VI.—*Note on the Action of Ethyl Chlorocarbonate on Benzene in presence of Aluminium Chloride.*

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It was shown some years ago by Wilm and Wischin (*Annalen*, **147**, 150) that ethyl chlorocarbonate does not react with benzene, even when the two substances are heated together in sealed tubes, and that the former body decomposes, when heated to about 150° , into carbonic anhydride and monochlorethane. The idea suggested itself that possibly the two bodies might react at a low temperature in presence of aluminium chloride. On making the experiment, reaction commenced at once in the cold, large quantities of carbonic anhydride and hydrochloric acid being evolved, and *ethyl benzene* produced.

Subsequently it was found that ethyl chlorocarbonate, by mere contact with aluminium chloride in the cold, decomposes violently into carbonic anhydride and monochlorethane. The ethyl-benzene produced in the above reaction is therefore evidently due to the action of the liberated monochlorethane on the benzene.

When ethyl chloracetate is substituted for ethyl chlorocarbonate, no reaction takes place in the cold, and although some hydrochloric acid is evolved on heating, the desired result is not obtained, no ethylic phenylacetate being produced.