

QUACKING DELILAHS

Respect for the Medical Profession wasn't very widespread in the early 1700's and the very thought of a female Doctor resulted in these comments by Rev. John Whitlock (d.1709):

"The Hae Galeni - nom Genus Variant - The quacking Hermophrodites; Physican and Physic, both Simples, compounding the Destruction of the Patient; applying their Medicines unto an unknown Disease. In the Bills of Mortality we may justle in She-physicians among the S's for a Disease, as surely killing as Stone or Surfeit. A practising Rib shall kill more than the Jawbone of an Ass, and a quacking Dalilah than andiant Sampson"

From the papers of Cotton Mather (1663-1728) published by the American Antiquarian Society, Vol.63, 1953

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