

**A HISTORY OF THE  
CHRONIC DEGENERATIVE  
DISEASES OF THE CENTRAL  
NERVOUS SYSTEM**

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A history of the chronic degenerative diseases of the central nervous system by Thomas Kirkpatrick Monro

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**THOMAS KIRKPATRICK MONRO**

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UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW

A HISTORY  
OF THE  
CHRONIC DEGENERATIVE DISEASES  
OF THE  
CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM.

BY  
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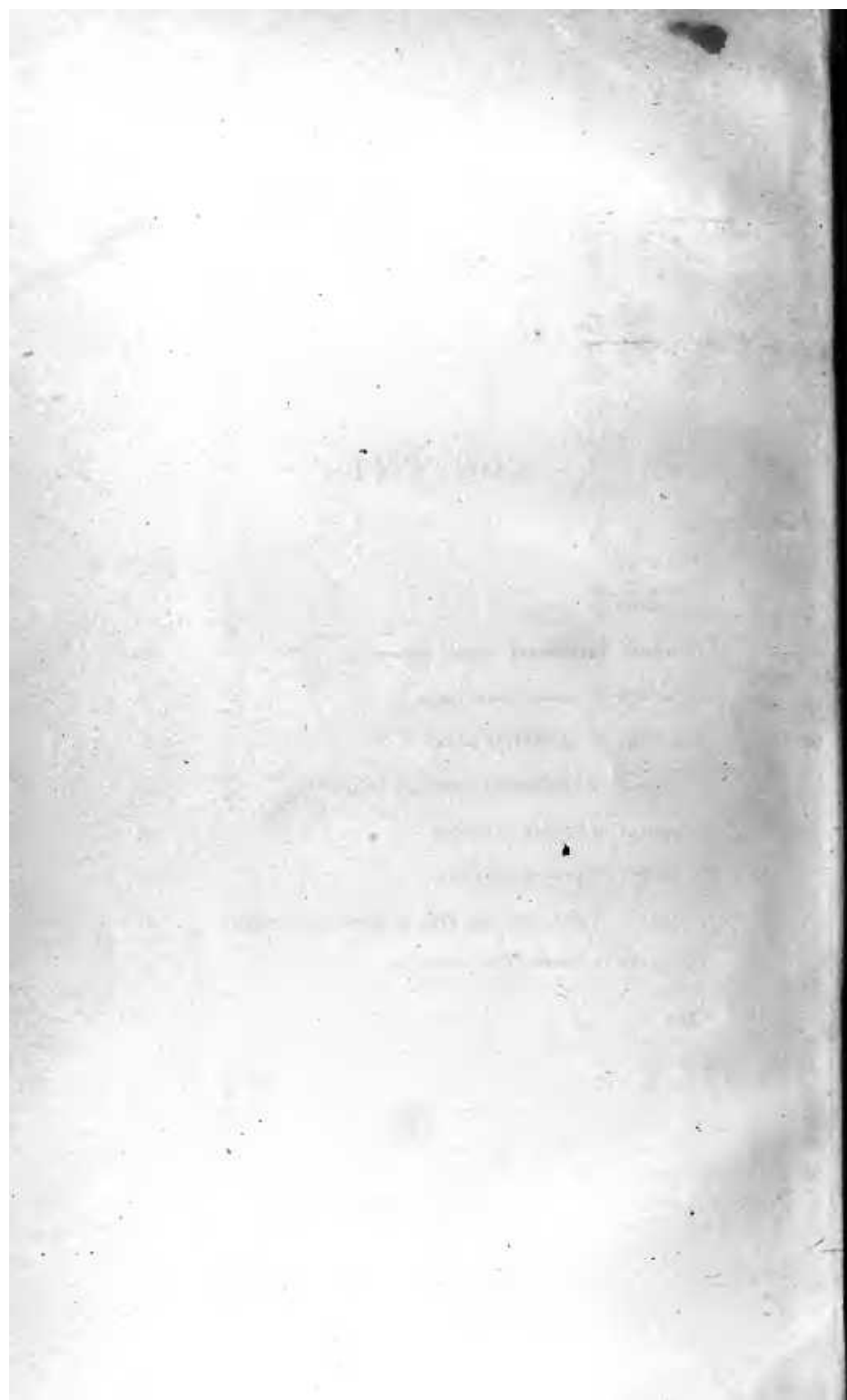
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## INTRODUCTION.

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THE essays included in this work formed part of a Graduation Thesis entitled "Essays in Neurology: Historical and Clinical," and are now reprinted, with but slight alterations, from the *Glasgow Medical Journal* for 1895. They are historical studies of those chronic disorders which depend upon primary degenerative changes in the structure of the central nervous system. It is still doubtful whether the peroneal type of family amyotrophy ought to be admitted to this list, but its history is not lengthy, and I have thought it best to include it in the series. On the other hand, I have decided to leave out of consideration in this place two diseases—primary optic atrophy and general paralysis of the insane—which might, from many points of view, be regarded as belonging to this group.

Each essay is introduced by a list of designations which have been applied to the disease whose history it narrates.

The references collected at the end of each essay are intended to indicate only such treatises and articles as I have myself consulted in the preparation of the essay; and for the constant courtesy and kindness with which he has assisted me to get access to this large body of literature, my hearty thanks are due to Mr. Alex. Duncan, Librarian to the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow.

Any value that may be possessed by these historical essays is, to my mind, much enhanced by Professor Gairdner's comments and criticisms which I have introduced in the form of footnotes. When Dr. Gairdner was examining my Thesis, he took the trouble to write down in that volume some observations which occurred to him, thinking that it might interest me to read them when the Thesis again came into my hands. I need scarcely say that I am very grateful indeed for these notes, and my thanks are due in addition to Dr. Gairdner for his kind permission to reproduce them here.

T. K. M.

*December, 1897.*

I.

HISTORY OF TABES.