

**LECTURES ON ANIMAL
CHEMISTRY
DELIVERED AT THE ROYAL
COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS**

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Lectures on Animal Chemistry Delivered at the Royal College of Physicians by William Odling

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WILLIAM ODLING

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LECTURES
ON
ANIMAL CHEMISTRY

DELIVERED AT

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.

BY

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LECTURER ON CHEMISTRY AT SAINT BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.

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TO

THOMAS WATSON, M.D., F.R.S.

PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS

THESE LECTURES

HONOURED AT THE TIME OF THEIR DELIVERY

BY HIS

FRIENDLY EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST AND APPROVAL

ARE NOW

WITH HIS KIND PERMISSION

RESPECTFULLY AND GRATEFULLY DEDICATED

BY

HIS OBLIGED SERVANT

THE AUTHOR

PREFACE.



IN the spring of last year, I had the honour of delivering, at the Royal College of Physicians, a course of six lectures on Animal Chemistry; full reports of which were soon afterwards published in the 'Chemical News.'

Encouraged by the wishes of several Fellows of the College, I have since submitted these reports to a careful revision, and formed them into the present volume. Except, however, that I have discussed with greater fulness those sections of the course which relate respectively to synthetic processes and results, to the nature of leucine and tyrosine, and to the decomposition-products of uric acid, I have allowed the lectures to remain substantially as they were delivered and reported.

Excluding the pages devoted to the above-mentioned topics, whose physiological no less than chemical interest must justify the detail with which they are treated, I trust that the book will not be considered over-technical by any class of readers. At any rate, while preparing my lectures for delivery, revising the short-hand writer's

manuscript, and further revising the published reports of the 'Chemical News,' I have made it my constant object to give such an account of modern Organic Chemistry as should, with a moderate amount of attention, be profitable and even interesting to those who are not chemists. In other words, I have striven throughout, whether or not successfully, to render my subject popular in the legitimate sense, by making it generally intelligible.

I need scarcely say that these lectures are not meant to exert any direct influence upon points of medical practice. I hope, however, they may assist in convincing the profession at large of the necessity for regarding vital phenomena from a chemical point of view; and in promoting among students, especially those about to graduate, the knowledge of a highly important though much neglected branch of natural science.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL:
March 1, 1866.