

MEDICAL NOTES AND ESSAYS

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Medical Notes and Essays by Peter Eade

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PETER EADE

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BY

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K

P R E F A C E .

Of the many papers, on diverse professional subjects, which I have published during the past years, and which may for the most part be found scattered through the various medical journals, I have thought that some at least might be of sufficient value or interest to justify their re-publication,—with such amplifications and additions as subsequent experience and reading may have suggested and rendered appropriate. None of them can pretend to be treatises on their respective subjects: they can claim nothing but to be the outcome of much thought, and of observations founded upon a large local experience extending over many years. As such, I venture to introduce them in a collected form to the notice of the profession; the first, as will be seen, being on the subject of Diphtheria, with special reference to this disease as witnessed in this district.

As to the extent and consequent value of such experience as is here expressed, it may be urged that the experience of a consulting physician as to any given disease is really of far wider scope than would at first appear, judging from the actual number of cases which he may himself have seen. For his views and conclusions are sure to be deduced not only from a consideration of those cases which he himself has treated, but are certain also in great measure to be derived from the convictions and opinions of the various and most competent medical men with whom he has, in consultation, been thrown

into communication, and whose actual number of cases has in all probability been far greater than his own.

A physician's experience, therefore, may be justly regarded as both concentrated and derived from an extended area.

In two ways may it be hoped that such notes and records may have a value and use: first, as a contemporary illustration of current disease, and of its special local types, if any; and, secondly, they may be supposed to have a future value, as a veritable history of disease at the period at which written.

Whatever, therefore, or however much or little they may contain, differing from that to be found in other writings on the same subjects, they may fairly claim some slight attention on both these grounds.

Fasciculus I.

NOTES ON DIPHTHERIA;
AND PARTICULARLY ON THIS DISEASE AS IT HAS
OCCURRED IN NORFOLK.

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