

tice. If you have a particular case before you, refer to a good book, and that will enable you to examine it far better than you would otherwise do; but the principal thing is to observe for yourselves. This remark applies to anatomy, to surgery, and to physic. You may get up anatomy by being examined by your teachers, by learning books by heart, and appear a very good anatomist to the man who examines you; but that knowledge will be of no service whatever in practice. No anatomical knowledge is of any use excepting that which you obtain by seeing the parts in the lecture-room and then examining them for yourselves, and by your own hands in the dissecting-room. I can assure you that there is no other anatomical knowledge worth having, and the man who has qualified himself merely to pass an anatomical examination in the way to which I have referred will find that he has no chance whatever when he comes into competition with one who has made himself an anatomist in the proper way. So it is with respect to hospital practice; you must look at the cases and study them for yourselves. Examine the cases in the morning and refer to books in the evening, otherwise you will have no useful knowledge. Consider the observations which drop from the medical officers, compare what they say with the living person, and take notes with your own hands. No person can learn either medicine or surgery who does not take notes, for it is the only way to obtain that knowledge which is necessary in practice.

I take the liberty of making these observations, not that you particularly need them, but they may be of use to younger persons in the profession. The way which I have pointed out is the only one in which you will be enabled to succeed in your profession, and to practise it with comfort to yourselves and advantage to the public. In fact, I think that very few will get into practice at all who do not pursue the study of the profession in the practical manner which I have suggested. I offer these remarks with an entire feeling of friendship, and with the most earnest wish that you may be successful in your profession and do honour to this school.

*H. Brodie*



BIBLIOTECA

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## INDEX.

- Abscesses in vicinity of rectum, 184  
 \_\_\_\_\_, secondary, 45  
 Amputation for cure of hysterical affections of extremities, 268  
 \_\_\_\_\_, whether it should be performed whilst mortification is going on, 66  
 Amputations should not be performed without a tourniquet, 35  
 Angina pectoris, 87  
 Anthrax, 99  
 Antrum, collection of transparent fluid in, 341  
 \_\_\_\_\_, malignant tumours of, 342  
 \_\_\_\_\_, maxillary diseases of, 336  
 \_\_\_\_\_, polypus of, 342  
 Aphonia, hysterical, 254  
 Arm, case of varicose veins of, from disease in bronchial glands, 112  
 Arteries, ossification of, 85  
 Arteritis, mortification from, 82  
 Bee, death from sting of, 33, 79  
 Bite of a rabid animal, treatment of, 69  
 Bladder, foreign bodies in, 176  
 Bleeding in the vena saphena major, 119  
 Breast, fungus hæmatodes of, 221  
 \_\_\_\_\_, hysterical affection of, 255  
 \_\_\_\_\_, scirrhus of, 214  
 \_\_\_\_\_, sero-cystic tumours of, 207  
 Bunion, 131  
 Carbuncle, 99  
 Carcinoma of tongue, 148  
 Caustics, 67  
 \_\_\_\_\_, action of different, 67  
 \_\_\_\_\_, cases to which they are applied, 68  
 \_\_\_\_\_, modes of applying, 68  
 Children, paralysis in, 166  
 Circocele, 111  
 Cæcum, foreign body in, 173  
 Cold, effects of excessive, 81  
 Corns, 126  
 Dry gangrene of skin, 96  
 Epulis, 76  
 Erysipelas, after operations, 40  
 \_\_\_\_\_, causes of, 40  
 \_\_\_\_\_, whether contagious, 40  
 Eyelid, paralysis of, 166  
 Face, half malignant tumours of, 73  
 \_\_\_\_\_, paralysis of one side of, 165  
 \_\_\_\_\_, ulcerated tumours of, 75  
 Facial neuralgia, 298  
 Fistula in ano, 184  
 \_\_\_\_\_, cause of, 188  
 \_\_\_\_\_, manner in which it forms, 187  
 \_\_\_\_\_, symptoms of, 189  
 \_\_\_\_\_, treatment of, 191  
 Foreign bodies, extraction of, 167  
 \_\_\_\_\_ in cæcum, 173  
 \_\_\_\_\_ nostrils, 167  
 \_\_\_\_\_ œsophagus, 170, 174  
 \_\_\_\_\_ rectum, 173, 175  
 \_\_\_\_\_ stomach, 172  
 Foreign bodies in tonsils, 170  
 \_\_\_\_\_ trachea, 180  
 \_\_\_\_\_ urinary organs, 176  
 \_\_\_\_\_ various parts of the body, 178  
 Frost bites, 81  
 Fungus hæmatodes of breast, 221  
 Gangrene, 50  
 \_\_\_\_\_, dry, of skin, 96  
 \_\_\_\_\_, from bite of viper, 80  
 \_\_\_\_\_, senile, 84  
 Gangrenous inflammation after operations, 42  
 Hemiplegia, 153  
 Hemorrhage, source of danger in operations, 34, 220  
 Hemorrhagic tendency, 36  
 Hemorrhoids, 111, 306  
 \_\_\_\_\_, operations for, 314  
 \_\_\_\_\_, symptoms, 308  
 \_\_\_\_\_, treatment, 312  
 Hip-joint, diseases of, 271  
 \_\_\_\_\_, treatment of, 288, 290  
 \_\_\_\_\_, dislocation of from disease, 274  
 \_\_\_\_\_, primary ulceration of the cartilages of, 282  
 \_\_\_\_\_, scrofulous disease of, 276  
 \_\_\_\_\_, symptoms of, 277  
 \_\_\_\_\_, treatment of, 292  
 Hospital gangrene, 78  
 Hysteria, local symptoms arising from, 259  
 \_\_\_\_\_, pathology of, 260  
 Hysterical affection of the breast, 255  
 \_\_\_\_\_ affections from local injury, 256  
 \_\_\_\_\_ of the joints, 247  
 \_\_\_\_\_ local, connected with accidental injury, 256  
 \_\_\_\_\_, treatment of, 265  
 \_\_\_\_\_ aphonia, 254  
 \_\_\_\_\_ paralysis, 164  
 \_\_\_\_\_ retention of urine, 254  
 \_\_\_\_\_ tetanus, 256  
 \_\_\_\_\_ tympanitis, 255  
 Illustration of some important circumstances connected with operative surgery, 31  
 Inflammation after operations, 39  
 \_\_\_\_\_ of veins, 42, 103  
 Injury, effects of local, 58  
 Introductory discourse, 17  
 Issue, mode of making, 68  
 Joints, nervous affections of, 233, 247  
 Leech, death from bite of, 33  
 Leg, mortification of integuments of, 94  
 \_\_\_\_\_, ulcers of, with varicose veins, 111  
 Local hysterical affections connected with accidental injury, 256  
 \_\_\_\_\_ nervous affections, 232  
 Lymphatic glands, caustics to, 70  
 Malignant diseases, caustics to, 76  
 \_\_\_\_\_ tumours in nose, 141  
 Maxillary antrum, collection of transparent fluid in, 341



- Maxillary antrum, diseases of, 336  
 \_\_\_\_\_, inflammation of, 337, 338  
 \_\_\_\_\_, malignant tumours of, 343  
 \_\_\_\_\_, polypus of, 342  
 Mercurial inunction, 230  
 Mercury, cases of syphilis in which it is not proper, 231  
 \_\_\_\_\_, its use in syphilis, 223  
 \_\_\_\_\_, sometimes acts as a poison, 227  
 Morbid growths, caustic to, 70  
 Mortification, 50  
 \_\_\_\_\_, from animal poisons, 79  
 \_\_\_\_\_, arteritis, 82  
 \_\_\_\_\_, caustics, 67  
 \_\_\_\_\_, cold, 81  
 \_\_\_\_\_, contusions and traumatic gangrene, 64  
 \_\_\_\_\_, dry, of skin, 96  
 \_\_\_\_\_, from ergot of rye, 98  
 \_\_\_\_\_, heat, 78  
 \_\_\_\_\_, inflammation, 51  
 \_\_\_\_\_, pressure, 61  
 \_\_\_\_\_, senile, 84  
 \_\_\_\_\_, from strangulation or ligature, 59  
 \_\_\_\_\_, sudden loss of blood, 82  
 \_\_\_\_\_, of extremities, from unknown causes, 98  
 Musket balls in the body, 178  
 Needles in the body, 179  
 Nerves, division of, for cure of hysterical diseases of extremities, 267  
 Nervous affections, local, 232  
 \_\_\_\_\_, pains, character of, 239  
 \_\_\_\_\_, system, shock to, in operations, a cause of fatal results, 37  
 \_\_\_\_\_, disturbed state of, from operations, 47, 48  
 Neuralgia, 298  
 Nitric acid, mode of using as a caustic, 71  
 Nævi, caustics to, 71  
 Nose, polypi of, 135  
 \_\_\_\_\_, malignant tumours in, 141  
 Nostrils, foreign bodies in, 167  
 Oesophagus, nervous affection of, 241  
 Operations, ill consequences of, 31, 39  
 \_\_\_\_\_, the accidents which may happen, should be previously well considered, 33  
 \_\_\_\_\_, the existence of organic disease in a vital organ, an objection to, 49  
 \_\_\_\_\_, treatment of patients after, 41  
 Operative surgery, the results of, 31  
 Operator, what constitutes an accomplished, 32  
 Paralysis, 152  
 \_\_\_\_\_, causes of, 153  
 \_\_\_\_\_, in children, 166  
 \_\_\_\_\_, of one side of the face, 164  
 Paraplegia, 164  
 Pins in the body, 179  
 Polypi of nose, 135  
 \_\_\_\_\_, diseases sometimes mistaken for, 143  
 \_\_\_\_\_, fleshy, 138  
 \_\_\_\_\_, soft, 135  
 Prolapsus of rectum, 318  
 \_\_\_\_\_, treatment of, 319  
 Ptosis, 166  
 Ramollissement of spinal cord, 155  
 Ranula, 150  
 Recto-vaginal communication, 335  
 Rectum, abscesses in vicinity of, 184  
 \_\_\_\_\_, excrescences of, 320  
 \_\_\_\_\_, foreign bodies in, 173, 175  
 \_\_\_\_\_, prolapsus of, 318  
 \_\_\_\_\_, malignant diseases of, 331  
 \_\_\_\_\_, stricture of, 325  
 \_\_\_\_\_, unusual form of, 330  
 \_\_\_\_\_, ulcer on inside of, 324  
 Schneiderian membrane, malignant tumour from, 142  
 \_\_\_\_\_, polypus of, 135  
 \_\_\_\_\_, thickening of, 143  
 Scirrhus tumour of breast, 214  
 \_\_\_\_\_, propriety of operating for, 214, 220, 222  
 \_\_\_\_\_, two classes of, 215  
 Scrofulous disease of the hip, 276  
 Secondary abscesses, 45  
 Senile gangrene, 84  
 \_\_\_\_\_, causes of, 85  
 \_\_\_\_\_, symptoms of, 87  
 \_\_\_\_\_, treatment of, 89  
 Skin, dry gangrene of, 96  
 Sloughing, 50  
 \_\_\_\_\_, stump, 42  
 Sphincter ani, preternatural contraction of, 322  
 Stomach, foreign bodies in, 172  
 Stricture of rectum, 325, 330  
 \_\_\_\_\_, sigmoid flexure of the colon, 328  
 Surgical operations, dangers of, 31, 33, 39, 324  
 Synovial membrane, inflammation of, 272  
 \_\_\_\_\_, treatment of, 290  
 Syphilis, propriety of administering mercury in, 223  
 Tabes dorsalis, 155  
 Tetanus from operations, 46  
 Thirst, nervous, 245  
 Tic douloureux, 298  
 \_\_\_\_\_, treatment of, 302  
 Toes, mortification of, 84  
 Tongue, diseases of, 145  
 \_\_\_\_\_, dyspeptic, 145  
 \_\_\_\_\_, malignant diseases of, 148  
 \_\_\_\_\_, non-malignant tumour of, 147, 151  
 \_\_\_\_\_, ulcers of, 145  
 Tonsils, fish-bones in, 170  
 Tourniquet, amputations should not be performed without, 35  
 Trachea, foreign bodies in, 181  
 Traumatic delirium, 47  
 Tumours, fatty and steatomatous, 199  
 \_\_\_\_\_, half malignant, 73  
 \_\_\_\_\_, sero-cystic, of breast, 206  
 Tympanitis, hysterical, 255, 256  
 Ulcer on inside of the rectum, 324  
 Ulcers, varicose, 120  
 Urine, hysterical retention of, 254  
 Varicocele, 111  
 Varicose veins and ulcers of the legs, 111  
 Veins, inflammation of, 103  
 \_\_\_\_\_, after operations, 42  
 \_\_\_\_\_, remote effects of, 107  
 \_\_\_\_\_, symptoms of, 105  
 \_\_\_\_\_, varicose, 110  
 Viper, effects of bite of, 80  
 Ward's paste in hemorrhoids, 312, 325

THE END.



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