

**THE TREATMENT OF
SPINA BIFIDA BY A
NEW METHOD**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649528660

The Treatment of Spina Bifida by a New Method by James Morton

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JAMES MORTON

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SPINA BIFIDA BY A
NEW METHOD**

SPINA BIFIDA.

THE TREATMENT
OF
SPINA BIFIDA

BY A NEW METHOD.

BY

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GLASGOW:
JAMES MACLEHOSE, ST. VINCENT STREET,
Publisher to the University.

1877. 71

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P R E F A C E.

THE interest attaching to the cure of a malformation hitherto regarded as incurable, will be considered a sufficient justification for the reproduction of the following cases in a collected form. In the remarks added brevity has been aimed at, not, it is hoped, at the sacrifice of perspicuity. My best thanks are due to Drs. James T. Whittaker, Andrew Cunningham, and William Muir; also to Messrs. W. H. Woodburn, and Alexander Graham, surgeons, for their cordial and skilful assistance in operating, and

to the pencil of the first-named gentleman
am I indebted for the illustrative sketches.
Dr. John Caskie, referred to in one of the
cases, died two years ago.

JAMES MORTON, M.D.

199 BATH STREET, GLASGOW.

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SPINA BIFIDA.

THAT imperfection of development to which we apply the name of Spina Bifida is said to be seen perhaps more frequently than any other malformation except harelip. It is unfortunate for those who present this deficiency in the spinal column, that there is no parallelism as to the comparative safety of the two classes of cases. Harelip does not *per se* prove fatal, while spina bifida almost invariably does so. Spina bifida is usually defined to be a congenital hernia of the spinal membranes, through an abnormal aperture in the walls of the canal.