

Book Reviews

reports in his diary and memoirs. These have been edited by F. Saager in 1913 who, however, rearranged, shortened and 'polished' them, while the original manuscript was destroyed at the beginning of the first World War. The present monograph uses besides the printed memoirs a great number of periodical articles (of which a full bibliography is given) for the accounts of some remarkable experiments told in Krimer's lively fashion and documented by a wealth of illustrations. Krimer punched a patient's heart with a long needle attached to a voltaic pile. In 1820, fifteen years before Schwann's experiments, he invented a 'myodynameter' for measuring muscle contraction. A child of the romantic age in his private life, gifted in painting and music, he helped in his professional capacity to initiate the strictly scientific methods common in medical research today.

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