

**RABIES; ITS PLACE
AMONGST GERM-
DISEASES, AND ITS ORIGIN
IN THE ANIMAL KINGDOM**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649685875

Rabies; Its Place Amongst Germ-Diseases, and Its Origin in the Animal Kingdom by David Sime

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

DAVID SIME

**RABIES; ITS PLACE
AMONGST GERM-
DISEASES, AND ITS ORIGIN
IN THE ANIMAL KINGDOM**

RABIES

London: C. J. CLAY AND SONS,
CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS WAREHOUSE,
AVE MARIA LANE.
AND
H. K. LEWIS,
136, GOWER STREET, W.C.



Glasgow: 50, WELLINGTON STREET.
Leipzig: F. A. BROCKHAUS.
New York: THE MACMILLAN COMPANY.
Bombay and Calcutta: MACMILLAN AND CO., LTD.

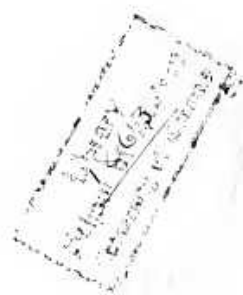
[All Rights reserved.]

RABIES

ITS PLACE AMONGST GERM-DISEASES,
AND ITS ORIGIN IN THE
ANIMAL KINGDOM

BY

DAVID SIME, M.D.

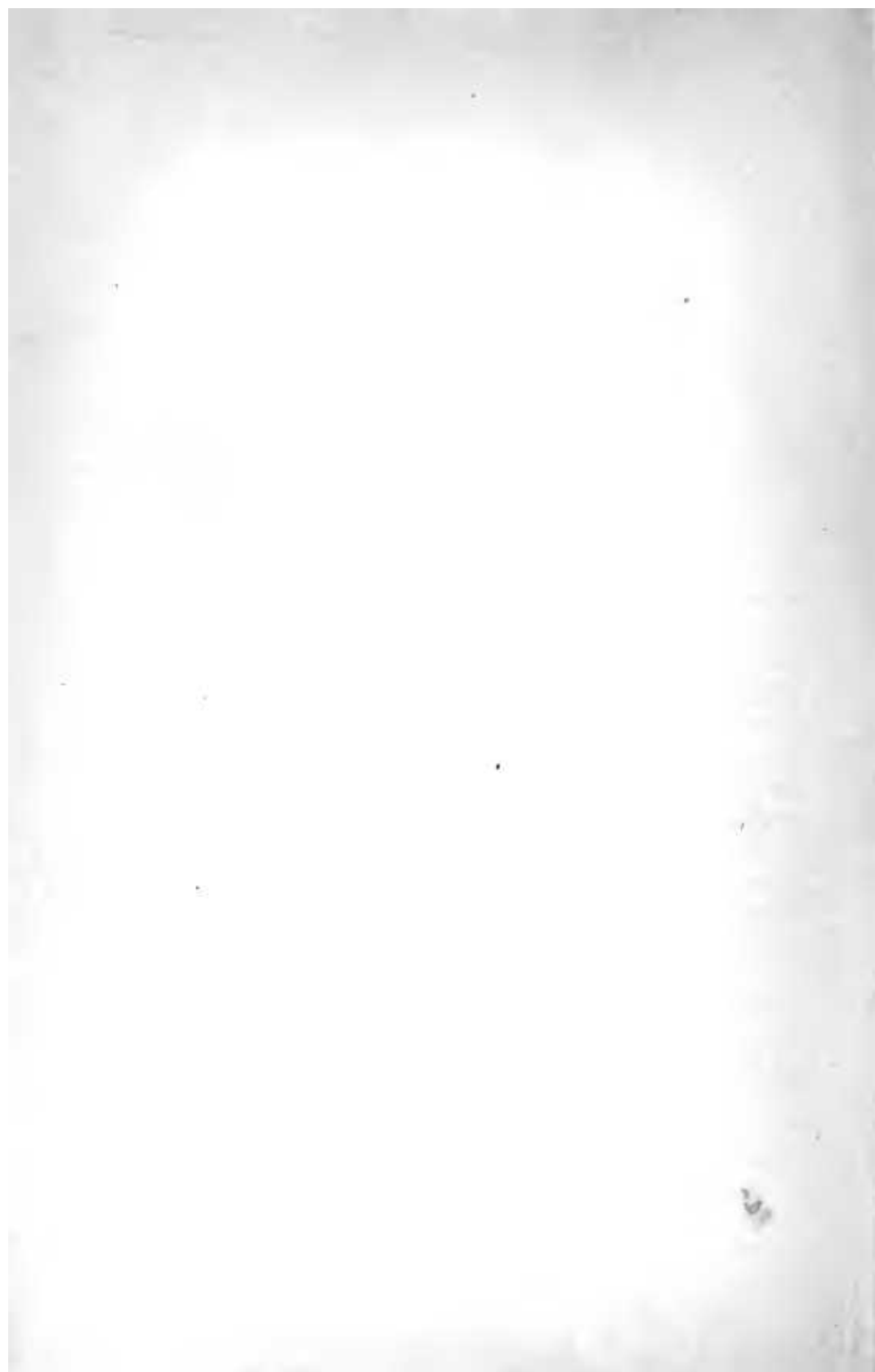


CAMBRIDGE :
AT THE UNIVERSITY PRESS

1903

INSCRIBED TO THE MEMORY OF MY BROTHER, THE LATE
JAMES SIME (AUTHOR OF "LIFE OF LESSING" &c.),
WHOSE NOBILITY OF CHARACTER BUT GLOWS THE
MORE RADIANTLY THROUGH THE DARKNESS OF
DEATH.

D. S.



PREFACE.

UNTIL the investigations of M. Pasteur threw light on the mystery surrounding rabies, it was not realised that there was a virus of the disease, or a rabific microbe as the *causa causans* of the virus. By keenest clinical observers the existence of either of these agents was viewed as at best problematic. Even where the germ-character of rabies was not denied, it was deemed most probable that, as surmised for untold ages, it was strictly of "spontaneous generation," or that the virus-germ underlying the disease was itself a diseased product and in reality but a virulent growth of canine morbid conditions exclusively in the salivary gland. The typical character of the canine disease, with its unvarying stability of form as an originating rabies, was never doubted; and all the modifications of rabies in other animals were taken as but the stereotyped, well-known "furious madness" and "dumb madness" of the dog. On the other hand, the phenomena of *attenuation* and of *intensification*, as induced by a transmission of rabies through the animal kingdom, were unknown. That there were an intensifying and an attenuating division of the animal kingdom was never even remotely suspected. Nevertheless, it is hardly too much to say that this disclosure was one of the most important of M. Pasteur's research. Nothing of real import was known to give any clue to the true nature of rabies, much less to its complete control. Both the clinical study of hydrophobia for centuries and the exploration of its morbid anatomy for generations had been altogether barren. The ignorance on the subject was as profound as it was universal.

But its one hopeful feature was the fact that it was by the highest authorities everywhere frankly acknowledged. This could not be better realised than by turning to the text-books of only a decade or two back, as to the great work on Surgery of the late Sir John Erichsen. There was, in consequence, in the best and most desirable quarters little or no misknowledge or misconception to clear away. From first to last M. Pasteur had the unexplored realm practically to himself, only its fringe having been traversed by his immediate predecessors or contemporaries, and in well-nigh every direction he investigated the disease.

Apart from its value in treatment, the inoculation has proved itself, as a new instrument of investigation, one of the greatest in the history of research. Nor is it too much to say that by his experimental and comparative methods of using the inoculation M. Pasteur has inaugurated a new epoch in the history of medicine, having in the realm of germ-disease originated amidst the lesions and the dry bones of morbid anatomy a very *renaissance* itself. His research of rabies is that of a master-mind which has vitally influenced and moulded every subsequent investigation of germ-disease.

It has been a merit of first importance that it has turned scientific inquiry from the charnel-house to living nature. From the *post-mortem* table M. Pasteur returned once more to a face to face investigation of the disease itself in the living organism. But his attitude and motive were somewhat different from those of the masters of antiquity, or from those of any exclusively clinical study. The clinical characteristics, *per se*, were of subordinate interest to him. The attitude of the ancient masters was at best that of a fine observer with the view to a perfect delineation. It was, however, but an investigation which was wholly confined to the crisis or final explosion of a malady. With M. Pasteur, on the contrary, the latent, evolving stages of a germ-disease, from the earliest and obscurest beginnings of this evolution, interested him much more profoundly than its explosive-point. His attitude to the disease