

**GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF  
ORGANIC SYNTHESSES,  
AUTHORIZED TRANSLATION  
WITH REVISION AND ADDITIONS**

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General principles of organic syntheses, authorized translation with revision and additions by  
P. Alekskileev

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**P. ALEKSKILEEV**

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GENERAL PRINCIPLES  
OF  
ORGANIC SYNTHESSES

BY

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AUTHORIZED TRANSLATION WITH REVISION AND  
ADDITIONS

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FIRST THOUSAND



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TO THE GENERAL  
MANAGER

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BY

J. MERRITT MATTHEWS

## PREFACE.

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THE present volume has been based on a monograph by Professor P. Alexeyeff (of the University of Kieff), entitled *Methods for the Transformation of Organic Compounds* (Методы Превращенія Органическихъ Соединеній), which originally appeared in 1889 in Russian. In the presentation of the subject in this volume, I have made rather extensive additions of new material, together with a general rearrangement of the entire subject-matter.

Professor Alexeyeff, himself, has been deceased these several years, but his widow, Madame Alexeyeff, has very kindly given me authority to employ her husband's book in the preparation of the present volume. I have also to thank Madame Alexeyeff for her kindness in placing at my disposal the originals of her husband's book in Russian, which have been of very material assistance to me in the translation. For the latter purpose I have also made good use of Darzen's and Lefèvre's French translation of the original Russian.

This book is intended for the general student of advanced organic chemistry, and deals only with the theory of the subject. It is not intended in any way as a laboratory manual for the preparation of organic compounds. Although there are a number of good books of the latter class available for the American or English student, yet I do not believe there is any book in English which covers quite the same ground as the present volume.

The attempt of the author has been to present the theory of organic radicals in a systematic form and in as logical a method of development as possible, so that the student may acquire a comprehensive grasp of the general principles underlying synthetic organic chemistry. General organic chemistry has grown so greatly in its mass of detail and in the number of its isolated reactions and separate compounds that the majority of advanced text-books on the subject are now more like complex reference encyclopedias than actual books of instruction. The student becomes bewildered in an attempt to pick his way through the thousands and thousands of compounds dealt with, and loses sight of the underlying path which represents the general principles of the subject. In the present book the author has endeavored to discuss general reactions in as broad a manner as possible, though making use of specific reactions for purposes of illustration. In such a treatment it is possible, of course, to become too purely theoretical and to make a few facts the basis of too generalized a reaction, and I fear that in many cases I have erred in this direction. This book, however, is intended to serve merely as a companion volume and to be used in connection with a general organic chemistry, and the latter will prevent the student from carrying too far the generalizations given in this volume.

J. MERRITT MATTHEWS.

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AND  
SCHOOL OF INDUSTRIAL ART,  
PHILADELPHIA, March, 1906.



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