THE WIFE'S DOMAIN: BY PHILOTHALOS

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The Wife's Domain: By Philothalos by James Whitehead

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JAMES WHITEHEAD

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WIFE'S DOMAIN:



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PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

THE contents of this volume consist of portions of a series of discourses which have been, from time to time, delivered at a small establishment devoted to the relief of Children's and Maternal Diseases, to the poor women who attended as patients, or who brought their children for treatment.

Such a course of instruction was deemed desirable on account of the great want of knowledge which even the best informed of these people displayed on matters relating to the economy of regimen—whether as appertaining to themselves, their children, or to their households generally; and as it usually happens that nearly the same code of directions has to be imparted to each individual

severally, in regard to dietetic and sanitary management, it appeared not improbable that some trouble might be spared and time saved by instructing them in groups.

The question having been asked by several of the audience whether any cheap book were to be obtained containing instructions of the kind under delivery, it occurred to the author that a suitable appropriation and arrangement of some of the matter contained in the discourses might be made subservient as a domestic manual for mothers generally. Hence the idea of publication in a popular form.

The subjects selected for treatment are those in which the audience appeared, on inquiry, to feel preferably interested. Other passages, bearing more especially on the conduct of the household and sick-room, and their various requisites and appliances, with directions on childhood discipline, parental obligation, &c., are necessarily left unnoticed here, as their introduction would have swollen the volume to inconvenient dimensions.

In preparing for the press, the simple phraseology originally used has been, as far as possible, preserved; medical technicalities having been carefully excluded, or explained where unavoidably brought in.

It may possibly be thought by some that the information furnished in the following pages is too professional for the general reader. After careful re-perusal, however, the author feels convinced that no more has been said on any subject than that which every mother ought to be well acquainted with as concerning both herself and her offspring.

THE BRACKENS, May 24th, 1850.

PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

As this work has for some years been out of print, it is deemed desirable, on the advice of the publishers, to reproduce it. Some alterations and emendations have in the course of revision been made, but the text is substantially the same as in the first edition.

J. WHITEHEAD, M.D.

MOSLEY STREET, MANCHESTER, April, 1874.