

Book Reviews

Bernard's immortal classic has been translated into German in full. As he says, Bernard analysed as no one else before him the role of thought, ideas, and hypotheses in experimental medicine—hence the relevance and timeliness of this book to the problem of research today.

The translation is by Paul Szendrö with further biographical details and a commentary on the text by Roths Schuh. This commentary, although valuable, could be improved if in addition to the numerical sequence of the notes, the page on which they appear could be given as well for back reference. A complete bibliography by Rudolph Zaunick of all Bernard's works, as well as the references of other workers to him, whether biographical or otherwise, completes an excellent translation. The book is a handy size for the pocket, and the quality sturdy enough to resist the ravages of time. It is the thirty-fifth volume in the series Sudhoff's Medical Classics published by Barth of Leipzig under the aegis of Johannes Steudel and Rudolph Zaunick of the Deutschen Akademie der Naturforscher Leopoldina. It proves that even in East Germany genius does not go unrecognized, although it is somewhat surprising that the more enlightened West Germany did not think of it first!

I. M. LIBRACH

Préface d'André Vésale à ses Livres sur l'Anatomie, suivie d'une Lettre à Jean Oporinus, son Imprimeur, texte introduit, établi, et annoté par LOUIS BAKELANTS, Brussels, Editions Arscia S.A., 1961, 87 pp., frontis.

As the translator and editor points out, although the text of the classic work of Vesalius is now mainly of interest to the historians of anatomy, the preface to the book is a document of permanent value in the history of culture. In it Vesalius speaks as a man of the Renaissance, not provoking authority but putting it to the test of reason and experience. The original Latin is printed facing the excellent French version and there are ample notes and an index. This beautifully produced little book is in every way worthy of its subject.

F. N. L. P.

David Edwardes Introduction to Anatomy 1532. A facsimile reproduction with English translation and an Introductory Essay on Anatomical Studies in Tudor England by C. D. O'MALLEY and K. F. RUSSELL, London, Oxford University Press, 1961, 64 pp., 15s.

The first English Anatomy here beautifully reproduced and most competently and lucidly interpreted and translated, is still 'medieval' (Mundinian) in type, although antedating Vesalius' *Fabrica* by not much more than a decade. Yet the little tract is in its own way a product of the Renaissance and so is its author. For he belonged to the younger generation of physicians who were trained in Greek and 'if the pattern were followed, would turn to the Galenic writings on anatomy in the original language as well as to those of Hippocrates'. Indeed it was the author of the present tract, David Edwardes (c. 1502–42) who, having held the Chair of Greek at Corpus Christi College, Oxford, turned to medicine—interpreting Galen at Cambridge—practised at Oxford, Bristol, and in and around Cambridge. He was responsible for at least one dissection—and the present treatise. This, however modestly, established the tradition of anatomical studies in England, although 'its very brevity (it fills no more than fifteen small pages) must have made it virtually useless'. Yet it contains