

Early Modern Medicine



The Diseases and Casualties this Week.



A Bortive	4
Aged	21
Childbed	7
Chrisomes	12
Consumption	57
Convulsion	26
Dropic	24
Drowned 2, one at St. Magda- len Bermondsey, and one at St. Clement Danes	2
Feaver	33
Flox and Small-pox	33
Flux	1
French-pox	3
Gangrene	1
Griping in the Guts	17
Imposthume	1

Infants	13
Killed 2, one at St. Giles in the Fields, and one by a fall from a Malt at St. Mary VWhite- chapel	2
* Kingevil	1
Measles	1
Overlaid	1
Palsie	1
Rickers	9
Rising of the Lights	7
Rupture	1
Scowring	2
Spotted Feaver	5
Stillborn	8
Stone	3
Stopping of the Stomach	5
Suddenly	3
Surfeit	5
Teeth	23
Thrush	1
Timpany	2
Tissick	5
Ulcer	1
Winde	3

Christned { Males — 131 }
 { Females — 108 }
 { In all — 239 }

Buried { Males — 183 }
 { Females — 166 }
 { In all — 349 }

Plague — 0

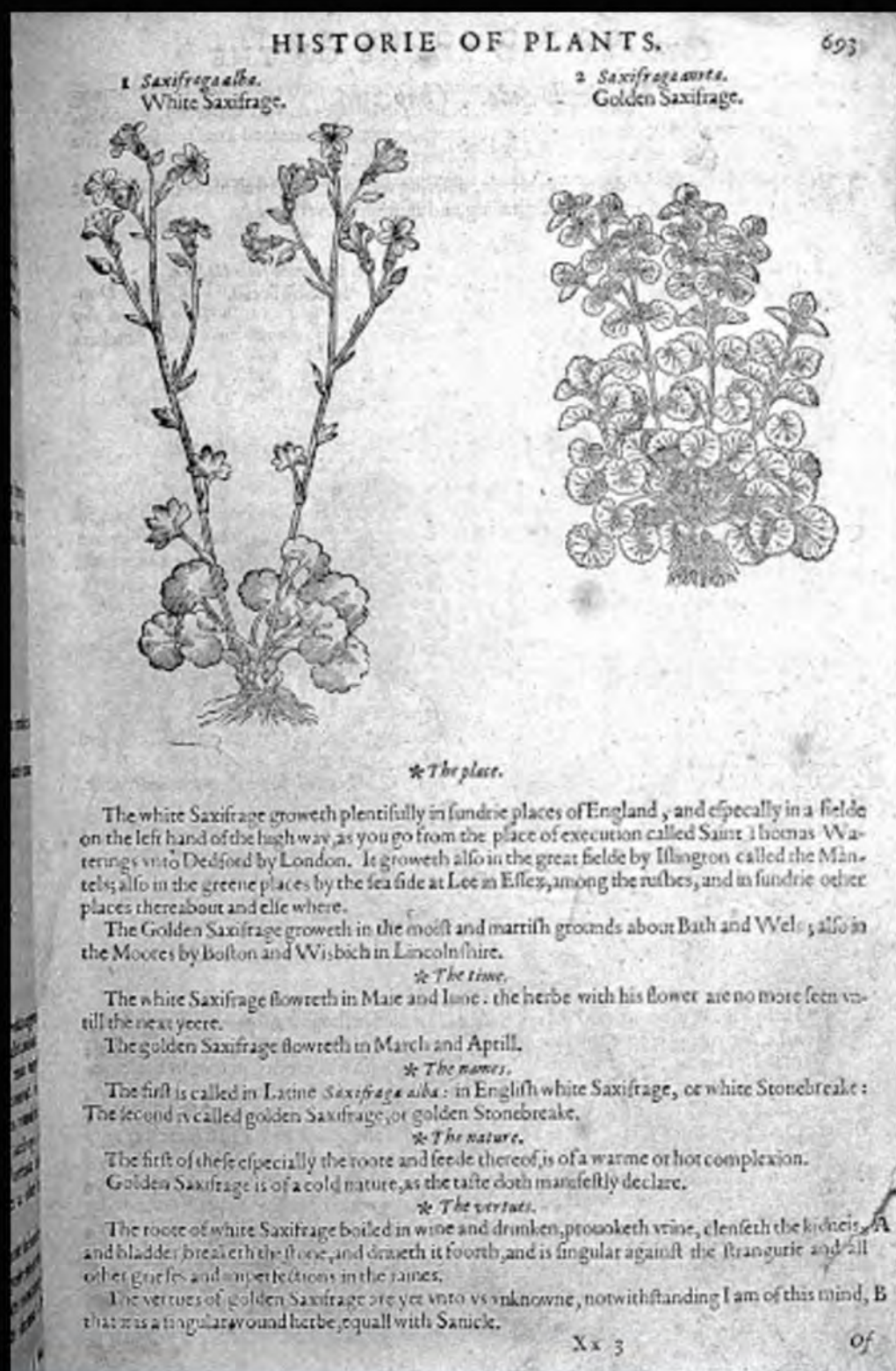
Increased in the Burials this Week — 58

Parishes clear of the Plague — 130 Parishes Infected — 0

*The Assize of Bread set forth by Order of the Lord Maior and Court of Aldermen,
A penny Wheaten Loaf to contain Eleven Ounces, and three
half-penny White Loaves the like weight.*

Active Patients

- Gained knowledge about health and the body from a range of sources:
 - Vernacular Medical Print
 - Interactions with medical practitioners and friends and family both in-person and remote (i.e. via letters)



To make a Baked Pudding.

L. Lamborough.

Take Some good Milk or Cream, according to the Bigness of your Pan (mine is but a pint and half) and a Stake of Bread sliced thin, and the Boiling milk or Cream poured hott upon it and when tis Cold add 4 Eggs - leaving out two Whites well beaten and Mix them and a good handfull of Currans and Raisons well Cleared and Stoned and when you put into the Oven put half a grated Nutmegg, some Sugar, and Melted Butter with a Spoonfull of Sack or Brandy, all mixt well - together as you put it into the Oven, Pump the fruit before you Mix it, a Little Baking will Serve. You may make the Same Pudding boiled and by adding a little flower to Bind it. Some times I put Marrow Instead of Butter but think Butter better.

At the Unicorn, over against the New Church, near the May-pole in the Strand, London, liveth I. Inglish from Edinburgh, who alone is Authorized by his MAJESTY to Make and Publish

Dr. Anderson's, or, The Famous Scots PILLS:

So universally known and approv'd by the most eminent Physicians and others of all Ranks for their rare and singular Virtues; and particularly as a very Sovereign Remedy against Diseases or Pains in the Head, Stomach or Bellies of Men, Women and Children, but especially against Giddiness and Megrims, Palsy, Deafness, Weak or Blear'd Eyes, Want of Appetite, Colic, Melancholy, Phlegm, Griefs and Thick Humours, Worms, Paleness, Green-sickness, Barrenness, Disturbances on the Lungs or Joints, Rheumatism, Gout, Gravel, Stone, Scurvey, Dropsy, Cholick or Gripes, and all Obstructions; and the most effectual Remedy yet known for those that are Costive, and therefore convenient for all Travellers by Sea and Land. They are known also to be of excellent Use (Two or Three taken at Night) before drinking of Epsum, Tunbridge, or any other Medicinal Waters. They are so accommodated to all Ages, Seasons and Hours, that they are safely us'd by Women with Child, Infants, and decrepid old Persons, Summer or Winter, at any Time of the Day, without regard to Diet, or hindrance of Business. Their Operation is so gentle, pleasant and effectual, that by Experience they are found to exceed any Medicine hitherto publish'd. The Dose is from 3 to 11 after Dinner, Supper, or hard Drinking, as may be seen more at large in my Papers of Directions given with the said Pills.

Their Excellency is sufficiently demonstrated by the multitude of Counterfeits that endanger Peoples Lives; in order to prevent which, I have frequently given notice in the Gazette: But notwithstanding that, and my having the only true Receipt, and the King's Authority for publishing these excellent Pills; yet there are some covetous Persons of late, who, tho they have been manifestly prov'd and publish'd Cheats and Impostors, have not only counterfeited them, but stolen Title and Directions verbatim, and give them out with their Trash. Wherefore prevent such Abuses in the Country, the only true Pills are sold by Mr. Hodges B. seller in Derby; Mrs. Cocker in Shrewsbury; Mr. James Buchanan in Rochford; Mr. Iliam Ward Bookseller in Nottingham; Mr. Edmund Aspleton at Preston in Lancashire; Wyatt in Worcester; Mr. Richard Lowry Haberdasher of Small-Wares in Kendal, Weiland; Mr. John Addleton in St. Martins in Stamford, Lincolnshire; Mr. Smith in Ne near Richmond in Yorkshire; Mrs. May Bookseller in Exeter; Mrs. Banks's Coffee in the Market-yard in York; Mrs. Kiblenbite in Newport in the Isle of Wight; Mr. Harris in Sarum; Mrs. Staples at Boston, New-England.

To distinguish my Pills from those of Impostors, you are desir'd to take That my Boxes are seal'd on the Top (with black Wax) with a Lion Rampant Three Mulletts Argent; Dr. Anderson's Head betwixt I. I. with his Name round Isabella Inglish underneath the Shield in a Scroll.

It is good against the paines in the Breast, Coughes and Colds. It comforts the Heart, preventing the burning, and trembling thereof. It cures all indispositions of the Stomach, As extreame hunger, or Loathsomeness, and strengthens the Vitall Parts. It Kills All sorts of Vermin, or worms, expells them out of the Body, and hinders their ingendring. It cures the Leprothe vfed often by the Patient. It provokes womens Termes, and the Stopped Flux of the Piles, or Emorroides, and what is wonderful! stops the too! mach running of the same, Comforting Nature, weakened by both indispositions. It provokes the after Birth, and it helps to bring forth Dead Children having many other vertues, that for brevity dont mention, being a Reall and rare Medicine, well known to all agreeing with all Persons from 7. years and vpwards, at any time taken.

THE DOSE.

TO the young, and those of strong Complexions, 2 or 3 Scruples, Alone, in wine, Aqua Mulsa, or other liquor. To Aged People One dram, and the same Quantity for Poisons, or the Ague. But as a Preferuative onely, but one scruple, Having allways a Regard to the Constitution of the Patient.

It is good against the paines in the Breast, Coughes and Colds. It comforts the Heart, preventing the burning, and trembling thereof. It cures all indispositions of the Stomach, As extreame hunger, or Loathsomeness, and strengthens the Vitall Parts. It Kills All sorts of Vermin, or worms, expells them out of the Body, and hinders their ingendring. It cures the Leprothe vfed often by the Patient. It provokes womens Termes, and the Stopped Flux of the Piles, or Emorroides, and what is wonderful! stops the too! mach running of the same, Comforting Nature, weakened by both indispositions. It provokes the after Birth, and it helps to bring forth Dead Children having many other vertues, that for brevity dont mention, being a Reall and rare Medicine, well known to all agreeing with all Persons from 7. years and vpwards, at any time taken.

Seal in Margent.
for the Truth of which vvee annex
To the Declaration of this our new Statute
HAVING BEEN Counter

An Inventory of the Lady Breighs bookes.
May 12. 1647.

Dr Mosan's practice of physicke.	fol.
Dounam's guide to godlinesse.	fol.
Hildersham's lectures on John.	fol.
Gouges whole armour of God.	4to.
A English bible.	4to.
Bolton's four last things	4to.
Bolton's instructions for the right comforting of afflicted consciences.	4to.
Bolton's directions for walking with God.	4to.
Gouges domesticall duties	4to.
Ball of the Covenant of grace.	4to.
Randall of Saint Pauls triumph.	4to.
Gouge his Saintly Sacrifice.	4to.
Reynolds his three treatises	4to.
Preston of the Saints qualification	4to.
Preston of the New Covenant	4to.
Perkins on the Creed, and sixe principles.	4to.
Gouges guide to God	4to.
Preston's Saints daily exercise	4to.
Preston's Golden Scepter	4to.
Gwillimineau's Childbirth.	4to.
Gabaker's just man's joy	4to.

Sum

Receit
Ague

For Mr Deare Brother
Christopher Brasche
Fregothan an

peresont

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

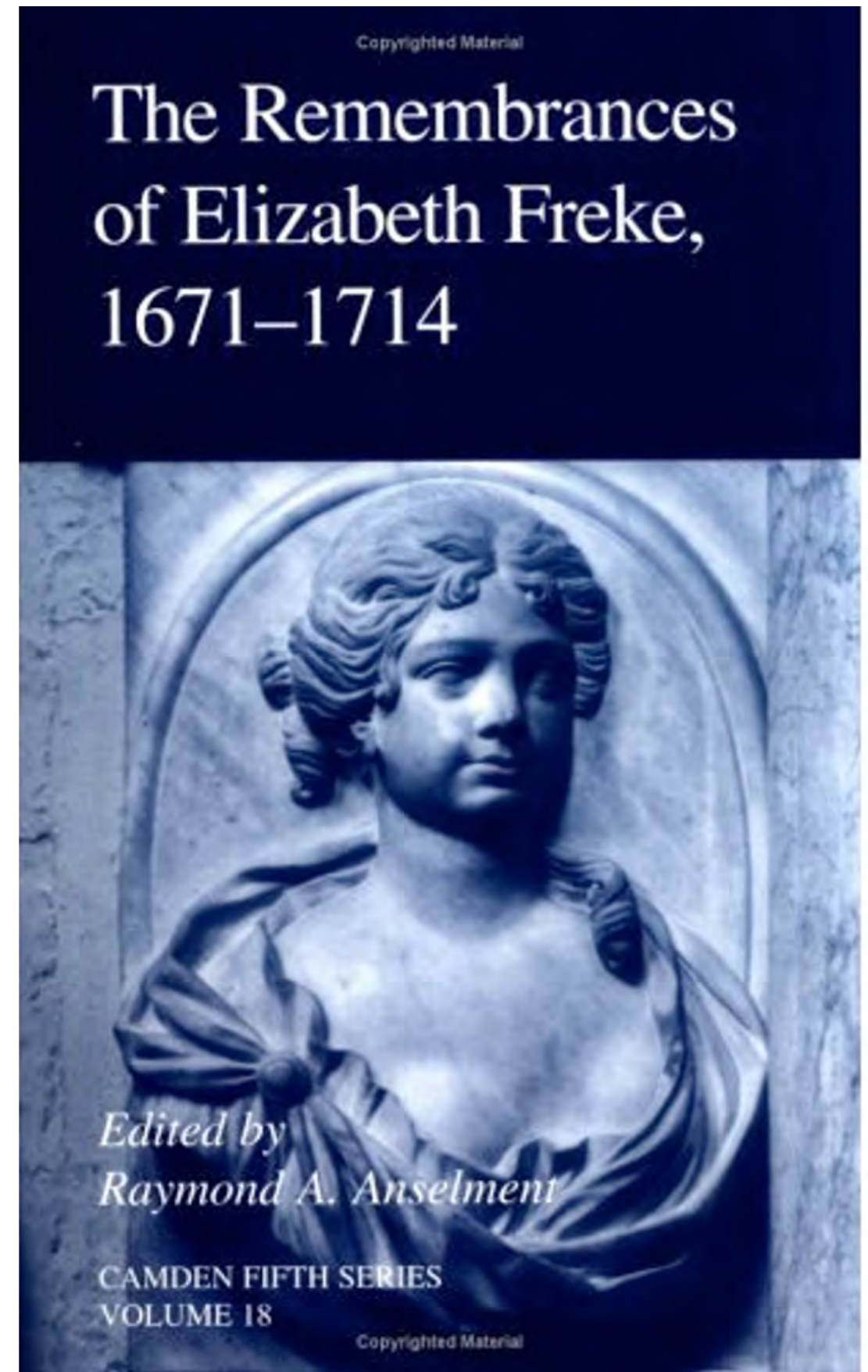
An Approved Receipt for ^{ye} Ague

Take white Sage yarra ~~hedges~~ nettles with the mores put with them but not ~~any~~ ^{any} the ~~with~~
any of the rest elder leaves and Ladyes helle and Cyders of each of these a
half an handfull, chred them and joine them all together and put to it
quart of Strong Beer and Strain ^{them} out then add to it 3 penny worth
of diascordium. and grate into it some Tamarisk and a little ^{of}
Angelica Root ^{as much as will be on a penny} and let the patient take a draught of it when the
fever is coming and be kept warm in bed for sweating is also need
full in this case and so keep giving the liquor all the
while the fever lasts.

Active Patients

Ideas of the body

- **Equilibrium**
 - Balancing the humours
 - Shifting diseases



Active Patients

Equilibrium

Extracts from Elizabeth Freke's Remembrances:

Example 1:

Freke blamed the humours for the violence of her grandson's experience of small pox:

‘Saterday the 28 of December my youngest grandson fell sick; after he had bin a weeke heer, which proved to be the small pox and they apeered on him Monday the 29 of December; and hee had them in a most violent maner; by reason of the humour to his head...’

Example 2:

Mrs Freke's description of her husband's last illness which began as asthma. However, when he was moved to Saffrum the:

‘stiring of the humours as [she] feared threw his astma in to his right legg; with such violence as itt brok out into a dropsy’.

Example 3:

Another episode in which diseases morphed from one to another was Mr Freke's illness in May 1704, when he was:

‘taken violenttly ill of a sore throatt, wch turned him into a violentt feaver ... the violence of wch turn'd him into the goutt for another month, after itt broke in on his feet’.

Active Patients

Ideas of the body

- **Equilibrium**
 - Balancing the humours
 - Shifting diseases
- **Sympathy**
 - Macrocosm and microcosm





Range of Medical Care

Self-Helpers

Smart Consumers

Self-Helpers

- Friends and Family as first resort
- Self-diagnosis
- Self-prescribe treatments
- Sources – diaries, personal letters, accounts



Smart Consumers

- Decision makers
- Take the lead in the patient/practitioner relationship
- Example
 - Elizabeth Freke and Mr Smith of Winch
- Medical Contracts



Case Study

Account of Expenses for Percy Freke's final illness

1706
Jan^y
20
3
7
1705
Jan^y
3
14
20
23
Feb^y
4

Sunday. About three A Clock God took to him selfe my darrest
Husband from mee at Iddum, And Monday the third of June I brought
him in A horse to Billesley to be there interred in his own Church -
where he was in the vault laid by all the Gentry and my
Neighbours attending on him in the Country with great Respect
staid till my Cousin John Freke came from London to Bury him
for w^{ch} I had mee which I did on Friday June the seventh
with an Appearance of all the Gentry & Neighbours in the
Country invited by me of which I have in first Appendix
An Account of what his buriall, sickness as by bills I
can show now by me October 1709 cost me with the new
Vault I made by his desire from xmas to midsummer I pd
Ready money out of my pocket. (116^l 14^s 0^d) Eliza Freke

I pd Doctor Short of Bury for four
Days Attendance on my dear Husband 4-6-0
The Man & horse that went to Bury for him 0-10-0
I pd Mr Goodwin to journey from Lin^{coln} 2-0-0
I pd Doctor Barker three visits from Lin^{coln} 3-0-0
I pd Betty Fox & Jams Wall all Attendance on him 1-18-0
more for 3 dozen of oranges & Lemons 0-10-0
I sent A horse & man againe to Bury to Doctor 4-6-0
Thomas Short & pd him for his 4 days Attnd 0-10-0
to the Man & horse to Bury 2-3-0
to the Man & horse to Doctor Barker of Lin^{coln} for 2 days

[B, fol. 37v, i side]

i7i2 An accountt of whatt I laid outt on the sickness, death, and buriall of my deer husband, Percy Frek, Esqr; taken outt of the severall bills in my uper closett and paid by me, Elizabeth Frek, his unhappy wife, within the year of i707¹

Butt now comes the dismall and fassast day of my life, for on the second of June, Sunday, aboutt three a clock (the very day and howre my son was borne, hee being then thirty two years of age), my deer husband, Percy Frek, Esqr, to compleatt all the miseryes of my life, after seven monthes torture of a dropsey and an astma, in which time I think I never wentt seven nights into a bed butt I were one of the three thatt watched with him nightt and day for fear of him. Eliz Frek

i705, Decembr 25 Christmas Day goeing to the church att West Billney to the sacramentt with me, hee complained of a shortnes in his breath.

l.-s.-d.

27 For which I sent to Linn to **Mr Goodwin to bleed him twice** att io s. a time and paid him for it

i-0-0

January 3d He still growing worse and worse, January 3d I sentt immediattly to Berry to **Doctter Thomas Shortt a horse and man and kept him with me three dayes**, every howre expecting his last breath. For which I paid him fowre ginnyes

4-6-0

And io the man and horse.

0-10-0

i4 I sentt to **Doctter Barker of Lin and to Mr Goodwin** the surgion and paid

2-3-0

20 I sentt againe to **Doctter Barker of Linn for two days stay with me** and paid

2-3-0

23 I paid **Mr Goodwin the surgion** for three dosen of lemons and oranges

0-12-0

I paid **James Wallbutt and Betty Fox** for three weeks atendance on him nightt and day and watching with him

2-0-0

February 4, i705[/6] I sentt againe a horse and man to Berry to **Doctter Thomas Shortt**, and I paid him for his fowr days

4-0-0

And the man and horse more

0-10-0

I sentt to **Doctter Barker** to joyne with Dr Shortt and paid him

2-3-0

February 8 I sentt then to **Doctter Jeffryes to Norwich a horse and man for two dayes** and paid them for their jorney and the doctter Who bid me hast away or he would soon dye; which I did.

2-10-0

9 And I sentt againe to Lin to **Mr Goodwin and Doctter Barker** and paid them

2-0-0

And by these three doctters advice I bought my deer husband of white Lisbon wine a little vesell cost mee att Linn

3-0-0

And 3 dosen of lemons and oranges which cost me more

0-12-0

i2 I paid **Mrs Langly** for two quarts of old hock, viz., sowr w[hite] wyne,

0-10-0

i3 Being Sunday, I paid Mr Towres for drawing Mr Freks will

i-i-6

As I did **Mr Godard** before of Lin for two or three days²

i-i-6

i5 I sentt againe to **Doctter Barker** withoutt any hopes and paid him

i-i-6

i8 I paid **James Wallbutt and Mrs Sad³** for two week atendance on him

0-16-0

20 I haveing noe quiett in my mind, I sentt againe to Burry to **Doctter Thomas Short** a horse and man and paid the doctter 4 ginys

4-6-0

And man

0-10-0

2i I sent to **Mr Sheldrick of Saffum and Doctter Barker of Linn** and paid them, every momementt expecting my deer husbands death,

2-i-6

What can we learn from Freke's Accounts?

- High cost of medical care
- Structure and organization of medical practitioners in her area (Norfolk)
- Terminology – What is a Doctor?
- Working relationships
- Competition?

Practitioners

- Physicians
- Surgeons
- Apothecaries
- Clergymen
- Drug peddlers/'quacks'/'charlatans'
- Popular healers
- Midwives
- Odd jobs
- Occupational diversity



Engraving illustrating the duties of seventeenth-century apothecaries and surgeons. (Matthaeus Merian, c. 1646, Wellcome Library)

Physicians

- College of physicians founded in 1518
- Thomas Linacre
- Number of fellows remained small
- Attempted to regulate and control medical practice in London



John Culpeper
Pharmacopœia Londinensis:

Mary Catherine Cliffe
OR THE
LONDON DISPENSATORY

Mary Catherine Cliffe
Further adorned by the Studies and
Collections of the Fellows, now living of
the said COLLEGE.

John Culpeper
In this Sixth Edition you may find, *Mary Catherine Cliffe*

- 1 Three hundred useful Additions.
- 2 All the Notes that were in the Margent are brought into the Book between two such Crochets as these []
- 3 On the top of the pages of this Impression is printed The sixth Edition, Much Enlarged.
- 4 The Vertues, Qualities, and Properties of every Simple.
- 5 The Vertues and Use of the Compounds.
- 6 Cautions in giving all Medicines that are dangerous.
- 7 All the Medicines that were in the Old Latin Dispensatory, and are left out in the New Latin one, are printed in this Sixth Impression in English with their Vertues.
- 8 A Key to Galen's Method of Physick, containing thirty three Chapters.
- 9 In every Page two Columns.
- 10 In this Impression, the Latin name of every one of the Compounds is printed, and in what page of the New Folio Latin Book they are to be found.

By *Nich. Culpeper* Gent. Student in Physick and
Astrology; living in Spittle-fields, near London.

London: Printed by Peter Cole in Leaden-Hall, and are to be sold
at his Shop at the sign of the Printing-Press in Cornhill,
near the Royal Exchange. 1654.

Surgeons

- Bloodletting and many other procedures such as bone setting, removal of cataracts
- Organised in guilds
- Trained by apprenticeship
-



Apothecaries

- Society of Apothecaries founded in 1617
- Wholesalers and druggists
- Distillers
- Held important social-economical positions within the community



Others

- Clergymen
- Carers
- Midwives
- Popular healers
- Drug peddler, quacks and charlatans



Conclusions

- Occupational diversity
- Medical practice was inherently pluralistic
- Medical 'marketplace' or medical 'worlds'

Suggested Readings

- Beier, Lucinda McCray. "In Sickness and in Health: A Seventeenth Century Family's Experience." In *Patients and Practitioners. Lay Perceptions of Medicine in Pre-Industrial Society*, edited by Roy Porter, 101–28. Cambridge Studies in the History of Medicine. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1985.
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