

**A PRACTICAL HANDBOOK
OF SURGICAL AFTER-
TREATMENT**

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A practical handbook of surgical after-treatment by Alan H. Todd

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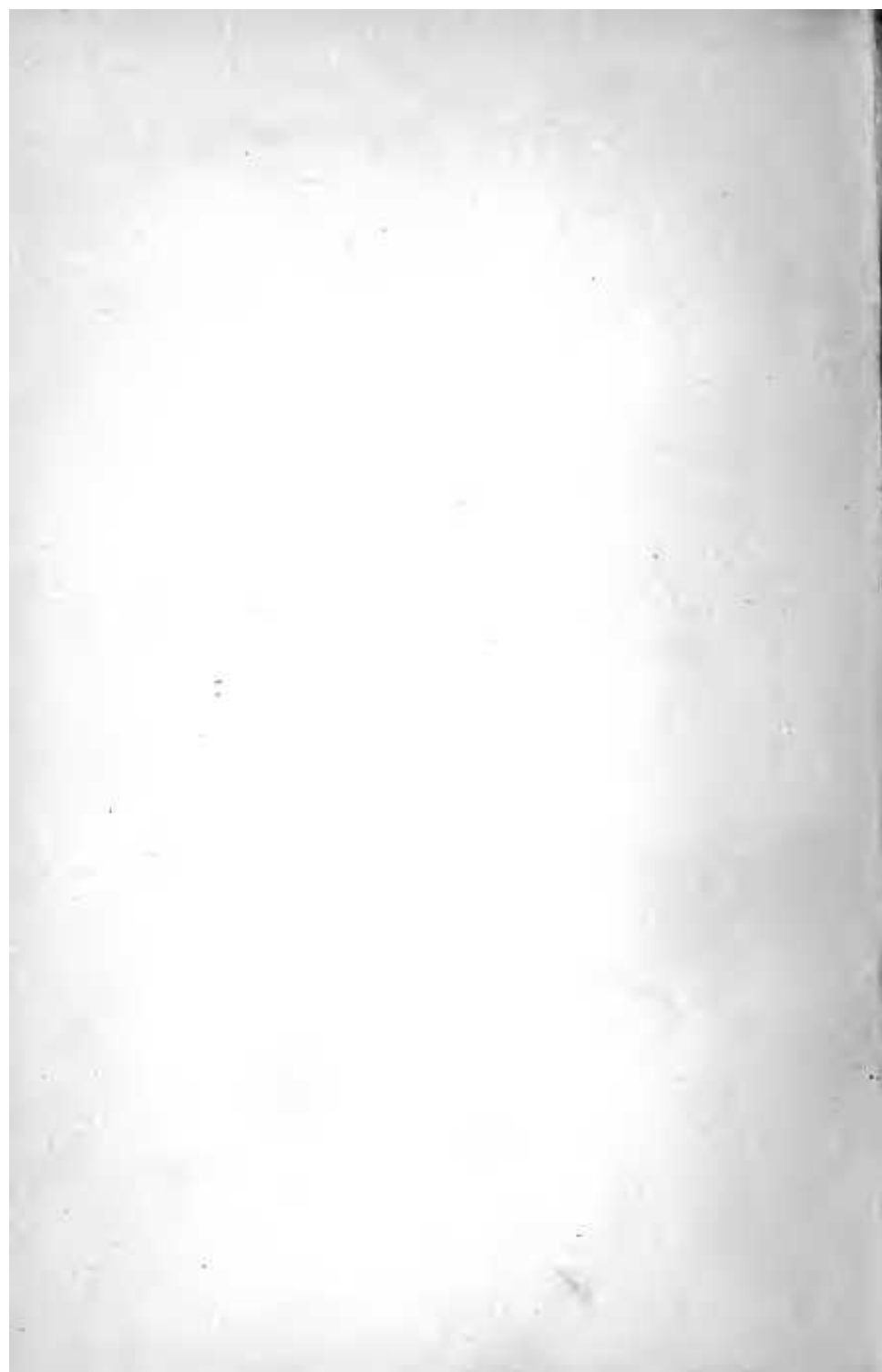
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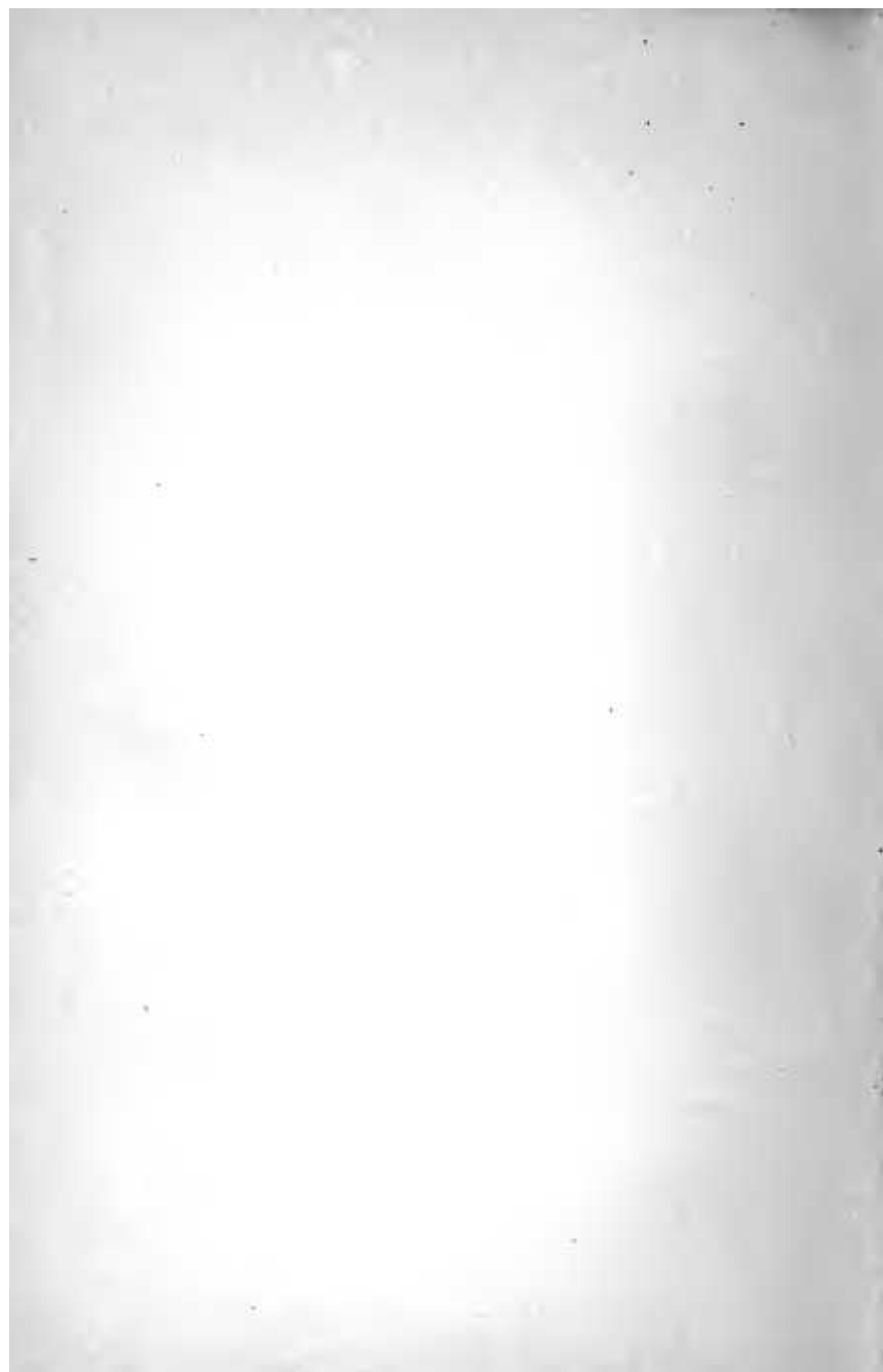
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TO
C. P. E.



P R E F A C E

AFTER-TREATMENT plays a most important part in most of the surgical procedures of to-day. Of the details of the operation the patient knows nothing, and cares less; his impressions of modern surgery will be derived partly from the ultimate result of the operation, but chiefly from the way in which the after-treatment is carried out by the surgeon and all his associates. Kindness and sympathy go far to alleviate the post-operative sufferings of the patient, but a considerable amount of technical knowledge is required as well. The object of this book is to present, as concisely as possible, an account of the methods that the writer has found to answer best in actual practice.

But after-treatment is important not merely from the point of view of promoting the patient's comfort, but also in order that the best possible results may be obtained. Indeed, in many of the elaborate surgical operations of to-day, the after-treatment entirely determines the success or failure of the treatment. To give one single instance—the whole of orthopædic surgery is an illustration of this fact. Plastic operations are quite wasted, unless the after-treatment is properly prescribed and carried out.

This book is an attempt to provide instruction of a