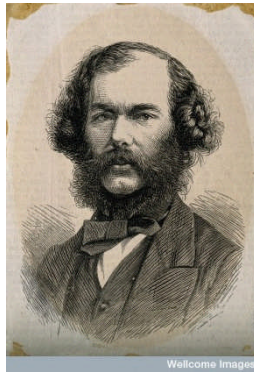


CENTRE FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE SEMINAR SERIES 2011-2012 SUMMER TERM

Tuesday, 8 May 2012 (Week 3)
5.00 pm – Ramphal Building Room R.014

Dr Elfed Huw Price
(Assoc Member of Warwick CHM)



Wellcome Images
Courtesy of Wellcome Library, London

**'George Henry Lewes (1817-1878): Embodied Cognition, Vitalist
Materialism and Symbolic Perception'**

George Henry Lewes is often overlooked in histories of neuroscience and philosophy. Arguably best known for his relationship with George Eliot and his work as a literary critic and journalist, Lewes authored popular books on physiology and the history of philosophy and published academic papers in the *Lancet*, *Nature*, *Mind* and *Brain*. The culmination of his life's work was his ambitious five-volume *Problems of Life and Mind*. Lewes engaged with the mind-body problem through a synthesis of three philosophical/physiological arguments that are of continued relevance today: firstly, that mind is function of the organism as a whole, not solely of the brain; secondly, that life and mind depend on properties that are unique to organic matter; and thirdly, that the ability to perceive and communicate via symbols is a distinguishing feature of humankind, and a fundamental element of human society and cognition.



Centre for the
History of Medicine

Centre for the History of Medicine
The University of Warwick
Coventry CV4 7AL United Kingdom
Tel: 024 76 572601
Fax: 024 76 523437
Email: t.horton@warwick.ac.uk