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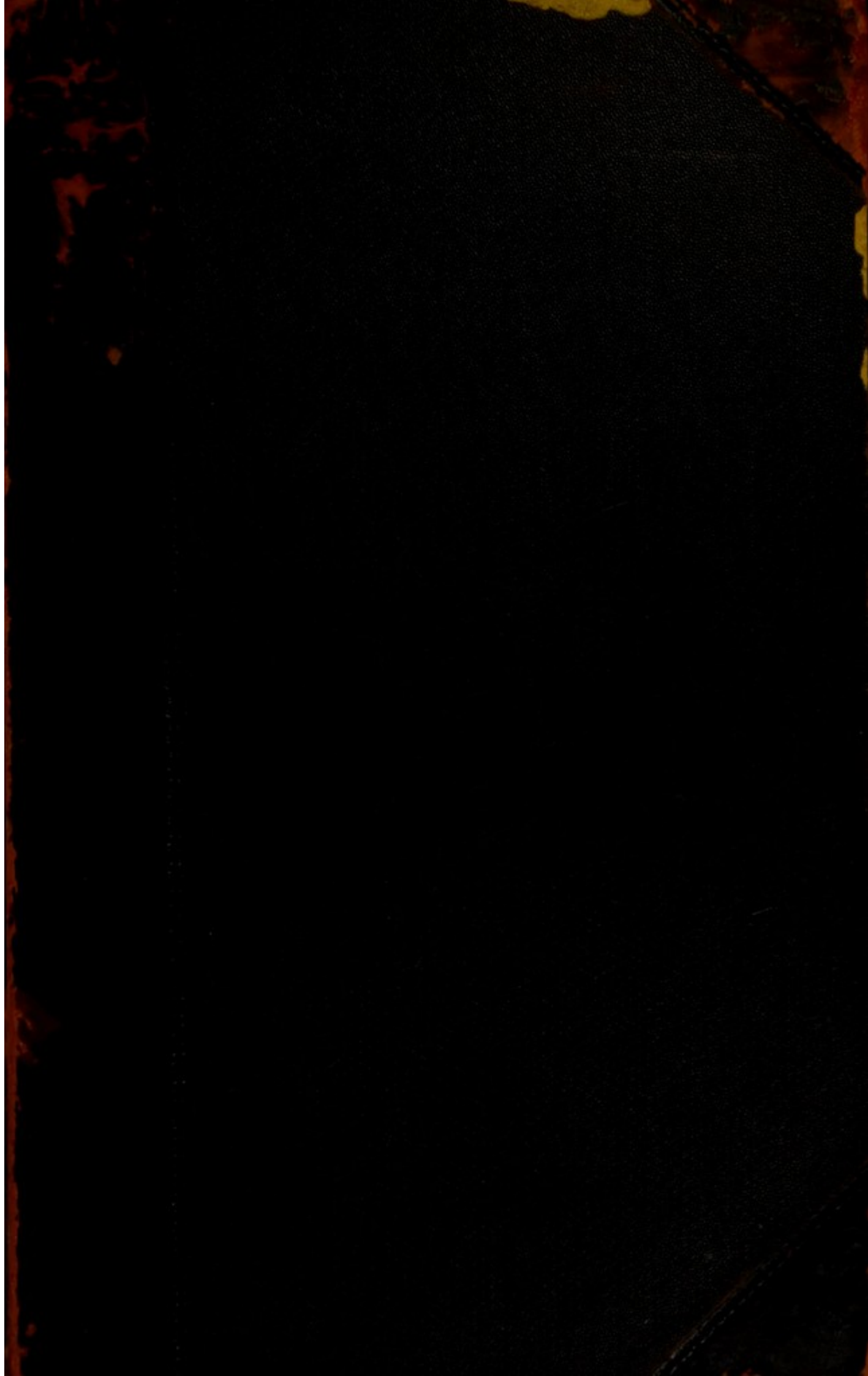
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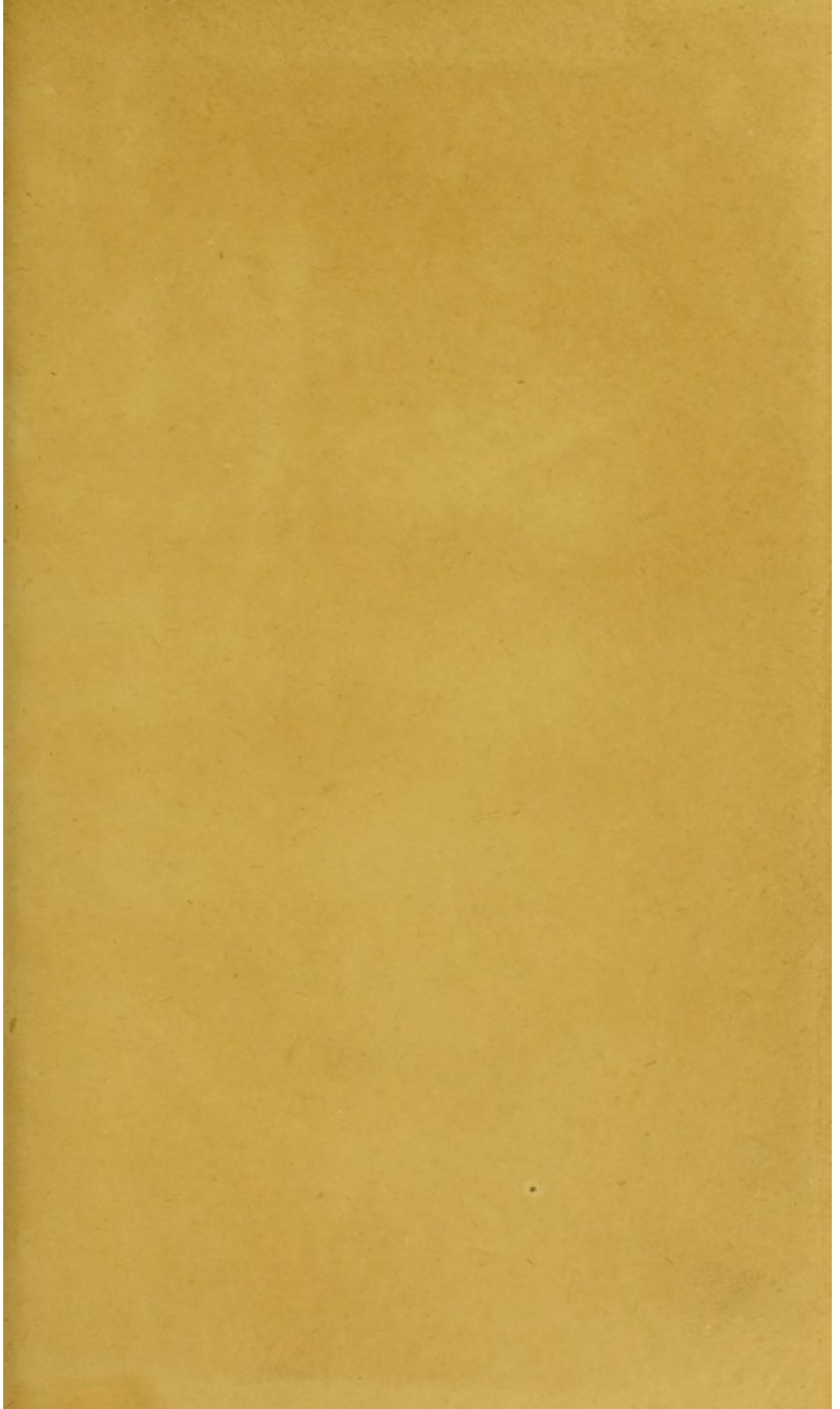


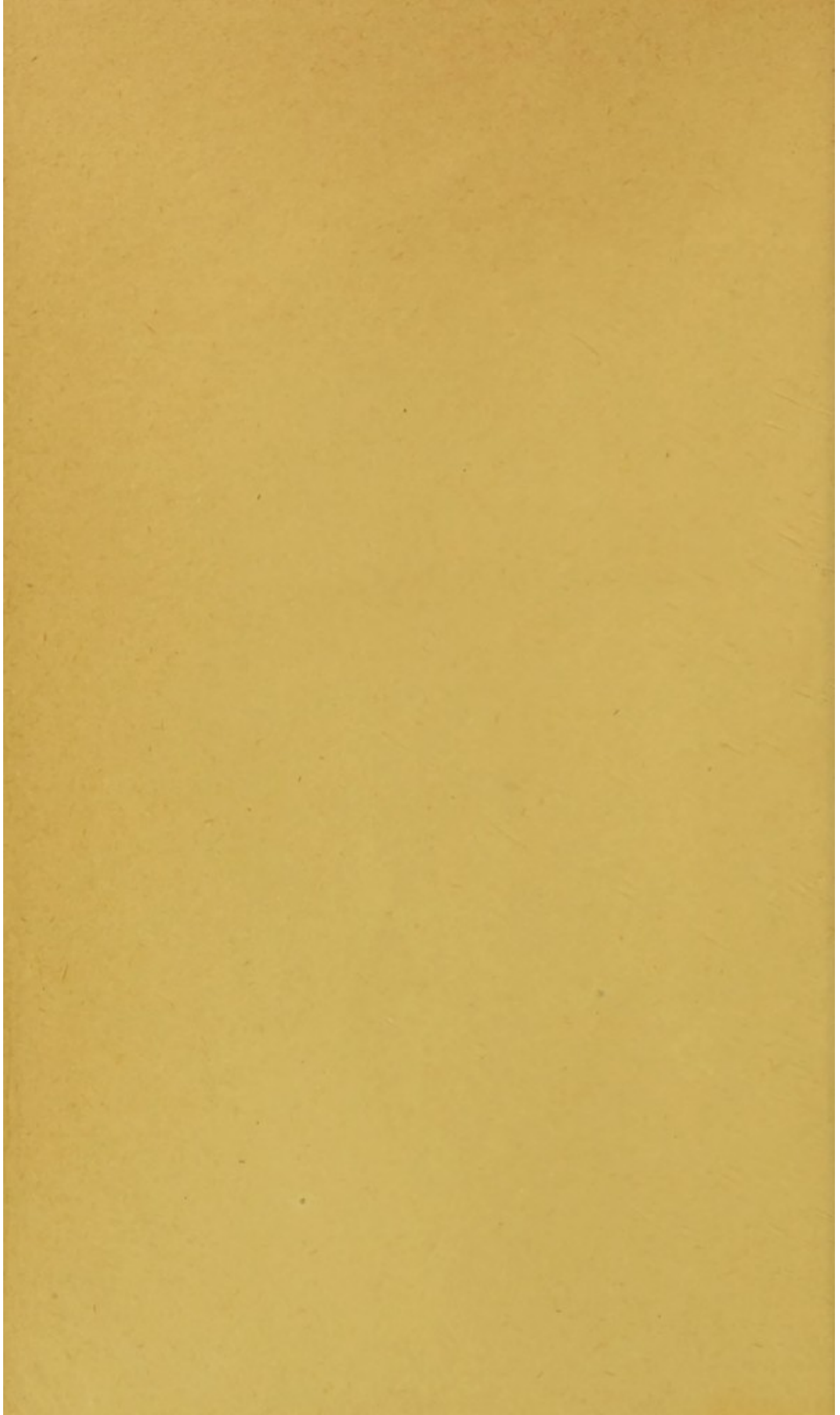
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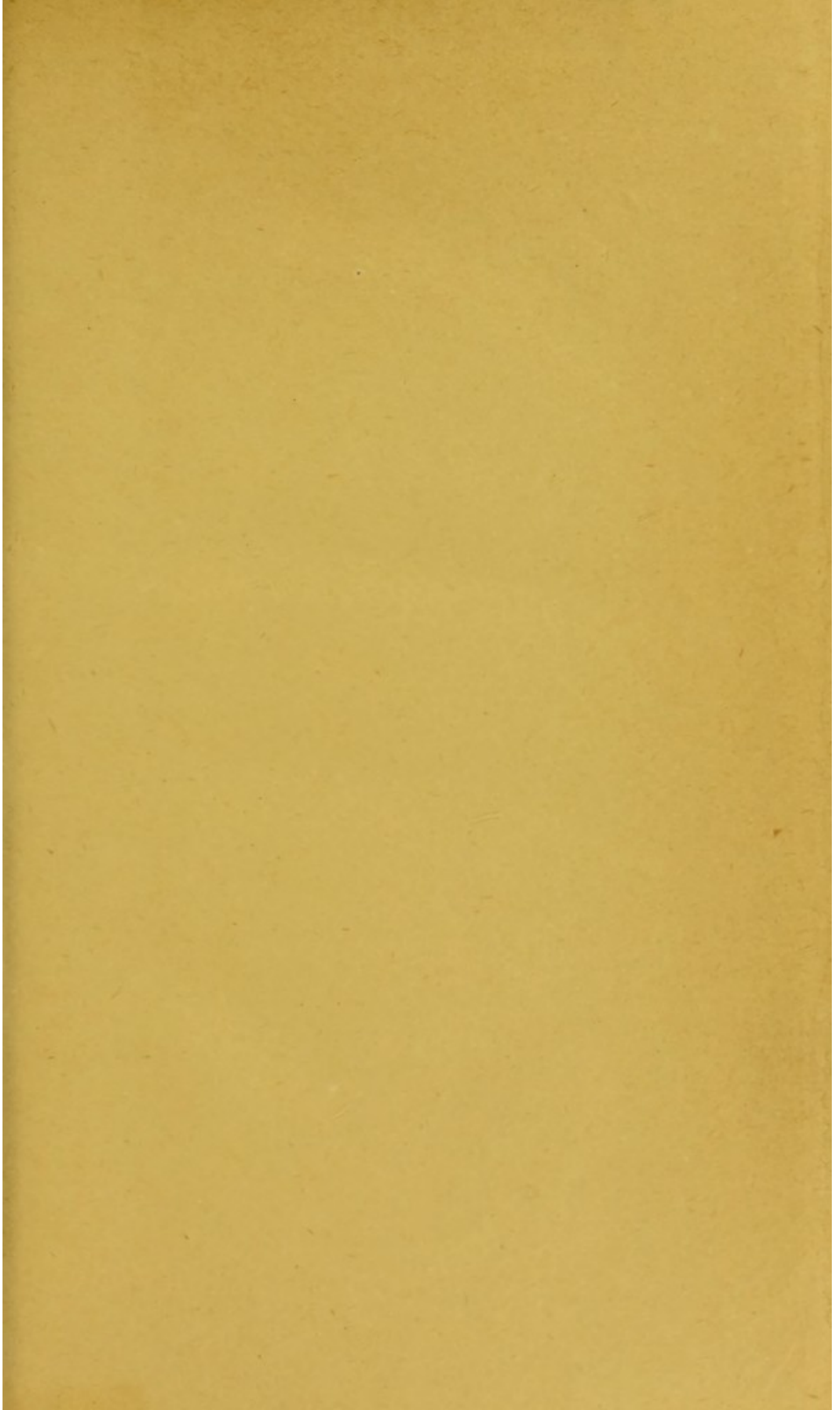


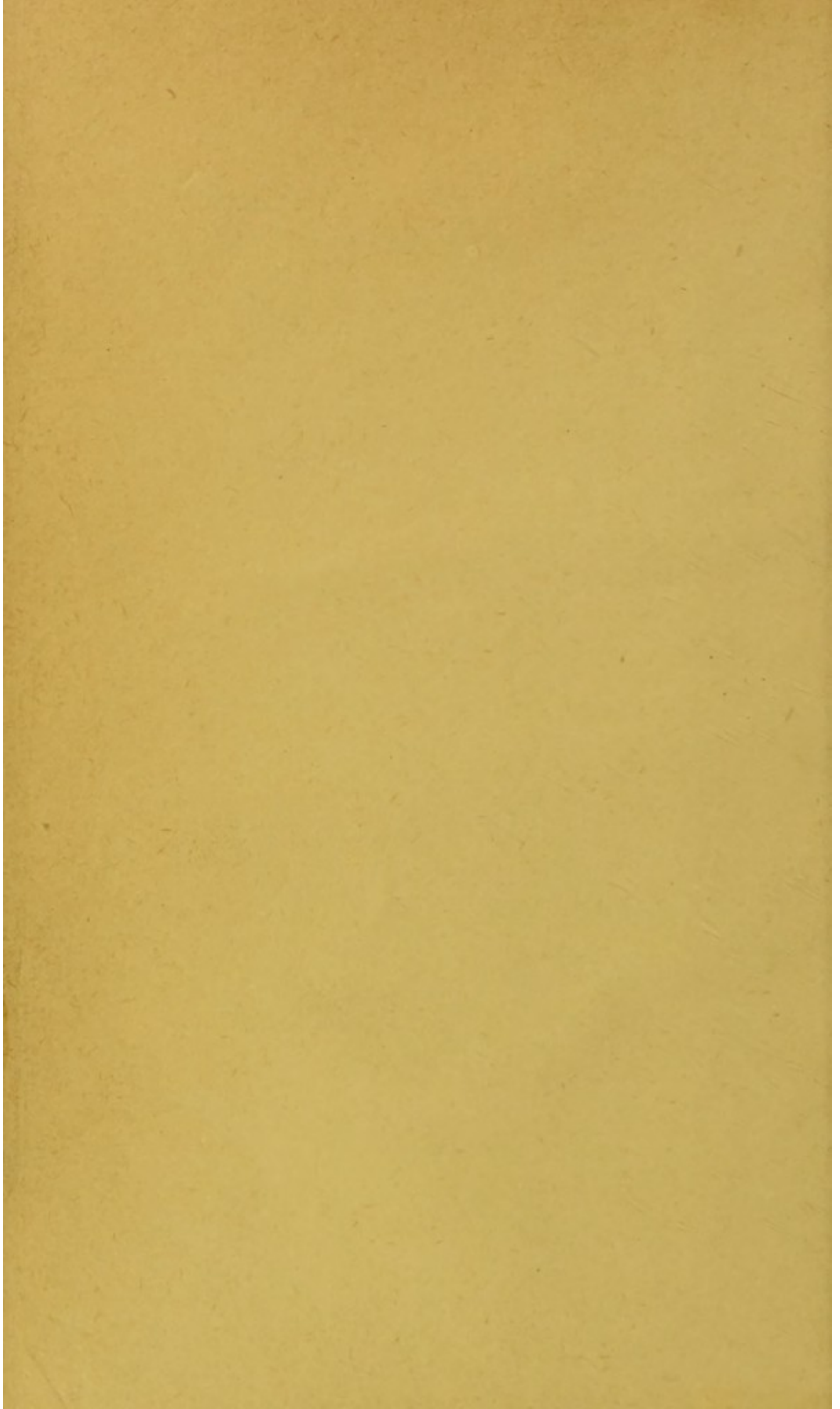
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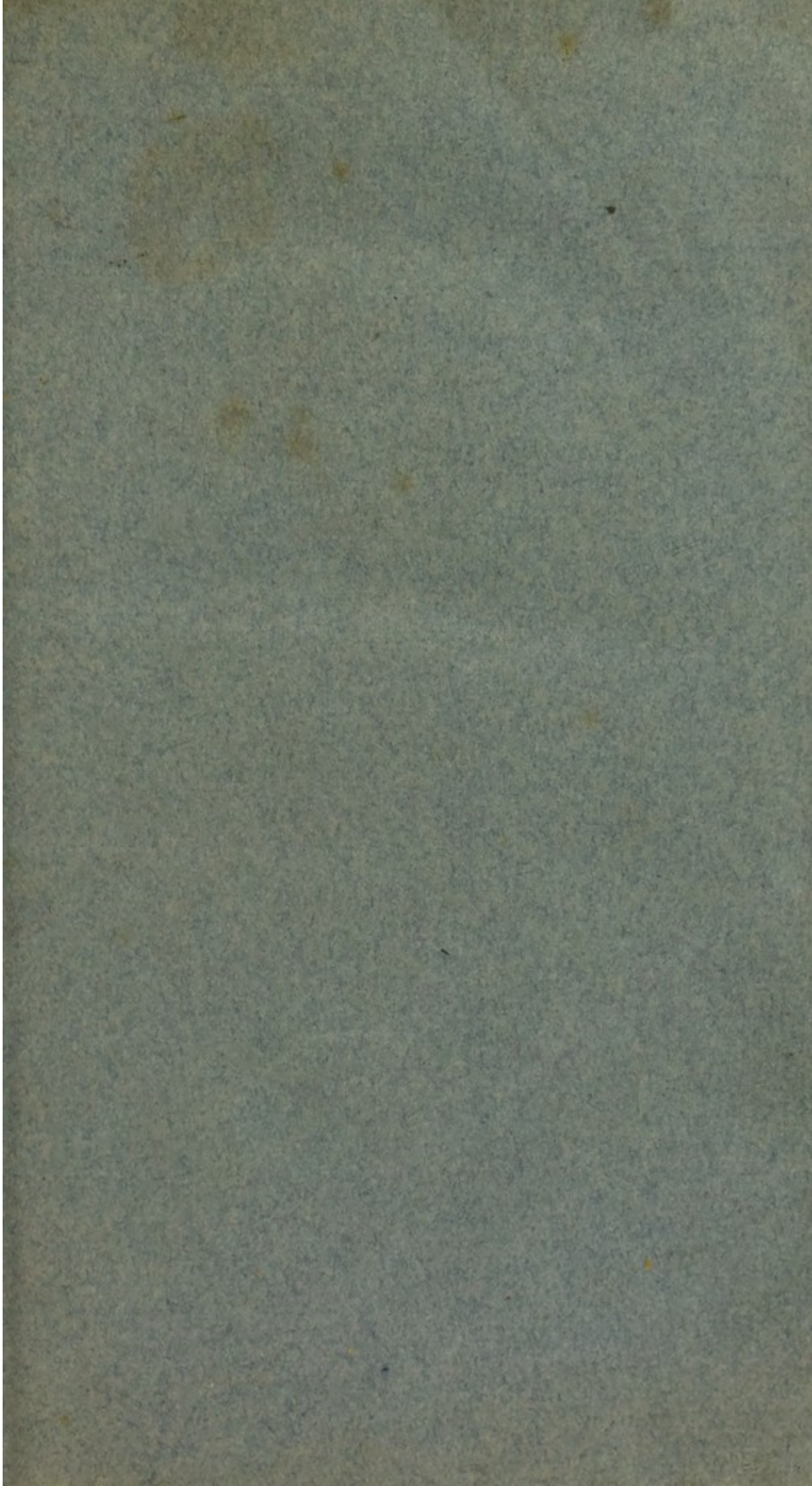
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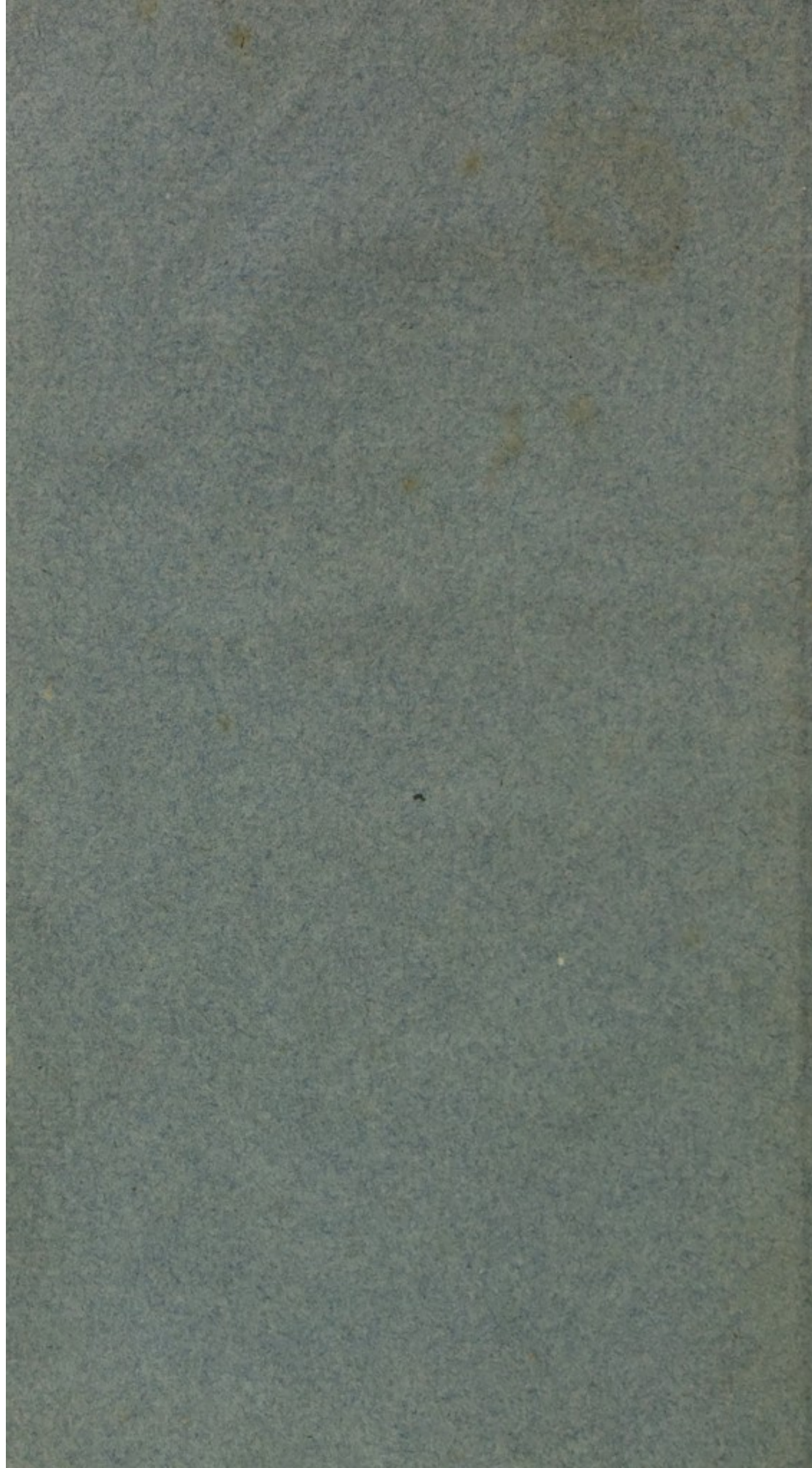












ANSWERS
TO ALL THE OBJECTIONS

HITHERTO MADE AGAINST

COW-POX.

BY JOSEPH ADAMS, M.D.

Physician to the Small-pox and Inoculation Hospitals, and Author of
"Observations on Morbid Poisons," &c.

THE SECOND EDITION, WITH ADDITIONS.

*The Profits of this Tract will be given to the Small-pox and
Inoculation Hospitals.*

LONDON:

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AND INOCULATION HOSPITALS, PANCRAS.

1805.

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ANSWERS

TO ALL THE QUESTIONS

PROPOSED BY THE

COW-BOY



TO HIS GRACE
THE DUKE OF BEDFORD,
&c. &c. &c.

VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE SMALL-POX AND INOCULATION
HOSPITALS,

AND PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL JENNERIAN
INSTITUTION,

THE SECOND EDITION OF THIS LITTLE TRACT

IS RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED,

BY HIS GRACE'S

FAITHFUL AND MUCH OBLIGED

HUMBLE SERVANT,

THE AUTHOR.

Berners-Street, Nov. 15, 1805.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED

THE REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE

APPOINTED

TO ENQUIRE INTO THE

STATE OF

THE REVENUE OF THE EAST INDIES

IN THE YEAR 1811

BY

THE SELECT COMMITTEE

APPOINTED

1811

LONDON: Printed by R. CLAY, at the New-Print Office, in Strand, 1811.

TO THE PEOPLE

OF THAT PART OF THE UNITED KINGDOMS

CALLED

ENGLAND.

As the Cow-pox Inoculation has now been practised for more than seven years, and as the nobility, and most of the gentry, in this and all foreign parts, vaccinate their children, it seems a matter of wonder that it should be necessary to say any thing in its favour. Still there are people who for want of better information make objections, and as these, without doubt, intend the best for their children, I have thought it worth while to take some pains in examining ail that has been said against it. But, first, it seems very remarkable that these objections should only be known in England. Though vaccination is spread through France*, Spain, Italy, Portugal, Germany, Prussia,

* The last report from Paris says, that Cow-pox has been found a security against Small-pox as certain as it is mild. That more than a hundred thousand persons have been vaccinated without a single fact occurring that could shake the Public confidence.—*Chaptal's Letter to the Minister of the Interior.*

Russia, and every other part of Europe; through the East Indies, and most other parts of Asia; through Africa, and not only that part of America which is inhabited by the descendants of Europeans, but among the Indian savages: still we hear of no objections to the practice but in England! England, that ought to boast the honour of the invention! England that may proudly say to France, ‘If you think us not a match for you, single-handed, in killing, at least we will be your superiors in the art of saving life!’

Some people may fancy, that because the practice begun among us, therefore it has been more general, and in consequence more accidents have happened; but this is far from the case; for the practice has been universal in other countries, and only partial in this. In the East Indies, the Priests, who lead the ignorant multitude, used to inoculate for Small-pox; they were therefore fearful of losing their consequence by the introduction of a better plan. However, the people finding that all the English children fared so well under the Cow-pox, determined, in a matter that concerned them so nearly, to judge for themselves, and then the Priests, or Bramins as they are called in that country, were obliged to do the same. But they could not bear to learn any thing of this kind from another nation.— They therefore pretended to find something about the Cow-pox in their own books, and the people not

caring much about the matter, as long as they possessed this blessing, never gave themselves the trouble of asking whence it came. The English also were too prudent to contradict them, though they well knew that there was no Cow-pox in the country but what was derived from some sent by Dr. Jenner, by way of Germany. Since that time it has been spread through all the East Indies, and Small-pox Inoculation is nearly at an end.

In America, Small-pox has been generally a very fatal disease. It is well known that bad cases sometimes occur from Inoculation in England. In America they were much more frequent, so that for this and some other reasons it was not so generally practised as in many parts of the world. But the extraordinary success of Cow-pox has obviated all difficulties, and all the objections they hear of from this country only excite their astonishment instead of altering their practice. France, I am concerned to say, only make use of this opportunity to laugh at us, and to say how easily we are deceived; and I suppose the Irish will say, "How easy it is to cheat the English, who are always laughing at our blunders,"—for in Ireland they go on vaccinating, though they read and hear all that is written and spoken against it in this country.

How comes it, then, that England, who should be so proud of the discovery, and of her son, Jenner, who

made it, is the only nation that speaks evil of this blessing. I know there are people who impute this to jealousy, and say that as an Englishman made the discovery, Englishmen cannot bear to see one of themselves raised so much above them. But for my part I am willing to think better of my countrymen. However, it must be confessed that Englishmen are but men; and it is possible that some people of this description may have written books which may have rendered others uneasy; for as it is commonly said, evil reports fly very fast, and very few have leisure to inquire into the truth of them; and when we recollect how many poor creatures were formerly burnt for witchcraft, we cannot wonder if, even in these days, when we are wiser in those respects, some of us should still be shy of what is at present new. Beside which, those who love their children (and the English ought to do more for their preservation than other nations, because they inherit more blessings) are of course anxious that they should be perfectly safe from so dangerous a disease, and they have been long enough acquainted with Small-pox Inoculation to know its security.

Thus you see I am ready to make large allowances for the different opinions of different people, and, to give a further proof of this, have paid great attention to all the objections that have been made against Vac-

ination, which I shall endeavour to answer in a manner I hope satisfactory to all. But it is worth remarking, how much they resemble those which were made against the first introduction of Inoculation for Small-pox in the year 1721, of which my late ingenious and candid friend, Dr. Woodville, has given the following account:—

“The most redoubted champion (says he *) who at this time appealed to the public against inoculation, was Dr. Wagstaffe, a man of extensive professional practice; and as a Fellow of the College, and Physician to St. Bartholomew’s Hospital, he could not fail to influence the minds of many to a considerable degree; more especially as his “*Letter shewing the danger and uncertainty of inoculating the Small-pox,*” was addressed to the learned Dr. Friend. In this letter Dr. Wagstaffe takes a very comprehensive view of the subject; and as he concludes with a recapitulation of his objections to inoculation, I am thereby enabled to give them as stated by himself.—“Now, sir, I have recounted, I believe, most of the inconveniencies arising from this experiment; I have observed that it may differ from itself as practised in another climate; that it is not agreeable to reason,

* See Doctor Woodville’s History of Inoculation.—It is but justice to remark, that the reading of Mr. Merriam’s valuable Observations on Vaccine Inoculation, first suggested these Extracts.

that the positions of the favourers of Inoculation are false, and their practices as precarious; that some have had the distemper not at all, others to a small degree, others the worst sort, and that some have died of it. I have given instances of those who have had it after inoculation in the common way, and consequently as it is hazardous, so it will neither answer the main design of preventing the distemper for the future. I have considered what the effects may be of inoculating on an ill habit of body, and how destructive it may prove to spread a distemper that is contagious; and how widely at length the authors in this subject disagree among themselves, and how little they have seen of the practice: all which seem to be just and necessary consequences of these new-fangled notions, as well as convincing reasons for the disuse of the practice."

"One of the rumours spread (continues Dr. Woodville) with a view to prejudice the public against inoculation was, that this art seldom produced the genuine Small-pox, and therefore would not secure the inoculated from the effects of variolous infection in the natural way. Mr. Tanner, at that time surgeon to St. Thomas's Hospital, declared that he inoculated a person who had undergone the casual Small-pox several years before, and the effect of the operation was a discharge from the incisions and irregular eruptions; appearances which the inoculators, in the experiments at Newgate,

had deemed sufficient to prevent the patients having the Small pox in future *.”

After this several supposed cases are enumerated of the appearance of the Small-pox after inoculation, some of which proved to have been Chicken-pox, others uncertain eruptions, the nature of which cannot now be ascertained.

Dr. Woodville, in summing up the result of inoculation for the first three years, concludes thus: “Hence we find, that of the 474 persons first inoculated in England, nine died, and their deaths were suspected to have happened in consequence of inoculation. Three of these unfortunate cases, which occurred in the year 1722, I have already related; the remaining six, which happened in the year 1723, are now to be noticed.”

“Miss Rolt, aged between nine and ten years, and a boy about three years old, were inoculated by Serjeant Surgeon Amyand, in London, both with the same matter, September 25th, 1723. They both began to sicken on the eighth day from inoculation; and on the tenth the Small-pox appeared, of the distinct kind, on both. The boy recovered: but Mr. Maitland says, “Miss Rolt, the day before the eruption, complained

* This case shews the unfair advantage which has been taken of the few instances in which similar slight eruptions have appeared in such as have been inoculated with Small-pox after vaccination.

of great pains in her shoulders, elbows, and knees; and the fever continuing, the Small-pox fluxed upon her the third day from the eruption. Sir Hans Sloane and Dr. Arbuthnot attended her. She went through the distemper with ease; the Small-pox began to turn on her on the seventh day; but were not dried all over till the fourteenth. The fever that arose then occasioned her being blooded, and soon after several tumours appeared in the neighbourhood of several joints, which were opened. The fever continued, and more suppurated tumours were daily appearing, which were discharged as soon as possible. Sometimes she was troubled with a diarrhœa, whereby, as well as by the suppuration of twenty or thirty boils that were opened, she was spent, so that she died the 27th of November following; that is, nine weeks after inoculation."

It would be tedious to enumerate the other cases. I have chosen this as enough for my purpose, to shew that the apprehension of humours (though we shall presently see they were erroneously ascribed to inoculation) was built on a more plausible foundation than any that has been produced in support of the same objection against vaccination.

But it will be said,—What are a few boils, and even the death of the patient, compared with all the horrid stories we hear against vaccination? Certainly these

last are very terrible things. But the devil being the most terrible thing in nature, it was thought by the early objectors to inoculation sufficient to bring him forward, and after his agency in a bad business was well established, it was unnecessary to say more.

“ The Rev. Mr. Maffey, in a sermon, preached at St. Andrew’s, Holborn *, against the dangerous and sinful practice of inoculation, treated the inoculators with the most unqualified abuse, calling them diabolical forcerers, hellish venefici, enemies of mankind, and hoped they would be distinguished from those of the faculty who deserve honour, and not be permitted to mingle with them, as the devil among the sons of God. He considers inoculation as a very ancient art, and first put in practice upon Job by the “ devil, who, by some venemous infusion into the body of Job, might raise his blood to such a ferment, as threw out a confluence of inflammatory pustules all over him from head to foot ; that is, his distemper might be what is now incident to most men, and perhaps conveyed to him by some such way as that of inoculation.” Thus we are to understand, that the devil was the first in-

* On Sunday, July 8th, 1722. His text was: “ So went Satan forth from the presence of the Lord, and smote Job with sore boils, from the sole of his foot unto his crown.” Chap. xi. ver. 18.

oculator, and poor Job his first patient *. Hence he terms inoculation “a diabolical operation, and an anti-providential project, that insults our religion, and banishes Providence out of the world.’

This reverend gentleman was disposed to be civil to the faculty at least; but another writer thought we ought to be ranked with the father of lies.

“He declares (says Dr. Woodville) this new practice to be founded in atheism, quackery, and avarice, which, to use the author’s words, “push men to all the hellish practices imaginable: men murder fathers, mothers, relations, and innocent children, and any that stand in the way of their wicked desires.” He adds, “While this hellish principle has so much hold upon mankind, it is highly necessary that there should be no doors left open for the practice, at least none that can be shut; that there should be no room for the covering of such horrid things from the reach of the law. Physicians have already too much latitude in practice to make havoc of mankind for the satisfaction of their judgment in physic, and increase

* This conceit of the Rev. Divine gave rise to the following epigram, published in the Monthly Miscellany for March 1774.

We’re told, by one of the black robe,
The Devil inoculated *Job*;
Suppose ’tis true what he doth tell,
Pray, neighbours, did not *Job do well*?

of their experience; but every quack now may be a hireling to the devil, and, like that banditti in Italy, be ready to do the drudgery of removing heirs, and other obstructing incumbents of many kinds; and to do this under the mask of a cure, inoculating death instead of a disease, and making use of an art never before practised, in a manner not foreseen, and by the laws not yet sufficiently guarded against."

It cannot be doubted, that these dreadful threatenings must have had considerable influence on the minds of parents. Many who were even sensible that some of the objections were false, were still apprehensive that such strong language could not be used without some real cause; accordingly we find that in the year 1724, the third after the introduction of the practice, only forty persons were inoculated. It will be presumed that many answers appeared to all these objections; but still the apprehensions of the timid, who are sometimes among the best intentioned part of society, had their effect. Few people see enough of the world to enable them to judge impartially of contradictory evidence; and whilst the mind is thus kept in suspense, it listens eagerly to every suggestion which strengthens its doubts, and serves as an excuse for its want of decision. There is, however, a class of mankind, whose hourly intercourse with the world enables them to form the most correct judgment of characters, and whose ele-

vated rank furnishes them with all the information they wish for.

“When Sir Hans Sloane, at that time the first physician in Europe, was consulted by George the First, relative to the inoculation of the two princesses his grand-children, he told his Majesty—it was impossible to be certain but that on raising such a commotion in the blood, there might happen dangerous accidents not foreseen. To this the king replied—that such might and had happened to persons, who had lost their lives by bleeding in a pleurisy, and taking physic in any distemper, let ever so much care be taken. In this opinion Sir Hans coincided with his Majesty, and the two princesses were inoculated.”

This conduct, so worthy of one celebrated for the goodness of his disposition, and the soundness of his judgment, one should have expected would have had a proper effect: but neither example nor argument had any influence on Dr. Wagstaffe; whose remark on the occasion was, “Posterity will scarcely be brought to believe, that an experiment, practised only by a few ignorant women, should so far obtain in one of the politest nations in the world, as to be received into the royal palace.” However the Doctor had soon afterwards the mortification to find it introduced a second time into the royal family; for their Royal Highnesses Prince Frederick and Prince William were both inoculated this same year.

Yet with all this encouragement the progress of inoculation was in those days incredibly slow, compared with vaccination in our own. The numbers vaccinated and inoculated at the Small-pox Hospital alone, within these last *eight months*, exceeds the whole that were inoculated during *fourteen years* after the first introduction of that practice. There was indeed one objection against Small-pox Inoculation, which was too well founded. The first projectors flattered themselves that the disease given in this way would not prove infectious to others, excepting by inoculation. In this they soon found themselves mistaken. But this cannot be urged against vaccination, which it is now our business to consider: and the only objections that I have heard against which are,

First, That it is no security at all against the Small-pox. Secondly, That it is only a security for a time. And, thirdly, That it introduces humours into the constitution.

The first objection has now almost died away; the evidence to the contrary is so strong, that no reasonable people will any longer attempt to maintain it.

That it is only a security for a time, has been urged by a very well-intentioned author. But the best of people are liable to errors, and very few are ready to acknowledge them. However, the most respectable among those who maintain this opinion, is now led to

believe, that if a person is vaccinated in the hand he may be secure from the Small-pox for life; but if in the arm, only for a time. Let not the reader suppose I mean to laugh at this distinction. The best and the ablest men now and then fall into what appears an absurdity, but they always get out; not by the arguments of other people, for they know them beforehand, but by being left to themselves they inquire after truth; whereas, when improperly opposed, they are too apt to think that their only business is to defend themselves at all events. Something of this kind must, I think, have suggested this notion to the worthy gentleman who holds this opinion. However, it is not a question worth quarrelling about, for the true friend of vaccination will be no more angry with another for vaccinating the hand, than for using his left hand instead of his right.

However, if we were to admit that some instances have occurred of Small-pox after Cow-pox, I shall show that this is really no objection against the practice. There are three ways in which this may happen:

First, By an imperfect vaccination.

Secondly, By the constitution being under the influence of some other disease at the time of vaccination*.

* These instances are well known to medical people. See *Medical Journal*, vol. xii. p. 97.

And, lastly, By the person being liable to the Small-pox twice.

This last seems very strange to those who suppose that there are rules which admit of no exceptions. But it is well known that some people never take the Small-pox at all; and it is equally certain that some few, happily very few, have it twice. I know some say, this was never thought of till the Cow-pox made its appearance; but the following quotation is from a book published before vaccination was practiced.

“It is a law with most morbid poisons, that a constitution that has once gone through the action excited by them is no longer susceptible of it. This is the case, with very *few exceptions*, in the *Small-pox*. I say with very *few exceptions*, because some cases to the contrary have been so well authenticated, that I am not sceptical enough to doubt that the susceptibility may be so strong in some particular constitutions as to *admit of the disease a second time after a certain period*.”
—See Observations on Morbid Poisons, published by Johnson, 8vo. 1795.

Thus you see, as Small-pox is expected sometimes to occur twice, there is no wonder if it has also appeared after Cow-pox. But most of these cases have been found on inquiry not to be the genuine disease. This has made some people say, “If it is so difficult to know the genuine Cow-pox, is it not better to use the

Small-pox, which is better understood?" But the truth is, the Cow-pox is much more easily understood than the Small-pox, because being a milder disease it is much more regular in its appearance; whereas the Small-pox, from its violence, assumes so many shapes, that, unless by the period of the fever, we cannot always ascertain from the arm, whether the patient is safe or not; and even the ablest practitioners have been obliged to acknowledge their doubts and mistakes.

But it is best to give a few instances. Baron Dimf-dale, who had the honour to inoculate the late Empress of Russia, and was ennobled by her, mentions whole districts which were inoculated with Chicken-pox, instead of Small-pox; and the error was never discovered till the Small-pox occurred, and all the inoculated were found to take the disease. In Denmark, the first inoculation of supposed Small-pox was Chicken-pox, and the same consequences happened. The following case shews that a very skilful practitioner may be mistaken in the Small-pox; and what is more, that he may be honest enough to own it. The case was published by the London College of Physicians, as long ago as the year 1785.

“Last spring I inoculated two children in one family. On the third day there was a slight inflammation around the places of incision. On the fifth, it was considerably increased; and the places felt hard, upon

being pressed by the finger. I saw them again on the seventh or eighth day; and then the inflammation was much increased, extending nearly to the breadth of half a crown. Upon my applying a gentle pressure to the inoculated places, matter issued out of them; with which, as it issued from the arms of both patients, I perfectly saturated a cotton thread. With this thread I inoculated nineteen persons, by first making a slight incision in their arms with a clean lancet, and then applying a small piece of the cotton thread, and a plaster to retain it upon the place, as is usual. Every one of these had a fever, and eruption of pustules, at a proper time. But the children from whom the matter was taken did not sicken as was expected: and, on the eleventh day, the inflammation upon their arms was considerably abated; and, two or three days after this, there remained nothing but a dry scab. Agreeably to the general opinion of the Faculty, I told the parents, that their children were secure from future infection of the Small-pox. They, however, insisted upon their being inoculated again; which was accordingly done, in the arm of each. Contrary to my expectations, their arms began again to be inflamed, and went on in the same manner as they had done before, till about the ninth or tenth day; when they sickened, had a smart fever for three days, and then a

eruption of a considerable number of variolous pustules.

“ This I aver to be true ; how ill foever it may agree with any pre-conceived theory concerning infection ; and the ignorance of what is obviously deducible from this fact, has, sometimes, brought a discredit upon Inoculation. For I know that there have been some instances, where the inoculator, from the *appearance* upon the arm *only*, has pronounced his patients safe from any future attack of the Small-pox ; and yet, some years afterwards, they have taken that disease in the natural way.

“ Sedbergh, 19th December, 1772.

“ P. S. At a proper time, I make no doubt but that these two children might have been inoculated *from themselves.*”

It appears probable that these children did not sufficiently take the Small-pox the first time ; and if such a gentleman as this was mistaken in a disease which he must have known all his life time, no wonder if in the beginning of Vaccination some errors should have been committed. None of the cases, however, vaccinated by Dr. Jenner have failed, numerous as they certainly must be ; and this is the less remarkable, because from his longer acquaintance with the subject he was not likely to mistake the appearance. Another remark I

would make from this case is, that it is very plain that those few cases in which a pustule was raised by inoculation of Small-pox after Cow-pox, were of the same nature as the first that appeared in these children, and is such as may happen at any time to a person who has gone through the Small-pox or Cow-pox.

The histories of persons who have had Small-pox after inoculation for that disease, are so numerous, that I doubt not most of them rest upon much the same authority as those which are reported after Vaccination. However, among the number some are well founded in both; and probably about the same proportion. The following case was recorded when the friends of inoculation were particularly zealous in enquiring into the force of every objection, and its evidence is supported by the most respectable authority.

Dr. Deering's "*Account of the improved method of treating the Small-pox, published in 1737,*" contains a striking fact, which has never been contradicted. He says, "I have with pleasure read the several accounts of the progress and happy success of inoculation: but when I heard of some who had been inoculated in vain, no eruption ensuing; when I *was an eye-witness of the inoculation of a little boy**, who notwithstanding the

* This boy was the son of Dr. Croft, and inoculated by Dr. Steigerthal, physician in ordinary to King George the First.— See Woodville.

great care there was taken in the choice of the pus, had the confluent kind severely, and twelve months after had them naturally, and the favourable sort, yet was very full; when I met with many, and among them three in one family, miserably feamed and pitted; when it was known in several parts of London that some of the inoculated persons had lost their lives; I could not help fearing these things might do that method harm, as they contradicted the sanguine promises of some of the favourers of that operation."

But, perhaps, it will be said, if the Small-pox happens after inoculation for the Small-pox, and after the Cow-pox also, will it not be better to take the disease in the natural way, and make ourselves sure?—If there was any greater security in the natural way there might be some reason in this argument, but it will be found upon inquiry, that this is not the case, for some families are so very liable to Small-pox, that the greater part will have it severely, and some twice over; whilst other families are so little susceptible, that most of them will have it slightly, and some will not take it at all, either by inoculation or exposure. The following case of Small-pox in the natural way twice, stands on such good authority, that I shall think it enough to transcribe it without troubling the reader with any others. It is extracted from the Memoirs of the London

Medical Society, and has been inserted in the Parish register.

HISTORY OF A SECOND SMALL-POX ;

By EDWARD WITHERS, *Surgeon, Newbury, Berkshire,*
and C. M. S.

“ Mr. Richard Langford, a Farmer of West Shefford, in this county, about fifty years of age, when about a month old had the Small-pox, at a time when three others of the family underwent the same disease, one of whom, a servant man, died with it. Mr. Langford's face being remarkably pitted and seamed, so as to attract the notice of all who saw him, no one could entertain a doubt about his having had that disease in the most inveterate manner ; moreover, it was usual for him also, whenever the Small-pox happened among the poor of his parish, to attend and assist in accommodating them with all necessaries.

“ On the 8th of May, 1775, I was desired to visit this person. I saw him again early on the morning of the 10th, when his fever was somewhat abated. The succeeding day I found him still better, but complaining of a rash, which the family then informed me they had perceived very early the morning before, but

which they forgot to mention to me, and which had escaped *my* notice, his chamber being a very dark one.

“ On examining this eruption, its appearance so much resembled the Small-pox, that I told the family I should not have hesitated in pronouncing it to be so, if his having had that distemper had not been so notorious. The next day the eruption was universal; his throat also, which he had complained of the day before, was now become more troublesome, and indeed, every other appearance so much favoured the idea of the disease being variolous, as to induce me to give the most decided opinion of its being so, and to desire that there might be no communication or intercourse with any of his friends who had not had that disease. This opinion was ridiculed, and consequently but little attention paid to the precaution. In the progress of this case, the advancement of the pustules, the swelling of the face and head, and that smell peculiar to the disease, as well as every other circumstance, still more and more confirmed me in the opinion I had given.

“ Reflecting on the singularity of the case, I desired, on the eighth day from the invasion, that a physician might visit him; accordingly Dr. Collet, then a resident in this place, was desired to see him. Considering how necessary it was that the nature of this case

should be investigated in the fullest manner, I requested Dr. Hulbert, a physician of eminence here, would attend with Dr. Collet, on my own account. This measure appeared to me the more necessary, as the whole neighbourhood held my opinion in contempt; even Dr. Hulbert, to whom the patient was well known, laughed at my idea of its being the Small-pox. However both those gentlemen, on visiting the patient, pronounced it to be so. As the patient himself never could be reconciled to the opinion of his case being Small-pox, he was disinclined to pursue the means recommended. Under these disadvantages, he had but an indifferent chance of recovery from a bad confluent distemper; he died on the twenty-first day from the seizure.

“ Four of the family, as also a sister of the patient, to whom the disease was conveyed by her son’s visiting his uncle, falling down with the Small-pox, fully satisfied the country with regard to the nature of the disease, which nothing short of this would have done: the sister died.

“ This case was thought so extraordinary a one as to induce the Rector of the parish to record the particulars of it in the parish register.

“ EDWARD WITHERS,

“ *Newbury, March 20, 1791.*”

Though we are apt to be surpris'd at these events, yet in reality they are not more remarkable than a white negro, or a cow with two heads, which every body has seen or heard of. But a man with the Small-pox a second time is not shown at Bartholomew Fair, therefore few people know any thing about the matter.

Let us now attend to the last charge, that Cow-pox inoculates humours. By this I suppose is meant, that children are subject to breakings-out after it. Children are certainly subject to breakings-out, whether vaccinated or not. The same objection we have seen started against inoculation for Small-pox, and with more reason; because when the inoculated Small-pox is violent, which is now and then the case, it may do the same mischief as the natural Small-pox, which is often followed with very terrible diseases. This, therefore, is not the fault of inoculation, but of the disease: as a proof of this take the following history, related by Mr. Baker, and published by the Medical Society of London.

“ The following dismal case is the third of diseas'd joints after the *natural Small-pox* which has come within my knowledge; and which I beg the Society's permission to lay before them.

“ Edward Hughes, born in the workhouse of St. Bride, a healthy fine child till the age of rather more

than five months, when he was seized with the natural Small-pox. The pustules were few, large, and full of matter, and were every where perfectly dried off by the ninth day, about which time the left elbow became inflamed very much; and after a few days a large suppuration took place in the cavity of the joint, which seemed, from the quantity of matter, to have perfectly separated the natural attachment between the bones: hardly had this gone its length, but a similar one took place in the other elbow, not less violent than the first.—In this state the child was brought to me, October 2d, Poultices of bread and milk had been applied by the direction of the gentlemen of St. Bartholomew's hospital, where it had been taken for advice. It had then considerable symptomatic fever; saline, and gently opening medicines were now given, and the poultices continued.

“About the 10th of October the tumor on the left elbow broke, and discharged a great quantity of smooth well-digested pus; and left the bones so completely separated, that the fore-arm might have been twisted round; and seemed almost in danger of being torn off by accident, from the total loss of substance, except diseased skin, and cellular membrane, which were very loose and flaccid, from the previous tumefaction. Scarce had the mischief began in the right elbow, be-

fore simular inflammation appeared in both knees, and in each wrist. The sufferings of the poor little object are not to be described : it gradually languished in this miserable state till October 17th, when it died, aged about seven months."

Here you see the dreadful effects of three cases of natural Small-pox, so that in this case, Inoculation could have nothing to do with the disease that followed. But what have we heard of Cow-pox? Doubtless that some children have had breakings-out after it, and that others have been cured of their breakings-out by it*. But where do these breakings out come from? Is it from the cow, or from the person from whom the matter is taken? If from the person, we are not likely to fare better from Small-pox inoculation. Is it then from the cow? Let us for a moment recollect who are the people that are most subject to Cow-pox, in whom the discovery was first made, and who receive it, though with less violence, sometimes two or three times in their life. These are the healthy, plump, English dairy maids! celebrated through the world for their rosy cheeks, their sleek arms, and stout constitutions. This I think must be enough to do away all this strange nonsense about the danger of inoculating humours from an animal whose milk makes the prin-

* See Medical Journal, vol. xii. p. 97.

principal part of our childrens' food, whose flesh is the source of Old English courage, and whose breath is not only fragrant, but salubrious.

I have now said enough, I hope, to show how unfounded these prejudices are. But I cannot conclude without a few other remarks. It has been said by some of the best of people, that it is every one's duty to inoculate for the Small-pox, because by it the child is saved from a severer disease. This was very proper before a better method was known. But now it becomes every one's duty, not only to think of their own, but every other person's children: *To do as they would be done by.* Now, it is well known, that whoever is vaccinated, not only is equally safe from the Small-pox, much safer from humours than if inoculated with Small-pox, but also that he cannot convey the disease to another. Whereas by inoculation for Small-pox, a whole town may be infected, and numbers carried off before they are aware of the cause. For your own sakes, therefore, for the sake of others, and keeping in view a Christian command, I trust you will persuade every one to relinquish a practice which has nothing to plead in its favour, and adopt another against which nothing can be said.

APPENDIX.

IN the course of the work it has been mentioned, that cases of Small-pox, after Inoculation for that disease, have occurred, and been remarked before the Cow-pox was known. The following are inserted merely because the events being recent, or the parties well known, any one may satisfy himself of the particulars.

No. I.

[Copy of a Letter from the Earl of Westmeath.]

SIR,

Understanding that a report has been industriously circulated, which, if believed, would tend much to weaken that confidence which is at present so generally and so justly entertained by the public, in your system of Inoculation for the Cow-pox; namely, that my youngest son had taken the natural Small-pox after having been vaccinated; I think it but justice to

you to contradict the report, and to state for your satisfaction the real circumstances of the case, which are as follow :

When he was about two months old, he was Inoculated for the *Small-pox* in the Suttonian method, by a physician in Ireland, who has been very generally successful in Inoculation, and pronounced by him to be entirely free from the risk of infection ; notwithstanding which he caught the infection about a fortnight since, and is now recovering from the *natural Small-pox*.

I beg to inform you at the same time, that my youngest daughter, who was vaccinated by you about four years since, has not only been frequently exposed to the danger of infection, but was actually inoculated for the *Small-pox* without taking it. I have considered it incumbent upon me to bear this testimony to the efficacy of the Vaccine system, as I consider the report relative to my son, that originated in misrepresentation, to have been circulated for purposes obviously prejudicial to that most useful and fortunate discovery.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient humble servant,

(Copy)

WESTMEATH.

To Dr. Jenner.

No. II.

MISS PRICE, niece of Mr. Whitebrook, Wine-Cooper, in Greek-street, Soho, was inoculated when an infant for the Small-pox, by the late Dr. Barwis, of Devizes, in Wiltshire, at the time of a general variolous inoculation in that town. She had the disease satisfactorily, some marks of which are still visible on her face. About five weeks ago she sickened, and had a pretty full eruption of the natural Small-pox of the distinct kind, and is now just recovered from it; her mother attended her, and from the recollection of her daughter's having had the Small-pox by Inoculation, could not be convinced that the last eruption was Small-pox, till its complete character placed the matter beyond dispute. Upon inquiry it appeared she had the Chicken-pox when a child, which removes the possibility of her having been inoculated through mistake, in the first instance, for that complaint.

No. III.

Case of Mrs. SYDNEY PROBERT, principal Nurse at the Fever-house, in Gray's-Inn-Lane:

Sydney Probert, aged 76, was inoculated at the age of about 15 years, at Ludlow, in Shropshire, by Mr. Cole, Surgeon of that place, whose son now succeeds

him. She took the disease, fevered, with an eruption, to the satisfaction of Mr. Cole. The following year she came to London, lived in service, and exposed herself without caution, and without inconvenience, to the Small-pox. She married, and kept the George at Enfield, where she nursed seven children of her own with Small-pox, without catching it.

About twenty-six years ago she was seized with fever, which in the end proved Small-pox, and so violent, that she is more seamed and scarred with the disease, than is usually met with in the worst cases of that dreadful distemper.

No. IV.

The following cases are annexed to shew the uncertainty of Vaccination when the constitution is under any other disease. The children had probably the Itch at the time they were vaccinated; and as the surgeon never visited after he had inoculated them, he never knew whether they took the Cow-pox or not; moreover, the history is written by Dr. Clutterbuck, a gentleman of well-known respectability, and as yet not a warm advocate for Vaccination.

It has been publicly stated within these few days, by a professional enemy of the Vaccine Inoculation *,

* Dr. Mosely.

that at the house of a Mrs. Mills, Sleaford-street, Battersea-fields, (a nurse to the poor children of St. John's parish, Westminster) two children had within the last ten days died of Small-pox, who had the Cow-pox last summer; and that three other children were at this time ill of the same disease, in a severe degree, who also had Cow-pox last summer.

As this account will probably be laid before the public, and is certainly calculated to make a strong impression, I felt anxious to obtain a more minute relation of the particulars, and for this purpose repaired with my friend Mr. Sawrey, Surgeon to the House, on Saturday last, the 25th instant. The Nurse informed us, (Dr. Clutterbuck continues his account) that nine children under her care were inoculated for the Cow-pox last summer, by a gentleman, who at that time attended the sick poor of the parish, but whose name she does not now recollect. She says, that he never saw the children after the inoculation. She thought at the time that some of them took the infection, others not: but she has no distinct recollection of the particular appearances. Three of these children died of the natural Small-pox within the last ten days; but she cannot say whether the Inoculation left any marks on the arms; yet she says, that ever since, all the children have had breakings-out to a violent degree, which she attributes to the Cow-pox,

and to the children not having taken phytic afterwards.

Upon examining the arms of the three children now under the Small-pox, I was not able to discover any cicatrices (scars, or marks from Inoculation, which continue through life). But it must be observed, that the arms, like the rest of the body, have a considerable number of pustules on them, though there is sufficient room for the scars to appear, if situated in the interstices. In one of them there is such a general roughness and scabiness of the skin, that a cicatrix, if present, would scarcely be perceived.

The remaining three children have not taken the Small-pox. Upon the arms of all these visible cicatrices are left by the inoculation; in two, as strongly marked as usual; in the third, very faintly.

The breaking-out on the skin of these children, which the nurse refers to the Cow-pox, is indubitably the Itch; very distinctly characterized between the fingers, and on some other parts, though in many places, it has degenerated into angry, scabby pustules, an appearance not at all unusual in the Itch in children. The nurse herself has this disease in a great degree:

From the above account no inference can be drawn against Vaccination: on the contrary, imperfect as it is, it is rather in favour of the practice; for

in the three instances where there is any evidence of the Cow-pox having really taken place, (viz. the cicatrices remaining on the arms) the Small-pox has not occurred; whilst in those that died, and in the other three now ill of the Small-pox, it is at least doubtful whether any cicatrices were left.

I confess that the late failures have made me somewhat sceptical as to the permanency of the preventive power of Vaccination; and I have taken pains, in consequence, to ascertain the foundation of many of them. I need not observe, for it is notorious, that the greater number of the reputed failures are unfounded, and originated in some mistake, either with regard to the Cow-pox, or to the supposed Small-pox afterwards. A few seem scarcely to admit of doubt; at least no explanation of them has been yet given that is satisfactory to my mind. In some the circumstances have been erroneously represented from misinformation, and so have led to a conclusion the reverse of what it ought to have been. This I apprehend has been the case in the instance related above.

(Signed) HENRY CLUTTERBUCK,
St. Paul's Church-yard,
May 29th, 1805.

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