

**A GUIDE TO THE TREATMENT OF
DISEASES OF THE SKIN WITH
SUGGESTIONS FOR THEIR
PREVENTION, FOR THE USE OF THE
STUDENT AND GENERAL PRACTITIONER,
ILLUSTRATED BY CASES**

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A Guide to the Treatment of Diseases of the Skin with Suggestions for Their Prevention, for the Use of the Student and General Practitioner, Illustrated by Cases by Thomas Hunt

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THOMAS HUNT

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Illustrated by Cases.

BY
THOMAS HUNT, F.R.C.S.,
Surgeon to the Western Dispensary for Diseases of
the Skin.

"In chronic diseases, the entire system has been altered; and to effect a
cure, the entire man must be remodelled."—SYDENHAM.

EIGHTH EDITION.

LONDON:
T. RICHARDS, 37, GREAT QUEEN STREET.

M DCCC LXX

It is earnestly hoped that if this Treatise should fall into the hands of a patient suffering from skin disease, he will not be so rash as to tamper with arsenical preparations, which ought never to be made use of excepting under the watchful eye of a medical practitioner.



PREFACE TO THE EIGHTH EDITION.

IN preparing a new edition of a treatise, of which the sale of ten thousand copies has fully demonstrated its favourable reception by the profession, the author has felt it incumbent upon him to spare no pains in the work of revision and improvement. The leading features remain unaltered. The author's belief in the constitutional origin of chronic skin diseases, of the general inefficacy of topical treatment, of the necessity of reviewing the whole condition of the patient's health and rectifying what is wrong *before* adopting any specific treatment, and the absolute necessity of arsenic as the final remedy,—these (the fundamental principles of the author's practice) have been abundantly confirmed and corroborated by every year's additional experience.

The improvements in the present edition have reference to arrangement and detail, rather than to principles. With a view to simplification, a new chapter has been introduced, "*On Ring-worm and other Diseases affecting the Hairy Scalp*", including morbid baldness, whether general or local. In this, some departure from Willan's classification has been necessitated. But it is hoped the reader may find this class of diseases rather less perplexing through this slight and reluctant deviation from the original English system, which, as a whole, is nevertheless the most convenient

and the least faulty of any. A new chapter has also been added "*On Diseases of the Nails*", under the conviction that these affections were touched upon less prominently in the former editions than they deserved to be. Other portions of the work have been rendered more concise, and it is hoped not less intelligible for practical purposes.

It would scarcely be just to omit noticing in this place the very learned, fair, and correct, as well as elaborate and luminous review of several recent publications on skin diseases, which has lately been put forth by the accomplished Editor of the *Medical Times and Gazette*, in a series of papers headed "*Modern Dermatology*". If no one need attempt to reconcile, or even to comprehend fully, the contradictory theories, and the conflicting and confusing systems of arrangement, which have been so industriously and faithfully portrayed and criticised in these editorial papers; still the lasting value of these papers as a history of the dermatology of the times cannot for a moment be questioned; and it is to be hoped they will some day be collected in a separate volume. Our own humble aim has ever been to call the attention of the profession to the few practical points which most concern us, and to render them permanently conspicuous, in spite of the fog which hovers over the modern therapeutics of skin disease. The liberality of the profession has already given the author credit for some degree of success in this attempt; and he trusts that the present edition may be kindly received, as at least an honest effort in the same direction.

Hinde Street, Manchester Square,
September 1865.

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