

# **INFANT LIFE: HOW TO PRESERVE IT**

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Infant Life: How to Preserve It by Henry Buck

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**HENRY BUCK**

**INFANT LIFE: HOW  
TO PRESERVE IT**



INFANT LIFE:  
HOW TO PRESERVE IT.

BY HENRY BUCK,

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ENGLAND.

SECOND EDITION.

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151. c. 309.

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## PREFACE.

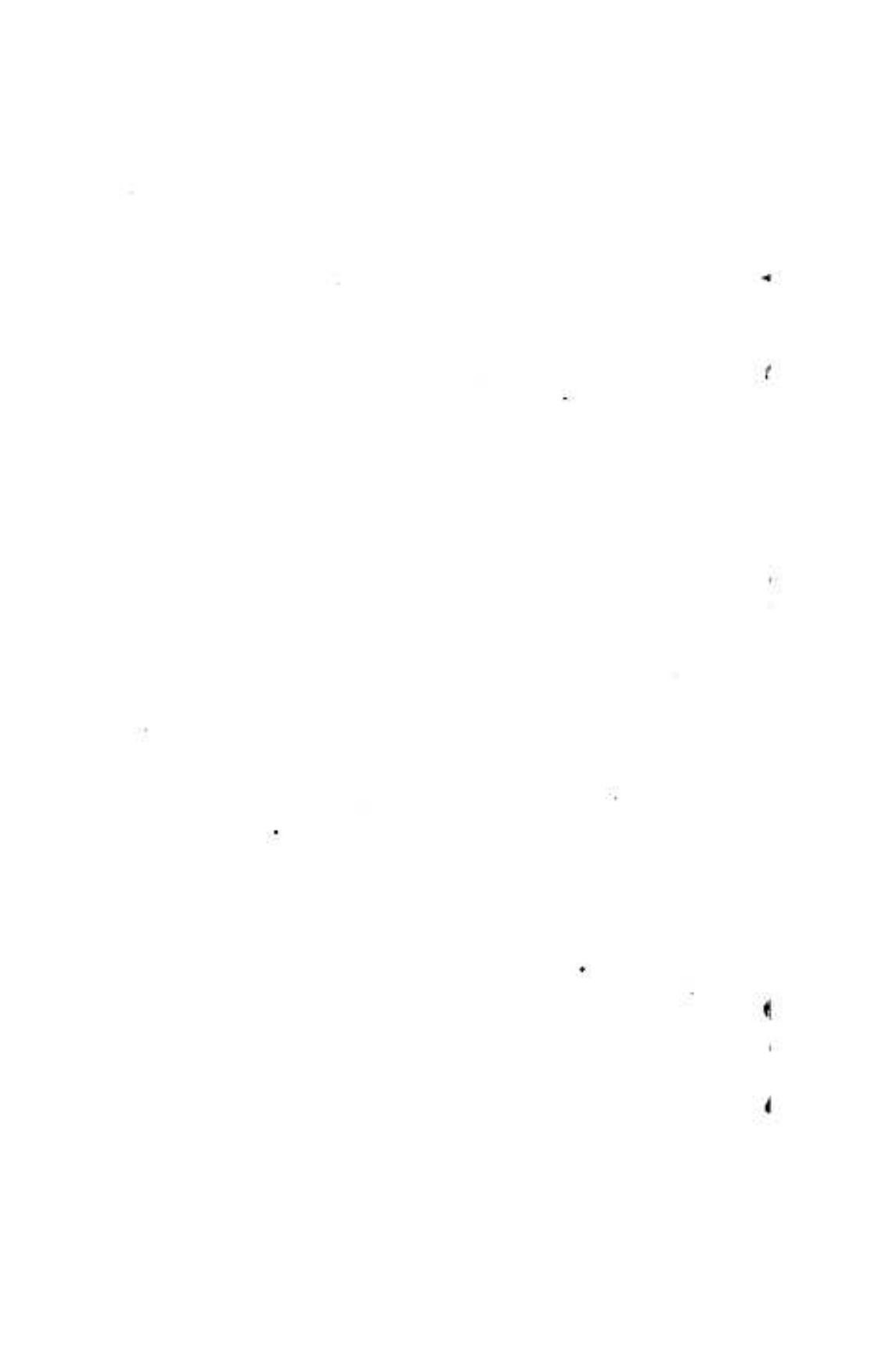
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THE object of this little work is an endeavour, if possible, to lessen the amount of mortality in early life.

When we are told the terrible truth that one in every three of the children born, dies before arriving at the fifth year, we naturally enquire the cause.

The important question is far too extensive to discuss here; but should the following pages tend to assist the intelligent mother in mitigating the sufferings, and by timely warning help to save her offspring, the author will have attained his purpose.

8, CORNWALL CRESCENT,  
CAMDEN ROAD, N.W.



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## INFANT LIFE:

### HOW TO PRESERVE IT.

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#### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

IN observing and treating the diseases of infants, it will be essential to remember that they are mostly acute in character, consequently of short duration, and require prompt relief. Infancy is truly a period of growth, the process of waste and repair being performed with far greater rapidity than at a more advanced age; and this extreme activity of function imparts to the diseases of infancy a peculiar feature. The nervous system in the infant is acutely



sensitive, and its sympathetic action intense, manifesting itself very differently to the condition of adult life. Mental depression, hysteria, and neuralgia, are not infant signs, but spasm and convulsion. The brain, during the first five years, is very active in children, its weight being doubled within the first two years, and there is scarcely any disease which can attack a child without its sympathy; hence it results, that a very large proportion of deaths occurring under five years of age, are set down as due to disease of the nervous system. Yet disease of one organ can rarely remain single, even for a short time, without others becoming implicated, and thus the whole of this delicate machine will be thrown into disorder, and life endangered. As the brain becomes more fully developed, the tendency to convulsions diminish; we have then to treat disorder of the *digestive function and*

*diseases of the more inflammatory type.* In treating the diseases of infants, objective symptoms, or those which are visible to our own senses, must be the chief guide,—the little sufferer being unable to state his feelings. The attitude, the eye, cry, general expression, flushed face, dry and burning heat of skin, the condition of the stool and urine—all bespeak disturbance, and help to suggest the treatment. Who so capable as the fond and anxious mother to interpret these infant signs? And here it is that HOMŒOPATHY, with its beautifully prepared remedies, so admirably adapted to the infant organism, acting on disease with almost magic power, steps in to her timely aid. Without depletion or the torment of blisters, inflammation and irritation can be speedily subdued, and exhaustion, the result of purging medicine (a frequent cause of death in infants), by adopting this mode of treatment may be entirely avoided.

### INFANT LIFE.

When the infant is first born, its temperature is about ninety-four degrees, or four degrees lower than the parent; it is exceedingly sensitive to external influences, and should never be exposed to cold air; about one in ten perish within the first week from a want of power to resist these external impressions, and one-fourth during the first year from various causes.

#### THE AVERAGE SIZE OF A HEALTHY CHILD AT BIRTH,

Measures	And Weights
FROM 17 TO 19 IN.;	FROM 6 TO 8 LBS.

Of course, this is very variable. Some children weigh 10 or 12 lbs. at birth. A male child generally exceeds the female in length an inch, and in weight half a pound.