

Book Reviews

The work under review is packed with information and anecdotes of famous quacks written in a 'racy' but inelegant style, presumably to entice the supposedly undiscerning reading public into buying it. The medical historians will find little new here and will be irritated by the lack of references and sometimes of dates. The illustrations are of fair quality but would be of more interest if information on their sources were given.

The whole book is devoted to the bizzare in medical quackery. There is no mention of any of those 'quacks' who, though unorthodox, contributed greatly to medical practice—such men as the Thomases of Liverpool—nor of that more dangerous breed, the qualified 'quack' whose fads and fancies often did great harm. It is strange that in a book of this nature, after all that has gone before, the title of the penultimate chapter should be 'Odd Cures'.

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