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[John Call Dalton Lecture Memoranda Books](#)

**DALTON, JOHN CALL, 1825-1889.**

**Lecture memoranda books, c. 1875-1883.**

**2 volumes.**

**BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE:** Professor of physiology at the College of Physicians and Surgeons (1855-1883) and later President of the College (1884-1889), Dalton was one of the first full-time professors of physiology in the U.S., foregoing a regular medical practice to focus on teaching and research.

He received his undergraduate (1844) and medical (1847) degrees from Harvard and interned at Massachusetts General Hospital. After a study year in Europe, during which he spent most of his time in the laboratory of Claude Bernard in Paris, Dalton taught at medical schools in Buffalo and Vermont before joining the College of Physicians and Surgeons (P&S). He died in New York City on Feb. 12, 1889.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT:** Lecture notes and memoranda of John Call Dalton, Jr., professor of physiology at the College of Physicians and Surgeons (P&S) in New York.

One volume (71 p.) is entitled “Lecture memoranda made for his own use...” and documents his lectures on the nervous system. According to a note in the volume by John G. Curtis, he received the volume directly from Dalton while Curtis was adjunct professor of physiology and hygiene at the College, meaning that it must date between 1875 – when Curtis joined the P&S faculty – and 1883 when Curtis succeeded Dalton as professor of physiology at P&S.

The second volume (82 p.) is untitled but includes Dalton’s notes for his physiology lectures at P&S. Topics include the heart, lymphatic system, digestion, gastric juices, and other physiological processes. This is a copy made in 1875 by John G. Curtis from Dalton’s notes.

**LANGUAGE:** English.

**ACCESS:** Unrestricted.

**PROVENANCE:** Presumably received through Curtis, perhaps included in his library which was purchased by P&S in 1914.

**Subjects:**

College of Physicians and Surgeons in the City of New York.

Medicine – Study and teaching – United States.

Nervous system – Anatomy and histology.

Physiology – Study and teaching – United States.