

**A MANUAL OF MEDICAL
JURISPRUDENCE
AND TOXICOLOGY**

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A Manual of Medical Jurisprudence and Toxicology by Henry C. Chapman

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HENRY C. CHAPMAN

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AND TOXICOLOGY**

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A MANUAL OF
MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE
AND
TOXICOLOGY

BY
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NATURAL SCIENCES OF PHILADELPHIA, OF THE AMERICAN
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PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

SINCE the publication of the first edition of this work, in the autumn of 1892, the further experience gained as a teacher of medical jurisprudence has suggested to the author the propriety of giving a brief bibliography bearing upon the statements originally made in the text of the work as based upon his own experience as Coroner's physician to the city of Philadelphia for a number of years. With that exception, and the addition of several new figures and tables, the text and scope of the work remain essentially unchanged.

HENRY C. CHAPMAN.

2047 WALNUT STREET,
December, 1895.

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PART I. MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE.

CHAPTER I.

Importance of the subject of Medical Jurisprudence—Ordinary and Expert Witness—The Coroner's Physician—Relations of the Medical Profession to the Coroner in Cases of Sudden Death, etc.

MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE, or Forensic Medicine, or Legal Medicine, as the subject is often also called, may be broadly defined as medicine in relation to Law. Although a subject of very wide scope and much practical importance, it is, nevertheless, usually neglected by the students of medicine. It is very desirable, however, that every physician should have some knowledge of medical jurisprudence. The physician should know what the Commonwealth expects of him and has a right to demand of him in his professional capacity, and he should know his own rights as a medical expert. Every physician, during the course of his professional career, may be called upon to give testimony in cases of rape, feticide, infanticide, death from poison and from other causes.

Witnesses, however, are of two kinds. One is a witness in the ordinary acceptation of the term, who testifies simply to matters of fact of which he has personal knowl-