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978-1-107-42594-1 - Medical Practitioners in the Diocese of London, Licensed  
under the Act of 3 Henry VIII, c. 11: An Annotated List 1529–1725

J. Harvey Bloom and R. Rutson James

Frontmatter

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## MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

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An Annotated List 1529–1725

by

J. HARVEY BLOOM, M.A., HON. F.S.G.

and

R. RUTSON JAMES, F.R.C.S.

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TO

SIR D'ARCY POWER, K.B.E., F.R.C.S.

Consulting Surgeon, St Bartholomew's Hospital and  
Hon. Librarian, Royal College of  
Surgeons of England

THIS LITTLE VOLUME  
IS INSCRIBED

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## PREFACE

The following list of those licensed to practise in the Diocese of London under the Act of 3 Hen. VIII, c. 11 is drawn from various sources and is arranged in two sections.

The first section contains in chronological order the names entered in the Books of the Vicars-General of the See of London, now housed in the Principal Probate Registry, Somerset House, and, in like manner, the entries in the later books still at St Paul's. The second section is derived from the bundles of original papers also preserved at St Paul's, and here the names are arranged in alphabetical order. An Appendix contains a selection of the more important documents, which have been transcribed as examples of the *modus operandi*, and a list of the Vicars-General of the See who acted as the bishop's commissioners.

We are under an obligation to the Registrar of the Bishop of London, Mr Charles Lee, and to Mr Cave, the chief clerk, and his assistants for their kindly aid and courtesy; and we are specially grateful to Mr Frank Marcham, who has placed his unrivalled knowledge of medieval London and the records in general at our disposal without stint. Without his help the book would have been far less complete than it is.

It must not be assumed that this book contains the names of all practitioners in the diocese. The Royal College of Physicians was clearly outside the pro-

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---

visions of the Act; and, with regard to the surgeons and barber-surgeons, the practice of obtaining a licence from the episcopal authority was certainly not universal.

Young, in the *Annals of the Barber-Surgeons*, thinks that it applied only to some surgeons who were not free of the Company, but the text does not support this view.

He says, 'In some cases the Bishop licensed surgeons, without reference to the Company, and thousands have been licensed by the Company, without regard to the Bishop, . . . the practice certainly varying with the times'.

The annotations are drawn from the usual accepted sources, Young's *Annals* having proved a mine of information. We wish to state that we have not thought it necessary to refer at length to such well-known men as Clowes, Bernard, Cheselden and Dickins, about whom much is already known. To Mr C. J. S. Thompson's *The Quacks of Old London* we are indebted for facts about T. Saffold and Major Choke.

We are also indebted to Dr G. A. Auden and, through him, to the late Dr Evelyn of York, for information about Alexius Vodka. To the Cambridge University Press we are indebted for kindly consideration and assistance.

J. H. B.

R. R. J.

*London*

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