

CLINICAL REMINISCENCES

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Clinical Reminiscences by Peyton Blakiston

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PEYTON BLAKISTON

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BY

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HARRISON AND SONS,
PRINTERS IN ORDINARY TO HER MAJESTY,
ST. MARTIN'S LANE.

P R E F A C E.

THESE reminiscences of an old clinical teacher in a large Provincial Hospital, appeared in the "Medical Times and Gazette" five years ago. Originally written *currente calamo*, entirely from memory, they are now republished in a form more suitable for reference to the cases recorded in them.

The opportunity has been taken to add a few words respecting the Public Health, and the tendency of Medical Studies; for the Profession at large has not hitherto taken that interest in these subjects to which they are entitled.

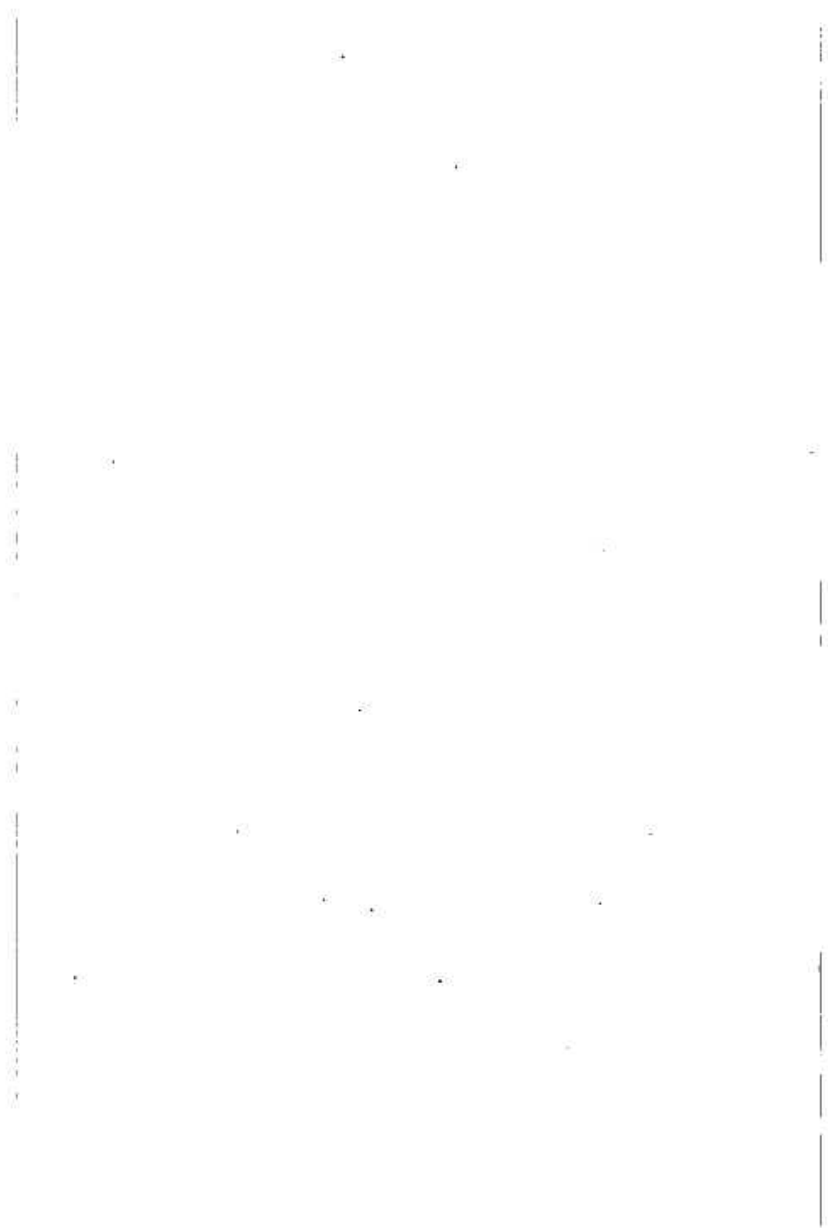
Had it spoken out boldly it is unlikely that Sanitary Legislation would have been in the incomplete state in which it now is. And as regards the connection which is supposed by some to exist between Medical Studies and Material Atheism, surely it is time that such connection were openly repudiated; and that positive assertions arising solely out of the exercise of the "Imagination in Science," should be separated by a distinct line from truths which have been deduced from facts elicited by careful and honest research.

140, HARLEY STREET,
May, 1878.



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To the Editor of the "Medical Times and Gazette."

SIR,—A short time ago you told me you were of opinion that some clinical remarks on subjects not embraced in my previous works would be acceptable to the readers of the "Medical Times and Gazette," particularly if illustrated by cases that had fallen under my observation during the last half-century. In accordance with your suggestion, I send these pages, with no hope of adding a single grain to the stock of medical knowledge, but simply with that of furnishing a small link in the chain which connects the workers of the present day with those of the past age. In one respect the endeavour to bring to memory facts that have taken place during this period of time has been a painful one; for it has brought up vividly those fellow-students, fellow-workers, and colleagues who have passed from amongst us, and of whom not more than one or two remain: some taken in their youth or their prime, others after having filled up the full measure of their days. In another respect, however, the memory of the past has afforded much pleasure; for I have recognised the good clinical and physiological work that has been done by earnest, truthful men, and can feel well assured that the amount of sound medical knowledge has been greatly increased by it, and that medical practice has been placed on a much firmer basis than that on which it stood fifty years ago.

It is probable that among the cases here recorded more will be found to indicate failure than success in the discovery