Interior of apothecary shop, 1537

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A chart used for urine analysis, 1506

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De mortuis nil melius, vita nil peius suqua
Quae mortis hoini, reges eterna labori
Te semel lugubri domino volente relaxas
Victorius graces admisit curric carbonas
Exilium levis, et carceris hostia frangis
Eripis indignus, uti bona gratios equans
Atque immo nones, nullus exspectabilis arte
A primo precuta die, tu certa quero
Ferre tubes animo, promitto sine laborum
Te tene supplicium, vita est cancer perennis
Careful inspection at school prevents epidemics of diphtheria, measles, etc.


Careful inspection at school prevents epidemics of diphtheria, measles, etc., 1913

NLM Image ID: 101436776
Hood's Sarsparilla

Purifies the blood, creates an appetite, makes the weak strong, and builds up the system.

Prepared only by


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Nurses are needed now!, 1944

NLM Image ID: 101579732
Projection of light through a telescopic lens, 1685

NLM Image ID: 101449185
The summer blood donor is a rare bird--be distinguished, 1981

NLM Image ID: 101438459
The vine = *Vitis*, vinifera, 1737

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De ulula, 1555

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Doctor McSwattle filled up a bottle, ca. 1918

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Back from the front, 1904

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Image List

Cover:
*Interior of apothecary shop, 1537*
Woodcut of an apothecary shop from *Thesaurus Pauperum*, written by Hieronymus Brunschwig, a surgeon, alchemist, and botanist.

Page 1:
*A chart used for urine analysis, 1506*
Woodcut of a urine wheel used for diagnosing diseases from *Epiphanie Medicorum*, written by physician Ulrich Pinder. The inner circle shows a physician sitting in a chair holding up a urine flask to make a diagnosis.

Page 2:
*Dance of Death, 1493*
Woodcut from *Liber Chronicarum* (also known as *Nuremberg Chronicle*), written by physician Hartmann Schedel and illustrated by painter Michael Wolgemut. The translated title reads, “The Seventh Age of the World: The Image of Death.” The translated verse reads,

Nothing is better than Death, nor anything worse than an unfair Life,
O great Death, you are men’s eternal rest from labor,
You relax the yoke for the aged, God willing,
And remove the heavy fetters from the necks of the vanquished,
You lift exile and break open the doors of prison,
You rescue from indignities, assigning good things to the just by lots,
And you remain unmoved, implacable by any technique,
On that day preset from the beginning, all these things you command
the peaceful soul to bear, the end of its labors having been promised,
Without you the life of the suffering is a perennial prison.

Page 3:
*Careful inspection at school prevents epidemics of diphtheria, measles, etc., 1913*
Illustration from *A Handbook of the People’s Health: A Textbook of Sanitation and Hygiene for the Use of Schools*, written by Walter Moore Coleman and illustrated by Retta Carroll and Alfred Seiler.

Page 4:
*Equus, 1491*
Woodcut of a horse from *Ortus Sanitatis*, a natural history encyclopedia, published by Jacob Meydenbach.
Page 5:

**Hood’s Sarsaparilla, 19th century**
Advertising card for a patent medicine called Hood’s Sarsaparilla, a blood purifier created by Charles Ira Hood, founder of C.I. Hood & Co. in Lowell, Massachusetts. “Patent medicines” were non-prescription drugs that gained popularity in the United States in the late 19th century, and were, in fact, rarely patented. These “medicines” contained unregulated ingredients, usually vegetable and herbal extracts with doses of alcohol, opium, or cocaine, which inevitably led to cases of addiction and death.

Page 6:

**Lesson in anatomy, 1493**
Woodcut of a man instructing a student dissecting a cadaver from *Anatomia Corporis Humani*, written by anatomist and physician Mondino dei Luzzi.

Page 7:

**Phrenology, 1835**
Lithograph of the profile of Franz Joseph Gall, founder of phrenology, showing phrenological sections of the human head. Phrenology, now discredited, is the study of skull structure to determine personality traits and mental capacity. Gall identified 27 individual faculties of the head including kindness, sense of satire, murder tendencies, and memory of people.

Page 8:

**Nurses are needed now!, 1944**
Poster designed by Steele Savage and published by the United States Army Recruiting Publicity Bureau as part of a campaign to recruit nurses during World War II.

Page 9:

**Projection of light through a telescopic lense, 1685**
Engraving of Johann Zahn’s creation of a mechanical eye, the scioptric ball (a ball of wood with a hole made through the center in which a lens or pair of lenses is placed) designed to project the image of the sun in a camera obscura, from *Oculus Artificialis Teledioptricus Sive Telescopium*.

Page 11:

**The vine = Vitis, vinifera, 1737**
Elizabeth Blackwell’s engraving of *vitus vinifera* (grape vine) from *A Curious Herbal*. This herbal, a book of plants describing their appearance, properties, and medicinal uses, contains 500 hand-colored engraved plates.
Page 12:

**De ulula, 1555**

Woodcut of an owl from *Historia Animalium*, by physician and naturalist Conrad Gesner. *Historia Animalium* is a 5-volume, natural history compendium on animals and is considered to be the first modern zoological work.

Page 13:

**Doctor McSwattle filled up a bottle, ca. 1918**

Illustration by Blanch Fisher Wright, from *The Peter Patter Book: Rimes for Children*, written by Leroy F. Jackson. The full rhyme reads,

Doctor McSwattle  
Filled up a bottle  
With vinegar, varnish and rum.  
And offered a swallow  
To all who would follow  
The call of his trumpet and drum.  
It’s good, I am told,  
For a cough and a cold,  
It’s good for a pain in your thumb.

Page 14:

**Back from the front, 1904**

Illustration of the inside of a Russian ambulance train (during the Russo-Japanese War) drawn by George Percy Jacomb-Hood. The image appeared on the cover of the August 27, 1904 issue of “The Graphic,” a British weekly illustrated newspaper.

Page 18:

**Main entrance to the National Library of Medicine, ca. 1965**

Photograph of the exterior of the National Library of Medicine taken by Edward A. Hubbard.
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Main entrance to the National Library of Medicine, ca. 1965

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