

**A PRACTICAL ENUMERATION OF
VARIOUS DISEASES OF THE HUMAN
BODY OF BOTH SEXES, AND IN EVERY
PERIOD OF LIFE, WHICH MAY BE CURED
OR SUCCESSFULLY TREATED BY THE
REMEDIES OF LEGITIMATE MEDICINE**

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A Practical Enumeration of Various Diseases of the Human Body of Both Sexes, and in Every Period of Life, Which May Be Cured or Successfully Treated by the Remedies of Legitimate Medicine by W. S. Oke

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VARIOUS
DISEASES OF THE HUMAN BODY,
AND THEIR
PRACTICAL REMEDIES.

Morbi et Remedia quibus Curantur.

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LEGITIMATE MEDICINE.

BY
W. S. OKE, M.D., EXT. LIC. R.C.P. LOND.,
CONSULTING PHYSICIAN TO THE ROYAL SOUTH HAMPS INFIRMARY, SENIOR
PHYSICIAN TO THE SOUTHAMPTON DISPENSARY, AUTHOR OF "PRACTICAL
EXAMINATIONS ON THE PRINCIPAL EMERGENCIES OF SURGERY
AND MIDWIFERY", "THE STOMACH AND ITS ALIMENTS",
AND VARIOUS PAPERS IN "THE BRITISH
MEDICAL JOURNAL".

"Ut verum dicam imperat mens ipse mea."

Second Edition.

LONDON:
T. RICHARDS, 37, GREAT QUEEN STREET.

1865.

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TO

JOHN HENNEN, Esq., M.D.,

FELLOW OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, LONDON,

This little Work is Affectionately Dedicated

IN

MEMORY OF THE PAST.

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PREFACE.

Not long ago, a new and extraordinary theory was set up for the treatment and cure of diseases, and, at the same time, it is to be feared, to alienate the confidence of the public from the regular practice of medicine; but (as might have been expected) it has signally failed to do either, and is fast falling into disrepute and desuetude.

What defect in the regular practice could have given rise to the latter attempt, it is not easy to say,—certainly not a diminution of its efficacy, as in this respect the regular practice has been in the ascendant for many years past, and is still rapidly advancing.

If the ground of the attempt be,—that the practice of medicine is not an exact science, leaving us to grope our way amongst diseases, without any fixed rules to ensure the success of our remedies,—we at once plead guilty to the charge. The practice of medicine is not and cannot, humanly speaking, be an *exact* science, because it is wanting in those very elements that can alone make it such.

It has few self-evident truths, and scarcely any certainties either objective or subjective.

It cannot indicate with precision what a remedy has to perform, and subsequently demonstrate that it has fulfilled the indication with the same physical accuracy that a mechanic can point out the defect of a machine, and subsequently demonstrate its repair.

The reparative operations that are required, and that take place in disordered conditions of the animal structure, are visible only to the Omniscience that created it, and are not within the range of human observation. Nevertheless, the Divine Head of our profession has given us a great variety of important remedies for the cure or successful treatment of many diseases, and such a knowledge of their properties as to enable us to confer an immense amount of benefit upon the afflicted; and thus the practice of medicine has become, if not an exact, a practical science of great value, which has the power of conferring more personal benefit upon mankind than any other science whatever.

I will now proceed to enumerate practically some of the diseases which may be cured, or brought to a favourable termination by the remedies of legitimate medicine. It cannot be expected of me to assert that each remedy will be always found successful in cases *apparently* similar, and for this *obvious* reason,—that from the uncertain results

which must necessarily take place in morbid or disordered structure, it is not possible to make an accurate comparison of diseases apparently similar; and hence, a disease which might appear to be like one that has been cured by a given remedy, may be, in some important respects, so dissimilar as not to come within the range of the same therapeutic; but when a disease has been repeatedly brought to a favourable termination by the same remedy, that remedy ought to be prescribed in apparently similar cases, notwithstanding its liability to failure.

The symptoms of the diseases are sketched with great brevity; the cases are recorded from those under my own observation, and their results stated with a strict regard to truth. The names of the pharmaceutical preparations are in accordance with those of the British Pharmacopœia: the directions are written in Latin, according to long custom.

Southampton, March 4th, 1865.