

From the *Transactions* of the
Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society

John Deighton of Gloucester, Surgeon

by E. A. B. Barnard, and L. F. Newman
1943, Vol. 64, 71-88

© The Society and the Author(s)

JOHN DEIGHTON OF GLOUCESTER, SURGEON*

Part I by E. A. B. BARNARD, M.A., F.S.A.

IN May 1934, whilst examining for the purposes of some other research a small collection of 17th century deeds in the possession of Mr F. E. Taylor, of Winderton, near Brailes, Warwickshire, I found amongst them several which concerned the family of Deighton (or Dighton) of Gloucester. The first is a pardon of special grace granted to John Deighton, on 10 February 1603-4. The others are chiefly leases of later date concerning property at Gloucester which Deighton, who was a surgeon there, had purchased from time to time, and—as will eventually appear—was bequeathed to his daughter, Damaris, who had remained unmarried and had kept house for him during the later years of his life. He lived at Gloucester at a time when the city was by no means in a prosperous condition. It suffered from several visitations of plague, and there were many soldiers billeted there. Also, in 1627, a number of officers and men, many of them wounded, were there for some months at least, brought back to England after Buckingham's ill-fated expedition to the Ile de Rhé.

The leases cannot be said to be of very particular interest, but there is an indenture made between John Deighton, father and son, both surgeons, which is important as having attached to it an inventory—written on four strips of paper—of all of the books and instruments, etc., in the possession of the father on 24 February 1639-40, which thereby are transferred to the son. This counterpart is signed by John Deighton, junior, and endorsed by Jasper Clutterbooke, a prominent Gloucester

* Read at a meeting of the Historical section of the Royal Society of Medicine, December 1942.

citizen of those times, Damaris Deighton, Anthony Edwardes, and Stephen Halford, the witnesses.

To summarize the position : John Deighton, the elder in consideration of natural affection and a certain competent sum of money, sells to John Deighton the younger, ' all and singular the books and instruments pertaining to Chirurgery vates skeeles kilderkins firkins and singular other the goods implements utensils and things whatsoever severally respectively and particularly mentioned specified comprised and contained in certain schedules or inventories to these presents annexed. All which premises now are being and remaining within that part of the great burgage wherein the said John Deighton the elder, now dwelleth, and within and about the other part of the said burgage now inhabited by Humphrey Dier, brewer, and within the brewhouse and other brewing rooms to the said burgage adjoining '. Proviso that John Deighton the older may make free use of all the medical books and instruments during his lifetime, and that they must not be in any way damaged.

In a verbatim transcription which we have made of this inventory the titles of the books are given as they appear in the original document. Under each we have suggested what may have been the actual title. In a few cases, however, the books are unidentifiable, or their import obvious. Space does not allow printing the list but a typed list is with the transcriptions and notes now deposited, together with the original documents presented by Mr F. E. Taylor, at the Shire Hall, Gloucester.

As regards the medical books, our information has been obtained chiefly from the great catalogue of relevant works, publication of which was begun in 1880, and still continues, by the Surgeon-General's Office (U.S.A.) and from Osler's catalogue. Other titles have been identified from the catalogue of Cambridge University Library, where a few of the books are to be found. The Libraries of the Royal Society of Medicine and of the Royal College

of Surgeons have also yielded information concerning these matters. Many trade catalogues have been consulted especially of the German dealers (pre-war).

Copies of some of the works are in one of the writers' private library and they are indebted to Mr H. M. Adams, Trinity College, Cambridge, for assistance. The librarian of Clare College, Cambridge kindly allowed his MS. catalogue to be consulted and several items were identified from it.

The inventory shows that Deighton's small library consisted of 186 books, of medical, theological or historical interest, the medical books of course predominating.

Deighton's will is preserved at the Gloucester Probate Registry. It was made on 31 January 1639-40, probate being granted on 21 May 1640. Deighton, who would have been about 70 years old, describes himself as 'of the Cittie of Gloucester', and bequeaths sums of five shillings to several of his children, including John, the eldest, of whom more follows. To his daughter Damaris he leaves three messuages in Westgate street, and several other properties in the city, together with 'all the rest and residue of my goods cattles and chattles and personal estate'. She is made sole executrix, and the overseers of the will are Richard Deighton and Thomas Pearce, gentleman, to both of whom a pair of gloves is bequeathed. Deighton, who was nearing his end, simply makes his mark, two of the four witnesses being Nathaniel Deighton, of Cirencester, gentleman, and Samuel Deighton, of Charlton Kings, gentleman.

This will seemed to indicate St. Nicholas Church (1), Westgate street, Gloucester, as being likely to furnish further information concerning the Deightons. Such proved to be the case for, apart from the fact that the parish registers begin in 1558, a visit to the church resulted

¹ There is a full account of this church, with illustrations, one of which shows the south aisle and the Deighton monument, vol. XXIII, 109-28 of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Arch. Society *Transactions*.

in the discovery of a memorial to the Deightons there, somewhat high up on the northeast wall of the south aisle.

Ralph Bigland, who about the middle of the 18th century, transcribed many of the inscriptions in this church, gives the first part of the inscription on this memorial, as follows :—

‘ Here lie interred the bodies of John Deighton, of this City, gent. and Jane his wife, daughter to Edward Basset of Uley, Esq. by whom he had issue three sons and four daughters (2). He spent all his time in the study of chirurgery, and attained to great knowledge therein. He died 16 May, 16[40] ; and she the 23 April 1631. . . ’

Bigland omits that part of the inscription, on the same memorial, which concerns the younger Deighton. The earlier lines of it are given by T. D. Fosbroke, in his *History of the City of Gloucester*, published in 1819, but he in turn omits the verses. Thanks, however, to the ready assistance of the Vicar, the Rev. R. S. Callander, it is now possible to print for the first time the full inscription :—

In Memory

of John Deighton of this City Gent
Practitioner in Physick and Chyrurgery
who died Octobr 31 1676 aged 71
Here lies an Honest, Learned, Pious Man,
A faithful Friend and a good Christian,
A loving Husband, passionately kind,
To her that's gone and her that's left behind
A carefull father, free from wastfull Vice
And yet not stained with sordid Avarice,
A useful neighbour, whose ingenious Art
Could rescue life, and ease impetuous Smart.
Skillfull, and Carefull, of his labour free,
Nor Practic'd more for gain, then charity.
Such remedies he had for ev'ry ill,
That only Death could wound beyond his skill
Thus while he labour'd others lives to save

² cf. *Visitation of Gloucestershire*, 1623, p. 207.

Himselfe he still was fitting for the Grave
 Was humble, Sober, Temperate and Just
 His soul on Christ rely'd with constant trust
 His patience was by long affliction try'd
 In stedfast Faith and Hope he liv'd and dy'd
 Rest then in Peace, while thy deserving name
 Shall flourish in the Deathless Voice of Fame.

Also to ye Memory
 of Mary the Relict of John
 Deighton Gent Dau of Edmund
 Anslys of Brooking House in the Parish of Casilton
 in ye countie of Oxon. Gent who died Nov. 5th
 A.D. 1684. Aged 63 years.

On the memorial are the arms of Deighton : Argent, a lion passant Gules between three cross-crosslets fitchés, impaling paly of four Argent and Azure, a bend Gules, for Anslys.

Part II by L. F. NEWMAN, M.A., F.S.A.

THE INSTRUMENTS AND LIBRARY OF JOHN DEIGHTON PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON, OBIT 1640

The inventory of the instruments and books appears to be in the hand of the younger Deighton. As he was qualified in medicine and therefore acquainted with the subject matter of the record he used abbreviations which have made the work of identification very difficult in some cases.

INVENTORY OF INSTRUMENTS

The types of the instruments enumerated can, in most cases, be made out from contemporary text-books such as Paré's great work (English illustrated, ed. 1678) or the excellent plates in Jaques Guillemeau, *La Chirurgie Française* (1594). Many of the instruments, probes, catheters, sounds, needles, scalpels and forceps, etc., are similar in form to those in use today although some, such as the 'dividors for opening the mouth' and the 'speculum

matrices', appear to be unnecessarily heavy and clumsy even for the 17th century. Many of the contemporary instruments were highly ornamented which would have made any approach to asepsis or even efficient cleaning almost hopeless.

The following list of the instruments is taken direct from the inventory :—

(1) A Chyrurgery chest with these instruments in it. In the upper part of the chest there are these which follow :

- (a) A silver syringe wth three pipes
- (b) A silvery salvitary
- (c) Three stiching quills wth case
- (d) Speculum oculi
- (e) Two silver claspes
- (f) A silver Catherine needle
- (g) Another silver needle three square
- (h) A silver pip to let the water in dropsyes
- (i) Two silver probes
- (j) A Balme pipe
- (k) An incision knife with silver tipps
- (l) A silver catheter
- (m) A silver spatula for the tongue
- (n) Nine great square potts } wth lidds
- Nine little square potts }
- (o) Twenty larg tin potts } wth lidds
- Eighteene little tin potts }

In the lower part of the chest are these Chyrurgery Instruments

- (p) A dilator to open the mouth wth a screw
- (q) A toothed Crowes Bill
- (r) A Cranes bill with teeth
- (s) Foure instruments to draw out Bullets
- (t) Two cutting snippers
- (u) An iron plate wth six crooked actuall cauteries
- (v) A great plate wth a great cautery
- (w) An incision shyres
- (x) Speculum Auris
- (y) Speculum Nasis
- (z) Speculum Oris
- (a) One Elevatory
- (β) Three instruments to make issues in the neck
- (γ) A payre of Dividors
- (δ) A snipe's Bill

(2) A box of Capitall instruments wherein are these instruments

- (a) A Trepan with 4 Bitts
- (b) An iron short head prob
- (c) A Dux Bill Three elevatoryes
- (d) Two raspes
- (e) A kentill
- (f) A razor
- (g) A running iron Fourteene instruments more

Strip iii recto

Elsewhere in the house are these instruments

- (3) Speculum matrices
- (4) An instrument to extend the arme
- (5) A pullye wth a line to set bones
- (6) A Saw
- (7) Two crooked dismembring knives
- (8) A Clasp for a crooked legg

It will be noted that many of the instruments, especially those for incisions, were made of silver. The noble metals were considered 'cleaner' than iron (or steel).

An examination of this equipment of surgical instruments seems to indicate that, in accordance with the general practice of his time, Deighton had served as a surgeon during one of the wars or had come into regular contact with injuries resulting from lethal weapons. This may be deduced from the fact that his sets of forceps for removing bullets, bone splinters and fragments of metal armour driven into the body would seem to be more numerous and varied than those required by a quiet country practitioner. Also he owned at least two standard works on gunshot wounds and several others on head injuries. The latter traumata were no doubt common enough as a result of duelling and country scuffles. Gentlemen usually fought in their shirts with rapier and dagger, but the lower classes used knife, bludgeon or quarter-staff. The use of shoulder guns and 'artillery' was, normally, restricted to war, although pistols were carried for protection against highwaymen

and the other perils of the road. Judging from non-medical literature, injuries, even those of the thorax, inflicted in duels seem to have done well and recoveries were surprisingly rapid. Bludgeons or quarter-staves would cause contused wounds or, more rarely, compound or comminuted fractures of the upper limbs requiring considerable surgical skill for successful treatment. Head injuries and depressed or linear fractures caused by accident or the heavy weapons of the period must have been common enough and bad cases beyond the scope of the country surgeon or physician although the trephine was much used and surgeons, as early as Roger and Rolando, wrote on head injuries, both to brain and skull. Lanfranc only trephined for depressed fractures but many early writers on surgery expended much space in describing the use of the trephine and skull operations. If Deighton had had any war experience it seems odd that he did not possess more of the many standard works available in his time, on army medical and surgical practice. But Paré was at that period the standard authority on war surgery.

As the trephine and the actual cautery were in general use, Deighton owned sets of both these instruments. His equipment for midwifery practice seems to have been negligible although this may be merely corroborative evidence of the theory that, in the 17th century, midwifery was considered to be more or less beneath the dignity of regular country practitioners. In any case manual manipulations for delivery were much preferred to the use of instruments. Owing to the abbreviated list it is impossible to tell what items the tantalizing entry 'and fourteen Instruments more' covered. They may have been the complete equipment of a gynaecologist or obstetrician.

Deighton's library did not contain the works of either Vigo, Clowes, Wortz, Bartisch, or Gensdorff, and some of his surgical books were old, even for his period, so it may

well be that he was essentially a physician, that surgery was only for an occasional emergency, and his instruments mainly relics of his younger and more strenuous days.

The ordinary equipment of a 17th century surgeon is figured and described in Gurlt's great work *Geschichte der Chirurgie* and the Royal College of Surgeons possess several typical examples of ' chests of instruments '. The grading of forceps into sizes by reference to the bills of birds was a very pleasant treatment. The duck-bill speculum of the present-day gynaecologist owes its name to its shape and not to size.

BOOKS

The list of medical books provides several problems. The titles are ill-spelt, abbreviated and in some cases only the author's name or the subject is given. It is only possible to quote some of the more important works that it is possible Deighton might have possessed.

The entry ' Consilia ' is especially tantalizing as many works were issued under that title. They were rather like modern case-books. In some the actual names of the patients were given and there were notes and opinions of other physicians who were consulted by letter. Patients were not sent up for a second opinion, the country doctor wrote fully to an eminent physician on the case, and advice was given without the consultant actually examining the patient. Consilia afford very valuable information on the best clinical practice of their time. Also Deighton did not possess one or more of the many ms. lecture notes, laboriously taken down, either in extenso from the lectures of the great teachers, or copied from other students' note-books. These note-books are now rather scarce but they are much more illuminating than the more pretentious Latin works, stuffed with references from classical authorities, which were used as text-books until the later medical authors wrote from a special and personal knowledge of their subject. More details of the

' Consilia ' volume and the possession of a note-book from one of his medical courses would have afforded valuable clues to Deighton's training. He is described as a surgeon but his wall monument says, 'Physick and Chyrugery', and the number of works on medicine in his library would indicate that he was well read in that branch of his profession.

The medical portion of Dr Deighton's small library contained 121 items. There is little opportunity for comparison with other contemporary collections as very few records of complete medical libraries exist. But, from the character of the books collected, or possibly inherited, by Dr Deighton we may make some general deductions as nothing affords such an indication of a man's mentality as the constitution of his library. Text-books were still commonly printed in Latin editions as the universal knowledge of that language allowed the great presses, all over Europe, to issue volumes not only for their own countrymen but for export abroad. A number of technical works were published in English before Deighton's time and it was the increasing interest in medicine that made it worth while for publishers to translate standard works or to print new ones in their mother tongue. This was not only because the number of practising physicians had increased but lay readers were extremely interested in all branches of science, including medicine, and there was a steady demand for text-books from irregular practitioners. The country physician was rather in the position of a consultant called in by the surgeon, the apothecary or the amateur healer and only the wealthier families would consult him for minor troubles. Gilbert of Montpellier described his well-known work as: 'The compendium of Gilbert the Englishman; useful not only to physicians but to clergymen for the treatment of all and every disease', while the 'Regimen' was primarily intended for non-medical readers. A book on popular folk-medicine by Mrs

Woolley of Saffron Walden in Essex, who had an unofficial practice covering many square miles, states that when the author was a stillroom maid she showed a considerable aptitude for medical work. Her mistress trained her as an irregular practitioner and procured the best medical text-books of the time so that she should have the latest authoritative information as well as the traditional country lore. Books on 'Secrets'—collections of miscellaneous prescriptions with notes on cosmetics, beauty treatments and women's diseases—were translated and printed in large numbers although Deighton apparently had a contempt for these pseudo-medical works, as he did not own any except Wecker's well known volume. This author, who afterwards became very popular, and whose text-book of 'Secrets' is perhaps more quoted than any other, was not published in English translation until after Deighton's death. The English translation of the *Secrets* of Alexis of Piedmont, appeared in a dozen editions before Deighton started practice, and it is stated that Wecker was the translator although this does not seem very probable.

The great surgeons had established themselves as a separate branch of the medical profession by the 17th century and they often wrote their authoritative text-books in popular language rather than in Latin. This was possibly due to the fact that the surgeon had developed from an illiterate craftsman, rather in the position of a mechanic working under the direction of the physician. It was not until great surgeons such as Ambroise Paré came to the front as independent practitioners that the profession became recognized. But whatever the cause, in Deighton's time surgeons showed a distinct preference for writing in their mother tongue.

Such men as Guy de Chauliac, Thomas Gale, William Clowes, Peter Lowe, Jaques Guillemeau and Ambroise Paré developed a high standard of manipulative technique. Orthopaedic surgery had become a specialized branch and

had a knowledge of anaesthetics and asepsis (or anti-septics) been part of their equipment, the period covering Deighton's time would have had little to be ashamed of, even in comparison with today. Anaesthetics were known as early as the 5th century B.C. and narcotic mixtures were in general use, while the exhibition of opium, mandrake, alcohol and other soporifics goes back to a very early period, but an unexplained lapse occurred in the 17th and 18th centuries and anaesthesia appears to have been neglected until the time of Simpson.

Nicholaus Prepositus (1517), whose book was in Deighton's library, gave direction for the preparation of 'spongia soporifica'. They were sponges soaked in a mixture of Hyoscyamus, Cicuta, Mandragora and opium and dried. They were treated with hot water and the fumes were inhaled an hour before operation. In the *Decameron* (tenth story, fourth day) the use of an opiate before operation formed the basis of the plot. It is almost within living memory that the stump of an amputated limb was seared with hot tar while alcohol was used as an anodyne, and some surgeons considered until recently that operation for the radical cure of hernia was best performed without an anaesthetic. The number of soldiers and sailors who survived limb amputations during the Napoleonic wars was evidence of the success of major operations carried out under conditions little better than the medieval surgeons had to contend with in their work. If time allowed, spirits were given to cause drunkenness before operation. Many lurid descriptions exist of the one-time legal punishment of cutting off the right hand with a mallet and chisel and searing the stump with a red-hot iron.

Deighton's books may be roughly classified as follows :

Medicine, 31 ; Surgery, 25 ; ' Consilia ', 1 ; Early Classical authors, 15 ; Anatomy, 7 ; Diseases of Women, 5 ; Children, 2 ; Syphilis and Dermatology, 5 ; Quack medicines, 3 ; ' Secrets ', 1 ; Herbals, 3 ;

Dietetics, 3 ; Toxicology, Pharmacology and Therapeutics, 13 ; Baths, 1 ; Plague, 2 ; Works not strictly medical, 4 ; a total of 121.

As, in some cases, it is not certain which of several volumes were represented in the collection, the above classification is necessarily only general in character. Omnibus volumes and books on general medicine were very popular ; the severely specialist volume was rare and, in addition, two or more essays or short works were often issued in one volume.

We can reasonably assume that Deighton, even for his times, had a high respect for the classical authors. Galen, Hippocrates, Paul of Aegina, Aretaeus, Arculanus, and other early writers were considered rather old fashioned, by the 17th century, and their authority was on the wane. This was partly due to the modernist attitude of the surgeons and the fact that after the Renaissance observation began to take the place of authority in all branches of science including medicine. The high proportion of 'classical' works in Deighton's library affords some indication of his reverence for the older learning but early medical and biological text-books retained their authority for many centuries. No alteration could be made in the numerous editions of the classical writers, although commentaries and copious notes were often published. Medieval and even Tudor text-books were authoritative for many years. It is possible that Deighton may have inherited some of his books (he left them with great detail in his will to his daughter, son and sons-in-law and requested that they should be kept together) for a medical text-book, once purchased, was a possession for generations. It is difficult to realize this today when two or three years is a long period for any edition of a scientific text-book ; standard medical works are out of date, in some details at least, almost as soon as they leave the press. The specialist text-book was in existence, in printed form quite early. The recently published

volume containing reprints of the first six treatises on Syphilis not only affords a good idea of contemporary medicines but shows that specialization in medical practice was well established in the early days of printing.

The classical authors specialized to some extent. Arculanus described alcoholic insanity in detail and had sound views on general insanity. Aëtius wrote on the throat and nose and Alexander of Tralles held quite modern views on tubercule and its treatment. The late Professor Clifford Allbutt investigated many special references to the use of wine in attempts to obtain asepsis by the early surgeons and also their insistence on scrupulous cleanliness. Guy de Chauliac was an authority on hernia and employed the Trendelenburg position in operation for radical cure and Gurlt has shown how closely his views agree with modern conceptions. Guy de Chauliac also fitted false teeth and illustrations are given in Guillemeau and in 'De conservanda Bona Valetudine' of different types of dentures. Paré only re-introduced ligatures and trusses. Later, Vigo, Gale, Paré and Duchesne wrote on gunshot injuries. Deighton possessed copies of some of these authors' works but although he must have been familiar with the spread of Syphilis he had only two tracts on that disease, one of them—'De lue veneria'—being the middle one of a set of three essays bound in a single volume. This form of publication was common and makes the task of identifying authors' shorter works, or even finding their titles, difficult. Omnibus volumes in Deighton's library are sometimes described by the title of the first section or are entered under the general title of 'Opera' or even 'Enchiridion'.

The diseases of children had already begun to attract considerable notice in Deighton's time and he possessed at least two works on that subject, neither of them of much interest, except as examples of specialist volumes. Wilhelm Fabry's great work on surgery contains a large

section on orthopaedics and Deighton possessed a copy. Fabry's illustrations of leg irons and other orthopaedic apparatus showed massive construction of the supports, but the general appearance of the instruments would not disgrace a surgical catalogue of today.

The treatment of the diseases of women was largely in the hands of special or irregular practitioners who often combined gynaecological practice with a trade in cosmetics, quack nostrums, and other even less reputable articles required by their clients. Deighton possessed some works on gynaecology but none of the better known ones were included in his library, although the great compilations of Bauhin and of Wolf were available in his time. Contemporary lay literature affords a fair insight of the relations of the women's-physician with his patients and there can be little doubt that a very undesirable type of irregular practitioner controlled most of the gynaecological and obstetrical work during the 16th and 17th centuries.

The authority of the Salerno school had very largely disappeared in every branch of medicine except dietetics. Diet was a popular subject in Deighton's time and it is difficult to see why such a conservative physician did not possess more of the earlier works on food or of some of the manuscripts on regimen and health which had appeared under the auspices of famous medical schools and of which many copies must have existed in the 17th century. He did, however, possess a copy of one standard text-book of his time—Coghan's *Haven of Health*. Venner, the great dietician lived at Bath for some time and Elliott's *Castell of Healthe* was still popular but Deighton did not possess copies of either works.

The library contained several works which only appeared shortly before Deighton's death and this would indicate that he kept up his reading and followed the progress of his art. In the cases where only the author's name or the subject is given, so that it is impossible to do more than

conjecture which particular work of several Deighton possessed, little can be done to identify the work mentioned. The books of 'Aemelius Macer' for example, although almost unknown at the present day, occupied an authoritative position in early medical science not only in the author's own times but well into the Stuart period. Macer's works are of considerable interest and it is a pity that there is no information as to which volume Deighton possessed. The inventory only gives the author's name.

Deighton was, apparently, not interested in the Major terata, a subject of great interest both to the medical profession and the general public in his day and he did not possess a copy of any of the standard works on Teratology. Licetus' book was very popular—an edition appeared in 1634—and Paré's essay was also well known but there were many others all much read in Deighton's time.

The position of Pharmacy in the early 17th century, with its trend to the poly-pharmacy of later Stuart times, and the necessity for a physician to prepare some of his own drugs is shown by the fact that Deighton apparently had a lively interest in pharmacy, therapeutics and pharmacognosy, at least to the extent of owning a good many works on these subjects. He only possessed two herbals and Monardes' 'Joyful News', none of them of very great interest to English physicians, and he seemed to have had little interest in the then important subjects of the identification of plants and a knowledge of the popular ideas of their 'vertues'. Gerarde, Parkinson and several other great British herbals were issued before 1640 but Deighton did not include them in his library. Physiology he ignored altogether although there was an awakening interest in that branch of (then) medical science especially in relation to clinical work. Santorio's book was available (Venice 1625) as were the writings of Van Helmont and Harvey. ('De Motu Cordis' appeared in 1628). But the great development of physiology took place just after Deighton's time.

Anatomy in Deighton's student days was in an interesting stage and his library included several text-books on the subject, covering almost all the different schools but he did not possess copies of the works of the greatest and most world-famous anatomists.

Although practically nothing is known of Deighton's early life and student days, it is probable, that in accordance with the practice of his time, he had studied on the Continent and may have been attracted by the East German or Italian schools of medicine, then in their heyday. This might account for the type of medical and surgical works in the library, which seem to support such a theory. But it must be remembered that the library was such as might be assembled by any English student limited to his own country. Nowadays the recently qualified man is extremely likely to discard his pre-clinical text-books and it is refreshing to find that Deighton's interest in anatomy continued all his life as some of his volumes on the subject must have been purchased or obtained long after his student days.

The absence of MS. volumes of lecture notes or of any indication as to the authorship of the one volume of *Consilia* in the library is regrettable. The authorship of the latter, or the name of one of the great teachers whose notes were their pupils' text-books and carefully treasured, might afford an indication of Deighton's early education or of any continental school he may have attended.

Again it might be expected that Deighton's liking for the early authors and his somewhat academic mind would have induced him to purchase some of the older medical manuscripts, especially those of pre-printing days, but none were catalogued in the inventory of his library, although many *must* have been obtainable at a low cost in his day.

To sum up, we may perhaps from a study of his library consider Deighton as being a steady-going country practitioner ; rather old-fashioned ; anxious to keep up

with the progress of his art ; something of a pedant and interested only to a limited extent in special branches of medicine. He almost certainly had a high and academic respect for the classical authors, and possibly some contempt for the vulgar taste of producing text-books in English. He had a good knowledge of medical literature from the Italian and German presses and presumably had little interest in the French and Spanish schools of medicine. He was not sufficiently interested to purchase manuscript copies of older works or of student's notes from famous lecturers and perhaps, from his somewhat isolated position in the country, was unaware of the latest progress in some of the problems of medicine which were beginning to interest the great European physicians and the teaching schools.