

LECTURES ON SCARLET FEVER

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Lectures on Scarlet Fever by Caspar Morris

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CASPAR MORRIS

**LECTURES ON
SCARLET FEVER**

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ON
SCARLET FEVER.

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CASPAR MORRIS, M. D.,

LATE LECTURER ON PRACTICAL MEDICINE IN THE PHILADELPHIA MEDICAL INSTITUTE,
FELLOW OF THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF PHILADELPHIA,
MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ETC.



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1851.

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1851

TO N. CHAPMAN, M. D.,

EMERITUS PROFESSOR OF THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF MEDICINE AND CLINICAL
MEDICINE IN THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

It is with emotions of no common character that I avail myself of the privilege you have accorded to my wishes, in dedicating this little volume to you as a token of the grateful recollection of a long and unbroken series of kind actions, which, commencing with the beginning of my professional life, has extended to the period at which, by your withdrawal from practice, you brought your own to a close. From your teachings, as well private as public, conjoined with those of my honored preceptor Dr. Joseph Parrish, I derived the power and encouragement to think freely on medical subjects; to your friendship I owe the opportunity for more extended observation than would have fallen to my lot without it; your counsel and assistance were ever at my service in all cases of emergency or doubt. Gladly do I recognise the obligation, thus created, and fain would I present a more worthy token of my sense of it, to cheer the eventide of your retirement. Delivered in a school which was founded by your wisdom and derived its high distinction under your fostering care, these lectures are a tribute in an especial manner due to you. Accept with it the assurance of the unabated respect and affection of

Yours truly,
CASPAR MORRIS.

P R E F A C E .

The following Lectures, on a subject which must always possess great interest for the Physician, were originally delivered to the class of the Philadelphia Medical Institute, and have been revised and committed to the press with the conviction that the views they express are true, and the practice founded on those views that which is the best adapted to the treatment of this formidable disease. The observations from which they have been derived have been made during more than twenty-five years' service in the Philadelphia Dispensary, the Philadelphia Orphan House, the House of Refuge for Juvenile Delinquents, and the Pennsylvania Institution for the Instruction of the Blind, as well as in the usual routine of family practice. During the progress of the publication in the successive numbers of the Medical Examiner, it has been a subject of regret that the form in which these views were issued prevented the presentation of tabular statements, and a more extended reference to the grounds on which assertions are made. Lectures must be dogmatic in their manner, in order to arrest attention, and impress the opinion of the teacher on the minds of the auditory; whilst didactic essays permit the free introduction of the processes by which the conclusions have been arrived at. Another difficulty has arisen from the necessity for reaching a pausing point in each successive number as it appeared. It has on this account been necessary to compress sentences and alter arrangement, as well as to adopt a division into lectures much shorter than those really delivered. Originally prepared under the pressure of engagements which fully occupied the usual hours of labor, they have been printed, and revised as they passed through the hands of the compositor, surrounded by the same causes of distraction. They are not sent forth as a perfect essay on Scarlet Fever, but as a sketch of the nature and treatment of that disease.

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CASPAR MORRIS, M. D.,

Late Lecturer on Practical Medicine in the Philadelphia Medical Institute.

LECTURE I.

Description of the Disease.

So fatal have been the results, so fearful the ravages, so wide spread the devastation of this disease, so interesting the period of life at which it commonly occurs, just as parental hopes are budding with promise, and the tendrils of affection entwining themselves the most closely round the heart, that the very name is a signal of distress, and its introduction into the family circle is looked upon as the entrance of the angel of death with an irrevocable warrant to destroy. The parent sits down in the evening the happy centre of a group of smiling objects of affection, his heart swelling with delightful anticipation as his eye glances around the circle; and ere the next return of the same weekly period, half of them slumber in the embrace of death. The