

**THE MEDICAL
REMEMBRANCER, OR
BOOK OF EMERGENCIES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649442300

The Medical Remembrancer, or Book of Emergencies by Edward B. L. Shaw

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

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EDWARD B. L. SHAW

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THE
MEDICAL REMEMBRANCER;
OR
BOOK OF EMERGENCIES.

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THE
MEDICAL REMEMBRANCER,
OR
BOOK OF EMERGENCIES;

IN WHICH ARE CONCISELY POINTED OUT
THE IMMEDIATE REMEDIES
TO BE ADOPTED IN THE
FIRST MOMENTS OF DANGER
FROM
POISONING, DROWNING, APOPLEXY,
BURNS, & OTHER ACCIDENTS:
WITH THE TESTS FOR THE PRINCIPAL POISONS,
AND OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION.

By EDWARD B. L. SHAW, M.R.C.S. & L.S.
ONE OF THE SURGEONS TO THE ROYAL HUMANITY SOCIETY, AND
ASSISTANT-APOTHECARY TO ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.

SECOND EDITION.

"Tadocli dfaent at amest unadulterate perill."

LONDON:
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MDCCCLV.



LONDON:
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PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

THE number of works, large and small, on the subject of Toxicology, already in the hands of the Profession, renders it necessary to offer something in the way of apology for the appearance of so humble a publication as the present. To do this in a few words, it may be stated, that the want has been long felt amongst the junior members of the Profession, of some practical guide in cases of sudden emergency, which should be at once so portable as to admit of being conveniently carried in the pocket, and so concise as to present at a glance the most appropriate remedy for the case, unencumbered with other matters, which, however valuable in themselves, tend only, in the first moments of alarm and confusion, to distract the attention from the object of primary importance. With this view, the *diagnostic symptoms*, and the *chemical analysis* of the different poisons, have been omitted in the following pages; the former, because there occur very few cases in

which any doubt exists as to the particular agent the symptoms have been occasioned by; the latter, because chiefly in requisition after death. The immediate steps to be pursued, then, is all that is here endeavoured to be shown; and the time consumed in turning over a large volume in quest of them (supposing one to be at hand, which is frequently not the case), induced the author to compile the present Manual for the use of his own pupils. And when it is considered how often the responsible charge of a Surgery or Chemist's Shop is committed to an inexperienced young man, who may, while thus employed, be called upon, at a moment's notice, to prescribe in a case of extreme danger, an attempt, though imperfect, like the present, to point out the proper remedy, and thus prevent perhaps a fatal error, may not be deemed altogether useless. Upon this plea alone, it is submitted to the Profession and the Public, in the words of Ovid—

"Da veniam scriptis quorum non gloria nobis
Causa, sed utilitas officinaque fuit."

PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

IF it was with no small share of diffidence that the Author of this little Manual ventured to lay it before the public eye, under the encouraging assurance of his publisher that it would be extensively useful;—it was certainly with no less surprise and gratification, that he received from the same quarter, the announcement that the large impression of the work struck off, was entirely exhausted, and that there was still a demand for it. Stimulated by so favourable a reception, and being by no means insensible of the defects of the former edition, he determined to render this as complete as possible; and with this view, he has entered more fully into the details of the treatment to be adopted in the various emergencies of which it treats, without, however, losing sight of its original distinctive feature, namely, the alphabetical plan of reference, by which any one poison is found at a glance. He has liko-