

the annals of history, viz., Hippocrates, "The Great Father of Scientific Medicine." He was born on the island of Cos, B.C. 460, and lived 104 years. "Hippocrates was worthy a place in the most brilliant period in the history of Greece. We might also add, the most brilliant of all the ages in literature, philosophy, poetry, and the fine arts." He was one of an illustrious group that included Pericles, Sophocles, Socrates, and Plato. His culture, his keen and patient power of observation, accuracy of description and exalted ideals have left their impress deeply stamped on medical literature for all time. Following the Hippocratic era we have the great school of medicine at Alexandria, where, under the patronage of the kings, anatomy was systematically taught from dissections of the human body, and physiology from experiments on the lower animals. This school attracted the brightest intellects of the period included between B.C. 400 and A.D. 150. The great library of Alexandria was said to have contained over 500,000 volumes. It was burned A.D. 640.

We come now to the most notable period in the medical literature of the Roman Empire. Space will only permit of a brief reference to two names, Celsus and Galen. Celsus, who was born in Rome about the beginning of the Christian era, was a celebrated author, and versed in rhetoric, philosophy, arts of war, economics and medicine. He was a servile follower of Hippocrates, and in classical language summed up the medical literature of his day. He gave a very concise and admirable description of a surgeon's qualifications, but despite his high ideals the "rank and file" of Romans held surgeons in abhorrence, and even in fractures and dislocations looked to spells and incantations for relief. Galen, A.D. 131-201, was a native of Pergamos. He studied at Smyrna, Corinth, and Alexandria, and settled in Rome A.D. 164. He was a voluminous writer, the author, it is said, of over one hundred books. He found the status of medicine in Rome very low, and labored faithfully to elevate it. Such was the high character of Galen's attainments and ideals that his writings dominated medical thought for more than fifteen centuries. His teaching was considered so infallible that even as late as 1539 a physician in London was prosecuted for impugning some of his statements. Galen is credited with the first vivisection. He left no worthy successor, and soon after his time began the disintegration of the Roman Empire. What is known in history as the "Dark Ages" followed, during which time little or no progress was made in either the science or art of medicine.

About A.D. 400 the preparation and dispensing of drugs was assigned to a distinct class, known as pharmacopeists.

On account of the spread of Christianity in the earlier centuries, efforts began to be made in establishing institutions for the