

**ON DEAFNESS AND NOISES
IN THE EAR, ARISING FROM
RHEUMATISM, GOUT, AND
NEURALGIC HEADACHE**

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On Deafness and Noises in the Ear, Arising from Rheumatism, Gout, and Neuralgic Headache
by William Harvey

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WILLIAM HARVEY

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NEURALGIC HEADACHE.

BY

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SEVENTH EDITION.

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P R E F A C E.

AMONG the causes and complications of deafness none are more common than gout and rheumatism, and those disturbances of the nervous system which issue in local pain without any palpable change of structure. The author of the following pages is not unwilling to confess, that, greatly to his surprise, he has found that many cases of deafness will recover, as it were, spontaneously, when appropriate treatment of the existing complication (as it has appeared to be, although it may be in reality the constitutional cause) has been systematically adopted and perseveringly followed out.

Not that it is at all intended to convey the idea that functional lesions only are amenable to constitutional treatment, for there are cases of actual disease in the external meatus, in the tympanum, and in certain parts of the Eustachian tube, which admit of relief, if not of absolute cure, by a steady, sustained, and properly directed course of medical treatment, and the entire removal of the deafness they had occasioned may be thus effected.

The author's design in the present treatise, is to trace the relations existing between the ear and its appendages, and those gouty, rheumatic, and neuralgic disorders of the parts about the head, face, and throat, which often complicate, sometimes cause, and too often protract indefinitely, that very afflictive condition—partial or total deafness.

In tracing the links of this ravelled chain of morbid actions, he has very frequently had occasion to observe that every form of disease treated of in this work has presented itself in one and the same case, but not always in the same order; that gouty cases often owe their violence to rheumatic action, resulting from exposure to cold; that rheumatism, on the other hand, is easily produced in a gouty subject, even when no gout actually exists at the time, and that neuralgic pains and deafness are both at hand ready to attack, even when they are not leading maladies, nor even present among the existing symptoms. The same may be said of headache and noises in the ears, neither of which are long absent when the case is severe or protracted. Yet again, in other cases, noise may exist without headache, or headache without noise, or deafness without either.

The author has, therefore, divided the treatise into three chapters, the first comprehending those cases where rheumatism is the prominent symptom, the

second relating to the gouty constitution, the third to the neuralgic or nervous.

The important point of all others, to which he would call the reader's attention, is that whenever deafness may be clearly traced to any of these morbid conditions of the system as a cause, then the method of treatment suggested in this volume may be relied upon with confidence. In fact, he has been much gratified in witnessing the relief which has often speedily followed the adoption of this simple treatment, the patient having been previously subjected to surgical manipulations, which not only inflicted a large amount of unnecessary pain, but in many instances aggravated the existing disease.

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THE SEVENTH EDITION.

THE demand for another edition of this pamphlet has enabled the author to revise certain parts and to give some further illustrations. Additional experience has confirmed his views therein contained.

October, 1875.