

**SOME OBSERVATIONS ON
ORGANIC ALTERATIONS OF THE
HEART; AND PARTICULARLY ON THE
BENEFICIAL EMPLOYMENT OF IRON
IN THE TREATMENT OF SUCH CASES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649329748

Some observations on organic alterations of the heart; and particularly on the beneficial employment of iron in the treatment of such cases by S. Scott Alison

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

S. SCOTT ALISON

**SOME OBSERVATIONS ON
ORGANIC ALTERATIONS OF THE
HEART; AND PARTICULARLY ON THE
BENEFICIAL EMPLOYMENT OF IRON
IN THE TREATMENT OF SUCH CASES**

SOME OBSERVATIONS

ON

ORGANIC ALTERATIONS OF THE HEART.

WILSON AND OGILVY, PRINTERS,
87, Skinner Street, Bowhill, London.

SOME OBSERVATIONS
ON
ORGANIC ALTERATIONS
OF THE
H E A R T ;
AND PARTICULARLY ON THE
BENEFICIAL EMPLOYMENT OF IRON
IN THE TREATMENT OF SUCH CASES.

By S. SCOTT ALISON, M.D.
MEMBER OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, LONDON,
PHYSICIAN TO THE NORTHERN DISPENSARY,
&c. &c.

LONDON :
LONGMAN, BROWN, GREEN, AND LONGMANS,
PATERNOSTER ROW,

1845.

P R E F A C E.

THE Author ventures to lay before his professional brethren the following Observations and Cases, with the hope that they may prove useful.

Some facts have lately come under his notice, which show that cases of organic alteration of the heart may be more extensively benefited by medical treatment than he had previously been aware of; or, if he be not mistaken, than is perhaps credited by the profession generally; and that iron may be administered with advantage in a larger proportion of such cases than is done at present.

Some general reflections on the nature of organic alteration of the heart have been given,

for the purpose of pointing out the leading indications in the treatment in a clear and intelligible manner.

The hope is entertained, that the publication of these cases and observations may lead to a somewhat more encouraging view of organic alteration of the heart, as well as to a more extensive use of iron, conjoined, of course, with suitable regimen, and other auxiliaries, in a form of disease, which has hitherto been held to be very much beyond the reach of art.

FITZROY STREET, FITZROY SQUARE,
April, 1845.

CONTENTS.

Preface v

SECTION I.

Recent advance in the physiology and pathology of the heart.—
The treatment of organic alteration too generally of a lowering
character.—Main causes of this,—too exclusive regard
to abating inordinate action and nutrition.—Prognosis un-
necessarily gloomy 11

SECTION II.

Treatment to be fully successful should fulfil the various indi-
cations.—The relief of organic alteration attainable best by
an adjusting practice.—In practice, a leading indication is
the imparting of vigour to the heart and system.—Reliev-
ing practice of great practical importance—compared with
curative practice 13

SECTION III.

Increased resistance to the circulation.—Narrowing of out-
lets of the heart.—Morbid conditions of the valves.—
Resistance seated at a distance.—Emphysema.—Distortion
of spine and thorax.—Tumours.—Displacement of heart.
—Rough condition and adhesions of pericardium 20

SECTION IV.

Results of increased resistance.—Dilatation purely a morbid result—hypertrophy frequently a salutary condition.—Dilatation favoured, hypertrophy checked, by debility 24

SECTION V.

Organic alteration of the heart without obvious increased resistance to the circulation.—Dilatation, with debilitated heart.—Hypertrophy, the result of inordinate nutrition, consequent upon pericarditis or carditis . . . 25

SECTION VI.

The main indications in the treatment.—Abatement of source of increased resistance to the circulation.—Effused lymph may be absorbed.—Inflammatory action to be thoroughly extinguished.—Irritability subdued by the external and internal use of sedatives.—External mode of application.—Important to gain time and to stimulate the absorbents.—Iodine and iron.—The iodide of iron . . . 29

SECTION VII.

Dilatation to be checked.—Danger of laceration—tonic treatment demanded—iron specially applicable.—In dilatation, combined with obstructive lymph, the iodide of iron suitable.—Combined with anæmia, &c. the *Mistura Ferri C.* most applicable.—Diet . . . 37

SECTION VIII.

Hypertrophy to be maintained at a point suited to the wants of the circulation.—A positive, though somewhat qualified good; when exceeding this point, a positive evil.—Mode of treatment.—Deficient hypertrophy an imperfect good.—Results of this condition, venous and organic congestion, dropsy.—The hypertrophied but weak heart . . . 42