

Book Reviews

teenth century almost as much as Darwin dominated English biology in the same period. Müller specially directed attention to the rich results yielded by careful microscopic research, and for more than fifty years after his death Germany remained supreme in this department.

Among Müller's students were Henle, Schwann, Helmholtz, Max Schultze, Remak, Du Bois-Reymond, Haeckel, Virchow. It would be impossible to enumerate here his discoveries, for in his great working years he issued an important paper or book at the rate of one a month. We may mention his doctrine of specific nerve energy, his work on the eyes of insects, his fruitful comparison of the double nerve cord of many invertebrates to the sympathetic system of vertebrates, his correct placing of Amphioxus and of the Cyclostomes in the vertebrate lineage, his discovery of the Lymph-hearts of Amphibia, his many writings on the Echinoderms and fishes, and on the structure and working of the organ of voice in man and animals.

Müller was not physically a large man but he had a magnificent, even an heroic bearing. His attitude to life was one of dignified and lofty asceticism, and he approached his labours as to a prophetic call. He died quite suddenly and unexpectedly in his sleep when at the very height of his powers. Despite rumours to the contrary, it is most improbable that he took his own life.

It is pleasant to recall here that this great man was particularly interested in the history of science. He solved the problem of Aristotle's 'placental shark' and showed once and for all that there really is such a creature and that it really has a placenta. Professor Koller's account of him is a handy, well-arranged, convenient and simply written little volume and is well worth translation. Its author has hit upon a particularly good and graphic method of indicating his hero's contemporaries which deserve imitation.

CHARLES SINGER

BOOKS RECEIVED

ARETAEUS, CAPPADOX. [*Opera.*] Edidit C. Hude. Editio altera . . . correcta . . . indicibus . . . aucta. [*Corpus Medicorum Graecorum II.*] Berlin. [Deutsche Akademie der Wissenschaften.] 1958. pp. xxvii, 277.

Publication of the series, *Corpus Medicorum Graecorum*, was interrupted by the war and has now been resumed under the auspices of the Deutsche Akademie der Wissenschaften. The first edition of the works of Aretaeus was published in 1923.

GLASSER, OTTO. *Dr. W. C. Röntgen.* (Second edition.) Springfield, Ill.: C. C. Thomas, Oxford; Blackwell Scientific Publications. [1958.] pp. vi, 1 I., 169. Illustrated. 34s.

The text of the first (1945) edition has been revised to include recent information on Röntgen and the early history of radiology. Improvements have been made in a number of the illustrations. Translations are provided of Röntgen's three papers on his experiments with X-rays. A list of his scientific papers, a chronology of his life, and a bibliography of source material on Röntgen are given in the appendices.