



SEXUAL

IMPOTENCE

IN THE

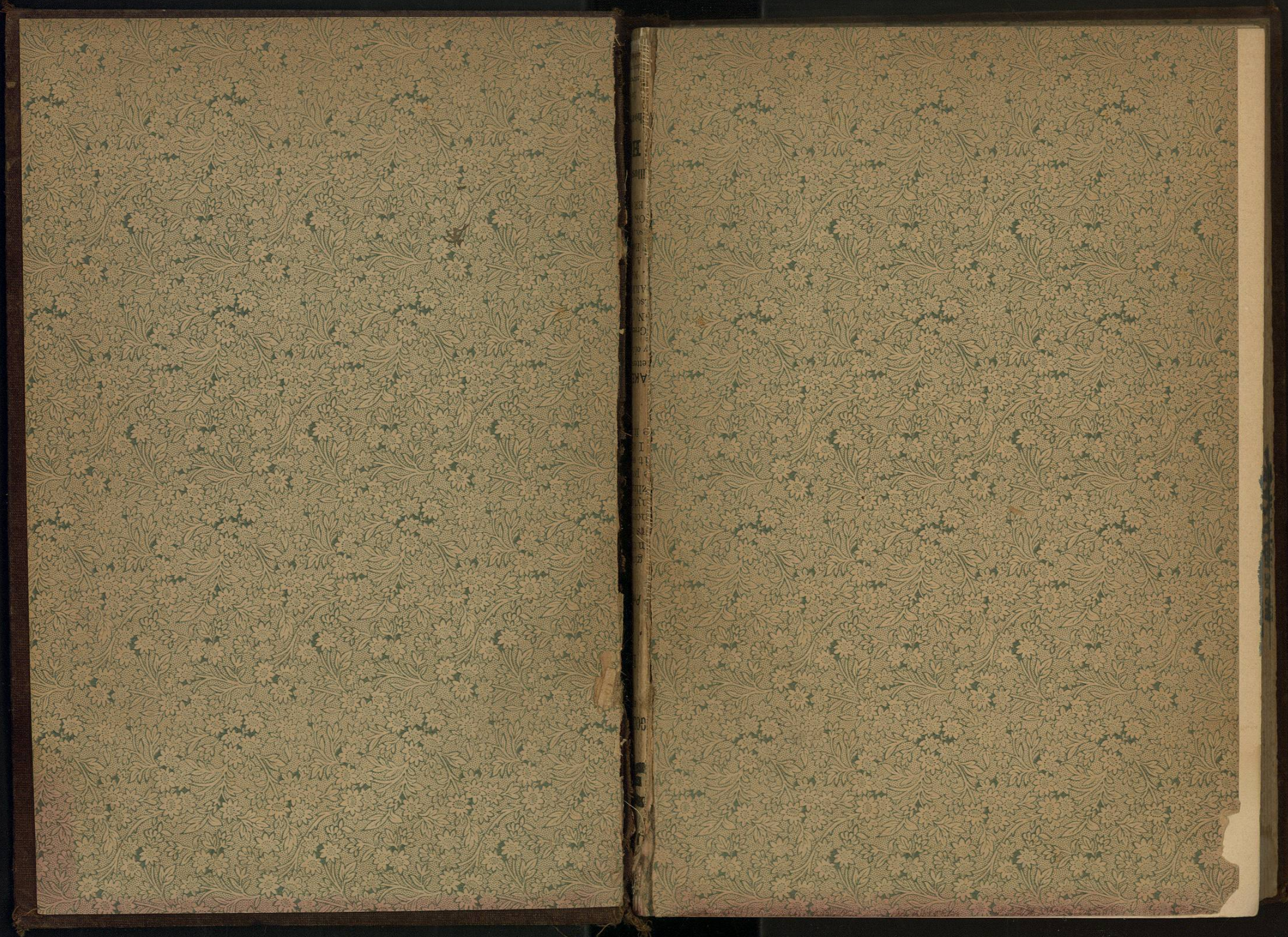
Male and Female.

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SEXUAL IMPOTENCE

IN THE

MALE AND FEMALE.

BY

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*"Nam quicquid essentia dignum est,
id etiam scientia dignum."*—LORD BACON.



DETROIT:
GEORGE S. DAVIS.
1887.

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650 Impotence Sexual

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1887.

TO

THOMAS STRETCH DOWSE, M.D.,

OF LONDON,

Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians in Edinburgh, etc.,

THIS LITTLE BOOK IS DEDICATED,

AS SOME EVIDENCE OF MY REGARD FOR HIM AS A FRIEND, AND OF MY APPRECIATION
OF THE LEARNING AND ABILITY HE HAS DISPLAYED IN
NEUROLOGICAL MEDICINE.

PREFACE.

Probably more unhappiness is caused by Sexual Impotence than by any other disease that afflicts mankind. This little work is written in the hope that my professional brethren may find it of service to them in the treatment of the affection in question, as it exists in the two sexes. The first edition, published nearly three years ago, related only to impotence in the male. The present edition considers the disorder in the female also.

48 W. 44th St., New York, May 1, 1887.

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SEXUAL IMPOTENCE.

By sexual impotence is to be understood an impossibility or difficulty in the accomplishment of the act of copulation. Impotence in the male, to which division of the subject the first section of this book is devoted, implies the existence of some malformation, disease, or derangement of the genital organs, either primary or secondary, by reason of which there is either

I. Absence of sexual desire.

II. Absence of the power of erection and of consequent intromission.

III. Absence of the power of ejaculating the seminal fluid into the vagina.

IV. Absence of the ability to experience pleasure during the act of copulation and at the time of the emission of the semen.

As is seen, impotence relates altogether to the act of intercourse, and therefore differs from sterility, with which, however, it is often confounded—the latter referring only to the inability to beget offspring. A man may be impotent without being sterile, and sterile without being impotent.

Under the heads as just given I propose in the present section to consider the subject of sexual impotence as it exists in the male of the human species.

In so doing I shall endeavor to correct certain erroneous theories which are very generally entertained, not only in regard to the normal exercise of the generative organs, but also relative to the abuses of which they are the subject. And I shall especially consider several forms of impotence of mental origin, which, though probably common enough, have not yet, I think, received the attention which they deserve.

The second section relates to sexual impotence as it exists in the female. The affection in women is by no means so important as it is in men. Nevertheless, it exists and is often the cause of much unhappiness. I have endeavored to treat it with sufficient thoroughness. It is considered under three heads.

- I. Absence of sexual desire.
- II. Inability by reason of physical conditions to allow of the entrance of the penis into the vagina.
- III. Absence of the ability to experience the sexual orgasm.

CHAPTER I.

ABSENCE OF SEXUAL DESIRE.

WITHOUT venereal desire the act of sexual intercourse would probably be rarely if ever performed. Ambroise Paré,* with his customary plainness of speech, says:

"A certain great pleasure accompanieth the function of the parts appointed for generation; and before it, in living creatures that are of a lusty age, when matter aboundeth in those parts, there goeth a certain fervent or furious desire; the causes thereof many, of which the chiefest is: That the kind may be preserved and kept forever by the propagation and institution of other living creatures of the same kind. For bruté beasts, which want reason, and therefore cannot be solicitous for the preservation of their kind, never come to carnal copulation unless they be moved thereunto by a certain vehement provocation of unbridled lust, and, as it were, by the stimulation of venery. But man that is endowed with reason, being a divine and most noble creature, would never yield nor make his mind so subject to a

* "The Works of Ambrose Parey, Chyrurgeon to Henry II., Francis II., Charles IX., and Henry III., Kings of France," etc. London, 1691. Chapter xxix. "*Why the generative parts are endowed with great pleasure,*" p. 534.