



Wars, Pestilence and the Surgeon's Blade: The Evolution of British Military Medicine and Surgery during the Nineteenth Century (Helion Studies Inmilitary History)

Thomas Scotland

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

Wars, Pestilence and the Surgeon's Blade: The Evolution of British Military Medicine and Surgery during the Nineteenth Century (Helion Studies Inmilitary History)

Thomas Scotland

Wars, Pestilence and the Surgeon's Blade: The Evolution of British Military Medicine and Surgery during the Nineteenth Century (Helion Studies Inmilitary History) Thomas Scotland

Wars in the 19th Century were accompanied by a very heavy loss of life from infectious diseases. Typhus fever, dysentery, malaria, typhoid fever and yellow fever caused many more deaths than wounds inflicted by enemy actions. During the Peninsular War, for example, for every soldier dying of a wound, four succumbed to disease. This book examines the development and evolution of surgical practice against this overwhelming risk of death due to disease. It reviews three major conflicts during this time: the Peninsular War, the Crimean War and the Boer War and also considers many minor wars fought by the British Empire in the intervening years, and highlights significant medical and surgical developments during these conflicts. War surgery in the first part of the 19th Century was brutal and it had to be carried out swiftly. It was performed at speed because there were no anesthetics and the wounded often died during the procedure. Surgeons focused their attention on wounds of the arms and legs, because limbs were both easily accessible to the surgeon (unlike organs inside the abdomen and chest) and lent themselves well to amputation. This was commonly the operation of choice for many war wounds of arms and legs. Some surgeons performed more difficult surgical procedures to try to preserve the limbs and attempted to repair damaged tissues but these operations took longer and caused greater suffering to the patient. Abdominal and chest wounds were not treated since surgeons did not have the means, the ability, or the understanding, to cut into the abdomen and chest to repair the damaged organs successfully. An important development, which contributed to surgery moving forwards, was the discovery of general anesthesia, which became available in time for the Crimean War. However, whilst it certainly rendered operations pain-free, it was associated with significant numbers of deaths during surgery on wounded soldiers because of the poorly understood effects that anesthetics had, particularly on the heart. As a result, operative surgery did not extend its scope a great deal, and military surgery remained focused on surgery of the limbs. However, fewer amputations were performed during the Boer War at the end of this period. Britain sent observers to several wars in which it was not involved to learn military lessons and to understand the medical and surgical aspects of war. The American Civil War and the Franco Prussian War were two such conflicts. The Russo Japanese War resulted in a very significant advance in surgery for abdominal wounds, but Western observers either failed to notice or ignored pioneering work performed by a Russian female surgeon called Vera Gedroits. As a result, when the Great War began in 1914, lessons had to be re-learned by British surgeons, and many soldiers who suffered penetrating abdominal wounds lost their lives when they should have survived. Unfortunately, one of the hallmarks of war surgery is that successive generations of surgeons make the same mistakes as their forebears and the same lessons have to be learned time and again.

REVIEWS

“... a stimulating and informative work on an important subject.” *Soldiers of the Queen* “... I enjoyed the engaging style; learnt much, and recommend this important book to the general reader interested in British military history.” *British Journal for Military History* “... I looked forward to reading this one. I was not disappointed ... Anyone with an interest in medical history, or military history, will be interested in this fascinating book ...” *Surgeon's News*. The magazine of the Royal Colleges of Surgeons of Edinburgh “One of the real strengths of this book lies in the attention that it draws to the plight of the soldier in undertaking

his trade ... The production value of this book is superb. ... It is noteworthy ... for how readable and accessible the authors have made this subject to the reading audience. Scotland and Heys are outstanding medical historians and are to be commended for their work in this book.” Canadian Military History Journal “ I would recommend this book to the military historian as a means of acquiring an insight into military medicine and the Army Medical Services in the 19th Century”. Journal of the Society for Army Historical Research

 [Download Wars, Pestilence and the Surgeon's Blade: The Evol ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Wars, Pestilence and the Surgeon's Blade: The Ev ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Wars, Pestilence and the Surgeon's Blade: The Evolution of British Military Medicine and Surgery during the Nineteenth Century (Helion Studies Inmilitary History)
Thomas Scotland

From reader reviews:

Daniel Reynolds:

Book is to be different for each and every grade. Book for children till adult are different content. As you may know that book is very important for all of us. The book Wars, Pestilence and the Surgeon's Blade: The Evolution of British Military Medicine and Surgery during the Nineteenth Century (Helion Studies Inmilitary History) seemed to be making you to know about other know-how and of course you can take more information. It is quite advantages for you. The book Wars, Pestilence and the Surgeon's Blade: The Evolution of British Military Medicine and Surgery during the Nineteenth Century (Helion Studies Inmilitary History) is not only giving you far more new information but also to become your friend when you really feel bored. You can spend your personal spend time to read your guide. Try to make relationship while using book Wars, Pestilence and the Surgeon's Blade: The Evolution of British Military Medicine and Surgery during the Nineteenth Century (Helion Studies Inmilitary History). You never truly feel lose out for everything should you read some books.

Michael Johnson:

In this 21st centuries, people become competitive in every way. By being competitive today, people have do something to make these survives, being in the middle of typically the crowded place and notice by means of surrounding. One thing that often many people have underestimated the item for a while is reading. Sure, by reading a e-book your ability to survive boost then having chance to endure than other is high. To suit your needs who want to start reading any book, we give you this Wars, Pestilence and the Surgeon's Blade: The Evolution of British Military Medicine and Surgery during the Nineteenth Century (Helion Studies Inmilitary History) book as nice and daily reading guide. Why, because this book is more than just a book.

William Burmeister:

Now a day those who Living in the era just where everything reachable by talk with the internet and the resources inside it can be true or not involve people to be aware of each facts they get. How a lot more to be smart in obtaining any information nowadays? Of course the answer then is reading a book. Looking at a book can help individuals out of this uncertainty Information especially this Wars, Pestilence and the Surgeon's Blade: The Evolution of British Military Medicine and Surgery during the Nineteenth Century (Helion Studies Inmilitary History) book since this book offers you rich facts and knowledge. Of course the details in this book hundred percent guarantees there is no doubt in it you probably know this.

Alice Edwards:

Why? Because this Wars, Pestilence and the Surgeon's Blade: The Evolution of British Military Medicine and Surgery during the Nineteenth Century (Helion Studies Inmilitary History) is an unordinary book that the inside of the guide waiting for you to snap the item but latter it will surprise you with the secret it inside.

Reading this book next to it was fantastic author who have write the book in such awesome way makes the content on the inside easier to understand, entertaining method but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This amazing book will give you a lot of advantages than the other book have got such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking technique. So , still want to hold off having that book? If I were being you I will go to the book store hurriedly.

**Download and Read Online Wars, Pestilence and the Surgeon's Blade: The Evolution of British Military Medicine and Surgery during the Nineteenth Century (Helion Studies Inmilitary History)
Thomas Scotland #XW2OARSZEHJ**

Read Wars, Pestilence and the Surgeon's Blade: The Evolution of British Military Medicine and Surgery during the Nineteenth Century (Helion Studies Inmilitary History) by Thomas Scotland for online ebook

Wars, Pestilence and the Surgeon's Blade: The Evolution of British Military Medicine and Surgery during the Nineteenth Century (Helion Studies Inmilitary History) by Thomas Scotland Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Wars, Pestilence and the Surgeon's Blade: The Evolution of British Military Medicine and Surgery during the Nineteenth Century (Helion Studies Inmilitary History) by Thomas Scotland books to read online.

Online Wars, Pestilence and the Surgeon's Blade: The Evolution of British Military Medicine and Surgery during the Nineteenth Century (Helion Studies Inmilitary History) by Thomas Scotland ebook PDF download

Wars, Pestilence and the Surgeon's Blade: The Evolution of British Military Medicine and Surgery during the Nineteenth Century (Helion Studies Inmilitary History) by Thomas Scotland Doc

Wars, Pestilence and the Surgeon's Blade: The Evolution of British Military Medicine and Surgery during the Nineteenth Century (Helion Studies Inmilitary History) by Thomas Scotland Mobipocket

Wars, Pestilence and the Surgeon's Blade: The Evolution of British Military Medicine and Surgery during the Nineteenth Century (Helion Studies Inmilitary History) by Thomas Scotland EPub