HYDATID DISEASE, VOLUME 2, PART 2 -5

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649468461

Hydatid disease, Volume 2, Part 2-5 by John Davies Thomas & Alfred Austin Lendon

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JOHN DAVIES THOMAS & ALFRED AUSTIN LENDON

HYDATID DISEASE, VOLUME 2, PART 2 -5



HYDATID DISEASE, Vol. II.

BY THE LATE

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EDITED AND ARRANGED

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SAN FRANCISCO

Sydney:

L. DRUCK, MEDICAL PUBLISHER, 13, CASTLEREAGH STREET.

London :

PARLIERE, TINDALL, & CON, 20, KING WILLIAM STREET, STRAND, W.C.

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EDITOR'S PREFACE.

The original intention of the Author was to have brought out a complete work on the subject of Hydatid Disease early in 1890, and the book was nearly ready for publication, when his health unfortunately broke down. After his decease his widow was anxious to carry out this intention, and circumstances pointed to me, his former partner, as the most likely one amongst his intimate medical friends to be able to superintend the publication of the book in accordance with his ideas. When, however, some fasciculi of the work could not be found, the suggestion was made that I should undertake to write the missing portion, which had been compiled from his previous book, and at the same time bring the volume now published up to date. As this course would have involved considerable alterations, I advised against its adoption, and hence the papers now published, or re-published, in Vol. II. may be taken as entirely Dr. Thomas's work.

A. A. L.

NORTH TERRACE, ADELAIDS,

January, 1894.



MEMOIR.

JOHN DAVIES THOMAS was born at Swansea in South Wales on the 11th of October, 1844, being the eldest son of the Rev. Thomas Thomas, a Congregational minister of that town.

On his mother's side he was connected with a family of doctors. Two of his great uncles were naval surgeons, and served with Nelson, John Davies (after whom he was named) and Thomas Davies, who lost his life at Trafalgar; two letters received from Lord Nelson by John Davies are still in the possession of the family; three other great-uncles were also surgeons, and practised in different parts of Wales.

He received his early education at Swansea, and at the age of 16, having passed the Matriculation Examination of the University of London, he began his medical course at University College, London. He seems from the first to have applied himself with energy to his studies, and his career was a distinguished one. College he gained in addition to several Certificates of Honour, the first Silver Medal in Physiology, and a Fellowes Silver Medal in Clinical Medicine. In 1866 he became a Licentiate of the Society of Apothecaries of London, and in the following year a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, and a Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians of London: in this year he also passed his First M.B. Examination with Honors, being first Exhibitioner and taking the first Gold Medal in Organic Chemistry, Materia Medica, and Pharmaceutical Chemistry. At the Second M.B. Examination, in 1869, he gained an University Scholarship and first gold medal in Obstetric Medicine, as well as the Gold Medal in Medicine, with the number of marks qualifying for the Scholarship; he was also sixth in Honors in Forensic Medicine. he became a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of England by examination, and in 1871 he took his degree as Doctor of Medicine at the University of London.

During his student days he held several appointments, being for six months Resident Physician's Assistant to Sir William Jenner and Dr. Russell Reynolds, and for another six months Resident Clinical Assistant at the Hospital for Consumption at Brompton. For two years, from 1870 to 1872, he was Resident Medical Officer at University College Hospital, being selected by the Medical Staff from a large number of candidates to fill this important post. When he resigned, on account of ill-health, he received from the Committee of the Hospital a letter expressing great regret at his retirement and the highest appreciation of the manner in which he had discharged his duties. Letters received at the time from Sir Wm. Jenner, Dr. Russell Reynolds, Dr. Wilson Fox, Sir Henry Thompson, and many others, testify to his professional attainments, his "administrative ability," his "tact and consideration," as well as to his "high moral character," and his "kindness of disposition and gentlemanly feeling."

Change and rest being necessary, he obtained the post of Surgeon in the service of the P. & O. Company, and his first voyage was to India: it was his intention to have remained about six months at sea, and then to have returned to London; but his vessel was ordered to Australia, and he remained in the service nearly two years. In 1875 he obtained the position of Resident Surgeon at the Clunes Hospital in Victoria: shortly afterwards he was appointed Senior House Surgeon at the Adelaide Hospital, in South Australia and after occupying that position for a year, he entered for a short time into private practice at Glenelg.

In 1878 he joined Dr. Whittell in partnership in Adelaide, and after Dr. Whittell's retirement in the ensuing year he carried on the practice alone till the year 1884, when he took Dr. Lendon into partnership. In 1885 he went to Europe, being away for eighteen months; this visit was not undertaken for pleasure merely, but to study special subjects-diseases of the eye, throat, and nose, also electricity, and bacteriology. He spent three months in Vienna, working at the Hospital there, and when in London devoted his mornings to study at the Hospitals. On his return to Adelaide he resumed the practice of his profession, and soon afterwards was appointed joint Lecturer with Dr. Verco on Medicine at the University; he was also for many years Honorary Physician to the Adelaide Hospital, as well as a member of the Hospital Board of Management and of the University Council. At Christmas, 1887, his partnership with Dr. Lendon terminated by effluxion Early in 1890, symptoms of general paralysis appeared, and he was forced to retire from active work. After a brief tour in New Zealand, he took up his residence in the Hills-first at Waverley and afterwards at Blackwood, where the remaining years of his life were spent. All that medical skill could suggest, and loving hands accomplish, was done to alleviate his gradually increasing infirmities, always borne most patiently and without complaint. Happily, however, the disease was almost entirely robbed of what is by far its most terrible