

A concise memorandum of certain articles contained in the museum of S.L. Mitchill ... Professor in the College of Physicians and Surgeons at New-York : prepared for the committee of visitors [sic] / [Samuel L. Mitchill].

Contributors

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A CONCISE

MEMORANDUM

OF CERTAIN ARTICLES

Contained in the Museum of

SAMUEL L. MITCHELL, M. & L.L.D. & C.

A TRUSTEE AND PROFESSOR IN THE COLLEGE OF
PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS AT NEW-YORK :

PREPARED FOR THE

COMMITTEE OF VISITERS

APPOINTED BY THE

REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY.



E. CONRAD, PRINTER, 4 FRANKFORT-ST. NEW-YORK.



MEMORANDUM

Contained in the Museum of

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS

RECEIVED OF THE UNIVERSITY

A CONCISE

MEMORANDUM, &c.

THE Commission of the Professor constitutes him their public Agent to teach Botany and Materia Medica.

Accordingly he has procured the means of illustrating the subjects of his department :

I. IN BOTANY.

1. By an ample Library on that branch of medical and natural Science, upon the classes of Linnæus and the orders of Jussieu.

2. By Port-Folios of Prints and Drawings, showing the matters that Students are expected to learn.

3. By a collection of *wet* Preparations, exhibiting various rare and curious productions.

4. By an extensive Herbarium, or series of *dried* vegetables, procured from different parts of the globe, and more especially from North America.

5. By constant arrivals of the Seeds and living Roots of Plants, memorable for their uses in medicine, diet, and the arts.

6. By correspondence with accomplished Travellers, Observers and Collectors, of new and excellent things, in the Vegetable Reign of Nature.

II. IN MATERIA MEDICA.

1. By a body of Articles, obtained with great care, and expense ; intended to demonstrate the several subjects comprehended within the course of Lectures.

(a) In Zoology—Zoophytes—Worms—Leeches—Cantharides—Poisons—Hydatids—Sperma Ceti—Bezoars—Os Sæpiæ—Adipocire, &c.

(b) In Mineralogy, by Articles of the most select kinds ; appertaining to *the Earths*, as

The Carbonates of Lime—Chalk—Pearls—Corals—Stalactites, &c.

The Sulphates of Lime ; Gypsums and Selenites, in a variety of forms, from the most distant places.

The Phosphates, Fluates, and other interesting modifications.

Magnesia, in the forms of Hydrate, Carbonate, Sulphate, &c.

Appertaining to the *Metals* ; such as the Ores and Preparations of

Antimony,	Arsenic,
Zinc,	Copper,
Iron,	Silver,
Gold,	Tin,
Lead,	Mercury,
Bismuth,	Cobalt, &c. &c.

In the best forms in which they exist.

Appertaining to the *Salts*—as for example, Potash, Soda, and Ammoniac, through their respective combinations and associations, to an extensive amount.

Appertaining to the *Inflammables*, comprehending Sulphurs, Bitumens, Petroleums, Coals, &c. in abundant variety.

(c) In the Vegetable and other Reigns :

A Collection of Articles, arranged, according to the prevailing System of Therapeutics, under the several heads of

Nutrients,	Counter-Stimulants,
Emetics,	Narcotics,
Astringents,	Cathartics,
Tonics,	Antispasmodics,
Sudorifics,	Anthelmintics,
Expectorants,	Diuretics,
Sialagogues,	Errhines,
Refrigerants,	Emmenagogues,
Demulcents,	Emollients,
Caustics,	Rubefacients,
Epispastics,	Diluents,
Alteratives, &c. &c. ;	

to give a full and just idea of the several Classes of Remedies, and their modes of acting upon the living system.

To these the Professor has added a suitable assortment of Books, for affording the necessary instruction on the divers and important matters intrusted to him.

As the Sciences have innumerable and perpetual bearings upon each other, and possess indissoluble ties and connections, it has been the Professor's lot, while labouring to accomplish the aforesaid objects, almost unavoidably to receive and preserve other productions ; such as,

1. *In Geology* :

(a) An assemblage of Organic Remains, or Medals of Nature, from various countries, showing the state of the Antediluvian World. That from our own section of the Globe is peculiarly rich.

(b) An assortment of Volcanic Productions, from Hecla, Etna, Vesuvius, Teneriffe, the Sandwich Islands, the East Indies, and elsewhere.

2. *In Antiquities*.—Ruins from Babylon, Baiæ, Pompeii, Herculaneum, Carthage, Aquileia, and other memorable places.

3. *In Mazology*.—A set of Preparations, illustrative of the classification of Mammiferous Animals: Skulls, Teeth, Extremities, Horns, Claws, &c.

4. *In Conchology*.—A parcel of well assorted Specimens, to show the genera and species belonging to the extensive and curious classes of Molluscous Animals, inhabiting shells.

5. *In Polypology*.—A display of the structures raised by the radiary creatures inhabiting the ocean, under the names of the Lithophytes and Zoophytes, &c. &c.

6. *In Technology*.—Specimens exhibiting the progress of the Arts in the different stages of Society, from rudeness to refinement; such as Mexican Paintings, Chippewa writing, Polynesian Idols, Aboriginal Tools, &c. &c.

7. *In Comparative Anatomy*.—Articles procured by industry and good fortune, throwing light upon the organ-

ization and functions, of various Animals, not commonly seen or generally known.

8. *In the structure of the Globe.*—A collection of the several formations of Rocks, belonging to the strata of our Planet, in their primitive, transition, secondary, diluvian and alluvial dispositions, which have been noticed by, or are accessible to man. Specimens of various recent Metals, such as Tungstein, Uranite, Tellurium, Chrome, Titanium, &c. as well as of Platina.

9. *In Toxicology.*—An extensive collection of venomous productions, drugs, fangs, &c. with their cures and antidotes.

The Museum is almost daily increased by some additional fact, article, production or thing, adding substantially to its magnitude and value.

The consequence of this perpetual arrival of supplies is, that the means and facilities of communicating instruction are proportionally increased, and that each course of lectures is an improvement upon that which preceded it.

The great means of enlarging the stock on hand, are afforded by easy and frequent intercourse between the City of New-York, and the interior regions, and with almost every maritime portion of the Terraqueous Globe.

He explains the principles of *Pharmacy*, or of the art by which medicines are prepared, and confirms them by experiments, for the better understanding of the *Pharmacopœia*, that indispensable book.

It is the invariable practice of the Professor, to teach by Specimen, Picture, Map, Diagram, Table, &c. to the whole extent of which such representations are susceptible; under a conviction that material objects, aid most impressively the abstract conceptions of the understanding.

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