

**THE ORTHOPRAGMS OF THE SPINE. AN ESSAY
ON THE CURATIVE MECHANISMS APPLICABLE
TO SPINAL CURVATURE EXEMPLIFIED BY A
TYPICAL COLLECTION LATELY PRESENTED TO
THE PARKERS' MUSEUM OF HYGIENE,
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON**

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The Orthopragms of the Spine. An Essay on the Curative Mechanisms Applicable to Spinal Curvature Exemplified by a Typical Collection Lately Presented to the Parkers' Museum of Hygiene, University College, London by Robert Heather Bigg

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ROBERT HEATHER BIGG

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COLLEGE, LONDON

BY

ROBERT HEATHER BIGG

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CHARLES HUTTON GREGORY, Esq., C.M.G.

PAST PRESIDENT OF THE INSTITUTION OF

CIVIL ENGINEERS

THESE PAGES ARE DEDICATED

IN TOKEN OF GREAT RESPECT AND IN REMEMBRANCE

OF HIS CONTINUED KINDNESS

BY

THE AUTHOR

PREFACE

A few months since the Council of University College, London, determining to institute a Museum of Hygiene as a tribute to the memory of Dr. Parkes, Dr. Vivian Poore, Honorary Secretary to the Committee entrusted with the formation of that museum, asked my father if he would consent to present it with a typical collection of the orthopædic instruments in use at the present time. My father, having agreed to that proposition, charged me with the duties of making the collection.

In selecting its elements I had at my command a private and very large collection of half-sized models of the orthopædic appliances which had been in use by ourselves and our predecessors for now nearly a century, as well as of those at present in vogue. To it had been added, as they were invented, the instrumental novelties of each successive year, many of which, having proved inefficient, or having been supplanted by later improvements, had become obsolete, while the more valuable others have remained in use

till the present day. The most typical and characteristic of these last were selected as examples of the best-marked mechanical remedies, and as most clearly indicating orthopædic principles, to have representative replicas in the Parkes' Museum.

I had, also, access to a long series of case-books, extending over nearly the same period, which contain drawings and detailed descriptions of almost all the cases that have passed through our hands in that time, and in which the instrumental ameliorative effects, or the reverse, are recorded and easily traceable. These were invaluable as yielding data on which could be based correct and comparative calculations of the utility of the various modes of treatment.

The expansion of notes extracted from these sources, and of memoranda made in arranging the collection, gave gradual rise to a classified series of chapters on its various parts. Those, of which Spinal Curvature is the subject, have been embodied in the subsequent pages, and constitute the first part of the whole work.

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