Book Reviews

John R. Brinkley (d. 1942) of Kansas. While Voronoff had orthodox training and held an appointment at the Collège de France, Brinkley was not fully qualified as a physician and may be characterized as a quack in his style of self-promotion. As in the case of Brinkley, the press was effective in promoting Voronoff's career. Hamilton points out that both Voronoff and Brinkley benefited substantially from public expectation of success at a time when transplant rejection was not yet a recognized biological phenomenon, and endocrinology was visibly struggling to establish itself as a science.

Hamilton's intent is to present a sympathetic but critical account of Voronoff's work and scientific times, explaining how optimism and limited knowledge of a given phenomenon may lead to scientific error. His engaging account is unfortunately marred by the lack of footnotes. Despite a bibliographic essay, this is a serious deficiency when evaluating a controversial subject. Variation in tone and overuse of "doubtless", "perhaps", "probably", and "may have" in the text remind us how much understanding of this era rests on interpretation and the viewpoint of the observer.

Nonetheless, Hamilton's reevaluation of this important and interesting episode points the way to better understanding of the early years of transplant surgery and to appreciation of the intensely heated debates that accompanied the rise of modern endocrinology. Clinical, histological, physiological, and chemical evidence vied for supremacy in the definition of this new speciality. We do not yet understand the full meaning of these debates or their significance in the establishment of a consensus as to what would constitute acceptable evidence in twentieth-century scientific medicine.

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K. F. RUSSELL, British anatomy 1525–1800. A bibliography of works published in Britain, America, and on the Continent, 2nd ed., Winchester, St Paul's Bibliographies, 1987, 8vo, pp. xlix, 245, illus. £38.00.

This scholarly bibliography, which has established itself as a standard reference work on the subject, first appeared in 1963. It covers books on human anatomy published by British authors in Britain, America, and on the Continent, in all languages and editions. It also includes the works of European authors translated into English or printed in Britain in their original language. The new edition incorporates additional information on items that were elusive in the earlier searches; subsequent research by the author has resulted in the correction of biographical details and errors of collation and in the discovery of variant imprints and previously unrecorded editions.

The arrangement has not been changed; the numbering of entries remains the same, with letters after the numbers for additional entries. There are sixty-seven additions to the 901 items contained in the first edition; a major correction concerns the works previously ascribed to John Rotherham, which have now been reascribed to Andrew Fyfe, who carried out the major part of the work in their compilation. There are thirty-two plates, consisting mainly of reproductions of title-pages. The author's introduction provides a short history of the study and teaching of anatomy in Britain and an evaluation of many of the items cited.

Dr Russell, now Emeritus Professor of Anatomy and Medical History in the University of Melbourne, is to be commended on his completion of this revision, particularly as he has lived and worked so far from the major collections of books in his field. He acknowledges the help obtained from librarians everywhere and from library catalogues published in recent years, notably those of the National Library of Medicine and the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine.

L. T. Morton