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# NOTABLE NAMES IN MEDICINE AND SURGERY

BY  
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AND  
**W. J. BISHOP**  
F.L.A.  
EDITOR, MEDICAL HISTORY

With 79 Portraits and  
162 other Illustrations



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Medical history should be discipline for the mind and inculcate into the student a habit whereby in later life he is able to implement the advice of St. Paul to the Thessalonians, "Prove all things, hold fast to that which is good."—*From a review of the first edition in the British Journal of Surgery.*

## INTRODUCTION

It has proved most necessary to write an introduction, so that from the very outset there can be no mistake concerning the purpose of this little book. In previous editions this purpose was stated clearly in the Preface, but it has become only too evident that many readers (and nearly 20 per cent. of reviewers) skip the Preface, commence reading at page 1 (Hippocrates), and as they continue to read, they become disappointed not to find biographies of those who made the fundamental discoveries upon which the science of the practice of medicine rests.

Although of necessity this work is historical, it is *not* a history of medicine and surgery. It is just this:

In the wards and in the operating theatres, in the out-patient department and in the lecture-theatre, in general practice, among the nursing profession, and in the pathological laboratory, in the dispensary or in the chemist's shop, in the factory and showroom of the medical and surgical equipment house—indeed, in every contact of the medical and allied professions, proper names are used. For instance, Stensen's duct, Pott's fracture, Bell's palsy, Graves' disease, Spencer Wells' forceps, Koplik's spots, Wassermann reaction, Glauber's salts.

Surely every medical student and every student nurse on hearing these names, which later become so familiar as to become part of his or her vocabulary, must ask him or herself such a question as 'Who was Glauber, or is it a place?', or 'I wonder why they call it Bell's Palsy'?

It is to answer these questions that this book was written.



## PREFACE

IN this edition of *Notable Names in Medicine and Surgery* there are a number of new departures. In the first place, as time goes on some names become employed less frequently, while others are used more often. The reasons for this are two-fold: (a) fashions in medicine and surgery change and (b) advances in knowledge often bring with them other names. So this is one reason why a number of biographies have been changed. Another reason is that a few critics of former editions considered, with justice, that too few medical, as opposed to surgical, personalities were included. We have endeavoured to remedy this, and provide a fair selection from every branch of professional work.

Another innovation is the inclusion of footnotes which give salient details of persons mentioned in the text, or explanatory or interesting data to supplement the text.

So numerous have been the helpers to garner the data, verify facts, and supply illustrations that a special List of Acknowledgements has become necessary. To all those listed we tender our sincere thanks. One doctor wrote from his sick-bed in the Isle of Wight to say how much he had enjoyed reading the book, and he sent a running commentary with some excellent suggestions, some of which have been incorporated. To our dismay his accompanying letter was misfiled, and cannot be found; that is why his name has been omitted from the list.

For some years now we have been collecting data for a sister volume—*More Notable Names in Medicine and Surgery*. Good progress has been made with this during the past year.

Finally, it is a pleasure to record our thanks to Messrs. H. K. Lewis and Co. Ltd., the Publishers, who have brought out this edition in such a pleasing format. At the time of the publication of the last edition they were handicapped by war-time paper restrictions.

H. B.

W. J. B.

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# CONTENTS

	PAGE
HIPPOCRATES . . . . .	1
GALEN . . . . .	3
GABRIEL FALLOPIUS . . . . .	5
JOHANN RUDOLF GLAUBER . . . . .	7
THOMAS WHARTON . . . . .	9
THOMAS WILLIS . . . . .	11
MARCELLO MALPIGHI . . . . .	13
NIELS STENSEN . . . . .	16
REGNIER DE GRAAF . . . . .	19
CASPAR BARTHOLIN THE YOUNGER . . . . .	21
THOMAS DOVER . . . . .	23
JACOB BENIGNUS WINSLOW . . . . .	26
WILLIAM HEBERDEN . . . . .	29
PERCIVAL POTT . . . . .	31
ABRAHAM COLLES . . . . .	34
SIR CHARLES BELL . . . . .	37
JOHN CHEYNE AND WILLIAM STOKES . . . . .	40
BARON GUILLAUME DUPUYTREN . . . . .	43
JOHANN FRIEDRICH MECKEL, THE YOUNGER . . . . .	46
SIR BENJAMIN BRODIE . . . . .	48
JEAN GUILLAUME AUGUSTE LUGOL . . . . .	50
RICHARD BRIGHT . . . . .	52
WILHELM FRIEDRICH VON LUDWIG . . . . .	55
BARON JULES GERMAIN CLOQUET . . . . .	57
ROBERT LISTON . . . . .	60
THOMAS ADDISON . . . . .	63
ROBERT JAMES GRAVES . . . . .	65
THOMAS HODGKIN . . . . .	67
PROSPER MENIÈRE . . . . .	69
JOHN SCOTT . . . . .	71
JAMES SYME . . . . .	73
SIR DOMINIC JOHN CORRIGAN . . . . .	76
SIR WILLIAM FERGUSON . . . . .	79
ALFRED HIGGINSON . . . . .	82

JAMES MARION SIMS . . . . .	85
SIR JAMES PAGET . . . . .	88
HENRY JACOB BIGELOW . . . . .	91
SIR THOMAS SPENCER WELLS . . . . .	94
KARL THIERSCH . . . . .	97
FRIEDRICH VON ESMARCH . . . . .	98
JEAN MARTIN CHARCOT . . . . .	101
PIERRE CHARLES ÉDOUARD POTAIN . . . . .	103
JOSEPH SAMPSON GAMGEE . . . . .	105
SIR JONATHAN HUTCHINSON . . . . .	107
RICHARD VON VOLKMANN . . . . .	110
ALFRED HEGAR . . . . .	113
HARALD HIRSCHSPRUNG . . . . .	115
FRIEDRICH DANIEL VON RECKLINGHAUSEN . . . . .	117
HUGH OWEN THOMAS . . . . .	119
REGINALD SOUTHEY . . . . .	122
JOHN HUGHLINGS JACKSON . . . . .	124
ADAM POLITZER . . . . .	126
DOUGLAS ARGYLL ROBERTSON . . . . .	128
WILHELM HEINRICH ERB . . . . .	130
ROBERT KOCH . . . . .	132
LUDWIG COURVOISIER . . . . .	135
FRIEDRICH TRENDELENBURG . . . . .	138
CHARLES MCBURNEY . . . . .	140
WILHELM CONRAD ROENTGEN . . . . .	143
PAUL GRAWITZ . . . . .	145
WILLIAM HENRY WELCH . . . . .	147
FRANK THOMAS PAUL . . . . .	149
CHRISTIAN GRAM . . . . .	152
SIR VICTOR HORSLEY . . . . .	155
JOSEPH FRANÇOIS FELIX BABINSKI . . . . .	157
JOHN BENJAMIN MURPHY . . . . .	160
ALBERT JOHN OCHSNER AND JAMES SHERREN . . . . .	165
MADAME DÉJERINE-KLUMPKE . . . . .	168
HENRY KOPLIK . . . . .	170
WILLIAM JAMES MAYO AND CHARLES HORACE MAYO . . . . .	172
FERNAND WIDAL . . . . .	175

# CONTENTS

xiii

HYACINTHE VINCENT . . . . .	177
SIR WILLIAM BOOG LEISHMAN AND CHARLES DONOVAN .	180
LORD MOYNIHAN . . . . .	183
AUGUST VON WASSERMANN . . . . .	187
MAX WILMS . . . . .	189
MARIE CURIE . . . . .	191
CONRAD RAMSTEDT . . . . .	194
HANS REITER . . . . .	197
FOR FURTHER READING . . . . .	200
INDEX . . . . .	207