

AN  
INAUGURAL DISSERTATION

ON

*The Inside Work of the Temple*

SUBMITTED TO THE

PRESIDENT, BOARD OF TRUSTEES, AND MEDICAL FACULTY  
OF THE

University of Nashville,

FOR THE DEGREE OF

DOCTOR OF MEDICINE.

BY

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OF

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In pursuance of a custom, long established,  
we are compelled, to offer an inaugural dissertation  
on some medical subject, for the honorable degree  
of Doctor of Medicine.

It should not be expected, that I, a mere  
embryo in the science of Medicine, should be able  
to advance some new and startling theory upon the  
subject now under consideration, one that would  
do honor to those members of our profession,  
whose heads have been whitened by the frosts  
of many winters.

All that we can do in the day of our  
youth and inexperience, is to read the opinions,  
and views advanced by our Seniors, select those  
that seem to us to be founded upon purely  
scientific principles; and when selected, to sustain  
them with all the ability allotted us.

The highway to medical fame, is still  
strewn with material for beautiful chaplets.

2  
ready to deck the brows of those young aspirants, now striving for its honors.

May our young school, just bursting into fresh and vigorous manhood, be the Nucleus of the Medical pilgrims, the Alma Mater of all those destined to reach distinction in this land; and may the predictions of its usefulness, and prosperity, be fully verified, and it shall ever be our pride, and pleasure to point to Nashville as the great Mart of Medical Learning—

If from the zeal, and ability displayed by its honored tutors, the studious attention of a highly respectable and intelligent class, we be permitted to auger favorably, imaginations wildest-Janez would be unable to point to the period when its labors and usefulness should cease.

The Last Century has told wonders

in the advancement of our noble science,  
made subservient to the use of a wily Priest=  
hood, in the middle ages, it fell into disrepute,  
and all knowledge that had been attained  
up to that time, was locked up in their  
cloistered cells, and the practice of medicine  
was regarded by the common people, as  
something belonging exclusively to God's  
anointed,

The veil of ignorance that once  
enshrouded medicine, has been cast  
aside, and we can now say truthfully,  
and with deep feelings of pleasure, that  
no profession, no class of men, embodies  
more wisdom, more learning than does  
our noble calling.

Medical men cannot but feel a  
pride, a thrill of pleasure when they  
see what rapid advancement has been

made towards the attainment of a glorious mind,  
Man viewed intellectually, and physically  
is undoubtedly nature's noblest work, fashioned  
after the image of his Creator, destined  
to perform duties of a high and  
noble character, duties, the strict perform-  
-ance of which, will fit him for  
an association with that infinite Being,  
the author of his existence,

"Fearfully and wonderfully made," how  
symmetrical the structure, how beautiful even  
in its ultimate relations! What further proof  
should the sneering sceptic wish, that a Supreme  
Being rules the destinies of nations, and that  
he, a mere bubble upon the earth's surface,  
is the work <sup>of</sup> a Divine Author, than the study  
of Anatomy.

We shall not suffer our "faith to be shaken by the  
sophistries of sceptics," nor can we believe with that

5  
sect of philosophers who have attempted to  
point out a

"Vast chain of being, which from God began,  
Natures ethereal, human, angel, Man,  
Beast, bird, fish, insect, what no eye can see,  
No glass can reach,

The links of which  
Chain They have considered, to be constituted of natural bodies;  
passing by insensible gradations through the inorganic  
and the organic, & forming a rigid & unbroken  
series: & in which They have conceived

Each moss,  
Each shell, each crawling insect holds a rank  
Important in the plan of him who formed  
This scale of beings - holds a rank, which, lost,  
would break the chain, & leave behind a gap  
Which Nature self would see,"

No, we do not constitute a link in this great chain,  
but like Jupiter's Minerva, we sprang into

6  
existence, a distinct-genus from the whole system  
of Nature,

Man essentially differing from the whole  
animal creation, in his outward form, is born,  
nourished, reproduced, and dies in a similar  
manner, with him, death is but the stepping-  
stone to a higher and more glorious stage of  
action, The Temple is destroyed, but it is  
only for a short time, for when the "seventh  
Angel lifts the last trumpet, and pours  
forth the last vial," it will be rebuilt  
with renewed splendor and magnificence,

It is our intention merely to pay a passing  
compliment to the Inward structure of the Temple.  
A minute description of its anatomy, an enquiry  
into the functions of its different organs,  
we are totally unable to give, and were we  
able, our time would not admit of the  
digression.

"Innervation, Circulation, and Respiration;  
 Constituting the vital tripod." The maintenance  
 of which being essential to the permanency  
 of the Temple, require a passing notice.

In the Cranium is seated the brain, the  
 intellectual apparatus of man, and by the  
 cultivation and improvement of its functions,  
 he is rendered superior to all animal creation,  
 the "monarch of all he surveys."

The brain is beautiful even in its  
 intimate structure; its functions are of  
 a high, and noble character; 'tis the centre  
 of nervous influence, the life force of the Temple.

Many bold and staggering theories have  
 been given us of its mode, and manner of  
 action, some have compared it to an electric  
 battery, the brain proper, the battery, and  
 the nerves, the wires or medium, by which  
 it-transmits its impressions to the different



## Parts of The Temple.

Man from being a mere Savage, a mere walking automaton, visiting upon Nature's bountiful products, in the garden of Eden; has by an improvement of his mental faculties attained a state approximating Deity's Self,

Deprive man of his rational faculties, and his condition would be pitiable indeed, surpassing the Bengal Tiger in the ferocity and savageness of his disposition, nature's wilds would be his proper dwelling place, and the Temple now made so noble by their presence, would be fit only for the incendiary's torch.

But let us continue the examination of this Divine Edifice; the heart will next claim our attention. It was long considered, and is yet by some, as the seat of the moral manifestations, but we shall

only notice its structure, the harmony and beauty of its design, and its agency in the circulation of the fluids.

The circulation of the blood, until the splendid genius of a Harvey, startled the medical world by a bold and truthful exposition of its *modus operandi*, was comparatively unknown.

The effect of this discovery, was the complete revolution of the science of medicine. It ushered in the commencement of a new era, the brightness and glory of which, had not been obscured by a single cloud. All honor then to the noble Harvey, no stately piles, nor sculptured monuments have been reared to perpetuate his name, but he has a more noble, a more enduring monument in the remembrance of a Profession, which his own genius

10

Contributed so much to exalt, and ennoble,  
And it will be remembered as long as Medicine  
remains a science.

Nowhere in the whole range of Nature,  
is the impress of a divine hand more  
strikingly illustrated than in the mechanism  
of the apparatus, designed to circulate the  
fluids throughout the Temple.

The great reservoir of the fluids, its  
aguments, and canals, constitute within  
themselves a study of much interest.

The reservoir is a stomach peculiar to itself,  
it consists of four cavities containing nearly  
the same quantity of fluid; with columns  
to strengthen their walls, and having valves  
to prevent the regurgitation of the fluids.

Differing in its action from that of  
hydrostatic pressure, its walls seem to have the  
power of contracting upon themselves,

71

This power they undoubtedly possess, and by this contraction, the fluids are expelled from the reservoir into the main arteries, and by means of innumerable canals, it penetrates throughout the entire structure, carrying with it fresh material for the nourishment of its organs, and in return taking up, or absorbing the debris which is not essential in its economy -

We are informed by those who have made this a subject of careful study (and the truth of their assertions are now clearly & fully established) that this fluid requires only one minute and a half, to perform the entire circuit of the Temple, the minute and a half, and forcibly it impresses us with a sense of our own insignificance. Man having almost annihilated space by the application of the elements, retraveling time by the assistance of electricity; learning the hidden knowledge of the other world

By spiritual mediums, has almost-Juneia  
 himself equal to the divine architect of the Temple.  
 But if this folly should possess him, let  
 him return and look upon the grandeur  
 of its proportions, inspect the beauty of its  
 design, the harmony, the execution, & finish  
 of the structure, and it will remind him  
 that his is not a statue to outlast the  
 monumental brass, and that he is but  
 a worm of the dust.

This fluid is endowed with wonderful  
 capacity, containing within itself all the  
 elements necessary in the reparation of tissue,  
 bone, cartilage, muscles, nerves, veins & arteries,  
 it ramifies to every part of the Temple, carrying  
 with material for restoration. It is so intimately  
 blended with the exterior surface of the  
 Temple, that a fracture made with the most  
 minute instrument, is sufficient to permit of its escape.

13  
Knowing then the important part  
which the circulation of the fluids play  
in the organism of the Temple, we should  
remember that we must be ever watchful,  
and ever ready to repair the slightest injury  
done to this circulatory apparatus, seeing  
that if the "Golden bowl be broken," that  
this splendid edifice will fall, & be crumbled  
into ruins.

The manner in which the Temple is ventilated,  
the ingress and egress of the air, the changes  
produced by it upon the circulating fluid,  
constitute interesting phenomena.

Entering by one passage, it is conducted  
to the "Inner Temple," penetrating the millions  
of cells constituting the respiratory apparatus.  
There an interchange takes place between  
the gaseous matters on the two sides - the  
atmosphere parting with its purifying,

and invigorating constituent, the oxygen,  
and in return receiving the Carbonic  
Acid, which is exhaled from the  
circulating fluid,

Having noticed the signal part which  
the circulation of the fluids plays, in  
the organism of the Temple, some idea  
of the importance of its ventilation may  
be conceived, when we understand, that  
it is from the atmosphere, the circulating  
fluid receives the stimulus, which is  
necessary to keep it coursing through its  
proper channels,

The more we study the structure and  
organism of the Temple, the more we  
are impressed with the belief, that  
the proper study of "Man kind is man"

From it, the Architect has learned  
to give harmony and beauty to his designs,

18  
The Sculptor, must study well the anatomy  
of the glutei muscles, in order to give beauty  
and symmetry to his Statuary.

The Artist, can here find traits of the  
most beautiful and delicate nature,

How necessary then, that we, who with  
youngardent enthusiasm, having devoted  
ourselves to the pursuit of a science, so exalted  
so noble, so useful as that of medicine, should  
study well 'The Inside work of The Temple.

We should improve every opportunity.  
Study diligently in the days of our youth.  
For we should remember that "Vix est  
longa, vita est brevis."