

Note by Ambroise Tardieu: here I will reproduce the manuscript almost in its entirety and as it was transmitted to me. I will remove only the passages which lengthen the tale without adding to the interest of it, but above all I will respect the form which has a particular stamp of sincerity and striking emotion. I will remark that the author has only disguised proper names and places; the facts and impressions remain absolutely true.

My note: I'm not sure why Tardieu felt he had the authority to cut some passages or how he could tell which parts of the original manuscript would not be of interest. When we have a text second hand like this (not literally from the author's hand) it's important to remember that the intermediary cannot always be trusted to have 'faithfully' portrayed the 'original'. Tardieu will have had his reasons for cutting some passages which may have been influenced by his political or medical agenda. [Tardieu](#) was an expert in toxicology and forensic medicine.