

accused—not by the community that he had founded—yet fully acquitted, in resentment sought a dispensation from his vows as a Redemptorist and left Monroe. Chapters nine and ten, with the exception of a few pages, narrate his Odyssey thereafter to many dioceses in the United States, France, perhaps even South America, by way of Africa; for four months on the sea, and, finally, in three Cistercian monasteries in France; his death in the third monastery, in the fifty-sixth year after his connections of not quite two years with the Monroe foundation had been severed. The history of each of these three monasteries is summarized and the life in a Cistercian monastery is described; thirteen illustrations accompany this Cistercian history and life. Now, whereas all this manifests comprehensive research and filial piety, it detracts from the main narrative, which thereby loses in concentration and continuity.

The second book is not a continuation of the first; yet it is complementary to it. The Congregation has the laudable regulation that each of its institutions and missions keep a chronicle from the time of the opening of the house. This book records the entries in the chronicle for the opening year at each mission. These entries are followed by a neat chart, Mission Progress, recording the Pastor, Number of Sisters on Mission, Number of Secular Teachers, Enrollment Grade School, Enrollment High School at the opening of the mission and for the year 1945 or, as the case may be, for the year in which the Sisters relinquished the school. This volume presents indeed the *Achievement of a Century*. Even though the editor has laudably endeavored to preserve the individuality of each chronicle, it would have been well to establish uniformity as to the word "superior" or "superioress"; in some of these chronicles it is used indiscriminately in either form.

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Medicine Throughout Antiquity. By Benjamin Lee Gordon, M.D. (Philadelphia, F. A. Davis Company, 1949, pp. xvii, 818. References, notes, illustrations, and index. \$6.00.)

This book brings out clearly both the pitfalls into which the untrained writer of history may so easily fall, and the peculiar difficulties inherent in writing the history of science.

It is a rare individual who brings to such a task both adequate training in historical method and a thorough understanding of science. In preparation for writing this book, which covers not only the ancient history of the Near East and the Graeco-Roman World but also the prehistoric period, the Far East, and Pre-Columbian America, Dr. Gordon has done an amazing amount of study. Special chapters are devoted to such outstanding figures as Hippocrates and Galen; and the encyclopaedic coverage of known individuals is impressive.

On medical theory and practice his observations clearly reflect the experience of an up-to-date practicing physician. To the reader unfamiliar with medical science and medical terminology his remarks are frequently difficult to understand, but they will undoubtedly be of great interest to members of the medical profession. The extensive knowledge which the ancients possessed about anatomy, physiology, and pathology, as well as their medical and surgical skill, will amaze the reader unacquainted with the history of medicine in Antiquity.

To the historian of Antiquity, however, this book unfortunately presents some glaring defects. Though the author has consulted many modern books in French and German as well as in English, a casual check with the items in the Utrecht Classical Bibliography does not indicate familiarity with the up-to-date literature on the subject. This is in line with his use of the ancient sources, which he appears to have read all too frequently in old and out-of-date translations. There is no evidence whatsoever of familiarity with the original languages and no indication that any effort was made to check on the accuracy of the translations or to assess the historical value of the sources.

A good example of his uncritical attitude may be found on page 550 where he quotes a translation of a supposed letter from Menocrates to Philip of Macedon taken from a book published in 1831 with no indication of the place where the author found the original text of the letter and no discussion of the problem of its authenticity. An even more exasperating example of carelessness is to be found on pp. 496-497 where the translation of an Athenian inscription in honor of the physician Evenor (apparently *Inscriptiones Graecae II, editio minor* 374) is given without citing any publication where either the Greek text or the translation was published. This

is particularly disturbing, for the translation would give the reader not accustomed to the language of Athenian official documents the impression that the Demus of the phrase translated "it seemed good to Demus" was an individual rather than the Athenian popular assembly. To some this might seem a trivial point, but it raises serious doubts concerning the reliability of other translations involving important points of medical history. In addition to the Evenor inscription, another example of careless omission will be found in his remarks on the Roman oculists (pp. 624-625) in which he fails to indicate where the inscriptions are published. His method of citing modern authors is often rather baffling, as for example his citation of his own "The Romance of Medicine" in note 19, p. 644, which the reader can identify only by looking back to note 4. He often follows this strange method of giving the title of his books in quotations when he cites them for the second and subsequent times instead of using the conventional abbreviations understood by all historians.

Finally the student of ancient history will notice far too many examples of inaccuracy on points of general history and chronology. A few examples will suffice:

- (1) Augustus, 30 A.D. (p. 616)
- (2) Hammurabi, 2285-2242 B.C. (p. 159) as compared with 1950 B.C. (p. 179)
- (3) Galen said to have been the court physician of Septimius Severus for thirty years (pp. 701 f.) though Septimius was emperor for a considerably shorter time.
- (4) The important Roman office of *censor* held by Cato is regarded as a surname instead of an office (p. 626) and on the same page he was said to have been "appointed" *Consul*.

There are also many careless spellings of ancient names, such as: Ptolemean and Pyda (p. 617), Lex Aemela (p. 623), and Addaras (p. 475).

It is a shame that the value of such a learned work should be viciated by such careless neglect of important historical facts and the canons of historical writing. With a little more attention to historical methodology, perhaps with the help of a professional historian, many of the mistakes could easily have been avoided. Yet, despite these defects, the reviewer is convinced that this will be an immensely interesting and useful work for the medical profession as well as for the general reader. He cannot but feel the greatest admiration

for the busy practitioner who has found time for such extensive studies.

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Prescott W. Townsend

Jews in Relation to the Cultural Milieu of the Germans in America up to the Eighteen Eighties. By Rudolf Glanz. (New York, Yddish Scientific Institute, New York, 1947, pp. 55.)

This pamphlet translated from the *Yivo Bleter* attempts by topical treatment to show the mutual ties and the varying relationships between the German Jews and the Germans in America. The loyalty of the German Jews to German culture is emphasized. The unifying role of the German language is presented as a patent cohesive factor in preserving the close relations between the Jewish emigrants of Germany and the Germans in America. The German press of Pennsylvania in particular served both the German Jews and the Germans and thereby added to an already existing community of interests.

The author shows the waning of some ties in the late nineteenth century occasioned when second and third generations of the German Jews, naturally enough, use the English language as their medium. Since both groups took firmer root in their new land, the common interests between them were substantially lessened.

It is unfortunate that the author treated topics of secondary importance as fully as those of greater import. Nevertheless the pamphlet represents solid research and provides an introduction to an interesting subject.

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Carl Hammond

Guide to the Records in the National Archives. (Washington, United States Government Printing Office, 1948, pp. xvi, 684. Appendix and index. \$2.50, cloth cover.)

This volume supersedes the *Guide to the Material in the National Archives* published in 1940. While the earlier *Guide* listed or described some two hundred thousand cubic feet of records, the 1948 publication describes more than eight hun-