

After all, however, the differences are not great and I am sure the theory and the phenomena of A.P. are as carefully and well presented in your book as they are likely to be in the 19th. or perhaps the 20th. century. To have such a work dedicated to me is a great solace in my old age, and helps to convince me that I have not lived quite in vain.

Yours very truly,
W.T.Gairdner.

Angina Pectoris.

CUS417/93.7

"An enquiry into the symptoms and causes of
the Syncope Anginosa"

By C.H. Parry.

Bath 1799.

p. 34. "Although there can be no reason to doubt that mankind must have been subject to this disorder from the remotest antiquity, it is somewhat extraordinary that so many ages should have elapsed without any notice of its existence either as a distinct disease, or as a variety of one commonly known".

"It has been suggested to me by a learned physician, that this was the disorder under which Seneca, in his 54th. epistle, thus describes himself as labouring"; - "Disease had given me a long furlough: on a sudden it attacked me. Of what kind? You say; - I am, as it were, consigned over to one disease only; but by what Greek name to call it, I know not. It may properly enough be denominated sighing. The attack is very short, and like a storm. It usually ends within an hour. I have undergone all bodily infirmities and dangers, but none appears to me more grievous. Why not? Because to have any other malady is only to be sick; to have this is to be dying. But I, in the very midst of suffocation, have not omitted to indulge cheerful and resolute reflections. What is this? I say, etc. With these and similar exhortations I have addressed myself; silently indeed, for I could not speak. At length, by degrees, that sighing, which by this time has begun to change into common breathing, has returned at longer intervals, has become slower, and disappeared. But even now, though it has ceased, my breathing is not natural. It seems to be attended with a sort of hesitation and delay. Be it as it will, provided I do not sigh from the heart."

"Such is the pathetic description given of his own complaint, a complaint which however, seems to me rather a disorder of respiration than the Angina Pectoris. For though the Angina Pectoris may be accompanied with dyspnœa, the specific paroxysms of the Angina Pectoris, as I shall hereafter endeavour to shew are not attacks of difficult breathing."

(Reference given) Seneca Lipsii 1605 p.474. 475.

And in the end of the Volume he has copied the following paragraph from eminent Victorians.

"He was haunted by forebodings of an early death. Towards the end of May 1842, in his 47th. year, he began to keep a diary. June 11th. after a hard day's work he spent the evening with a friend discussing among other things a favorite topic - the comparison of the art of medicine in barbarous and civilized ages. In his diary of that eve he says, "how nearly can I now say, 'Vixi'." "Early next morning he awoke with a sharp pain in his chest. The pain increasing a physician was sent for, and in the meantime Mrs. Arnold read aloud to her husband the fifty-first Psalm. Upon one of their boys coming into the room "My son, thank God for me" said Dr. Arnold, and as the boy did not catch his meaning he added, Thank God Tom, for giving me this pain. I have suffered so little pain in my life that I feel it is very good for me. Now God has given it to me and I do so thank Him for it" Then Mrs. Arnold read from the Prayer Book the "Visitation of the Sick", her husband listening with deep attention, and assenting with an emphatic 'yes' at the end of many of the sentences. When the physician arrived he perceived at once the gravity of the case; it was an attack of Angine Pectoris. He began to prepare some laudanum, while Mrs. Arnold sent out to fetch the children. All at once as the medical man was bending over his glasses there was a rattle from the bed, a convulsive struggle followed and when the unhappy woman with the children and all the servants rushed into the room, Dr. Arnold had passed from his perplexities for ever."

Eminent Victorians. by Lytton Strachy.
1918 p.211