



PRACTICE  
OF  
MEDICINE  
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BARTHOLOW

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A TREATISE

ON THE

PRACTICE OF MEDICINE

FOR THE USE OF

STUDENTS AND PRACTITIONERS OF MEDICINE

BY

ROBERTS, BARTHOLOW, M. A., M. D., LL. D.,

Professor of Materia Medica, General Therapeutics, and Hygiene, in the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia; formerly Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine in the Medical College of Ohio, Cincinnati; Fellow of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia; Member of the American Philosophical Society; Fellow of the Royal Medical Society of Edinburgh, of the Société Médico-Pratiques de Paris, of various Medical Societies, American and State; Prize Essayist of the American Medical Association for 1868, of the Connecticut (Russell and Jewett), and of the Rhode Island State Medical Societies; Author of a Practical Treatise on Materia Medica and Therapeutics, of a Treatise on Medical Electricity, a Manual of Hypodermatic Medication, etc.

SEVENTH EDITION, REVISED AND ENLARGED

NEW YORK  
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PRACTICE OF MEDICINE

BY J. C. WOODRUFF

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I DEDICATE THIS TREATISE  
TO THE MEMORY OF MY DEAR FRIEND  
R. R. SPRINGER,  
LATE OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

PREFACE TO THE SEVENTH EDITION.

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IN sending forth another edition of this work, it would be a mere affectation if I failed to give utterance to my sense of the remarkable appreciation shown for it by medical readers. No higher compliment can be paid an author than the purchase, distribution, and reading of successive editions of a bulky volume, nor can an author make a better return for such a high estimate of his work than a sincere effort to so prepare each issue as to make it more worthy of regard than were its predecessors. Accordingly, I have incorporated all the improvements in medical science and art that have stood the tests of prolonged and painstaking observation and experience. To do this the number of pages has been somewhat increased, notwithstanding in the new material as in the old the utmost conciseness, consistent with clearness and accuracy, has been the guiding principle in the composition of the text.

ROBERTS BARTHOLOW, M. D.

PHILADELPHIA, 1527 LOCUST STREET.

## PREFACE TO THE SIXTH EDITION.

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IN preparing this edition of my Treatise on the Practice of Medicine, I have sought to make it still more worthy the approbation of my readers. In no way can this purpose be more certainly assured than by increasing its practical resources. Not overlooking the advances made in scientific medicine, I have, however, devoted most attention to the clinical aspects of the subject. In developing this purpose, I have tried to preserve that harmony and proportion, in the treatment of the various topics, so necessary in a systematic treatise. It has been imperative, to keep in view my original design, to prepare a work in three volumes, which should cover the whole domain of special pathology and therapeutics.

I had not dared to mention so ambitious a purpose until two of these volumes—*Materia Medica and Therapeutics, Practice of Medicine*—had appeared and been favorably received. The third of this series, intended to treat of the *Principles of Medicine*, is now in course of that careful and deliberate preparation necessary in the treatment of such an important subject. While each one is an independent work, they are expected to be mutually complementary. In executing so large an undertaking, it is necessarily difficult to preserve a proper proportion in its various parts. I can not flatter myself that I have entirely overcome this difficulty.

In the present edition some new subjects have been introduced, and preliminary chapters have been appended to the chief divisions of the work, to make the study of the diseases of the class more

exact, and to enhance the practical character of the whole. I believe I may say that little, properly pertaining to the domain of practice, has been overlooked, and that nothing superfluous has been admitted. That the work might have been written from a different standpoint is quite true, but then its character had been changed. As the purpose was to prepare a concise, practical treatise, to be independent in itself, and yet form a part of a larger whole, the subject must necessarily be discussed as has been done here. That some of my critics think differently, because they have conceived another ideal, is inevitable, but any regret I might have over this disapproval of my plans is quite tempered by the reflection that I am not striving to placate such critics so much as to please myself, and especially the large body of my sympathetic readers, whose approval is testified in the disappearance of successive large editions of the work. To them I repeat the assurance of my gratitude for the favor with which they have received my contributions to the *Practice of Medicine*.

R. B.

PHILADELPHIA, 1527 LOCUST STREET,  
*July 1, 1886.*

## PREFACE TO THE FIFTH EDITION.

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AGAIN there is imposed on me the grateful duty of acknowledging my indebtedness to numerous readers for their unfailing appreciation of my work.

The fifth edition has followed so soon on the fourth that but few changes are necessary; yet these happen to be important. The bacillus tuberculosis has been discovered, and minute organisms are increasing in pathogenetic importance. Any work presuming to represent the present state of medical knowledge can not be unmindful of such topics. Some other changes and additions have been made—in all, increasing the size of the work by about twenty pages.

In submitting this edition to the medical public, I can do no less than reiterate the expression of my hope that it may continue to enjoy the favor bestowed on the work from its first issue.

ROBERTS BARTHOLOW.

1509 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA,  
April 15, 1883.

## PREFACE TO THE THIRD EDITION.

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If the rapid sale of large editions of a work may indicate that it supplies the needs of many readers, I ought to be satisfied with the measure of success to which this treatise has attained. That it is fulfilling its mission is demonstrated to me in the encouraging, even enthusiastic expressions of approval, coming from numerous correspondents, who have found in this work a safe guide and judicious counselor. It is especially gratifying that those who have followed modes of treatment here inculcated have not been disappointed in the results. This fact seems to be a sufficient answer to those pessimistic critics who have found the author over-sanguine and dogmatic in his statements on therapeutical points.

That the confidence and esteem of my readers may continue to be justified, I have sought, in this edition, to make my work more thorough by adding some new articles, and by subjecting the whole to a careful revision. About fifty pages have been added, thus enlarging the scope, and, I hope, increasing the utility of the book. It does not yet approximate in its dimensions to the standard of those critics who estimate a work according to its weight, or to the number of its pages. As the author despairs of propitiating the favor or of conforming to the views of such critics, he must needs bear as best he can the weight of their displeasure. He is, however, supported in the midst of this trial by the circumstances that his work has been very fa-



vorably judged by the most influential organs of professional opinion printed in the English language, and that it is now being translated into Chinese, for the use of the physicians of the Celestial Empire. Those characteristics of the work to which its popularity seems to be due are its directness, its brevity, and yet the sufficient detail in which the various topics have been treated. In the new articles the same method of exposition has been followed. I may, therefore, anticipate, I hope, that the third and improved edition will continue to enjoy the favor so generously bestowed on former issues.

The author has been furnished by various correspondents with the results of treatment, as obtained by them from the methods prescribed in the therapeutical sections. It is desirable to accumulate facts, and hence failures should be reported as well as successes. It is also desirable to ascertain if the results of drug administration correspond to the pretensions of therapeutists. Is the optimism of the positive school justified by the deductions of clinical experience? I hope that those of my readers who are making observations will publish them, in the interests of scientific truth, to silence the cavils of therapeutical nihilists on the one hand, or the claims of therapeutical optimists on the other.

ROBERTS BARTHOLOW.

1509 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA,  
January, 1882.

## PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

IN less than one month after the publication of the first edition of three thousand copies of this treatise, the publishers called on me to prepare a second edition. This result is the more surprising, as it was accomplished before the numerous medical journals of the country had introduced the book to their readers, and pronounced a judgment on its merits or defects. I feel deeply grateful to my numerous readers for this substantial evidence of their appreciation of my labor. I have, also, a great many correspondents, in all parts of the country, to thank for kind expressions of approval, and for valuable suggestions.

In this edition I have corrected some typographical errors which escaped notice, and have amended some doubtful statements, and also have added articles on Alcoholism and on Sunstroke—topics overlooked in preparing the first edition. I have, further, enlarged the index, and have added an index of authors. In the first preface it was stated that I had avoided an attempt at bibliographical display, which has perplexed some of my bibliolatrous critics. One of them, in a notice of the work, was pleased to observe that I had condensed my materials from the text-books and cyclopædias. While expressly disclaiming an attempt to give a complete, even a full bibliography, I have indexed the authors referred to in the body of the work, which will show that I went to original sources for my information. Almost all of the works, monographs, and articles referred to, are contained in my own library of three thou-

sand medical volumes; and those not in my own were obtained from the library of the College of Physicians of this city. I wish my book, however, to be regarded, as it should justly be, the product of my own study, observation, and experience. An author with any training in the methods of authorship will agree with me, that to prepare a work, every detail of which the writer has made his own, is greatly more laborious than merely compiling a work from abundant bibliographical resources. I could more easily have prepared two volumes from the materials at hand, than write this book; but it was not my purpose to merely compile a book on practice—rather to prepare one which contained my own conception of the subject. I venture to express the conviction that, the more carefully this work is examined, the more it will be found to contain the most recent and approved facts of special pathology and therapeutics, without verbose dilution, and literary and typographical padding. With the hope that the second edition will continue to enjoy the favor accorded to the first, I submit it to the discriminating judgment of the medical profession.

ROBERTS BARTHOLOW.

PHILADELPHIA, 1509 WALNUT STREET,  
November 1, 1880.

## P R E F A C E .

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IN undertaking the preparation of a treatise on the Practice of Medicine, I had the intention to write a companion volume to my work on *Materia Medica* and Therapeutics. When announced, the book was so far advanced that its completion was confidently anticipated within the year. Unfortunately, the condensation of material found necessary, when the work had reached that stage where its proportions could be judged with some accuracy, involved much additional labor. This was the more regrettable, as the incessant demands of a large private practice and the onerous duties of an exacting professorial position permitted little of that uninterrupted leisure which is essential for successful literary composition. Slow progress was inevitable under these circumstances, and hence it was not until my removal to Philadelphia last year that I could devote some hours each day to my arduous task. I trust that this explanation of the delay in the appearance of the treatise will be satisfactory to my readers, especially to the large number who have honored me by subscribing for the work long in advance of its publication.

As my treatise on *Materia Medica* and Therapeutics embraced those topics of importance to the physician, and omitted matters of rather extraneous interest, so in the preparation of this volume my purpose was to include the subjects embraced under the title of "Practice of Medicine," omitting those topics of general pathology, etiology, etc., with which the works on Practice usually open, and