

Book Reviews

his frequent attendants. It is probable that he had contracted tuberculosis at an even earlier date, for in 1826 he took spa treatment for an unspecified complaint and shortly afterwards one of his sisters died of acute phthisis. Even so, the 'Grand Mower Felt by the Grass of the Field' treated him gently; to live those fourteen years with a disease which claimed quietly one person in every five was not usual. Perhaps Chopin spun out his life by his refusal to accept the harsh dicta of contemporary treatment, and by avoiding advice coming from the teaching of Broussais. He was wise in his submissions for he would not be bled; he was fortunate in his physicians, Louis, Cruveilhier and Clark; and though there might have been other endings to his relationships with Sand, her daughter Solange, and Delphine Potocka, they gave him, together with his music, long periods of excitement and happiness. Proof of the cause of Chopin's illness will never be known for he suffered before the time of Koch; again, the cause of his death is not known with certainty as the *procès-verbal* was lost in the riots of 1871, but the admirable description of the disease and its natural history as given by Dr. Long clearly defines pulmonary tuberculosis.

The section dealing with the History of the Treatment of Tuberculosis is unfortunately sketchy. The major principles and theories of the past are certainly given, but there is little or no mention of the numerous medicaments of the Chemical Age, the observations of Baglivi, the work of Carson, the Chest Hospitals, the French School of Surgery in the nineties, the serums and vaccinations, and the minor operations of this present century. And surely the combination of drug therapy and excisional surgery is not the standard treatment of this day. However, this most entertaining and readable little volume does give an overall outline of the more important practices and cleverly so, considering that it is a vast subject and here occupies only some thirty pages.

THOMAS MARMION

Die anatomischen Namen. Ihre Ableitung und Aussprache. VON H. TRIEPEL. 25te Auflage, völlig neu bearbeitet und entsprechend den neuen anatomischen Namen (Pariser N.A.) ergänzt, von R. Herrlinger. München, J. F. Bergmann. 1957. Pp. 82, DM 6.80.

Amongst other things, those who study Anatomy acquire a large and specialized vocabulary which constitutes much of the *lingua franca* of Medicine. Investigations into the derivation of these special terms and biographical research on the men whose names have been perpetuated eponymously constitute a fascinating bypath in medical history and various books are available providing information on these matters. One such was first published in 1905 by Prof. H. Triepel and it has been reissued frequently.

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A new edition, revised by Prof. R. Herrlinger, has just been published. It covers not only the etymology of all the terms used in the Basle (1895) and Jena (1935) nomenclatures, but also the most recent additions made in the *Nomina Anatomica* accepted as an international standard at a representative Congress in Paris in 1955—although in fact relatively few completely new terms were introduced in this list; thus *Die anatomischen Namen* is the most up-to-date of all the available books and glossaries of this type. It is scholarly, comprehensive and almost entirely etymological, so that anyone wishing information about eponyms will make to seek it elsewhere. The price is rather high for a slim paper-bound booklet.

G. A. G. MITCHELL

Sir William Arbuthnot Lane, Bt., C.B., M.S.: an enquiry into the mind and influence of a surgeon. T. B. LAYTON, D.S.O., M.S. Edinburgh and London, E. & S. Livingstone Ltd., 1956. Pp. viii+128. Illustrated. 21s.

When three years after Lane's death W. E. Tanner published *Sir W. Arbuthnot Lane, Bart., C.B., M.S., F.R.C.S.: his life and work* (London, Baillière, Tindall & Cox, 1946)—a curious blend of the fully documented and the episodic, the philosophical and the trivial—many thought that the time was not yet to write a final appreciation of the man and his achievements. Mr. T. B. Layton's biography appears a decade later, appropriately in the centennial year of his hero's birth. It bears the sub-title 'An enquiry into the mind and influence of a surgeon'. Written with first-hand knowledge and industriously and painstakingly documented, it is of great historical value, and will appeal to present and past Guy's students, to all medical men interested in the history of their profession, and probably also to a large part of the general public. The style is most readable. Mr. Layton has the gift of graphic and often paradoxical expression, and as they read the narrative, those who know him can almost hear him speak. Some of the chapters have succinct and arresting titles, e.g. 'The wonderful hands', 'The perfectionist', 'House surgeons' stories'.

A work which is so obviously a labour of love, it may be invidious to criticize, but it is felt that here and there the author's views and interpretations are coloured by the prejudice of the moment. Not everyone will agree with the dogmatic statement that 'Lane initiated nothing. In all that he did he adopted, adapted and extended the work of others.' A few of the chapters are too short, and a little reconstruction might have succeeded in combining them with others. The chapter 'Great Ormond Street, New Health Society and other activities' is disappointingly sketchy. It is perfectly true that to his colleagues Lane was 'Willie', but to the average reader to whom Lane has become a name that echoes down the corridors of surgical