Exploring the History of Medicine,
Or, five thousand years of medical history in five weeks …

PART THE FOURTH

[BY RON SIMS, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS LIBRARIAN]
François Mauriceau (1637-1709)

This text established obstetrics as a science, and was later translated into several languages. He is also known for development of a classical maneuver of assisted breech delivery. He gave a description of tubal pregnancy, and with German midwife Justine Siegemundin (1650–1705), Mauriceau is credited for introducing the practice of puncturing the amniotic sac to arrest bleeding in placenta praevia.
Bernardino Ramazzini (1633-1714)

Published in 1700, this is the first comprehensive work on occupational diseases, and a milestone in the history of occupational medicine.

Ramazzini died of apoplexy on November 5, 1714. His postmortem investigation was done by Giambattista Morgagni, who included the protocol in his major work *De sedibus et causis morborum*. 
Herman Boerhaave (1668-1738)

Pierre Fauchard (1678-1761)

Stephen Hales (1677-1761)

**Statical essays.** containing Haemastaticks. The second edition, with amendments. London, Printed for W. Innys; T. Woodward; and J. Peele, 1731-1733. 2 Volumes

Nicholas Andry de Bois-Regard (1658-1742)

*L'orthopédie; ou, L'art de prévenir et de corriger dans les enfants, les difformités du corps.*
Paris: Chez la veuve Alix, Lambert & Durand, 1741.
William Smellie (1697-1763)


A sett of anatomical tables, with explanations, and an abridgement, of the practice of midwifery. London: [n. publ.], 1754.
The seats and causes of diseases investigated by anatomy; in five books, containing a great variety of dissections, with remarks. To which are added ... copious indexes ... Translated from the Latin ... by Benjamin Alexander . London, A. Millar; and T. Cadell, his successor [etc.], 1769.

Michael Underwood (1736-1820)
Franz Mesmer (1834-1815)

A treatise on the diseases of children with directions for the management of infants from the birth; especially such as are brought up by hand. London, Printed for J. Mathews, 1784.


Physician-accoucheur of London


ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED 1779.
John Rollo (d. 1809)

The Greek physician Aretaeus, writing in the 1st century A.D., gave the first complete clinical description. He noted the excessive amount of urine which passed through the kidneys, and used the word diabetes - derived from the Greek meaning ‘siphon’ - to describe the condition.

Dr. Willis’ Practice of physick (1684) described what eastern physicians had observed a thousand years earlier – that in some forms of the “pissing evil”, the urine of patients was “wonderfully sweet”.

He used mellitus, the Latin word for honey, to distinguish between this condition and other causes of excessive urination.

Dr. Matthew Dobson (1731?-1784), evaporated the urine of a diabetic patient, proving the presence of sugar in urine; his other crucial observation noted excess of sugar in blood which demonstrated that diabetes was a systemic disorder rather than a primary disease of the kidneys.

In 1796, Dr. Rollo, using a urine glucose test devised by Dobson, came up with the first effective treatment for diabetes: a diet high in what he called "animal food" (fat and meat) and low in "vegetable matter" (grains and breads).
Luigi Galvani (1772-1798)

De viribus electricitatis in motu musculari commentarius.

Experiments and observations relative to the influence lately discovered by M. Galvani and commonly called animal electricity translated with commentary by Richard Fowler. Edinburgh, Printed for T. Duncan: [etc., etc.], 1793.
The morbid anatomy of some of the most important parts of the human body. London: Printed for J. Johnson, and G. Nicol, 1793;

A series of engravings accompanied with explanations, which are intended to illustrate the morbid anatomy of some of the most important parts of the human body. 2nd ed. 2 vols. London: Printed by W. Bulmer, 1812
James Lind (1716-1794)

A treatise on the scurvy ... containing an inquiry into the nature, causes, and cure, of that disease. Together with a critical and chronological view of what has been published on the subject ... 2nd ed. London: Printed for A. Millar, 1757
A new discovery that enables the physician from the percussion of the human thorax to detect the diseases hidden within the chest.
William Withering (1741-1799)

An account of the foxglove, and some of its medical uses: with practical remarks on dropsy, and other diseases.

John Hunter (1728-1793)

A treatise on the venereal disease ... London, No. 13, Castle-Street, Leicester-Square, 1786.

A treatise on the blood, inflammation, and gun-shot wounds. London: Printed by J. Richardson, 1794.
Edward Jenner (1749-1823)

An inquiry into the causes and effects of the variolae vaccinae, a disease ... known by the name of the cow pox. London: Printed for the author by S. Low, 1798.
A treatise on insanity, in which are contained the principles of a new and more practical nosology of maniacal disorders than has yet been offered to the public / by Ph. Pinel ; translated from the French, by D. D. Davis.
Medical inquiries and observations upon the diseases of the mind ... Philadelphia, Published by Kimber & Richardson; Merritt, printer, 1812.

Portrait by Charles Willson Peale
In 1816, I was consulted by a young woman laboring under general symptoms of diseased heart, and in whose case percussion and the application of the hand were of little avail on account of the great degree of fatness. The other method just mentioned [direct auscultation] being rendered inadmissible by the age and sex of the patient, I happened to recollect a simple and well-known fact in acoustics, . . . the great distinctness with which we hear the scratch of a pin at one end of a piece of wood on applying our ear to the other. Immediately, on this suggestion, I rolled a quire of paper into a kind of cylinder and applied one end of it to the region of the heart and the other to my ear, and was not a little surprised and pleased to find that I could thereby perceive the action of the heart in a manner much more clear and distinct than I had ever been able to do by the immediate application of my ear.
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To be continued …