

**SPINAL CURVATURE COMPRISING A
DESCRIPTION OF THE VARIOUS
TYPES OF CURVATURE OF THE SPINE
WITH THE MECHANICAL APPLIANCES
BEST SUITED FOR THEIR TREATMENT**

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Spinal Curvature Comprising a Description of the Various Types of Curvature of the Spine with the Mechanical Appliances Best Suited for Their Treatment by R. Heather Bigg

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SPINAL CURVATURE

THE following is the series of works in course of preparation by the Author which will deal with all the various deformities of the body that are amenable to mechanical treatment :

- I. ON CURVATURE OF THE SPINE, including its Origin, Classification, and Mechanical Treatment.
- II. ON DEFORMITIES AND DEFICIENCIES OF THE TRUNK, including Hernia, Prolapse, Displacements of the Uterus, &c.
- III. ON DEFORMITIES OF THE HIP-, KNEE-, AND ANKLE-JOINTS, Paralysis of the Muscles of the Legs, Clubfoot, and Deformities of the Toes.
- IV. ON DEFORMITIES OF THE HEAD AND UPPER LIMBS, including Wry-neck, Deformities of the Shoulder-, Elbow-, and Wrist-joints, Paralysis of the Muscles of the Arms, &c.
- V. ON ARTIFICIAL LIMBS, Substitutes after Amputation, and other Prosthetic Appliances.

SPINAL CURVATURE

COMPRISING

A DESCRIPTION OF THE VARIOUS TYPES
OF CURVATURE OF THE SPINE

WITH

THE MECHANICAL APPLIANCES BEST SUITED
FOR THEIR TREATMENT

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ILLUSTRATED BY THE AUTHOR WITH NUMEROUS PEN-AND-INK DRAWINGS



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J. & A. CHURCHILL

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1882

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PREFACE

THE object of this book is to convey to the Medical Profession in as clear a way as possible an idea of the mechanisms which are constructed and are best suited to the cases of Spinal Curvature which come under their care, and to put these before them in such a simple and sequential manner that they may be able instantly, by turning to these pages, to select the apparatus that is best adapted to the requirements of their patients.

To this end the work is divided into three chapters. The first is restricted to the consideration of some points and principles in the construction of the human body which have, perhaps, up till the present time not been fully appreciated, and terminates with a very simple and natural classification of spinal curvatures based on such considerations. The second chapter comprises a detailed description of the various spinal curvatures in accordance with the foregoing classification, and with each is described the instrument or appliance theoretically indicated as most useful, and whose utility has been substantiated by actual practical experience. The third chapter is dedicated to the consideration of Professor Sayre's suspensory-plaster method, and to

pointing out the fallacies of its employment as a universal treatment for spinal curvature.

The Author, in undertaking this work, has kept as nearly as possible to the mechanical phases of spinal curvature; but he feels that the fact that in order to secure its completeness he devoted, on the one hand, five years to the ordinary curriculum of study at a London Hospital, and subsequently, on the other hand, five years to personally acquiring, even down to the most trivial details, all the operative and manipulative processes in the construction of orthopædic mechanisms, will be a sufficient guarantee that he has used his best endeavours to bring all the practical facts he could collect, both in mechanical and medical science, to bear on the subject.

56, WIMPOLE STREET,
CAVENDISH SQUARE, LONDON;
November, 1832.

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