

Contents

Introduction	1
Some Thoughts on Theory	4
Sources	10
 Part I Illness in Everyday Life	
 The Concern for Oneself	21
Disease and the Self	23
The Experience of Pain	27
The Search for Meaning: Religion, Witchcraft and Astrology	33
The Search for Meaning: Illness, Way of Life and Biography	41
The Narrative Reconstruction of Personal History	46
Anxieties	48
The Physician's Audience: Illness and the Bedside Community	53
Nursing Care	55
The Medical Marketplace	58
The Doctor-Patient Relationship	64
 Part II Perceptions and Interpretations	
 Medical Popularization	79
The Cultural Framing of Disease	82
From Temperament to Character	85
Plethora and Apoplexy	89
Fluxes, Gout and Rheumatism	95
Gichter (Convulsions)	100
Acrimonies	101
Skin and Rashes	105
Red Murrain (Erysipelas)	109
Scurvy	110
The Therapy of Acrimonies	114
Miasms and Contagia: Plague, French Disease and English Sweat	115
Indigestion, Winds and Slime	122
Obstruction and Disrupted Excretion	126

Stagnation and Deposits	134
Cancer	135
Pathological Heat	139
Vapors	142
Fever	144
Consumption and Consumptive Fever	147
Expenditure and Exhaustion	149
Dropsy	152
Seminal Economy	153

Part III Dominant Discourse and the Experience of Disease

The Sensible Body	161
A New Disease: The Vapors	164
Historical Roots: 'Vapores', Hypochondria and Hysteria	165
The Rise of the Nerves	170
Embodiment	173
Critique of Civilization	178
The Sensible Woman	179
The Cult of Sensibility	181
Illness as Protest	185
Ennui and Narcissism	191
Masturbation and Disease	195
A New Crusade	196
Readers' Response	203
The Social Construction of the Anti-Masturbation Discourse	209

Conclusion: A New Bourgeois Habitus 213

<i>Notes</i>	219
<i>Manuscript Sources</i>	278
<i>Printed Sources</i>	280
<i>Index</i>	289