CAN WE PROLONG LIFE? CONSUMPTION. A RE-INVESTIGATION OF ITS CAUSE, SHOWING THE DIETETIC AND THERAPEUTICAL TREATMENT FOR ITS PREVENTION AND CURE

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CHAS. W. DE LACY EVANS

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Preparing for the Press.

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A Re-inbestigation of its Cause.

SHOWING THE

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LORGO PARISE. Tindall, & Cox, King William Street, Strand.

[PARIS AND MADRID.]

CAN WE PROLONG LIFE?

AN INQUIRY INTO THE CAUSE OF "OLD AGE" AND
"NATURAL DEATH," SHOWING THE DIET AND
AGENTS BEST ADAPTED FOR A LENGTHENED
PROLONGATION OF EXISTENCE.

BY

CHAS. W. DE LACY EVANS, M.R.C.S.E.



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1879.

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TO THE

MEDICAL AND SURGICAL STAFF

OF .

ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL;

AS A TOKEN OF REGARD

FOR THE MANY BENEFITS RECEIVED FROM ONE AND ALL

DURING A STUDENT LIFE

AT THE

MEDICAL AND SURGICAL COLLEGE OF THE ABOVE INSTITUTION.

CHAS. W. DE LACY EVANS.



PREFACE.

In every being throughout animated nature, from the most insignificant insect to the most enlightened, ennobled, and highly-developed human being, we notice a deeply-rooted love for one possession before all others, and that is the possession of *Life*. What will not a man give to preserve his life? What would he not give to prolong it? The value of riches, titles, honour, power and worldly prospects are as nought compared with the value which every sane man, however humble, and even miserable, places on the preservation of his life.

Human life, physically considered, is a chemicoanimal operation; and whatever it may be as an abstract principle, the manifestations and phenomena of life are dependent upon matter in a state of change by the united powers of Nature, and are embodied in a few elementary and grand physical and chemical processes.