# SLEEP AND SLEEPLESSNESS

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Sleep and sleeplessness by H. Addington Bruce

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### H. ADDINGTON BRUCE

# SLEEP AND SLEEPLESSNESS



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#### MIND AND HEALTH SERIES

Edited by H. Addington Bruce, A.M.

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BY

#### H. ADDINGTON BRUCE

AUTHOR OF "SCIENTIFIC MENTAL HEALING,"
"THE BIDDLE OF PERSONALITY," ETC.



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### PREFACE

STUDY of sleep falls naturally and inevitably into the scheme of the present series of handbooks, the purpose of which is to extend knowledge of the important discoveries affecting individual and social welfare that have been made during recent years through psychological investigation. Perhaps in no respect have the labors of modern psychologists - and particularly of medical psychologists - been more fruitful than in the light they have thrown on the phenomena of sleep. The nature of sleep itself has for the first time been experimentally as well as clinically studied, with results of great practical significance. The causes of sleeplessness have likewise been investigated more carefully than ever before, and discoveries

#### PREFACE

made that bring new hope to the victim of insomnia. As later stated, evidence is now available indicating that almost all insomnia is curable, and curable without recourse to drugs.

So, too, those common disorders of sleep nightmare and somnambulism — have been scrutinized anew, and important conclusions reached as to their nature, causation, and proper treatment. No less exhaustive and painstaking have been the researches of the modern psychologists with regard to the general problem of the state of the mind in sleep, one result being the gaining of unexpected insight into the true significance of dreams. On the one hand they have been found to be, not mere haphazard products of the imagination, but mental images mirroring the inner life of the dreamer; and, on the other hand, scientific study of them has revealed unsuspected mental processes and powers as part of the common possession of mankind.

#### PREFACE

It has been my effort to present the results of all this varied investigation as compactly and clearly as possible; and in especial to make the presentation of practical helpfulness to the reader. To none of us are sleep and its phenomena of merely academic interest; they press upon us urgently, and the better we understand them the happier, healthier, and more efficient lives we can lead.

#### H. ADDINGTON BRUCK.

Cambridge, Massachusetts, March, 1915.



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