

## PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION

APPLIED ANATOMY has, I imagine, a twofold function. On the one hand it serves to give a precise basis to those incidents and procedures in practice that more especially involve anatomical knowledge; on the other hand it endues the dull items of that knowledge with meaning and interest by the aid of illustrations drawn from common medical and surgical experience. In this latter aspect it bears somewhat the same relation to Systematic Anatomy that a series of experiments in Physics bears to a treatise dealing with the bare data of that science.

The student of Human Anatomy has often a nebulous notion that what he is learning will sometime prove of service to him; and may be conscious also that the study is a valuable, if somewhat unexciting, mental exercise. Beyond these impressions he must regard his efforts as concerned merely in the accumulation of a number of hard, unassimilable facts. It should be one object of Applied Anatomy to invest these facts with the interest derived from an association with the circumstances of daily life; it should make the dry bones live.

It must be owned also that all details in Anatomy have not the same practical value, and that the memory of many of them may fade without loss to the competency of the practitioner in medicine or surgery. It should be one other object, therefore, of a book having such a purpose as the present, to assist the student in judging of the comparative value of the matter he has