CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

CAMBRIDGE LIBRARY COLLECTION

Books of enduring scholarly value

History of Medicine

It is sobering to realise that as recently as the year in which *On the Origin of Species* was published, learned opinion was that diseases such as typhus and cholera were spread by a 'miasma', and suggestions that doctors should wash their hands before examining patients were greeted with mockery by the profession. The Cambridge Library Collection reissues milestone publications in the history of Western medicine as well as studies of other medical traditions. Its coverage ranges from Galen on anatomical procedures to Florence Nightingale's common-sense advice to nurses, and includes early research into genetics and mental health, colonial reports on tropical diseases, documents on public health and military medicine, and publications on spa culture and medicinal plants.

The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.

The surgeon and anatomist John Hunter (1728–93) left a famous legacy in the Hunterian Museum of medical specimens now in the Royal College of Surgeons, and in this collection of his writings, edited by James Palmer, with a biography by Drewry Ottley, published between 1835 and 1837. The first four volumes are of text, and the larger Volume 5 contains plates. Hunter had begun his career as a demonstrator in the anatomy classes of his brother William, before qualifying as a surgeon. He regarded surgery as evidence of failure – the mutilation of a patient who could not be cured by other means – and his studies of anatomy and natural history were driven by his belief that it was necessary to understand the normal physiological processes before attempting to cure the abnormal ones. Volume 1 contains Ottley's biography, a list of Hunter's published works, and his lectures on surgery.

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

Cambridge University Press has long been a pioneer in the reissuing of out-of-print titles from its own backlist, producing digital reprints of books that are still sought after by scholars and students but could not be reprinted economically using traditional technology. The Cambridge Library Collection extends this activity to a wider range of books which are still of importance to researchers and professionals, either for the source material they contain, or as landmarks in the history of their academic discipline.

Drawing from the world-renowned collections in the Cambridge University Library and other partner libraries, and guided by the advice of experts in each subject area, Cambridge University Press is using state-of-the-art scanning machines in its own Printing House to capture the content of each book selected for inclusion. The files are processed to give a consistently clear, crisp image, and the books finished to the high quality standard for which the Press is recognised around the world. The latest print-on-demand technology ensures that the books will remain available indefinitely, and that orders for single or multiple copies can quickly be supplied.

The Cambridge Library Collection brings back to life books of enduring scholarly value (including out-of-copyright works originally issued by other publishers) across a wide range of disciplines in the humanities and social sciences and in science and technology.

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.

Volume 1

Edited by James F. Palmer

CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge, CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.
It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108079570

© in this compilation Cambridge University Press 2015

This edition first published 1835
This digitally printed version 2015

ISBN 978-1-108-07957-0 Paperback

This book reproduces the text of the original edition. The content and language reflect the beliefs, practices and terminology of their time, and have not been updated.

Cambridge University Press wishes to make clear that the book, unless originally published by Cambridge, is not being republished by, in association or collaboration with, or with the endorsement or approval of, the original publisher or its successors in title.

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

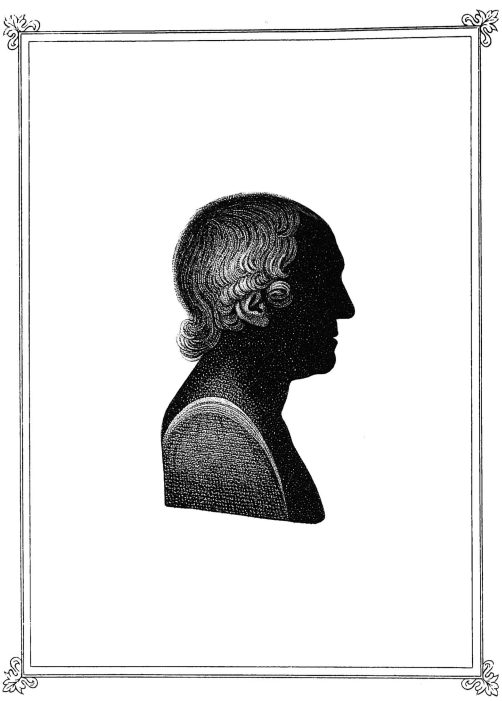
CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information



JOHN HUNTER.

Engraved by G Mo

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

THE

WORKS

OF

JOHN HUNTER, F.R.S.

WITH

NOTES.

EDITED BY

JAMES F. PALMER,

SENIOR SURGEON TO THE ST. GEORGE'S AND ST. JAMES'S DISPENSARY; FELLOW OF THE ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, ETC.

IN FOUR VOLUMES,

ILLUSTRATED BY A VOLUME OF PLATES, IN QUARTO.

VOL. I.

LONDON:

PUBLISHED BY

LONGMAN, REES, ORME, BROWN, GREEN; AND LONGMAN,

PATERNOSTER-ROW.

1835.

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

PRINTED BY RICHARD TAYLOR,
RED LION COURT, FLEET STREET.

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

TO

THE GOVERNORS AND MEDICAL OFFICERS
OF ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL

THE FOLLOWING EDITION

OF THE

COLLECTED WORKS OF JOHN HUNTER

IS RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED

BY THEIR OBEDIENT

AND OBLIGED SERVANT,

J. F. PALMER.

London, September 1835.

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

PREFATORY ADVERTISEMENT.

THOSE who have traced the progress of modern surgery to its true source will not fail to have discerned, in the principles which Hunter established, the germs of almost all the improvements which have been since introduced. Like a wise master-builder, he laid the foundation of the profession upon so broad a basis that it has withstood the attacks of adversaries and the versatility of public opinion not only uninjured, but with fresh accession of fame to himself, and (with few exceptions,) the most complete verification of his opinions. The strict inductive method of reasoning which he pursued, upon physiological subjects, led the way to juster modes of investigation; the zeal which he evinced stimulated many ardent followers in the path which he had opened, and the principles which he inculcated became the fruitful source of an infinity of practical applications, which were capable of being worked out by inferior minds. Thus the fame of Hunter, after a lapse of nearly half a century, is rather augmented than diminished by each succeeding year: the country which

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

gave him birth is justly proud of his name; and those who have shown the deepest insight into the principles of their profession, and made the greatest improvements in the practice of it, have ever been most forward in celebrating his merits.

But it is unnecessary to enlarge further on the celebrity of this distinguished philosopher, of whom it has been truly said, that "he was the greatest man in the combined character of physiologist and surgeon that the whole annals of medicine can furnish*." For a more full account of the character of Hunter's genius, and the peculiarities of his works, the Editor begs leave to refer the reader to the ensuing memoir, in which the language of indiscriminate panegyric, so freely employed by his preceding biographers, has given place to the voice of truth. His merits have been weighed in a just balance, and the less favourable parts of his character, as a man and as a philosopher, pointed out without disguise.

The reconstruction and enlargement of the Hunterian Museum, together with the publication of well-digested catalogues of its contents, seem well calculated to extend the fame of its founder, as well as to fix it on a more rational foundation. To the Editor these circumstances have appeared to afford a favourable occasion for the re-publication of Mr. Hunter's writings, considering that as all his labours were directed to the elucidation of the laws of life, they can only be advantageously studied in their totality. Those,

* Lawrence.

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

therefore, who have familiarized themselves with his style and mode of thought, as displayed in his writings, possess the best clue to his museum; as, on the other hand, those who have made themselves well acquainted with the contents of his museum, possess the best guide in the perusal of his works. The two may be regarded as forming necessary parts of that general undertaking in which the author was engaged; his writings forming the text to his museum,—his museum the appropriate illustration of his writings.

It cannot but be a subject of deep regret to all those who have the interests of science or of their profession at heart, that no one should have undertaken to collect these writings before. Dispersed through scattered volumes of the Transactions of the Royal and other learned Societies, many of his most valuable papers have been unknown or neglected, or at least have been inaccessible to the great bulk of the profession; while of those which have been published separately, some are nearly out of print and scarcely to be obtained, others are extremely incorrect, and the greater number are excluded from general circulation in consequence of their expensive form or inconvenient bulk. To remove these disadvantages, by presenting to the profession a cheap and correct edition of the author's *whole works*, has been one of the principal objects of the present edition.

It was considered that the utility of the work would be greatly promoted by an incorporation of the most important results of modern discoveries, in the form of

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

foot notes; and in the prosecution of this part of his scheme the Editor has to acknowledge the able assistance of several distinguished friends, whose particular acquaintance with the subjects which they have respectively undertaken is well known to the public. As far as possible brevity has been consulted, and it is scarcely necessary to add, that each gentleman is alone responsible for the opinions contained in his own notes.

The illustrations to this edition (comprehending 348 figures, in 61 plates,) embrace the whole of those which accompanied the original publications, and, with the exception of those on the teeth, and two or three others, (which have been newly executed by Mr. Basire,) are impressions from the original plates, which have been re-touched, by the permission of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons, wherever it was found necessary, from the Hunterian drawings and preparations. To these have been added several others, together with the celebrated engraving of Hunter by Sharp, after Sir Joshua Reynolds, and a medallion head taken from the author's bust in the Royal College of Surgeons, by Flaxman.

For the ability to render the work thus complete, the Editor is indebted to the learned Council of the Royal Society, to whom he is obliged for the use of the splendid engravings attached to Mr. Hunter's papers in the Philosophical Transactions, as well as to Sir Benjamin Brodie, for his prompt and liberal assistance in procuring him this permission. The Editor has particular satisfaction in expressing, in the most public

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

manner, his grateful acknowledgements to both these parties.

The superiority of the present edition above all the preceding will appear from the following particulars:—

1. It embraces the *whole* of Mr. Hunter's published works.
2. It contains a full and collated copy of his Surgical and Croonian Lectures.
3. It is preceded by a new life of the author, containing original anecdotes, a critical disquisition concerning the character and writings of the author, and a summary exposition of his Museum; to which has also been added Mr. Hunter's correspondence with Dr. Jenner and Sir Joseph Banks.
4. It is illustrated by the whole of the original engravings, to which several others have been added.
5. The whole work is accompanied by illustrative notes, with the purpose of supplying such deficiencies as the progress of science has rendered necessary.
6. The text has been corrected, the punctuation rectified, and the modern synonyms introduced. Obscurities (so far as they have appeared to depend on improprieties of expression,) have been obviated, and a copious index has been added to the whole.
7. The work has been printed in a clear and legible type, at the same time that the size and price of the Edition, and the manner of its publication, have been accommodated to the convenience of purchasers.

Having thus stated the design and object of the undertaking, it is hoped that the reader will not be disappointed in his expectations. The writer is well aware that the works of so great a master deserve a much more learned and critical Editor than he can pretend

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

to be. He begs, however, that it may be borne in mind, that so far as he is concerned, the work is not designed for those who have completed, but for those who are commencing their profession, and if he has failed in the execution of his task, he at least will have the satisfaction of having attempted a good work, which ought, in his opinion, to have been long since finished by a more able hand.

J. F. PALMER.

London, 38, *Golden Square*, *September* 1835.

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

CONTENTS OF VOL. I.

Life of John Hunter, by Drewry Ottley.

Appendix, containing

1. Chronological history of Mr. Hunter's Writings.
2. An account of the Editions of Mr. Hunter's Works.
3. Mr. Hunter's evidence on the Trial of Capt. Donellan.

Surgical Lectures, with Notes by J. F. Palmer.

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

THE LIFE

OF

JOHN HUNTER, F.R.S.

BY

DREWRY OTTLEY.

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

Sir

I beg leave to solicit your vote and interest for Dr Baillie my Nephew to succeed to an approaching vacancy of Physician to St George's Hospital.

He received his Literary education at Oxford, his medical education at the several schools of medicine in London and at St George's Hospital; and is a Teacher of Anatomy in Windmill Street having succeeded to the late Dr Hunter under whom he studied Anatomy –

He is supported as a Candidate by the Physicians of the Hospital

Leicester Square
May 31.

I am Dear Sir
Your Most Obedt Servant
John Hunter

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

LIFE OF JOHN HUNTER, F.R.S.

CONTENTS.

INTRODUCTION TO THE LIFE ..... *page* xix

CHAPTER I.

Hunter's birth and family.—his early habits;—Dr. Wm. Hunter's rise to fame;—his difficulties at the outset of life.—Mr. Hunter's arrival in London;—his rapid acquisition of anatomical knowledge;—becomes a pupil of Cheselden.—Cheselden's mode of operating for stone;—his character and death.—Mr. Hunter's employments at this period;—the advantages which he derives from his brother's society ..... *page* 1

CHAPTER II.

Hunter becomes a pupil of Pott.—Pott's character as a surgeon.—Hunter enters at St. Mary's Hall, Oxford;—enters as a pupil at St. George's Hospital;—discovers the mode of connexion between the placenta and uterus;—his conduct as a lecturer and demonstrator of anatomy.—Disputes of the Hunters with contemporaneous anatomists respecting the anatomy of the testes, the office of the lymphatics, and the hernia congenita.—Hunter traces the nerves of the nose;—his experiments on the subject of venous absorption;—commences the pursuit of comparative anatomy;—embarks for Belleisle;—is still ardent in the pursuit of science.—Jesse Foot and his Life of Hunter ..... *page* 12

CHAPTER III.

Hunter settles in London.—Alienation between the brothers.—His straitened circumstances;—his favourable position in other respects.—Patience and fortitude required of young surgeons.—Obstacles to Hunter's success;—his contempt of humbug;—his

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

thirst for fame and knowledge greater than his love of wealth; —delivers lectures on anatomy;—his persevering industry.—The state of surgery at this period.—The plan of his vast future labours conceived and entered upon.—The Baconian philosophy. —Earl's Court.—His encounter with a bull and two leopards; —is made F.R.S.—His description of the Proteus;—ruptures his tendo Achillis;—is elected surgeon to St. George's Hospital; removes to Jermyn-street.—Dr. Hunter's liberal offer to the Government rejected.—Mr. Hunter's house-pupils.—The pupils of distinguished surgeons themselves become distinguished.—Dr. Jenner;—his immortal discovery of vaccination.—Mr. Hunter's treatise on the teeth;—his marriage.—Mrs. Hunter . *page* 23

CHAPTER IV.

Mr. Hunter's paper on the digestion of the stomach;—his museum;—his private practice;—his illness, attended with a cessation of the heart's action;—his correspondence with Dr. Jenner;—his paper on the torpedo;—his lectures on surgery;—his character as a lecturer.—Hunter effects a revolution in surgery. his paper on the receptacles for air in birds, and on the stomach of the gillaroo trout.—The general character of his monographs. —Mr. Bell.—Mr. Hunter's warmth of temper;—his method of employing his time;—his punctuality.—Anecdote of Mr. Cline. —Dictates his various compositions;—his domestic habits;—contemplates the establishment of a school of natural history;—his paper on the heat of animals and vegetables;—is appointed surgeon extraordinary to the King;—his paper on the recovery of drowned persons;—Croonian lectures;—correspondence;—is attacked with an alarming illness, attended with peculiar symptoms;—his visit to Bath;—his character as an experimentalist;—his second part on the teeth;—his expenses and difficulties . . . . . *page* 42

CHAPTER V.

Mr. Hunter's paper on the hermaphrodite black cattle;—his anxiety for rare specimens to enrich his museum;—renewal of the disagreement between him and his brother.—Mr. Hunter's paper on smallpox during pregnancy;—his paper on the hen pheasant. —Trial of Sir T. Boughton.—Croonian lectures.—His paper on the organ of hearing in fishes;—removes to Leicester-square;—

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

assists in forming the Society for the Improvement of Medical and Chirurgical Knowledge.—Charlatanism.—Correspondence.—Mr. Hunter's notion of the immateriality of matter from the theory of colours;—his paper on the inflammation of veins;—his fame and practice at this time;—his merits as an operating surgeon;—his illness returns;—his second visit to Bath;—Mr. Home acts as his assistant.—Mr. Hunter's paper on the double-coned Terebella;—his operation for popliteal aneurism;—is appointed Deputy Surgeon-general to the Army;—his treatise on the Venereal Disease;—his work on the Animal Œconomy;—prints his own works at his own house;—his paper on the Wolf, Jackal, and Dog;—his paper on Whales.—The giant O'Brien.—Obtains the Copley medal;—opens his museum to the public.—Mr. Home and Mr. Keate appointed assistant surgeons at St. George's Hospital.—Sits for his portrait to Sir Joshua Reynolds.—Sharpe's engraving.—Death of Pott;—comparison between him and Hunter.—Pott's character ..... *page* 73

CHAPTER VI.

Mr. Hunter's high station in the profession at this period;—anecdote of his early rising.—Mr. Thomas.—Sir A. Carlisle.—Mr. Lynn.—Instance of Mr. Hunter's generosity;—stands godfather to Dr. Jenner's first child;—his paper on intussusception;—his paper on paralysis of the œsophagus.—Mr. Home's paper on the formation of loose cartilages;—White's New South Wales.—Mr. Hunter's illness:—his violence of temper;—his style of living;—his fondness for bees;—his Tory politics.—Funeral of Sir Joshua Reynolds.—Mr. Hunter's paper on bees;—his letter to Sir Joseph Banks on this subject;—his surgical lectures;—his work on the blood and inflammation.—Veterinary College established.—Mr. Hunter's disagreement with his colleagues at St. George's Hospital;—his death, and character as a private man and as a philosopher;—his will and effects;—the purchase of his museum.—Correspondence between Lord Auckland and Sir Joseph Banks on this subject.—The terms on which this purchase was finally made.—Rebuilding of the College of Surgeons ..... *page* 113

CHAPTER VII.

The Hunterian Museum ..... *page* 145

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

INTRODUCTION TO THE LIFE.

BESIDES several brief memoirs of John Hunter which have appeared in various works of general biography, his life has already been written at considerable length by three different authors. Neither of these publications, however, furnishes us with more than a very imperfect account of his character, either as a private individual or as a Natural Philosopher.

The memoir by Sir Everard Home, prefixed to the work on Inflammation, is a scanty outline, almost wholly devoid of those characteristic anecdotes which form so essential a part of biography, and which his near connexion with Mr. Hunter would have enabled him to introduce; whilst nearly a third part of the whole is occupied with a detailed account of his various illnesses. The memoirs by Dr. Adams, and Mr. Jesse Foot, stand in singular contrast to each other, the former displaying everywhere marks of indiscriminate and unbounded partiality towards Mr. Hunter, the latter of bitter hostility, leading to the most flagrant misrepresentations of facts.

It appeared, therefore, if not necessary, at least ap-

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

propriate and desirable, to prefix to this new and revised edition of his writings, a full and impartial account of this eminent man.

It is known to most of those who have kindly furnished information for this work, that Mr. Palmer did at first intend himself to have undertaken the office of Mr. Hunter's biographer; and he feels that some apology is due to those from whom he received communications under this supposition, for transferring the task to another.

A want of sufficient time to execute the task was the chief, if not the only reason, for his declining to fulfil his intention; and it was only when satisfied that such was the fact that I consented to engage in an undertaking which I should gladly have seen continued in more able hands.

In fulfilling the charge with which I have been entrusted, I have endeavoured to avail myself of all the information respecting Mr. Hunter to be found in preceding publications; nor have I scrupled to adopt the opinions of others regarding him where I thought them correct.

In addition to the materials gathered from these sources, I have been enabled to enrich this memoir with the whole of the letters written by Mr. Hunter to Dr. Jenner, during a friendship of more than twenty years' duration. The originals of these, many of which have already appeared in Dr. Baron's Life of Jenner, were liberally communicated to Mr. Palmer by Robert Fitzhardinge Jenner, Esq., of Berkeley.

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

The letters of Hunter to Sir Joseph Banks, as well as the interesting correspondence between the latter and Lord Auckland, respecting the Museum, were obtained through the kind intervention of Dawson Turner, Esq., of Yarmouth, to whom were entrusted the whole of Sir Joseph Banks's papers, by his executor, Sir Edward Knatchbull.

During the time that Mr. Palmer contemplated writing this life himself, he was at the pains to gather as much general information, and as many authentic anecdotes as possible, respecting the subject of this memoir, from his surviving friends and pupils. Of these anecdotes, many of which are highly characteristic, I have introduced by far the greater number; some which I have inserted may be thought so trivial as scarcely to have merited notice, but I have preferred rather to risk having this laid to my charge than to omit anything that might serve to illustrate Hunter's real character.

It will be seen from what I have said that my duty has been greatly lightened by having the already accumulated materials placed at my disposal; in addition to this I have to acknowledge the receipt of many valuable suggestions from my friend Mr. Palmer, respecting the various parts of the work,—suggestions from which I have rarely dissented, but which have often made me regret that circumstances prevented his being able himself to carry them into execution. How far I may have satisfactorily accomplished what I have undertaken, is not for me to judge. I will not pretend

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-07957-0 - The Works of John Hunter, F.R.S.: Volume 1
Edited by James F. Palmer
Frontmatter
More information

to indifference respecting the judgment that others may come to on the point; on the contrary, it would afford me much satisfaction to feel that my time had not been uselessly employed, but that I had succeeded in furnishing, what has been hitherto a desideratum in medical literature, a full and faithful account of the life of John Hunter.

DREWRY OTTLEY.

Exeter, March 3rd, 1835.

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org