THE CAUSES AND CURATIVE TREATMENT OF STERILITY, WITH A PRELIMINARY STATEMENT OF THE PHYSIOLOGY OF GENERATION

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The causes and curative treatment of sterility, with a preliminary statement of the physiology of generation by Augustus K. Gardner

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AUGUSTUS K. GARDNER

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NOT TO THE INVENTOR OF THE

THE CROWNING SURGICAL APPLIANCE OF THE AGE;

NOR TO THE PHILANTHROPIC PROJECTOR OF THE

WOMAN'S HOSPITAL,

THE NOBLEST CHARITY OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY;
BUT TO THE MAN OF PRIVATE WORTH, TO

J. MARION SIMS, M.D.,

THIS VOLUME IS DEDICATED,

AS A TOKEN OF THE PERSONAL FRIENDSHIP

AND PROFESSIONAL ESTREM OF

THE AUTHOR.

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PREFACE.

For many years my attention has been almost undividedly given to the treatment of the various diseases peculiar to women, to parturition, and to its accompanying and succeeding maladies. From the many thousand cases in hospital and private practice, which have fallen under my observation, I have gathered experience, and, insensibly to myself, I have also formed opinions, which have grown, strengthened, and been verified by every day's labors. The result, in relation to one affection only, I propose to give in this treatise.

Impotency and Sterility are the names given to that condition of the sexes which makes a childless bed and matrimonial discords, which have changed the fate of nations, and the destiny of the world. Occasionally these conditions arise from a defect in the provisions of nature, almost always, however, are the consequences of disease. Sometimes the difficulties have been suffered to continue unchecked, till organic changes are effected, which can never be palliated. In the vast majority of cases, not only can they be alleviated, but the disorders can be entirely removed, and a most joyous result will not only bring proof of the cure, but will be

"A baby in the house, a well-spring of pleasure."

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Impotency is the affection of the male parent, and will not be treated in this work. Sterility, or the barrenness of the female, its almost universal local cause, the means and certainty of its cure, will occupy the following pages. If the undoubted facts of my own experience, and the gathered wisdom of those of the past and present time, who have given their attention to this subject, shall be stated with clearness and force sufficient to convince the practitioners of medicine in this country—who are the depositaries of the secrets of so many families—and thus enable them to hold out a remedy for this gnawing worm in the bud of happiness, the purpose of this treatise will be effected.

New Yore, 141 Rast Thinteenin St., May 1st., 1856.

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