

**OBSERVATIONS ON THE  
DERANGED  
MANIFESTATIONS OF  
THE MIND; OR, INSANITY**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649007189

Observations on the deranged manifestations of the mind; or, insanity by J. G. Spurzheim

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](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**J. G. SPURZHEIM**

**OBSERVATIONS ON THE  
DERANGED  
MANIFESTATIONS OF  
THE MIND; OR, INSANITY**



## P R E F A C E .

---

ANATOMY, Physiology, and Pathology, are most intimately connected with each other; and must be brought in harmony to complete the medical knowledge. But Pathology cannot be cultivated in the same way as anatomy and physiology. In the two latter branches, divisions may be established according to the structure and functions of similar organs, as of bones, muscles, blood-vessels, nerves—or of single and individual parts, as of the eye, teeth, liver, &c., whilst in Pathology it is to be observed that the same disease or morbid state may affect every system of the body. Here then we must be too often satisfied with mere nosological divisions, according to the deranged functions of the different parts, and we have no true and satisfactory pathogeny, that is, a doctrine of the nature of diseases, which ought to be founded on the whole of the human frame, and not on the disturbed functions or morbid appearances of single parts, which, being affected by the same disease, on account of their different structure and functions, must produce different symptoms.

The vegetative functions evidently depend on the nervous system, and in nosology a class of nervous complaints are commonly mentioned, such as Dysphagia, Asthma, Cardialgia, Dyspnœa, Colica, &c., but these disorders of the vegetative functions, even when they result from diseases in the nervous system, do

not enter into the considerations of this work. On account of the mutual influence of the vegetative and mental functions; however, their derangements can never be entirely separated. In the general pathology it is necessary to attend to the influence of the affective and intellectual powers on the body; and, in examining insanity, the diseases of the vegetative functions cannot be overlooked. The principal object of this volume, however, concerns the derangements of the affective and intellectual manifestations of the Mind, particularly that state called Insanity.

This branch, like pathology in general, must be founded on Anatomy and Physiology; that is, the anatomy and physiology of the brain enable us to understand the seat of the deranged functions of the mind; but anatomy and physiology of the brain do not teach how to treat its disordered functions, any more than the anatomy and physiology of other parts suffice to cure their diseases. Pathology, as a science and art, is founded on a new series of observations and inductions. Knowing the functions of the lungs, stomach, or of any other viscus, we know the proximate seat of difficult respiration, bad digestion, &c.; but those who do not know the functions of the brain, will not think of its organization, when its functions are deranged. This defect of knowledge, concerning the brain, will be supplied by Phrenology, but the causes of the disorders of the cerebral functions must be removed, and their regular state restored according to the general principles of pathology. Only in this limited sense I admit a *physiological* Medicine, and apply it to Insanity.

# CONTENTS.

|  | PAGE |
|--|------|
| PREFACE. - - - - -                                       | iii  |
| INTRODUCTION - - - - -                                   | 1    |
| Observations on Insanity - - - - -                       | 2    |
| CHAPTER I.   |      |
| DERANGEMENTS OF THE EXTERNAL SENSES - - - - -            | 11   |
| SECTION I.   |      |
| DISORDERS OF VOLUNTARY MOTION - - - - -                  | 12   |
| Convulsion and Spasm - - - - -                           | 12   |
| Epilepsy - - - - -                                       | 14   |
| Catalepsy - - - - -                                      | 18   |
| Palsy - - - - -  | 18   |
| SECTION II.  |      |
| DERANGEMENTS OF THE FIVE SENSES - - - - -                | 25   |
| CHAPTER II.  |      |
| DISEASES OF THE BRAIN - - - - -                          | 28   |
| Cephalalgia, Vertigo, and Lethargic Affections - - - - - | 29   |
| Apoplexy - - - - -                                       | 30   |
| Phrenitis - - - - -                                      | 36   |
| Hydrocephalus Acutus - - - - -                           | 37   |
| Delirium - - - - -                                       | 46   |
| Softness and hardness of the brain - - - - -             | 48   |

|   |                     |     |
|---|---------------------|-----|
|   | <b>CHAPTER III.</b> |     |
| <b>INSANITY</b>   |                     | 50  |
|   | <b>SECTION I.</b>   |     |
| <b>DEFINITION</b>   |                     | 51  |
|   | <b>SECTION II.</b>  |     |
| <b>SYMPTOMS</b>   |                     | 60  |
|   | <b>SECTION III.</b> |     |
| <b>DIVISION AND FORMS</b>   |                     | 69  |
| Melancholia   |                     | 78  |
| Suicide   |                     | 81  |
| Fits of Insanity  |                     | 89  |
|   | <b>SECTION IV.</b>  |     |
| <b>CAUSES</b>   |                     | 95  |
| <b>I. The proximate Cause of Insanity is corporeal</b>  |                     | 95  |
| 1. Insanity is connate and hereditary   |                     | 96  |
| 2. Age has an influence on Insanity   |                     | 100 |
| 3. Insanity varies in both sexes  |                     | 102 |
| 4. Insanity depends on Climate, Season and Weather  |                     | 102 |
| 5. Causes which evidently injure the body alone produce Insanity.                                   |                     | 104 |
| 6. Insanity is periodical, and has exacerbations  |                     | 105 |
| 7. Insanity is often accompanied, or alternates with other corporeal diseases                       |                     | 105 |
| 8. Sleep is often disturbed in Insanity   |                     | 106 |
| 9. Temperaments   |                     | 107 |
| <b>II. The proximate cause of Insanity is in the Brain</b>  |                     | 108 |
| 1. The Brain is the organ of the Mind, and the cerebral parts the organs of its primitive faculties |                     | 109 |
| 2. Morbid phenomena of the Brain in Insanity  |                     | 109 |
| <b>III. On the nature of the causes of Insanity</b>   |                     | 115 |
| 1. Idiopathic causes of Insanity  |                     | 117 |
| 1. Idiopathic connate Idiotism  |                     | 117 |
| 2. Idiopathic occasional Idiotism   |                     | 127 |



CONTENTS.

vii

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Fatuity   | 130 |
| Idiopathic mechanical causes of Insanity  | 131 |
| Is the shape of the head a cause of Insanity ?                                  | 132 |
| 11. Sympathetic causes of Insanity  | 146 |
| 1. Insanity from disorders in the generative functions                          | 146 |
| 2. Insanity from disorders in the digestive organs                              | 147 |
| 3. Insanity from general diseases   | 147 |
| 4. Insanity from repelled cutaneous diseases or suppressed habitual evacuations | 147 |
| 5. Insanity from diseases which change the place                                | 148 |
| 6. Insanity from general atony  | 148 |

SECTION V.

|                       |     |
|-----------------------|-----|
| PROGNOSIS OF INSANITY | 155 |
| Recapitulation        | 163 |

SECTION VI.

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| TREATMENT OF INSANITY   | 164 |
| I. Moral Treatment  | 164 |
| Principal requisites of a Madhouse  | 169 |
| 1. Architectural requisites of a Hospital for curable Insane                            | 171 |
| 1. Healthy situation  | 171 |
| 2. An ample space and proper distributions  | 171 |
| 3. Regulation of Air and Light  | 174 |
| 4. Regulation of Temperature  | 174 |
| 5. Cleanliness  | 175 |
| 6. Means of occupying the patients  | 175 |
| 7. Economical concerns  | 176 |
| 11. Department for convalescents  | 176 |
| Internal management of an hospital for curable insane, or moral treatment in particular | 177 |
| 1. Reception of patients  | 178 |
| 2. Classification of patients   | 182 |
| 3. Cleanliness, Air, and Light  | 182 |
| 4. Temperature  | 183 |
| 5. Diet   | 184 |
| 6. Coercion   | 187 |
| 7. Treatment of the feelings  | 190 |
| 8. Treatment of the intellectual faculties  | 193 |

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| 9. Occupations of the Insane                          | 198 |
| 10. Inspection and visitation                         | 201 |
| Recapitulation  | 208 |
| II. Medical Treatment                                 | 208 |
| Insanity, strictly speaking from idiopathic causes    | 218 |
| 1. Treatment of mechanic causes of Insanity           | 219 |
| 2. Treatment of idiopathic dynamic causes of Insanity | 221 |
| Treatment of Insanity from sympathetic causes         | 229 |
| Conclusion  | 237 |

---

## APPENDIX.

|                                      |     |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| Insanity                             | 239 |
| Epilepsy                             | 245 |
| Palsy                                | 246 |
| Apoplexy                             | 247 |
| Phrenitis                            | 248 |
| Hydrocephalus Acutus                 | 249 |
| Idiots                               | 249 |
| Hallucinations                       | 251 |
| Suicide                              | 251 |
| Monomania                            | 253 |
| Age has an influence on Insanity     | 253 |
| Hereditary Insanity                  | 254 |
| Pathological appearances             | 255 |
| Sanability and mortality of Insanity | 255 |
| Lunatic Asylums                      | 258 |
| Treatment of Insanity                | 260 |
| Moral treatment                      | 261 |
| Index                                | 263 |
| Bibliography                         | 269 |
| Explanation of the Plates            | 271 |

## INTRODUCTION.

---

### OBSERVATIONS ON INSANITY.

INQUIRIES into the deranged manifestations of the mind, interest mankind in general, and ought to engage the attention of physicians in particular. Every one who has observed the deplorable condition of insane people ; — who has witnessed the disorders which take place in their feelings and intellectual manifestations ; — who, for instance, has seen that some individuals feel the most distressing anxiety, and fancy themselves objects of human persecution, or victims of Divine vengeance ; — who has remarked that “often all the best principles of the human mind are perverted, and a pious Christian changed into a drunkard and abandoned felon ;” \* — that others, naturally of mild and pacific dispositions, appear, during their attacks, to be inspired by the demon of mischief ; — that some of known probity feel a blind propensity to steal ; — that others feel a ferocious inclination to commit to the flames every thing of a combustible nature, or to imbrue their hands in human blood ; — that modest females are seized with the feelings of a loose libertine ; — that wretched persons think themselves bishops, popes, lords, ministers, kings, emperors ; — in short, every one who has observed

---

\* Dr Parry. Elements of Pathology, vol. i. p. 331.