

**THE ARREST AND PREVENTION OF
CHOLERA: BEING A GUIDE TO
THE ANTISEPTIC TREATMENT,
WITH NEW OBSERVATIONS ON
CAUSATION**

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The Arrest and Prevention of Cholera: Being a Guide to the Antiseptic Treatment, with New Observations on Causation by Arthur Ernest Sansom

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ARTHUR ERNEST SANSOM

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THE ARREST AND PREVENTION OF
CHOLERA :
BEING
A GUIDE TO THE ANTISEPTIC TREATMENT,
WITH
NEW OBSERVATIONS ON CAUSATION ;

BY
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LONDON ; LATE HOUSE PHYSICIAN, &C., TO KING'S COLLEGE
HOSPITAL ; FELLOW OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON ;
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AUTHOR OF 'CHLOROFORM : ITS ACTION AND ADMINISTRATION,' &c.

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157. 0.



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TO

WILLIAM CROOKES, Esq., F.R.S.,

WHO, BY HIS POWERS OF INDUCTIVE REASONING AND
PHILOSOPHIC RESEARCH,

DISCOVERED THE METAL, THALLIUM;

AND TO THE VALUE OF WHOSE OBSERVATIONS ON THE
MODE OF DESTRUCTION OF ORGANIZED POISONS

THESE PAGES TESTIFY,

THE AUTHOR DEDICATES,

IN REMEMBRANCE OF A LONG FRIENDSHIP,

THIS BOOK.

PREFACE.

From my own observations, as well as from the recorded experience of others, I have been led to form very strong opinions as to the real cause and nature of Cholera. In this volume I present my conclusions and the reasons which led me to those conclusions, with the hope that they will receive the friendly criticism of all who desire to discover the most truthful answer to a momentous question. In the Science of Life, we cannot as yet hope for absolute precision: we cannot reason from principles to facts, but must ascend from facts to those "general inferences which are our most comprehensive expressions of attainable truth." Mutual help

and calm argument, therefore, are the more necessary in such a case.

Treatment, to be really successful, must be based on sound Pathology; the nature of the primary causes being once established, we shall be prepared with tenfold power for the battle.

In the following pages, I have written nearly in the order of my own thoughts, and I have endeavoured to express myself in plain language. I hope that any educated person may be able thoroughly to understand the main arguments which I have brought forward; especially in those chapters which are of essential and universal importance, relating to the modes of withstanding the inroads of the disease.

¶ The familiar style of exposition which I have chosen has prevented my sufficiently acknowledging my obligations to the labours of the many observers of cholera. I have learnt much from Sir Thomas Watson, Dr. Copland, the late

Dr. Snow, Dr. Macpherson, Dr. Beale, Mr. Simon, and various writers in the daily and the medical papers.

To Dr. George Johnson the thanks of all are most especially due. I myself have learnt more from him, my teacher of many years ago, than I can here express. If I differ from his views in some points, I do so with the highest respect to him; and I am sure he will give me credit for being actuated by the same spirit which animates himself—a desire for the spread of true knowledge.

29, *Duncan Terrace, N.*
September, 1866.

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