

**THE MODERN BETHESDA, OR, THE GIFT OF
HEALING RESTORED. BEING SOME ACCOUNT
OF THE LIFE AND LABORS OF DR. J. R.
NEWTON, HEALER. WITH OBSERVATIONS ON
THE NATURE AND
SOURCE OF THE HEALING POWER, AND THE
CONDITIONS OF ITS EXERCISE**

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The Modern Bethesda, or, The Gift of Healing Restored. Being Some Account of the Life and Labors of Dr. J. R. Newton, Healer. With Observations on the Nature and Source of the Healing Power, and the Conditions of Its Exercise by J. R. Newton

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J. R. NEWTON

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J. R. Keaton

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OBSERVATIONS ON THE NATURE AND SOURCE OF THE HEAL-
ING POWER, AND THE CONDITIONS OF ITS EXERCISE,
Notes of Valuable Auxiliary Remedies. Health Maxims, etc

EDITED BY A. E. NEWTON.



"Jesus saith unto him, Rise, take up thy bed and walk. And immediately the man was made whole."—*John v. 8, 9.*

"He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also, and greater than these shall he do."—*JAMES. John xiv. 12.*

"And these signs shall follow them that believe: . . . they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover."—*THE SAME. Acts xvi. 18.*

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PREFACE.

In the Gospel according to John we are informed that anciently there was "at Jerusalem, by the sheep-market, a pool, which was called in the Hebrew tongue Bethesda, having five porches. In these lay a great multitude of impotent folk, of blind, halt, withered, waiting for the moving of the water. For," we are told, "an angel went down at a certain season into the pool, and troubled the water: whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had." (John v. 2-4.)

BETHESDA signifies, literally, *House of Mercy, or of Pity.*

Even in the days of Jesus, this ancient Bethesda was evidently quite inadequate to the demands made upon it. And in later times its healing virtue seems to have become quite exhausted. Its porches have disappeared: the angel comes no more to trouble its waters. A recent traveller informs us that on his visit to Jerusalem, in September, 1873, he found in its place but "a dirty sunken cess-pool, with simply a show of shallow, turbid water." *

Is there not need, then, of a MODERN BETHESDA, where the ills of suffering humanity may be removed?

The Great Healer of Judea, at whose word the impotent man, long waiting vainly in the porches of the ancient pool, was made instantly whole, taught the existence of an exhaustless fountain of Healing Power, everywhere accessible to "them that believe." Modern experience is proving that this same fountain of Curative

* "Around the World," by J. M. Peebles, 1875.

Energy is still available, on the same conditions. This is the MODERN BETHESDA of which this volume treats.

The nature and source of this Healing Power, and the conditions on which it is available, are to some extent indicated in the pages which follow.

The main object of this work is to put on permanent record such facts and testimonies as shall serve to furnish to the present and future generations irrefutable proof of the reality of the " Gift of Healing." It will also afford some idea of the extent of the beneficent work performed by one among many modern healers.

It should be added, however, that the record herein presented is by no means full. No memoranda have ever been made of a large proportion of the cures effected by Dr. J. R. NEWTON—many of the beneficiaries objecting to any public use of their names ; and, of such records as were made, numbers have been lost in the healer's journeyings from place to place in pursuance of his work.

From the materials preserved a selection has been made for this volume of such as would present a large variety of well-authenticated cases. These have been grouped in chapters, with reference more to locality than to chronological order, though the latter has been observed so far as practicable.

This book is not intended as an advertisement, since its preparation was not undertaken until after Dr. NEWTON had determined to retire from his laborious practise and spend the remainder of his years in the repose of private life. The importunities of the suffering, however, together with the feeling that he has no right to allow the power given him for their relief to lie unused, have led him to reconsider that determination, so far as to continue the treatment of patients at a distance by means of magnetized letters, as set forth in Chapters XI. and XIX. of this work.

THE EDITOR.

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