

their removal. The celebrated Pythagoras was one of the first and most eminent of this class respecting whom we have any accurate information. We are informed that they dissected the bodies of the lower animals, and thus acquired some knowledge of anatomy. His disciples, unlike the priesthood, visited the sick at their own homes.

In various ways medicine had already made sensible progress, when Hippocrates was born in the island of Cos, 460 (B.C.). He collected the scattered knowledge of his time, and added to it by his own genius and observation. Indeed it may be confidently affirmed that the science is more indebted to his genius and ability than to that of any single individual, hence all ages have justly consented to style him the "father of medicine." He raised medicine from a system of superstitious rites to the dignity of a learned profession.

Soon after the death of Hippocrates, the two great rival schools of medicine were founded, viz.: the Dogmatists or Hippocratean school, and the Empirics. These great rival schools have continued to flourish and divide the medical world even to the present century.

About 300 years (B.C.) the Alexandrian school was founded through the munificence of the Ptolemies, and here we find Erasistratus and Herophilus making the first dissections of the human body. This gave a great impetus to the progress of the medical science. The founding of the Alexandrian library at a time when books were rare and expensive, together with the authorization of human dissections, also being the great highway of commerce, and under the powerful and personal support of the Ptolemies, all contributed to make this city the most brilliant seat of learning for many centuries, during which time its school continued to produce a series of learned men, not only in medicine but in the other sciences, which tended to prevent the decline of knowledge endangered through the decay of Grecian literature.

Among the most eminent of those who practised medicine at Rome, was Galen, a name equally as familiar to modern ears, as those of Hippocrates and Æsculapius. Galen was born at Pergamos, A.D. 130. For more than twelve centuries his authority reigned supreme in the

schools. Even facts were disputed if they were against the authority of Galen.

From the time of Galen medicine began to participate in the decline which had already overtaken art and literature. Hospitals and dispensaries owe their origin to Christianity. The first hospital was founded at Cæsarea, by St. Paula towards the end of the fourteenth century.

Archiaters, or chief physicians, were permanently established under Antoninus Pius, in order to oversee and look after the poor of each city, which they were to treat free of charge. They were also expected to examine and license all who undertook the practice of medicine. They were usually elected by the physicians. This is the first instance in history of the licensing of physicians. The order of Archiaters still exists in Denmark and Sweden.

In the seventh century, Alexandria with its celebrated library was destroyed by the Arabians, and thus perished its schools of learning. Yet among the general wreck of these ruthless invaders there were not wanting a number of individuals who managed to save, as well as to fully estimate, the value of a few copies of the most eminent authors, notably Hippocrates and Galen.

Now while the western empire had sunk into barbarism, and the eastern, sadly limited, was struggling for existence, medical science found refuge among the Arabians.

The Saracenic schools of medicine flourished from the eighth to the twelfth century.

From the twelfth to the fifteenth century, a period of three centuries, which has justly been termed the dark ages, the whole world appears to have been enveloped in the deepest gloom, every department of science was neglected, and among others medicine fell into the lowest state of degradation. Those who practised medicine were said to be in league with the evil one. Invalids resorted to witchcraft, sorcery and astrology, also divinations and incantations of various kinds.

The school of Salerno was founded about the time of the destruction of the Alexandrian library by the Saracens, and reached its height from the tenth to the thirteenth century. The "Regimen Sanitatis Salerni," the dietetic pre-