

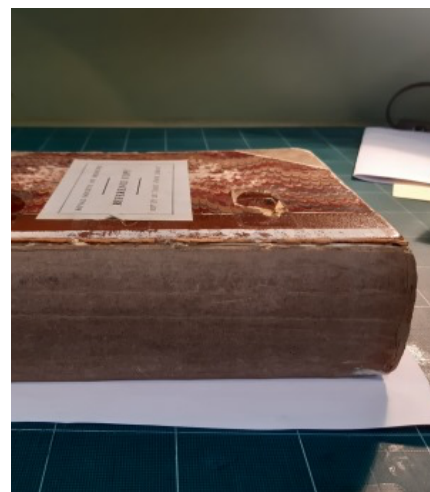
Arts Society Volunteering at the Library of The Royal Society of Medicine: An Example On Basic Book Conservation, and Discovering Books and Original Articles Through Book Conservation

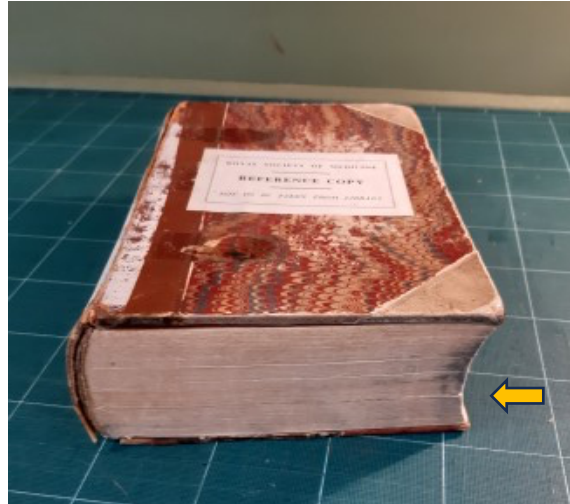
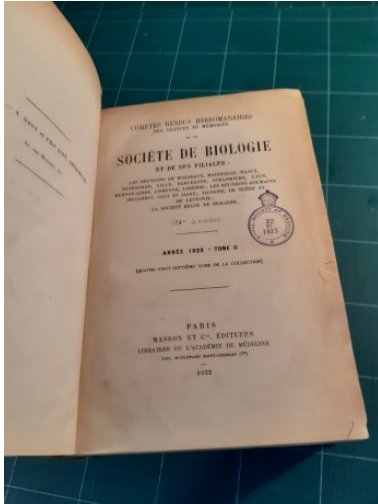
Dr Mara Prengler, MD PhD (UCL), Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine;
Certificate of Higher Education in Conservation: Books & Paper, Ravensbourne University London –
City & Guilds of London Art School.

1- Arts Society Volunteering at the Library of The Royal Society of Medicine: An Example On Basic Book Conservation.

Book: *'Comptes Rendus Hebdomadaires des Seances et Memoires de la Societe de Biologie et de ses Filiales'*, Tome II, 1922, Paris. Various authors.

Condition of the book: *Coverings:* Dust, self-adhesive Sellotape on the boards, torn leather covering on the front board and spine, detached front board and spine covering, and the back board missing; torn marble paper covering, ingrained dirt on the parchment covering the corners of the board. *Textblock:* Paper yellowish and brittle with torn pages, presence of sagging textblock (arrow) as a sign that the joints of the book are splitting.





Conservation treatment:

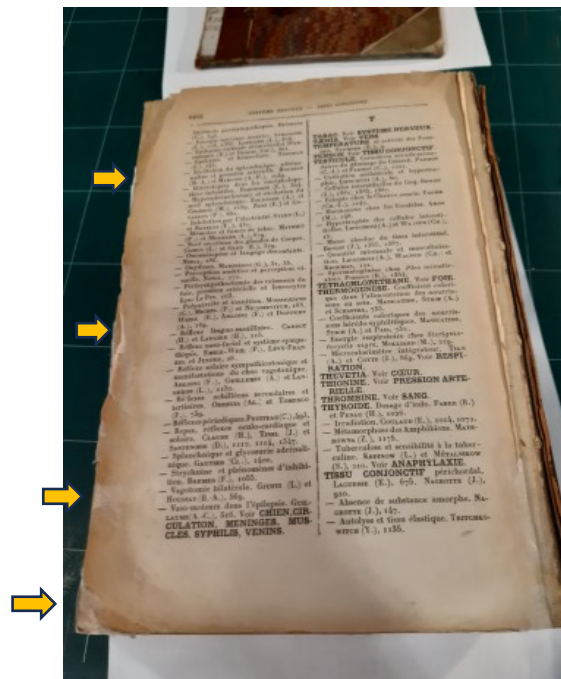
Coverings: Cleaning of the book, removal of the Sellotape, leather treatment with Cellugel (leather consolidant) and Renaissance Wax on the board and spine, repair of the torn leather covering with a wheat starch paste, re-insertion of the spine covering with a hollow-spine repair using acid-free paper, and replacement of the back board with a same size piece of acid-free cardboard.



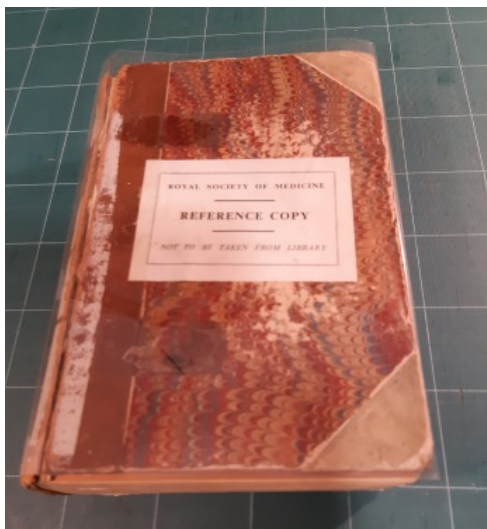
Textblock: Repair of the torn pages using Japanese paper and a wheat starch paste (arrows) in order to stabilise the torn brittle paper of the page on the foredge of the book; this is done to avoid further deterioration.



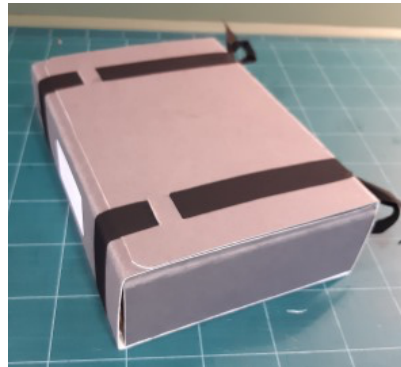
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Protective Enclosures: First, a Melinex jacket is made in order to protect the fragile coverings of the book.



Finally, the book is placed in a phase-box with a textblock support to help the text of the book to be kept in place and to not deteriorate further.



2 - Discovering Books and Original Articles Through Book Conservation.

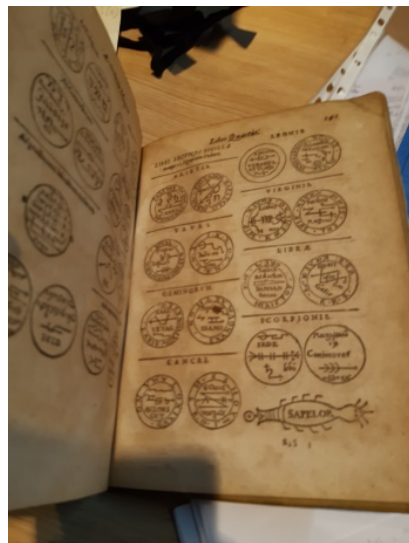
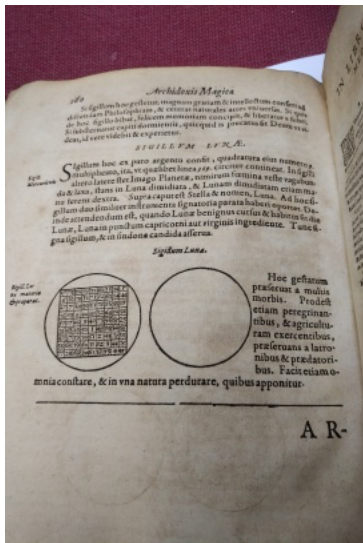
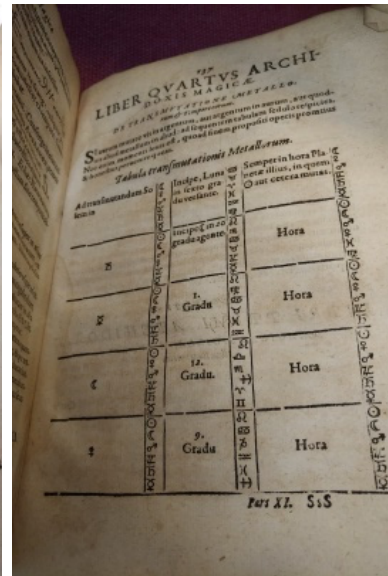
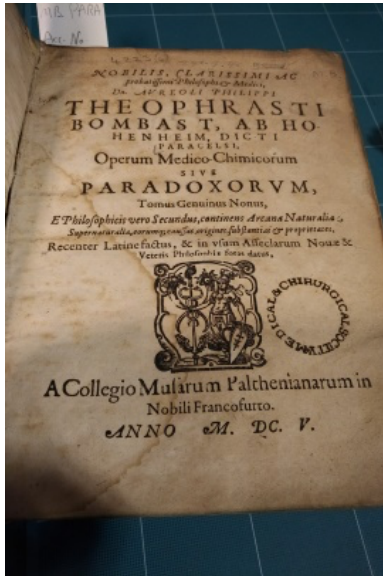
Books

-‘Operum Medico- Chemicorum Sive Paradoxorum. Tomus Genuinus Nonus.’ Theophrasti Bombast Ab Hohenheim, or Paracelsi, 1605, Frankfurt.

Paracelsus (1493-1541), Swiss physician and alchemist, and philosopher of the German Renaissance: Medicine, astrology, magic squares, and alchemy (photo with a table).



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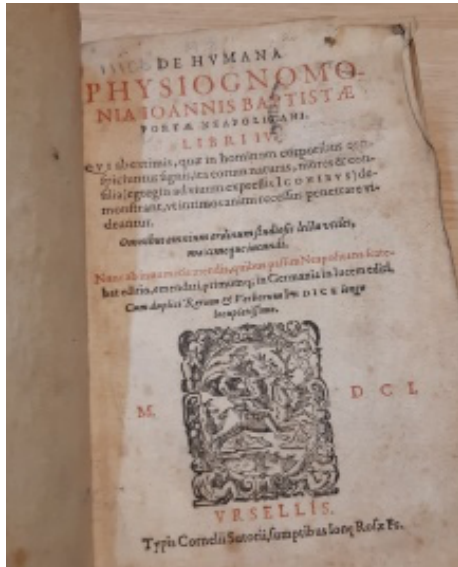


-‘De Humana Physiognomonia. Libri IV.’ Ioannis Baptistae Porta, 1650, Ursel (Belgium).

Giambattista della Porta (1535-1615), Italian scholar and polymath. His most famous work was ‘Magia Naturalis’ (1558): occult philosophy, astrology, alchemy, mathematics, natural philosophy.



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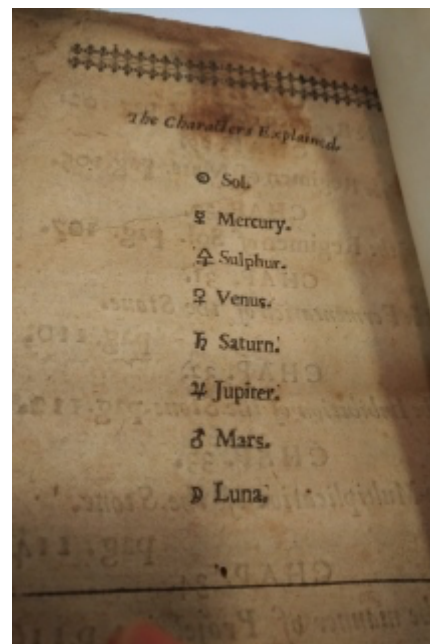
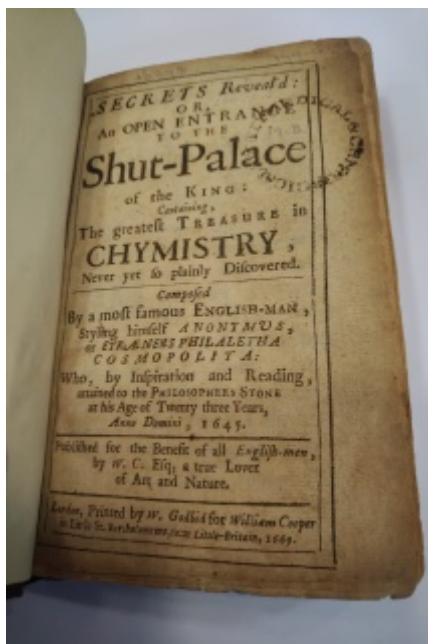


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- ' *Secrets Reveald or As Open Entrance to the Shut-Palace of the King: Containing the Greatest Treasure in Chymistry, Never Yet to Plainly Discovered. Composed by a most famous English-Man, styling himself Anonimus or Etraneus Philaletha Cosmopolita: Who, by Inspiration and Reading, attained to the Philosophers Stone at his Age of Twenty three Years, Anno Domini, 1645.* 1669, London.

A book on the Philosopher's Stone: alchemy.



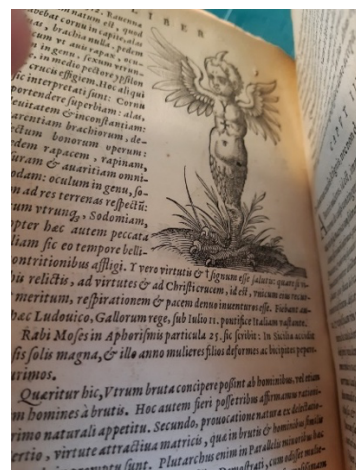


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-‘De Conceptu, et Generatione Hominis: De Matrice et Eius Partibus.’ Iacobi Rueffi, 1587, Frankfurt.

Astrologists at the time of childbirth, and fantastic children.





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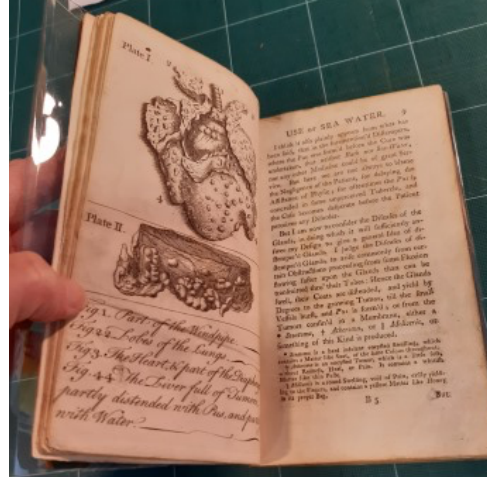
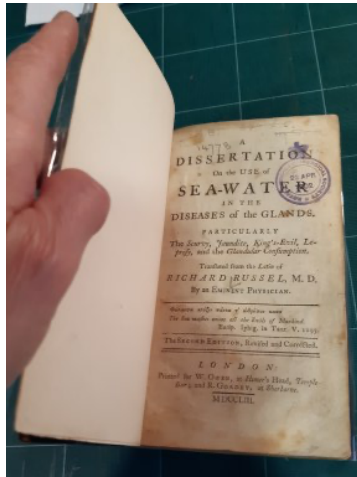


-'Esperienze Intorno Alla Generazione Degli Insetti.' Francesco Redi, 1668, Firenze (Florence).





-‘A Dissertation On the Use of Sea-Water In the Diseases of the Glands.’ Richard Russel, 1753’, London.



-‘De Origine Fontium, Tentamen Philosophicum.’ Rob. Plot, 1685, Oxonii (Oxford).



Original Articles and Journals

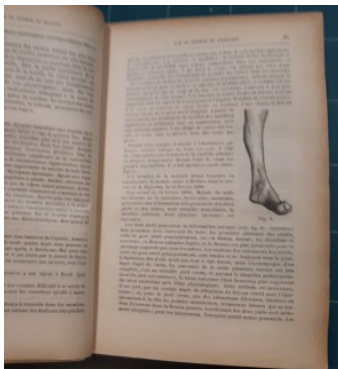
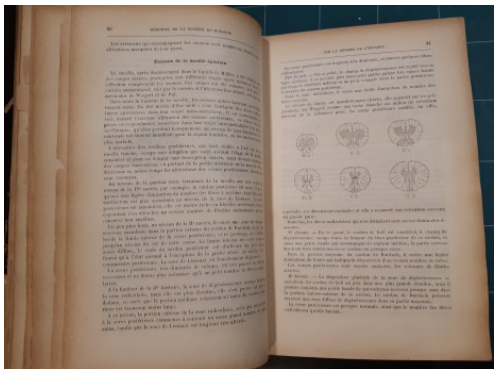
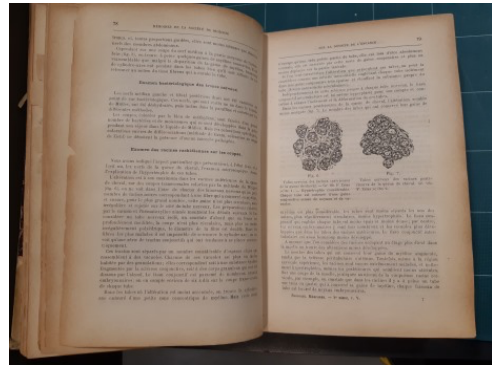
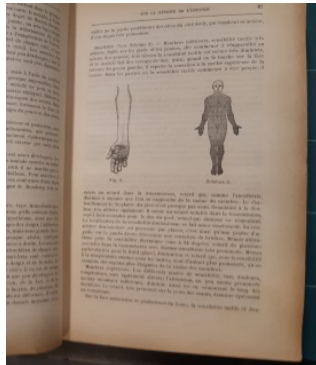
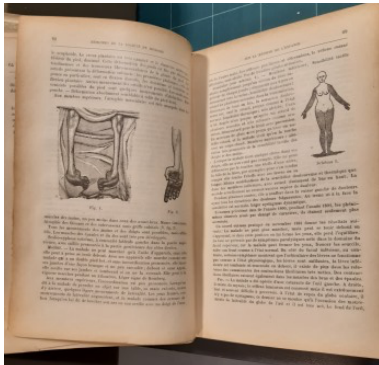
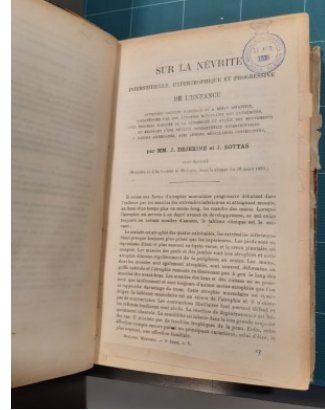
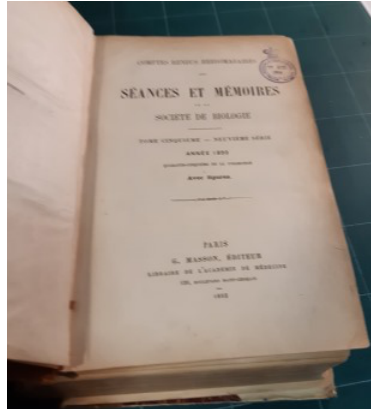
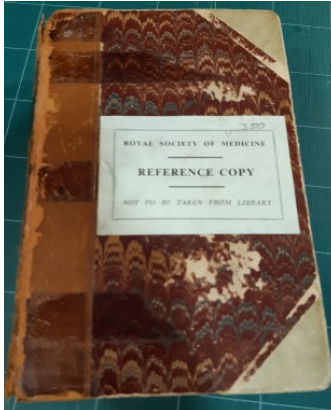
-‘Sur la nevrite interstitielle hypertrophique et progressive de l’enfance.’ J. Dejerine et J. Sottas, pp. 63-96, in “Comptes Rendus Hebdomadaires des Seances et Memoires de la Societe de Biologie. Tome Cinqieme. Neuvieme Serie.’ 1893, Paris.

Medicine de la Belle Epoque: Joseph Jules Dejerine (1849-1917) and Jules Sottas (1866-1945), French neurologists who described Dejerine-Sottas disease (or Dejerine-Sottas



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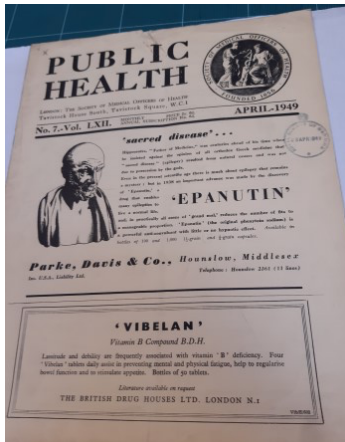
syndrome; hereditary motor and sensory polyneuropathy type III; Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease type 3), a progressive disease affecting the peripheral nerves.





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-'Public Health, No 7, Vol LXII, April 1949.' London.



Marble Paper in Book Coverings and Endpapers



Book with Melinex jacket