

**CONSUMPTION, AS ENGENDERED BY
REBREATHEd AIR AND CONSEQUENT
ARREST OF THE UNCONSUMED
CARBONACEOUS WASTE, ITS
PREVENTION AND POSSIBLE CURE**

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Consumption, as Engendered by Rebreathed Air and Consequent Arrest of the Unconsumed Carbonaceous Waste, Its Prevention and Possible Cure by Henry Mac Cormac

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HENRY MAC CORMAC

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HENRY MAC CORMAC, M.D.

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DEDICATION.

TO WILLIAM MAC CORMAC, ESQ. A.M. M.D. F.R.C.S.I.

To you, my Son, I inscribe this volume. In common with myself you belong to a profession which, as a profession, is incorruptible pure, a ceaseless providence for good in behalf of suffering man.

As generations disappear in the abyesses of the past, the things which shall subsist here after us are not merely our mouldering frames, but deeds of love and goodness, conquests from the mighty realms of matter and mind. For these, these are the real remains, remains that do not perish, memories that cannot die.

If my doctrines, as set forth in this volume, be true they must almost infinitely subserve the great interests of our kind, establish means most sure most certain for arresting the ravages of decline. They would extend yet farther the merciful mission of the medical man, confer indeed on all men the power of conforming yet more closely to those divine provisions which imply that health, not unnatural decay, soundness not rottenness, should prove the portion of us all. And, yet, these doctrines, I contend, are certain as that light speeds or that the tidal wave follows the course of sun and moon.

I thank you earnestly for your sympathy and assistance throughout the prosecution of my inquiries, and subscribe myself, my Son, your deeply attached Friend and Father.

THE AUTHOR.

PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

CONSUMPTION and Scrofula, in every essential, are one. Tubercle, in its varied protean guises, is but the result of the bloods deterioration, of the retention of carbonaceous, hydrogenous, and other impurities, where they have no business to remain. In consequence of the imperfect performance of the respiratory act, these impurities accumulate in the tainted blood. The time at length comes round when they must be got rid of, if not by and during the act of respiration, perforce otherwise. The result, then, is their deposit in the guise of what is termed tubercle, in the lungs and other organs. A dead unorganised matter is thus laid down in the living tissues. That which should be thrust aside, cast out, is detained within the organism. These all important facts being positively determined, the inference necessarily follows that consumption and scrofula, with all their concomitant ravages, are thereby placed, as absolutely as smallpox itself has been placed, within human control. There need then, I assert, be no more consumption, no more scrofula, and diseases which have actually advanced as civilisation itself has advanced, may henceforth be set aside.

PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

Just ten years have elapsed since the first edition of this work, years which have only served to justify my convictions and fortify my views. The volume has been revised, an introduction in fact a new work has been added, while eight several memorials addressed to as many different societies in the interim, are subjoined.

If I had a stentors voice, an angels pen, I should employ them to enlarge on views which, with my very firmest convictions, I believe to embody the safety and material healing of our kind. They pervade, indeed, with one unswerving aim the ten different essays of which the volume is composed.

It is only by a vast induction of facts that we can ever hope to arrive at the knowledge of a great general law. Now, this volume, in respect of the formation of tubercle, supplies those facts, presents this induction, establishes I submit that law.

Consumption and scrofula alone accrue when the same unchanged air, any of it, is habitually rebreathed. And when the same unchanged air, any of it, is not habitually rebreathed, consumption and scrofula are simply impossible. The whole book, from the first page to the last, is a comment on the following text. Do not breathe the same air again and you cannot incur tubercle, breathe the same air again and you cannot in the long run avoid tubercle. In fine, by avoiding rebreathed air, tubercle and tubercle induced maladies may be superseded now, and suppressed for ever.

THE AUTHOR.

BELFAST, *April* 1865.

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