

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE AMERICAN
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION. ESSAYS ON
THE SECRETORY AND
THE EXCITO-SECRETORY SYSTEM OF
NERVES IN THEIR RELATIONS TO
PHYSIOLOGY AND PATHOLOGY**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649541171

Contributions to the American Medical Association. Essays on the Secretary and the Excito-Secretory System of Nerves in Their Relations to Physiology and Pathology by Henry Fraser Campbell

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

HENRY FRASER CAMPBELL

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE AMERICAN
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION. ESSAYS ON
THE SECRETORY AND
THE EXCITO-SECRETORY SYSTEM OF
NERVES IN THEIR RELATIONS TO
PHYSIOLOGY AND PATHOLOGY**

Contributions
TO THE
American Medical Association.

Contributions to the American Medical Association.

ESSAYS

ON THE

SECRETORY AND THE EXCITO-SECRETORY
SYSTEM OF NERVES

IN THEIR RELATIONS TO

PHYSIOLOGY AND PATHOLOGY.

COMPRISING

- I. A NEW CLASSIFICATION OF FEBRILE DISEASES.
- II. AN EXPOSITION OF THE "GANGLIONIC PATHOLOGY" OF ALL CONTINUED FEVERS, AS ILLUSTRATED IN TYPHUS AND TYPHOID FEVER.
- III. THE PRIZE ESSAY ON THE EXCITO-SECRETORY SYSTEM OF NERVES IN ITS RELATIONS TO PHYSIOLOGY AND PATHOLOGY.
- IV. A LETTER TO DR. MARSHALL HALL, OF LONDON, CLAIMING PRIORITY IN THE DISCOVERY AND NAMING OF THE EXCITO-SECRETORY SYSTEM OF NERVES.

BY

HENRY FRASER CAMPBELL, A. M., M. D.,

ONE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENTS OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, AND PROFESSOR OF SPECIAL AND COMPARATIVE ANATOMY IN THE MEDICAL COLLEGE OF GEORGIA (AUGUSTA).

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS.

PHILADELPHIA:
J. B. LIPPINCOTT AND CO.
1857.

TO
MARSHALL HALL, M.D., F.R.S.,

MEMBER OF THE INSTITUTE OF FRANCE,

AND

AUTHOR OF THAT GRAND INDUCTION OF MODERN PHYSIOLOGY, "THE PRINCIPLE
OF REFLEX NERVOUS ACTION,"

This Collection of Essays

ON

THE SECRETORY AND THE EXCITO-SECRETORY SYSTEM,

IS RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED,

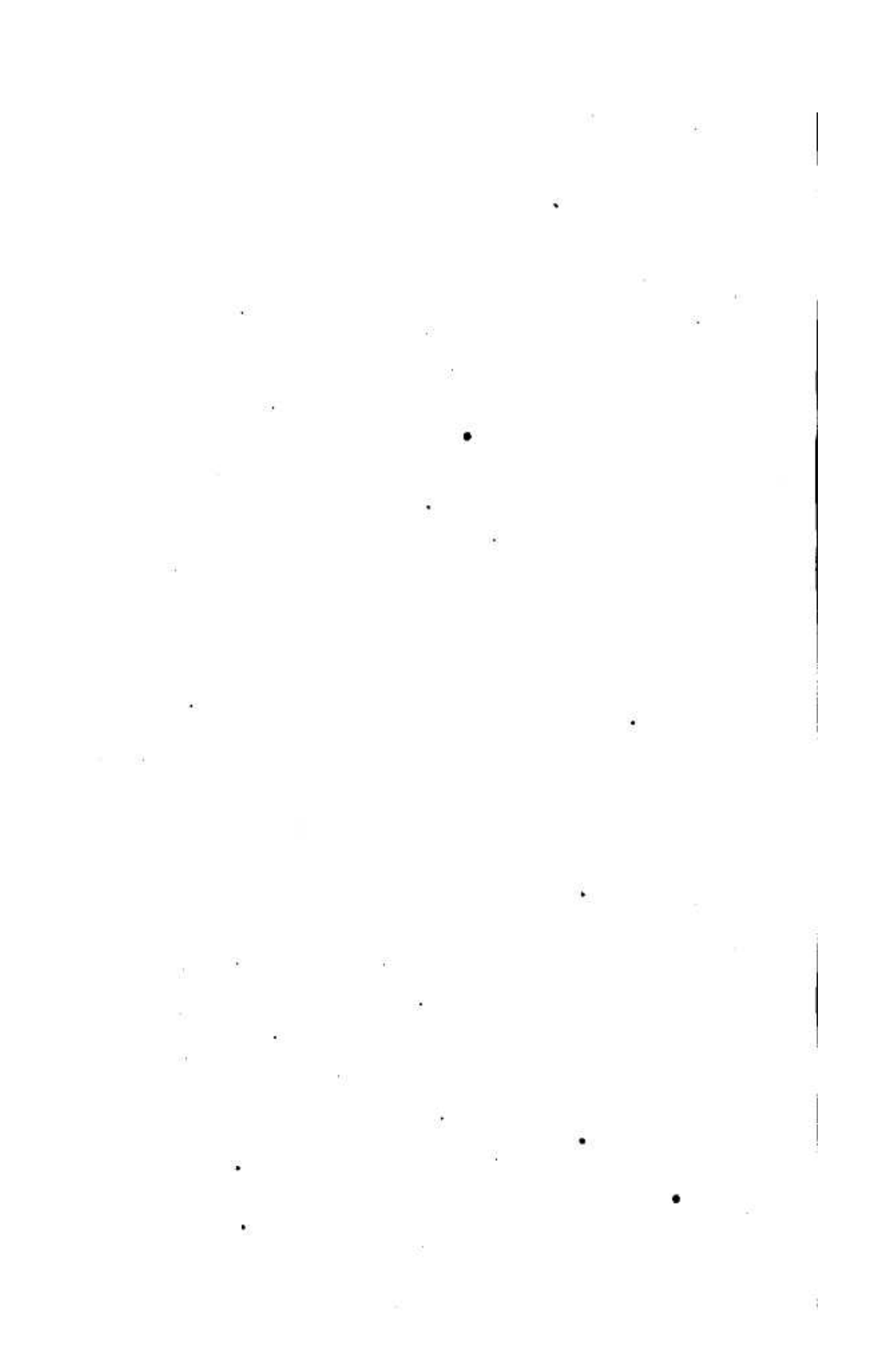
IN HIGH ADMIRATION OF HIS GENIUS,

AND IN

HEARTFELT ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF HIS LIBERALITY,

BY

THE AUTHOR.



P R E F A C E .

THE several papers composing the following little volume were on different occasions presented as *reports* to the American Medical Association, and, with the exception of the Letter to Dr. Marshall Hall, will be found published in the Transactions of that body. They have, at least most of them, been distributed privately to various distinguished members of the profession in *pamphlet* form. Their scattered condition, as they exist in the volumes of the Transactions, and the proverbially perishable nature of pamphlet literature, have induced us to bring in the close relation of a single volume, our several papers on the Nervous System, which appear to us to have a special relation to one another, in order that we may gain for our views before the reader that advantage which will accrue from a simple juxtaposition and an uninterrupted reading.

One of the most distinguished essayists¹ of modern times has remarked, that "the rarest works are frequently the most original; for precisely in proportion as an author is in advance of his age, is it likely that his works will be neglected; and the neglect of contemporaries, in general, consigns a book, especially a small book, if not protected by accidental concomitants, at once to the tobacconist or tallow-chandler. This is more particularly the case with *pamphlets*." The same writer here instances the neglect sustained by the philosophical pamphlet of Arthur Collier, which, though long antecedent and far more original than the large volume of Bishop Berkeley, yet sank into oblivion, because it was a pamphlet and

¹ Sir William Hamilton.

not a volume. It is to save *our pamphlet* on "Typhoidal Fevers," which we humbly hope contains at least the *germ* of the truth in regard to the pathology of this class of fevers, from the fate of passing into the department of "Forgotten Literature," that we now make it a part of a *system*, which admits of a board-bound volume for its elaboration.

The *Letter to Dr. Marshall Hall*, contains all of our earlier publications on the excito-secretory system, and we have therefore withheld the separate introduction of those papers in the present volume. This letter will be found also to contain the previous claim of priority made before the American Medical Association, on the announcement of Mons. C. Bernard in 1858. At the time of its publication, one or two of our friends said, that we but expressed views which they themselves had entertained in an indefinite form for years. Mr. Carlyle gives utterance to an idea which fully explains this general recognition of original views as things not altogether unfamiliar. It is something like this: that at a time immediately preceding *every* discovery in science or art, there are vague, detached, *elementary portions* of it floating through the brains of many, who, having only *parts* of the truth, but *partly* express it, or do not express it at all, or are not sufficiently *convinced* of the truth to proclaim it boldly,¹ but still it has become somewhat

¹ "That man is not the discoverer of any art who first says the thing; but he who says it so long, and so loud, and so clearly, that he compels mankind to hear him—the man who is so deeply impressed with the importance of the discovery that he will take no denial, but, at the risk of fortune and fame, pushes through all opposition, and is determined that what he thinks he has discovered shall not perish for want of a fair trial."—See *Tyler Smith on Parturition*.

The following, which comes to us while these pages are undergoing correction, is found in an obituary notice of Dr. Marshall Hall, and the very diction indicates who the author is. Here is the penetrating insight of the Philosopher yoked with the sprightly gleaming of the Poet. It is from the glowing pen of Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes. In referring to Dr. Hall's discovery of Reflex action—Excitomotory action, and the disputations following its announcement by him, this writer uses the following striking language:—

"Others may have more or less perfectly observed and announced some of the facts in the series of demonstrations. But they spoke in a whisper or in a corner,

familiar to many, so that when he who is justly entitled to be called the originator of the system *announces* it, "What *he* says," to use the author's own language, "*all* men were not far from saying—indeed, were *longing* to say. The thoughts of all start up, as from painful, enchanted sleep, round *his* thought, answering to it, 'Yes, even so!' We all feel as if we could, and some feel as if we did, fashion such a result. The *built* house seems all so fit, every way as it should be—as if it came there by its own law and the nature of things—that we forget the rude, disorderly quarry it was shaped from. The very perfection of the house, as if nature herself had made it, hides the builder's merit." We claim no great perfection for our work, nor merit for ourself, except the merit of originality already fully accorded us. We know that "the excito-secretory system will," as Dr. Marshall Hall says, "require many laborers and many years for its perfection." We claim no other merit, because it was to an incident of our early youth¹ that we owe the direction given to our mind which led to the result, however important it may have since proved and may yet prove. It is far from being, as yet, a "*built* house," but we claim to have, at least, been the first who fitted the materials and showed how they were to be put together.

The CLASSIFICATION of *febrile diseases* found in the introduction to this volume, we sincerely believe to be the *true* one, and with truth for its basis, we do not hesitate to predict that, in time, it must become the *accepted* one.

We will make one remark about the prize essay near the end of this collection, and then close our rather lengthy preface. It will

and when they had once spoken, were quiet. He cried his doctrine and its proofs aloud in the street and in the academy; he shouted it over and over again, until he was hoarse with calling; he printed it in little pamphlets and big books; he dressed it in Italics and capitals, as if it were an incendiary proclamation; he wearied the very echoes with it, until at last the deaf and surly world took up its ear-trumpet and listened—and lo! one of the startling truths that make a century luminous in the procession of time, and lift a withered student into planetary reputation!"—*Boston Med. and Surg. Journal*.

¹ See note, p. 130.