

Book Notices

STEPHANUS OF ATHENS, *Commentary on Hippocrates' Aphorisms*, Sections III–IV, text and translation by Leendert G. Westerink, *Corpus Medicorum Graecorum* XI/1, 3, 2, Berlin, Akademie Verlag, 1992, pp. 433, DM 298.00 (3–05–000742–7).

The second volume of the late Leendert Westerink's edition of Stephanus' commentary displays all the virtues of the first (reviewed in this journal, 1986, **30**: 228–9). It is based on the full version of the lectures preserved in an Escorial manuscript; the sections from the abbreviated recension of III.1–19 are given in smaller type at the foot of the relevant pages and are also translated. The brief introduction contains a useful summary of the Hippocratic and Galenic canonical books and the order in which they were studied as found in Stephanus. The slow progress of the volume through the press has inevitably meant that some recent discussions of relevance go unrecorded. S. Lucà *Schede medievali*, 1985, **8**: p. 74, showed that the Escorial manuscript was once in the library of S. Salvatore in Messina, and hence may have a (relatively rare) South Italian origin. Wanda Wolska-Conus in two long articles in the *Revue des Études Byzantines*, 1989, **47**: 5–89; and 1992, **50**: 5–86, has tried to link the author with theological and alchemical writings, and with some extant philosophical commentaries on Aristotle. Not all have agreed entirely with her speculations, e.g. M. Roueché, *Jahrbuch der österreichischen Byzantinistik*, 1990, **40**: 108–28, and P. Lautner, *Classical Quarterly*, 1992, **42**: 510–22, but she has succeeded in putting more flesh onto some dry bones, and pointed to contemporary interests within Stephanus's exposition of a standard text.

CHRISTIANE GROEBEN and KLAUS WENIG (eds), *Anton Dohrn und Rudolf Virchow: Briefwechsel 1864–1902*, Berlin, Akademie Verlag, 1992, pp. xii, 132, DM 56.00 (3–05–500720–4).

Anton Dohrn and Rudolf Virchow were not only distinguished for their respective contributions to the life sciences and medicine, they were also two outstanding statesmen of science. Dohrn's achievement was to found the Naples Zoological Station as an international venture in which academic institutions and states could rent research facilities. Virchow as a liberal politician supported efforts to promote state expenditure on science and education, while curbing the excesses of Prussian interventionism. Their fifty letters span the years 1864 until Virchow's death in 1902, and provide insight into a range of issues. Evolution and Darwinism form a continuous topic of concern, Dohrn's ardour being noticeably greater than Virchow's. Dohrn was a student of Ernst Haeckel at Jena and indeed Haeckel's vibrant personality and ideas make him a powerful presence throughout the correspondence. Haeckel later became bitterly opposed to Virchow's cautious scepticism concerning the Darwinian mechanisms of evolution; for his part, Virchow condemned Haeckel's evolutionary speculations, involving phylogenetic trees and theories of a crystal or plastidule soul. As a rift grew between Haeckel and Dohrn, initially over Haeckel's view that Dohrn was not suited to a career in biology and then over Haeckel's monistic *Weltanschauung*, Dohrn veered more towards Virchow's pragmatism. Virchow realized that Haeckel was impeding state legislation for the teaching of science in schools, and, for Dohrn, state funding for the Zoological Station was in jeopardy. Indeed Virchow's parliamentary activities helped to guarantee the budgets from which the Zoological Station's funding derived. The volume is well produced with a substantial critical introduction.

BOOKS ALSO RECEIVED

(The inclusion of a title does not preclude the possibility of subsequent review. Items received, other than those assigned for review, are ultimately incorporated into the collection of the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine.)

ADELOLA ADELOYE, *African pioneers of modern medicine: Nigerian doctors of the nineteenth century*, Ibadan University Press, 1985, distrib. Oxford University Press, pp. xiii, 253, illus., £25.00 (hardback Nigeria, 978–154566–6, outside Nigeria, 0–18575691–6).

HANS C. BANGEN, *Geschichte der medikamentösen Therapie der Schizophrenie*, Berlin, Verlag für Wissenschaft und Bildung, 1992, pp. 128, DM 32.00 (3–927408–82–4).