

**CONSUMPTION  
AND ASTHMA, THE  
NEW CURE**

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Consumption and Asthma, the New Cure by W. Hamilton Kittoe

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**W. HAMILTON KITTOE**

**CONSUMPTION  
AND ASTHMA, THE  
NEW CURE**



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ON THE CURE  
OF  
ASTHMA AND CONSUMPTION.

DR. HAMILTON KITTON, Surgeon Accoucheur,  
may be consulted at his Residence, 25, TRAYER  
STREET, MANCHESTER SQUARE, daily, from 10  
till 12, and from 3 to 5 o'clock.

# CONSUMPTION,

AND

# ASTHMA,

## *The New Cure.*

IN WHICH IS DEMONSTRATED  
THE FALLACY OF THE PRESENT METHOD OF TREATING DISEASES OF  
THE CHEST BY THE LANCET, PURGATIVES, AND MERCURY;

With a

*New Mode of Cure, applicable also to Disorders of the Digestive  
Organs and other Complaints.*

By W. HAMILTON KITTOE, M.D.,

*Author of the "Pocket-Book of Practical Medicine," "Medical  
Hints for Ladies," &c., &c.*

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SECOND EDITION,

ENLARGED AND IMPROVED WITH CASES.

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*"Ægri quia non convalescant, non idcirco nulla medicina est."—Cicero.*

*"Non est vivere, sed valere, vita."—Mort*

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LONDON:

SHERWOOD, GILBERT & PIPER,  
PATERNOSTER ROW.

1845.

## P R E F A C E.

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It is my intention, in the following pages, to lay before the reader, in a familiar style, a description of the most important diseases of the chest and its appendages, together with their causes, and prominent symptoms, in order that one affection may not be confounded with another.

Let it not be imagined, that I believe it possible to place within the power of domestic management a class of maladies requiring, in their treatment, the nicest discrimination,—maladies which have so frequently defeated some of the most intelligent of the medical profession. Neither am I affected with the *cacoethes scribendi*; my sole object, in publishing this volume, is to apprise



the public of my having discovered means to arrest, in its fatal progress, one of the most fearful scourges of humanity.

Upwards of nineteen years have elapsed since I was induced to turn my particular attention to the subjects treated on in the following sheets. My success, during that period, has far exceeded my most sanguine expectations, having frequently not only suspended symptoms, but also effected cures in cases which had been relinquished, as hopeless, by men of high repute in the profession. I am prepared for its being asserted, that those cases were not genuine consumptive ones, or, if so, the disease was merely suspended. To this I will remark, that if the suspension be continued for several years, it is not necessary to cavil about terms.

I shall doubtless have to encounter the smile of scepticism and ridicule from some, and receive the epithet of Empiric from my professional

brethren. To these I beg to observe, that every new theory or discovery has at first met with contempt, and afterwards been assailed by fierce opposition; that the value or truth of every system is best demonstrated by its results; and, moreover, the time has arrived when no pretensions to science, however apparently wild or visionary, can be treated with indifference.

When speaking of the cure of consumption, I presume it will be almost unnecessary to remark, that the earlier my mode of treatment is resorted to, the more certain will be its curative power; yet even in those melancholy cases where the disease is in an advanced state, relief can be afforded, and we have it from high and unquestionable authority, that consumption has been cured in its latest stages. Sir J. Clarke observes, "That pulmonary consumption admits of a cure is no longer doubtful; it is a fact which has been clearly demonstrated by Lænnec and many other.

authors of high repute." "Pathological anatomy," Dr. Carswell says, "has never afforded more conclusive evidence of the curability of a disease, than it has in that of tubercular of phthisis."

On the subject of bleeding, purgatives, mercury, and a low diet, I shall have occasion to show, in the course of my observations, that these agents are not only unnecessary, but actually mischievous; particularly bleeding, which has proved more fatal than the pestilence or the sword. Nature is our best and surest guide; and if we would only follow her admonitions, we should not so frequently have to witness the impotence of our efforts to alleviate suffering, or to mourn the unfortunate results of cases, which, despite the boasted improvements in the healing art, but too frequently terminate in the grave!

Although, in giving a description of diseases of the chest, the treatment and medicine employed are noticed generally, particulars have been pur-