

After a buffet luncheon at the Men's Faculty Club of Columbia University the afternoon session was devoted to reports on current scholarship in the following fields: French, History, Fine Art, Slavics, Music, English. These will be published in an early issue of Renaissance News along with the usual Treasurer's report, etc.

Participants at the meeting included such well known figures as Paul Kristeller, Gustave Reese, Felix Gilbert, E. Lowinsky, W.G. Constable, M.A. Shaaber and John H. Randall, Jr. Reports were witty and often devastating. Do you know what 'Wedding Cake criticism' is? You put the book under your pillow and dream on it overnight!

Victor Graham



BIBLIOGRAPHY OF ITALIAN VERSE

Mr. J.A. Molinaro and Miss Diane Dyer of the Department of Italian and Hispanic Studies are preparing a bibliography of Italian verse collections (from 1500 to 1800) in the Rare Book Room of the University of Toronto. Among some of the more interesting items are: Girolamo Benivieni, Opera (Venetia, 1522) with a commentary on one of his poems by Giovanni Pico della Mirandola; two editions of Petrarch's Rime with the commentary of Alessandro Vellutello (Venetia, 1550 and 1563); other editions of Petrarch by Girolamo Ruscelli (Venetia, 1554) and another edited by Ludovico Castelvetro (Basilea, 1582). There is a sixteenth-century anthology of Italian verse compiled by Girolamo Ruscelli entitled Rime di diversi eccellenti autori bresciani (Venetia, 1554) and a first edition of Luca Contile, Rime (Venetia, 1560).

J.A. Molinaro



LEONARDO'S TRATTATO DELLA PITTURA AT THE PONTIFICAL INSTITUTE

In addition to the Italian materials described in the last Bulletin by Paul Grendler, the Institute of Mediaeval Studies also has the first edition of Leonardo da Vinci's Trattato della pittura. Printed by Langlois in Paris in 1651, it is a handsome folio, edited by Raphael Trichet du Fresne and dedicated to Queen Christine of Sweden.

Sybille Pantazzi

The Center for Reformation and Renaissance Studies at Victoria University, University of Toronto, is starting an offprint library. Offprints on any subject in the period 1400-1700 will be much appreciated.



THE T.G.H. DRAKE COLLECTION AT THE TORONTO ACADEMY OF MEDICINE

The T.G.H. Drake Collection, bequeathed to the Toronto Academy of Medicine (288 Bloor West) in 1961, is one of the best of its kind in the world. The late

Dr. Drake brought together 3000 antiques and 1500 rare books (about 150 of them printed before 1700) related to pediatrics and the rearing of young children. Actually the range of this extraordinary collection is wide. It will appeal to anyone interested in the history of medicine and surgery, of women, of poor-relief and foundling hospitals; and to anyone wishing to investigate the psychological and cultural vistas opened by Philippe Aries in his fascinating Centuries of Childhood, A Social History of Family Life.

One category of books in the Drake Collection concerns childbirth, the art of the midwife, and problems of conception. In Italian is La Commare, by G.S. Mercurio (d. 1616); and there are French treatises by Jacques Du Val (Traité des hermaphrodites et des accouchemens, Rouen, 1612), Jacques Guillemeau (d. 1613), and the eminent François Mauriceau (d. 1709). For the English midwife, Guillemeau's treatise was translated into English as Childbirth or the happy delivery of women (1635), and such works as The English midwife enlarged (1682) were printed. Three works deserve special mention. One is a little French Life of Saint Margaret, the patron saint of women in childbirth. According to Rabelais, women kept such a book with them while in labour. Another is Damian Carbon's Libro del arte de las Comadres o madrinass, beautifully printed in 1541 on the island of Majorca where this physician and admirer of Erasmus lived. It has on its flyleaves some itemized accounts in a 16th-century Spanish hand. Finally, one midwife -- Louise Bourgeois -- spoke up for herself. This midwife to the royal family published in the early 17th century her Observations diverses sur la sterilité..accouchements et maladies des femmes, including instructions to her daughter, whom she had trained in this profession.

Another theme running through many of these works is the wet-nurse, about whom a controversy had raged since at least the fifteenth century. Both Scaevole de Sainte Marthe and Luigi Tansillo (d. 1568) wrote poems on this subject, Tansillo's La balia being first printed in the 18th century. The most interesting book here is the Countesse of Lincolnes Nursery (Oxford, 1622). The Puritan Elizabeth Clinton*, Countess of Lincoln, repenting that she had not nursed her own children, criticized the use of a wet-nurse on both Biblical and natural grounds.

A large number of books in the Drake Collection are medical studies of the diseases of childhood and regimens for the health of children, or at least have sections devoted to these subjects. Relevant editions of several classical and Arabic authors are included, such as Galen (Lyons, 1548-9); Celsus (Venice, 1493; Basel, 1551); Paulus Aegineta, edited by Guillaume Cop, who learned his Greek from Erasmus (Paris, 1512, Basel, 1532); Rhazes (Venice, 1508); Avicenna (Basel, 1556); and Avenzoar (Venice, 1496). Similarly, one can find Latin works on these topics written by, or collected by, such Renaissance physicians as the Italians Paulo Bagellardo and Girolamo Mercuriali; the Frenchmen Pierre Tolet and Jean Liebault; the Germans Sebastian Oestereichen and Ioannes Curio; and the Flemish Balduinus Ronsseus (the very rare first edition of his De hominis primordiis hystericisque affectibus centones, Louvain, 1559). At the same time, certain physicians began to write regimens in the vernacular, dedicating them often to a woman. Such are Bartholomaeus Metlinger's Ein Regiment der jungen Kinder (Augsburg, 1473) and Heinrich von Louffenburg's Ein regiment der Gesundheit Fur die jungen Kinder (1550). Simon de Vallambert, physician to the Duchess of Savoy, boasted that his De la maniere de nourrir et gouverner les enfans (Poitiers, 1565) was the first such work

* Thanks to E.E. Rose for information about Elizabeth's religion.

in French, although Claude Valgelas had translated Jerome de Monteux' Conservation de la santé, which included pediatric material, from the Latin six years earlier. Thomas Phaer's The Regiment of Life...with the boke of children, which went through many editions after its first appearance in 1545 (the Drake Collection has four 16th-century editions), attacks those who grudge "physicke to come forth in English." Do they want to be "marchauntes of our lives and deathes, that we should buy our health only of them and at their prices?"

Some of the books in the Drake Collection stress the educational rather than the physical side of child-rearing. Among these are Thomas Elyot's The boke named the governor in the 1553 edition and John Locke's Some thoughts concerning education (1693 ed.). There are two tracts on geniuses--Baillet's Des enfants devenus celebres par leurs études (1688) and the anonymous Miraculous child...from Manchester...how one Charles Bennet...but three years old doth speak Latine, Greek and Hebrew (1679). An important work by Juan de Dios Huarte y Navarro (d. 1592) is here--The examination of mens wits in which, by discovering the varietie of natures, is shewed for what profession each one is apt, translated from the Italian, which in turn Camello Camilli had translated from the Spanish (the University Library has facsimiles of the Spanish and English editions). One of the most charming books in the Collection is Les jeux et plaisirs de l'enfance (1657), designed by Jacques Stella and engraved by his young niece Claudine Bouzounet Stella.

Finally, mention should be made of the numerous works on foundling hospitals in the Library. These include primary or secondary source material on hospitals in London, Paris, Toulouse, Lyons, Dijon, and Tarascon among other cities, and in Italy and Germany. John Graunt's Natural and political observations...made upon the bills of mortality (1676 ed.) is included in a copy evidently owned by his fellow Political Arithmetician William Petty.

Natalie Z. Davis



EARLY FARMING MANUALS IN THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

(a) Ancient and Mediaeval Treatises Printed before 1600. The invention of printing coincided with a revival of interest in agricultural treatises, and in the years up to 1600 most of the works of antiquity, as well as some mediaeval works, were published. The Library has recent editions of all the Roman manuals printed in this period, and an early edition of Palladius, De re rustica libri XIII (Paris: R. Stephanus, 1543). This work, which draws heavily on earlier authorities, was probably the Roman treatise on farming that was best known during the Middle Ages. The Library of Trinity College owns another sixteenth-century edition of Palladius, which is bound with the De re rustica libri of Cato and Varro (Lyons: S. Gryphius, 1541), edited by Petrus Victorius.* Of the works written during the Middle Ages, the most important was perhaps the Ruralia commoda of Pietro de Crescenzi (1230? - 1320?), first printed in 1471. The Library's very valuable copy of this book (probably Speyer: Peter Drach, c. 1490-95) contains many woodcuts, and is still in its original binding of boards partly covered with pigskin. The Library also has a recent edition of another thirteenth-century work, Walter of Henley's Husbandry, of which the first printed edition probably appeared c. 1510.

(b) English Treatises of the Renaissance. The earliest modern works on farming, apart from several compilations copied from the ancients, were in the English language: Sir Anthony (?) Fitzherbert's Boke of Husbandry and his Surveyinge, *I have just found another, still earlier edition of some classical writers, Libri de re rustica (Venice: Aldus, 1514) which contains the agricultural works of Cato, Varro, Columella, and Palladius.