

THE  
PRACTICE  
OF  
MEDICINE

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VOL. I.

THE  
PRACTICE  
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MEDICINE

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VOL. II.



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VOL. II.



THE  
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VOL. I.



For our dear "Lister,"  
Miss Edith Notcutt.

with the gratitude of all her  
St. Thomas' Probationers  
for whom she has done so much!  
for the <sup>THE</sup> last 4½ years.

## PRACTICE OF MEDICINE.

VOL. I.

SEVENTH EDITION.

I with the most earnest hopes  
that 5 years hence  
she may look back at Belfast  
upon a wider & yet more successful  
usefulness.

Florence Nightingale  
London Feb 29/76



THE

*Janet M. Wendall*  
*May 6. 10.*

# PRACTICE OF MEDICINE.

BY

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*THE SEVENTH EDITION,*

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MEDICAL SCHOOL.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

HENRY RENSHAW,  
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616  
Tanner

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## PREFACE TO THE SEVENTH EDITION.

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THE speedy exhaustion of a Sixth Edition of the "Practice of Medicine" sufficiently indicates that the work has filled an unoccupied place in Medical literature, and has responded to a want largely felt by the practitioner.

This manifest adaptation to the requirements of the Profession has served as a guide to me in the fulfilment of the task of editing a Seventh Edition, to which I have succeeded in consequence of the premature death of Dr. Tanner, and has imposed obvious limits which I could not transgress. The lines traced out by Dr. Tanner have been followed, and while every section has undergone careful examination, and much new matter has been embodied in the work, no change has been made which does not represent a conviction matured by much study, and for the most part based on personal experience. The discussion of different views and conflicting hypotheses does not enter into the plan of the work. Opinions formed with care and pains are expressed in distinct and positive terms, and if a full exposition of the process by which a given conclusion has been reached is not always made, it is believed that a sufficient reason for every important statement is afforded, and it is hoped that the student will still continue to find in these volumes a safe guide to a knowledge of his Profession,



PREFACE.

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and the practitioner a trusted resource in the emergencies of daily work.

I have, in conclusion, to acknowledge my obligation to my friend and former pupil, Dr. Carey P. Coombs, for the Section on Electro Therapeutics, which, knowing his thorough theoretical and practical acquaintance with the subject, I entrusted to him, and have adopted with very slight modification.

SEYMOUR STREET, PORTMAN SQUARE,  
September, 1874.

PREFACE

TO

THE SIXTH EDITION.

A SIXTH Edition of the "Practice of Medicine" having been demanded, all the time which could be spared from other onerous duties during the last two years has been devoted to rendering it more worthy of the great encouragement hitherto bestowed upon it. The fact of the book having been out of print for several months has been a subject of considerable regret, though it is hoped that the Reader will now reap the benefit of the unavoidable delay which has taken place in preparing the re-issue. For inasmuch as our knowledge of diseases and their treatment has been steadily advancing since the publication of the last edition in July, 1865, I have been exceedingly unwilling to allow these volumes to pass out of my hands until such new matter as was necessary had been added, and until every page had been carefully and deliberately conneed over. In this way the work has become much enlarged. Nevertheless, the original plan has been adhered to, of making its pages the medium of as much practical information as possible. Especially have I aimed at adopting a style which should be terse, without appearing obscure; while the endeavour has also been made to give particular prominence to those points which will aid the practitioner in the discharge of his responsible duties at the bedside.



Without attempting in any degree to deprecate criticism, still due to my readers to say how sincerely I trust it may be thought that too dogmatic a tone has been adopted in the treatment of disease. But more than twenty years of daily observation have given me great confidence in the general principles which I have tried to inculcate in the following pages; and being thus zealously impressed, it is (even were it advisable) to do otherwise than speak positively.

In conclusion, I cannot help expressing a hope that this may still prove as useful, as its many friends have assured me has hitherto been. While preparing each new edition I have my responsibility greatly increase; but the labour and anxiety have been lessened by bearing in mind Dr. Arnold's remark, "That so long as you humbly learn, so long you may hope to teach."

HENRIETTA STREET, CAVENDISH SQUARE,  
17th May, 1869.

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