

**THE PHYSIOLOGICAL  
FACTOR IN  
DIAGNOSIS; A WORK FOR  
YOUNG PRACTITIONERS**

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The physiological factor in diagnosis; a work for young practitioners by J. Milner Fothergill

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**J. MILNER FOTHERGILL**

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THE  
PHYSIOLOGICAL FACTOR  
IN  
DIAGNOSIS.

A Work for Young Practitioners.

BY

J. MILNER FOTHERGILL, M.D.,

PHYSICIAN TO THE CITY OF LONDON HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE  
CHEST (VICTORIA PARK),  
HON. M.D. RUSH COLL., ILL.,  
ASSOCIATE FELLOW OF THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, PHILADELPHIA.

*\* Skill consists of a foundation of common-sense and a superstructure  
of special education.\**

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1883.



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'When a patient places confidence in a member of the profession, puts his life, or his health, the prospects of himself, and, may be those also of his wife and children, in his hands, the least he, in turn, can do is to meet him with common honesty. If he be not entirely deserving of the confidence reposed in him, let him try to be worthy of it by doing his best. How much, however, does "doing his best" involve? It involves all that lies in his power; each man to the very best of his ability. "For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall much be required." "Doing his best" is taking all possible pains, which includes such information as may be attainable. Avoidable ignorance is not a worthy return for confidence.'

624185





To  
MICHAEL FOSTER, M.D., F.R.S.  
WHO SO WORTHILY FILLS  
THE CHAIR OF PHYSIOLOGY AT CAMBRIDGE,  
THIS WORK  
Is Dedicated  
BY  
THE AUTHOR.



## P R E F A C E .

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THIS work is designed for young practitioners of medicine entering upon private practice.

The medical student is apt to believe that medical education interests only those studying medicine and those engaged in medical tuition; and that nothing worth the having can come from others than those who are attached to medical schools. This impression may survive the medical curriculum; but time and experience dim its outlines. In the belief that the present work supplies something that may be of value in practice, the writer lays it before the young practitioner, for his verdict; not without some hope, however, that he may find it useful.

His thanks are again due to Dr. D. G. Johnston for his aid in revising the proof-sheets.

*Aug. 1st, 1883.*

110, PARK STREET,  
GROSVENOR SQUARE, W.