

**MICROSCOPICAL SECTION-
CUTTING. A PRACTICAL GUIDE
TO THE PREPARATION AND
MOUNTING OF SECTIONS FOR
THE MICROSCOPE**

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Microscopical Section-Cutting. A Practical Guide to the Preparation and Mounting of Sections for the Microscope by Sylvester Marsh

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A PRACTICAL GUIDE

TO THE

PREPARATION AND MOUNTING OF SECTIONS
FOR THE MICROSCOPE

*SPECIAL PROMINENCE BEING GIVEN TO THE
SUBJECT OF ANIMAL SECTIONS*

BY

SYLVESTER MARSH

LICENTIATE OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF
EDINBURGH, ETC. ETC.

SECOND EDITION

WITH SEVENTEEN ILLUSTRATIONS



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1882

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PREFACE TO SECOND EDITION.

THAT a large edition of a book devoted solely to the consideration of a SPECIAL DEPARTMENT of a *special subject* should have been exhausted in the short space of three years, is a fact that cannot fail to be gratifying to the author, showing as it does that, for a work of this description, there existed a real demand. The book would have been out of print much earlier but for the appearance in America—within three months after the publication of the work here—of a piratical *reprint*, which of necessity effectually stopped the sale of the English edition in that country.

In the present edition many new processes have been described, and several additional illustrations inserted, which, it is hoped, will greatly increase the usefulness of the book.

ST. HELENS,

March, 1882.

PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

If we glance at any of the various magazines devoted either wholly or in part to the subject of microscopy, we shall hardly fail to be struck with the numerous *Queries* relating to SECTION-CUTTING which are to be found in its pages. A simple explanation of this wide-spread want is afforded by the fact that the use of the microscope has at the present day extended to (and is still rapidly spreading amongst) vast numbers of students, who, in many instances, possess neither the leisure nor the means to refer for information to large and extensive text books. Moreover, were they actually to consult such works, they would practically fail to obtain the information of which they are in need, for the coveted instruction is to be found in those treatises only in a scattered and fragmentary form—no work, so far as we are

aware, treating of the subject in anything like a detailed manner. To fill this *vacuum* in the literature of microscopy the present manualette has been prepared. Little claim is made to originality, yet the book is by no means a mere compilation, but the outcome of long and extensive personal experience in the cutting and mounting of microscopical sections. Every process described has been put to the test of actual trial, so that its worth may confidently be depended upon. Many of the little points insisted upon in the ensuing pages will doubtless, to the practised microscopist, appear trivial or superfluous; but a vivid recollection of our own early failures and disappointments assures us that it is just these very *minutiæ* of detail which will be found most serviceable in directing and sustaining the faltering footsteps of the tyro.

ST. HELENS,

September, 1878.

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