FOOD ADULTERATION: OR, WHAT WE EAT, AND WHAT WE SHOULD EAT

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Food Adulteration: Or, What We Eat, and What We Should Eat by J. T. Pratt

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J. T. PRATT

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FOOD

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OR.

WHAT WE EAT, AND WHAT WE SHOULD EAT!

BY J. T. PRATT.

"Measures for the protection of the public health can be carried out only so far as the public receives instruction in sanstary matters, and is thus prepared to give intelligent and willing co-operation."

-Dr. O. W. Wight.

CHICAGO:
P. W. BARCLAY & CO., Publishers, 1880.

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ENTERED, according to Act of Congress, in the year 1880, by
J. T. PRATT,
In the Office of the Librarian of Congress, at Washington.

CHICAGO, June 1st, 1880.

Author " Food Adulteration."

DEAR SIX:—I am very glad to have the opportunity of contributing to your work, and will do all in my power as a scientific worker to aid you in perfecting that which you have so well begun. There certainly is, it seems to me, no subject of more importance, both as it regards the public health, and also in a moral point of view. The people are not only defrauded of their money and their health by those engaged in the sophistication of food, etc., but the moral tone of the whole community is lowered by the contemplation of such practices, passing constantly under their notice. We send the petty thief to prison, but the man who robs us of both money and health, passes often as an honored citizen, and is looked up to as a pillar in society. If you can do but little even to beat back the wave of fraud which threatens to engulf all modern society, you will deserve, as you will receive, the gratitude of every well-wisher of the race.

R. U. PIPER, M. D.

CHICAGO, May 29th, 1880.

Author " Food Adulteration,"

DEAR SIR:—I take great pleasure in attesting the sincerity and carnestness of your efforts to give the public an insight into what is being daily consumed as food; and I herewith give you the analysis and the results of the microscopic examinations made by me of the samples of confectionery, self-raising flour, vinegar, pickles, sugar, etc., left by you. Feeling confident that your forthcoming volume, "what we get and we should be any," will be duly appreciated by the unsuspecting public, I remain, very truly yours,

T. D. WILLIAMS, M. D.

Author " Food Adulteration."

This whole business of adulteration needs a terrible overhauling in this country, and I hope your book may be the means of awakening the public to the magnitude of the danger. With best wishes, yours truly,

GEO, T. ANGELL,

President Massachusetts Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and
Director American Social Science Association.

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AN ARGUMENT.

With the assistance of several gentlemen of recognized skill and large experience, both in the laboratory and with the microscope, the writer has endeavored to make such an investigation of the subject of food adulteration as would enable him to present to the public a popular rather than a scientific treatise there-on. Believing the subject to be one which concerns all, he has endeavored to discuss it in a manner comprehensible by all.

His investigations were not conceived, nor have they been prosecuted, in a spirit of fanaticism. The search he has made for the bad, has been a search for the good as well. With no prejudice, and no presumption of guilt in any case, he has simply endeavored to arrive at just and defensible conclusions. He has sought for nothing more and for nothing less than the facts, and it has been equally his aim to state nothing more and nothing less than the truth.

The facts, as he has found them, require no exaggeration. They are astounding and sensational enough for all purposes, and furnish every argument that is needed to support a demand for the correction of a great and growing evil.

The gross adulteration of almost every article that enters into the alimentary economy of the household, the insidious introduction into the human system of impurities and poisons destructive of health, the unblushing frauds perpetrated by those who are