## Contents

Preface	vii
Introduction	1
Medicine in Ancient Greece	3
Classic Medicine After Hippocrates	7
Islamic Medicine	10
The Revival of Western Medicine	13
Infectious Diseases	14
A New Anatomy	19
Harvey and the Blood Circulation	21
Alchemy and the Dawn of Chemistry	27
The Gold-Makers	29
Iatrochemistry — A Chemical Explanation	33
The Man on the Balance	41
Medicine and Chemistry in the Scientific Revolution	45
Speculative Medicine — The System Builders	47
Corpuscles and Nitrous Air	55
Metallurgy and Spas	59
Combustion and Respiration	69
A Golden Age of Chemistry	77
Proportions in Chemistry	79
Atoms and Molecules	81
Atomic Weights and Symbols	87
Ferment or Vital Force	93
Vitalism and Natural Philosophy	95
Animal Chemistry	99
The Meaning of Ferment	104
A Fortuitous Observation	117
The Nobel Prize	129
Idealism and Dynamite	131
A Momentous Will	135
Creating the Nobel Foundation	137

vi	The Enigma of Ferment	
The Early Chemical Nob	el Prizes	142
The First Biochemical Laureate		145
Serendipity in Research		149
Bibliography		157
Index		159