

**NASAL OBSTRUCTION: THE
DIAGNOSIS OF VARIOUS
CONDITIONS CAUSING
IT, AND THEIR TREATMENT**

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Nasal Obstruction: The Diagnosis of Various Conditions Causing It, and Their Treatment by W. J. Walsham

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W. J. WALSHAM

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NASAL OBSTRUCTION:

The Diagnosis of the Various Conditions
Causing it, and their Treatment.

BY

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OF EXAMINERS ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, ETC., ETC.

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P R E F A C E .

MANY excellent works on Nasal Surgery have been published in recent years, but I know of none in which the diagnosis of the conditions that may give rise to nasal obstruction has been treated on the lines I have here attempted to lay down, namely, by working from the known to the unknown—in other words, by working from the known conditions of the parts, such as redness, hardness, swelling, etc., to the unknown disease of which they are signs and symptoms, instead of first describing the disease, and then discussing how it may be diagnosed from similar affections. It is the method I have constantly employed as a teacher of general surgery, and it seemed to me that it would be especially useful if applied to the diagnosis of nasal disease, a department of practice to which students and general practitioners have not hitherto given much attention.

It has so happened that in consequence of having done some work on injuries of the nose, whilst I was in charge of the Throat Department of the Metropolitan Hospital, now twenty years ago, I have since, through the kindness of old pupils and professional friends, had a very considerable experience in the treatment of all forms of nasal disease. The result of this experience is embodied in the present work. But whilst drawing chiefly on my own observations, I have at the same time consulted

the literature of the subject, and have to acknowledge the help I have received from the works of Zuckerkandl, Bosworth, Burnett, Cohen, Mackenzie, De Havilland Hall, Ball and McBride, and from articles too numerous to mention in the *Journal of Laryngology and Rhinology*, the *Centralblatt für Laryngologie und Rhinologie*, and the "Transactions of the American Laryngological Association."

I am much indebted to my friend and colleague, Mr. W. Ernest Miles, for the valuable assistance he has given me in preparing the book for press and in reading the proof sheets. I have also to thank Messrs. Arnold and Sons, Messrs. Meyer and Meltzer, and Mr. Schall, for permitting me to make use of several illustrations from their surgical catalogues.

W. J. WALSHAM.

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NASAL OBSTRUCTION.

CHAPTER I.

THE SYMPTOMS, SIGNS, AND EFFECTS OF NASAL OBSTRUCTION.

In many cases the signs of nasal obstruction are so obvious that they can hardly be overlooked; the patient is unable to breathe through one or both nostrils, and it is for this reason that he applies for relief. In other instances, however, he may not be aware that there is obstruction in the nose or naso-pharynx, and the symptoms he complains of have, to him, no apparent connection with the nose; thus, he may seek advice for symptoms referable to the throat, deafness, or it may be for asthma or spasmodic cough. It may be useful, therefore, before entering into the diagnosis of the various conditions that may cause nasal obstruction, to consider the symptoms and signs attending nasal obstruction generally, and the effects to which such obstruction may give rise.

The chief symptoms of nasal obstruction are :

- a. Inability to breathe freely through the nose ;
- b. An alteration in the voice ;
- c. A characteristic facial expression ; and
- d. The presence of a discharge from the nose,
or at the back of the throat.

These symptoms, which, of course, may be variously modified according to the nature, seat, duration and amount of obstruction and general condition of the surrounding cavities, will first be con-