

wrote on hip joint luxation, on lithotomy and lithotripsy, and on congenital luxations (1850). Carnochan dissected the dead body and operated on the living in the same amphitheatre, on the same table, in the same purple gown, on the very same day.

Now, to return. When I arrived in Göttingen, 1848, the story was told of an English surgeon who was a guest of Langenbeck's. A femur was to be amputated, the patient on the table; Langenbeck took the knife and the Englishman his spectacles to adjust them. When he was ready to look on, the thigh was in the basket. Rapidity at that time stood as high as safety at present, indeed, rapidity was demanded for safety. Remember, however, there are those at present who assert that safety would be greater to-day also if the temptation of losing time over anæsthetising and operating—mainly the former—were not so great, and the respect for myocardial degeneration and for the jeopardy of the splanchnic nerve not quite so small.

As it was my object to make you acquainted with really great men only, whose memory should be greatly preserved by all who are interested in the progressive history of medicine, I turn to my final three semesters which I passed at Bonn.

Freidrich Nasse was more than a kind, humane, and pious physician and teacher; he was one of the few—indeed, the first—German clinician who introduced the findings of Laennec and Skoda into German medical instruction. You see how fortunate I was. Born in 1778, he could never, it is true, divest himself entirely of the influence of Schelling's so-called "nature-philosophy" and of Mesmer's animal magnetism. Indeed, in 1850, while I worked in his clinic, he wanted me to go to Holland to magnetize a hysterical young lady. She had to get along, however, without my ministrations. For many years he had been intimately connected with Ennemoser, who explained the relations of Adam and Eve to be founded on animal magnetism, and taught the method of magnetizing the trees in the field and the child within the maternal womb. As I have mentioned, the first forty years of the eighteenth century were the period of the greatest humiliation of German medicine. Most of its literature was steeped in gross obscurantism and its teaching and language were mostly unintelligible. In spite of all this, Nasse, who was first a practitioner in a small city, before in 1818 he became professor in Bonn, recommended the use of the thermometer in scarlet fever as early as 1811,—it was introduced and popularized by Wunderlich half a century later—published experiments on the processes of elimination in connection with the changes of the blood caused by respiration in 1816, and on combustion and respiration in 1846, on regeneration of nerves and occasional restitution