

**MEDICAL TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE IN  
CASES OF LUNACY; BEING THE  
CROONIAN LECTURES DELIVERED BEFORE  
THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS IN  
1853. WITH AN ESSAY ON THE  
CONDITIONS OF MENTAL SOUNDNESS**

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Medical Testimony and Evidence in Cases of Lunacy; Being the Croonian Lectures Delivered before the Royal College of Physicians in 1853. With an Essay on the Conditions of Mental Soundness by Thomas Mayo

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**THOMAS MAYO**

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**BEING THE CROONIAN LECTURES**

**DELIVERED BEFORE THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS IN 1838.**

**WITH AN ESSAY ON THE CONDITIONS OF  
MENTAL SOUNDNESS.**

By **THOMAS MAYO, M.D., F.R.S.**

**FELLOW OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, LATE FELLOW  
OF ORIEL COLLEGE, OXFORD.**

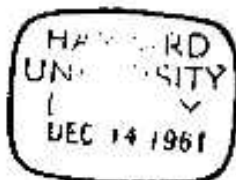
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## ADVERTISEMENT.

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**I**N offering to the public these detached contributions to a very important subject, I am influenced by an impression, that in spite of the labors of many able men the subject itself is in an inchoate state; and that many similar tentamina must be made, before its condition will justify an attempt to embrace the whole.

With respect to the Lectures now published, if they contribute to promote a clearer understanding between courts of Justice and medical witnesses, than at present exists, they will so far have achieved a desirable object. But in the course of my inquiries I have been led to certain conclusions, for which I cannot expect a cordial or immediate reception from either of these parties. And I propose to state in the outset, what these conclusions are; in order that my less adventurous speculations may be viewed as distinct from them, and tried for their own deserts.

The first of these conclusions concerns the ambiguous and, as I think, mischievous nature of some doctrines suggested by the term 'moral insanity' or certain synonymous expressions.

The second arises out of the question, whether some offences of the insane ought not to be visited with some form of secondary punishment.

The third of these conclusions is in favor of the extension to criminal cases of that practice which actually prevails in analogous civil cases, as in commissions *de Lunatico inquirendo*, of the examination of the party, whose mental state is in question, in presence of the Jury and the Court.

THOMAS MAYO.

56, Wimpole Street,  
October 20th, 1854.



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