

ARSENIC

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Arsenic by J. Alfred Wanklyn

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J. ALFRED WANKLYN

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A R S E N I C

BY

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LONDON

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PATERNOSTER HOUSE, CHANCERY CROSS ROAD

1901

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PREFACE

IN the preface to a book like that which is now placed before the English readers, a little personal detail is not altogether uncalled for. The author is now an old English chemist who has been recognised as a chemist—at any rate in France and Germany—for forty-three years. Reference to such authorities as Poggendorff's Biographical Dictionary, published about the year 1862, will disclose the name of the author, and the English reader (if he should happen to be able to read German) may learn how it came to pass that the author of this book came to be looked upon as a chemist in the year 1858.

The author was brought up to the medical profession, served an old-fashioned apprenticeship in Manchester, and duly presented himself for examination, and passed the College of Surgeons in London in the year 1856. At that date the author occupied the humble, but very responsible position of private assistant to Frankland, the well-known eminent chemist. The popular excitement over the then recent Palmer case was at its height, and accusations of having

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poisoned for the sake of the insurance money were rife. One such case of suspected poisoning led to the sending of the supposed poisoned remains to Frankland at the Owens' College laboratory. Experience then acquired turned the attention of the author to the detection of poisons, and, in the fulness of time, after the lapse of more than forty years, this book issues forth.

THE LABORATORY, NEW MALDEN, SURREY,
25th February 1901.

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