

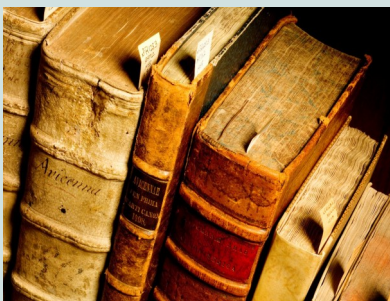
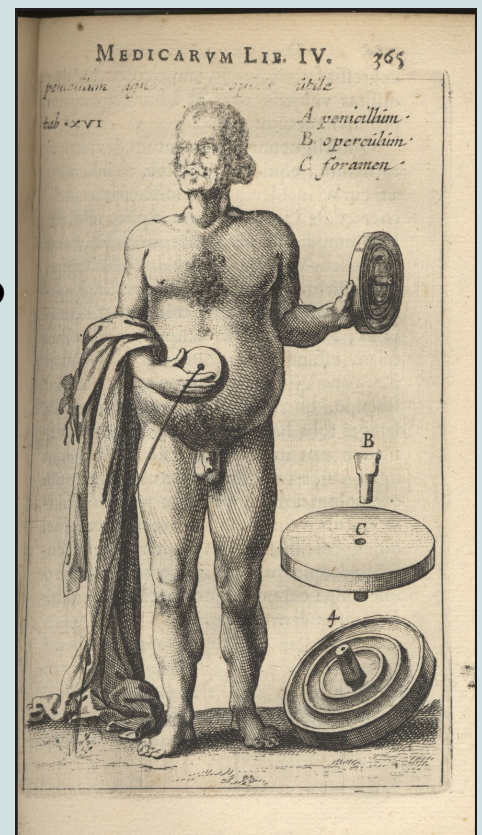
Notes from the John Martin Rare Book Room January, 2012

NICOLAAS TULP (1593-1674). *Observationes medicae*. Amsterdam: Ludovicum Elzevirium, 1652



Along with other distinguished anatomists in Holland, Tulp, a professor of anatomy at Amsterdam, left a rich legacy of anatomical discoveries. His name is current in the eponym "Tulp's valve" (the ileocecal valve) and his face is familiar as the central figure in Rembrandt's painting, "Doctor Nicolaas Tulp Demonstrating the Anatomy of the Arm," which hangs in The Hague. The present work, Tulp's only book, was first published in 1641. This enlarged edition contains the first descriptions of beri-beri and of what is probably diphtheria. Several interesting plates complement the book. Tulp de-

scribed the condition we know as migraine, the devastating effects to the lungs caused by tobacco smoking, and revealed an understanding of human psychology in a description of the placebo effect.



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