NON-SURGICAL TREATMENT OF DISEASES OF THE GLANDS AND BONES, WITH A CHAPTER ON SCROFULA

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Non-Surgical Treatment of Diseases of the Glands and Bones, with a Chapter on Scrofula by John H. Clarke

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JOHN H. CLARKE

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NON-SURGICAL TREATMENT

OF DISEASES OF THE

Glands and Bones;

WITH A CHAPTER ON

SCROFULA.

BY

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PREFACE.

SURGERY is to a large extent a mechanical art. Of late years surgeons have become so accomplished that there is hardly any region of the body that is sacred from the inroads of their knives, and scarcely any disease in which they cannot find a pretext for operating. In the meantime much excuse is afforded them by the backwardness of the physician's department. Medicine proper, in the old school, as distinguished from surgery-thanks to its stupidity in refusing to learn from Hahnemann-though it has ceased to do all the evil it was wont to do of old, has learned little or nothing in the way of cure. The surgeon, on the other hand, can do something that leaves a mark. He can mend a broken limb, cut out tumours, and generally "clean up" and "straighten out" a patient. Of course he cannot cure him of any constitutional taint ; but patients, as a rule, are short-sighted, and when after a decent interval their disease returns, possibly in some other form, they don't see that it is due to the inherent defect of surgery, but they start off again for the surgeon to be " cleaned up" once more.

Among the many cleaning-up operations of modern surgery, there is nothing so viii · Preface.

popular just now as the cutting out of glands of the neck when they threaten to suppurate, in order to prevent them leaving unsightly scars; and the main object of this treatise is to show that however good this practice may be in surgery, it is exceedingly bad in medicine. Allopaths who know nothing of actual cure have some excuse for having recourse to operative measures; but it is the province of Homeopathy to show the world the true method of dealing with the diseased human organism, and I publish this treatise as a practical protest against surgical interference with diseased lymphatic glands. Surgery (apart from the surgery of accidents) is no cure; it only gives the semblance of cure by cutting away diseased structures, whilst leaving the seeds of disease behind. It is not infrequently a useful second best; but the thing to be aimed at in all cases is constitutional cure.

Gland diseases and Bone diseases are often very closely allied, and I have therefore included in the treatise a consideration of both, and also of the condition called Scrofula, on which both frequently depend.

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