BLOOD TRANSFUSION, HEMORRHAGE AND THE ANAEMIAS

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Blood transfusion, hemorrhage and the anaemias by Bertram M. Bernheim

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BY

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PREFACE

THE present volume is an outgrowth of a chapter on Blood Transfusion written in 1913 as part of a monograph published in that year on Surgery of the Vascular System. After a very gratifying distribution of that work, a revision seemed in order because of the many advances made in this field of surgery, but on addressing myself to the task, I was amazed at the development attained by the subject of transfusion to which just one chapter had been devoted only a short time before. Such revolutionary changes in technic had come about and the usefulness of transfusion had developed so tremendously that it seemed wise to postpone the contemplated revision, and to prepare a separate work with the single topic of blood transfusion. An enormous amount of work has been carried out in recent years by hundreds of enthusiastic investigators as a result of which a vast literature has arisen, still there has been no compilation of the subject since Crile's work on "Hemorrhage and Transfusion" in 1909, before transfusion had proved itself of practical, enduring worth.

Crile's stimulating book was devoted mainly to the experimental aspect of transfusion, although its clinical side was considered as far as was possible at that time. The book has never been revised for reasons best known to its author, but the probabilities are that, having pointed the way, Dr. Crile's interests led him into other fields. Under these circumstances, it seemed that a compilation setting forth all the various methods of the present day, with a consideration of the indications for transfusion, and a brief appendix containing pre-transfusion tests might be timely.

It has been my purpose to adhere to the practical side of the subject, both as regards discussions of indications, and selection of transfusion methods. Theoretical considerations have been eliminated as far as possible, and the future uses to which blood transfusion may be put have hardly been suggested, since the book is meant for the man who is engaged in clinical work of this nature, and desires to know concretely what is being done and how to do it. Those interested in the laboratory side of blood work are referred to the abundant literature, references to which have been selected with utmost care, in regard to both the clinical problems and the abstract phases of the subject.

BERTRAM M. BERNHEIM.

2818 EUTAW PLACE, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND. May, 1917.

FOREWORD

It is due to the author of this work to state that his sudden departure for foreign war service as a member of the Johns Hopkins Base Hospital Unit, has caused his treatise to be issued without opportunity for his final inspection and revision. Under these conditions indulgence is requested for some omissions and inadvertences which would have been corrected under normal circumstances.

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