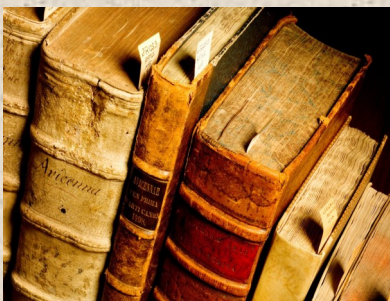
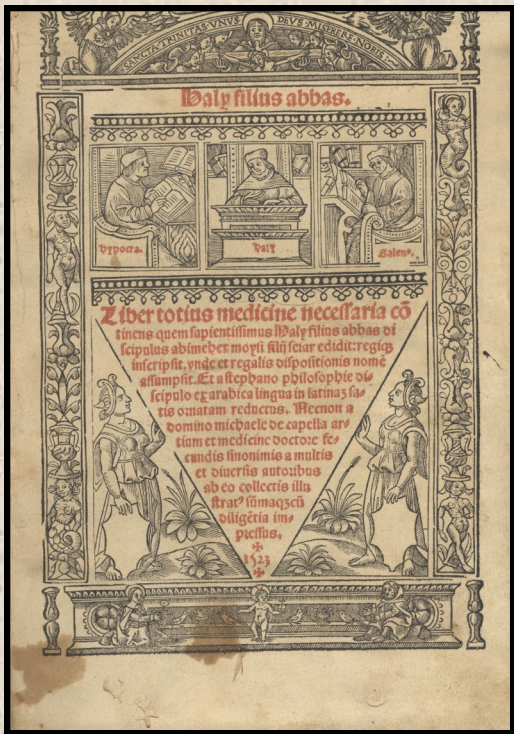


Notes from the John Martin Rare Book Room March, 2012

AL-MAJUSI 'ALI IBN AL-'ABBAS (d. 994). Liber totius medicine necessaria continens quem . . . 1523.

Haly Abbas, as he was known in the Latin west, was a native of Ahwaz in southwestern Persia and, in all probability, studied medicine at nearby Jundi-Shapur. He served as court physician to the Buyid ruler 'Adud ad-Dawlah (d. 983) in Baghdad. This book's clear, direct style, good organization, completeness, and systematic description of contemporary medical

knowledge and thought undoubtedly contributed to its becoming the standard medical text until Avicenna's Canon appeared a century later. Haly Abbas began the work with a critical review of the literature in which he covered such authors as Hippocrates, Galen, Oribasius, and Rhazes. He discussed human behavior and emphasized the importance of psychotherapy and the relationship between medicine and psychology. He recommended frequent use of phlebotomy and encouraged chemotherapy. He opposed contraception, recognized the existence of the capillary system, and subscribed to the highest ethical standards for physicians.



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