

**LECTURES ON ELECTRICITY AND  
GALVANISM, IN THEIR PHYSIOLOGICAL  
AND THERAPEUTICAL RELATIONS,  
DELIVERED AT THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF  
PHYSICIANS, REVISED AND EXTENDED**

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Lectures on Electricity and Galvanism, in Their Physiological and Therapeutical Relations,  
Delivered at the Royal College of Physicians, Revised and Extended by Golding Bird

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# **GOLDING BIRD**

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LECTURES

ON

ELECTRICITY AND GALVANISM.

LONDON:  
SPOTTISWOODS and SHAW,  
New-street-Square.

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RELATIONS,

DELIVERED AT THE  
ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS,

REVISED AND EXTENDED.

BY

GOLDING BIRD, A.M. M.D. F.R.S. F.L.S.

FELLOW OF THE COLLEGE;

LATE PRESIDENT OF THE WESTMINSTER MEDICAL SOCIETY;  
CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF THE PHILOSOPHICAL INSTITUTE OF GENEVA,  
OF THE PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY OF ST. ANDREWS, OF THE  
MEDICAL SOCIETY OF HAMBURG, ETC.;  
ASSISTANT PHYSICIAN TO, AND PROFESSOR OF MATERIA MEDICA AT,  
GUY'S HOSPITAL.

LONDON:  
LONGMAN, BROWN, GREEN, & LONGMANS,  
PATERNOSTER-ROW.

1849.     .

TO

J. A. PARIS, M.D. CANTAB., F.R.S.

PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS,  
ETC., ETC.

MY DEAR SIR,

To no one could these Lectures be so appropriately inscribed, as yourself. Indebted to you for the high honour of being called upon to address the College, — aided by you in the selection of the subjects of my Lectures, — stimulated by your example in the cultivation of those branches of Physical Science which are related to Medicine, — I owe you a debt of gratitude, which I can thus but feebly and imperfectly repay.

Ever, my dear Sir,

Sincerely and respectfully yours,

GOLDING BIRD.

19. Myddelton Square,  
Oct. 1. 1849.



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## P R E F A C E.

I FEEL it necessary to explain the reasons which have induced me to publish these Lectures in a separate form. In the spring of 1847 I was honoured by being appointed one of the Lecturers at the Royal College of Physicians, and chose for my subject Electricity and Galvanism in relation to Physiology and Therapeutics. These Lectures were fully reported in the London Medical Gazette. Since their appearance in the pages of that journal I have been repeatedly urged to publish them as a distinct work, but could never bring myself to regard them of sufficient importance for that purpose. A short time since, however, I was applied to on the same subject by the excellent publishers of the Gazette, who informed me that there had been a considerable demand for the numbers of the journal in which these Lectures had appeared.

I have been thus encouraged to carefully revise and somewhat extend them, and have added some fresh illustrations, so that I venture to entertain a hope that this little volume may not be unworthy of perusal nor destitute of utility.

Myddelton Square,  
Oct. 1. 1849.