

**THE ELECTRIC ILLUMINATION OF  
THE BLADDER AND URETHRA AS  
A MEANS OF DIAGNOSIS OF  
OBSCURE VESICO-URETHRAL  
DISEASES**

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The Electric Illumination of the Bladder and Urethra as a Means of Diagnosis of Obscure Vesico-Urethral Diseases by E. Hurry Fenwick

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DIAGNOSIS OF OBSCURE VESICO-URETHRAL  
DISEASES

BY

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HOSPITAL MEDICAL COLLEGE.

WITH THIRTY ILLUSTRATIONS



LONDON  
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1888  
EM

N90  
F34  
1888

TO

MY COLLEAGUES

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AT

ST. PETER'S HOSPITAL FOR URINARY DISEASES





## PREFACE.

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THE following pages embrace the substance of two clinical lectures which I delivered at the commencement of this year at the London Hospital (January 27th) and at St. Peter's Hospital for Urinary Diseases (February 15th) upon the value of electric illumination of the bladder and urethra in the diagnosis of obscure vesico-urethral diseases (the Nitze method). I had previously demonstrated the construction of the instruments required for carrying out the examinations,—the Nitze incandescent-lamp cystoscope; the Leiter incandescent-lamp cystoscope; the Leiter incandescent-lamp urethroscope, and Schall's batteries, at a meeting of the Medical Society, January 23rd. I attempted in this way to draw attention to the great improvement which had taken place in the cumbersome Nitze-Leiter instruments of 1879\* by the substitu-

\* Introduced into this country by Sir H. Thompson, 'Lancet,' 1880, April, p. 529.

tion of an incandescent lamp for the platinum loop. From my experience of the *new* instruments I was convinced that we had arrived at an important epoch in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases of the bladder and urethra, which had, curiously enough, been completely overlooked in this country. The cystoscope of 1879 has the same relation to that of 1887 as the "Puffing Billy" of Stephenson to later locomotives; and though, doubtless, we have not reached its perfect completion, yet it is sufficiently practical to become an indispensable factor in the diagnosis of obscure diseases of the urinary tract. I have to cordially acknowledge the courtesy of Dr. Nitze (the able originator of the method) for permitting me to copy the cystoscopic pictures adorning his article on electric cystoscopy.\* I have used them in my lectures, and have inserted three (Figs. 19, 22, 23) in the following pages. I am, moreover, much indebted to Mr. Leiter, of Vienna, for allowing me to use woodcuts from his 'Handbook of Electric Illumination' † to illustrate the construction of the instruments.

\* Dr. Nitze, "Beiträge zur Endoskopie," 'Langenbeck's Archiv,' vol. xxxvi, Heft 3.

† Josef Leiter, 'Elektro-endoskopische Instrumente,' 1880, Wien.