EXPERIMENTATION ON ANIMALS AS A MEANS OF KNOWLEDGE IN PHYSIOLOGY, PATHOLOGY, AND PRACTICAL MEDECINE

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649346721

Experimentation on Animals as a Means of Knowledge in Physiology, Pathology, and practical medecine by J. C. Dalton

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd. Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

J. C. DALTON

EXPERIMENTATION ON ANIMALS AS A MEANS OF KNOWLEDGE IN PHYSIOLOGY, PATHOLOGY, AND PRACTICAL MEDECINE



EXPERIMENTATION ON ANIMALS,

AS A MEANS OF KNOWLEDGE

IN

PHYSIOLOGY, PATHOLOGY,

AND

PRACTICAL MEDICINE.

BY

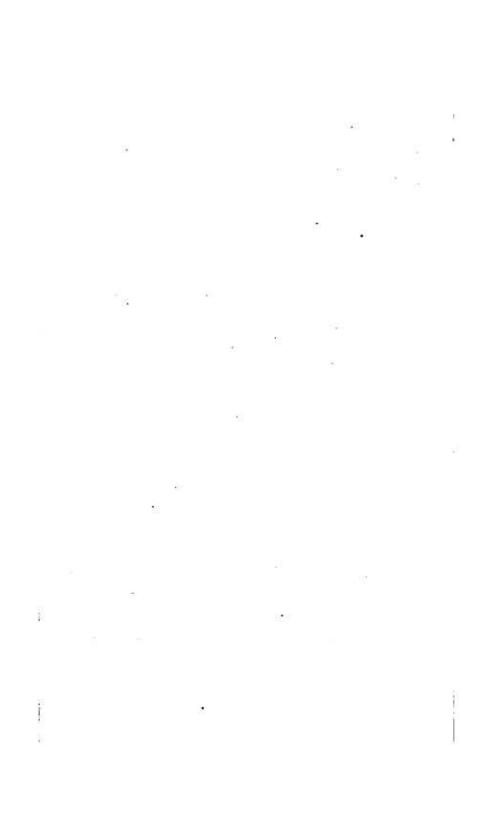
J. C. DALTON, M.D.,

Professor of Physiology in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York.

FRANCIS A. COUNTWAY

NEW YORK:

F. W. CHRISTERN, 77 UNIVERSITY PLACE. 1875.



INTRODUCTION.

WITHIN the last ten years the method of investigation in the medical sciences, by means of experiments on animals, has been, on several occasions, the object of strenuous attacks on the ground of The opponents of the practice its inhumanity. also allege that it is needless for the acquisition of knowledge; that its results are generally unimportant; and that it is useless, or even deceptive, as a means of discovery and improvement. These allegations emanate from non-professional sources, and are made by men who are unacquainted both with the object of physiological experiments, the manner in which they are conducted, and the history of progress in the medical sciences. It is unnecessary to offer to the medical profession any defence of experimental investigations, since their value is notorious to all who are conversant with the subject. But the educated public, who have not turned their attention to medical matters, cannot be expected to know the facts of the case without some direct statement in regard to it. The recent attacks upon the method of experiment

have sometimes been made in extremely violent and denunciatory language, calculated rather to excite the feelings than to give any intelligent or impartial expression of the truth. It has even been declared, by one of the most active agitators in this field, that "even though these living dissections were productive of all that their advocates claim for them, mankind have no right to the knowledge thus acquired;" and demands have been made, from the same quarter, for legislation which should put a stop to "these wicked contributions to human knowledge, which mankind would be all the better off for never knowing." * It is evident, therefore, that the aggressive movement against experimental investigation is both unreasoning and persistent. It is liable at any time to resume its activity, and to endanger, both in the State of New York and elsewhere, the progress and improvement of physiological medicine. For these reasons it has been thought desirable to present in a condensed form the most important facts in regard to the character, the necessity, and the results of experimentation upon animals for scientific purposes, together with the testimony of the medical profession as to its value.

^{*} In the New York Evening Post, September 4th and 12th, 1874.

EXPERIMENTATION ON ANIMALS.

	213	C	HAP	TER !	I.				
Its	CHARACTER,		(38	•	•	æ	×	() (7
		O.	нарт	ER I	I.				
Ітв	NECESSITY,		0.7	70	•	8	•	•	12
		CI	HAPT	ER I	П				
IT8	RESULTS, .	i in	•	6 0	•	36	8	•	20
	I	C	TAPT	ER I	٧.				
RES	OLUTIONS OF	MED	ICAL	Socie	TIES,	•		8	48
		C	нарт	ER V	7.				
TES	TIMONY OF D	IBTING	птент	ED MI	EN AN	D Ex	PERT	g	64



CHAPTER I.

ITS CHARACTER.

THE charge of inhumanity, as brought against the practice of experimentation on animals, seems to ignore in great measure the motive and object of such investigations. Cruelty is the wanton destruction of life or infliction of pain, either for the gratification of a morbid ferocity, or for an unthinking amusement which disregards the suffering it may cause. Neither of these faults can be charged upon scientific investigation. Its object is solely the acquisition of a kind of knowledge which has been shown to be inferior to none in its importance for the welfare of mankind. It is also at the farthest possible remove from a careless or trifling occupation. Scientific knowledge is simply a knowledge which is definite and precise, which has been attained by known means, and which is capa-