

**A CLINICAL REPORT OF
THE ROYAL DISPENSARY
FOR DISEASES OF THE EAR**

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A clinical report of the Royal dispensary for diseases of the ear by John Harrison Curtis

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JOHN HARRISON CURTIS

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FOR DISEASES OF THE EAR**

A
CLINICAL REPORT
OF THE
ROYAL DISPENSARY
FOR
DISEASES OF THE EAR;
WITH
REMARKS
ON THE
OBJECTS AND UTILITY OF THE INSTITUTION.

BY
JOHN HARRISON CURTIS, Esq.

AURIST IN ORDINARY TO HIS MAJESTY, AND THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES
THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER; SURGEON TO THE ROYAL
DISPENSARY FOR DISEASES OF THE EAR; LECTURER ON THE ANATOMY,
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AND OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON; CORRESPONDING MEMBER
OF THE MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY OF BERLIN; AND OF THE PHILO-
SOPHICAL SOCIETY OF LEIPSIK, &c. &c.

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A REPORT,

&c.

THE ROYAL DISPENSARY FOR DISEASES OF THE EAR was instituted in December 1816, under the patronage of His late MAJESTY, of his royal brothers the late lamented DUKES OF YORK and KENT, of His Royal Highness the DUKE OF CUMBERLAND, and of many individuals of the highest rank in the State and eminence as men of science, as well as a numerous body of professional persons of great celebrity: amongst the latter may be mentioned Dr. Babington, Sir Astley Cooper, Mr. Leese, and the late Sir Walter Farquhar, Dr. Baillie, Dr. Sims, and Mr. Cline. Since the last Report, it has met with the support and patronage of His Most Gracious MAJESTY KING WILLIAM IV. and QUEEN ADELAIDE, the KING OF BELGIUM,

their Royal Highnesses the DUCHESSES OF KENT and CUMBERLAND, and most of the principal Nobility and Gentry of the country.

Its prominent object was the relief of the industrious poor from a class of diseases to the last degree painful and inconvenient, and often neglected, if not indeed generally misunderstood, on the part of those to whose management the ailments of the lower orders are commonly consigned. This remark is introduced without the slightest intention of advancing any charge as to dereliction of duty, against a body conspicuous for their humanity and self-devotedness to the claims of the indigent and the suffering poor. But nothing is more true, than that the relief of the parties in question, in the respect now specified, was for a long period completely overlooked. Public sympathy was excited and kept alive by a host of other and not less interesting claims, while these were forgotten. When, however, a voice was raised in their behalf, it is gratifying to record that a ready ear was lent to the suggestion. Mechanics, domestic servants, soldiers, sailors, and foreigners, with their

families, and, indeed, the distressed at large, of whatever name or description, were encouraged to repair to this quarter for relief.

The charity, which was first established in Carlisle Street, and was some time since removed to its present location in Dean Street, has now stood the test of sixteen years' active operation;—a period more than sufficient to prove the pretensions, the stability, and the efficacy of any institution of this nature. During that period it has been found of such unquestionable utility, that it has met with support fully answering to the demands that have been made in its behalf. Its efficiency has now, however, reached such a state of augmentation, that increased means of support are indispensable to extend its sphere of usefulness; for it is the intention of the Governors, as soon as the funds will allow, to enlarge the present building, in order to accommodate within its walls not only infant deaf and dumb patients, but also persons from the country, and others afflicted with deafness, or other diseases of the ear, who are destitute of a habitation in the metropolis.

The object of this statement is, by a simple