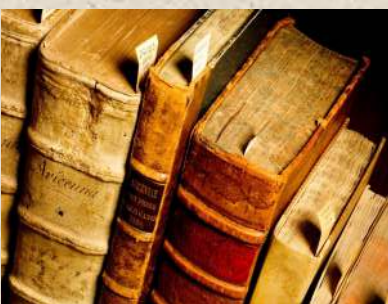


Notes from the John Martin Rare Book Room October, 2011

THOMAS BARTHOLIN (1616-1680). *Opuscula nova anatomica, de lacteis thoracicis et lymphaticis vasis*. Copenhagen: (Prostant[que] Amstelodami apud Joh. Blaeu), 1670.

Bartholin's classic treatises on the lymphatics are two of the works reprinted in this collected edition. Bartholin first reported his discovery of the thoracic duct in *De lacteis thoracicis in homine brutisque* in 1652. Only a year later in *Vasa lymphatica*, he presented his view that the lymphatic system has a physiological significance that had not been previously recognized and is an anatomically separate system. Although Olof Rudbeck (1630-1702) claimed priority in these matters, it was Bartholin who was the first to recognize the physiological importance of the lymphatic system. The volume also contains several of Bartholin's anatomical observations as well as a number of tracts in which he defends his views, while criticizing those of such individuals as Riolan, Pecquet, and Glisson.



Room 446
Hardin Library for the Health Sciences
University of Iowa
Iowa City, IA 52242
319/335-9154
donna-hirst@uiowa.edu
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