

Elements of Surgical Diagnosis

A. Pearce Gould M.S., M.B.

Tracts of Surgical Diagnosis

RD35
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DIAGNOSIS

MANUALS
FOR
STUDENTS OF MEDICINE.



ELEMENTS
OF
SURGICAL DIAGNOSIS.

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P R E F A C E .

My chief object in writing this book has been to state, so far as lies in my power, those principles of diagnosis which apply in all cases and under all circumstances. The application of these principles to the diseases and injuries of various regions has been given as fully as possible.

I have thought it best to separate the diagnosis of injuries from that of diseases. While aware that this course is not in strict accordance with the ways of Nature, it has yet seemed to possess the advantage of greater simplicity, and I trust that it will not interfere with any usefulness the book might otherwise have.

I have great pleasure in acknowledging the able assistance I have received from my friend, Dr. Angel Money, who has kindly revised the proof-sheets, and made many valuable suggestions.

In view of the importance and difficulty of the subject, it is with great diffidence that I venture to submit this manual to students and practitioners of surgery.

A. PEARCE GOULD.

16, Queen Anne Street, W.

PREFACE

My chief object in writing this book has been to state so far as lies in my power the principles of diagnosis which apply in all cases and which all the diseases and injuries of various regions has been given as fully as possible.

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SURGICAL DIAGNOSIS.

CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTORY.

THE art of diagnosis is that by which different things are distinguished from one another. The use of the term "diagnosis" is almost limited to medical literature, and there it is employed in two senses: first, to signify the process whereby we arrive at the distinction between different morbid states; and, secondly, to signify the result of that process. Hence the "diagnosis" of a case is oftentimes synonymous with the name of the disease or injury from which the patient is suffering. In this book an attempt is made to study the process of diagnosis, and to put the student in possession of knowledge, the application of which to any given case will enable him to determine the nature of the patient's ailment.

There is no natural distinction between medicine and surgery, but a separation of medical and surgical affections is so convenient, and is so generally understood and approved, that no excuse for dealing with the subjects of medical and surgical diagnosis in two volumes need be given. It has been thought best to limit the subject of surgical diagnosis by excluding reference to surgical affections of the eye, ear, larynx, and the female pelvic viscera, partly because this is in accord with a prevailing custom, and mainly because it would