenth century, so that by 1880 the entire course was taught by tenured specialists, in sharp contrast to the practice elsewhere. The Aberdonian Patrick Manson (1844–1922) made a major contribution to world medicine by identifying microscopic worms (*microfilariae*) as the root cause of elephantiasis, and mosquitoes as the vector. This disease was so called from the grotesque swelling of lower extremities which characteristically results from infection, and was one of the tropical world's most disfiguring and disabling ailments. His passionate devotion to bringing the endemic diseases of hot countries under control led him to become one of the founders of the Hong Kong School of Medicine, and ultimately also of the London School of Tropical Medicine.

Another interesting development of the nineteenth century was that medical students from what were then Colonies came to Aberdeen to study; these included students from India, Hong Kong, and black students from Barbados, Mauritius and Africa. Conversely, Aberdeen supplied Africa with one of the most distinguished medical missionaries to follow in Dr Livingstone's footsteps, Robert Laws of Malawi (1851–1934). He worked in northern Malawi and north-eastern Zambia from 1875 to 1927. He was active, after the First World War, in supporting the formation of the 'native associations' which later became

the Nyasaland African National Congress. His daughter Amelia Laws (1886–1978) was a nurse in the First World War — her compendious and vivid correspondence describing her experiences are in the collection, including an account of an early attempt at reconstructing a shattered knee using bones from a calf.²¹ She later qualified as a doctor and practised as an osteopath in London and Edinburgh into her nineties.

The modern University has educated or employed a number of distinguished physicians since the Colleges merged in 1860, including J.J.R. Macleod, holder of the 1923 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his participation in the discovery of insulin. The early works of Hans Kosterlitz, who rose to the position of Professor and Head of the Department of Pharmacology, 1968–73, focused on clinical radiology, galact-



Mary Esslemont and colleagues from the British Medical Association on a visit to Russia as guests of the Soviet Ministry of Health and the Academy of Medical Sciences, August 1956. MS 3179

semia and nutrition. It was through his later research on the autonomic nervous system and narcotic drugs that he achieved worldwide acclaim. His discovery, in 1975, of enkephalins earned him fellowship of the Royal Society in 1978, and revolutionised research into the effects of addictive drugs on humans.

Robert Douglas Lockhart's *Anatomy of the Human Body* (London: Faber, 1959) was a landmark medical text, providing medical students with clear narrative and accompanying illustrations in a single volume for the first time. It was quickly adopted as a standard teaching text and republished many times and translated into four languages. It would be no exaggeration to say that it took over from *Gray's Anatomy* as the standard twentieth-century teaching text. One of the most distinguished women doctors trained at Aberdeen in the twentieth century was Mary Esslemont, the only woman among the team of doctors which negotiated the foundation of the National Health Service with the then Minister of Health, Aneurin Bevan, and was a tireless campaigner for social and medical justice worldwide.²² Her achievement is something of a summary of the wide-ranging, innovative and liberal tradition of the oldest medical foundation in the English-speaking world.

In short, for over five hundred years, the University of Aberdeen has regarded the study of medicine as a core element of its intellectual pursuits. It has recruited 'mediciners' at the cutting edge of their profession, and contributed significantly to the history of medical research. It has sent doctors all over the world; conversely, it has received medical books, material objects, and students from every continent. This ancient tradition is now being carried forward into a new millennium. The University's ongoing commitment to medicine is witnessed by our new Institute of Medical Sciences and plans for a new medical teaching facility and learning facility. At the same time, the conservation, study and appropriate display of our historical collection are important aspects of our plans for the future.



Duncan Liddel, brass in St Nicholas Kirk, Aberdeen.

MANUSCRIPT HOLDINGS AS INDICATED IN THE TEXT

1. MS 255: Bernard de Gordon's *Lilium Medicinae*, 1462
2. MS 256: William Humphrey's medical notes, c. 1461-1499
3. MS 259: Partial manuscript copy of Avicenna's *Canon*, 1469
4. MS 258: Compendium of medical receipts, late 14th/early 15th century
5. MS 113, MS 119: Patrick Dun's notebooks, 1595-1611
6. MS 2070: Journal of Dr Jonathan Troup's residence in the Caribbean, 1788-1790
7. MS 2206: The Gregory family papers, 16th-19th centuries
8. MS 2127: Herman Boerhaave (1668-1738), lecture notes, Leiden, 1734
9. MS 2206/3: Isbrandus de Diemerbroeck (1609-1674), lecture notes, 17th century
10. MS 564: John Hope (1725-1786), lecture notes, 18th century
11. MS 505, MS 2872: George Fordyce (1736-1802), lecture notes, 18th century
12. MS 636, MS 643, MS 645, MS 646: Alexander Gordon (1752-1799), lecture notes and papers, 18th century
13. MS 2908: Sir John Forbes (1787-1861), medical case notes, 1817-1821
14. MS 2206/31: Alexander Monro's *A treatise of comparative anatomy or the dissection of the bodies of terrestrial, arial and aqueous animals*, 1720
15. MS 632: Alexander Gordon's *Treatise on the epidemic puerperal fever of Aberdeen*, 1795
16. MS 37-MS 40, MS 471-MS 483, MS 540: David Skene (1731-1770), papers
17. MS 2131, MS 3061: Thomas Reid (1710-1796), papers
18. MSM 185, MS 186, MS 187, MSM 405, MS 30-MS 53, MS 555, MS 2065, MS 2901, MS 3256, MS 3294, MS 3486, MS 3522: James Beattie (1735-1803), papers
19. MS 430-MS 432: Robert Wilson (1787-1871), ship's surgeon's logbooks, 1805-c.1809
20. MS 476: David Skene's notes on inoculation against smallpox, 1796
21. MS 3290: Amelia Laws (1886-1978), correspondence within Laws family collection
22. MS 3179: Mary Esslemont (1891-1984), papers