

**A MANUAL OF FORENSIC
CHEMISTRY DEALING
ESPECIALLY
WITH CHEMICAL EVIDENCE, ITS
PREPARATION AND ADDUCTION**

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A manual of forensic chemistry dealing especially with chemical evidence, its preparation and adduction by William Jago

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A MANUAL OF
FORENSIC CHEMISTRY
DEALING ESPECIALLY WITH
CHEMICAL EVIDENCE,
ITS PREPARATION AND ADDUCTION.

BASED UPON
A COURSE OF LECTURES
DELIVERED AT
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

BY
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PREFACE.

IN response to an invitation from the Governing Authorities of University College, London, the Author recently delivered a course of lectures on "Forensic Chemistry" at that institution. With so extensive a subject, it was necessary to select some particular branch for attention; and accordingly these lectures dealt especially with "Chemical Evidence, its preparation and adduction." Knowing something of the difficulties which beset both chemist and lawyer in this direction, the lecturer's aim was to afford the members of each of the two professions such information as to their mutual methods and requirements as a long experience had suggested to him would be of service.

The Author has received a number of requests from both lawyers and chemists to publish these lectures in book form, and as a

result the present volume now appears. Its style and arrangement closely follow those of the original lectures; but in order to make the treatment of the subject as complete as possible, a large amount of additional matter has been included. It is hoped that the book may prove of value and assistance to those who have to prepare and handle chemical evidence, embodying as it does the most important judicial decisions on this subject.

A Table of Cases is included in the Index.

WILLIAM JAGO.

1, GARDEN COURT,
TEMPLE, LONDON, E.C.,
September, 1909.

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CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTORY MATTERS.

Nature of Chemistry.—There is an almost endless diversity among the various objects by which mankind is surrounded; but one property, at least, they possess in common, and that is the property of *weight*. All objects are attracted by the earth, and the reason why a thing is heavy is that this earth-attraction, known as gravitation, offers the resistance called weight to any efforts to raise things from its surface. This property of weight characterizes not only solid substances like iron or wood, but likewise liquids, such as water and oil, and also gases, of which atmospheric air is an example. It is convenient to have one name that shall include all such bodies, and for this purpose the term *matter* is employed. Matter, then, is anything which possesses weight, *i.e.* is acted on by gravitation.

It is now easy to explain the objects of chemistry. Matter is not only most varied in form, but its form is also continually varying; it is the function of the chemist to investigate these different forms of matter; and also the changes to which they are subject. These