

PLATNER (JOHANN ZACHARIAS). *Continued.*

Jacob Leupolds *Prodromus Bibliothecae metallica*, 1732, p. 112.

Jöcher, *Allgemeines Gelehrten-Lexicon*, 1751, iii. col. 1624; Rotermund's *Fortsetzung und Ergänzungen*, 1819, vi. col. 367 (list of 32 dissertations, programmata, etc.).

Eloy, *Dictionnaire historique de la Médecine*, 1755, ii. p. 289; 1778, iii. p. 585.

Portal, *Histoire de l'Anatomie et de la Chirurgie*, 1770, v. p. 23.

Moehsen, *Verzeichnis einer Sammlung von Bildnissen*, 1771, Th. ii. p. 106.

Haller, *Bibliotheca Chirurgica*, 1775, ii. p. 65.

Haller, *Bibliotheca Anatomica*, 1777, ii. p. 101.

J. F. Blumenbach, *Introductio in Historiam Medicinæ Litterarium*, 1786, p. 366 ('Vir elegantissime doctus').

Joh Aug. Ernesti, *Denkmäler und Lobschriften auf verdienstvolle Männer*, Leipzig, 1792, pp. 162-180.

Metzger, *Skizze einer pragmatischen Literar-geschichte der Medicin*, 1792, p. 389, § 302.

Der Biograph, Halle, 1807, n. pp. 59-76 (a good biographical sketch).

PLATO.

Libri Quartorum, seu Stellici, cum commento Hebuhabeo Hamed, explicata ab Hestole.

See THEATRUM CHEMICUM, 1660, v. p. 101. See also p. 801.

See ANNULUS Platonis.

See NAXAGORAS (EHRD VON).

Maier assures us that 'Plato chymicus' is neither Latin nor Greek, but Arabian, and he quotes various dicta by him, and references to him, as in the Rosarius major, and by Calid and others.

A person of this name was known to Stephanus Alexandrinus (Pizimenti, *Democritus*, 1573, f. 59 *recto*).

The name of Plato, as Kopp correctly observes, occurs in the book by Albertus Magnus *De Mineralibus et rebus metallicis* (Lib. i. c. 4. Lib. ii. c. 2; ed. 1541 with Lullius *De secretis naturae*, f. 66

Michael Maier, *Symbola Aureae Mensae*, 1617, p. 218.

Lenglet Dufresnoy, *Histoire de la Philosophie Hermétique*, 1742, iii. p. 56.

PLATT (HUGH).

Remedies against Famine.

See COLLECTANEA CHYMICA, 1684, p. 153.

Sir Hugh Platt was born in 1552, matriculated at St. John's College, Cambridge, 12 Nov., 1568, and took the degree of B.A. in 1571-2, after which he became a member of Lincoln's Inn and published a volume of apophthegms and poetry.

He did not pursue literature, however, but turned to natural science and practical invention and agriculture, making many experiments and becoming famous, as Harte points out, for the number of fertilizing agents which he introduced. The agricultural and horticultural experiments were carried on at Bishop's Hall, Bethnal Green, and at St. Martin's Lane.

In 1594 he published an account of his inventions in 'The Jewell House of Art and Nature,' and in other tracts, and his receipts in domestic economy were collected in his little volume: 'Delights for Ladies published by Peter Short in 1602, 12°.

Biographie Médicale, Paris, Panckoucke (1820-25), vi. p. 437.

Biographie Universelle, 1823, xxxv. p. 31; no date, xxxiii. p. 491.

Sprengel, *Geschichte der Arzneykunde*, 1828, v. pp. 752, 798, 817, 839.

Dezeimeris, *Dictionnaire Historique de la Médecine*, 1837, III. ii. p. 724.

Bayle & Thillaye, *Biographie Médicale*, 1855, ii.

p. 255.

Poggendorff, *Biographisch-literarisches Handwörterbuch*, 1863, ii. col. 468.

Nouvelle Biographie Générale, 1866, xl. Col. 420.

Haeser, *Geschichte der Medicin*, 1881, ii. p. 680.

Hirsch, *Biographisches Lexikon der hervorragenden Aerzte aller Zeiten und Völker*, 1886, iv. p. 587.

Allgemeine Deutsche Biographie, 1888, xxvi. p. 262 (article by Hirsch).

Dictionnaire Encyclopédique des Sciences Médicales, 2ème Série, 1888, xxvi. p. 1.

Billings, *Index-Catalogue*, 1890, xi. p. 356.

recto, f. 87 *verso*), but it seems to me that it is the philosopher to whom reference is made and not to an alchemist of the same name.

Schmieder is of opinion that the present writer cannot possibly be confused with the Greek, but at the same time he does not doubt that Plato is the author's own name, and not a pseudonym.

Kopp, on the other hand, seems disposed to think that it was the philosopher himself that was enrolled among the alchemists and that writings on alchemy were ascribed to him.

Schmieder, *Geschichte der Alchemie*, 1832, p. 120.

Kopp, *Beiträge zur Geschichte der Chemie*, 1869, Stück ii. p. 358.

Of this book there were numerous editions, to which I have referred elsewhere.

He received the honour of knighthood from King James I. at Greenwich on May 22, 1605.

In 1608 appeared his work on gardening entitled 'Floraes Paradise,' dated from Bethnal Green, and in it he describes wine made from grapes grown there. This book appeared afterwards under the title 'The Garden of Eden,' and passed through several editions.

Rotermund quotes two dated 1671, 1675, respectively. It was reviewed in the *Philosophical Transactions*, and Horace Walpole alludes to its obscurity for the author, he says, had 'concealed his principal secret in a figurative description . . . so that you might as soon understand a book of alchemy as Sir Hugh's treatise, at least his secret.'

PLATT (HUGH). *Continued.*

In the British Museum are preserved various manuscripts by Platt on chemical, alchemical and medical subjects, a list of which is given by Cooper.

In 1611 was published his 'Closet for Ladies and Gentlemen on the art of Preserving, Conseruing and Candyng,' which was a reissue of the first part of the 'Delights for Ladies.'

Cooper reports the statement that he died in 1605, and was buried at Hornsey, but he seems to have been alive and writing after that year, and his death may have occurred subsequent to 1611. The exact date, however, is not known.

Harte gives the following account of him:—

'Sir Hugh Platt (not to mention his other excellent talents) was the most ingenious husbandman of the age he lived in: Yet so great was his modesty that all his works seem to be posthumous, except the *Paradise of Flora*, which appeared in 1600, when it is probable he was living. He spent part of his time at *Copt-Hall*, in *Essex*, or at *Bishop's-Hall*, in *Middlesex*, at each of which places he had a country-seat; but his town residence was *Lincoln's-Inn*—His *Jewel-House* was published by Dr. *Beati* commonly called, in *England*, Dr. *Bout* (who by the way, was as great a genius in husbandry, as most we have mentioned) and the *Flora's Paradise* (with a second original part) was published by one *Bellingham*, the author's kinsman, who changed the title to the *Garden of Eden*.

'Sir *Hugh* held a correspondence with all lovers of agriculture and gardening throughout England. And such was the justice and modesty of his temper, that he always named the author of every discovery communicated to him.

'In a word, no one man in any age ever discovered, or, at least, brought into use, so many

Philosophical Transactions, 1675, No. 113, p. 302.

Zedler, *Universal-Lexicon*, 1741, xxviii. col. 741.

Tanner, *Bibliotheca Cantabrigienses*, 1748, p. 600.

Rev. Walter Harte, *Essays on Husbandry*, London, 1770, and edition, Essay ii. p. 113.

Haller, *Bibliotheca Botanica*, 1771, i. p. 458; , ii. p.

681.

Rotermund, *Fortsetzung und Ergänzungen zu . . . Jöchers allgemeinem Gelehrten-Lexico*, 1819, vi. col. 375.

Watt, *Bibliotheca Britannica*, 1824, (authors) ii. 761 n.

PLATTES (GABRIEL).

An Invaluable Discovery of all Sorts of Mines from Gold to Coal.

See COLLECTION (A) of scarce and valuable Treatises upon Metals, . . . 1740, pp. 194-241.

This work was originally published with the title *A Discovery of Subterranean Treasure*, London, 1639, 4°, pp. [10] 60; 1679, 4°, pp. [3, 1 blank] 24, and an edition of 1684 is mentioned by Watt.

Harte (i. p. 35) calls him an original genius in husbandry, who began his observations in the latter end of Queen Elizabeth's reign, and came down to three or four years of the Commonwealth. He further says of him:

'As great a genius as this writer was, the public allowed him to drop down dead in *London* streets with hunger only; nor had he a shirt upon his back when he died. He bequeathed his papers to *S. Hartlib*: whom a cotemporary author addresses in this manner: "None (but yourself, who want

new sorts of manure. Witness his account of the COMPOST and COVERED DUNGHILL, and his observations on the fertilizing qualities lodged in SALT; — STREET DIRT AND SULLAGE OF STREETS in great cities;—CLAY;—FULLERS EARTH;—MOORISH EARTH;—DUNGHILLS MADE IN LAYERS;— FERN;—HAIR;—CALCINATION OF ALL VEGETABLES; *Malt-dust*,—*Willow-tree earth*, *Soap-boilers ashes*; and *broken-Pilchards* and MARLE.

He was the author of several works:—"The Jewell House of Art and Nature," London, Peter Short, 1594, 4°. It is in three separate parts which have separate titles and pagination: 'Diverse new and conceited experiments,' pp. [16] 96, with a large folding sheet containing all the diagrams of the different pieces of apparatus printed in the text; 'Diuerse new sorts of Soyle,' pp. 60; 'Diuers Chemical Conclusions concerning the Art of Distillation,' pp. 76. The title-pages have elaborate ornamental borders, and on the verso of the first-title-page are the arms of Robert Deuorax, Earl of Essex to whom Hugh Platte or Plat (for he uses both forms) dedicates the book. It was reprinted London, 1653, 4°, pp. [8] 232.

A discoverie of certain English wents,' London,

1595, 4°.

'The setting of Come' [1600], 4°.

'A new, cheape and delicate Fire of Cole-balles,' London, 1603, 4°, ff. [15]. This very rare pamphlet gives an extended account of an invention of his mentioned in the third part of the 'Jewell House.'

The present tract was published separately: 'Sundrie new and Artificiall remedies against Famine, Written by H. P. Esq., upon thocccasion of this present Dearth, London,' 1596, 4°.

John Donaldson, *Agricultural Biography*, 1854, p. 11, No. ix. (after Harte).

Horace Walpole, *Letters*, 1861, vi. p. 373.

Cooper, *Athenae Cantabrigienses*, 1861, ii. pp. 436-438 (and references).

Allibone, *A critical Dictionary of English Literature*, 1878, ii. p. 1606.

Ferguson, 'Notes on Histories of Inventions and Bocks of Secrets,' *Transactions of the Archaeological Society of Glasgow*, 1883, ii. p. 194; p. 259; 1890, N.S. i. p. 459.

Hon. Alicia Amherst, *A History of Gardening in England*, 1895, pp. 142, 152, 171, 329.

Dictionary of National Biography, 1896, xlv. p. 407 (and references; article by S. Lee).

not an enlarged heart, but a fuller hand to supply the world's defects) being found, with some few others, to administer any relief to a man of so great merit." *Letter to Hartlib from Flanders*, 1650,

'Another friend of *Hartlib's* gives *Plattes* the following character: "Certainly that man had as excellent a genius in agriculture as any that ever lived in this nation before him, and was the most faithful seeker of his ungrateful country's good. I never think of the great Judgment, pure zeal, and faithful intentions of that man, and withal of his strange sufferings and manner of death, but am struck with amazement that such a man should be suffered to fall down dead in the streets for want of food, whose studies tended to no less than providing and preserving food for whole nations, and

PLATTES (GABRIEL). *Continued.*

that too as with much skill and industry, so without pride or arrogance towards God or man."

'C. D. in a Letter to Hartlib, 1653. *Legacy*, pp. 183, 184.

'Hartlib, as far as can be learnt, published but few posthumous papers of Gabriel Plattes; and indeed an author, so extremely poor as this unfortunate person was, would in all probability have sold his writings to the booksellers, had they been so far finished as to deserve publication.

'The pieces already published are these which follow: *Practical Husbandry improved*, or, *A Discovery of infinite Treasure*, 4°, containing 120 pages, 1656.

A Discovery of subterranean Treasure, 4to, 1638. About three sheets.

Mercurius Laetificans, 4to, 1644. Twelve pages.

Observations and Improvements in Husbandry, accompanied with twenty Experiments, imparted to S. Hartlib by Gab. Plattes, 32 pages, 4to, 1653.

'This author had a bold adventurous cast of mind, and seems to have preferred the faulty sublime, in matters of invention, to the faultless mediocrity. As to his MS. intitled *Art's Mistress*, containing a series of observations and experiments in agriculture for fifty years, and in all probability the most valuable in matter, as well as most con-

Borrichius, *Conspectus Scriptorum Chemicorum*, 1697, p. 22.

Jacob Leupolds *Prodromus Bibliothecae metallicaee*, 1732, p. 22.

Lenglet Dufresnoy, *Histoire de la Philosophie Hermétique*, 1742, iii. p. 268.

Rev. Waiter Harte, *Essays on Husbandry*, London, 1770, 2nd Edition, Essay i. p. 35; Essay ii. pp. 63-64.

Haller, *Bibliotheca Botanica*, 1771, i. p. 456.

PLEIADES Philosophicæ Rosianæ, oder Philosophisches Sieben-Gestirn der Rosen Creutzer.

See PHILOSOPHISCHES LICHT und Schatten, 1738, No. ii.

For alchemical works referring to the Pleiades and other stars, see Kopp.

Beytrag zur Geschichte der höhern Chemie, 1785, p. 666.

Kopp, *Die Alchemie*, 1886, ii. p. 340.

PLENCK (JOSEPH JAKOB VON).

Farmacia Chirurgica del celeb. Professore Gioseffo Jacopo Plenck, ovvero Dottrina de' Medicamenti Preparati e Composti che si sogliono adoperare nella Cura de' Morbi Esterni. Seconda Edizione. In Venezia, Appresso Francesco di Niccolo Pezzana. MDCCCLXXXVI. Con Approvazione, e Privilegio. 12°. Pp. [12] 190 [2].

Plenck, or von Plenck, or Plenk, was born at Vienna, 28 Nov., 1732 (1738). He was a disciple of Cranz, and in 1770 he was professor of anatomy surgery, and obstetrics at Ofen, in Hungary. After holding the chair of anatomy, surgery, and obstetrics at Basel for some time, he was appointed in 1783 to the professorship of chemistry and botany in the military medico-chirurgical academy at Vienna. He was also made director of the field dispensary, and was appointed staff-surgeon. In 1798 he was raised to the rank of a Hungarian noble, and received the secretaryship of the Joseph Academy.

He was the author of numerous works on surgery, obstetrics, medicine, toxicology, forensic medicine, botany, pharmacology, of which forty-three are

siderable in size, of all his writings, we have spoken thereof in the 1st essay.

'In a letter to Hartlib, May 14, 1644 he mentions a work of his called, *The Treasure-house of Nature unlocked, and set wide open to the World*, &c. Whether this performance was ever printed is more than I know, or whether it be not the tract first mentioned in this list, which I am partly inclined to believe.'

The fact that he died of starvation is mentioned by Haller.

The list of his works given by Donaldson does not quite tally with that by Harte, and I cannot help thinking that one book appears under more than one title. They are the following:—

A Treatise of Husbandry, London, 1638.

A Discoverie of infinite treasure, hidden from the world's beginning in the way of husbandry, London, 1636, 1639, 4°.

A Discovery of Subterranean treasure, London, 1639, 4°.

Observations and Improvements in husbandry, with twenty experiments, London, 1639, 4°.

The profitable intelligencer, London, 1644, 4°.

Recreatio Agriculturae, London, 1646, 4°.

Of this last there is said to be an edition of 1640.

Watt, *Bibliotheca Britannica*, 1824, (authors) ii. 761 p.

Donaldson, *Agricultural Biography*, 1854, p. 20, No. xxvi.

Allibone, *A critical Dictionary of English Literature*, 1878, ii. p. 1607.

Ferguson, 'Notes on Histories of Inventions and Books of Secrets,' *Transactions of the Archaeological Society of Glasgow*, 1883, ii. p. 194; p. 251; 1890, N. S. i. p. 226

Dictionary of National Biography, 1896, xiv. p. 410 (and references).

PLENCK (JOSEPH JAKOB VON). *Continued.*

Haller, *Bibliotheca Botanica*, 1772, ii. p. 610.

Haller, *Bibliotheca Chirurgica*, 1775, ii. p. 528 ('chirurgus et obstetrix').

Haller, *Bibliotheca Anatomica*, 1777, ii. p. 652.

Ignaz de Luca, *Des Gelehrte Oesterreich*, 1778, I. ii. p. 24.

Ekkard, *Literarisches Handbuch*, p. 29.

Göttingische Anzeigen von Gelehrten Sechen, 1786, i. p. 508.

Meusel, *Das Gelehrte Teutschland oder Lexikon der jetzt lebenden Teutschen Schriftsteller*, 1798, vi. p. 121;

1803, x. p. 418; 1803, xi. p. 615, 1811, xv. p. 52.

Fuchs, *Repertorium der chemischen Litteratur*, 1806-08, p. 385.

Die Biograph, Halle, 1808, vii. p. 501.

Rotermund, *Fortsetzung und Ergänzungen zu . . . Jöchers allgemeinem Gelehrten-Lexico*, 1819, vi. col. 391.

Biographie Médicale, Paris, Panckoucke (1820-25), vi. p. 444.

Sprengel, *Geschichte der Arzneykunde*, 1828, v.

pp. 587, 756, 770, 839, 859, 864.

PLUSIUS (EDVARDUS).

Speculum Modernæ Alchimix. Autore Eduardo Plusio Belga.

Geber lib. I. summæ perfectionis capite 7.

Miserrimus & infelix est is, cui Deus post operis sui atq; laboris finem veritatem conspiciere denegat.

Lignicii typis Nicolai Sartorii. 1607.

8°. Sigs. A to D in eights, E4. =pp. [68, 4 blank]. Woodcut border round the title. Numerous MS. notes in the handwriting of Grofschedl, whose name is on the title-page.

This first edition is not mentioned by any of the usual authorities, and the only reference to it which

I have seen is in the preface to the German translation.

Eduard Plusii Spiegel der heutigen Alchimie, das ist, wohlgegründeter Bericht, was von der so beruffenen Goldmacher Kunst zu halten, und wie man sich darinnen behutsam zu erzeugen habe; Allen aufrichtigen Liebhabern derselben zu Dienste aus dem Lateinischen wegen seiner Nutzbarkeit ins Deutsche übersetzt. Budifsin und Gorlitz, bey David Richtern, Buchh. 1725.

8°. Pp. 80

According to the translator, Eduard Plusius is a feigned name, but he does not tell us what was the real one or anything about the author.

The book is meant to warn students of alchemy from the pitfalls wherewith they are surrounded. One must conclude that very little advance can

have been made, if a book of 1607 could serve to keep off readers from the same cheats, errors and dangers in 1725 and 1756.

Only this 1725 edition is mentioned by Gmelin Schmieler and Kopp. Plusius' book is not in the Ouvaroff collection, or in Lenglet Dufresnoy's list.

Der heutige Alchimist, oder der beruffene Gold-Kocher, wie solche Wissenschaft beschaffen seyn müsse, nebst wohlgegründeten Berichte, was davon zu halten, und wie man sich dabey behutsam zu erzeugen habe. Budissin, bey David Richtern. 1756.

8°. Pp. 80. At the end, p. 77: Alte Verse, worinne die Bereitung des Philosophischen Steines Rätsel-weiß beschrieben.

PLUSIUS (EDVARDUS). *Continued.*

This tract, issued without the author's name, consists of the remainder copies of Plusius' *Spiegel der heutigen Alchimie*, 1725. The only difference is that in this reissue the title-page has been recast, and the "Avertissement an den geneigten Leser" by the translator and the "Vorbericht des Authoris" have been omitted, so, in order not to disturb the pagination, the first sheet has been re-

printed and sufficiently widely spaced to make what went into 10 pages in the 1725 edition fill 14 in this reissue. Moreover, in the reissue, the running title to p. 16 is 'Der heutige Alchimist,' but from p. 17 to the end it is, of course, 'Spiegel der heutigen Alchimie.' In all other respects the books are identical.

Gmelin, *Geschichte der Chemie*, 1798, ii. p. 316.
Schmieder, *Geschichte der Alchemie*, 1832, p. 542.

Kopp, *Die Alchemie*, 1880, ii. p. 354.

PÖRNER (CARL WILHELM).

D. Carl Wilhelm Pörner, Churfürstl. Sächsischen Bergraths chymische Versuche und Bemerkungen zum Nutzen der Färbekunst. Erster Theil. Leipzig, bey M. G. Weidmanns Erben und Reich. 1772.

8°. Pp. [10] 524 [10].

D. Carl Wilhelm Pörner, Churfürstl. Sächsl. Bergraths chymische Versuche und Bemerkungen zum Nutzen der Färbekunst. Zweyter Theil. Leipzig, bey M. G. Weidmanns Erben und Reich. 1772.

8°. Pp. [2] 604 [8, 2 blank].

A third part was published at Leipzig, in 1773.

Pörner's father was a practising lawyer in Leipzig and he himself was born there 16 Jan., 1732. He was educated at the Nicholas School and the University, graduated M.D. in 1754, and gave lectures on chemistry. He was appointed electoral Saxon mining councillor and commissarius in the porce-

lain works at Meissen, He died there 13 April, 1796.

He was devoted to chemistry and published books and papers on the subject. Lists of these are given by Weigel, by Gmelin, and by Meusel.

The present is an important experimental work on dyeing and printing cotton.

Haller, *Bibliotheca Botanica*, 1772, ii. p. 707.
Weigel, *Grundriss der reinen und angewandten Chemie*, 1777, *passim*.
Baumer, *Bibliotheca Chemica*, 1782, p. 46.
Allgemeiner Literarischer Anzeiger, 1796, p. 210.
Leipz. gel. Tagebuch, 1706, p. 111.
Gmelin, *Geschichte der Chemie*, 1798, ii. p. 387; 1799, iii. p. 31.
Meusel, *Lexicon der vom Jahr 1750 bis 1800 verstorbenen Teutschen Schriftsteller*, 1810, x. p. 482.
Rotermund, *Fortsetzung und Ergänzungen zu*

Jöchers allgemeinem Gelehrten-Lexico, 1819, vi. col. 465.
Biographie Médicale, Paris, Panckoucke (1820-25), vi. p. 456.
Kopp, *Geschichte der Chemie*, 1847, iv. pp. 62, 91, 316, 390.
Phillipe & Ludwig *Geschichte der Apotheker*, 1855, pp. 640, 694.
Poggendorff, *Biographisch-literarisches Handwörterbuch*, 1863, ii. col. 479.

Nouvelle Biographie Générale, 1866, xl. p. 548.

POLEMANN (JOACHIMUS).

Psal. 36. In deinem Lichte sehen wir das Licht Novum Lumen Medicum in welchem die vortreffliche und hochnöthige Lehre des hochbegabten Philosophi Helmontii, von dem hohen Geheimnis des Sulphuris Philosophorum. Aus getreuen wolmeynenden Gemüthe gegen die Unwissenden und Irrenden, wie auch aus mitleidendem Hertenzen gegen die Krancken, gründlich erkläret wird, von Joachimo Polemann. Amsterdam, Auf Kosten Wilhelm Welmsonii und Leipzig, bey Joh. Herbord Klofsen zu finden, Im Jahr 1699.

12°. Pp. [6] 245 [1 blank].

Novum lumen Medicum de Mysterio Sulphuris Philosophorum.

See THEATRUM CHEMICUM, 1661, vi. p. 600.

Other editions of the book are mentioned: Francof., 1647, 8°; Amsterd., 1659, 12°; 1660, 12°; Frankfurt, 1747, 12°. The English translation Novum Lumen Medicum, wherein the excellent and most necessary Doctrine of the highly-gifted Philosopher Helmont concerning the Great Mystery of the Philosopher's (*sic*) Sulphur is fundamentally cleared. . . . London, Printed by J. C. for J.

Crook at the sign of the Ship in St. Pauls Church-yard, 1662, small 8°, pp. [8] 206 [9 blank].

After the word ; 'cleared' the British Museum Catalogue inserts: "Written by the author in German, and Englished by F. H. a German." As these words do not occur in my copy, it may be inferred that if the work did not actually go through two distinct editions, it appeared with two title-pages, if no more.

POLEMANN (JOACHIMUS). *Continued.*

Jacob Leupolds Prodromus Bibliothecae metallica, 1732, p. 112.

Lenglet Dufresnoy, *Histoire de la Philosophie Hermétique*, 1742, iii. p. 59.

Jöcher, *Allgemeines Gelehrten-Lexicon*, 1751, iii. col. 1656; Rotermund's *Fortsetzung und Ergänzungen*, 1819, vi. col. 505.

Fictuld, *Prober-Stein*, 1753, Th. ii. p. 115.

Haller, *Bibliotheca Medicinæ practicae*, 1779, iii. p. 79.

Beytrag zur Geschichte der höhern Chemie, 1785, p. 618.

Gmelin, *Geschichte der Chemie*, 1797, i. p. 625.
Schmieder, *Geschichte der Alchemie*, 1832, p. 379.
Ladrage, *Bibliothèque Ouvaroff. Sciences Secrètes*, 1870, Nos. 1607-08.

Kopp, *Die Alchemie*, 1886, ii. p. 388.

Billings, *Index-Catalogue*, 1890, xi. p. 478.

POLI (MARTINO)

Il Trionfo degli Acidi vendicati dalle calunnie di molti Moderni; Opera Filosofica e Medica fondata Sopra de' Principij Chimici, & adornata di Varij esperimenti ; contro il Sistema, e Pratica delli Moderni Democritici, & Epicurei Riformati, divisa in Quattro Libri; di Martino Poli Spargirico (*sic*) in Roma, aggregato alla Reale Accademia delle Scienze in Parigi; Dedicata alla Sacra Reale Maesta di Lodovico XIV. Il Grande Re Cristianissimo. In Roma, MDCCVI. Nella Stamperia di Giorgio Placho Intagliatore, e Gettatore di Caratteri alla Piazza della Chiesa di S. Marco. Con Licenza de' Superiori.

4°. Pp. [24] 463 [1].

Poli was born at Lucca, 21 January, 1662, and at an early age developed a taste for chemistry which was fostered by his uncle. At the age of sixteen he left Lucca and went to Rome to his uncle, who had promised to help him.

In 1691 he got leave to establish a laboratory as extra chemist, and in 1700 he received from the pontifical government letters patent, conferring on him the title of apothecary. Having made a discovery of great importance for war, which would have given the French an immense advantage, he went to France in 1702 to lay it before the king, Louis XIV. He, however, while commending the inventor, declined the invention and urged its suppression on account of its destructive character. Poli, however, received a pension and the title of engineer to the king, and extra foreign associate of

the Academy of Sciences. In 1704 he returned to Italy, where he had soon engagements with Pope Clement XI. and the Duke of Massa. On his return to France in 1713 he was well received by the king who increased his pension and urged him to bring his family to Paris. He did so, and after a long and disagreeable passage by sea, they reached Paris on the 28 July to find him so ill with fever that he recognized them with difficulty. He died the following day, 29 July, 1713 (1714).

The only book he wrote is the present one, but he communicated papers on bismuth, saltpetre, on the 'fermentation' of acid salts with acid salts and of alcalis with alcalis, on the effect of concentrated spirit of sulphur with water, to the Academy at Paris, published in 1713, 1714.

Histoire de l'Académie Royale des Sciences Année 1714, Paris, 1717, p. 129 (by Fontenelle).

L'Europe Savante, La Haye, Janvier, 1718, i. pp. 63-66 (from Fontenelle).

Acta Eruditorum, 1719, num. 8, p. 350.

Zedler, *Universal-Lexicon*, 1741, xxviii. col. 1481.

Jöcher, *Allgemeines Gelehrten-Lexicon*, 1751, iii. col. 1659; Rotermund's *Fortsetzung und Ergänzungen*, 1819, vi. col. 516.

Fontenelle, *Oeuvres*, 1764, v. pp. 215-220.

Eloy, *Dictionnaire Historique de la Médecine*, 1778, iii. p. 596.

Haller, *Bibliotheca Medicinæ practicae*, 1788, iv. p. 431.

Gmelin, *Geschichte der Chemie*, 1798, ii. pp. 413, 515 (distilled a stupifying volatile oil from laurel leaves, prepared butter of bismuth from which by repeated extraction he got a powder glistening like pearls, and showed how to concentrate sulphuric acid).

Biographie Médicale, Paris, Panckoucke (1820-25), vi. p. 467.

Biographie Universelle, 1845, lxxvii. (Supp.), p. 371; no date, xxxiii. p. 615.

Kopp, *Geschichte der Chemie*, 1847, iv. p. 377.
Poggendorff, *Biographisch-literarisches wörterbuch*, 1863, ii. col. 493.

Nouvelle Biographie Générale, 1866, xl. p. 603.

POLISIUS (GOTHOFREDUS SAMUEL).

De Metallis imperfectis duris duobus, Ferro et Cupro.

See ROLFENCK (GUERNER), 1679.

Was this person any connection of Melchior Polisius mentioned by Jöcher, *Allgemeines Gelehrten-Lexicon*, 1751, iii. col. 1661, who lived between

1600 and 1671, was M.D. and professor of medicine at Frankfurt on the Oder, and wrote some medical disputations ?

POLYCARPUS CHRYSOSTOMUS.

See DREBBEL (CORNELIUS), Tractat . . . von Natur . . . der Elementen, 1723.

POLYDORUS (CHRYSOGONUS).

See ALCHEMIA, 1541.

Chrysogonus Polydorus was the editor of this collection of alchemical tracts, and prefaced it with

Borel, *Bibliotheca Chimica*, 1654, p. 188 ('est nomen fictum').

an address to the reader. I have found no indication of the author's real name.

Gmelin, *Geschichte der Chemie*, 1797, i. p. 297.

PONCELET (POLYCARPE?).

See CHIMICA (La) del Gusto, 1792.

To the references given under that heading may be added Rotermund, *Fortsetzung und Ergänzungen zu . . . Jöchers allgemeinem Gelehrten-Lexico*,

1819, vi. col. 589, who, however, has nothing new to say.

PONTANUS (JOANNES).

Beschreibung des Secreten Philosophischen Feuers.

See ERBINAUS VON BRANDAU (MATTHÄUS), xii. Grund-Säulen der Natur und Kunst, 1689, p. 27.

Epistola, in qua de lapide quem Philosophorum vocant, agitur.

See SENDIVOGIUS (MICHAEL), Lumen Chymicum Novum; Epilogus, 1624, p. 149.

See also ORTHELIUS.

See THEATRUM CHEMICUM, iii. 1659, p. 734; vi. 1661, p. 487.

Ein Sendbrief, darinn Vom Stein der Weisen gehandelt wird.

See ALCHEMISTISCH Sieben-Gestirn, 1675, p. 219.

His name was Johann Brückner, according to Schmieder, and he was a doctor of philosophy and of medicine, and professor of philosophy at Königsberg during 1544 and 1545. In 1552 he passed to the chair of medicine and physics, but after a year removed to Jena. He was assessor of the medical faculty and was appointed physician of the Prince of Gotha, and next of the Duke of Weimar, whom he accompanied to Vienna. On this journey Pontanus died at Vienna, 9 July, 1572, not without suspicion of having been poisoned.

Besides the 'Epistola' he wrote: 'Methodus componendi theriacam et præparandi ambram factitiam,' in Johann Wittichius' *Consilia Observationes et Epistolæ Medicæ . . . Collecta*, Lips. 1604, 4°; and 'De prodigiis episcopi Spirensis

jejunis, in Lentulus' *Historia admiranda de prodigiosa Apolloniæ Schreieræ . . . inediâ*, Bernæ, 1604, 4°.

The Latin text of Pontanus' 'Epistola,' with a German version different from both the above appeared in Johann Peter Gerhard's *Gedanken vom Feuer*, Halle, 1750, pp. 198-207.

There is also an English translation by Eirenæus Orandus, which was printed along with Nicholas Flamel 'His Exposition of the Hieroglyphicall Figures' and 'The secret booke of Arthephius London, 1624, 12°, pp. 237-[247].

He himself printed nothing, and if what he had written had not been published by others, his name would have been unknown.

Maier, *Symbola Aureae Mensae*, 1617, p. 264.

Van der Linden, *De Scriptis Medicis libri duo*, 1637, p. 299.

Borel, *Bibliotheca Chimica*, 1654, p. 189.

Mercklin, *Lindeni renovatus*, 1686, p. 662.

Freher, *Theatrum virorum eruditione clarorum*, 1688, p. 1265.

Keren Happuch, . . . oder Teutsches Fegfeuer der Scheide-Kunst, 1702, p. 117.

Manget, *Bibliotheca Scriptorum Medicorum*, 1731, II. i. p. 528.

Zedler, *Universal-Lexicon*, 1741, xxviii. col. 1459.

Lenglet Dnfresnoy, *Histoire de la Philosophie Hermétique*, 1742, iii. pp. 53, 58, 268.

Jöcher, *Allgemeines Gelehrten-Lexicon*, 1751, iii. col. 1688.

Fictuld, *Prober-Kunst*, 1753, Th. i. p. 126.

Haller, *Bibliotheca Botanica*, 1771, i. pp. 302 401; 1772, ii. p. 671 (Haller had a manuscript of Pontanus' travels in Russia, Prussia and Poland).

Haller, *Bibliotheca Medicinæ practicæ*, 1777, ii. p. 87.

Eloy, *Dictionnaire Historique de la Médecine*, 1778, iii. p. 605.

PONTANUS (JOANNES). *Continued.*

Moehsen, *Beiträge zur Geschichte der Wissenschaften in der Mark Brandenburg*, 1783, p. 37.

Gmelin, *Geschichte der Chemie*, 1797, i. p. 502, 520.

Biographie Médicale, Paris, Panckoucke (1820-25), vi. p. 473.

Schmieder, *Geschichte der Alchemie*, 1832, p.

350.

Johannes Günther, *Lebensskizzen der Professoren der Universität Jena seit 1558 bis 1858*, 1858, p. 116.

Poggendorff, *Biographisch-literarisches Handwörterbuch*, 1863, ii. col. 499.

Ladrague, *Bibliothèque Ouvaroff, Sciences Secrètes*, 1870, No. 1004-06.

Kopp, *Die Alchemie*, 1886, i. p. 224.

POPPIUS (HAMERUS).

Basilica Antimonii.

See HARTMANN (JOHANN), Praxis Chymiatrica, 1647, p. 595.

The above tract was published, with the title Basilica Antimonii, sive expositio naturæ Antimonii, Francofurti, 1618, 4°, and in it he describes

the increase of weight when a mass of antimony is calcined by a burning mirror. I have not met with any notice of the author.

Borel, *Bibliotheca Chimica*, 1654, p. 189.

Mercklin, *Lindeni renovatus*, 1686, p. 387.

Manget, *bibliotheca Scriptorum Medicorum*,

1731, II. i. p. 537.

Jacob Leupolds *Prodromus Bibliothecæ metallicæ*, 1732, p. 112.

Lenglet Dufresnoy, *Histoire de la Philosophie Hermétique*, 1742, iii. p. 269.

Gmelin, *Geschichte der Chemie*, 1797, i. pp. 519, 568.

Rotermund, *Fortsetzung und Ergänzungen zu . . . Jöchers allgemeinem Gelehrten-Lexico*, 1819, vi. col. 646.

Kopp, *Geschichte der Chemie*, 1845, iii. p. 120.

Phillippe & Ludwig, *Geschichte der Apotheker*, 1855, pp. 501, 572.

POPPIUS (JOHANN).

Chymische Medicin von dem Nutz vnd gebrauch der distillierten Oelen, Extracten, Quintis essentiis, Aquis vitæ, Balsamis, Floribus, Saltzen vnd Wassern, aufs den Mineralibus, Animalibus vnd Vegetabilibus, zu allerley jnnerlichen vnd eusserlichen Artzneyen, recht vnd nützlichen zu gebrauchen: Sampt der Präparation vnnd Chymischen zubereitung, auch anderer vornehmen Sachen, allen Liebhabern dieser Edlen Kunst, zu trewhertzigem gefallen, beschrieben durch Iohannem Poppen, dieser zeit Fürstlichen Sächsischen Destillatorem zu Coburg. Mit Churf. Sächs. Freyheit nicht nach zu trucken. Gedruckt zu Franckfurt, Bey Egenolph Emmeln, In verlegung Simonis Schambergers. Im Jahr, 1617.

8°. Pp. [14, 2 blank] 523 [5].

Chymische Medicin, von dem Nutz vnd Gebrauch der distillierten Oelen, Extracten, Quintis Essentiis, Aquis vitæ, Balsamis, Floribus, Saltzen vnd Wassern aufs den Mineralibus, Animalibus vnd Vegetabilibus, zu allerley jnnerlichen vnd äußerlichen Artzneyen, recht vnd nützlichen zu gebrauchen: Sampt der Praeparation vnd Chymischen zubereitung, auch anderer vornehmen Sachen, allen Liebhabern dieser Edlen Kunst, zu trewhertzigem gefallen, beschrieben, Durch Iohannem Poppen, dieser zeit Fürstlichen Sächsischen Destillatorem zu Coburg. Franckfurt am Mayn, in verlegung Daniel vnd David Aubrij, vnd Clemens Schleichen. Im Jahr, M.DC.XXV.

8°. Pp. [14, 2 blank] 593 [5].

Identical with the previous edition, except the first leaf which has been reprinted.

Hodogeticus Chymicus, oder Wegweiser zu der Chymischen Medicin, in welchem gehandelt wird, wie ein Medicus auff Hermetische art geschaffen seyn,