

**A TREATISE ON THE  
DISEASES OF  
THE TONGUE**

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A Treatise on the Diseases of the Tongue by W. Fairlie Clarke

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E Burgess del et lith

M & N Hanhart imp

*Fissured tongue (Syphilitic)*

*Fig. 25.*

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DISEASES OF THE TONGUE.

BY  
W. FAIRLIE CLARKE,  
M.A. AND M.B. (OXON.), F.R.C.S.  
ASSISTANT SURGEON TO CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL.

"It must surely be considered an admirable thing to find so many faculties seated in the tongue, each with its appropriate organization, and each most curiously connected with other structures; that we should have the power of mastication, deglutition, of modulation of the voice, the senses of taste and of touch, concentrated in an apparently simple organ."

SIR CHARLES BELL'S *Dissertations on Palsy's Natural Theology.*



HENRY RENSHAW,  
356, STRAND, LONDON.

1873.

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TO

SIR JAMES PAGET, BART.,

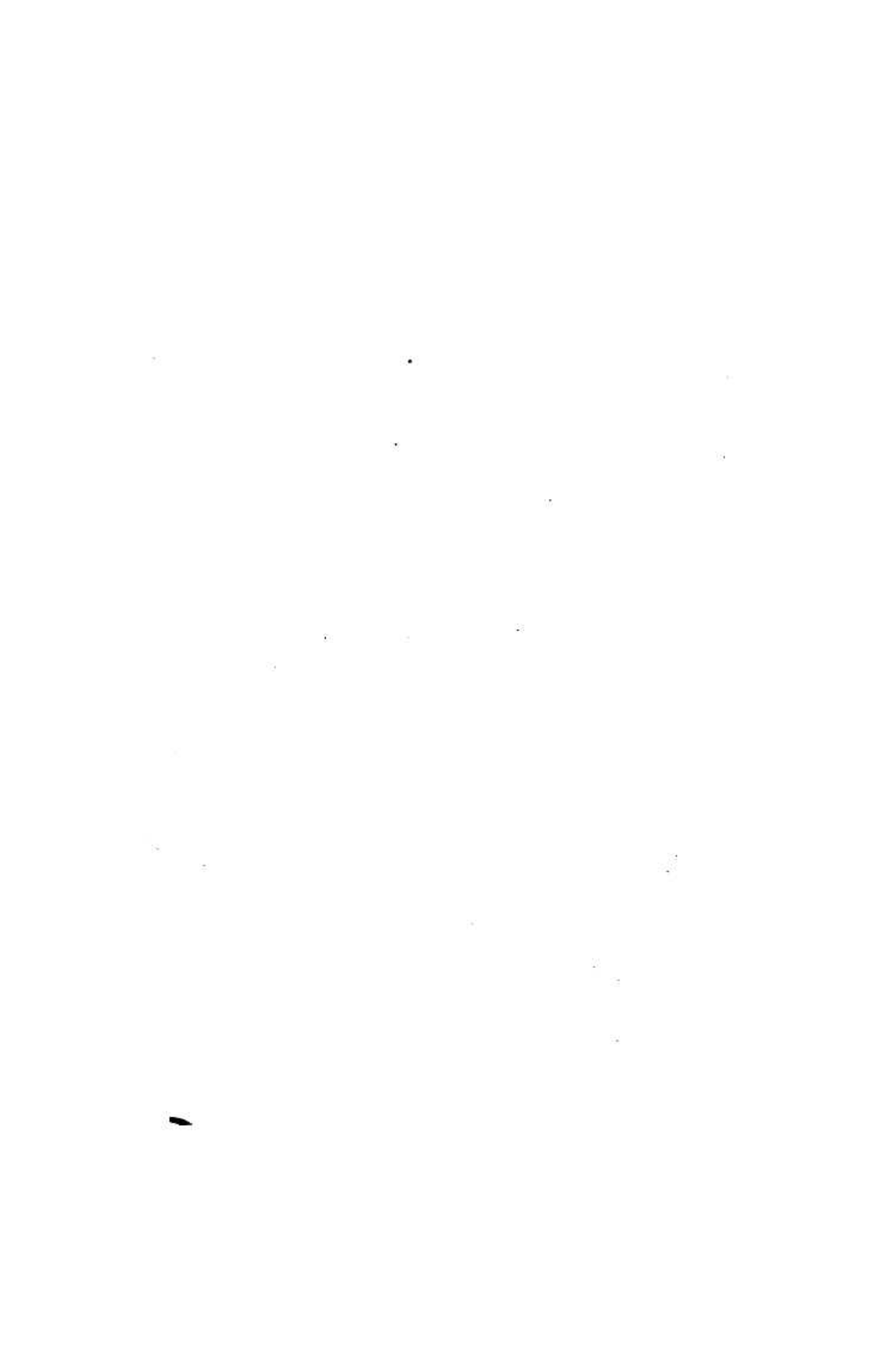
D.C.L., V.P.H.S.,

HERBERT SURGEON EXTRAORDINARY TO H.M. THE QUEEN;  
SURGEON TO H.H.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, ETC. ETC.

This Book is Dedicated,

By Permission,

IN ADMIRATION OF HIS CHARACTER AS A MAN, AND OF HIS  
ABILITY AND SKILL AS A SURGEON.



## P R E F A C E.

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THERE is perhaps no part of the human body, not essential to life, which is of more importance than the tongue. Placed as it is at the entrance to the alimentary tract, aiding in mastication and deglutition, endowed with the special sense of taste, and taking a large share in those modulations of the voice which constitute articulate speech, it is an organ which cannot be injured or diseased without laying the patient under the most serious disabilities.

But, besides this, it is an organ which has been examined from the earliest times as affording an index to the state of the general health; and medical men have been in the habit of inspecting it with the same regularity that they have felt the pulse.

Yet, notwithstanding the importance of the tongue in the human economy, it has not received that amount of minute study which it deserves. Its diseases have not formed the subject of any special treatise in this, or—as far as I have been able to ascertain—in any other country; and the works which have dealt with its semeiology have furnished us with nothing but the most general conclusions.

The sense of taste, and the part which the tongue takes in the formation of speech, are briefly discussed in the following pages. But these are questions which belong to

