# CLINICAL NOTES ON CANCER, ITS ETIOLOGY AND TREATMENT

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Clinical Notes on Cancer, Its Etiology and Treatment by Herbert L. Snow

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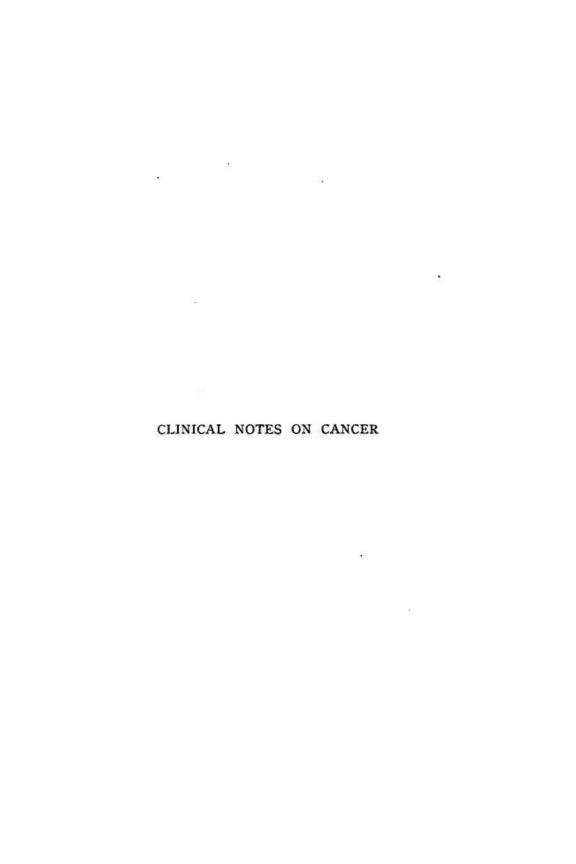
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# **HERBERT L. SNOW**

# CLINICAL NOTES ON CANCER, ITS ETIOLOGY AND TREATMENT





### CLINICAL NOTES

ON

# CANCER,

#### ITS ETIOLOGY AND TREATMENT.

With special reference to the Heredity-Fallacy; and to the Neurotic Origin of most cases of Alveolar Carcinoma.

BY HERBERT L. SNOW, M.D. (LOND.), ETC. SURGEON TO THE CANCER HOSPITAL, HEOMPTON.



#### LONDON:

J. & A. CHURCHILL, 11, NEW BURLINGTON STREET.

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#### PREFACE

THE following pages seek to convey, as briefly as possible, the practical experience of several years' work among cancerous patients. I have abstained from quoting rare cases which served to inculcate no useful lesson; but, on the other hand, have endeavoured to emphasize those points of clinical importance which seemed to me misconceived or unduly neglected; and, in one especial particular, to point out the fallacy of a widely-prevalent view, which I believe to work much mischief. No attempt has been made at elaborate description or exhaustive investigation; but the impressions received through constant familiarity with common every-day cases, and the deductions to which they gave rise, are set down "without prejudice." However imperfectly this has been done, I trust that the present little work, as a conscientious record of such observations, will not be found altogether uscless.

 NORFOLK TERRACE, BAYSWATER, October, 1883.



### CONTENTS.

CHAP.							9		PAGE
I.	INTRODUCT	OBY-	BENE	BAL	Cons	IDER	ATIO	is.	1
II.	CAUSES OF	CANCE	IR.		*		<b>%</b>	134	14
III.	FALLACIES	RESPE	CTING	CAN	CER	: (A)	HE	RE-	
	DITY;	(в) Тн	E CA	NCER	ous l	DIAT	RES18	١.	18
IV.	THE NEU	BOTIC (	)rigi	N OF	AL	FOL	R C	AR-	
	CINOMA	1000	•	•	*		9		24
V.	GENERAL	Consid	ERAT	IONB	ON	THE	Tre	AT-	
	MENT C	F CAN	CER	38	×	25	88	325	32
VI.	MALIGNAN	r Disk	ar o	THE	FRE	CALE	Bre.	ABT	30
VII.	UTERINE (	ABCING	MA A	ND I	EPITE	antio	MA		50
VIII.	EPITHELIO	MA OF	THE	Ton	GUE	×			58
TV	Farmer to		T	ъ.		T 11 17 17			436

5%1

19

# viii contents.

APPENDIX A.	PAGE
BRIEF REPORT OF ALL THE CASES OF BREAST	
CARCINOMA IN THE CANCER HOSPITAL ON	
Auguet 24rm, 1883	73
APPENDIX B.	
Miscellaneous Cases Illustrating the Origin	
OF ALVEOLAR CANCER, AND OF SARCOMA	78
APPENDIX C.	
Illustrating the Origin of Twenty-six Cases	
DIAGNOSED IS SIRONA	09

9 2

...

#### CLINICAL NOTES ON CANCER.

#### CHAPTER L

#### INTRODUCTORY .- GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS.

THE term "cancer" is (popularly) applied to a group of diseases, whose most prominent common characteristic is their " malignancy"; that is to say, speaking very generally, their resistance to all known medicinal agents; their proneness to invade other organs and tissues of the body than those in which they have originated; their liability to recur after removal by caustics or by the surgeon's knife; the pain to which they commonly give rise, and the peculiar loathsomeness which attends the progress of many forms; and their tendency to destroy life. The degree of this malignancy varies greatly (1) according to the variety of cancer; (2) to the organ or tissue attacked; (3) to the age and constitution (probably also, in some measure, to the habits) of the patient,-the first of these being probably by far the most important factor. We meet also with many anomalies and irregularities, of course, of symptoms, and of progress; as