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A REVIEW OF THE LIFE OF
SIR HANS SLOANE, BART., M. D.

By JOSEPH T. SMITH, M. D.

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A REVIEW OF THE LIFE OF
SIR HANS SLOANE, BART., M. D.*

By JOSEPH T. SMITH, M. D.

"We are much beholden," says Bacon, "to Machiavelli and [257] others that wrote what men do and not what they ought to do"; we are beholden to those who have written about Sir Hans Sloane, for his life was full as well as rich in those activities which are for the uplift of humanity. He has left deep and lasting footprints on the sands of time.

His father, Alexander Sloane, settled in Ireland at the head of a Scotch colony sent out by James I and was made receiver-general of taxes. His mother, Sarah, was the daughter of the Rev. Dr. Hicks, chaplain to Archbishop Laud. Hans, the seventh son, was born in Killyleah, County Down, Ireland, April 16, 1660.

Hans was so delicate in his early life that he had to forego the sports and pastimes indulged in by the boys of his age. When he was 16 he had an attack of hæmoptysis and for three years was in very poor health. At that time he gave up the use of wines and beer and lived a temperate life. Jardine says he [258] took as his maxim "That sobriety, temperance and moderation are the best preservatives that nature has vouchsafed to mankind," and he adhered to those principles throughout a long life. Edwards says that his sickness served to strengthen the prudential elements in his character. It is not often that we find men turning their sicknesses to account and learning from them how to live.

He came to London at the age of 18. Staphorst was his teacher in chemistry, and he studied botany under Magnol and Tourneyfort. It was while at the "Jardin des Plantes" that

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[258] he had Tourneyfort as his companion; in this garden he found a much wider field than any that could be availed of in England and, full of interest and enthusiasm over the new treasures spread out before him, he made the best use of his opportunities.

He studied medicine in Paris, where he had the advantage of having Du Verney as his anatomical instructor, and in Montpellier. In 1683 he received the degree of doctor of medicine from the University of Orange, and in 1701 the same degree from Oxford. After his graduation he came to London and took up his residence with Sydenham. This noted physician gave him the most active support and exerted his influence in introducing him into practice.

Two years after his graduation, in 1685, he was elected a member of the Royal Society, and four years after, in 1687, a Fellow of the College of Physicians. It is remarkable that one so young should have been elected to membership in these societies, and it was doubtless due to his preliminary training under men who, being in the advance guard of progress, stimulated his natural abilities in the right way.

In 1687, four years after graduation, and with the brightest outlook for a large and influential practice, he left London and joined the suite of the Duke of Albemarle on a trip to Jamaica, under the following conditions: "If it be thought fit that Dr. Sloane go as physician to the West Indian Fleet, the surgeons of all ships must be ordered to observe his directions. . . . He proposes that six hundred pounds, per annum, be paid to him quarterly, with a previous payment of three hundred pounds, in order to his preparation for this service . . ." He was on the island fifteen months and in that short time gathered 800 new species of plants. This collection he gave to John Ray, who, in writing his noted work, the History of Plants, used very extensively the material he had received from Dr. Sloane. During his visit, the rich and the poor called upon him for medical advice; this he always gave freely and heartily, treating all who called him with equal consideration and taking nothing from the poor. On one occasion he was taken sick, and he says: "I had a great fever, though those about me called it a little seasoning." Writing about an earthquake, he says: "Ever since the beginning of February I dread earth-

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quakes more than heat. For then we had a very great one. [258]
Finding the house to dance and the cabinets to reel, I looked out of the window to see whether people removed the house (a wooden structure) or no. Casting my eyes towards an aviary, I saw the birds in as great concern as myself. Then another terrible shake coming, I apprehended what it was and betook me to my heels to get clear of the house; but before I got down stairs it was over."

In addition to Jamaica he visited Madeira, Barbadoes, Nieves and St. Christopher. He invested largely in Peruvian bark, as that was a very lucrative article of commerce, and made good use of it financially and medically. He has this to say of a dolphin which was caught and cooked: "Dry, though pretty good victuals, and well tasted; the nearer the head the more it is prized, although I am apt to think that if this fish, so much commended by sailors, was ashore in a market where other fish were to be had, it would not be counted so great a delicacy." He says in regard to his entertainment by the Governor of Barbadoes: "For my own part, I liked so well the dessert after dinner, which consisted of shaddocks, guavas, pines, mangrove, grapes, and other unknown fruits in Europe, that I thought all my fatigues well bestowed when I came to have such a pleasant prospect."

In 1696 he published an elaborate catalogue in Latin of the plants he had collected in Jamaica, which gave rise to much criticism, Leonard Plukenet, a learned botanist, attacking it. In 1707 he published the first volume of his book entitled "A Voyage to the Islands Madeira, Barbadoes, Nieves, St. Christopher and Jamaica, with the Natural History of the Herbs, and Trees, four-footed Beasts, Fishes, Birds, Insects, Reptiles &c. of the last of those Islands: to which is prefixed An Introduction wherein is an account of the Inhabitants, Air, Waters, Diseases, Trades &c. of that place, with some Relations concerning the Neighboring Continent, and Islands of America." . . . "Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase." Dan. xii: 4. The second volume did not appear until 1724, for the reason, as the author states, that "A multiplicity of business in the practice of physic, which I esteem one of my first cares and must be minded if the lives of persons be regarded with due attention to

[258] the several symptoms and changes of their diseases." Dr. Pulteney says: "They exhibit proof of the author's veracity, which I conceive it is difficult to parallel in any other work." The account of the Irish potatoes is interesting. Dr. Sloane says: "Many live on the Irish potatas, a sort of *Solanum*, on which, I have heard, they live in the mines of Potosi and in Ireland. . . . The root is tuberous; for shape and bigness very uncertain; but being for the most part oblong; as big as a hen's egg from a swelled middle tapering to both extremes; yellow and sweet within; when roasted, tasting like a boiled chestnut, and having many fibrils by which it draws its nourishment. . . . In four months after planting they are ready to be gathered, the ground being filled with them, and if they continue therein any longer, they are eaten by worms." He brought home a live snake and says: "Thus it lived for some time, when, being weary of its confinement, it shoved asunder the two boards on the mouth of the jar, and got up to the top of a large house, wherein lay footmen and other domestics of her grace the Duchess of Albemarle, who being afraid to lie down in such company, shot my snake dead." Dr. Pulteney says: "The voyage of Dr. Sloane was productive of much benefit to science by exciting an emulation both in Britain and on the Continent. . . . Several circumstances concurred, respecting the voyage of Dr. Sloane to Jamaica, which rendered it peculiarly successful to Natural History. He was the first man of learning whom the love of science alone had led from England to that distant part of the globe . . ."

In 1693 he was made secretary of the Royal Society and editor of the *Philosophical Transactions*. The editorship he held for twenty years. Edwards says: "The *Philosophical Transactions* of the Royal Society owe a great deal to Sloane; upon the death of the editor, Oldenburg, a diminution of the income of the Society and some personal disagreements in the Council Board impeded their publication, but Sloane bestirred himself and steadily and persistently built up the *Transactions*. He frequently gave prominence to medical subjects in the *Transactions*, so much so as to arouse complaint. . . . If Sloane, in his day, occasionally made scientific men somewhat more familiar with medical subjects than they cared to be, he

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did very much to make medical men aware of the peculiar duty [259] under which their profession laid them of becoming also men of true science. It was one of the minor, but memorable results of the establishment of the Royal Society that it tended powerfully to lift medical practice out of the slough of quackery."

In 1700 Sloane was made the subject of a satirical pamphlet which appeared under the title "Transactioneer with some of his Philosophical Fancies." Trivial in itself, it nevertheless led to discussions which left their marks upon the Society for a long time. Sloane thought a member of the council, a Dr. Woodward, the author; this the doctor denied, but indorsed the satire. The ill-feeling lasted a long time. "The petty discussion came to a height when Sloane chanced to make some passing medical comment on the words the 'bezoar of gall-stone' . . . Sloane's casual remark drew from Woodward the offensive words, 'No man who understands anatomy would make such an assertion.'" Again he interrupted Sloane by exclaiming: "Speak sense or English and we shall understand you." Friends tried to enlist the president on Woodward's side by reminding him that he had often been patient under the medical dissertations, but Newton replied: "For a seat in the council a man should be a moral philosopher as well as a natural one." Woodward was removed as a member of the council, but Dr. Sloane sought a speedy reconciliation.

In 1686 Dr. Sloane was opposed to Halley for assistant secretary of the Royal Society. On the first ballot there was no election, and Sloane lost on the second. Sir Hans thus had his troubles in that great Society. In 1727 he succeeded Sir Isaac Newton as president of the Royal Society, retiring from it at the age of 80.

In 1694 he was made physician to Christ's Hospital; he gave all his salary to its foundation and retired after thirty years' service.

In 1705 he was elected censor of the College of Physicians and was re-elected in 1709-1715. In 1719 he was elected president of the College of Physicians, and he remained in office 16 years. In the College of Physicians he warmly promoted the plan of a dispensary for the sick poor; this met with

[259] much opposition from the apothecaries. He advanced £700 to the college and later gave it £100.

In 1708 he was elected a foreign member of the French Academy of Sciences and shortly afterwards a member of the Imperial Academy of St. Petersburg and of the Royal Academy of Madrid.

In 1729 a very unique and interesting Epistolary Letter was published from T—— H—— (Thomas Hearne) to H——s S——e (Hans Sloane). Two hundred copies were published, two of which are in the Congressional Library at Washington, numbered 22-23, Second Edition. It is as follows:

*Since you Dear Doctor, saved my life
To bless by Turns and plague my wife,
In Conscience I'm obliged to do
Whatever is enjoined by you:
According then to your Command;
That I should search the Western Land
For curious things of every kind,
And send you all that I could find:
I've ravaged Air, Earth, Seas and Caverns,
Men, Women, Children, Towns and Taverns;
And greater Rarities can show
Than Gresham's Children ever knew;
Which Carrier Dick shall bring you down
Next time his Waggon comes to town.
I've got three drops of that same shower
Which Jove in Danae's Lap did pour.
From Carthage brought: The Sword I'll send
Which brought Queen Dido to her end.
The Stone whereby Goliath dy'd
Which cures the Head-Ache well applied.
The Snake Skin which you may believe
The Devil cast who Tempted Eve.
A Fig-leaf Apron, 'tis the same
Which Adam wore to hide his Shame;
But now wants Darning. I've beside
The Blow by which poor Abell D'y'd.
A Wet Stone were exceeding small,
Time us'd to whet his Scythe withall.
The Pidgeon Stuft, which Noah sent
To Tell him where the Waters went.
A Ring I've got of Sampson's Hair
The same which Dalilah did wear.
St. Dunstan's Tongs, which Story shows*

Did pinch the Devil by the Nose.
 The very Shaft as all may see
 Which Cupid shot at Anthony.
 And what above the rest I prize,
 A Glance of Cleopatra's Eyes.
 Some Strains of Eloquence, which hung
 In Roman Times on Tully's Tongue,
 Which long conceal'd and lost had lain
 Till Cowper found them out again.
 A Goad if rightly us'd, will prove
 A certain Remedy for Love.
 As Moore cures Worms in Stomach bred,
 I've Pills cures Maggots in the Head,
 With the Receipt too, how to make 'em.
 To you I'll leave the Time to take 'em.
 I've got a Ray of Phæbus Shine
 Found in the bottom of a Mine.
 A Lawyer's Conscience, large and fair,
 Fit for a Judge himself to wear.
 In a Thumb Vial you shall see
 Close Cork'd some Drops of Honesty;
 Which after searching Kingdoms round,
 At last were in a Cottage found.
 An Antidote, if such there be,
 Against the Charm of Flattery.
 I hav't collected any Care,
 Of that there's plenty every where.
 But after wondrous Labor spent,
 I've got one Grain of rich Content.
 It is my Wish, it is my Glory,
 To furnish your Nicknackatory.
 I only beg when'er you show 'em
 You'll tell your friends to whom you owe 'em
 Which may your other Patients Teach
 To do as has done

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Yours

T. H.

In 1745 he issued his only medical publication, entitled:
 "An Account of a most efficacious Medicine for Soreness,
 Weakness, and Several other Distempers of the Eyes." A few
 extracts may be of interest. After writing of the difficulties he
 experienced in securing the receipt, he says:

Take of prepared Tutty, one ounce; of Lapis Hæmatitis pre-
 pared, two scruples, of the best Aloes prepared, twelve grains, of
 prepared Pearl, four Grains. Put them into a Porphyry, or Marble

[260] Mortar, and rub them with a Pestle of the same stone, very carefully, with a sufficient Quantity of Viper's Grease, or Fat, to make a Liniment, to be used daily, Morning and Evening or both, according to the Conveniency of the Patient; as hereafter directed. . . . The Method which has succeeded with me in facilitating the efficacious Use, of the Liniment, is to bleed and blister in the Neck and behind the Ears, in order to draw off the Humors from the Eyes; and afterwards, according to the Degree of the Inflammation, or Acrimony of the Juices, to make a Drain by issues between the Shoulders, or a perpetual Blister. And for washing the Eyes, I generally recommend Spring Water, which I think preferable to any Spirituous Lotion, whether simple or compound. And the best inward Medicine I have experienced to be Conserve of Rosemary Flowers; Antiepileptic Powders, such as Pulvis ad Guttetam; Betony, Sage, Rosemary, Eyebright, wild Valerian Root, Castor etc. washed down with Tea made of some of the same Ingredients: as also Drops of Sprit, Lavendulae composit, and Sal volat oleos. If the Inflammation return, drawing about six Ounces of Blood from the Temple by Leeches or Cupping on the Shoulders, is very proper. The Liniment is to be applied with a small Hair Pencil the eye winking or a little opened. . . .

He says Dr. William Stokeham told him "He had learnt the great Virtue of Viper's Grease or Fat, in the cure of Diseases of the Eyes . . ."

And this, indeed, I judged so very reasonable, that I substituted that Grease, or Fat, in the Place of Hog's Lard which was in the original Receipt; and found, that it added so much to the efficacy of the Medicine, as to make it do, what I thought, wonders. . . . I communicated it to the late Dr. Arbuthnot: who after repeated Trials of that fat alone on sore eyes, has so high an Opinion of its Virtues, that he looked on it as equally beneficial with the whole Medicine. It is an Observation made by many Naturalists, that those Serpents cast their Skins every year, and with them the coverings of their Eyes; but how far, or whether at all, their fat is concerned in this Phenomenon I leave others to determine. . . .

In writing of the ill effects of Olive Oil upon the eyes he says: "This in my Opinion proceeds from some hot, sharp Particles, contained in the Oil . . . for I remember when at Montpelier, I was informed by Monsieur Magnol, and other of my Acquaintances there, that the feeding of tame rabbits with Olive Leaves, in want of other food has caused their making bloody Urine." He says again: "I cannot charge myself with making the least mystery of my practice. For in Consultations in a

number of Cases of Importance I have been always very free, [260] and open; far from following the Example of some Physicians of good morals and great Reputation, who have on many occasions thought proper to conceal Part of their own acquired Knowledge, alleging the Maxim—*Ars est celare artem.*” There were, so far as I can find, four editions of this book published. In 1746 it was translated into the French.

Sir Hans gave a strong impulse to the practice of inoculation by performing the operation upon several of the royal family. The following extract is from “An Account of Inoculation by Sir Hans Sloane, Bart.,” published in the *Philosophical Transactions*, Vol. 49, p. 518:

Upon these trials, and several others in private families, the late queen, the princess of Wales (who with the King always took most extraordinary, exemplary, prudent and Wise care of the health and education of their children) sent for me to ask my opinion of the inoculation of the princesses. I told her royal highness, that by what appeared in the several essays, it seemed to be a method to secure people from the great danger attending that distemper in the natural way. That the preparations by diet and necessary precautions taken, made that practice very desirable; but that not being certain of the consequences, which might happen, I would not advise the making trials upon patients of such importance to the public. The princess then asked me, if I would dissuade her from it; to which I made answer, that I would not, in a matter so likely to be of advantage. Her reply was, that she was then resolved it should be done, and ordered me to go to the late King George the first, who had commanded me to wait on him upon that occasion. I told his majesty my opinion, that it was impossible to be certain but that raising such a commotion in the blood, there might happen dangerous accidents not foreseen: To which he replied that such might and had happened to persons, who had lost their lives by bleeding in a pleurisy and taking physic in any distemper, let never so much care be taken. I told his majesty I thought this to be the same case, and the matter was concluded upon and succeeded as usual without any danger during the operation or the least ill symptom or disorder since. . . . What I have observed, which I think material, is not to inoculate such as have any breaking out on their faces, soon after the Measles or any other occasion, whereby small-pox were likely to be invited, and come to the face in greater number and so make the distemper more dangerous. Bleeding in plethora or gentle clearing of the stomach and intestines, are necessary; and abstinence, from anything heating about a week before;

[260] and nothing else needful by way of preparation; and very little physic during the course of it, unless accidents happen.

The operation is performed by making a very slight shallow incision in the skin of the arm about an inch long; but great care should be had in making the incision not to go thro' the skin; for in that case I have seen it attended with very troublesome consequences afterwards. After the incisions are made, a dossil dipped in the ripe matter of a favorable kind of small-pox produced naturally or by inoculation, is put into the wound covered by diapalma plaster for twenty-four hours and then removed. . . . Upon the whole it is wonderful, that this operation, which seems so plainly for the public good, should, through dread of other distempers being inculcated with it, and other unreasonable prejudices, be stopped from procuring it.

In 1695 he married Elizabeth, daughter of John Langley, a London alderman, and widow of Fulk Rose of Jamaica. She bore him one son, Hans, and three daughters. In 1716 he was [261] created a baronet, being the first medical practitioner to receive an hereditary title. In 1722 he was made physician-general to the army.

In 1741 feeling the infirmities of his advanced age, he retired from service, left London and took up his residence at the old Manor House at Chelsea, which he had purchased in 1714. The house was a fine one, in what at that time was a charming suburb of London. It abounded in historical associations, the chief of which were those connected with Sir Thomas More.

In 1753, on the 11th of January, he died at Chelsea, at the age of 93. George Edwards, the naturalist, says: "He was so infirm as to be wholly confined to his house, except sometimes, though rarely, taking a little air in a wheeled chair: . . . The last time I saw him, I was greatly surprised and concerned to find so good a man in the agonies of death. He died on the eleventh, at four in the morning, being aged ninety-three. I continued with him later than any of his relatives but was obliged to retire, his agonies being beyond what I could bear; though under his pain and weakness of body, he seemed to retain a great firmness of mind and resignation to the will of God." He was buried in the church yard at Chelsea beside his wife, who died in 1724. Over his grave his daughters have erected a monument.

In 1748 a statue was erected to him in the Apothecaries' [261] Garden at Chelsea. In the National Gallery in London there is a portrait of him; one belongs to the Royal Society and one hangs in the dining room of the College of Physicians. His memory is perpetuated by such names as Sloane Street, Sloane Square, Hans Place and Hans Road.

He had a large practice among the upper classes. Queen Anne consulted him; in one of his notes he tells how it took him four hours to drive to Windsor in his coach and four; in her last illness he advised that she be "blooded." Mr. Pepys, in writing to Captain Hatton, says "you give me hopes of your recovery from the care and knowledge of our friends Dr. Sloane and Mr. Barnard . . ." (Diary, IV, 298). Pope alludes to him in his *Moral Epistles* (IV, 10) when he says: "And books for Mead and butterflies for Sloane"! and in his *Satires* (VIII, 30) he says: "Or Sloane or Woodward's wondrous shelves contain." Young, in his *Satires* (IV, 113) says: "Sloane, The foremost toyman of his time."

Sir Hans was tall and well made, with easy, polite and engaging manners, sprightly in conversation and very obliging; he thus made friends and became well known, commanding the admiration and respect of all with whom he came into contact.

He was a very benevolent man, broad-minded and taking a deep interest in all the activities of his time. He gave his advice freely to those unable to pay; the rich and the poor he treated alike in giving them the best he had. He gave liberally, though carefully, to those in financial distress. He was one of the founders of the Foundling Hospital. In 1721 he founded for the Society of Apothecaries the Botanical Gardens at Chelsea. He gave the Royal Society 100 guineas and a bust of Charles II. In 1732 he became one of the promoters of the Colony of Georgia. He was a governor in most of the London hospitals, and they all felt his influence. He loved wealth but did not make it subservient to his love for science. Indeed, he used much of his wealth in enriching the sciences he so dearly loved. Unless one can fully understand the social conditions under which Sir Hans lived and worked, it is not possible to estimate him at his true worth; for example, all that he did in his study of nature seems rather commonplace in the brighter

[261] light of to-day, but it was great in his time, when one possessed with a taste for collecting insects and the like was by the ablest men regarded as having a tendency to lunacy. He was a very painstaking man, or, as one writer puts it, he had an unweariable power of taking pains.

He seems to have been so busily occupied in doing his daily tasks that he had little time for recording the events of his life, and we cannot but regret that he has left behind such meagre accounts of himself and his activities. What interesting and instructive reading would a diary of his, similar to that of Gideon Wells, be; how much light it would throw upon the medical men of those days, and in a way that can only be obtained through the records of one who, like Dr. Sloane, was in close touch with the men and their activities.

Edwards speaks of him as follows:

The charities of human life were not, in the breast of Sir Hans Sloane, choked either by the various allurements and preoccupations of science or by the ceaseless toils of a busy and anxious profession. The multiplicity of claims was, indeed, as notable as was the patience with which they were listened to. Not to dwell upon the innumerable gropings after money, of which, in one form or another, every man who attains any sort of eminence is sure to have his share (but of which Sir Hans Sloane seems to have had a Benjamin's portion), or upon interminable requests for the use of influence—at court, at the Treasury, at the London hospitals, at the Council Boards of the Royal Society or of the College of Physicians, and elsewhere—his fame brought upon him a mass of appeals and solicitations from utter strangers, busied with the less worldly aims and pursuits. Enthusiastic students of the deep things of theology sought his opinion on abstruse and mystical doctrines. Advocates of perpetual peace and of the transformation, at a breath, of the Europe of the Eighteenth century into a Garden of Eden, implored him to endorse their theories, or to interpret their dreams. . . . To one of the enthusiasts in mystic divinity, who had sent for his perusal an enormous manuscript, he replied, "I am very much obliged for the esteem you have of my knowledge, which I am very sure comes far short of your opinion. As to the particular controversies on foot in relation to Natural and Revealed Religion and to Predestination, I am nowadays further concerned than to act as my own conscience directs me in those matters; and am no judge for other people. . . . I have not time to peruse the book you sent." (Edwards' *Lives of the Founders of the British Museum*, Vol. I, p. 292.)

The same author says:

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To the worthy and once famous Abbé Saint Pierre, who would fain have established with Sloane a steady correspondence on the universal amelioration of mankind, by means of a vast series of measures, juridical, political and politico-economical, which started from the total abolition of vice and of war, and descended to the improvement of road-making, by some happy anticipation, a hundred years in advance of our own macadam, he wrote thus: "I should be very glad to see a general Peace established forever. Rumors of war are often, indeed, found to be baseless, and the fears of it, even when well grounded, are often dissipated by an unlooked for Providence. But poor mortals are often so weak as to suffer, in their health, from the fear of danger, where there is none." (*Ibid.*, p. 293.) [262]

The British Museum owes its origin in great part, and some say altogether, to Sir Hans Sloane, and no review of his life is complete without a reference to that institution. In 1702 Dr. Sloane secured the collection of William Courten, in 1710 that of Plukenet, and in 1718 he bought the collection of John Petiver for £4000, so that in 1753 his library contained 3516 manuscripts, 347 drawing and 40,000 books. The Sloane manuscripts contain letters and notes by most of the chief physicians of the century preceding Sloane's death and must always be one of the main sources of medical history in England from the time of Charles II to that of George II.

He bequeathed his books, manuscripts, prints, drawings, pictures, medals, coins, seals, cameos, and other curiosities to the nation on condition that Parliament should pay his executors £20,000.

When the subject was presented to George II, he received it with indifference and dismissed the matter with the remark that he did not think there was £20,000 in the Treasury. No money being available from the government, it was decided to raise the sum needed by a lottery: 100,000 shares at £3 each were authorized. Of the money thus secured £200,000 was allotted for prizes and £100,000, less expenses, were to be used in the purchase of the Sloane and Harleian collections and to provide a place for their safe keeping. A great scandal resulted from the traffic in tickets by one Leheup. "By this unfortunate episode, the name of one of the best of Englishmen was

[262] brought into a momentary connection with the name of one of the worst," so says a writer.

The bequest having been accepted and the money raised, the Sloane collection, together with that of George II's Royal Library, was opened to the public at Bloomsbury as the British Museum in 1759, six years after the death of Sir Hans.

As a fitting close, let me leave with you his counsel. "I advise you," he would say, "to what I practice myself. I never take physic when I am well. When I am ill, I take a little, and only such as has been very well tried."

The chief authorities consulted were Edwards' "Lives of the Founders of the British Museum" and Jardine's "Naturalist's Library."

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