

# **A COMPENDIUM OF INSANITY**

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A Compendium of Insanity by John B. Chapin

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**JOHN B. CHAPIN**

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OF INSANITY**



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BY

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## PREFACE.

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It has been the purpose of the writer to compile in a condensed and concise form a compendium of diseases of the mind for the convenient use and aid of physicians and medical students. It is hoped that it may also prove helpful to members of the legal profession and to others who, in their relations to the insane and to those supposed to be insane, often desire to acquire some practical knowledge of insanity, presented in a form that may be understood by the non-professional reader.

The author is under obligations to Dr. J. Montgomery Mosher for valuable aid in the preparation of the chapter on "Morbid Anatomy," for which he is especially fitted from his practical acquaintance with the subject, derived from his experience at home and abroad.

PENNSYLVANIA HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE,  
PHILADELPHIA, March, 1898.

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# A COMPENDIUM OF INSANITY.

## CHAPTER I.

### INTRODUCTION.

A KNOWLEDGE of the mechanism of the human frame is necessary to the surgeon in the practice of his profession. The medical practitioner relies mainly upon his clinical experience, and his acquaintance with physiology, pathology, and therapeutics. Both are aided by precise results such as may be obtained from the sciences of chemistry and bacteriology, the use of the microscope, and familiarity with all bodily functions in a state of health. The result of injuries and of disordered conditions of every kind, such as are appreciable by the senses, may be compared with normal standards that are known and recognized. By induction and deduction symptoms may come to aid in arriving at unerring conclusions. Those abnormal conditions and manifestations usually embraced under the terms "insanity" and