

different stages in the long-drawn-out quarrels over status. If “vagabond” and “charlatan” are all-purpose accusations, was it just Lange who moved against Jews and renegade monks?

The collection as a whole is to be welcomed: but two minor complaints to end. Nutton writes in the Preface that he has taken the opportunity to correct some minor typographical errors and to add a small selection of references to more recent work. There are no problems on the second score: but the number of misprints that remain is distracting. The article on the city physician in classical antiquity and medieval Italy is particularly disfigured and in some cases the meaning is affected. For “text” on page 21, for instance, read “tax” and for “lectors” in note 46 “electors”, and if “fahter” on page 30 is just bad luck, to have Lancelot Browne, in the Caius article, called the father of William Harvey will throw the reader until the Harvey article itself reveals the missing ‘in-law’.

Secondly the usefulness of the collection would have been substantially increased if it had been provided not just with the—fairly full—Index Nominum, but also with an index of passages and documents and indeed a subject index. These papers explore a rich set of themes—far richer than I can indicate here—to do with doctors’ salaries, conditions of work, prestige, travels, public debates and contests, relations with others from Emperors to drug-sellers, and much more. But while the Index Nominum helps the reader to follow up the prosopography of ancient and medieval medicine, no equivalent subject index is supplied which would allow quick cross-referencing to these and other themes.

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The first report on researches into the medieval hospital at Soutra, Lothian region, SHARP (Soutra Hospital Archaeoethnopharmacological Research Project) Practice 1, Edinburgh, SHARP, 1987, 4to, pp. 129, illus., £6.50 (incl. UK p&p), from SHARP, 3rd floor flat eastmost, 36 Hawthornvale, Edinburgh EH6 4JN.

It has long been the hope of medical and social historians that general observations on the nature of poverty and disease in the Middle Ages should be tested through a series of local studies of hospitals. Such studies, a number of which have been produced in recent years for France and Italy, are only in their infancy in this country. Writing the history of hospitals is rendered especially difficult by the fact that only an interdisciplinary approach can adequately explore the nature of such multi-functional institutions. The skills needed for a combined study of documentary and archaeological evidence which pertains to the religious, medical, administrative, and financial aspects of hospital life are many, and can be most effectively deployed through team work. In making an integrated approach their aim, the early announcements of SHARP, the group set up to excavate and study Soutra Hospital in the Lothian, boded well for the future.

The First Report on progress includes a general introduction to the project’s aims and to existing literature on English hospitals, a survey of evidence on medical practices in hospitals, two sections on medical practitioners, discussion of medicinal materials and their use, and a description of Soutra’s site and environment. There are also two appendices: one on Soutra as a leper house, the excavation of the site, a geophysical survey of the site, and a summary of documents concerning the hospital; and another on the structure and funding of the project, and its members’ academic qualifications.

The contents, however, in no way live up to expectations. Among the summaries of such classics as R. M. Clay’s *The medieval hospitals of England*, and the occasional citation of examples from hospital life gleaned from the published cartularies of other hospitals, little can be found that is truly useful. Work has not yet begun on the excavation of the site, where the group could have produced new insights. On the other hand, among the reports on those preliminary examinations which have been executed, the *Geoscan* report is obscured by highly technical terminology, and little is done to integrate the photographic analyses of the site within the framework of an historical study.

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Soutra is no doubt an interesting site, and careful archaeological examination of the remains of its pits may produce, as suggested by SHARP, knowledge of the foods and medicines used by its staff and inmates. For the moment, however, the *First report* on Soutra indicates that the necessary balance between academic skills, ambitious objectives, imagination, and interpretative ability has yet to be struck.

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HELMUT HEINTEL and BRIGITTE HEINTEL, *Franz Joseph Gall Bibliographie*, Stuttgart, [The authors], 1985, 8vo, pp. 41, illus., [no price stated]; HELMUT HEINTEL, *Leben und Werk von Franz Joseph Gall, eine Chronik*, Würzburg, [The author], 1986, 8vo, pp. 39, illus., [no price stated], (paperback); *idem*, *Spuren Franz Joseph Galls (1758–1828) in Europa*, Alzey, [The author], 1987, [no price stated], (unpaginated pamphlet). Inquiries to Professor Helmut Heintel, MD, Head, Department of Clinical Neurophysiology, Bürgerhospital, Tunzhofer Str. 14–16, 7000 Stuttgart 1, FRG.

There are few historians of medical neurology and psychology who have difficulty these days in taking Franz Joseph Gall seriously. Tendencies prominent among an earlier breed of medical historians to denounce or ridicule the Austrian anatomist as pseudo-scientist, circus charlatan or both, have long since given way to a wide range of serious attempts both to assess Gall's intellectual role in the history of modern neurological thinking, and to analyse the significance of his theory of brain functioning as social ideology. All the more surprising, then, that the man Gall himself remains relatively obscure: a definitive biography of his life, times, and work has yet to be written.

Helmut Heintel has not produced that biography, but the importance of what he has done should not for that reason be underestimated. Working in partial collaboration with Brigitte Heintel, he has compiled a painstakingly comprehensive bibliography of Gall's writings, reconstructed Gall's professional life year by year through hints from both published and unpublished source material, and generally identified all key archival centres and buildings in some way relevant to Gall's biography. The historian who finally settles down to writing the life story of the nineteenth-century founder of organology (or "phrenology") will find ample reason to be grateful to the Heintels for the preparatory spadework available in these slim works.

I was pleased by Heintel's decision to enliven the chronicle, and otherwise somewhat dry list of comings and goings, with judicious citations from letters and other texts. Best of all are the moments when one is permitted—however briefly—to hear Gall speaking in his own voice, or to catch a glimpse of his human face through the preserved commentaries of contemporaries.

At the same time, many readers may find the Heintels' bibliographical efforts ultimately more helpful than the chronicle. The editors' aim was to construct a list of everything that Gall, either alone or with his co-worker Spurzheim, ever wrote and/or published. They include not only painfully precise citations to all existing editions and translations of major works, but also references to a wide range of isolated letters and collected correspondences.

One problem with the Heintel works is their extremely limited availability (100 copies of the bibliography, 60 of the chronicle)—understandable on financial grounds, but somewhat frustrating on practical ones. Still, it is hard to believe that any serious researcher on the historical search for the real Franz Joseph Gall would be seriously discouraged by the slight inconvenience and extra effort necessary for tracking down copies of these useful works.

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