

**ON DISORDERS OF THE CEREBRAL
CIRCULATION: AND ON THE
CONNECTION BETWEEN
AFFECTIONS OF THE BRAIN AND
DISEASES OF THE HEART**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649110742

On disorders of the cerebral circulation: and on the connection between affections of the brain and diseases of the heart by George Burrows

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Cover @ 2017

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GEORGE BURROWS

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With the Authors Copy

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LONDON :

WILSON AND OGIIVY, PRINTERS,
57, Skinner Street, Snowhill.

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BY
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LONDON:

PRINTED FOR

LONGMAN, BROWN, GREEN, AND LONGMANS,

PATERNOSTER ROW,

1846.

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382
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P R E F A C E.

THE present volume does not pretend to be a complete treatise on the subjects which are discussed in its successive sections. The mass of the materials of which it is composed formed the substance of the Lunnleian Lectures delivered at the Royal College of Physicians in the months of February and March 1843 and 1844. The first series of Lectures was afterwards published in the London Medical Gazette (May 1843). The physiological and pathological doctrines advanced in those lectures attracted the attention, and subsequent favourable notice, of many whose opinions the author highly valued*.

* Vide Lectures on the Practice of Physic By T. Watson, M.D. Vol. i. 2d Edition.
Physiological Anatomy of the Brain, &c. By R. B. Todd, M.D. F.R.S. London, 1845. Page 249.
Principles of Medicine. By C. J. B. Williams, M.D. Page 126.
Report on the Progress of Anatomy and Physiology in 1843-44. By William Budd, M.D.
Report on the Progress of Human Anatomy and Physiology in the Year 1842-3. By J. Paget, Lecturer on General Anatomy and Physiology at St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

Encouraged by such authorities, it appeared more advisable, instead of publishing the second series of lectures isolated from the first, to revise both series, and submit them, as a connected whole, to the consideration of the medical profession.

Although the following physiological, pathological, and practical essays were delivered in the form of lectures, it must be mentioned that the audience to whom they were addressed was composed of persons well versed in the different subjects discussed, and hence all elementary matter was avoided as much as possible. Each subject was touched upon only in reference to those parts of it where the author supposed he had some novelty to communicate, or where he thought there were erroneous opinions to be combated, or where he hoped to be able to offer suggestions which might lead to the more successful treatment of the diseases into the history of which he had entered.

The circumstances just alluded to will account for an unavoidable incompleteness in treating the topics which form the subjects of several sections. But as the original courses of lectures were not designed for

the systematic instruction of beginners, so the present work is rather addressed to those members of the profession who may have adopted opinions relative to the physiology and pathology of the brain which the author deems erroneous.

In the first three sections the author has endeavoured to establish more correct ideas upon the peculiarities of the circulation within the cranium; upon the effects of alternations of vascular pressure within that cavity on the functions of the brain; and upon the proximate cause of apoplexy and other comatose affections.

In the four remaining sections numerous facts are adduced which show how far the affections of one important organ may, and often do, depend upon disease going on, perhaps insidiously and unsuspected, in another. This result is more likely to be observed when striking symptoms arise from great disturbance in the circulation of any particular organ, and at the same time an intelligible and close connexion or relation through the blood-vessels can be shown to exist between that and some other organ. It is then readily understood how structural changes in the one will first produce disturbed