

**CEREBRAL AND MENTAL SYMPTOMS IN
RELATION TO SOMATIC DISEASE,
ANAESTHETICS AND TOXIC AGENTS,
TRAUMATA AND
SURGICAL PROCEDURES, WITH A REVIEW OF
THE TREATMENT OF SOME CEREBRAL AND
MENTAL SYMPTOMS BY OPERATION: A THESIS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649415403

Cerebral and Mental Symptoms in Relation to Somatic Disease, Anaesthetics and Toxic Agents, Traumatata and Surgical Procedures, with a Review of the Treatment of Some Cerebral and Mental Symptoms by Operation: A Thesis by James Christian Simpson

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JAMES CHRISTIAN SIMPSON

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AND MENTAL SYMPTOMS BY OPERATION.

A THESIS

PRESENTED FOR

The Degree of Doctor of Medicine of the University of Edinburgh, in
1896,

BY

JAMES CHRISTIAN SIMPSON, M.B., C.M., M.D.

London:

JOHN BALE, SONS & DANIELSSON, LTD.,

OXFORD HOUSE,

88-89, GREAT TITCHFIELD STREET, OXFORD STREET

1896.

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PREFACE.

THE subject matter of this book was presented as a Thesis for the degree of M.D. of the University of Edinburgh in 1895. It was "deemed worthy of competing for the Theses Gold Medals," and the Senatus Academicus granted permission for its publication. I have decided to do so, believing that such a collection of cases and facts may be of interest to others, and a reference to the bibliography, even though very incomplete, will show the reader that the Literature on the subject is extensive and scattered.

The delay in publication is partly due to the fact that Parts I. and II. appeared in various numbers of the *Caledonian Medical Journal*, and are reprinted by kind permission of the Editor.

No alteration in the original Thesis has been made, though several very interesting papers have since appeared in connection with the subject, notably Dr. Macpherson's monograph on "Acute Primary Confusional Insanity," in vol. v. of the *Edinburgh Hospital Reports*. Other records of cases in various journals have also been duly noted for future use and reference.

J. CHRISTIAN SIMPSON.

58, *Corpus Buildings*,
Cambridge.

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IN RELATION TO

SOMATIC DISEASE, ANÆSTHETICS AND TOXIC AGENTS,
TRAUMATA, AND SURGICAL PROCEDURES.

—d—

So wide and universal is the subject of cerebral and mental derangement in relation to the various bodily diseases, toxic agents, and surgical injuries of one sort or another, that it is only possible for a very brief review of the various conditions and their sequelæ to be included in a thesis such as this. It is more important to present the subject in its entirety than to confine the remarks to an elaborate dissertation on the nervous sequelæ of any one particular condition.

The more one works at such a subject, the more hopeless does it seem to put together, in an intelligent manner, and in such a way as to be of any practical utility, all the facts and cases known and recorded up to date. But by following a definite plan, the present collection of theories, facts, and short clinical records, both personal and derived from other sources, may be so arranged as to give some idea of the universal influence the brain has on the body, and, conversely, the influence of various morbid conditions of the body on the brain.

For this purpose we may at once put on one side all anatomical considerations, and only concern ourselves with the fact that this complex nervous mechanism may be likened to so many stages of a railway line which is worked on the block system. Each subsection or reflex arc performs its functions normally in obedience to influences generated in the various organs and tissues of the body, and each lower arc or complete nervous reflex is governed and inhibited by the next higher one, till the highest and most complex of all