

**DEBILITY AND IRRITABILITY
INDUCED BY SPERMATORRHŒ;
THE SYMPTOMS, EFFECTS, AND
RATIONAL TREATMENT**

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Debility and Irritability Induced by Spermatorrhœ; The Symptoms, Effects, and Rational Treatment by T. H. Yeoman

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T. H. YEOMAN

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TREATMENT.

BY

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OF THE LONDON HOSPITAL MEDICAL SOCIETY; AUTHOR "ON
"CONSUMPTION;" ON "BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, AND COUGH;"
ON "INDIGESTION;" LATE EDITOR OF "THE PEOPLE'S
MEDICAL JOURNAL;" AND PHYSICIAN TO THE
GENERAL POST-OFFICE LETTER-CARRIERS'
PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.

—◆—
" On commence à reconnaître au jour d'hui que la
médecine et la morale sont deux branches de la même
science, qui, réunies composent la science de l'homme!"
—◆—

CASABLA



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PREFACE.

My attention was first attracted to the peculiar infirmities treated of in this volume in the year 1829. A valued friend and fellow-student made me the confidant of his sorrow and its cause, and I became the medium of communication between him and one of our most esteemed teachers at the Medical School of the London Hospital. In the year 1844, I published a treatise on Spermatorrhœa, &c., which in six months ran through two editions of one thousand copies each: the book in question was introduced by the following notice:—"Despite the array of publications on the disease treated of in this little work, the author has ventured to print for the following reasons:—First, a practical knowledge of the subject, founded on observation since the year 1829; three years of which were passed at one of the largest metropolitan hospitals; at the Hotel Dieu, Paris; at the Lock Hospital, Glasgow; amongst the sol-

diers of the British Auxiliary Legion in Spain ; and in the extremes of climate in the Northern and Southern States of America."

In 1845, I became connected with a London Journal possessing the largest circulation ever attained by the weekly press, with one exception ; to that publication I contributed every week, for a period of three years, an article on Popular Medicine, and conducted the column "Answers to Correspondents." This opened to me an extensive field of observation, and I was pained to find so much self-caused misery existing amongst our fellow-creatures, and so much ignorance and extortion practised by the vampires who pollute the newspapers of the day with their disgusting advertisements.

In 1850, I projected "THE PEOPLE'S MEDICAL JOURNAL, AND FAMILY PHYSICIAN," which was thus announced :—

"The purpose of this periodical is to diffuse popular knowledge on the laws of Health and Disease ; to instruct how the one may be prevented, the other removed ; to improve the sanitary condition, and add to the well-being of the industrious classes ; to afford competent and legitimate advice to the invalid ; to spare his purse, and lessen the un-

just gains of the extorting quack and the advertising pill-vendor."

For nineteen months I edited and wrote all the original articles in the *Journal*, which acquired a circulation of 11,000 per week. In the autumn of 1851, I was compelled to relinquish this labour and anxiety by ill-health, which necessitated a short relaxation from study and practice. Soon after the commencement of the *Medical Journal*, I was inundated with letters seeking advice for the affliction now under consideration, but as mine was a *FAMILY JOURNAL*, I could not introduce such topics into its pages; I therefore published a small pamphlet entitled "The Diseases of Error," with this preface: "It is with much reluctance I publish this little book. My position, however, as Editor of the '*People's Medical Journal*,' renders the task imperative. The world can form no conception of the thousands of sufferers who seek for such counsel as I have endeavoured to give in the following pages: the world can form no conception of the thousands who, lured by the specious advertisements of empirics who profess to make certain infirmities their special study, have been wrecked in health, peace, and purse. The daily re-

ON

SPERMATORRHŒA,

ETC.

THAT constant sympathy which exists between the various organs of the human frame is evinced in the greatest degree when those of reproduction are implicated. We all know that a disordered stomach entails a sick-headache; it will be presently demonstrated that when the generative system is debilitated or irritated the whole organisation, physical and mental, is outraged; the balance which maintains health is overpoised, functional derangement supersedes harmonious action, the body is no longer properly and adequately nourished, and disease of body, disease of mind, embitters and shortens life.

The derangement capable of inducing so much evil is named *Spermatorrhœa*; by which is meant an unnatural discharge of the seminal fluid, for the most part profuse and involuntary, sometimes occurring in the day as well as at night, occasionally passing away without the patient being conscious of its escape, but more frequently whilst under the excitement of lascivious dreams or ideas. This complaint is recognised also by the terms *Pollutions*, *Involuntary Emissions*, and *Seminal Weakness*.