# 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**

## MINERAL WATERS OF KREUZNACH DESCRIBED FOR PHYSICIANS



# THE MINERAL WATERS

of

#### KREUZNACH

described for physicians

by

#### EDWARD STABEL, M. D.

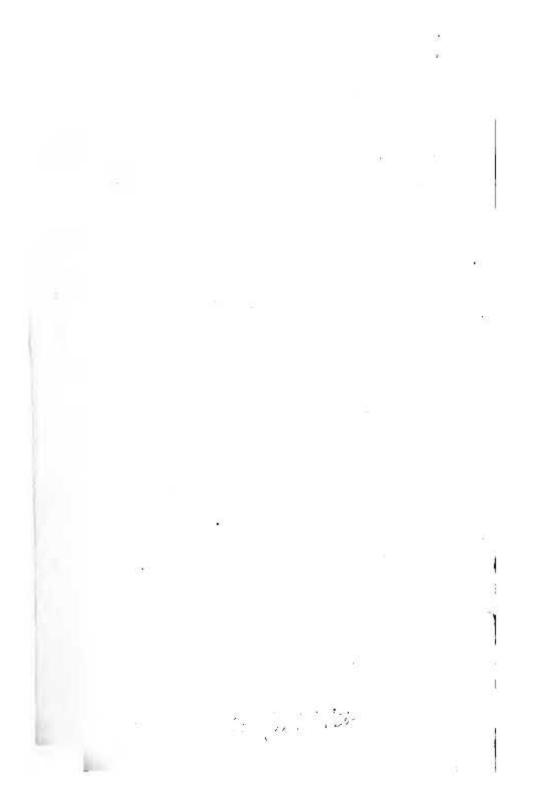
Member of the Physico-medical Society at Bonn, of the Germanmedical Society at Paris and of the Medical Society at Strasbourg.

With ten illustrations.

#### LONDON

WILLIAMS & NORGATE
14. HENRIETTA-STREET, COVENT GARDEN.

RREUZNACH
R. VOIGTLÆNDER.
1868.



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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 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

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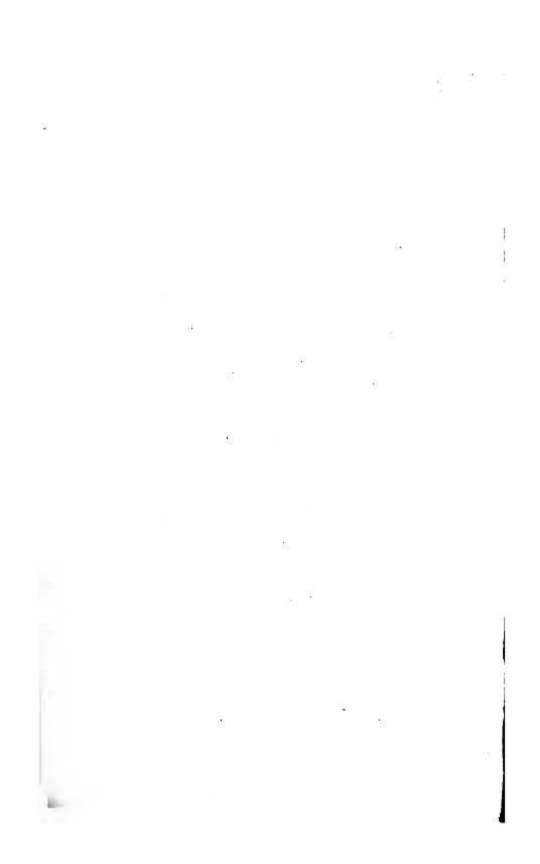
the development and the course of the diseases or the differential diagnosis had not found the minutest consideration.

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 pleaced 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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