

bral meninges. The rhythmical oscillations of music dissolve the clots caused by the tarantula's poison and stimulate the patient into a dance, the shaking movements of which bring about the expulsion of the semen of the poison. It should be noted how the therapy prescribed by Baglivi does not employ remedia specifica to expel the semen, but acts upon the organic solids and fluids as a whole. It is particularly important that the therapeutic effects of music, traditionally held responsible for the modification of the affectiones animi, are connected by Baglivi to a mechanist scheme. For a bibliography on the subject, cfr. SCHULLIAN D., note 1, p.127, notes 19 and 30, and TURCHINI A., *Morso, morbo, morte. La tarantola fra cultura medica e terapia popolare*. Milan, F. Angeli 1987.

Correspondence should be addressed to:  
Maria Vidal, Via Sebenico, 39 - 33100 Udine, I

Appendice/Appendix

GIORGIO BAGLIVI (1668-1707)

Giorgio Baglivi (George Armenius Baglivius - Gjuro Armen Baglivi) was born on September 8, 1668, in Ragusa-Dubrovnik, from Vlaho Armen, a merchant, and Anica Vukovic, a daughter of Jakov Vukovic, a tailor. The mother died after the delivery of the second son (Jakov-James) and the father Vlaho at once. George and James were first provided for by their uncles, then by Jesuits in their *Collegium* of Dubrovnik. Michele Mondegai (1649-1716) was the Rector of the *Collegium*, Raffaele Tudisi (1645-1732) was the tutor of the two children and Rafo Tudisevic and Ardelio Dellabella were their teachers in the humanistic education. With a notary act issued on march 5, 1687 George and James were adopted by the doctor Pietro Angelo Baglivi (1624-1704), who addressed George to study medicine in Naples and Salerno, whereas James was embarked on the ecclesiastical career. George continued his studies and training in experimental and clinical research in the best Italian Universities (Padua, Bologna, Ferrara, Venice, Pavia, Florence, Perugia) under the tutorship of the great physician and scientist Marcello Malpighi (1624-1694), who directed the young Baglivi to the functional investigation by using the systematic microscopic anatomy, so that in just a few years the pupil became famous in the scientific world. When Malpighi was invited in Roma by the pope Innocent XII (1691), Baglivi too moved to Rome (1692) as secretary of Malpighi and clinical assistant of Giovanni Maria Lancisi (1654-1720), Professor of Anatomy and Medicine in the Sapienza Archigymnasium. Baglivi appointed the position of Professor of Anatomy, then of Medicine, in recognition of his experimental works, in which he applied the Galileo's principles of mathematics-mechanics on living organisms, and originated the so-called solidar pathology and experimental physiology, as response to the whole conceptualization of the diseases derived from the Galenic medicine. He wrote *De praxi medica* (1696) on the importance of the hippocratic bed-side medicine (the holistic view was for him the true heritage of Greek medicine) and the risks of

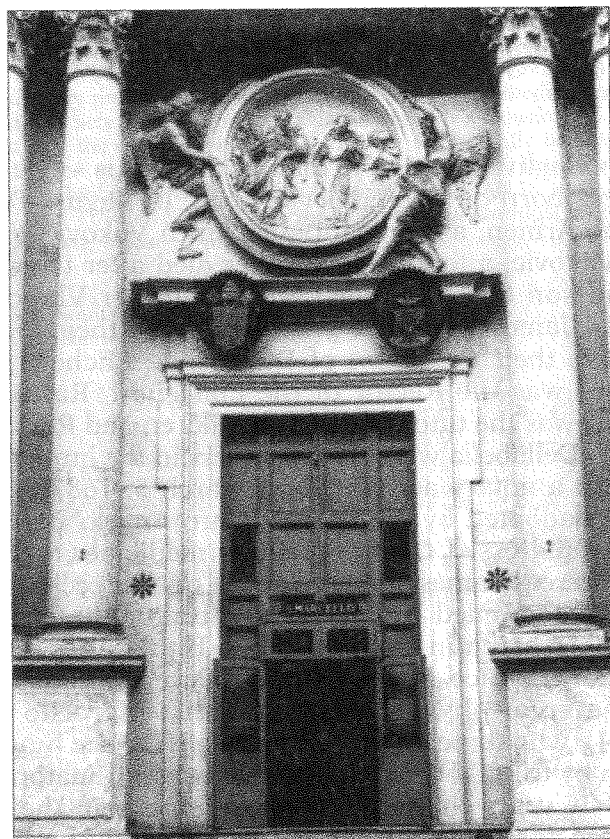


Fig. 1 - The Church of S. Marcello al Corso, Rome (a) and the memorial slab of Giorgio Baglivi (b).

the new (technological) medicine, if the diseases are not bed-side investigated as clinical syndromes due to a single organ-tissue disease, that is the result of experimental investigations. *De fibra motrice et morbosa*, first published as letter to the Doctor Alexander Pascoli (1700) and later reprinted as single book in Roma (1702), Basle, London, Utrecht, etc., treated the autonomy of single parts of the body: the theory of fibrillar pathology opened a window in the generic whole organism diseases, which for Baglivi should be related to specific pathologies of specific organs,

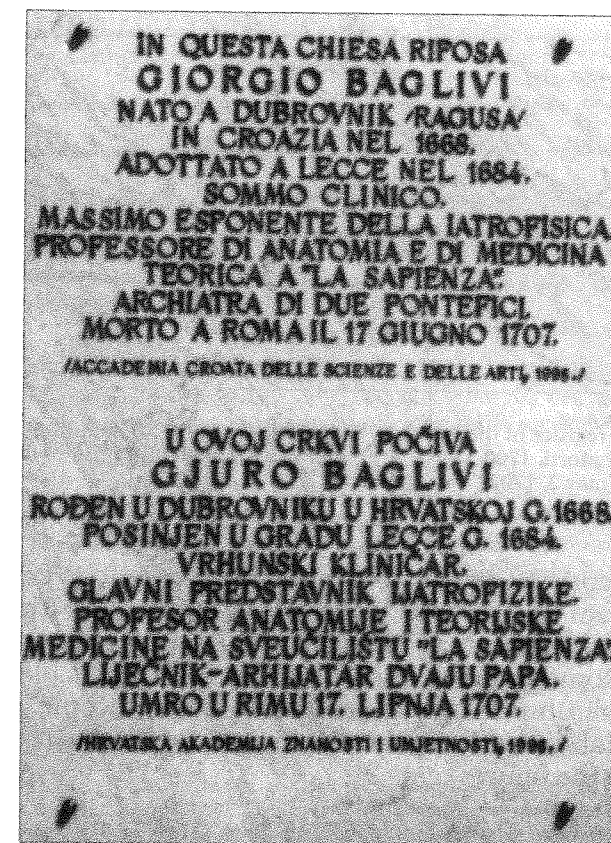


Fig. 2

thus anticipating the individual tissues anatomo-physiology of M.F. Xavier Bichat (1771-1802), the founder of the tissue anatomophysiology and pathology, or to single type of cells pathology of Rudolph Virchow (1821-1902). Personal physician of two popes, Innocent XII and Clement XI, Baglivi was Member of the London Royal Society (1698), German Academia Caesareo-Leopoldina Naturae Curiosorum (1699), of the Italian Accademia dei Fisiocratici (1700) and of many minor scientific institutions; he had an intense correspondence with the most eminent Euro-

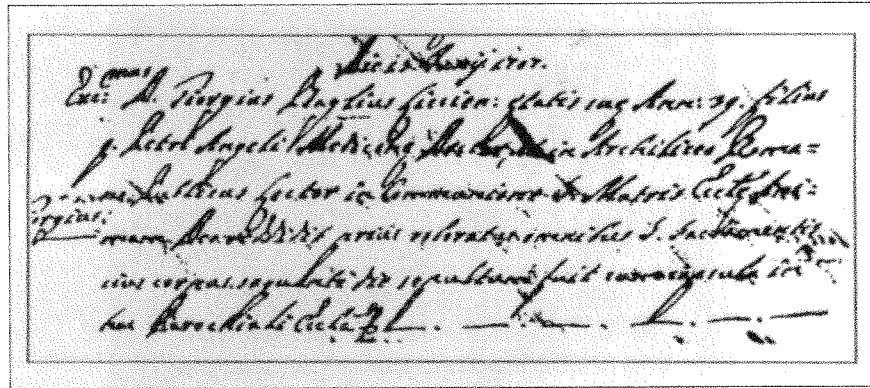


Fig. 3 - The register of the Parish of S. Marcello al Corso (Tabularium Vicariatus Urbis, Registro dei Morti, 1700-1744, f.11v), Rome, with the registration of the death of Giorgio Baglivi (may 2, 1707)

pean scientists (see the Collection of Baglivi correspondence in the William Osler Fund, Montreal, in the Waller's Collection, Uppsala, and in the Magliabecchi's Collection, Florence). Baglivi died in Rome in 1707, when he was only 39 years old; he was buried in the Church of S. Marcello al Corso of Rome, where a memorial slab remembers the origin and the life of the great physician (see the figures).

PUBLICATIONS OF GIORGIO BAGLIVI

- 1696  
*De praxi medica ad priscam observandi rationem revocanda, libri duo.* Romae, typis Domini Antonii Herculis, pp. 259 + 119.
- 1696  
*Mors ex bubone venereo.* In: Johannes Jacobus Manget, *Bibliotheca medico-practica.* Genevae, vol. 3, pp. 217-218.
- 1698  
*De anatome, morsu & effectibus tarantulae.* In: Johannes Jacobus Manget, *Bibliotheca medico-practica.* Genevae, vol. 4, pp. 616-645.
- 1699  
*De praxi medica ad priscam observandi rationem revocanda, libri duo. Accedunt dissertationes novae.* Lugduni Batavorum apud Fredericum Haringum, p. 259.

- 1699  
*De fibra motrice, et morbosa; nec non de experimentis, ac morbis salivae, bilis, et sanguinis.... Epistola ad Alexandrum Pascoli.* Perusiae apud Costantinum, p. 58.
- 1701  
*Epistola ad Nicolam Andry.* Published in the English translation of: Andry Nicolas [1658-1742], *De la génération des vers dans le corps de l'homme, de la nature et des espèces de cette maladie, de ses effects, de ses signes, de ses prognostics, des moyens de s'en préserver, des remèdes pour le guérir etc.* Paris, L. d'Houry, 1700. English edition: *An account of the breeding of worms in human bodies; their nature, and several sorts; their effects, symptoms and prognostic. With the true means to avoid them, and medicines to cure them.* With letter to the author on this subject from M. Nicholas Hartsoecker at Amsterdam, and M. George Baglivi at Rome. London, Rhodes.
- 1702  
*Specimen quatuor librorum de fibra motrice, et morbosa, in quibus de solidorum structura, vi, elatere, aequilibrio, usu, potestate, & morbis disseretur, nec non De durae matris constructione, elatere, aequilibrio, & in singula quaeque solida oscillatione systallica.... Editio secunda.* Romae, Typis Io. Franc. Buagni, p. 176.
- 1703  
*Tractatus de fibra motrice, et morbosa, in quibus de solidorum structura, vi, elatere, aequilibrio, usu, potestate, & morbis disseretur, nec non De durae matris constructione, elatere, aequilibrio, & in singula quaeque solida oscillatione systallica.... Editio tertia.* Lugduni p. 295 - Sumptibus Anisson et Joan, Paris - 1703 editions in Basel, Londini, Lugduni, Ultrajecti apud Guiljelmum van der Water p. 269.
- 1704  
*De praxi medica ad priscam observandi rationem revocanda, libri duo. Accedunt dissertationes novae. Editio quarta.* Lugduni Batavorum, apud Fredericum Haring, p. 259.
- 1704  
*The practice of physic, reduced to the ancient way of observation, containing a just parallel between the wisdom and the experience of the Ancients, and the hypothesis's of modern physicians. Intermitted with many practical remarks... written in Latin by George Baglivi M.D., Professor of Physic and Anatomy at Rome.* London, printed for A. Bell.
- 1704  
*Opera omnia medico-practica, et anatomica.... Lugduni, Anisson & J. Posuel [Content: De praxi medica; Specimen quatuor librorum de fibra motrice, et morbosa; De anatome fibrorum; De experimentis circa salivam, bilem, et sanguinem; De morborum et naturae analogismo; De vegetatione lapidum; De terraemotu Romano; De anatome, morsu, et effectibus Tarantulae; De usu et abusu vescicantium; De observationibus anatomicis, et practicis varii argumenti; Epistolae cl. virorum, quorum iudicio et auctoritate Georgii Baglivi Opera confirmatur].*
- 1704  
*Sanctorii Sanctorii Iustinopolitani de medicina statica libri octo. Accedunt Georgii Baglivi, philosophi et medici, Canones de medicina solidorum ad rectum statices usum.* Romae, Typis Bernabò, p. 205.

## Appendice/Appendix

1705

*Des vortrefflichen Herrn Georgii Baglivi, medicinae doctoris, anatomiae professoris und hochsteberuehmten izlebenden practici in Rom, zwey Buecher de praxi medica....* Luebeck und Franckfurth, in Verlegung Johann Wiedermayers, p. 674.

1705

*Georgii Baglivi, medicinae theoricae in Romano archilycaeo professoris, Dissertatio varii argumenti potissimum vero de progressionem Romani terraemotus ab anno MDCCIII ad annum MDCCV. De systemate, et usu motus solidorum in corpore animato. De vegetatione lapidum, et analogismo circulationis maris ad circulationem sanguinis [Ad Petrum Hotton medicum doctissimum in Academia Leidensi].* Lugduni Batavorum, apud Fredericum Haaring [reprinted in 1707].

1707

*Canones de medicina solidorum ad rectum statices usum. Cum additamentis.* Lugduni Batavorum, apud Fredericum Haaring.

1708

posthumous

*Hippocratis Coi librorum epidemicorum nucleus per aphorismos digestus. In eorum praesertim usum, qui optime suadente Georgio Baglivo, maxima necessaria ex neo avent, adornatus.* Fracofurti & Lipsiae, apud Georgium Wilhelmum Kuchnen, p. 370.

1710

posthumous

*Georgii Baglivi, medicinae theoricae in Romano archilycaeo professoris, societatis regiae Londinensis, academiae imperiali Leopoldina et cetera collegeae, Opera omnia medico-practica, et anatomica....* Ediptio septima, cui prater dissertationes et alios tractatus sextae editioni adiunctos accedunt eiusdem Baglivi *Canones de medicina solidorum, Dissertatio de progressionem Romani terraemotus, De<systemate et usu motus solidorum in corpore animato, De vegatione lapidum et analogismo circulationis maris ad circulationem sanguinis, nec non Ioannis Dominici Santorini Opuscula quatuor; De structura et motu fibrae, de nutritione animali, de haemorrhoidibus et de catameniiis.* Lugduni, Anisson et Ioannis Posuel, p. 854 (reprinted: 1714, 1733, 1745).

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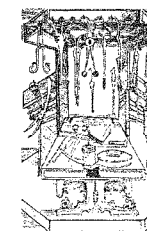
MUSEO DI STORIA DELLA MEDICINA

Sezione di Storia della Medicina

Dip. di Medicina Sperimentale e Patologia

Viale dell'Università, 34/A

00185-Roma, I



## LA CHIRURGIA A ROMA: L'EVIDENZA DELLO STRUMENTARIO

Ralph Jackson, curatore del Dipartimento di Antichità Romano-Britanniche del British Museum di Londra è stato ospite, nel mese di marzo, come visiting professor, della Sezione di Storia della Medicina dell'Università di Roma "La Sapienza". Durante il suo soggiorno, ha tenuto una serie di conferenze dedicate ai vari aspetti del suo principale settore di ricerca: lo studio dello strumentario chirurgico romano. Jackson ha messo in luce con grande competenza il ruolo che hanno avuto la figura professionale del chirurgo, l'invenzione di uno strumentario medico e l'utilizzazione di tecniche operatorie innovative nella pratica chirurgica dell'antica Roma.

È noto come il ricorso alla terapia chirurgica rappresentasse, già nella medicina ippocratica, una risorsa *ultima*; la cautela era ovviamente giustificata dalla mancanza di condizioni sterili, di antisettici di una qualche efficacia, di anestetici adatti ed anche di oggettive conoscenze anatomiche. I testi antichi non paiono alludere neanche alla necessità di una sterilizzazione dei ferri chirurgici attraverso il fuoco. D'altro canto, la stessa evidenza della praticabilità di alcuni interventi sembrerebbe comportare un loro esito globalmente soddisfacente, sufficiente a giustificare l'intervento del medico agli occhi della clientela, che forse premeva perché un qualche trattamento fosse messo in atto, non fosse altro per limitare il dolore nel paziente e per restituirlo alla normale funzionalità.

In particolare, alcune malattie della testa erano notoriamente trattate con un approccio chirurgico che arrivava sino alla