

**THE FORMS, COMPLICATIONS,
CAUSES, AND TREATMENT OF
CONSUMPTION AND
BRONCHITIS**

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The Forms, Complications, Causes, and Treatment of Consumption and Bronchitis by James Copland

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JAMES COPLAND

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CAUSES, AND TREATMENT
OF BRONCHITIS.

BY

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ETC.

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PREFACE.

THE several forms of inflammation of the bronchial mucous membrane—of the mucous surface of the bronchial ramifications—are amongst the most frequent, and often the most dangerous diseases, to which the inhabitants of the British Isles are liable. The great mortality by bronchitis, in different epochs of life, especially in early and advanced ages, is shown by the tables which have been compiled from the returns made to the Registrar-general. The results will indicate the importance which should be attached to the primary or idiopathic states of this disease, which are those chiefly returned, and also to those associations of it with other maladies that often render them more or less dangerous, or conduce to, even when not the actual cause of, a fatal issue. There are few diseases, so extensive, so serious, and in very young and very aged persons, so fatal, that have received so little attention from medical writers, as bron-

chitis has received ; and there are still fewer, with the exception of fevers and phthisis, which present greater modifications, especially in connection with the states of vital force, and with endemic and epidemic prevalence, than are presented by this. Bronchitis was treated by me at considerable length in the first part of my "*Dictionary of Practical Medicine*," published in 1832. Since that time my observation of its forms, complications, and treatment, has been uninterrupted owing to its frequency in all ages, and in all classes of the community. The amount of its frequency may be inferred from the number of deaths by it, which is about half as great as that by phthisis, and seeing that it is a much more curable disease than phthisis, its much greater prevalence must be manifest. During 1859 and 1860 bronchitis was more prevalent than I ever knew it to be and much more fatal.

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
CHAP. I.— <i>Description of the Forms and Grades of Bron-</i> <i>chitis</i>	1
Sect. i. Catarrhal or Mild Bronchitis	4
Sect. ii. Sthenic Acute Bronchitis	7
Sect. iii. Asthenic Acute Bronchitis	11
Sect. iv. Consequences and Terminations of Acute Bronchitis	14
Sect. v. Complications of Acute Bronchitis	20
Sect. vi. Sub-acute Bronchitis	34
CHAP. II.— <i>Description of Chronic Bronchitis</i>	38
CHAP. III.— <i>Diagnosis and Prognosis of Bronchitis</i>	42
Sect. i. The Diagnosis of Bronchitis	43
Sect. ii. Prognosis	53
CHAP. IV.— <i>Causes of, and Morbid Changes after, Bron-</i> <i>chitis</i>	57
Sect. i. Causes of Bronchitis	57
Sect. ii. Appearances in Fatal Cases	61
CHAP. V.— <i>Of the Prevention of Bronchitis</i>	80

	PAGE
CHAP. VI.— <i>Treatment of Acute Bronchitis</i>	85
<i>Sect. i. Treatment of Uncomplicated Acute Bronchitis</i>	86
<i>A. Of the Catarrhal or Mild Bronchitis</i>	86
<i>B. Of Sthenic Acute Bronchitis</i>	87
<i>C. Of Asthenic Acute Bronchitis</i>	92
<i>D. Treatment of Acute Bronchitis in Children</i>	94
<i>Sect. ii. Treatment of the Complications of Acute Bronchitis</i>	96
<i>A. With Diphtheritis and with Scarlet Fever. B. With Laryngo-Trachaitis. C. With Measles. D. With Influenza. E. With Whooping-cough. F. With Tubercular Phthisis. G. With Asthma. H. With Pneumonia and Pleuritis. I. With Continued Fevers. K. With Gastro-enteric Disorder. L. With Organic Lesions of the Heart—Prescriptions for.</i>	96—108
CHAP. VII.— <i>Treatment of Chronic Bronchitis</i>	109
<i>Sect. i. Of Uncomplicated Chronic Bronchitis</i>	109
<i>Sect. ii. Of Complicated Chronic Bronchitis</i>	116
CHAP. VIII.— <i>Practical Remarks on Remedies recommended for Acute, Sub-Acute, and Chronic Bronchitis</i>	121
<i>A. Vascular Depletion. B. Diaphoretics. C. Emetics. D. Aperients, Purgatives, &c. E. Expectorants. F. Inhalations. G. Fumigations. H. Narcotics, Sedatives, &c. I. External Remedies, &c.</i>	121—140
CHAP. IX.— <i>Regimenal Treatment of Acute and Chronic Bronchitis</i>	141
<i>A. Diet. B. Beverages. C. Change of Climate, and Climate recommended. D. Regimen of Convalescence.</i>	141—149

	PAGE
CHAP. X.— <i>Notices of Certain Morbid Conditions of the</i> <i>Respiratory Organs sometimes consecutive of Bronchitis</i>	150
<i>Sect. i. Congestion of the Bronchi and Lungs</i>	150
<i>A. Pathology. B. Treatment</i>	153
<i>Sect. ii. Of Bronchorrhœa</i>	154
<i>A. Pathology of. B. Treatment of</i>	155
<i>Sect. iii. Dilatation of the Bronchi</i>	161
<i>A. Pathology of. B. Treatment</i>	163
<i>Sect. iv. Ulceration of the Bronchi</i>	163
<i>A. Pathology of. B. Treatment.</i>	164