10/27  Self Help and Heroic Medicine

Heroic Therapy
  Case: George Washington’s death
  Powerful induced symptoms as proof of powerful treatment
  Powerful treatment for powerful disease
  America vs. Europe: bigger, stronger, more robust
  Case: Benjamin Rush
  Medical marketplace: therapeutics and identity
  Heroic therapy today: chemotherapy, transplants, ECT

Emergence of Therapeutic Alternatives
  Homeopathy: Samuel Hahnemann
  Botanical medicine: Samuel Thomson
  Health reformers: Sylvester Graham
  Self-help movement: Jacksonian demography, “every man a doctor”
  Hydropathy, naturopathy, Christian Science, etc.

Medical Marketplace
  Competition for patients
  What treatments are tolerable? impressive? effective?

Sources of Stability and Change in Therapeutic Systems?
  Decline of depletives over mid-19th century
  Pierre Louis, the numerical method, and therapeutic skepticism
  Oliver Wendell Holmes and therapeutic nihilism
  Rise of opiates and stimulants

Disease Change and Therapeutic Change
  Tuberculosis and the rise of stimulants?