

OBSERVATIONS IN CLINICAL SURGERY

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649659999

Observations in Clinical Surgery by James Syme

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Cover @ 2017

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JAMES SYME

**OBSERVATIONS IN
CLINICAL SURGERY**

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IN CLINICAL SURGERY.

EDINBURGH: PRINTED BY R. AND H. CLARK,

FOR

EDMONSTON AND DOUGLAS.

LONDON . . . HAMILTON, ADAMS, AND CO.

CAMBRIDGE . . . MACMILLAN AND CO.

GLASGOW . . . JAMES MAULEHORE.

DUBLIN . . . W. ROBERTSON.

G. A. Smith
OBSERVATIONS ³⁻
IN 1863
CLINICAL SURGERY 1875

BY

JAMES SYME, F.R.S.E.

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SURGEON TO THE QUEEN IN SCOTLAND,
ETC. ETC. ETC.

SECOND EDITION.

EDINBURGH:
EDMONSTON AND DOUGLAS.

1862.
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P R E F A C E.



A SURGICAL case is read with interest by practitioners, not merely on account of its individual features, but because it illustrates the effect of treatment, and enables them to determine the value of practical principles for their own guidance. But at no period in the history of surgery has there been so much occasion for information of this kind as at present, since the profusion of vague and verbose compilations, together with the mass of crude speculation and reckless misrepresentation with which the medical press has of late years teemed, have so bewildered the minds of most men as to render them incapable of discriminating between the good and evil of what they read. There hence results a painful feeling of uncertainty, with constant straining after novelty as

57284

the wheel of fashion revolves, so that sound doctrines, instead of becoming more firmly established through time, are apt to be relinquished and replaced by the silly suggestions of presumptuous folly. Having for a long period of years been engaged in teaching Surgery, with the advantage of a great hospital for my field of instruction, I venture to hope that the expression of opinions which I have thus been led to entertain, together with the relation of cases shewing their application in practice, may not prove unacceptable to the members of my profession. The observations now offered refer with few exceptions to cases that have occurred within the last nine months; and it is my intention, at no distant date, to publish some further illustrations of the principles which I am accustomed to teach.

PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.



THE favourable reception which has required a second edition of this volume so soon after the period of its publication, induces me to offer it again without any additions or alterations, except in regard to verbal inaccuracies.

EDINBURGH, APRIL 30, 1862.

