

**THE STUDENT'S
GUIDE TO MEDICAL
CASE-TAKING**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649714964

The Student's Guide to Medical Case-Taking by Francis Warner

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

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TO

MEDICAL CASE-TAKING

BY

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LONDON

J. & A. CHURCHILL, NEW BURLINGTON STREET

1881

151. o. 560

INTRODUCTION.

DURING the three years that I held the office of Medical Registrar to the London Hospital, I saw that the student, on commencing his duties as clinical clerk, required some guide as to the method of arranging the history of his case, and the facts observed. A card of "instructions for case-taking" was provided, almost similar to that given at page xi. It was further evident that with each case the student needed, when taking his notes, to be told what special points to note in the history, and what special points to look to under each of the heads of the "instructions." Further, zeal was much stimulated in the thoughtful student by telling him why these special points should be enquired for, and their presence or absence noted.

Such points, with regard to the more commonly recurring diseases, have been put together, and presented in the following pages.

The object has been to provide, in a small space, a guide for the student to use at the bedside, when wanting to know what to look for, and what to note. Pathology and treatment are not touched upon, and for this reason, independent of the general incompleteness of this little work, the student is recommended to read, in some text-book, all about his case in hand. Much attention has been given to the special conditions met with in disturbance and disease of the nervous system.

To encourage enquiry as to the origin of disease, the principal causes in each case are indicated under the heading "*causation*," which will usually be found on the left-hand page, sometimes on the right-hand; thus the student may find his enquiries directed on reasonable grounds. As to the scheme of the work, as far as possible the facts indicated as specially to be observed are arranged under the ordinary heads of a case on the left-hand page, and on the corresponding right-hand page are given explanations, characters of the special disease, or points of interest in its natural history, etc. This plan could not in all cases be adhered to, and general convenience and the necessities of printing had then to take precedence of the original scheme.

Names printed in the text in **thick type** are heads of chapters contained in the work, which may be found on reference to the index. Thus, in taking a case of fever, look for "**Signs of Fever**," and if Vomiting or Jaundice be present look up these heads by means of the index.

F. W.

24, HANLEY STREET, W.

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