

**MINERAL WATERS OF
KREUZNACH DESCRIBED
FOR PHYSICIANS**

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Mineral Waters of Kreuznach Described for Physicians by Edward Stabel

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EDWARD STABEL

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KREUZNACH DESCRIBED
FOR PHYSICIANS**

Rudolph Frederick & Co. Sole M. S.
THE MINERAL WATERS

of

KREUZNACH

described for physicians

by

EDWARD STABEL, M. D.

Member of the Physico-medical Society at Bonn, of the German-
medical Society at Paris and of the Medical Society at Strasbourg.

With ten illustrations.

LONDON

WILLIAMS & NORGATE

14, HENRIETTA-STREET, COVENT-GARDEN.

KREUZNACH

R. VOIGTLÄNDER.

1868.

1209

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Preface.

Since the scepticism and nihilism of our days have shaken blind trust in authority, practical medical science has been forced to lay higher claims to therapeutic experiences than in former times and consequently the course which Balneology had to take up was defined. If it would not proceed in the old beaten track, exact observations and scientific proofs must take the place of bare empiricism.

In the last decennaries chymistry and physiology have made gigantic progress and their attainments are submitted to medical science everywhere, as the only rational base.

Balneology must also be treated from this point of view, if it is to fill worthily its position among the different branches of medical science. In this way only will it be possible, if it be required to determine

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the sphere of a spring's action — by constant attention to the human body, daily more and more explored by the aid of the microscope and chemical reagents — to ascertain exactly the properties of its component parts and to find out by their action the total effect of the water and what diseases it is qualified to cure. — Impressed with the fact, we often only divine, where we think we know the truth already, I have well considered the importance and the difficulties of this task, having in view the demands which science now makes on Balneology, and I beg not to be judged too severely, if I have not succeeded in fulfilling them satisfactorily.

Referring to the Pharmacodynamics of the single components of our spring I have adopted in general the same opinions, which Clarus has laid down in his pharmacology.

I should have added a chapter on the contraindications to that on the indications, if in the enumeration and discussion of the different diseases, in which our waters act with success, the respective indications for the use of the brine had not been well denoted and if the Etiology and Symptomatology as well as

the development and the course of the diseases or the differential diagnosis had not found the minutest consideration.

I have intentionally omitted a closer description of divers cases of diseases which we treated here at Kreuznach, because such minutiae, though they may be very interesting, often remain unnoticed by the reader. I have only represented one case and I think I am the more justified in giving publicity to it specially, because when explained by illustrations it shows more plainly than the history of any other illness, be it ever so voluminously described, the healing power of our Naiad.

If I discuss at greater length some subjects, which belong, properly speaking, more to the sphere of Surgery than of Balneology, be pleased to pardon my fondness for Surgery which is natural to me, as I was in former times Assistant Surgeon to the University College Hospital at Bonn.

Kreuznach, May 1868.

The author.

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48
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50
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62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90
91
92
93
94
95
96
97
98
99
100

Contents.

	Page
Chapter I.	
Kreuznach and its Environs	1
Chapter II.	
Climate of Kreuznach	9
Chapter III.	
The Mineral Waters of Kreuznach	27
A) Their physical Condition and chemical Combination	27
B) The method of cure in employing the Waters of Kreuznach	34
1) Drinking-cure	34
2) Bathing-cure	38
a) Full-bath	38
b) Arm-Foot- and Sitting-baths	43
c) Local use of the Waters of Kreuznach	43
α) For Compresses	43
β) For Injections	44
γ) For Douche-baths	50
3) Appendix	51
Prescriptions in employing the Waters of Kreuznach and dietetical regimen	51
C) The effect of the Mineral Waters of Kreuznach	54
D) Indications of the Mineral Waters of Kreuznach	72
I. Exsudations, Infiltrations and Hypertrophies	72
1) Scrofulosis	72
2) Rhachitis	96
3) Hypertrophies	98
a) Hypertrophy of the Salivary Glands	99
b) Hypertrophy of the Tonsils	100
c) Hypertrophy of the Thyroid Gland (Struma glandulosa s. sarcomatosa s. lymphatica)	101
d) Hypertrophy of the Prostate	103
e) Hypertrophy of the Testicles	105
Diseases of Women.	
f) Hypertrophy of the Breast (Mamma)	106
g) Hypertrophy of the Ovaries (Ovaria)	107
h) Hypertrophy of the Womb (Uterus)	108
Chronical Infarction	110