

Haller and the Movement of Blood



This French language title page (left), from *Two Memoirs of the Movement of Blood and the Effects of Bleeding: Based on Experiments on Animals*, was printed in Lausanne, Switzerland, in 1756 by publisher Marc-Michel Bousquet and Company. The author, Victor Albrecht von Haller (1708–1777), helped pioneer the concept that capillaries lack contractility. An eccentric Swiss botanist, anatomist, physiologist, and physician, Haller had a genius for languages as well as sciences. Opposite the unusual choice for a frontispiece (right), Haller proudly listed his memberships in the “Royal Academies of Science in Paris, London, Berlin, Stockholm, etc.” (Copyright © the American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc.)

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