

**ESSAYS ON PARTIAL
DERANGEMENT OF THE
MIND: IN SUPPOSED
CONNEXION WITH RELIGION**

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Essays on partial derangement of the mind: in supposed connexion with religion by John Cheyne

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JOHN CHEYNE

**ESSAYS ON PARTIAL
DERANGEMENT OF THE
MIND: IN SUPPOSED
CONNEXION WITH RELIGION**



J. Heyne MS

For
Nero.

Library

ESSAYS

Medical ^{of} *Faculty*

PARTIAL DERANGEMENT OF THE MIND

IN SUPPOSED CONNEXION

Medicine ^{with} *University*

RELIGION.

BY THE LATE
1777-1850

JOHN CHEYNE, M.D. F.R.S.E. M.R.I.A.

Physician-General to His Majesty's Forces in Ireland, &c. &c.

WITH A PORTRAIT.

AND AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF THE AUTHOR.

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AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

A *SUCCINCT* account, such as I am about to give, of the life of a physician who, without much literary or general scientific information, attained confidence and consideration, may suggest useful hints to the junior members of the medical profession to whom it is addressed.

The particulars of my birth, parentage, and education may soon be told.

I was born on the third of February, 1777, in Leith, where my father, John Cheyne, practised medicine and surgery. He was a man of great cheerfulness, benevolence, good sense, and singleness of mind. He would visit the poor as promptly as the rich, and his half-crown was as freely given to those who had no means of procuring food, as his prescription.

My father succeeded his uncle, John Cheyne, a kindred spirit, who had acquired the name of "the friend of the poor." Of my great grandfather I know little, but that he and his family were devoted to the Stuarts, to whose agents they had lent considerable sums of money, which were never returned; and that his portrait by Sir John Medina still hangs in the hall of the College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, of which he was a member, as were also my father and grandfather.

My mother was the daughter of Mr. William Edmonstone, Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, and of his wife Cecilia Bayne, sister to William Bayne, who was mortally wounded in Lord Rodney's great battle, while in command of the Alfred seventy-four-gun ship, and was the senior of the three captains to whom a monument was erected in Westminster Abbey. This Cecilia Bayne was daughter of Alexander Bayne, Professor of Scots Law in the University of Edinburgh, whose life appears in the "Penny Cyclopædia," and who is noticed in D'Israeli's

“Calamities of Authors.” My mother was an ambitious woman, of honourable principles, constantly stimulating her children to exertion, and intently occupied with their advancement in life.

By the advice of one of my father's friends, I was, after passing four years at the Grammar School of Leith, sent to the High School of Edinburgh in my tenth year, and at once placed under the care of Dr. —, the Rector, or head master, for whose class I was in no respect prepared. In consequence of this ill-advised step I was very unhappy, being unable to keep up with many of my companions, and I often feigned sickness and submitted to take medicine that I might be kept from school. Dr. —, doubtless a very eminent master, was a vain man, and so passionate as to inspire his scholars with the utmost terror; when he found that we had been idle he would flog a whole form till he became pale and breathless and unable to proceed, and then he would throw himself into his chair, rail at our base ingratitude, and magnify his own