

se, ce qui est la découverte de le humanisme, d' Hippocrate jusqu'à aujourd' hui, pour les étudiants et pour les praticiens en contact avec le malade. C'est le but - marqué - de ce livre, qui reflète la ligne de l'école française d'histoire de la médecine auquel manque seulement une réflexion comparée ancien-contemporaine sur la déontologie et l'éthique médicale.

Luigi Frati

IHM Sibylle, *Der Traktat peri tôn iobolôn kai dêlêtêriôn farmakôn des sog. Aelius promotus*. Erstedition mit textkritischem Kommentar (=Serta Graeca, 4), Wiesbaden, Dr. Ludwig Reichert Verlag 1995.

This is a critical edition of the toxicological treatises presented in the *Vaticanus graecus* 299 and attributed in the bibliography to Aelius Promotos. The author studies in a classical way the history of the question, the structure of the text, the toxicological tradition, the quotations and sources of the text and the manuscript tradition.

Concerning the attribution of the work, Ihm (who gave a summary of her thesis in: *Der Traktat peri tôn iobolôn kai dêlêtêriôn farmakôn des sog. Aelius promotus*. Vorstellung eines erstmals vollständig edierten toxikologischen Textes, in Antike naturwissenschaft und ihre Rezeption. Hrsg von Klaus Döring, Bernhardt Herzhoff and Georg Wöhrle, Band 5, Trier, Wissenschaftlicher verlag, 1995, p. 79-89) works according to the traditional German method, the so-called *Quellenforschung*. She attributes the work to a still-unknown author whom she dates between the 2nd C. AD and Aetius' epoch. And, according to her, this author used, partially at least, the same source as Nicander. The edition of the text is followed by a commentary dealing mainly with the *loca similia* of the toxicological tradition and textual explanations. There is a full index of the text, as well as four plates of the manuscripts in which the text is attested.

The demonstration is not as convincing as it would be expected, above all because of the method: the quotation of a text does not implicate necessarily that an author used personally and di-

rectly the quoted text, as the *Quellenforschung* usually concludes from the textual similarity, creating artificially *Urtexten* and other hypothetical intermediaries within the textual tradition of the texts; the author who quotes another treatise, may have worked from indirect quotations found in treatises now lost or still unidentified.

Moreover, there is, in Ihm's work, no autoptical study of the manuscripts (for example, the *Vat. gr. 299*, dated by Ihm, on the basis of the manuscript catalogues, 14th c. end, is, in fact, 14th c., 3rd quarter).

The problem arisen is that one of the medical collections on Byzantine manuscripts. It seems that there are other possibilities for attributing this text, namely a Byzantine collection of the 14th century: a paleographical study of the codex *Vat. gr. 299* allows, indeed, to ascribe the codex within a group of other codices typical of a teaching milieu; and, indeed, the intrinsic features of the text are those ones typical of the Byzantine way of compilation. It must be postulated, however, that this possible Byzantine tacher had at disposal a text or quotations of it which are presently lost and which are not otherwise known. The problem remains thus open...

Alain Touwaide

GRMEK Mirko D., *Il calderone di Medea*. Roma-Bari, Laterza, 1996.

Lo sviluppo delle tecnologie, delle specializzazioni e delle subspecializzazioni ha reso difficile nel recente passato la cittadinanza nelle Facoltà di Medicina dell'indagine storica: ci si limita a celebrare qualche eminente personaggio, mentre non ha spazio sufficiente una storia della medicina intesa come analisi critica delle fonti (paleopatologiche, archeologiche, letterarie - mediche e non -, artistiche, etc.) e come analisi logica dell'evoluzione delle idee. In alcuni Paesi - Germania, Spagna - la storia della medicina ha trovato nuovi spazi accademici approfondendo la filosofia morale e l'etica, in altri - Gran Bretagna, Stati Uniti - si è spinta verso l'analisi storica medico-sociale, in altri an-