Contents

Acknowledgments ix

Abbreviations xi

Introduction

A Book that was Missing in the World 1
The Precarious Fame of Doña Oliva: The Issue of Authorship 8
Moon Milk: The Medical Heresy of Nueva Filosofia 30
Echoes of the Querelle des Femmes in Early Modern Medicine 53
Aftermath: Sabucus Hispanus in England and Beyond 64

Note on the Translation 85

Translation, The True Medicine 91

Letter from Doña Oliva Sabuco to Sir Don Francisco Zapata 92
Dialogue on the True Medicine 95
Of the Two Natures: one that gives birth, one that gives growth 126
Of critical, or otherwise said, decretory days 148
Question of the shape of the brain's marrow, membranes, skull, scalp, and crown of the head 152
Of the chyle, or juice, and its varieties 159
New and old medicine compared and contrasted: the old medicine refuted 166
Comparison and refutation: on poisons 167
Comparison and refutation: on purgative remedies 168
Comparison and refutation: on hemorrhoids 171
Comparison: on ailments 173
Comparison: on supervening diseases 173
Comparison: on the way the aliment enters the body 178
Comparison: on crudities 182
Comparison: on drink and food 184
Comparison: on anger 186
Comparison: on sweat 189
Comparison: on idiopathy, sympathy, and consent 191
Comparison: on apoplexy and epilepsy 197
Comparison: on diverting disease to another place 200
Comparison: on temperaments and actions 203
Comparison: on the four moistures discovered by Avicenna 206
Comparison: on semen 209
Comparison: on the causes of diseases 210
Comparison: on fevers 211
All that has been said is proved with evident reasons 214

Bibliography 231

Index 255