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*Case of a Negro turning White; communicated by
Mr. T. DANCER, of Kingston, Jamaica.*

[With an Engraving.]

IT is well known that there are Negroes, (Albinos) born white, some are partly coloured or pie-bald, and it is not uncommon for Negroes in extreme old age to have white spots or blotches about them; but a case like the following is, I believe, without example in this island. I have seen an account of such an one in America, which is perhaps the only one besides ever known or heard of.

Charles Fuller, a Negro man, between fifty and sixty years of age, belonging to Middleton estate, in St. Thomas in the East, a Creole, (that is one born in the West Indies) had in the month of January last, a slight fever; in recovering from which, several white spots appeared on his face, which spreading and running into each other, his whole face now is nearly that of a white man, three or four black blotches only remaining, and his upper lip being black. The same white spots begin to appear on the neck, arms, and trunk; so that, in a short time, the Ethiopian may become white, and the leopard change his skin, contrary to what it is supposed can ever possibly happen. No cause whatever can be assigned for this surprizing change. The man is in perfect good health, having no symptom of any disease, except a slight œdema or swelling of the ankles, to which he for a long time has been occasionally subject. He has been many years a hot-house doctor, that is, an attendant on the sick in the plantation hospital, and has undergone no alteration in any of his habits of living. He has not been under the influence of any mental impression, though at present he is rather dejected from the circumstance of the change of colour, which he considers as the harbinger of some worse alteration. The colour is a healthy ruddy white, not that of an Albino; nor does he labour under any defect of vision as all the Albinos do.

I leave it to Anatomists and Physiologists of greater abilities than myself, to employ their speculations on this curious Case.

May, 1802.

NUMB. XLII.

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Cases

Cases and Remarks on Hydrocephalus Internus, with a Description of a morbid Appearance of the Cerebrum; communicated by Mr. J. B. DAVIS, Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, &c.

APRIL 4th, 1802. Anne Smith, five years of age, was seized with convulsive motions over her whole body. The history of her illness was this. She had been during two months gradually drooping; feverish heats came on towards night; the tongue was white and dry, an universal languor prevailed, vision became imperfect, and the appetite diminished. About a fortnight before I saw her, she began to complain of head-ach, which was soon succeeded by a slight fit and a temporary exacerbation of the other symptoms. Prior to the first approach of this complaint the child enjoyed perfect health, and her mother informed me, that she never had had the head-ach till five or six weeks after the commencement of the present indisposition. I examined the head and found it very large, having the fontanelles widely extended; but from the apparent pressure on the brain, and the agitation induced by convulsive efforts, I could not positively decide what the case was, though I strongly suspected, from the narrative of Mrs. Smith, that it must be Hydrocephalus Internus. At the next visit, however, I was able to satisfy myself of the truth of my conjecture the preceding evening; and the following train of symptoms, which I then ascertained without any difficulty, will, I believe, be considered as ample proofs of the existence of that disease. Dilated pupils, slow and oppressed pulse, thirst, loss of appetite, costiveness, pain in the head, great drowsiness, but disturbed sleep, white and dry tongue, coldness of the feet, dimness of sight, &c. Three or four fits came on in all; and as the vessels of the encephalon became distended by a determination of blood to the head, the dimness of sight and dilatation of the pupils increased. The complaint insidiously gained ground from the second convulsion; and morbid action, which had hitherto been slow and progressive, doubtless now acquired activity, and filled the cavities of the brain with a preternatural quantity of fluid. The pulsation at the temporal arteries was very strong, though slow; and if I might judge from that, and the pain which I produced by raising or moving the head to either side, the meninges of the encephalon, as well as the brain itself, were in a state of high inflammation. My little patient would sometimes give rational answers, but oftener be altogether insensible to what was said to her. The stupor which she generally had, a good deal resembled the delirium that attacks persons with inflammation

tion of the pia mater from injuries of the head. I regretted that nothing had been hitherto done for the child's relief, and was determined, without delay, to apply the most powerful remedies.

I opened the temporal artery the first evening I was consulted, and took away four ounces of blood; ordered a blister to be put to the top of the head, and half a drachm of mercurial ointment to be rubbed into the nape of the neck immediately. As the bowels were in a confined state, and had been so some time, I prescribed three grains of calomel and a solution of magnes. vit. to produce several brisk evacuations. The next morning, April 5, I again opened the temporal artery, and obtained four or five more ounces of blood. The blister had acted extremely well; and being anxious to irritate the surface and keep up a discharge, I removed the cuticle and dressed the exposed part with ungt. sabinae. Ulceration of the scalp is generally serviceable in organic affections of the cerebrum; and as a quantity of blood was previously drawn from the vessels of the head, I had an idea that absorption would take place more readily, and I accordingly promoted counter irritation by gentle stimuli. Local fullness being thus carried off, there could be no danger of keeping up inflammation, by determining to a surface so nearly connected with the encephalon. Antimonials administered to excite nausea sometimes do good, and I tried them with benefit in this case. I directed a solution of the antimon. tart. to be made and given at proper intervals till the stomach either became uneasy or rejected it. It was thus prepared: R. Antimon. tart. gr. iij. Aq. pur. ʒxv. spt. cinnam. ʒj. M. capt. cochlear parv. ʒtis horis. Ointment repeated. On the evening of the second day pulse 96; slept better, and did not appear to be in such pain. April 6th, Was rather sick; pulse 90; eyes dilated as before; slept tolerably well during the night, and awoke with more composure; coldness of the extremities gone off; ointment repeated; antimon. solution given once in six hours. April 7th, Nausea, but no vomiting; could suffer the head to be elevated and moved from side to side; pulse 86; slept very well; was rational; costiveness supervened, for which I prescribed a mercurial purge, consisting of two grains of calomel and six of jalap; dimness of sight remained; ointment repeated. April 8th, Opening medicine had not operated; head uneasy; pulse 94; very thirsty; hot skin; disturbed sleep. My patient was evidently worse, and required some immediate evacuations. I prescribed an aperient enema, composed of sal cathart. ol. Ricin. et dec. com. pro enema, and directed three or four leeches to be applied behind each ear. In the evening I perceived an amendment, the pulse

being reduced to 86, and the head easier. Advised two scruples of the ointment to be rubbed into the neck; and in place of the antimonial solution, a grain of calomel at bed-time. A drachm of aq. ammon. acet. was given once in six hours, in order to allay feverish symptoms. April 9th, Head easy; pulse 75; less heat; slept very well. The effect of the mercury being slow, I ordered the child to be put into warm salt water, with a view of expediting its influence on the gums. Calomel repeated. An enema was administered, viz. R. Dec. com. pro enem. $\mathfrak{ss}$. ol. Ricini $\mathfrak{z}$ ss. ft. enema. April 10th, Pulse 70; slept extremely well; gentle perspirations; head not at all painful; talked rationally; complained now and then of being very languid. I prescribed, R. Mist. camph. $\mathfrak{z}$ ijss. spt. æther vit. comp. $\mathfrak{z}$ j. fyr. tolut. $\mathfrak{z}$ ij. M. cochlear 1 amp. quando urgeant languores. Ointment repeated. April 11th, Pulse 70; slept well; head easy; talked sensibly; took freely of beef tea; skin soft and moist; gentle perspirations during the night; mouth sore. Directed the blister to be still kept open, and the same plan continued. April 12th, Slight ptialism; head perfectly free from pain; had good nights; pulse 72; pupils more irritable; sight imperfect as before; sat up two hours, and conversed rationally, but could not remember any thing that was said the preceding day. Plan continued. April 13th, Pulse 70; sight improved; pupils more contractile; slept well; head light, but free from pain; ptialism increasing; bowels rather confined. Ordered the aperient enema to be administered, and the ointment left off. April 14th, Appetite returning; ptialism moderate; pulse 70; sight better; head easy; took beef tea and calve's foot jelly several times in the course of the day. April 15th, Pupils dilated; head very light; pulse languid; spitting moderate. Prescribed R. Conf. aromat. $\mathfrak{z}$ ij. aq. cinnam. $\mathfrak{z}$ j. spt. ammon. co. $\mathfrak{z}$ j. aq. pur. $\mathfrak{z}$ iv. fyr. simp. $\mathfrak{z}$ ij. M. cochlear 1 amp. sape sumend. April 16th, Pulse languid; head more comfortable; sight improving; ptialism abating. Medicine repeated. April 17th, Much the same; directed the blister to be dressed with healing ointment. April 18th, Very sensible; pulse still low; head easy; took much nutriment, which consisted of jelly, beef tea, light puddings, &c. April 19th and 20th, Much the same. April 21st, Pulse acquiring strength; memory indifferent; head very easy; sat up three or four hours; sight much better; Pupils more contractile; blister almost healed. April 23d, Better in all respects. April 26th, Gaining strength fast; good nights; bowels regular; eyes not so dull. April 30th, Going on well. May 2d, Memory impaired; pupils contracted as in health; sight extremely good; walked about the room by herself. May 5th, Was so much recovered

recovered that I did not think it necessary to see her again. The only relief of the disease was failure of memory, which imperfection, I concluded, would be removed as the functions of the brain resumed their former power. She went into the country, at my request, and there remains. I am since informed by her mother, that she acquires strength rapidly, but cannot recollect any thing that has occurred after the space of two or three days.

A little girl, about four years of age, became dejected, lost her appetite, and could not bear to be in company with other children, nor within the sound of any noise. The mother did not much regard such singular conduct until the child's health grew very indifferent, when she deemed it proper to have the opinion of a medical gentleman. I was the second person consulted upon this occasion, and soon discovered that I had met with another case of *Hydrocephalus Internus*. On the 16th of April, 1802, the following symptoms prevailed: Head-ach, oppressed pulse, white tongue, anorexia, constant thirst, costiveness, dilated pupils, insensibility; a great deal of pain succeeded an attempt to turn the head to either side, which generally inclined forwards. The little sufferer's hand also strongly pointed out the seat and extent of the disease, it being always placed upon the forehead or the top of the head.

Two months had elapsed since the first appearance of any thing extraordinary in the child's behaviour, which the mother at that period rather imputed to singularity of temper than indisposition. Her habit nevertheless was scrophulous. The eyes were prominent, head large, complexion delicate, upper lip thick, and the glands of the neck indurated. However trifling the inflammation of the encephalon or pia matter was at an early period of this complaint, I had no doubt of its having made great progress now. In short, every thing concurred to make me suppose that the cavities of the brain were completely distended, and that considerable pressure was thereby produced. The length of time which my patient had been ill, her weakly constitution, and the protracted state of the complaint, all militated against the prospect of recovery. I knew that it would be impossible to succeed unless I removed compression, and I dreaded lest the evacuations necessary for that purpose should debilitate a system already much exhausted, and thus instead of restoring health render the case more dangerous. Yet the success I experienced in the former instance from emptying the vessels of the head, encouraged me to adopt the same plan again. I therefore began by opening the temporal artery, from which was obtained three ounces of blood; directed a blister to be applied to the head, and half a drachm of strong mercurial ointment to be rubbed into the nape of the neck. An enema

was also administered, viz. R. Decoct. com. $\mathfrak{H}\beta$. mag. vitriol, prius decoct. solut. 3β . ol. Ricini $3ij$. ft. Enema. On the 17th of April, I prescribed the emetic solution, (see page 99) which in the course of a few hours had the effect of exciting nausea; ordered the ointment to be repeated; and as the evacuations hitherto made were well sustained, I took away three more ounces of blood from the temporal artery. In the evening the pulse was very quick, but less oppressed; head still uneasy; skin hot; thirst excessive; pupils dilated; disturbed sleep. On the 18th April, very costive; tongue white and dry; sudden starts; constant muttering; did not understand any thing which was spoken; pupils so irritable that a candle put close to the eyes did not occasion contraction; pulse weak, but rapid. I prescribed a calomel bolus and a solution of mag. vit. a repetition of the ointment, and a warm salt bath. The blister during this time discharged freely. On the 19th, pulse rapid; delirium; coldness of the extremities; partial perspirations; breathing short; frequent sighs. The emetic mixture was discontinued, and this given in its place: R. Conf. aromat. $3j\beta$. spt. cinn. $3j$. mist camph. $3iv\beta$. spt. ammon. co. gt. xx. syrupi $3ij$. M. cochlear 1 amp. sæpe sumend. Ointment repeated. I directed a blister to be put on between the shoulders. The bowels were in a regular state. On the 20th, humours of the eye appeared opaque; pupils dilated as before; pulse 120; breathing short and sonorous; could not suffer the head to be moved; disturbed sleep. Medicines repeated. Unable to take any nutriment. On the 21st, pulse so quick that the pulsations could not be numbered; feet and hands cold; subsultus tendinum; convulsions. The chance of doing good was now gone by, and every hope of recovery lost; I therefore determined to afford that degree of palliation which appeared to be attainable in my patient's situation. On the 22d, convulsions returned very often; breathing became more difficult; pulse intermitted; and in the afternoon she expired.

DISSECTION.

I took an opportunity of inspecting the head after death, and carefully exposed the meninges of the brain, in order to discover whether any morbid change had occurred in them, or if the encephalon *alone* was the seat of disease. The dura mater firmly adhered to the internal table of the skull, having its inner surface smooth, and every where detached from the pia mater, excepting at their venous communications. As soon as I reflected the first covering, I was delighted with the beautiful appearance of the pia mater. From a prodigious distension of the large vessels, and a very general distribution of blood into

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minute ramifications, the whole superficies of the membrane which was then in view had assumed a florid aspect. Upon a farther examination, those duplicatures also, insinuating themselves into the various convolutions of the cerebrum, partook of the same colour, and altogether formed one of the finest specimens of inflammation I ever recollect to have seen. There was no extravasation between the meninges to produce pressure, nor a want of the natural secretion designed for lubricating their surfaces and preventing adhesion; but separating the hemispheres of the brain with my fingers, to look at the corpus callosum, I perceived a small quantity of a *thick whitish fluid*. Of this I collected about half a tea spoonful, and searched along the processes of the pia mater for more, but without success. Having thus put aside the lateral parts of the cerebrum, and attentively observed the middle portion of the medullary substance, I cut slowly through the substantia corticalis, in a convex direction, until I arrived at the vaulted arch made by the union of the medullary and cortical substances, where I stopped to examine those portions of brain which were removed. The substantia alba had a reddish hue, something like what would arise from a subtle injection; and the substantia corticalis was darker than it is usually found. Instead of readily yielding to a slight stroke of the knife, they both firmly resisted, and also possessed an unusual degree of tenacity. When I took a portion of either in my hand, the more accurately to investigate its structure, much force was required to detach the smallest piece; and I was astonished to see that the whole of what I laid aside was equally compact and fibrous. In continuing the dissection, I divided a vast number of turgid vessels, and the nearer I approached the centrum ovale, the more perceptible was the redness. I expected to find a considerable quantity of water in the ventricles; and in this I was not deceived, for the moment I punctured the lateral cavities, there issued two table spoons full of a discoloured fluid, *not in the least coagulable by heat or acids*. The plexus choroides was drawn into folds, and had numerous little lumps in it of an exceeding hard nature. An experiment is commonly adverted to in a sound state of the membrane to shew these tubercles; but here morbid enlargement rendered them extremely conspicuous, and so much so, that there was no occasion to expand the plexus, or adopt any method to make the demonstration plainer. Each tubercle was certainly larger than the head of a pin*, and there were several clusters of them.

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* Of a moderate size.

The veins running on the sides of the lateral portions of the plexus, and uniting behind the glandula pinealis to discharge themselves by one trunk into the torcular herophili, were remarkably dilated. I believe the plexus choroides generally adheres to the pineal gland with considerable firmness; and unless great care is taken, cannot be removed without laceration. The gland in this case was rather swollen; and although I endeavoured for some time to detach the plexus, my efforts proved unsuccessful. On the delicate membrane which covers the corpora striata, thalami nervorum opticorum, infundibulum, sides of the fornix, &c. minute vessels were seen that are only discernible by injections or dissection. The mesenteric glands of this child were five or six times larger than their natural size, and contained a caseous kind of substance.

I would now beg leave to ask, why are the optic nerves commonly relaxed in hydrocephalus internus? Does it depend upon an increased quantity of fluid in the ventricles of the brain, or an interruption to the natural functions of that viscus from any other cause? Whether pressure be produced between the meninges of the encephalon, or in its cavities, not only the nerves of vision, but the whole nervous system, becomes affected. The same phenomenon occurs if inflammation of the cerebrum, or even concussion, takes place. Dilatation of the pupils is therefore, perhaps, first attributable to morbid action in the brain, or its meninges, and secondly to extravasation. It is probable, that at the beginning of hydrocephalus internus, a slight effusion happens *without previous inflammation* of the pia mater; but in all those cases* which I have examined after death, that delicate membrane was invariably inflamed. The natural quantity of fluid thrown out into any cavity is extremely small; and in a healthy person, a mere adequacy to prevent agglutination, and facilitate the proper actions of the part. Serious consequences seldom, I conceive, follow secretions moderately augmented; for if the constitution be but tolerably vigorous, the surplus is soon removed by the activity of the absorbents.

In this complaint the tubercles of the plexus choroides are mostly enlarged, though I suspect, like other scrophulous affections, it has its origin in the lymphatics, which insensibly becoming distended, communicate inflammation to contiguous and susceptible parts. The complexion of those children who are disposed to hydrocephalus is usually unhealthy, their constitutions

* I have at different times inspected the heads of eighteen or twenty patients who have died of this disease, and always observed the pia mater to be distended with blood.

tutions weak, and circulation through the absorbent system very imperfect. Perhaps it is inadmissible to say, that the brain I have given a description of was strumous, as I believe such a peculiar structure is rarely seen in dropsy of the head; though from the diseased state of the mesenteric glands, and the strong characteristic marks of scrophula, I am much inclined to think it was a far advanced specimen of that peculiar inflammation.

Practitioners are unfortunately not consulted till the collection of water in the cavities of the brain is considerable, and the pia mater prodigiously loaded with blood. The general mode of treatment, therefore, however excellent it may be in principle, is frequently inefficacious, and in too many instances incapable of affording the least relief. The prospect of recovery is at first most likely placed at a great distance; and unless very potent remedies are immediately employed, death will shortly put an end to the expectations of all. Should the lymphatic system only be affected, and the vascular pia mater completely pervious, topical irritation and tonic stimuli would be ample means for exciting the absorbents to remove morbid accumulation. But if inflammation has once attacked the duplicatures of that membrane, or the encephalon itself, we can only depend upon local bleedings, brisk purges, mercurial frictions, nauseating doses of antimony, &c. It is a difficult thing to ascertain the existence of an increased secretion at an early period of Hydrocephalus; and it is probable that practitioners sometimes mistake this serious disorder for a trifling affection of the head. In order to guard against an error of this kind as much as possible, my first object, whenever I am called to a child with the least apparent ailment of the brain, is to enquire the length of time it has been indisposed; how it became so? if there has been any imperfections in vision? and whether symptoms of scrophula have ever been detected?

Had the illness been but of short duration, the pupils irritable, and the constitution free from struma, I should conclude that no effusion of consequence had occurred, and my treatment would be regulated by the degree of fever, the particular nature of the complaint, and the severity of pain. But if, on the contrary, my patient's health had been gradually declining with the appetite, habit relaxed, and the lymphatics assuming any peculiar state, I should strongly suspect, provided there was indication of disease in the head, that Hydrocephalus was insidiously gaining ground, and would, in a short time, produce extensive mischief.

It would be best, in this case, I believe, to prescribe blisters to the vertex, slight mercurial frictions, preparations of steel,
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sea air and bathing, moderate exercise, &c. by which plan I should promote absorption, and subdue the morbid action of the constitution, in proportion as I gave strength, and rendered the circulation free. I have known a great many children perfectly restored to health by pursuing this method; but I acknowledge, if it has been neglected in the beginning, and the system has acquired a certain irritability, or local inflammation supervened, it is not only then insufficient, but in my humble opinion rather injudicious. I wish to remark, that I have seen *purgatives* at all times serviceable, and particularly those of a powerful kind. The pulv. e scam. cum calom. or other preparations of calomel, succeed best. Children always sustain intestinal evacuations exceedingly well; and as costiveness is one of the troublesome attendants upon this disorder, aperient medicines should be given pretty freely. A mercurial course is also commenced with much greater advantage, if absorption be previously excited by either local or general means.

Tower, July 7, 1802.

*A singular Case of an Eruptive Disease; communicated by
Mr. JOHN BADGER, of Little Scotland Yard, White-
hall.*

THE first opportunity I had of witnessing this disease was at Putney, in the month of July, 1801, when it attacked the children in several families in the neighbourhood, and seemed clearly to be confined to children only, to whom it was evidently infectious; indeed, it appears to me to be a disease peculiar to children of a certain age, having never seen a single instance of a child being affected with it before 7, nor after 15, though equally exposed. It commences with a slight fever, which continues three or four days; it then increases; nausea, and sometimes vomiting, attend, (in one or two instances I have observed the patients to complain of violent sickness after they were put to bed) with pain in the head and loins; it is then succeeded by an eruption, containing a well matured pus; the pustules are large and very thick about the head, resembling those of the small-pox; and in every case which I have seen, they have been confined to the head, particularly the scalp. (In one instance there was a pustule appeared on the hand, but its contents were very unlike the others, and I much doubt whether it had any affinity to the disease in question.) The bowels during

during the progress of the disease, were unusually constipated, and, in one or two instances, not only the body, but the face likewise was much swelled. The first two or three cases I had not an opportunity of seeing till after the eruption had taken place to a great extent, covering almost the whole of the scalp. The gentleman with whom I then resided, whose medical abilities are well known, considering it, at first, only as a common eruption peculiar to children, ordered the hair to be taken off as close as possible, to apply the tar ointment, and to open the bowels with some mild purgative. This mode of treatment was continued for several days without the least amendment; the ointment, which was applied every night, seemed rather to increase than diminish the number of pustules, and kept them from healing much longer than they otherwise would have been; it was therefore ordered to be omitted, and the head to be kept clean with warm soap and water; the patient to use a spare diet, and the bowels kept open with the pulv. e scam. cum cal. once or twice a week, or pro re nata, and a few drops of antimonial wine given once in four or six hours, till the feverish symptoms had subsided. This plan was pursued for several days without having at all mitigated the complaint, though it seemed, under every circumstance, to be the best mode of treatment that could be adopted. Accordingly it was continued for a few days longer, at which period the pulse became regular, the pain in the head and loins was removed, the pustules began to dry off, and in about a week the complaint entirely ceased.

There were several cases occurred afterwards, and which were cured by the same treatment.

Since the period abovementioned I have met with several similar cases in town, which has given me a greater opportunity of speaking more particularly on the subject, especially with respect to the different modes of treatment, which, under different circumstances, I have found it necessary to pursue. In the month of May last, I was requested to attend a girl about twelve years old; I found her affected with considerable fever, pulse quick, tongue white, and a violent pain in her head and loins, accompanied with excessive thirst, nausea, and costiveness; I was informed she had been inoculated for the small-pox successfully two years before, otherwise I should have pronounced the above symptoms to have been the forerunner of that disease, not at first considering the case in question. I ordered her a mixture with magnes. vitriolat. and mint water, to be given at due intervals, till the bowels were opened freely. The next morning I found her not at all relieved, though the mixture had procured her several stools, but still complaining of pain in her head and loins, with an increase of fever. I ordered
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her the saline draughts with vin. antimon. tart. gt. xij. in each, to be taken every four hours, and a low diet. The following day the pustules began to appear on the head, with hard and painful tumours in the glands of the neck; the face swelled, and likewise the body; she had had no stools but what had been procured her by the opening mixture, which therefore was ordered to be repeated, and to continue the saline draughts every six hours, with an addition of kali. nitrat. gt. vj. I likewise ordered the head to be shaved and washed night and morning with soap and warm water. This plan I continued for several days, when her fever was much abated, and in every other respect she was considerably better. The pustules discharged a very thick matter, but seemed very much inflamed round their bases. I then ordered the following ointment to be used night and morning, R. Ung. hydrarg. nitrat. cerat. alb. aa. part. æq. and also to continue a saline draught every night at bed time. I was happy to find the ointment had the desired effect, for in about a week there was scarcely the marks of any disease remaining, and from that time she has continued perfectly well. Two similar cases have occurred to me since, but having pursued the same treatment with success it is needless to mention them. However, before I conclude, I think it necessary to observe, that though I consider the case in question as singular, I do not mean to assert that it has never appeared in print, or to affirm that similar instances have never occurred to any other medical practitioner. Treatises may have been written on the disease, which have not come under my observation; and though I have not hitherto met with any one who is conversant with it, yet certainly there may be some few at least who are experienced on the subject; if such is the case, a communication of their knowledge will be esteemed a favour.

Report of the Surgical Cases admitted under the Care of the Surgeon of the Finsbury Dispensary, St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, from the 10th of May, to the 10th of June, 1802.

Inflammation of the Extremities - - - -	3	Fistula in Ano - - - -	2
_____ of the Breast - -	1	Ulcers of the lower Extremities - - - -	11
_____ of the Eye - -	1	Wounds of the Extremities - -	7
_____ Lippitudo - -	1	_____ of the Head - -	1
Abcesses in the Axilla - -	1	Luxation of the Shoulder - -	1
_____ in the Groin - -	1	Contusions - - - -	7
_____ of the Knee - -	1	Sprains - - - -	2
_____ Whitloes - - - -	3	Cancer of the Cheek - -	1
		Lues	

Lues - - - - -	2	Hemorrhoids - - - - -	1
Scrophula - - - - -	1	Paralytic Extremity - - - - -	1
White Swellings of the Joints	2	Stricture - - - - -	1
Enlarged Lymphatic Gland	1	Verruca - - - - -	1
Steatomatous Tumour - - - - -	1	Tinea - - - - -	1
Varix - - - - -	1	Herpes - - - - -	1

A regular Report of cases which occur at any public Institution, belonging peculiarly to the Surgeon, is at present a novelty in periodical works, those Reports which are now published being confined principally to the diseases which are with more propriety to be referred to the Medical department. The reason of this preference is probably arising from the idea that Medical Reports are those alone which can benefit society, as they principally depend on circumstances of locality, atmosphere, and various concurring causes, which it is not presumed have any influence on cases which belong more especially to the Surgeon. If such is the idea, it appears founded on error; for although a great number of surgical cases arise from causes which may operate at all times and in all seasons, and at any place, yet there are still many which are influenced materially by different circumstances of locality, and variations in the state of the circumferent agents. A fracture or a dislocation may occur at any time or place, if the exciting causes be applied; and there are various of the diseases which come under the cognizance of the Physician, which may happen at any time without a reference to any of the surrounding external causes. But when a great accident has been inflicted, as its well-doing depends, in a great measure, upon the state of the vital energy of the patient, or his general health, so it must be influenced by every cause which influences the general system, or accelerates or retards its actions.

There may be reckoned two general circumstances or divisions among external causes which have a peculiar influence on disease; these are, first, the variations which are perpetually occurring in the state of the atmosphere in which we live; and, second, the particular habitudes or modes of life of the patient. These circumstances tend in many instances to give birth to disease; and not only so, but in various other causes which arise perhaps from other exciting causes, they give the peculiar figure to the disease, mark out the type which it is to assume, give rise in the course of the complaint to peculiar phenomena, which we are from hence taught to account for, and by knowing their cause in many instances are enabled to obviate, they influence the progress and the termination of the disease.

These two general heads of external causes may be divided into numerous parts. Under the first may be reckoned the various

various changes which take place in the temperature, humidity, &c. of the atmosphere, the directions and sudden alterations in the winds, atmospherical electricity, &c. &c. Under the second head are to be considered all the causes arising from, or referable to, the habits of life of the patient: his situation with respect to the necessary articles of sustenance, as some of the class of persons who apply for relief at institutions of this kind are in the habits of free living, and very frequently suffering from intoxication, while others are in want of the most common and necessary articles of life; the habitations, cloathing, degree of cleanliness, &c. must all be considered under this head.

All these circumstances not only influence, but give rise to disease; and it is not merely in diseases which fall to the care of the Physician that they manifest their agency, but in those which are usually denominated surgical; as, with respect to the first general head, we can trace the effects of a north wind with as much accuracy in a luxated or fractured limb, as in a peripneumony or phthisis. Nothing is more influenced by these external causes from the particular state of constitution which they induce, than the process of ulceration; we mark the effects of warmth, and the different changes of the atmosphere; the extremes of poverty; the want of those necessities which contribute to the continuance and the comforts of life: A state of wretchedness, diet, and debility, are peculiarly characterized in the appearance of the ulcer, distinguishing it very forcibly from the sore of the hard-working, hard-drinking, and robust labourer; both of which classes of people are not uncommon objects of public benevolence.

Again, the habits of life of the poor, conduce, in a very peculiar manner, to specific diseases, which, assuming different appearances, fall under the care of either the Physician or the Surgeon, according to the form of the disease; as, the different species of cutaneous affections, which are, many of them, principally arising from the admission of dirt and filth between the skins, which induce diseased actions of the parts. The various forms of scrophula we daily see invading the lowly habitations of the poorer classes of society, and committing its ravages under the most dreadful forms: the Physician is daily called upon to administer to this disease, when existing in the form of phthisis, tabes mesenterica, &c. &c. and the Surgeon has, every day, fresh objects presented to him, with enlargements of the lymphatic glands, diseased joints, &c. &c. arising from this dreadful malady.

I would not wish here to be understood to insinuate that scrophula is confined to humble life; as it is a disease depending upon

upon delicacy of structure, that state may be, and constantly is, produced by various exciting causes, which induce a debile frame in all stations of life; besides, as it is frequently an hereditary disease, and as, in a few generations, the fortunes of life often so wonderfully change, we cannot be surprised that it should invade all classes of the community. So interesting a subject shall be particularly commented on in a subsequent Report.

But it may be urged, that the principal advantage resulting from periodical Reports, is the detailing of epidemic diseases, which are supposed peculiarly to belong to the Physician: This must be granted; yet, notwithstanding this advantage, the report of Cases of Surgery, though not perhaps so immediately useful for this intention, must be productive of considerable advantage, if properly conducted, as in course thereof many observations must naturally occur, on particular diseases, or general physical causes, which could never appear by any other channel.

As the present Paper is to be considered as introductory, it may be proper to say a few words on the mode intended to be adopted in making these Reports. The usual mode is by a heterogeneous mixture of English and Latin names, and some of these extremely unscientific. The most scientific method would be, in reporting Medical Cases, to follow the order of the best Nosologist; but as no correct nosology of diseases which may be denominated chirurgical has yet appeared, such a plan cannot be adopted in the present instance; I shall therefore adhere to the following order of arrangement:

1st. Idiopathic inflammation, as being a morbid action the most general of any, being confined to no particular part, and being produced at different times by such various and different causes, and whose terminations and effects produce a majority of the Cases of Surgery.

2d. The various terminations and consequences of inflammation, as abscesses, ulcers, fistulæ, &c. &c.

3d. Accidents.

4th. Specific diseases, depending on a particular morbid poison.

Lastly. The various local diseases, not arising from any manifest external accidental causes, but depending on a particular action of the part itself, or from internal causes.

In the names of the diseases, I shall adhere to the general English appellation, as the publication for which this Report is intended, is not confined to the inspection of the Medical World, but diffused throughout the studies of the public in general; but in those instances where a Latin name has,
through

through use, become anglicized, I shall prefer it to a translation of the word into English, which might appear formal and pedantic.

Hatton-Street.

J. RICARDS,
Surgeon to the Finsbury Dispensary.

ACCOUNT OF DISEASES IN AN EASTERN DISTRICT OF LONDON,

From June 20, to July 20, 1802.

ACUTE DISEASES.			
Febris Intermittens Tertiana	4	Gastrodynia	7
Scarlatina Anginosa	4	Diarrhœa	4
Pleuritis	3	Ascites	3
Erysipelas	1	Hæmorrhoids	3
Rheumatismus Acutus	5	Chlorosis	4
		Hernia	2
CHRONIC DISEASES.		Scrophula	7
Tussis	12	Impetigo	4
Dyspnœa	7	Rheumatismus Chronicus	12
Tussis cum Dyspnœa	9	PUERPERAL DISEASES.	
Hæmoptysis	2	Abcessus Mammæ	2
Hydrops Pectoris	2	Menorrhagia Lochialis	3
Anasarca	3	Ephmera	4
Pleurodyne	4	INFANTILE DISEASES.	
Epilepsia	2	Pertussis	4
Cephalalgia	7	Ophthalmia	3
Paralysis	2	----- Purulenta	1
Syncope	2	Herpes	3
Hysteria	4	Tinea	2

With a state of the weather so unusual at this time of the year as that which we have lately experienced, and especially with a temperature of the air continued for a considerable time so far below the point to which it generally rises at the present season, we might well expect that the human frame as well as the vegetable productions should be materially affected: We have accordingly observed an unusual prolongation of those complaints which usually accompany such a state of the air. Colds and coughs, pleuritis and peripneumonies, rheumatic affections and pains in the face, have been very frequent. Hooping cough though, the number of patients labouring under it are fewer, and the symptoms attending it are less violent, is still a troublesome disease. Scarlatina anginosa has prevailed to a considerable degree, and has in some instances proved fatal. In other instances it has been succeeded by anasarcaous swellings. This symptom does not in general excite any alarm, as it does in those cases where it may be considered as a primary disease, or as connected with the diseased state of some organ. It generally subsides in a little time after the usual means have been employed.

Observations

*Observations on Antisoric Preparations; communicated
by Mr. JOHN RING, Surgeon.*

WHEN I communicated a remedy for a loathsome disease, which has stood the test of twenty-five years experience, and not failed in a single instance, I added a caution concerning its use, to prevent the only inconvenience with which it is attended. This caution, if observed, renders it as safe an application as any other of equal efficacy in the whole circle of medicine.

An anonymous Author of a Letter in the last Number of your Journal, has expressed a dislike to the formula, because he has seen unpleasant effects produced by the external application of hydrargyrus muriatus in cutaneous diseases. Who has not seen unpleasant effects from the use of every powerful medicine, whether employed externally or internally? If the abuse of a remedy is to be considered as an argument against its use, bark, opium, and mercury must be banished from the *Materia Medica*; and any man who gives antimonial powder in a fever, or antimonial wine as an emetic, ought to be condemned to the galleys; as he would have been two hundred and fifty years ago, had he dared to commit that crime at Rome.

Lotions, in which hydrargyrus muriatus is an ingredient, are very apt to inflame and excoriate any tender part; and it was this circumstance that first suggested to me the idea of using it in an unctuous form.

Your Correspondent strains at a gnat and swallows a camel. He objects to the external use of sublimate, because he has seen it, when incautiously applied, produce inflammation of the skin, and excoriation; yet recommends calomel to be exhibited internally; a medicine which, however valuable in some cases, is in cutaneous complaints unnecessary; a medicine which has sent many a victim to an untimely grave.

Your Correspondent has been more fortunate than I ever was, in commonly curing the itch by two or three applications of white precipitate. He has also been more fortunate in correcting the unpleasant and disgraceful smell of even that preparation of sulphur which he recommends. It is, however, only justice to the inexperienced practitioner, to put in a caveat against his placing too much confidence in the result of your Correspondent's experience. Had not the mild preparations, so highly extolled by your Correspondent, frequently failed in my practice and that of others, even when persisted in for a much longer period, I should never have thought of employing

ploying what was likely to be attended with the least hazard, even to the most superficial part of the human frame.

Your polite attention to my former request, and your ready insertion of the memoir which I transmitted, claim the performance of the promise I then made.

The cure of gonorrhœa is rendered much more safe, pleasant and expeditious, by the use of injections; which are now universally employed by the most expert practitioners. Nevertheless, the best formula for that complaint in general, is, with regard to the majority of medical men, still a desideratum.

The following was communicated to me several years ago, by a gentleman not of the profession; who informed me, that having been peculiarly unfortunate, and often under the necessity of having recourse to remedies of this kind, he found it much more efficacious than any other which he had employed.

R. Calomel. pul. gum. Arab. a. ʒij. Aquæ ʒvijs. M.

It would be wrong to deny that this composition sometimes proves too stimulating; an objection to which every remedy is liable in proportion to its efficacy. No man, however, ought to practise physic or surgery, who is not a judge of the cases in which the injection ought to be used in a milder form; and of the means necessary to subdue the symptoms, which arise from its improper use.

Calomel, exhibited internally in this complaint, has been the death of thousands. I hope, in this enlightened age, we shall see that practice quite exploded. To this end, so devoutly to be wished, as well as to a general reform in the practice of physic, an Herculean labour, for which the united talents of all the members of the medical profession are required, no Publication has contributed more, or is likely to contribute more, than your own.

If any internal medicine is administered, perhaps no one is more proper than the following.

R. Nitri purif. ʒj. Pul. gum. Arab. sacchari a. ʒfs. Hydrarg. sulph. rubri gr. vj. M. Divide in pul. vj. quorum capiat j in aqua omni mane.

——— Si quid novisti rectius istis,
Candidus imperti; si non, his utere mecum.

*New Street, Hanover Square,
June 17, 1802.*

A Case of Cataract; communicated by Mr. JOHN MORGAN, Surgeon, of Ipswich.

THE termination of Mr. Crowfoot's case of Cataract by inflammation, mentioned in your Journal of May last, induces me to relate a case that occurred within the last two months. Thomas Damont, aged 52, a patient of my friend Mr. Mat. More, of Bucklesham, in this neighbourhood, made application with two Cataracts. Upon examining the iris of both, which I found to possess their natural powers, preference was given to the left eye as being most convenient for operation. Depression was had recourse to. After passing the needle in the usual way, I pressed the lens as low down in the vitreous humour as possible, in which I succeeded most completely; but notwithstanding our success, we had the mortification to observe it emerging from the lower part of the iris on the seventh day after the operation.

On the ninth day, an active and extensive inflammation of the conjunctiva succeeded, attended with considerable pain in the fore part of the head, which was, however, without much difficulty removed by the common means. On the fourteenth day, the lens disappeared altogether, and vision in that eye (allowing for the loss of a refracting power) is at this time nearly as perfect as ever.

I cannot conclude without commending Mr. Crowfoot for his just compliment to Mr. Ware's authority; and I trust that the labours of that gentleman, with the communications of his brethren from time to time, will afford further information on the cure of those diseases of the eye to which unfortunately it is so frequently subject.

June 14, 1802.

To the Editors of the Medical and Physical Journal.

GENTLEMEN,

THE *two words* which Dr. Langslow denies to have made use of, were, *considerable* and *blood*; and *not*, as I have by mistake mentioned, *extravasation*. It is my duty, under this conviction, to repair the wrong, if any has been committed; and to request that you will explain it to your Readers in your next Publication.

I am not sensible, however, that I have done any injustice

to Dr. L. for the term *extravasation* is virtually *denied* by a definition perfectly at variance with its common acceptation, and introduced for very obvious reasons;* and the two words above quoted, will appear to have been employed, by what I have already advanced, in the last Number of the Medical Journal. But should any question remain in your minds, I will beg leave to subjoin the following additional illustration; and if you think your Readers may, for want of this evidence, entertain the smallest doubt of my veracity, I hope, in vindication of my character, you will have the goodness to publish it: For I have nothing more at heart than the confirmation of *truth*, which is, and ought to be, the object of all rational disputation.

If, as Dr. L. declares, "he never did consider the extravasation as *considerable in this instance*, nor ever thought the compressing fluid *blood*," it is incumbent upon him to reconcile what follows with that idea. "Mr. C. proceeds to state (says Dr. L.) that in his judgment, if *considerable* extravasation had taken place, the most formidable symptoms would have arisen." Now, adds the Doctor, "I ask what more formidable could arise?" Surely, the remark upon this passage is very strong evidence that Dr. L. thought the extravasation *considerable in this instance*.

Dr. L. says, "I believed Mr. P. right in his opinion, that the attack was apoplectic, and that there was or had been extravasation, which had been the cause of it; that I highly approved of the bleeding and application of the blisters; for blisters (says Dr. L. in a note) have a tendency to take off or diminish *hemorrhagic diathesis*."

This I conclude will be thought satisfactory proof, that the Doctor *did, in this instance*, consider the compressing fluid *blood*.

And the opinion that real Apoplexy was *always* occasioned by effusion of blood or serum, and generally of *blood*, is expressed repeatedly in his answer, as may be seen No. xxxiv. p. 553 to 563.

If I do not trespass too much, I would willingly obviate some misconstructions which appear to have been adopted by your Correspondents, from too implicit a reliance upon the quotations of my opponent; though the paper from whence the extracts

* The Reader is particularly referred to the term Extravasation, as given by Dr. L. in his answer, No. xxxiv. p. 561; and he is requested to compare it with the same word, as *explained* in No. xxxv. Medical Journal, p. 77. And for the *inconstant use of words*, vide Locke's Essay on Human Understanding, 17th Edition, 8vo. Vol. II. p. 91 and 92.

tracts are taken immediately precedes the answer, in the same Journal.

The first is thus expressed as my position. "Mr. C. proceeds to state, that in his judgment, if considerable extravasation had taken place, the most formidable symptoms *must have arisen, &c. &c.*" Hence the Reader supposes this reasoning took place during the fit; whereas, it is necessary to recollect, it was in a subsequent stage, or when the patient was sensible, collected, and had no other complaint besides head-ach and sickness. My words will be found to be these: "I did not agree with him, by any means, in his doctrine of Extravasation; for in my judgment, a *considerable* extravasation, and consequently considerable compression, must produce symptoms of the most formidable nature, and which symptoms, in the case above-stairs, *did not appear to exist.*"

It is therefore incontrovertible, that I was speaking of the recovered situation of the patient (for indeed the paroxysm was over before either Dr. L. or myself arrived) and of the state in which we found the lady; when, had there been *considerable* extravasation of blood upon the brain, we should have witnessed the usual signs of *compression*, which *in this case* did not appear to exist.

One more instance shall suffice. "I do remember (says Dr. L.) using the two words Extravasation and Exudation; but Mr. C. says, these two words convey a distinction without a difference."

In the Statement, you will find, "I told the Doctor, he might call it which he pleased; if it was *considerable*, compression must be the consequence, and in my opinion it was a distinction without a difference." My meaning, therefore, without torturing the expression, was plainly this — *Compression*, whether arising from *considerable* extravasation of blood or serum, was still compression, and must have shewn itself by its concomitant symptoms.

I am sorry to have taken up a single page of your valuable Journal with a matter merely personal; but I think you will allow the propriety, if not the necessity, to repel a charge so disgraceful, as the deliberate violation of *Truth*; and as the circulation of your Journal is not confined to this kingdom, or even to Europe, it is most desirable to place my defence in that quarter where the calumny may be found.

I am, &c.

Beccles, April 8, 1802.

W. CROWFOOT.

Two Cases exemplifying the Powers and Uses of the Borat of Mercury.

WHEN we pour nitrat of mercury on a solution of the borat of soda, or borax, we obtain a yellow precipitate, which is the Borat of Mercury. This compound has not been much attended to, but it seems evidently to possess active powers on the human body, whether given internally or applied externally. When given internally, it has all the powers of some of the other mercurial preparations, as the hydrargyrus phosphoratus, cinereus, &c. It produces salivation, and also acts as a gentle laxative. It may be given internally in the form of pills, beginning with a dose not exceeding one grain.

When applied externally, it ought to be mixed with axunge, and rubbed in, in the same way as other mercurial ointments; it seems also to form a good dressing for venereal sores.

The two following cases are the only ones in which I have had an opportunity to employ it, and in both it has exhibited the same effects.

T—— R——, aged 18 years, was, on the 15th of June last, attacked with lues venerea, which appeared in the form of chancres on the glans penis. He applied to me on the 18th. I ordered him to dress them with an ointment, composed of hogs lard and the borat of the mercury, and I gave him some pills, containing each half a grain of the powder; of these he was to take two at bed time. I did not see him again for about a week, when the chancres had put on a healthy appearance, and had contracted a little in size; but a small tumour had appeared in the left groin, attended with some pain. He had begun to salivate. I ordered him to increase the dose of the pills; to rub in the ointment with which he dressed the chancres, and to apply 6 or 8 leeches to the tumour. It was about a fortnight after, when I saw him again, when the chancres were less, as also the tumour in the groin. He told me he had applied the leeches again, and had likewise been using the common blue ointment. He was completely cured in about five weeks after, during which time the leeches had been applied to the tumour in the groin four different times; and he had used about three ounces of the common mercurial ointment. In this case I shall not say the patient recovered entirely by the use of the borat, but I have no doubt but it assisted considerably.

The other Case is the following:

Mr. R—— C——, aged 24, came to me on the 10th of December last, with two ulcers in his throat, and also a very
ill

ill conditioned one on the elbow joint. They had all the appearance of venereal ulcers. He had been affected with lues about half a year before, when he had a bubo in each groin, one of which suppurated. He had been cured by the use of mercury. He said, that the ulcers had appeared in his throat about a fortnight ago, after a common catarrh, and that the ulcer had broke out on his elbow, after a fall on that part. The sore was dressed with the ointment prepared as above. He took also some of the pills; rubbed in on the thigh a small quantity of common mercurial ointment, and used a gargle of oak bark. He recovered in about six weeks. These are all the observations I have as yet to make; if, afterwards, they shall be confirmed by experience, I shall be exceedingly happy to hear of it.

Edinburgh, Feb. 9, 1802.

A. R.

P. S. I have to inform you, that Dr. Monro has this winter opened a private Dissecting Room for the students, in which a great number can be accommodated. In addition to it, there are some others, particularly that of Dr. Barclay's.

*Observations on the Extraction of Teeth; communicated
by Mr. FOWLER, of Bond Street.*

IN the Medical and Physical Journal of last year, I was a little surprised to find that a professional gentleman should voluntarily come forward, to recommend an instrument for the extraction of teeth in a *perpendicular* direction; but now I am the more surprised, to find the same gentleman abandoning his recommendation, (when requested to favour the public with a drawing of it) and substituting a production of his own in its stead, which by no means answers either Mr. Cusance's request, or the general expectation.

I have not the pleasure of being acquainted with Mr. Cusance, of course, cannot be suspected of any presentiment in his favour; but when I read his request, accompanied with remarks, I concluded they were such as would guide a man of science in the prosecution of his profession. Every Anatomist knows that the large MOLARES (which I take for granted are the principal objects of attention) have their prongs so completely enveloped in bone, and these diversified in such directions, as to make *perpendicular* extraction impossible, (except in some favourable cases,) without fracturing the whole of the surrounding alveola, or the neck of the tooth; this I believe

to be generally acknowledged: Nor is this all, the adjacent tooth must suffer by depression proportionably to the power necessarily exerted to raise its offending neighbour.

With respect to Mr. Witford's, or Mr. Simson's patent instruments, I consider them as master-pieces of ingenuity; inasmuch, that if either had been rightly formed, they most probably could have produced an instrument which would have needed no partial eulogium; nor have rendered themselves liable to the mortification of a rival in the ODONTAGRA.

Whoever has attended to the anatomical situation of the large MOLARES (in a general way) will be convinced, that in order to extract them a fracture must be produced somewhere; and that the external part of the alveola appears more favourable for such necessary violence than any other; if so, the lateral motion which the common key instrument occasions, must be (*in judicious hands*) the best mode of extraction. If the ODONTAGRA has any advantage attending it, it is that of a spring to fix the claw upon the tooth; but the external projection of this is a considerable objection, especially as the pressure of a finger upon the common claw will answer every such purpose.

I believe no surgical operations are attended with more uncertainty, or more mortification, than the extraction of teeth: It is not then to be wondered at, that men of reputation in that respectable department, should consign to others so trifling an object, fraught with much risk. However, from the intercourse I have had with other Dentists, I can assure Mr. Reece that he will not have it long to lament, that this practice is not more in the school of Hippocrates, as I believe most Dentists in town plainly see the propriety of training up their pupils in Anatomical and Medical studies, many of whom are now in practice, and, no doubt, in the course of a few years, will have the preference.

It would be a happy circumstance both for patient and practitioner, if Mr. Reece's descriptive state of the prongs or stumps was correct: Whenever the alveolar process is "absorbed," (which is comparatively seldom) there will never be any need of so formidable an instrument as the ODONTAGRA; for the point of a probe will be sufficient to elevate them with ease.

We have every reason to lament with Mr. Reece, that the extracting of teeth is not in more judicious hands; but I fear from his case of the Monmouthshire lady, that her surviving friends will be very loath to prefer the Surgeon's knowledge to the practice of even "ignorant people." For it should seem, that if a common tooth-drawer had been sent for, he would have

have taken out the tooth, and all would have been well; whereas, the little inflammation of the gums (which generally accompanies tooth-ach) was increased by delay, till at length the patient lost her life. I hope those "medical attendants who are very deservedly esteemed gentlemen of great professional judgment and skill," will not hesitate in future to extract a tooth on account of an inflamed gum.

In general, whenever inflammation arises from diseased teeth, the sooner they are removed, the sooner will the inflammation subside. During twenty years practice, I have never seen one bad effect arising from inflammation of the gums, when I could prevail upon my patients to submit to the operation; but many very bad consequences have been occasioned by delay, and one similar to the foregoing terminated fatally, an account of which I have already published in a former Number of your useful Miscellany.

March 10, 1802.

Some Account of the County Hospitals, and other charitable Institutions in Great Britain.

THE methods of public and private Charity have their peculiar advantages; the same benevolent principle directs both. Individual exertion is, however, but feeble when compared with the united efforts of many; and it is to these concentrated endeavours that England is indebted for her numerous public Institutions to relieve indigence and misery, which best proclaim the glory and the praise of her national character. In the metropolis there is scarcely a disease to which man is liable, scarcely a calamity to which he is subject, but it has an asylum open for its particular relief and consolation. To shew that the same spirit of charity characterises the country, and has adorned inferior towns with the noblest ornaments, (Hospitals and Infirmarys for the sick and afflicted) is my present object. To those who, for want of reflection, do not calculate the many sources of human woe, an estimate of the aggregate benefit of charities so diffused and extensive may not be altogether unserviceable; and if it should have the good fortune to stimulate the energies of those who have not yet felt the delight of doing good; to remind the gay and thoughtless, that there are other claims than those of dissipation upon their superfluity; and to encourage similar Institutions where none have yet been established, the following account of Hospitals, perhaps not generally known, will neither be considered unnecessary nor unprofitable.

THE COUNTY HOSPITAL AT YORK.

This Hospital was instituted in the year 1740, for the relief of the diseased poor of the county of York; and the present edifice, which is a handsome stone building, was erected as soon as the charitable fund would allow the expence. For many years it was the only institution of the kind north of the Trent, and in its infancy had many difficulties to struggle with; but through the attention, care and economy of its first Patrons, especially of Marmaduke Fothergill, Esq. all obstacles to its progress were surmounted, and the great and extensive utility of the design procured for it such liberal assistance, that though at first the lower wards only could be opened, in a few years the upper wards were also fitted up for use, so that there are now twenty-nine beds for men, and the same number for women. The annual accounts of patients cured and relieved, 300 on an average, abundantly prove how well the liberality of the Benefactors to this Charity is bestowed and employed. Every person who is a Benefactor of £. 20, or a Subscriber of £. 2 *per annum*, is a Governor, and privileged to recommend one out-patient, or one in-patient at a time. A Subscriber of £. 3 *per annum*, may recommend one in-patient, and one out-patient at one time. A Subscriber of £. 1 *per annum* is entitled to recommend one out-patient and no more.

Two of the Contributors, resident in York, visit the Hospital once a month, to enquire into the behaviour and conduct of the patients and servants, and report their observations to the Committee. As the Governors are desirous that the management of the Hospital should be as open to public inspection as possible, any Subscribers who reside in the country, are authorised to become additional House-Visitors, whenever business or inclination may bring them to York. Persons who meet with accidents, requiring the immediate aid of surgery, are received at any time of the day or night, without recommendation, according to the emergency of the case. The number of patients admitted, and discharged cured, since the establishment in 1760, has been considerably more than 26,300; and here an interesting thought suggests itself:—What must have become of these but for an institution like this?—Would they not have sunk; would they not have perished, under the *accumulated pressure* of disease and poverty?

THE GENERAL INFIRMARY AT NORTHAMPTON.

The Northampton Infirmary was first erected in the year 1744, as a County Hospital; the present extension of its beneficial influence, as a general Infirmary, only took place within these few years. The sick, lame, and poor of all counties,

ties, who can obtain the recommendation of a Subscriber, now find an asylum in this charitable Institution, where nothing is denied that can promote their comfort, and nothing withheld that can contribute to their recovery. Here the affluent are certain that their benefactions are directed in the most efficacious manner to the benefit of the afflicted, and the indigent have the advantage of the most excellent and experienced advice, together with proper accommodation, constant attention, and wholesome and nutritious diet, comforts rarely to be met with in the habitations of poverty, but the want of which too often obstructs the means there offered for their relief. In cases of accident or sudden calamity, no recommendation is required; the sufferers are received at any hour, day or night. All Subscribers of two guineas or more *per annum*, or Benefactors of twenty guineas at one time for the use of the Infirmary, with the Treasurer, Gentlemen of the Faculty, &c. are Governors of the Charity, and privileged to recommend patients. Since the Infirmary was first opened in 1744, upwards of 30,400 patients have been discharged, cured; an ample proof of its utility to individuals, and of its importance to the community. Of the number cured, considerably above 8000 have been admitted upon sudden misfortunes, and cases of emergency; of these there are frequently 300 in a year.

THE GENERAL KENT AND CANTERBURY HOSPITAL.

This Hospital was instituted on the 26th of April, 1793, for the relief of the diseased, sick, or lame, of the County of Kent. If any thing can add value to an establishment of this description, it is the season when the undertaking commenced; and it is to the honour of the Benefactors of this Charity, that, under the pressure of times like these, and the peculiar circumstances of the late war, they remembered the cause of the distressed, and considered the claims of those who endured the same misfortunes, and in the hour of sickness or disease, without any means of support or relief. This Institution has notwithstanding been begun, conducted and carried on, to the infinite advantage of the County; and it is scarcely doubted but those gentlemen of Kent, who have not yet contributed their assistance, will unite their exertions with those of its present Benefactors, to continue the aid it affords to the destitute, which otherwise must unhappily be withheld; for, according to the annual report, just published, so numerous are the applications for admission, so great the increase of expence, in consequence of the present price of provisions, that, though the benefactions which, in the course of last year, were considerable, have been expended, there remains at the close of the annual

annual account, barely a surplus. The managers are therefore at present altogether dependent on the continuance of that liberality, which, they add, they have not hitherto failed to experience. All Benefactors of twenty guineas and upwards, and all Subscribers of two guineas or more annually, during payment, are Governors. Every annual Subscriber of one guinea, or Benefactor of ten guineas, has a right to recommend two out-patients within the year. Every Subscriber of two guineas, or Benefactor of twenty guineas, is privileged to recommend one in-patient, and two out-patients, or four out-patients. Every Subscriber of three guineas, or Benefactor of thirty guineas, one in-patient and three out-patients, or six out-patients. Every subscriber of five guineas, or Benefactor of fifty guineas, two in-patients and four out-patients, or ten out-patients within the year. No patient can be admitted but by the recommendation of a Subscriber, Benefactor, or Deputy, unless in cases which admit not of delay, (four beds being always reserved for accidents,) when the Apothecary or Matron may receive patients, giving immediate notice to the Physician or Surgeon of the week.

It ought to be mentioned that the Physicians, Surgeons, and superintending Apothecary, generously give their attendance gratis.

Among the Benefactors to this Hospital for the last year, (1800) we find the names of the Honourable George Watson, Member for Canterbury, £.100. Joseph Boyle, Esq. (2d benefaction) 52*l.* 10*s.* and William Scott, Esq. (3d benefaction) £.25; of Mr. John Parnell, Mrs. Kingsford, and John Denne, Esq. twenty guineas each; and the Theatre liberally contributed 49*l.* 9*s.* the profits of a representation. Since the Institution, 1083 in-patients and 1255 out patients have been admitted; of the former, 447 have been cured, 117 received material benefit, and 342 made out-patients; of the latter, 535 have been cured, 144 received benefit, and 245 made in-patients; 111 now remain in the Hospital under cure. Total of in and out-patients admitted in the year 1800, was 552. Daily average of in and out patients in the same year 106.

THE GLOUCESTER INFIRMARY.

This Infirmary was founded in the year 1755, and endowed by its liberal Benefactors for the relief of the sick and lame of any county or nation, who may be destitute of the means of support. That its advantages may be continued to patients of this description, Subscribers are earnestly requested to inform themselves particularly with the actual circumstances of those they recommend, as some are known to have been admitted, who

who could have afforded the expences of sickness without inconvenience, whilst others have endeavoured to obtain a recommendation by making pecuniary offers to the Faculty for their attendance, provided they would not oppose their admission into the Infirmary. To admit such persons is to divert the stream of benevolence from its intended course; to diminish the power of relieving the really destitute, and to promote the purposes of private interest or domestic convenience; not without injustice to the Faculty, who devote their time and services to the Charity, and have a right, either to the just emoluments of their profession, or to the reflection that they are administering to the relief of the *helpless poor*.

From the excellent rules for the government of this Infirmary we select the following:

All Subscribers of two guineas per annum, or Benefactors of twenty pounds or more, are Governors, and may attend and vote at all meetings of the Governors.

The Governors meet every Thursday, at twelve o'clock, to admit or discharge patients, and regulate the affairs of the House.

Two Governors are appointed weekly to inspect and report the state of the Infirmary, and of the patients.

One of the Physicians, with one of the Surgeons, attend at the Hospital every Thursday at eleven, to examine those who shall be recommended for patients, and to receive under their care those who may be admitted. Every Wednesday and Saturday, at eleven o'clock, these also attend to prescribe for the out-patients then on the book; and as often as particular cases require.

The Apothecary, Secretary, and Matron constantly reside in the House, and superintend its economy in their respective departments.

The persons recommended for patients are admitted without expence; and when discharged, are presented with some religious tract, and enjoined to go immediately to their house, and to return thanks in their respective places of worship.

Every Subscriber of one guinea is entitled to recommend two out-patients; of one guinea and a half, one in-patient; of two guineas, one in and one out-patient. A recommendation of an out-patient entitles such out-patient to continue on the books for the space of four months, when, if the out-patient should require further assistance, a new recommendation must be obtained.

Considerably more than 21,000 in-patients have been under the care of this Infirmary since its institution in 1755, of whom above 14,000 have been discharged perfectly cured, independent of some thousands greatly relieved.

THE RADCLIFFE INFIRMARY AT OXFORD.

This Infirmary is built of hewn stone, and upon a similar plan with the Hospital at Gloucester above-mentioned. An edifice of this description had been long wanted at Oxford, as well for the immediate advantages of its foundation as for the benefit of the academical students in physic. It was erected by the Trustees of Dr. Radcliffe's benefactions, out of the surplus money remaining after defraying the expence of his library. The ground was given by Thomas Rowney, Esq. formerly high steward of the city, and the building was begun in May, 1759, and, being completed, fitted up and furnished, was opened for the reception of patients the 18th of October, 1770.

Like the Gloucester Infirmary, this institution does not limit its assistance to the unfortunate of a single county, but affords an asylum for the relief of the sick and lame of all counties from wheresoever recommended. Every Subscriber of one guinea per annum has the privilege of recommending one in-patient and one out-patient within every year; Subscribers of two guineas per annum, can recommend two in-patients and two out-patients within the year; and so on in proportion, provided the in-patients do not exceed five in one year. No Benefactor of less than thirty guineas can recommend any patient. A benefactor of thirty guineas has the privilege of an annual Subscriber of three guineas; and a Benefactor of fifty guineas has the privilege of an annual Subscriber of five guineas.

No subscriber's recommendation can be accepted whilst his subscription is in arrear: The Subscribers to this charity are therefore requested to be early in making their payments, lest the humanity of the acting Governors should be put to the severe trial of refusing admission to miserable objects for want of compliance in Subscribers with the rules of the Hospital. In the course of the last year (1800) 618 patients were admitted into the Hospital, of whom 362 were discharged perfectly cured, besides 96 greatly relieved, and 107 made out-patients. During the same period 284 out-patients were under the care of this Institution, of whom 125 have been cured, and 76 so far relieved as to require little further assistance.

** * Further communications relative to similar institutions in all parts of the kingdom will be acceptable to the Editors.*

*Observations on the New Medicine Act; communicated
by Mr. CHAMBERLAINE.*

Medicus es. Nihil ad medicinam pertinens a te alienum esse puto.

A Most alarming scourge hangs over the head of every Medical Man, practising Pharmacy, whether publicly or privately, after the first of September next.

The evils under which the practitioner in Pharmacy labours, are already too great: it was needless to add to the burthens of those who are already so much harrassed by difficulties.

Some years ago a bill was brought into Parliament, which the honourable mover stated was for the protection of the Regular Practitioner, by imposing a duty on Quack Medicines, and obliging the Proprietors, Patentees, and Vendors of them to take out licences. The Act, in its original plan, might have been well intended; but through the inaccuracy of those employed to draw it up, the guard became the assailant.

For, while the *avowed empiric* was safe, the loose wording, and inexplicable clauses of the act, rendered various honest and industrious men subject to the penalties, who never intended to offend against the act, but who, from never having any thing to do with nostrums, supposed they could not offend against an act of the Legislature, apparently applying to nostrums only.

Every good subject must allow the necessity there is, that the government of a country should be supported; and that the security which its inhabitants enjoy, must be paid for by duties and imposts laid on the subject.

Some of these imposts bear hard enough on certain classes of the community, and on private individuals. We must, however, submit to them, when they cannot be ameliorated; but when they tend to the absolute ruin of honest and unintentionally offending men, then it becomes our duty to look to ourselves, collectively as well as individually, and unite in firm but legal and moderate opposition, to a measure pointedly directed against that particular body of men of which we compose a part; and fraught with ruin that cannot possibly be averted, even by the most cautious, from falling on us, and bringing to poverty, to prisons, and work-houses, ourselves, our wives, our children, and all that is dear to us.

Of such a complexion is a certain act of the late Parliament, passed the 3d of June, purporting to be "An Act to repeal

peal the former Quack Medicine Act, and for making effectual Provision for the better Collection of the new Duties”

If the former act was perplexing, this is more so. In the 19th clause (a most tremendous clause) it is stated, that certain doubts are to be removed; but it only explains *ignotum per ignotius*; and if it is intended to be an amendment of the old act—it is an amendment with a vengeance!

Medical Gentlemen practising Pharmacy, but not keeping retail shops, nor having licences to vend empirical nostrums, may think that this act will not affect them; but they will find themselves grievously mistaken: it concerns every Apothecary in England, either in private practice or keeping a public shop.

In a Schedule, consisting of *twelve folio columns*, and comprehending nearly six hundred different articles, we find the following, which are only a few, selected out of a great many others, equally harmless, and not at all allied to quackery.

Turkey rhubarb.

Indian arrow-root.

Huxham's tincture of bark.

Syrup of tolu.

Blistering ointment.

Spanish juice.

Refined liquorice.

Healing salve for burns and scalds.

Nitre Drops, (i. e. *sp. ætheris nitrosi*.)

Goulard's extract.

Kibe ointment.

Lozenges of all sorts.

Lip-salves of all sorts.

Issue-plasters of all sorts.

Tooth-powders of all sorts.

Ophthalmic lotions and collyriums.

Camphorated eye water.

Sedative and strengthening eye-water.

Red Pills (i. e. any pills rolled in bole armenic, or vermillion.)

Chalybeate pills. Nervous pills.

Quassia pills. Tooth-ach pills. Tonic pills.

Candied horehound and candied ginger.

How some of these, or indeed any of them, were deserving the badge of empiricism, no one can tell but the framer of the bill.

What harm Indian arrow-root had done, or why tapioca should escape, is as difficult to be ascertained, as why syrup of tolu should be selected from the whole set of syrups of the Dispensatory, and no notice be taken of the syrups of saffron, mulberries,

mulberries, or blackthorn! Why common Spanish juice should be laid hold on, and Turkey rhubarb sold with a stamp; while any rhubarb but Turkey rhubarb may go free, is a mystery I must leave to wiser heads to develope; nor can I reconcile it to my ideas of justice, that any man should be punished by a fine of £. 30 for selling a man a plaster for a scalded foot!

In many parts of the Schedule, the reader meets with names that never had any existence, and others which are downright nonsense.

For instance, we have balsam of Ireland liverwort, (instead of Iceland) Antipetussus, and Anterticumatic drops. Hewitt's Arralambarric pills; and for fear this should not be right, we have, a little lower down, Hewitt's Analambannic pills. Essence of Kayon Ponti, and Tuberoga vitæ. Wherever the word Aperient ought to have occurred, it is uniformly printed Asperient. This might be excused as an error of the press; but truly, the compiler of this blessed Schedule seems to have been pretty *sedulous* not to make mistakes; and as a proof of this care; we have in one place Gowland's celebrated lotion; but for fear there should be another lotion of Gowland's without any celebrity, he inserts, lower down, simply, Gowland's Lotion. In the 9th column of this Schedule, we find, sedative collyrium, strengthening ditto; but, to remove doubts, in the tenth column, we have it again with improvements, sedative Collyrium for inflamed eyes, and strengthening Collyrium for weak eyes!

The former act of parliament, imposing a duty on Quack Medicines, made in the 25th Geo. III. applied only to such as were kept secret, or generally held to be secrets, in the hands of particular persons; to Patent, and Proprietary Medicines; but it is a matter of the utmost importance to take notice, that by the 19th clause of the new act, every medicine, whether kept secret or not, whether sold by regular or quack, that is specified in the Schedule, must have a stamp, and the seller a licence: and this act extends not only to every article set forth in the Schedule, nostrum or not nostrum, but to all compositions, mixtures, powders, &c. &c. "which at any time heretofore have been, now are, or hereafter shall be, by any public notice or advertisement, or by WRITTEN or printed papers or hand-bills, or by any labels or words, written, printed, or affixed to, or delivered, with any such packet, box, bottle, phial, &c. recommending it (even without claiming any secret mode of preparation, or proprietary right in vending the same) as beneficial for the prevention, cure, or relief of any distemper, ailment, malady, or complaint incidental to the human body."—See clause 19.

Now, Sir, by this it appears, that no Medical Gentleman who practises Pharmacy can follow his profession in safety, because, seeing that by this sweeping NINETEENTH Clause, it is enacted, that any label, printed or written, or any direction setting forth in *any wise* the QUALITY of the medicine or the COMPLAINT it is to relieve, shall subject the person who sells, or utters the same, to a penalty of ten pounds for selling the medicine without a stamp; and if the seller has no licence, to the further penalty of twenty pounds in addition thereto. So it follows, that if any gentleman affixes a common label, with the words, "*The pectoral mixture, a spoonful to be taken when the cough is troublesome,*" or writes "*Purging pills*" on the lid of a box, he is, in my humble acceptation of the meaning of the act, liable to the penalty.

Now, you gentlemen who have your shops in your back parlours, or your private Pharmacothecæ in your closets, on the second floor, who hug yourselves under the impression that this act was made for us poor fellows that keep retail shops, and that as you keep no retail shops, nor vend nostrums, the act has nothing to do with you; are you, think you, out of its reach? By no means. The informer will find ways and means to ferret you out of your secure holes, and raise contributions on you as well as the Retailers, who certainly are *much more* open to their depredations, and whose RUIN, unless this act is repealed, must be INEVITABLE.

Let us now look to the operation of this dangerous act, and I will suppose a case of a gentleman, who keeps no retail shop, and thinks himself pretty well out of the reach of informers.

We will suppose that one of the gang of the informers whom this act will let loose upon the medical tribe, on the grocers, the confectioners, has it in contemplation to lay all these descriptions of persons, residing in a particular district that he fixes on, under contribution.

The informer begins his plan of operations, by taking genteel lodgings, and perhaps, may take his wife and child with him. He sends for the Surgeon or Apothecary, relates an account of sham complaints; medicines are sent in, which he puts in the fire, and next day, when the Doctor comes, he expresses his thanks, is nearly recovered, and puts the son of Æsculapius in a good humour with him, and with himself also. He will continue his medicines one day longer; "and then, Sir," says he, "you will do me the favour to send in your bill."

Next day the bill is paid, and perhaps a compliment over; just as Galen is making his bow, his patient recollects that he is sometimes troubled with a bowel complaint, for which he finds nothing so good as a little Turkey rhubarb, which he is in the

the habit of chewing. Send me an ounce. "Yes, Sir." The lady wife, (and let me tell you, Sir, the *Ladies* employed in the business of informations are much more numerous and more wily and insidious than the men;) the lady then comes on in *her* part. "Oh! Doctor, and when you send the rhubarb, pray send me some syrup of tolu for my child's cough." The order is executed, and next day the practitioner receives a summons to appear before a magistrate; he is convicted in the penalty of ten pounds for selling an ounce of Turkey rhubarb without a stamp, ten pounds more for his phial of syrup of tolu, and twenty pounds for selling them not being duly licensed. The magistrate mitigates it to one half, but cannot reduce it lower; so, here is a gentleman robbed of twenty pounds or more, of his time and his reputation, through inadvertence, or perhaps through ignorance that so severe a law could be tolerated in England!

But let us now turn to the situation of the poor, hard working, indigent Apothecary, who, by a little retail at the outskirts of some town, scarcely earns enough to support a wife and five or six small children, and sorry am I to say it, many such there are. We will suppose such a one as I have here described, whose clear earnings may not, perhaps, amount to so much as £. 150 per annum, marked as the prey of some of these depredators, who go about seeking whom they may devour.

We will first suppose a very possible case; namely, that this man has read the Act of Parliament, and is on his guard, and that a person comes in with a bad scald on his foot, and asks for a pennyworth of "Healing salve for a scald." The apothecary answers, "I cannot sell you any healing salve for your scald without you take a three-halfpenny stamp with it. The stranger answers, "I have but one penny in the world." What is to be done? If he gives it away as an act of charity, he runs a hazard; and even if he applies a dressing gratuitously, he is equally in danger. The sufferer must endure his pain, and go away unrelieved, leaving him who was both able and willing to administer ease, to lament that a rigorous act of parliament precluded him from extending an act of humanity to a suffering fellow creature, without endangering the loss of great part of his property.*

K 2

But

* The facility with which informers can entrap those who are without apprentices or shopmen, and where there is no one but the husband or wife to serve, needs no comment. The want of a witness to confront the evidence given by the informer's witness, leaves the defendant without means of defence, and without hope of redress!

But we will now suppose an equally possible, and still more probable case; namely, that while an apothecary, such as I have described, is from home, a stranger applies at his shop for the same article. Too poor to keep an apprentice, or to afford to have a journeyman, the wife is the only one to serve in the shop. She, who has besides, the work of the house to do, and four or five children to attend to, cannot be supposed to be deeply versed in acts of parliament. She sells her customer that which she supposes the best salve to heal a burn or scald, and thinks no harm of it.

Presently after comes in a well-dressed woman for some nitre drops; the wife unsuspectingly serves her with a little spir. ætheris nitrosi.

A third person comes in with a sore mouth, "I will thank you, mistress, for some sort of salve to heal this lip of mine." The good woman thinks no harm in serving her customer with a pennyworth of spermaceti ointment for his sore lip, and takes the money.

Next day, the distress of the family, on the master of the shop being served with a summons to appear before a Magistrate, on three separate informations; the one for selling *healing salve for a scald*, the second for selling *nitre drops*, and the third for selling *lip-salve*, without stamps, is not to be described.

The Magistrate, on hearing the merits of the case, will, if he is a gentleman, and a humane and conscientious man,* exclaim, "God bless my soul, I cannot think the Legislature ever meant to tax things sold in this manner! Such names are in the Schedule to be sure; but I rather think they apply to articles of similar nature, kept secret in the hands of some particular person, and sold as nostrums. I cannot ruin this poor man by a conviction on such vague and uncertain ground."

The informer, who perhaps has his attorney at his elbow, will reply to the Magistrate, "Sir, you are not to interpret the

* The establishment of Police Offices throughout the metropolis, where none but gentlemen of respectability are appointed to preside, struck the death-blow to the occupation of a number of needy people, who kept Justice-Shops, or rather Injustice-Shops, in various parts of the town; and had no other way of earning a livelihood, than by convicting as many as they could, and living by the earnings of iniquity. At the different Police Offices, the worthy magistrates, who there administer justice, (to do them justice) set their faces against these vexatious informations as much as, consistently with their duty, they dare do; but although the metropolis is purged of trading justices, are we sure that there do not exist, in many of the towns and villages throughout the kingdom, men in the commission of the peace, who, through ignorance, fear, or some other motive, would be as ready to convict as the trading justices of London formerly were?

the act of parliament as you please, nor find meanings in it to suit your own purpose. Read the nineteenth clause, and there you will find that clause expressly says, that the rates imposed by the act shall extend to all and every the articles mentioned in the Schedule. Read the *Schedule*, and you will there find "*healing salves for burns or scalds, nitre drops,*" and "*lip-salves of all-sorts.*" "The Schedule does not name these things as being the *property*, or going under the *name* of any particular person; it applies *generally*; therefore, if you refuse the conviction, I shall appeal to the quarter sessions."*

Taking it for granted that the poor man must be convicted, here is, "at one fell swoop," thirty pounds penalty upon three convictions, of ten pounds each, which the Magistrate, in compassion to the innocent man and his family, mitigates to one half, lamenting that the rigour of the law will not allow him to remit still more. With a heavy heart, the ill-fated son of Galen is departing the office, pondering how he shall raise the fifteen pounds; but we have not done with him yet: he is called back, and told there is *another* information remaining against him, *viz.* for selling the articles on which he has been convicted, *WITHOUT a LICENCE*. The penalty for this offence is twenty pounds, which the Magistrate mitigates to ten; and there is also something more to be paid for the fees of office!—So, here is what would cloath and educate two or three children for a whole year, sacrificed, in order that a few unprincipled wretches may get a few shillings! †.

A few more such severe blows as these would inevitably send such a man as I have described, and his family, to the work-house.

Gentlemen

* An appeal to the quarter sessions is attended with very considerable expence to the defendant; not less than £.15 or £.20. As the *qui-tam* action is brought by the informer, *tam pro rege, quam pro se*; and as it is a maxim in law that the King pays no costs, the defendant, if cleared, is saddled with the whole of the costs; and if convicted, he has the penalties to pay besides these costs, which are in certain cases, trebled.

† The person who buys the article which is to be the subject of information, is not the informer, but is employed by the informer as a witness, and is generally paid at so much for each information laid, whether conviction follows or not. Now, if it could be proved that the witness had any interest in the conviction, it would be quashed; but it is extremely difficult to come at sufficient proof of this. They are in all shapes, male and female; but the greater part are decently dressed women, who are more insidious, and more difficult to be guarded against than those of the other sex, as being less suspected, taking their prey off their guard by engaging them in small-talk, and by other wiles.

Gentlemen who, from local advantages of situation, or from other circumstances, find their account in dispensing medicines by retail, may think themselves safe from the penalties of the act, so long as they refrain from SELLING any of the articles brought within the meaning of the act.

Then they must turn one half of the goods of their shop out of doors. They will find, that if they *keep them in their shop*, even though they do not *sell* them, they are in danger. The twelfth clause of the Act lays its claws on all such. Thus it runs:

Clause XII. *And be it enacted, that no person shall utter, vend, or expose to sale, or KEEP READY FOR SALE, or keep for the purpose of selling by retail, any drug, herb, medicine, &c. subject to the stamp duties, unless the stamp shall be well and sufficiently pasted, &c. thereto, PREVIOUS to such sale, or that shall have a stamp of lower value than by this Act is directed, under the penalty of ten pounds.*

Now, how is a man, with such a clause as this hanging over his head, to carry on his business? If, keeping a retail shop, he keeps compound tincture of bark, arrow root, Spanish juice, aqua litharg. acetat, tincture of angustura, any kind of troches or lozenges whatever, syrup of tolu, any kind of corn salve, or any thing that can be construed into a powder that may be used as a dentifrice, without having a stamp *ad valorem* affixed thereto, is liable to the penalty.

There are few gentlemen of the profession that have not some formula of their own, by which they make, and keep ready for occasionally dispensing, certain compositions; for instance, pills of which they prepare a large quantity at once, to save the trouble of making them every time a single box may be wanted. These are labelled according to their qualities; tonic pills, deobstruent pills, quassia pills, aperient pills, &c.; all such are liable!

Now, though a man may not absolutely intend to sell any one of these articles; yet, if he keeps a retail shop for the sale of other medicines, I question whether he would not be considered as keeping those above-mentioned for the purpose of sale, if found in the shop.

I know not how this is to be ascertained, so as to bring offenders against this clause to condign punishment. Whether inspectors are to be appointed, who may enter our houses at all times, and ransack every hole and corner to find unstamped goods; or whether our own shopmen, apprentices, and servants are to be invested with full powers to hold the rod of correction over us. The reward for informing is certainly not inconsiderable, the ways by which the penalty may be incurred are many; and any man's shopman or apprentice, who owes
his

his master a grudge, has it in his power to ruin a whole family.

Neither do I know how, in some cases, the stamp is to be affixed. Some of my customers are in the habit of calling for an ounce of Huxham's tincture of bark, and drinking it in the shop, out of the graduated glass that I measure it in. Now, I would fain know of the ingenious framer of the act, how I am to act in such a case? As my customer refuses to have a phial, am I to paste the stamp on the graduated glass, while he is drinking his dram? or, am I to insist on his swallowing stamp and all?

The fourth clause and the nineteenth are at variance with each other. The fourth clause enacts, that the duties are not to extend to articles mentioned in the book of rates, nor to *unmixed* drugs sold by a regular surgeon, apothecary, or druggist.

The nineteenth clause enacts, that every herb, drug, or preparation whatever, that ever was, is now, or ever shall be, recommended by any printed or written paper, as beneficial for curing the ailments, aches, and distempers that human flesh is heir to, must be sold with stamps. So, though the fourth clause clearly exempts Spanish juice, refined liquorice, and Turkey rhubarb, which are certainly unmixed drugs, and arrow root, which is no drug at all, but an article of food; the nineteenth clause contradicts this, inasmuch as it ordains, that every article set forth in the Schedule shall be subject to the duty, and sold with stamps; and these four, as well as other articles in the same predicament, are expressly named in the Schedule!

How are such contradictions to be reconciled?

Surely, if every herb, drug, or composition, that "ever was, is now, or ever hereafter shall be, by any public notice or advertisement, recommended as specifics, or as beneficial for the prevention, cure, or relief of any distemper incident to, or affecting the human body," is to be construed to come within the meaning of the act, there is scarcely an article of the materia medica that is not liable to a stamp duty! A book written to make known the virtues and properties of any medicinal herb, &c. is the most *public notice* that can be given. A treatise is an *advertisement*. In this point of view I should deem it almost dangerous to sell chamomile flowers without a stamp; for many have been the treatises written thereon. Dr. Kentish, and my friend George Wilkinson of Sunderland, have published advertisements, i. e. treatises on the *beneficial effects* of common oil of turpentine in *burns and scalds*: So that, if I understand the meaning of the act aright, we cannot apply a rag dipped in oil of turpentine to a scalded foot, without pasting a three halfpenny stamp on it; (the difficulty will be, how to

make the paste to stick, or how fasten the stamp on, so as to comply strictly with the *very rigid injunctions* concerning *past-ing, threading, sticking, fastening, and affixing*, that are laid down in the eleventh clause of the act.

Dr. Saunders has written on the red bark; another gentleman has recommended the yellow bark in a treatise; Mr. James and Mr. Wilkinfon celebrate the broad-leaved willow bark; and the respectable Mr. Brande, apothecary to the Queen, the angustura bark.

If the treatises on these subjects are not *public notices*, I do not know what the word "public notice" means; and if it be granted that they are so, the framer of the act had as good a right to include them and every other simple drug that ever was written on, in his Schedule, equally as well as Turkey rhubarb or Indian arrow root.

The *tincture* of Angustura is indeed sentenced, as well as Huxham's tincture, and tincture of rhubarb*, to bear the disgraceful stamp, originally intended to attach only to the secret preparations of a nostrum-monger; and the Stizolobium or Dolichos pruriens, that has been with some credit making its way into the world these twenty years, sanctioned by the approbation of many medical characters of the first respectability, who have recommended, prescribed, and exhibited it, must now go forth into public, wearing on its back the opprobrious livery of Empiricism.

That truly eminent friend to mankind, Dr. Carmichael Smyth, has deservedly been rewarded by the Legislature of this country, for the important services rendered to it, by his discovery and communication of a method of preventing contagion by means of nitrous fumigation: and yet I question whether an apothecary, who should make up parcels of ingredients for making the nitrous fumigation, and deliver with them a printed paper of instructions, shewing how they are to be used, and what diseases such fumigation is conducive to prevent, would not render himself liable to a confiscation of part of his property, for selling them without stamps, and without having a quack-medicine licence!

A more effectual way to check the discoveries of ingenious medical men could not be devised, than to oblige those who exert their endeavours to benefit the community, by preparing and dispensing, (as in the case of Huxham's tincture of bark) that which an author or writer may recommend and lay open to
all

* Of twenty medical men, met together to discuss the act, ten were of opinion that tincture of DITTO (in the Schedule) referred only to *tincture of Turkey rhubarb*, while the other ten contended, that tincture of rhubarb, *generally*, was understood.

all the world, to degrade themselves by adopting the humiliating situation and insignia of a vender of quack nostrums.

I have been led much farther into the subject than I at first intended, and have dwelt so much on the *Disease*, that it is now high time to hasten to the Method of Cure.

The Medicine Act, now in force, expires on the first of next September; and from and after that day, the new Act takes place; licences under the old act are then no longer in force, but new licences must be taken out.*

The penalty for vending, without stamps, articles within the meaning of the act, being double the sum imposed by the old act, and quadrupled for selling without a licence, it will be safest for all who think themselves in danger, to sacrifice forty shillings, as they will find it so very difficult to escape incurring the pains and penalties of the law by some act of inadvertence or other, of themselves or their domestics, however cautious and circumspect they may be.

The act, as before observed, takes place from and after the first of September; but as the new Parliament are not expected to meet until some time after, we cannot petition for a remedy until the Parliament shall have met for transacting business; and much mischief may be done in the interim.

The only thing that can *now* be done, is, to endeavour to obtain, by lawful means, a suspension or indemnification from all such prosecutions as may be brought in consequence of the contradictory clauses contained in the new act, against such persons as shall have vended various articles agreeably to the letter and spirit of the fourth and fifth enacting clauses, notwithstanding such articles are enumerated in the Schedule as liable to the stamp duties.

For this purpose, it is intended to present a respectful Memorial to the Lords of the Treasury, praying for that relief; and a very numerous body of Surgeons, Apothecaries, Druggists, and Chemists, with some other gentlemen, not of the medical profession, but materially affected in their business by the operations of the act, who held a meeting at the New London Tavern, on the 5th day of July, have appointed a Committee, whom they have empowered to draw up said Memorial; to call general meetings, when found expedient; and to take such other measures as may be, from time to time, thought necessary for the security of those affected or aggrieved by the operations of the act.

Next,

* The cost of a licence in the metropolis and within the limits of the two-penny post, is forty shillings; in any city, borough, or town corporate; also in Manchester, Sheffield, or Birmingham, ten shillings; elsewhere, five shillings.

Next, I would beg leave to recommend, that every Practitioner in Pharmacy, who has access to any of the members of the new Parliament, and whose habits of intimacy with such member will allow of the measure, should take the trouble of setting forth to him such parts of the act as are most exceptionable, and bear hardest on the subject; and explain to him in what manner it is possible very innocent and unintentionally-offending individuals* may be totally ruined; with a view that the members of the Legislature, both Lords and Commons, may be made masters of the subject, when a Petition for relief comes before the House.

It will be indispensibly necessary, that the Practitioners in Pharmacy, and others connected with the act, should call meetings among themselves in every county and town, and enter into subscriptions for purposes hereafter to be mentioned; but the grand object should be, the petitioning Parliament for relief. Whether that relief should be by a MODIFICATION, or REPEAL of the act, is not for me to say.

But, in case the Memorial, intended to be respectfully presented to the Lords of the Treasury for a suspension or indemnification from prosecutions under the new act, until such time as the decision of Parliament, in consequence of a Petition for relief shall be known, should fail of success, or in case there should be any delay of time before their Lordships' pleasure should be made known; as, in either of these cases, numberless harrassing and vexatious informations may be brought against persons wholly ignorant of the scope of the new act, it will be proper that the subscriptions entered into, in every district, be liberal, and that all parties concerned, should unite in defence of each other, for the purpose of defraying the expences, and of defending Qui-tam informations brought against Subscribers, who are led, unintentionally, into an infringement of the act, and against whom, particular art and cunning can be proved to have been used to entrap them.

But here it is to be cautiously observed, that in every Association which may be set on foot for the purposes of mutual defence, there ought to be one strong, firmly-established, coercive rule, never to be departed from on any account whatever, namely, that the Committees, appointed by the respective bodies

* There are several articles specified in the Schedule, that grocers, confectioners, perfumers, and those country shop-keepers who traffic in a very great variety of goods, must indispensibly deal in. All these descriptions of traders therefore are affected by the new medicine act, equally as well as those who sell or dispense medicines. Even the poor widow who keeps a gingerbread stall, and sells a halfpenny lollypop, will, if she sells it in the *name*, or in the *shape*, of a LOZENGE, have all the terrors of the act to dread.

dies for managing their business, shall be WHOLLY RESTRICTED FROM DEFENDING ANY SUBSCRIBER WHO SHALL APPEAR TO OFFEND AGAINST THE ACT, EITHER THROUGH GROSS NEGLIGENCE, OR A DESIGN TO EVADE THE DUTIES. And, that no person may plead ignorance, it will be expedient to appropriate a portion of the subscription money in printing an Abridgment of the Act of Parliament, or of such Clauses of said Act as are indispensibly necessary to be made known, together with such Comments or Observations as may explain and point out to the meanest capacity, what cautions are to be observed, so as not to offend against the act, together with *the whole* of the Schedule, recommending it to every person concerned, to make a *regular* alphabetical list of such articles mentioned in the Schedule, as he or she may deal in, which list should be pasted, or affixed permanently, in some convenient part of the shop; and in large shops there should be several lists hung up in different places, to be referred to in a moment when an article is called for that the shopkeeper is in doubt about, with a table of the stamp duty attached to every article; for among people unaccustomed to this business of affixing stamps upon their goods, there will be greater confusion, and more informations laid for putting on wrong stamps, than for selling with no stamps at all.

These cautionary papers ought to be printed at the expence of a public fund, and the managing Committee should take care that one of them should be delivered to every surgeon, apothecary, druggist, chemist, perfumer, grocer, confectioner, and every person whatever, known or supposed to vend any article or articles within the meaning of the act, whether subscribers to the fund or not; for which a certain price should be demanded and paid. The Subscribers might be allowed to have it at a price just sufficient to defray the expences of paper, printing, and circulating. Non-subscribers should pay more; and no one will grudge to pay a small sum for that which may eventually be the means of saving the purchaser from a penalty of fifteen or twenty pounds the very next day, or perhaps from a workhouse.

What other steps it may be necessary to take, I shall not presume to dictate; at all events, the safest way will be for those who think themselves affected, to take out licences, and be particularly careful to attend strictly to the letter of the law.

Whether I am perfectly correct in my conceptions respecting the operations of the act in certain cases, I do not know. In *some* things I may be mistaken, and I wish it may so turn out; but I find that, generally, other persons are of the same opinion with respect to the meaning of the different clauses as myself.

Whether

Whether a modification of the act, or a repeal be prayed for, it will be necessary, previously thereto, for those who petition, to take certain matters of importance into consideration, that the revenue may not suffer loss by the indulgence. I have an opinion on that subject; but as I have already exceeded bounds, and as it is a matter that will keep cool, I shall not presume now to offer it.

And now, Sir, I have to apologize for taking up so many pages of your valuable publication, and for so long trespassing on the time of your Readers. The Irishman's postscript, "Excuse haste, for I have not time to make my letter shorter," literally applies to me in the present instance. It is true, I had read in the newspapers, that a new Medicine Act had passed; but as I deal not in nostrums, and hold all sorts of Quackery in detestation; like many others of my brethren, I supposed it had nothing to do with me, nor I with it, of course I never read it, nor knew any thing of its tendency until the third day of this month; and the short space of time between that day and the time limited by your publisher for sending in Communications, so as to be early enough to appear in the ensuing month, would not admit of my sparing so much time from a variety of professional and other avocations, as would be required for a careful abridgment of this letter, which I have certainly spun out to a length far beyond what I at first imagined I should have gone to, and which I most undoubtedly should have curtailed if time had permitted.

I trust, that the importance of the subject to Practitioners in Pharmacy, and the circumstance of its being a matter that cannot be made known too soon, will plead in my behalf for its being sent into the world with many crudities and imperfections. I have very little doubt but that had I printed it in a pamphlet, especially in the present modern way, "on a large type, and with a rivulet of print running through a meadow of margin," I could have spun it out to a tolerable sized two shilling pamphlet, and I dare say it would have sold well, and brought me some emolument; but the welfare of my brethren of the profession, and the necessity there was for warning them of their danger without loss of time, was paramount with me to every consideration for self. I considered too, that such a book, even if well advertised, might possibly not find a circulation much beyond the environs of the metropolis, but that the very extensive circulation of the Medical Journal throughout all parts of England and Scotland, would give the most general and early notice to Medical Practitioners, even in the remotest parts of Cornwall and Caledonia, of what is going forward, and what concerns them to know; with this
advantage,

advantage, that they will now have that information gratuitously, which otherwise they must have paid for. If by it, I should be the means of saving any practitioner from the heavy losses which the incurring of penalties under this act might occasion; to hear that through the means of such information, so conveyed, the party was saved from incurring such penalties, will afford me far greater gratification than could any pecuniary emolument arising from the sale of a book.

I trust, Sir, I have deserved well of my brethren of the Medical Profession. It is with an endeavour so to do, I have now trespassed on you; and I hope and believe, I have deserved well of my country; at any rate, I have the vanity to think, that a great many more copies of the act of parliament will be purchased, a great many more licences taken out, and a great many more stamps sold, in consequence of my having written this, than if I had not written it; and of course the national revenue will profit by my labours, as well as individuals.

Aylesbury Street, Clerkenwell, July 12, 1802.

The Evidence relative to Dr. Jenner's Petition.

Concluded from page 26 of the last Number.

WE are happy to commence our promised account of the evidence which seemed, or was intended, to oppose Dr. Jenner's claim, by informing our Readers that he will receive the premium of TEN THOUSAND POUNDS clear of fees or any other deduction.

We are still more happy in being able to inform them, that the idea of a *general* subscription or contribution, (but more extensive than that recommended by Dr. Beddoes, page 7,) had occurred to many persons in the metropolis; we believe that a Committee is now forming to digest a plan for conducting it, and our readers may depend on receiving the earliest account of the progress.

We now proceed to the performance of our promise, and repeat again, that we are not acquainted with any adverse evidence which the Committee have not published in their Appendix, although they have omitted many of Dr. Jenner's explanations, and much of his rebutting evidence.

As Dr. MOSELEY, Physician to Chelsea Hospital, (No. 30.) was known to have written against the New Inoculation when

when it first became general, Dr. Jenner suggested to the Committee the propriety of examining him, which they readily agreed to do. Dr. M. gave his evidence with great candour, and totally free from that acrimony which appeared in some other instances. His principal reason for opposing the new Inoculation at that time, for he has long ceased his opposition, was his observing it to be getting into improper hands. He saw but a few persons properly qualified, and an immense number totally ignorant of medicine, rashly, as he thought, communicating diseases from brutes to the human species, and wished to stem this torrent of experimental mania, till persons properly qualified had made the necessary trials. Finding his efforts vain, he burnt his papers, and has not since attended to the subject. He could not refer the Committee to any adverse case, nor to any persons who had mentioned adverse cases to him, though he believed such cases had been mentioned. He said, if this Inoculation possesses all the advantages Dr. Jenner attributes to it, he has conferred a most essential benefit upon mankind.

Mr. BIRCH, of St. Thomas's Hospital, (No. 31,) mentioned the cases spoken to by Mr. Cline, (see p. 17,) as proofs of the *inefficacy* of the new Inoculation; but said it was a subject he had not much attended to, as he did not like it, and as it was not the custom of the Hospital for the Medical Officers to interfere with each other's patients.

Dr. ROWLEY, Physician to the Mary-le-bone Infirmary, related the Oxford cases, which made much noise at the time, as proofs of the *inefficacy* of the Vaccine Inoculation; but this matter was completely cleared up by the evidence of Dr. Wall, of Oxford, and others; by which it appeared, that these children had never gone through the vaccine disease. Indeed, when we consider how many people, who were ignorant of the appearance of the true vaccine pustule, ventured to inoculate at that time, and how many never saw their patients after they had inserted the virus, we must be astonished that so few accidents of that kind have occurred. It appeared to us that both Dr. Rowley and Mr. Birch opposed the New Inoculation, not from any knowledge they had of the subject, (they confessed they had never thought it worth their attention) but from a fondness each entertained for certain modes of conducting the Variolous Inoculation, which he believed to be peculiar to himself. For they more than insinuated, that if any person died, or was in danger from inoculated Small-Pox, it must always be through the faults of the Inoculator or patient, as they were never in danger of losing any; and therefore there was *no need* of the new discovery.

The

The only adverse case that appeared to us to merit any attention, was the case of George Clarke, a marine, of Portsmouth. It seems pretty evident, that he had the small-pox while the Committee were sitting; though many persons at that time believed it to be the chicken-pox. But there was no proof of his ever having gone through the cow-pox; on the contrary, it is certain he never had that disease, though it is confessed he had been inoculated with that intention about three years before, by a respectable practitioner of Portsmouth, who commenced that practice with him, and two or three others. Now, if in this case we admit that he had the true vacciola, which is not true, and the small-pox three years afterwards, what is one case against *two millions*?

When the Inoculation of the small-pox began to be practised generally in this kingdom, many instances occurred of persons taking the small-pox afterwards; and yet no one now doubts the preventive power of the inoculated variola.

Such is the amount of the evidence *against the certainty of the protection* which vaccination affords from the small-pox infection.

There was no evidence against the importance of superseding the small-pox; against the mildness of the cow-pox; against its never predisposing to or exciting other diseases in the constitution, which the mildest form of small-pox is often seen to do; against its being communicable only by inoculation; or, in short, against any of the points alleged by Dr. Jenner, unless the following may be deemed such.

But before we give Dr. Pearson's evidence, we wish to observe, that no important discovery has ever been made in which the Discoverer has not been denied the merit of originality. Nothing is so easy as to attack an author on this ground. When Harvey discovered the circulation, the Galenists asserted that it was nothing new, and that many proofs of his knowledge of it, were to be found even in the works of Galen. There is something very similar in the conduct of Dr. Harvey and Dr. Jenner; each of them completed his Discovery, and then published six or seven experiments to demonstrate the truth of their conclusions. In giving the evidence brought forward by Dr. Pearson, with a view to overturn Dr. Jenner's claim to originality, we shall be as careful as possible to state nothing but what we believe to be correct; but if we should fall into any slight inaccuracy, we shall always be ready to correct it whenever pointed out.

When

When Dr. P. was seated, and asked the usual introductory question, viz.

“Are you acquainted with Vaccine Inoculation, and what is your opinion of it?”

He delivered an oration in which he depreciated Dr. Jenner's merit as much as possible, and extolled himself. As all this was foreign to the purpose, it was not taken down, and the Committee adjourned. On the morrow he came to hear his evidence read, and to correct any inaccuracies in it; but to his great astonishment, the whole oration was omitted, and he was informed that nothing could be taken down by the clerk unless dictated slowly, that he might have time to write fairly and legibly.

He then gave the following evidence; and as we wish to avoid the censure he has passed on the Committee, we shall give the whole, verbatim et literatim, as approved by himself.

Mercurii, 14 Aprilis, 1802.

Admiral BERKELEY in the Chair.

Dr. PEARSON called in and examined, and stated, That Dr. Heberden authorized him to state, on the authority of Dr. Lynd and Mr. Battiscombe of Windsor, that there is now living near Windsor a person who many years ago (the son of an apothecary) was inoculated by his father for the cow-pox. *

Did Dr. Heberden inform you whether this inoculation was performed from one human being to another, or from the virus taken immediately from the cow?

That is a question I cannot answer.

What farther facts do you know affecting Dr. Jenner's claim of being the promulgator or inventor of vaccine inoculation?

I have admitted Dr. Jenner was the gentleman who first set on foot the inquiry into the advantages of vaccine inoculation, but I apprehend that the practice of vaccine inoculation, which was first promulgated by Dr. Jenner, has been established almost entirely by other practitioners, and that the new facts, or which I consider to be new, have been in my opinion disproved by subsequent observers; and that in consequence of those facts being disproved, together with the very extensive experience of other persons, we owe the present extensive practice of the vaccine inoculation.

Will you inform the Committee, who those practitioners and persons are to whom you refer? The

* How far this is true will be seen in the evidence of these gentlemen.

The cow-pox inoculation after Dr. Jenner's book was published in May or June, 1798, was not practiced after Dr. Jenner's seventh or eighth case contained in his work the whole result of his experience, by any person that I know of, till January, 1799, neither Dr. Jenner nor any person that I could find being in possession of matter; but in January, 1799, in consequence of a general inquiry, which I had instituted immediately after Dr. Jenner's publication, information was given of the cow-pox disease breaking out in two of the cow-stables near London, and from these sources Dr. Woodville and myself collected matter, by which, in the course of about three months, not fewer, I think, than 300 persons were inoculated for the cow-pox in addition to the seven or eight cases of Dr. Jenner, then the whole stock of facts of inoculation before the public. Besides carrying on the inoculation ourselves in this manner, we disseminated the matter throughout the country, in particular to Dr. Jenner himself, and particularly also, I within that time issued a printed letter, directed to upwards of two hundred practitioners in different parts of the kingdom, containing thread impregnated with cow-pox matter. In the course of this practice we already learnt that *young infants* might be inoculated with safety, which I considered to be then a new fact, Dr. Jenner not having had the experience, and being apprehensive of serious consequences from inoculating them. Secondly, That the inoculated arms, so far from requiring caustic or escharotic, or other topical applications, were sooner cured than in the inoculated small-pox; that Dr. Woodville's publication in June, 1799, appeared, containing the cases of upwards of four hundred inoculated in that time; and in August, 1799, I published a statement of inoculation, referring to many practitioners, who had furnished me with reports of inoculation, with matter which I myself had furnished; among these I beg leave to mention Mr. Kelson of Seven Oaks, Dr. Mitchell of Chatham, and Dr. Harrison's cases, as communicated to me by Sir Joseph Banks, and by that time I had also introduced it into the army, through the hands of the Surgeon General Mr. Keate, and reports frequently came into my hands by his direction from the army; I had also by that time introduced the vaccine inoculation into many parts of the continent; and received reports of the successful practice of it, in particular from Dr. De Carro of Vienna; in addition to these testimonies contained in the paper above alluded to, is the result of my own practice in three parishes of poor people inoculated under my superintendance, so that, in that paper, I believe it will be found that two thousand cases had by that time been afforded for the public by Dr. Woodville and myself, and the persons

with whom I was in correspondence, and who are mentioned in the papers alluded to; by this time too, some difficulties appear to have been removed in a great measure by some facts stated to the public by Dr. Jenner, in particular that I published experiments of inoculation in the paper alluded to of inoculating persons with the cow-pox, who had undergone the small-pox, to shew that they *could not take the cow-pox after the small-pox*, contrary to Dr. Jenner. Secondly, that experiments to shew that persons could not take the small-pox both locally and constitutionally, who had already gone through the cow-pox, also contrary to Dr. Jenner. Thirdly, many persons had by this time, made experiments to shew that the *cow-pox did not originate in the grease of horses' heels*, as Dr. Jenner had asserted; these sentiments will be found in a printed statement which I beg to deliver in, as published by me. In the spring of the year 1799, while the above stated evidence was collected, a second publication appeared from Dr. Jenner, adding nothing but a few cases of inoculation further of the cow-pox, but recommending caustic or escharotic applications to the inoculated parts, in the cow-pox, not found necessary by the medical persons alluded to in my evidence; and I consider that the distinctive characters of the cow-pox were understood better by some of the above alluded to persons than by Dr. Jenner. The vaccine inoculation was next considerably established by the Cow-pox Institution, of which I was one of the founders, commencing at the very close of the year 1799; which institution has been the principal office, I apprehend, for supplying the world in general, and the army and navy in particular, with matter; and where a regular register is kept of each of the cases inoculated, more fully and accurately than had been done any where before or since that time; where the authenticity of the cases, from the nature of the institution, is established in a manner that I apprehend will be considered as unexceptionable; this appears from a register of about seven hundred cases already entered, and open to the inspection of the subscribers. By this time, namely, the close of the year 1799, I think I can make it appear that about four thousand persons had been inoculated by Dr. Woodville, myself, and correspondents, which can be referred to. I here close my evidence, as I consider it of very small importance, comparatively, what was done by others after this time, all the facts that I recollect of use in practice being by this time established, as they have been since confirmed.*

Did

* Our readers will collect the substance of the oration from the above evidence. We make no commentary on the remaining answers.

Did you never hear of inoculation having been performed by Mr. Cline, with matter furnished by Dr. Jenner, previous to the time you began to practice vaccine inoculation?

I cannot recollect distinctly.

Were not the seven or eight cases of Dr. Jenner, alluded to by you, cases of inoculation from one human being to another?

Some of them were, others were not.

Had not many, or a large majority of your first cases, varicellous-like eruptions?

The matter which had never been in the Small-pox Hospital, and which I myself took from the cows at the two cow-stables above alluded to, scarcely ever afforded any eruptions like the small-pox; but when I obtained matter to supply my correspondents in the country, not having enough of my own, but obtained it from the Small-pox Hospital, it frequently, according to the reports of my correspondents, and in a few cases where I used it myself, did produce such eruptions.

Was not the matter or virus which you distributed, found great fault with, on account of the eruptions it produced?

No, it was not found fault with; but many people were disappointed, as they expected that one of the advantages attending the inoculation was to be exempt from eruptions.

Did not these eruptions, which were produced by your matter, very much discourage practitioners and the public, and very much retard the progress of the new inoculation?

I should think it did not.

Do you not know there is a case in Dr. Jenner's first publication of his having inoculated a child of eleven months old?

I believe there is one case.

Did not Dr. Woodville and yourself take the vaccine matter in Gray's Inn Lane, for the purpose of commencing your experiments, from a person fully marked with the small pox?

No such case is in my recollection.

Have those facts stated by you to militate against Dr. Jenner's declared opinions remained uncontradicted by him? Does he still maintain them, or has he publicly retracted them?

I think he has not retracted them.—Withdrew.

Adjourned till to-morrow.

When any thing important happened to spring up in the evidence, which the witness himself could not speak to, the Committee, in general, made it a rule to summon the proper persons as soon as possible.

As Dr. Heberden's authority had been mentioned in proof of the practice of vaccine inoculation many years ago, he was summoned for the morrow.

When the Committee met, on the 15th, Dr. Pearson, having a bundle of papers in his hand, begged to be heard, stating, that these papers contained decisive proof of the practice of Vaccine Inoculation, long before Dr. Jenner's discovery; and that he received them from Mr. Keate. This opened a new field for inquiry into the authenticity of the papers, the author of them, their contents, whether any part of them had ever been published, and whether Dr. J. had borrowed his ideas from the author. Dr. P. asserted, that they contained every thing to be found in Dr. Jenner's works, except his errors; and "I am," said he, "convinced that the author was a very experienced inoculator, for I find one observation which I did not think had occurred to any body but myself." This attack on Dr. Jenner's originality of discovery, made a sensible impression on all present; for it was concluded that no person of Dr. P's respectability would make such assertions without plausible proof, at least, to support them. Dr. Heberden entering the room about this time, his examination was commenced, as follows, viz.

Jovis, 15^o die Aprilis, 1802.

Admiral BERKELEY in the Chair.

Dr. HEBERDEN called in and examined. The statement made yesterday, by Dr. Pearson, being read,

Dr. Heberden stated, That all he knew upon the subject was, about three years ago Dr. Lynd of Windsor, mentioned to him in conversation, that there was living, near Windsor, a young man, apprentice to an apothecary, who, when a child, was inoculated with vaccine matter by his father, who was an apothecary in the West of England; with respect to Mr. Battiscombe, he could not speak, having heard nothing of it.

Do you know his name?

No, I do not.

Did you understand it to have been an inoculation from the cow?

I am not certain whether it was from the cow, or some person who had caught the disease.—Withdrew.

Dr. Jenner finding it necessary to establish the date of his discovery by evidence, requested Mr. Gardiner to be examined; (see page 19 of our last number) who proved that Dr. Jenner had published his discovery, among the medical men in his neighbourhood, as early as the summer of 1780. And he not only published the discovery, but he explained to his neighbours,

neighbours his views and expectations almost as completely as he could do at present.

Dr. Jenner was proceeding to give evidence that the matter sent by Dr. P. and some others, from London into the country, had produced the small-pox instead of the cow-pox; which very much injured and retarded the new inoculation in many places. But the entrance of Mr. Keate determined the Committee to proceed with his examination.

MR. KEATE, Surgeon-General to the Army, called in and examined.

Dr. Pearson having stated that you were in possession of some manuscripts which might tend to throw some light upon the discovery of vaccine inoculation, you are desired to produce them.

The papers left by Mr. Robert Keate, my nephew, who received them from the author's son relative to a variety of matter on the subject of inoculation: I have made extracts of those parts which relate to cow-pox, which I will identify from the original, and lay before the Committee.

Were the observations contained in those papers ever made public?

I do not know that they were.

Have you been much conversant in vaccine inoculation, and what is your opinion of it?

In the year 1799, by means of Dr. Pearson, seeing a number of his patients; afterwards inoculating with him the poor of several parishes; then introducing it to the army in all quarters of the globe; and lastly, giving my utmost assistance towards founding an institution for the benefit of the poor in London.

Have you not met with instances of a spurious sort of vaccine pustule?

I do not recollect that I have.

Have you met with such varieties in the disease as to make it difficult to determine whether the patient has had the perfect disease?

No, I do not know that I have: there are but two kinds in my judgment, one local and the other constitutional.

Do you think that a constitutional affection is essentially necessary to the perfect disorder, or that it consists in the regular progress of the pustule only?

I think it is the true characteristic of the disease; my opinion is, that the constitution should be affected more or less.

Would you venture to pronounce a patient safe from small-pox infection, in whom you had not been able to observe any constitutional affection whatever, though the progress of the local disease had been perfectly regular?

Yes; I think that the local appearances may be so strong and evident as to warrant the conclusion on my part, that the constitutional symptoms might not be strong enough to be observed.

Has your mode of practice varied since you first undertook this mode of practice?

No.

Do you know of any other humours or disorders supposed to be excited by this mode of inoculation?

No.

Whom do you look upon as the Discoverer of this mode of inoculation.

I consider Dr. Jenner to be the person to whom much merit is due in publishing the cases of inoculation, which have given rise to further investigation and improvement; but to whom to attribute the discovery, I am unable to say.

In those cases is there not mention made of a child or children being inoculated?

I think that the youngest, inoculated by Dr. Jenner, as far as I can recollect, was eleven months old.

Did you ever hear of inoculation for the cow-pox before Dr. Jenner's publication?

I never did.

Have you heard since his publication, that any other person had promulgated, or practised, that mode of inoculation antecedent to that time?

I have heard that others had inoculated for the cow-pox from the animal, previous to that time.

Did you ever hear of this disorder having been inoculated from one human being to another before Dr. Jenner's publication.

No.—Withdrew.

As Mr. Keate had received the papers from his nephew, it became necessary to summon him; and he being out of town, the Committee adjourned to the 26th.

Lunæ, 26^o die Aprilis, 1802.

Mr. BANKS in the Chair.

Mr. ROBERT KEATE called in and examined.

Papers mentioned by Dr. Pearson and Mr. Keate laid upon the table.

State what you know of these papers.

Mr. Nash, the son of the author, put them into my hands, in the summer of 1800.

Do

Do you know at what time these papers were written?
I have understood, after the year 1781.—Withdrew.

Mr. THOMAS NASH called in and examined.

When did you deliver these papers to Mr. Keate?

In 1799, or 1800.

Do you know at what time they were written?

Not for certain, but between the years 1781 and 1785: By the date 1781, in which year I was inoculated; and the year 1785, in which my father died.

Do you know the hand writing to be your father's?

This is the writing which was put into my hands as his; I have never seen my father write.

When did you first see these papers?

In 1795 or 1796.

By whom were they put into your hands?

By Mr. Battiscombe.

What account did he give of these papers?

On the death of my father, they were sent by my mother to her brother, Mr. Battiscombe, a medical man; he returned them to me in 1795 or 1796; I fancy, without ever looking at them; they were sent with other manuscripts in the same hand writing, to be made what use of I pleased.

Did you understand from him, that he had communicated the contents to any person whatever?

I have every reason to believe he did not.

Did you ever understand that you yourself were inoculated by your father with vaccine matter?

Not for certain; I have heard my mother say, that at the time of my inoculation, my father was greatly taken up in the study of the cow-pox, and made many experiments, but of what nature she did not know.

Did you ever hear her speak of any persons whom she knew to have been inoculated by your father with vaccine matter?

Certainly not, his experiments were entirely kept secret* from her.

How long have you kept those papers in your possession?

They were delivered to me in 1795 or 1796, and then I delivered them to Mr. Keate in 1799 or 1800.

Did

* Supposing the author of the papers to have known as much as Dr. P. stated, which was far from being the case, yet, as he kept his knowledge a profound secret, and as the papers were written three or four years after Dr. Jenner had published his discovery, they could not affect his claim if they had been published.

Did you ever make any part of them public, or communicate the contents to any person in the mean while?

Never, till they were given to Mr. Keate.

Have you any reason to think that Dr. Jenner was acquainted with the author of these papers?

I never heard that he was till this morning, and then from rumour.

Who gave you this intelligence?

I heard it from Mr. R. Keate.—Withdrew.

Mr. ROBERT KEATE again called in and examined.

Have you any reason to think that Dr. Jenner was acquainted with the author of these papers?

I heard from Mr. Battiscombe yesterday, that he believed he had heard Mr. Nash and his sister mention the name of Dr. Jenner; but was not at all certain that it was Dr. Jenner who applies to parliament.—Withdrew.

Adjourned till to-morrow.

Many of our Readers, no doubt, will be very desirous to know the contents of this Manuscript, on which so much stress has been laid; but as we were not favoured with the perusal of it, we can gratify them only by inserting those parts which the Committee have thought relevant to the inquiry before them.

We understand that the chief object of the writer, was, to recommend some improvements which he thought he had made in the inoculation of the *small-pox*. In his practice, as many others had done before him, he found that those who had taken the cow-pox by milking, or otherwise, would not take the inoculated small-pox.

Extracts from Manuscripts of Mr. Nash, delivered to your Committee by Mr. Keate, as far as they relate to Cow Pox.

It is rather remarkable that no writer should have taken notice of the Cow Pox.

I never heard of one having the small-pox, who ever had the cow pox. The cow-pox certainly prevents a person from having the small-pox.

I have now inoculated above sixty persons who have been reported to have had the cow-pox, and I believe at least forty of them I could not infect with the variolous virus; the other twenty, or nearly that number, I think it very reasonable to presume (as they were no judges) had not the real cow-pox. It is not my own opinion only, but that of several other medi-
cal

cal gentlemen, that convinces me the cow-pox is a prophylactic for the small-pox.

I have not been able to discover that the human species get it from the cows in any other manner than by contact with the parts immediately infected, such as in milking; neither do I apprehend that one of the human species can communicate it to another, but by the same means, as I have known some of the inhabitants of a house where it was, escape it, but none of those who lay in the same bed with a diseased person.

In Mrs. Scammell and Mrs. Bracher, inoculation produced no eruption, no sickness, and little or no suppuration of the arm, the place punctured not being bigger, when inflamed and suppurated, than a large pin's head. It frequently leaves considerable marks, which are much larger than those of the small-pox; as large, I have measured some, as a silver three-pence.

Extract of a Letter from the Reverend Herman Drew to Dr. Pearson; dated Wootton, September 7, 1798.

Having an opportunity, I communicated your queries relative to the cow-pox to Mr. Dolling, an inoculator at Blandford, who is in very extensive practice, and I am favoured with the following answers:

I can only say, I have inoculated for the small-pox many hundreds, that said they had had the cow-pox; very few of them took the infection, so as to produce the small-pox; and those, I am inclined to think, deceived themselves in regard to their having had the cow-pox. I inoculated seven children for one Person, the eldest not ten years old; five of those children the mother had made play with cows teats that had the cow-pox, and they received infection from the cow; these five children had not small-pox, the other two had.

Mr. Justins, a farmer at Yetminster, in Dorset, inoculated his wife and children with matter taken from the teats of a cow that had the cow-pox; in about a week from the time of inoculation, their arms were very much inflamed; the patients very ill; the man so much alarmed as to call in medical assistance (Mr. Meach of Cerne); the patients soon got well; they have since been inoculated for the small-pox by Mr. Trobridge of Cerne; but did not have it.

Extract of a Letter from Dr. R. Pulteney, to Dr. Pearson; dated Blandford, July 14, 1798.

I have never heard of any being affected with the disease, except such have milked the cows or handled the udders.

The same person informed me, that of seven children he had inoculated for the small-pox, five had been previously afflicted with

with the cow-pox, and purposely, by being made to handle the teats and udders of infected cows, in consequence of which they suffered the distemper. These five, after inoculation for the small-pox, did not sicken; the other two had the distemper.

It is well known in Hampshire, Dorset, Somerset, and Devon. I also know that it is not uncommon in Leicester-shire, and other midland counties; but dairy men keep it as secret as possible, as it is disreputable to the cleanliness of the produce.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. W. Dolling to Dr. Pearson; dated Chittle, April 9, 1802.

The farmer alluded to in Dr. Pulteney's letter to you, who inoculated his wife and children with matter taken from the teat of a cow, and the person mentioned in Mr. Drew's letter, viz. Mr. Justins, is the same person; both Dr. Pulteney's and Mr. Drew's intelligence came from me. I am not at this time certain as to the year, but believe it was in or before the year 1786; the farmer is still living, of whom I can have the particulars.

Extract of a Letter from the Rev. Herman Drew to Dr. Pearson; dated Abbots, near Honiton, Devon, April 11, 1802.

I cannot inform you at what period Mr. Justins of *Yetminster* (not Axminster) inoculated his family; but I have no doubt but it was previous to Dr. Jenner's practice. I have by this post communicated to Sir William Elford a curious fact, which came to my knowledge yesterday; that, above twenty years ago, a woman inoculated her children with matter taken from the cow, on the point of a large needle.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Nicholas Bragge, to Sir William Elford, Bart. (a Member of your Committee), dated Axminster, April 12th, 1802.

It is now more than thirty years ago that I first made experiments, and proved that the vaccine disease was a preservative against the small pox; and it is, I believe, more than twenty years ago, that, through the Rev. Herman Drew, I acquainted Sir George Baker with the observations and experiments I had then made, which I am certain Sir George will readily acknowledge. Unhappily, an accident by fire deprived me of having recourse to them now, but my memory will supply me with enough to convince you, that Dr. Jenner is not the person entitled to the reward that may be thought deserving for such discovery. It is now, I believe, twenty years ago, that Mrs. Randall, the wife of a respectable farmer in the parish
of

of Whitechurch, near Lynne, in Dorsetshire (who is at this time a tenant to Lady Caroline Damer, in the same parish for which I have been concerned as an apothecary for the poor ever since I have been in business) inoculated herself, and three or four children for it; and those children, who have long arrived at manhood, have since inoculated their friends and neighbours whenever an opportunity has offered.

Extract of a Letter from the Rev. Herman Drew, to Sir William Elford, Bart. dated Abbots, near Honiton, April 1st, 1802.

Dr. Edward Jenner has undoubtedly very great merit in bringing Vaccine Inoculation into practice, but he is no more the discoverer of the cow-pox and its effects than I am. Nearly twenty years ago, I wrote sheets of paper to Sir George Baker on this disorder, and I know not what occasioned his laying aside his intention of publishing his investigations; he had had a previous correspondence with Dr. Pulteney of Blandford on the subject. Sir George desired me to inoculate with matter taken from the cow, but my endeavours to find out where I might get matter, were for a long time unsuccessful, owing to the secrecy of the farmers, whose dairies were infected with such a filthy ulcerous distemper, it would have marred the sale of their butter, &c.

About fourteen years ago, I discovered an infected cow, and, by desire of Sir George Baker, I applied to Mr. Bragge, a Surgeon of Axminster, to attempt Inoculation; but unfortunately we were too late, as the disorder was so far abated in the animal, that the matter had lost its activity. We made use, however, of a dissolution of the scabs in warm water, but without success.

When Dr. Jenner published his observations, he was followed by Dr. Pearson of Leicester-square, who was introduced by Sir George to a correspondence with me on this subject, and he repeatedly confesses in print his obligations to me for information; no one can have an higher opinion of the good effects of the Vaccine Inoculation than I have, it has occupied my thoughts for years, and nothing but Horace's advice "*ne futor ultra crepidam*" has checked me from the use of the infected lancet or saturated cotton. *Entre nous*, I have had a little successful practice.

A letter also from William Tucker, Esquire, of Coryton in Devonshire, to Sir William Elford, Bart. dated Coryton, April 12th, 1802, states, That Mr. Bragge, twenty years ago, proved the efficacy, and with great assiduity recommended the practice of Vaccine Inoculation; that Mr. N. Bragge, through the Rev. Herman Drew, furnished Sir George Baker with a variety

variety of papers in proof of its being a sure guard against variolous infection; and that Dr. Jenner's superior merit consisted in having effected the introduction of Vaccine Inoculation, and in having also, as it is said, ascertained the means of discriminating the real from the spurious disease.

When Dr. Pearson had finished his evidence, Dr. Jenner inquired if he might be permitted to ask Dr. P. one question, which Admiral Berkeley would have asked if he had been present. The Committee said, "Certainly not; but you may propose your question to the Chairman, and we will consider how far it is proper to be asked."

"It is," said Dr. Jenner, "with what design did Dr. Pearson pay a visit to the confidential clerk of the Committee?"

Dr. Pearson rose to answer it, but the Committee insisted upon the room being cleared immediately.

In the anti-chamber Dr. P. told us he only wanted a copy of the petition.

In a few minutes the Committee sent out their clerk to inform us that they would hear no more evidence, but proceed to the making up their Report. We of course went home to dinner "with what appetite we may."

As a farther commentary on the above evidence, and an additional proof of our impartiality, we give the following card from Dr. P. to Dr. B.

Leicester Square, July 4, 1802.

DR. PEARSON presents his compliments to Dr. Bradley, desires to inform him that the Honourable Committee for Dr. Jenner's Petition, have not, as asserted in the Medical and Physical Journal, p. 26, last Number, published "*the whole of the contravening evidence*," but a small part of that delivered by himself on the claim for discovery of inoculation is given; and no part of that respecting the discovery of particular facts, and the establishment of the practice, is inserted in the printed Report; neither is the evidence of others, on one point or other, wholly inserted. If the Editors have reserved Dr. Pearson's evidence for the class of contravening evidence, of which they propose to give a statement in their next Number, it seems improper they should do so,* because it contains the only, or the

* If the Editors have mistaken the intention of Dr. P. in bringing forward his evidence; if Dr. P. meant to serve Dr. Jenner, instead of injuring him, they are ready to acknowledge that his evidence should not have been placed among that which they consider as *contravening*. But if the Editors have fallen into this mistake, they believe it is a mistake common to them, and all who heard it.

the single testimony which specifically and distinctly affords the ground for the declaration of the claim asserted by the Honourable Committee on the point of Discovery of Inoculation.

Dr. Pearson desires further to notice, that he does not consider the extracts printed (for it is indeed an extract) by the Honourable Committee, gives for the most part, the sense of his evidence; but here he disclaims any imputation on the Members of the Committee; nor is it a matter of regret to him, if the statement of the Report is so represented as to serve the interest of the Petitioner, since he differs only in opinion with respect to the ground on which the claim ought to have been founded. Dr. Pearson apprehends that the grounds proposed by him to the Honourable Committee on one of the three claims set forth by the Petitioner, would have been as honourable and profitable to the Petitioner as those declared in the Report; with the advantage to boot of allowing due honour to other persons.

Dr. Pearson must, in duty to the public, remark, that it does not seem fair to consider the Report of the Honourable Committee in the light of a strictly just investigation and competent judgment of the rights of the Petitioner and of the merits of the Vaccine Inoculation:

1st. Because medical practitioners only are competent to such inquiries. Hence the late inquiry in a Committee of the House of Commons was *coram non judice*.

2d. Because, to use the words of a most able and impartial Member of the Honourable Committee,* "He always received the Report of a Committee with some degree of jealousy, as he considered them in the light of nominees on a committee to try the merits of a controverted election, as being friends of the petitioners." †

Dr. Pearson takes the liberty of making one more remark, which is, that the Appendix containing the evidence being unusually short, the public will perhaps be jealous on account of the Editors making a selection of testimonies; especially as the Committee themselves have already only made a selection from a body of evidence; and as the Editors have thought proper to deliver their opinion respecting the decision previous to laying the evidence before the public.

* Mr. Banks.

† By these two observations I cannot be supposed to mean to arraign the justice, or even to question the wisdom of delegating such powers to a Committee of the House of Commons, which may be allowed very consistently with the truth of the above remarks.

Observations on the Use of cold Water in Typhus; communicated by Mr. BLEGBOROUGH, Surgeon, of Oxford Street.

SHOULD I advance nothing *new* on the present occasion, at least let me be allowed the merit of intending to bring, sub judice, and fix attention to, a subject, than which none calls louder for a cool and dispassionate investigation, and for which no place is more proper than your pages, from whence suffering humanity has already reaped so many advantages.

Need I mention more urgent reasons for the necessity of an investigation of the treatment of Typhus Fever, than that it has so lately removed a Letson, a Murray, a Garnett, and others, bright ornaments of Humanity as well as of a Profession, which has lately claimed its proper rank in society, and to which it is my greatest glory to belong.

I shall make no other apology for intruding myself upon the notice of your Readers, than that, unshackled by prejudice, I have attended minutely to what of the disease occurred to me in a practice of the last ten years, so active as to preclude me the privilege of examining the opinions of others, and from having with some of my own family passed the fiery ordeal myself.

From the commencement of Typhus we have heat (from increased circulation, or whatever other cause is at present immaterial, as the causes of the disease are not intended to have any thing to do with the present investigation); we have heat then, and that not as Dr. Cullen says, *parum* but *plurimum auctus*, and the patient suffers in a ratio exactly commensurate to the degree and duration of that increased heat. By it are produced those consequences with which we are all but too well acquainted. By heat the secretions are locked up, the gently promoting which, has ever seemed to me a circumstance of the first importance in the cure of Typhus. The secretions are most easily kept up, the functions, particularly of the stomach, more duly performed, and the vigour of the whole system longest sustained, while the body is kept cool. Heat produces anxiety of mind and restlessness of body, inducing too high a state of excitement to be long sustained with impunity. The functions of the stomach then being impaired, the ordinary practice of administering bark, wine, brandy, and opium, tends, instead of diminishing, to increase that heat upon which the mischief depends, and which, if not restrained, soon hurries matters from bad to worse. These, in my opinion, at least now, no longer act upon the stomach, according to calculations
drawn

drawn from their effects on it in its healthy state. Their administration seems to me like heaping Pelion on Ossa on the patient. They surely are not the properest things to pass the stomach in such a state, but ought to give place to lact amygdalæ, pastry-cook-whey, or even common water. It may not be amiss here to remark, that nothing ought to be pressed on the patient, or put into his stomach contrary to his wish; but that his own feelings should, as nearly as possible, be consulted in this affair. The ventilation of the room, and the moderating the warmth of the bed-cloaths, are things also of the utmost importance. Were it possible for me to forget the effects which even a small blister had upon myself, I might perhaps be induced to think somewhat less unfavourably of it in the cases of others. I may be mistaken in all this; but if I am, I cannot make out for what purposes my senses were given me. No man of common sense will, I am sure, find any thing unreasonable in what I have advanced, which would not even be improbable, did not every day's experience prove that it is really true. Do the Physicians of London, then, doubt the truth of Dr. Currie's remarks on the subject? or what other cause withholds their sanction from a treatment which reason suggests and experience approves?

I have been told that no one wishes to be the first to hazard a reputation, with difficulty obtained, on a novel system, though under the most thorough conviction of its propriety. Do physicians, indeed, find the iron chain of vulgar prejudice so very strong? No! this I will not believe, while I know a Saunders, a Bailey, yourselves, gentlemen, and others, whose liberality of sentiment, independence of spirit, and goodness of heart are only equalled by their professional skill. The little reputation I have, has been, and were it equal to that of your whole College, should all be placed on this single dye, so convinced am I that it would not be sullied by the risk.

We are then to look to some other cause why the plan is not more generally adopted; and the most likely one perhaps is, that eminent men constantly engaged in an active and arduous pursuit, have not yet bestowed on it that degree of attention, which the thing seems really to deserve. I know it has been said that there have been instances in which sudden affusion has deprived the patient of life altogether in an instant. I don't know that it is true, having never seen nor heard of a well authenticated Case of it. Admitted, however, to be true, I do not think it so much the fault of the remedy as the improper application of it. The best remedies of every description, when misapplied, are capable of producing the greatest mischief; and the whole art of medicine consists in properly
apportioning

apportioning the degree of remedy to the degree of disease, which, more than any other thing, distinguishes the physician from the quack. In avoiding Scylla, are we of necessity to get into Charybdis?

To lay down specific rules by which I have regulated the application of cold, would not be easy; as circumstances are not exactly alike in any two cases, and as every patient's constitution and habits form an exception from a general rule.

After, in some cases only, premising an emetic, I have in general found little further necessary than simply to bathe the whole of the body with cold water, with or without a small quantity of vinegar, by means of a napkin or sponge, three or four times a day.

I have seldom given any thing by way of medicine, except a draught three times a day of *lac amygdalæ*, with sometimes three grains of nitre in each, and that more as a placebo than with any other intention. But I have always made a great object of attending to the state of the bowels, and have generally had an enema, more or less aperient, according to circumstances, administered every, or every other, evening, till the fourteenth; at which period, under this treatment, the patient seldom, if ever, fails to find himself completely free from the disorder.

In some bad cases, however, where matters have been suffered to run into extremes from inattention in the earlier stages of the disease, I have (in order to get the heat more quickly out of the habit), been under the necessity of employing affusion; yet, I have always thought it right to use the bathing first, well aware that Nature hates sudden transitions, not less than a *vacuum*.

I was lately called to a patient in an early stage of the disease, and was acting up to the spirit of the principles laid down in this letter, when an eminent physician was called. He very politely saw no reason to interfere with the treatment for the first three days, which got us on to about the eighth of the disease; when, concluding that the fever was gone, he directed the cortex, and a suspension of the bathing; *this*, as I had predicted, reproduced the bad symptoms, for which I had been originally called. I was then applied to in the most solemn manner to declare, what I thought was really the state of the case? My reply was, that they were already in possession of my opinions. I was made to believe that the visits of the physician were dispensed with, and knew very well that the original treatment was resumed.

Matters soon got into their proper channels again, and I was not told till the fourteenth day, when I had said the patient would

be better, that the physician had been attending the whole time; and had declared, that he never saw a patient suffer less from the disease. It may be said, why was the physician called at all?

The novelty of the treatment, and my having said that the patient should confine himself, and use care till the fourteenth day, was, I have no doubt, the cause.

Never having read Dr. Currie's book, I believe I differ from him in opinion, that the disease may be entirely cured by two or three affusions. Though suspended by affusion, as the discharge of gonorrhœa may be by an astringent injection, yet I have no doubt that the disease will certainly become active again, and the heat accumulate as in gonorrhœa, if the remedies, equally specific in each, be for a short time suspended. In my opinion, if ever typhus be protracted beyond the fourteenth day, if much head-ach, delirium, putrescency, and all their terrible consequences supervene, it will be always found to be the case, where a different plan to the one here recommended has been pursued. The risk of contagion also, if not entirely removed, is at least rendered infinitely less probable, while the feelings of the patients themselves throughout the whole course of it, leave no doubt of its being the most pleasant one of any before adopted. Another pleasant circumstance I have observed, is that patients treated on the above plan seldom feel much inconvenience afterwards, while those who survive the one in general usage, are often very infirm all the rest of their lives. We have been lately amused with a story, that digitalis was a certain specific in typhus. The result of my observation on this dangerous remedy, for the best of all reasons, extends no further than to one case, in which I was induced to give my attention to its exhibition in the way recommended, viz. a scruple in infusion at four doses in the space of twenty-four hours. The patient died about the ninth day of the disease.

Eheu! Phryges serô sapiebant!

In a conversation with the ingenious but ill-requited Dr. Jenner, at the Royal Institution, the other evening, I think I discovered, that his opinions on this subject were not very different to those here stated, which emboldens me much in thus exhibiting them to the world.

Aware of the hint you gave me respecting the length of my last, I shall content myself at present with having simply started the subject, and shall be happy to see the justice it deserves done to it by others, more equal to the task.

July 6, 1802.

*Case of divided Trachea; communicated by Mr. S. GOE,
Surgeon, of Louth.*

ISABELLA HARE, about twenty-eight years of age, on the 20th of last September, in a state of mental derangement, made an attempt to destroy herself by cutting her throat. She was in the service of Mr. Naul, of this town, and not long before had abruptly left her place in a fit of melancholy; from this lowness she gradually recovered, and was, at her own request, taken again into her former service, where she had before experienced every indulgence. She however suddenly relapsed, and was missing soon after, early in the morning; diligent inquiries were immediately set on foot to find her, but to no purpose, as she was not seen, or heard of, before the following morning about 9 o'clock, when she was discovered in the chamber of a warehouse, with her throat cut. In this situation I was sent for, and found her senseless, and almost without life, having no perceptible pulse at the wrist, very cold, and a convulsive stare with the eyes; respiration was performed at the wound of the trachea, but so laborious that the noise in taking her breath first led to the discovery. There being no hæmorrhage, a pledget of lint was applied over the wound; and being wrapt in a blanket, she was conveyed to the workhouse, which is only a small distance from the place where she was found. As life appeared so nearly exhausted, some of the means recommended in suspended animation were first made use of, such as frictions, flannels, and warmth gradually applied, which in the course of an hour had the effect of restoring the circulation to the extremities; by this time she also recovered her senses, and shewed signs of contrition, but was not able to speak. Unfortunately, none of my medical associates were at home to assist me with their advice in this unfortunate case, and I was obliged to proceed to dress the wound by myself. A complete division of the trachea was transversely made, immediately under that prominent part of the throat called by anatomists, *pomum Adami*; the larynx appeared much lessened in its diameter, and the two portions did not recede less than an inch and a half from each other; the muscles on each side were partially divided, and the wound from one extremity to the other measured about three inches; a frothy mucus mixed with blood was brought up at every expiration. In this state I gave her some liquids, to ascertain the safety of the gula, and found they passed without any other inconvenience than the irritation occasioned by pressure on the injured parts. As she was incapable of uttering the least noise, I suspected the entire loss of voice
from

from an injury done to the branches of the recurrent nerves; but in this I was probably mistaken, the edges were jagged from the bluntness of the knife, and were become white from the length of time that had elapsed after the injury.

My next step was to bring the divided parts into contact; here I was much perplexed, as Mr. B. Bell recommends the futures to be made only in the surrounding integuments; but the inferior portion had receded so low, I thought there was no chance left to bring them together but by a suture through the very substance of the trachea. I accordingly passed my finger and thumb into the wound, to bring up the retracted part, and, by a suture made with one of my largest needles, succeeded in keeping the cut surfaces much nearer; another suture was made upon the integuments. The lips of the wound were, by these means closed, and the air prevented from escaping externally. I then resolved to proceed no farther till I had witnessed the effects of this treatment, and had taken the opinion of another surgeon. After the wound was dressed up, and the chin brought to rest upon the sternum, she immediately recovered her voice, and requested a clergyman to pray with her. Broth glysters and nourishment, in a liquid form, were ordered, with an anodyne at bed-time. The next morning I was met by Mr. King, who, as surgeon to the poor, was first applied to; she had passed a good night, without any considerable irritation of the trachea; it was then agreed to let the two former futures alone, and make a third through the integuments only, to keep the parts more firmly united, in hopes the wound might heal by the first intention. In this expectation we were disappointed, as on the sixth or seventh day all the stitches loosened, and the air again made its escape from a pretty considerable aperture; we, however, made another attempt to unite the edges of the wound by making three fresh futures upon the parts most free from inflammation; and although a sufficient hold was taken of the sound skin, in about four days they broke through in the same manner, and the air again made its escape. Under these circumstances there appeared no resources left, but trusting to the efforts of Nature, with a proper attention to support the strength, and keep the wound in a favorable position. In the course of a few days, granulations sprung up rapidly from both surfaces of the sore, and in less than a month they had united through nearly the whole extent of the wound; a small circular opening, remained upon the fore part of the trachea for some weeks afterwards, and was with difficulty closed, from the high degree of inflammation leaving the integuments very rigid and unyielding; but at length it was healed with the assistance of sticking plaster. Whilst the aperture remained, it was found

necessary to keep a compress upon the part, constantly to confine the air in the larynx, as the least escape took away the voice. It may be observed, that although she had regained her appetite, and could swallow solids without inconvenience, yet her accession of strength was far from keeping pace with the ingesta, as at this time she was scarcely able to stand by herself. How far this circumstance was owing to the state of the larynx, or to the previous disorder of the mind, I am unable to determine, but am inclined to think the opening in the wind-pipe by some means influenced the system in laying the foundation of great debility.

Three things occurred in this case, which induced me to think it might not be altogether unworthy the notice of other practitioners. First, that a complete division of the trachea, unaccompanied with a wound of the large blood-vessels, or œsophagus, is not always mortal, as considered by Heister, and some other old surgeons. Secondly, that when the edges of the divided trachea have receded to a great distance, it may be safe to pass a future directly through its substance, without creating an alarming cough and irritation. Thirdly, that the healing powers of Nature will effect a cure in some instances, under circumstances extremely discouraging to the practitioner.

Louth, December 27, 1801.

TO DR. BRADLEY.

SIR,

I Had previously to the appearance of your last Number, written down my sentiments relative to the remuneration of Dr. Jenner, for his valuable discovery; in which, however, I am happy to find myself anticipated by so able a judge as the ingenious Dr. Beddoes. Sir, I should wish the matter to be put in *this* point of view: Had Dr. Jenner, after making the Discovery, proposed to publish a plan, which, if universally adopted, would in the course of ten or fifteen years exterminate from our islands so cruel and fatal a scourge as that of Small-pox, (leaving the proof of its efficacy to experiment, and the test of time) I have little doubt but the proposition would have been embraced with avidity, and the sum of fifty thousand pounds have been considered as a small remuneration to the author of so invaluable a blessing. What is the amount of such a sum divided amongst the individuals of the populous islands of Great Britain and Ireland, at this time perhaps amounting to
fourteen

fourteen millions? A very little calculation will inform us, that this sum is no greater than amounts to the demand of nearly one penny each; and let it be observed and remembered, that every one of these individuals, without exception, is nearly and dearly interested in this discovery; I cannot therefore but suppose, that the motion for the vote of ten thousand pounds, was carried without properly adverting to the value of the Discovery, or the merit of the Discoverer, whose candour, ingenuity, and humanity, must ever reflect the greatest honour on our nation.

Permit me, Sir, to add, that these Observations flow from the pen of one who had, for more than twenty-seven years, indulged a favourite theory on a peculiar mode of treating the inoculated Small-pox,* but who, from motives of conviction alone, and from the moment he experimentally discovered the grand superiority of the Vaccine Inoculation, not only relinquished his own opinions, but, which is still more, ventured to recommend, at so early a period as in the year 1800, a National Parliamentary Reward.†

If these Hints should tend to promote a reconsideration of the Reward granted Dr. Jenner, I shall feel myself highly gratified in the reflection of having placed the value of this Discovery in a new point of view.

I am, &c.

R. LANGSLOW, M. D.

Halesworth, Suffolk, July 10, 1802.

Observations on Vaccine Inoculation; communicated by Mr. THOMAS, of Pimlico, Member of the Royal College of Surgeons.

THE highly interesting discovery and candid publication of Dr. Jenner, having undergone the severity of criticism, stood the test of experience, and moreover, been stamped with the approbation of Parliament; it may be thought unnecessary for any private individual to say more, with a view of rendering the

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* Vide an Inaugural Dissertation, published by the Author in 1791, at Glasgow, entitled, "Observationes Experimentales de Vi Tabis Variolacæ, in stadiis morbi diversis; et de usu Mercurii ad morbum mitigandum."—Sold by Callow, Crown Court, Soho.

† Vide page 132 of a Pamphlet, entitled, "The Case of Master Day, of Yoxford, &c." Sold by Murray and Highley, Fleet-street; and Callow, Crown-court, Soho.

the vaccine practice general. Indeed, for the honour of the profession, I am willing to believe, that if it depended on the medical world, there would *now* be found none illiberal enough to oppose it. But, (as has been the case with all great discoveries) there are many country people who, even now, question and doubt the facts so fully and satisfactorily proved by Dr. Jenner and his friends.

I have for many years attended minutely to the practice of Small-pox inoculation, which for the last seven occupied nearly the whole of my time, having at one period three houses, in the neighbourhood of Daventry, in the county of Northampton, for the reception of patients under that disease. It was a beneficial concern to myself, and (if success can be considered as a criterion of merit) it was advantageous to my patients, for out of near five thousand patients, I had the good fortune *not to lose one life*.

My practice did not depend on rules laid down by some modern authors, but was founded on facts and repeated observations, the particulars of which I had reduced to writing, with an intention of submitting them to the world, in the form of a publication; but Dr. Jenner's discovery and account of the vaccine pock, has totally done away the necessity of such an undertaking.

I have several times met with men from the counties of Northampton, Buckingham, Oxford, Warwick, and Leicester, to whom I could not communicate Small-pox infection, and had observed, that such men had been brought up in the farming, dairying, or grazing line of business. I had also observed, that the inoculated arms of all those, whom I termed my unsuccessful patients, invariably bore the same appearances, even on repeated trials, (i. e.) an early inflammation, with a hard circumscribed tumour, which always began to subside on the fifth or sixth day, and continued to decrease till the eighth or ninth, when in general the inflammation entirely disappeared, and the tumour became discernible only by the touch.

These cases occurred to me so often, that I ventured to assure such patients, they never would have the Small-pox, though I could not satisfactorily account for such appearances. In my own mind I had imagined they must have gone through the disease before, or that those appearances arose from some peculiar Idiosyncrasy.

As soon as I had read Dr. Jenner's book, I was convinced those patients had had the "Vaccine Pock," and that it would prevent the Small-pox.

Accordingly, I examined my list of cases; and those I was unsuccessful with, who resided within twelve or fifteen miles of
Daventry,

Daventry, I called on, with a view to investigate minutely every circumstance, and thereby place the matter beyond the possibility of a doubt. The result was, that eight people within that distance fully corroborated the opinion I had formed.

The limits of a paper intended for insertion in a periodical publication, will not allow me to state each case at length; I shall therefore only request you will have the goodness to suffer me to mention one of them, which, in my opinion, proves that the patient inoculated himself with the "Vaccine Pock" *more than thirty years ago, viz.*

A person, whose name is Norris, lives in the parish of Patishall, near Forster's Booth, in the county of Northampton, and follows the business of a horse-dealer, applied to me in the spring of the year 1797, in company with another person, whose name is Haynes, and who lives in the same parish. I inoculated them both, and eight more, on the same day, and with the same matter; on the third day after, I saw them all again, and the appearance on their arms was such as induced me to say they had all taken the infection; but Norris's arm was more inflamed than any, and I made more sure of his safety than either of the others. I desired them all to go to my Inoculating House on the eighth day, and told them I would see them there on that day. When I arrived at the house, I found Norris walking in an adjoining field, waiting for me, being afraid to go into the house, as he said his arms were got well; when I looked at them I found there had been a considerable degree of inflammation, which was then nearly all gone; I also discovered that kind of tumour hardly discernible but to the touch. Under these circumstances I did not advise him to go to the house, but inoculated him again in both arms with *matter just taken from a patient who had the natural confluent Small-pox*, and sent him home. On the third day I saw him again, when both his arms put on the same appearance they had done before; on the fifth day they appeared as those do generally on the ninth or tenth day; on the sixth the inflammation began to subside, and continued to decrease till the ninth day, when both arms were well again, having that small tumour before described on each of them.

To satisfy this man, I inoculated him again with more fresh matter, with exactly the same effect as before; I wished him to go to the house, and try the effect of a natural infection, but could not prevail on him.

I called on him about two years after, and asked him if ever he remembered milking a cow with a pustule on her teat? (which I explained to him so that he perfectly understood me;) and whether he had ever had any sore finger or hand in consequence?

quence? Before I could finish my second question, he pulled off his hat and shewed me a cicatrix or scar on his forehead, exactly like those we see on the arms of persons who had been inoculated with the Small-pox.

He also told me, "he had been accustomed to milk cows for many years; that he remembered seeing such a complaint among cows; that having long hair, which used to fall over his face while in the act of milking, he was in the constant habit of throwing it back with his hand; and at one time he was milking a cow with a fore teat, and as usual throwing back his long hair, he imagined he must have wiped his finger on a small scratch he had on his forehead, which produced a great sore; he was in consequence obliged to keep his bed, for several days was light headed, and the medical man who attended him, declared he never saw such a complaint before, nor could he say what it was." He also observed, "that while he continued sensible, the inflammation and pain of his head were very great."

I could not possibly doubt now that the Vaccine-pock would prevent the infection of Small-pox; but as most men are unwilling to countenance a discovery that would injure them materially, I flattered myself that as I had been so successful in the treatment of Small-pox Inoculation, no real advantage could arise from Dr. Jenner's discovery.

I had therefore determined on publishing "An Account of a New and Successful Method of treating the Inoculated Small-pox," the which I had permission to dedicate to that ingenious and truly scientific Surgeon, Mr. John Pearson; and had also determined on an Appendix, where I intended attacking the Vaccine Pock on the maxim of "*cui bono*," being in my own mind fully persuaded, both from the account of my own patients, and the observation I had made on Dr. Jenner's publication, that the inoculated Small-pox was a less painful and milder disease than the Vaccine.

With this impression on my mind, I prevailed on some people to be inoculated with the vaccine fluid, proposing at the same time to inoculate them again with the Small-pox, after they had passed through the Vaccine Disease, not doubting that I should thereby have ample proofs to establish the opinion I had formed.

I inoculated sixty* patients, first with the Vaccine and then with the Small-pox, many of whom were also exposed to natural

* I have inoculated several hundreds with Vaccine, but only sixty with Small-pox afterwards.

tural infection, and never was able, in any one instance, to produce the least symptom of Small-pox.

The arms of all bore similar appearances to those I have already described; and, to my very great disappointment, I found the Vaccine-pock so safe and mild a disease (none of my patients suffered a day's illness) that I became a convert; was obliged to drop the idea of publishing my manuscript, and in a very short time compelled to shut up my Inoculating Houses, there being no longer an occasion for them.

Thus you will observe, that I was completely foiled in my attempt to prevent the introduction of Vaccine Inoculation; for the very step I took with a view to suppress it, only served to bring it into general estimation in that part of the country; and, I believe, if people could divest themselves of prejudice, and be content with a fair and impartial investigation of facts, that loathsome and terrible disease the Small-pox, would soon be unknown among mankind.

As an individual, no one has greater reason to lament the introduction of Vaccine, and the consequent abolition of Small-pox Inoculation than myself; it has not only been the means of depriving me of a very comfortable support for my family, but absolutely compelled me to leave a place and connection I much valued, consequently it must be allowed that I can have no other motive for obtruding my observations on the public but the *public good*.

July 5, 1802.

On supposed unsuccessful Cases of Vaccination; communicated by Mr. PEARS, of Newington Butts.

A Mis-statement respecting a case of *Cow Pock* which has lately happened in St. George's Fields, having produced some effect injurious to the Vaccine Inoculation, and also influenced the minds of some parents so far as to make them averse to that *advantageous* mode, I take the liberty of transmitting the particulars, as they cannot be too generally known; and as relating to a case, wherein the Small-pock was actually supposed to have occurred *after* Cow-pock.

It would certainly be sufficient to remove all doubt respecting the nature of the first inoculation (for Cow-pock) to say that it was performed by *Mr. Ring*, during his laborious and indefatigable exertions in propagating the advantages of Vaccine Inoculation; but as the circumstance alluded to was so far distinct

find from that as to have been produced by a fortuitous occurrence one year and a half afterwards, it cannot be improper to recite the particulars, *as stated by the mother.*

Mary Salt, aged nine years and a half, was inoculated in both arms by Mr. Ring, about eighteen months since. The pustule arose, and proceeded in the usual way, and others were inoculated therefrom by Mr. R.

On Tuesday, June 29th, this child "sickened for the Small-pock," as was supposed by the mother, from her having the usual symptoms, in consequence of her having caught the infection from another child, — Jenkins, who had been kept *in the house* while labouring under that dreadful disease, and was only removed on the preceding day. (Monday, June 28.) The child was returned from school, much indisposed, *and with an inflammation affecting both arms, in the places inoculated, and extending from the shoulder to the elbow.* An eruption afterwards appeared on the face, neck, arms, hands and body, exactly resembling the Small-pock. The opinion of Mr. Heaumes, a practitioner in the neighbourhood, was requested, who thought it was *variolous*, as did also Mr. J. K. of the Borough, several other gentlemen, and Mr. Ring, who being informed of the circumstance by the mother of the child, on the following day, came to see it in the evening, and (as the mother states) "thought it had a variolous appearance." These gentlemen visited the child every day. The pustules arose inflamed, contained a watery fluid*, continued three days, (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday), and on the fourth, (Thursday) disappeared, *when all the Practitioners agreed that it was not Small-pock*: a rash also accompanied this variolous-like appearance.

At the same time, another child, named *Mary Hull*, aged three years, who lived at the next door, had been inoculated with Mary Salt, by Mr. R. and who had frequently played with — Jenkins during the Small-pock, had the same kind of eruption as the above-named child, Mary Hull, with the same appearances, continuance, &c.

The mother of *Mary Salt*, from whom I received the account, is "*not only perfectly satisfied that it was NOT the Small-pock which appeared upon her child, but is also much strengthened in her assurance of the SECURITY afforded by Cow-pock, from such an exposure as her child was subject to, with the one who laboured under the Small-pock.*" Both the children continue in good health.

It

* Mr. Heaumes has obligingly informed me that there was *not* any fluid, and that the variolous appearance was so far gone on the second day as to induce a change in his opinion. The accompanying rash had a morbillous appearance.

It is therefore a matter of some consequence that the case should be fairly stated, and the particulars fully known, since it appears to need accurate investigation for refutation.

Instances of this kind, it is fortunate, are now occurring but seldom; and when they do occur, they are immediately ascertained and refuted.

The Cow-pock is now very generally received and regarded, as an elegant writer has lately expressed it, "*as a friendly guest that tarrieth but a day unattended by danger; it departs and leaves behind it no ground for regret, but on the contrary much for satisfaction and joy at its visit, imparting to every individual who has received it into his constitution the blessing of stable security from one of the deadliest foes of the human species.*" See Booker's Sermon on the Cow Pock*, a mode of recommendation for which the Doctor is entitled to the THANKS of the medical profession as a most effective way to its becoming that "*parochial concern,*" which the author (at p. 11) so judiciously recommends and enforces, as tending so effectually to promote the reception of what he aptly thinks entitled to the distinguishing name of KIND POCK.

Attempts of this kind, by the regular and parochial clergy, would go far to produce that generally good effect which is so desirable. The plain and earnest address of a zealous and sound divine, herein imitating the example of that worthy diocesan Bishop Squires, in his Sermon (on Inoculation) before the Small-pock Hospital, would effectually remove the prejudices and satisfy the minds of persons in every station of life†; and it is to be presumed that the Medical Profession would not be backward in acknowledging the obligation conferred, and the assistance rendered them by the regular Clergy on this as well as other undertakings of a useful and charitable nature.

July 19, 1802.

* A discourse (addressed chiefly to parents) on the duty and advantages of INOCULATING children with THE COW POCK, by Luke Booker, LL.D. Printed for Hatchard, 196, Piccadilly, 1802. 1s. 6d.; a Sermon which is entitled to the perusal and acknowledgments of every regular practitioner, who could not fail to be pleased both with the solidity of the argumentation and the elegance of its composition. The notes also contain much useful and important information.

† This has been done by some of the country Clergy.

Criticisms on the Treatment of the Venereal Disease.

By T. VAGE, M.D. F.R.S.

[Continued from Vol. VIII. p. 7 — 13.]

IN considering the dyspeptic symptoms of this, or any other disease, it appears to be generally conceived, that the cause of them is the weakness of the stomach alone. This opinion has probably led to some important mistakes in practice; for this organ is not less subject to be affected by causes, and the condition of parts remote from itself, than it is capable of affecting the whole system. Thus an indolence of the intestines, or a diminution of their action in any part, from the pylorus to the rectum, will produce nausea and indigestion, even when the stomach itself may be in a good condition. And hence it is, that a cathartic will often remove these symptoms, by giving an additional irritation to the obstructed and enervated parts. In general however, here, the stomach participates of the mercurial debility, and corroborating aperients become requisite. In regard to the inertness of the intestinal action, it may be further noted, that it frequently proceeds from a deficiency of the bile, which a cathartic stimulus is likely to prevent; for undoubtedly this secretion depends much upon the proper action of the duodenum. But the chief utility of the bile, results from its chylific property, which appears to consist, in a great measure, of mixing the oily and aqueous parts of the aliment, and assimilating them into an uniform liquid. This great importance of the hepatic secretion, whenever it appears defective, demands immediate assistance; and the following pills have been prescribed, upon such occasions, with much advantage.

R. Sapon. ven. pulv. rhab. al. succot. aa. $\mathfrak{z}\text{j}$. pulv. arom. $\mathfrak{z}\text{ss}$. Syr. zinz. q. s. ft. mass. et form. pil. xij. ex singulo, drach.

A few general ideas more, remain yet to be adverted to. And first, a free lacteal absorption, requires a further consideration, still, than a good condition of the digestive organs. It requires to be constantly favored by proper evacuations, from the mass of fluids; for the resistance of a vascular plenitude would prevent the influx of the chyle. The cuticular pores, kidneys, and pulmonary exhalations, besides their emunctorial uses, are inservient to this purpose. The utmost care, therefore, is required to keep them up to their proper quantity. And indeed, this is so easily accomplished by a dry warm air, fit cloathing, exercise, and the like, that there is little need for officinal remedies. There is no complaint that affords less room for the presumption of physic, than mercurial infirmities.

The

The cold-bath, according to common opinion, as a bracer, may appear strictly suitable to these infirmities, but it is extremely apt, not only to cause others, as, violent head-achs, obstinate rheumatic pains, &c. but also to counteract a principal intention of cure, the corroboration of the digestive viscera. Even in the common debilitated state of the solids, for which it is recommended, it is known to be attended frequently with much disservice; and requires considerable medical skill to direct its application. It may therefore, afford some assistance, in this respect, to give a leading idea or two upon the nature and properties of heat: For the effects of cold are nothing else but the effects of the absence or abstraction of this powerful agent, in some degree or other.

The principal property of fire, which seems not to be commonly considered, and on which its action chiefly depends, is the repellency of its particles from each other. Another property of fire resulting from the former, is to impart, or rather force its plus from its accumulations, into the contiguous and surrounding bodies which happen to have less heat, until all become equal. By this introduction of fire into the interstitial pores of substances, they suffer an expansion in proportion to the quantity of it, and continue to expand in all their dimensions, until either they arrive at the same temperature with the external heat, or until the heat evaporates as fast as it is received, as in boiling water in open vessels. But in opposition to this expansion of bodies by fire, the power of attraction between the particles of matter contracts them again, according to the abstraction of their heat.

This increase, or diminution of fire, in animated bodies, particularly in the human system, produces the following effects. The expansion of the former, puts the organs of feeling on the stretch, and according to the degree of it, occasions different degrees of uneasiness and pain, up to intolerable anguish. By the contraction which attends any considerable abstraction of heat, the parts grow dull, torpid, and at last totally insensible. In short, the communication of additional heat is perhaps the quickest and most powerful irritant of the nervous system, and its abstraction the most effectual sedative; upon which account, it would seem capable of being made a far more extensive principle of practice than it is at present. The effects, however, which follow the abstraction of heat, arise from the constriction of the parts compressing the nervous fibres, and their expansions. But in the human system, besides its subjection to the reception and diminution of fire, common to other bodies, its nerves appear to be more immediately the conductors of it; for it is certain, that the local application of
any

any hot or cold substance, will produce an additional positive general warmth, or a general positive diminution of it, much sooner than could be effected through inert, lifeless matter, by the same application. Agreeably to this theory, the cold-bath acts, and therefore cannot be supposed serviceable, when the debility of the solids arises from the indolence of the nervous system. On the other hand, tepid bathing, judiciously practised, and particularly the tepid sea-water bath, contributes not a little to the success of the other parts of the treatment already mentioned.

The sanguific property which Boerhaave ascribes to chalybeates, and their benefit in relaxed habits, was supposed a sufficient ground to employ them in these cases; but their utility did not amount to general praise. In some patients they were attended with manifest service; in others with manifest detriment. And yet I am inclined to think, that if the mode of their operation was well understood, it would enable practitioners to use them in most of these cases with advantage. Iron is ascertained by experiment to be capable of constituting a part of nutritious chyle, in its farthest elaborations; while other minerals act as extraneous matter in the circulation, and discompose the constitution. Hence workers in this metal are generally remarkably healthy and robust. May not chalybeates, therefore, in remedial quantities, operate by increasing the natural stimulus of the blood in the heart and arteries, the additional impetus of which must promote both the chylific secretions and the emunctorial ones? And considered in this nutritious light, as they can be given to invigorate the circulation in any degree, even up to a febrile and inflammatory state, may they not be regarded as a safe and successful remedy, in all cases where artificial fever is requisite, which often happens in judicious practice?

The infirmities of the venereal virus itself, are more refractory to remedial assistance than the former; and the inefficacy of the preceding plan of treatment will shew them to be of that stamp. They are distinguishable also from the mercurial debilities, in being more pointed by particular pains and aches after any violent exercise: For in all cases of venereal ulceration, there is a destruction of some of the vessels or fibres of the parts, by which the remaining collateral ones are obliged to perform the offices of the whole; and the unusual distension of them which this requires, cannot fail to occasion disagreeable sensations and pains. In young people, however, by this very means, the ill effects of venereal corrosion are remedied in time; for where any vessels belonging to a function are destroyed, the rest become gradually dilated, until, at last, they give an easy passage to the same quantity of fluids, that the whole at first conveyed.

Hydrocele, cured by Injections with a simple Apparatus,
 by WILLIAM ROBERTSON, one of the Surgeons to the
 Kelso Dispensary.

YOUR Monthly Medical Journal must ever be esteemed valuable to all those who are well-wishers to the healing Art, for the early information of the improvements of Physick and Surgery it diffuses every where, besides the ready access it affords to all those who are disposed to communicate to the Public such improvements they have found useful in the course of their practice. Without such a vehicle of conveyance, many important discoveries would in a great measure be lost, unless to the individual discoverer.

Induced by these considerations, I take the liberty of transmitting to you the following two Cases of Hydrocele, cured by Injections. Not that I claim any merit in discovering the principle, but in describing a cheap apparatus, and in explaining the mode of performing the operation with facility. If it should merit an insertion in your laudable Publication, I shall consider any trouble I have bestowed in making the discovery gratefully compensated.

CASE I. James P. æt. 63, by trade a wheelwright, called upon me to take my advice with regard to a swelling he had in the scrotum, which had been of some years duration, but always upon the increase, till it had arrived to such a size that it was become quite an incumbrance, and prevented him in a great measure from following his daily employment. He attributed the origin of it to a stroke he got on that part at some distant period. Upon a careful examination of the tumour, I found it to be a collection of water in the tunica vaginalis testis. He was then informed, the only chance he had of being relieved from his complaint, would be by undergoing an operation, and that it might be done in two ways. The first was the palliative measure, by drawing off the water with the trocar; and it was so simple, that he would be able follow his employment in the course of a day or two after; at the same time he was acquainted, that he would be liable to a return of the disorder after a lapse of time. The other mode of performing the operation would prove a complete cure; but it would be a little more painful, and confine him a few weeks from following his employment. He preferred the former, because he could not think of being prevented from working. Having introduced the trocar into the scrotum and through the tunica vaginalis in the common way, I drew off a pound and two or three

three ounces of an uriniferous coloured fluid; found the testicle quite in a sound state; he was relieved from his burden, and able to follow his employment a very little while after. In the course of a month he began to observe the swelling again; it continued increasing gradually for the space of six months, till it was nearly as large as at first, and became quite an incumbrance. I was again consulted and gave it as my opinion, that the best thing he could do was to undergo an operation for the radical cure; mentioning to him there were two ways of performing it; the one was by laying the tumour open nearly the whole length, and evacuating the water; the other was done by drawing off the water by the trocar and canula, as had been done already, and injecting a certain proportion of wine and water. The latter he made choice of, as being less formidable. The day being appointed for performing the operation, but not being in possession of the apparatus generally made use of for that purpose, I thought of the following device: Having procured a bladder that held about a pound and a half, I mounted it on the end of the canula, exactly in a similar way as a bladder is mounted on a glyster-pipe; it was then rolled firmly up, so that it might occupy as little space as possible, for fear of preventing the flow of the water. This being done, the patient was placed on a seat of a convenient height; I then introduced the trocar and canula, and drew off about 18 ounces of an urine-coloured fluid. It was received into a *strouped* decanter; the height the water arose to in the decanter was exactly marked with a piece of wet paper pasted on the inside; it was then emptied out, making an assistant hold the canula with the bladder in the scrotum; two glasses of wine with one of water were poured into the decanter, alternately, until it arose to the paper pasted on the side of it; the bladder was then *unloosed*, and the assistant desired to hold the mouth of it open till all the wine and water was poured in; it was then firmly tied with a piece of *knitting* round the mouth, and the whole of the fluid was injected into the scrotum, which made it swell exactly to the same size it was before the water was drawn off; I then caused the bladder to be tied close to the canula with a piece of *knitting*, to prevent its return, (having previously put my watch upon the table). At first he complained of a great degree of coldness, with a kind of thrilling pain going up the spermatic cord. After being confined there for eight minutes, he began to feel a degree of warmth, which extended to the loins; but to secure the success of the operation, it was allowed to remain four minutes longer; the *knitting* at both parts was unloosed, and all the liquor was emptied into a basin. A suspensary bandage was applied to the scrotum, and he was ordered

dered to be carried to bed, and take an anodyne draught. In the course of twenty-four hours the inflammation came on, and continued to increase till it was as large as it was before the water was drawn off, accompanied with pain and hardness. It continued in that state for about ten days, during which time he took three doses of salts and manna, and kept a bread and milk poultice over it. The wound made by the trocar continued to discharge a small quantity of matter for some time after this period; the inflammation and pain began to abate, and by continuing the above mode of treatment, in the course of sixteen days from the operation, he was able to walk about and do a little work. A degree of hardness remained in the body of the testicle for some time; at last it began to diminish gradually till it became the size of the other. It is now three months since the operation was performed, and he is quite well and following his daily employment, without the smallest signs of the complaint returning.

CASE II. I was requested to visit George R. aged sixty, a common day labourer. He had been afflicted with a swelling in the scrotum, of some years standing; he was tapped, which relieved him from his burden for some time, but it returned again, and was become now larger than ever. I took Mr. Fleming, a navy surgeon, an acquaintance of mine, along with me to examine it; we found it to be an hydrocele of the tunica vaginalis testis, and advised him to have the operation for the radical cure performed, which he at first had a great aversion to. Having pointed out the propriety of the measure in very strong terms, he at last agreed to submit to it; but unfortunately, being so situated, we could not procure any Port wine, and being unwilling to delay the operation after having brought his mind to the resolution, it was at last suggested to inject certain proportions of spirits and water in place of the wine; this being resolved upon, we procured some spirit called whiskey, which is the common liquor that is drank in the country. The patient being conveniently seated, the trocar and canula with the bladder mounted on it, were introduced into the tunica vaginalis testis; about a pound of an uriniferous coloured fluid was drawn off into a decanter, and the height where it arose to was marked with paper; it was then emptied out, and a glass of whiskey and another of water were poured into it, alternately, till it reached the part of the decanter marked with paper; the bladder was loosened, and the whiskey and water were emptied into it from the decanter, and the rest of the operation was finished exactly in the same way as is mentioned in Case I. After remaining about the space of a quarter of an

hour, he began to feel some degree of pain; and to ensure the success of the operation it was confined for three or four minutes longer, then it was withdrawn. But he never felt the same degree of cold succeeded by heat, nor pain, as was produced by the wine. The suspensary bandage being applied to the scrotum, he was ordered to bed. The inflammation began to make its appearance the day after the operation, and continued to increase to nearly the size it was before the water was drawn off. The wound made by the trocar oozed a little matter; was ordered a cooling cathartic composed of an ounce and a half of salts, and half an ounce of manna, and to apply an emollient poultice over it, which was repeated frequently for a few days; but the inflammation and pain became moderate, and it was discontinued, neither was it thought necessary to repeat the cooling cathartic again; he kept his bed for about ten days, after which period the swelling gradually subsided, together with the hardness of the testicle; he is now following his usual employment, and no signs of the disorder returning, though a considerable time has elapsed since.

The proximate cause of this disease is either a morbid secretion of the secreting vessels or a deficiency in the office of the lymphatics in that part. The success of the cure depends on injecting a proper proportion of a stimulating liquor exactly equal to the quantity of collected fluid drawn off, and confining it for such a length of time as to produce a gentle inflammation over the surface of the tunica vaginalis testis; in consequence of this an adhesion takes place betwixt it and the body of the testicle, and obliterates the cavity so as to prevent the return of the disorder. This operation can be performed with great exactness and facility, by mounting the bladder on the canula, so as to form an injection bag and pipe; and the patient suffers no pain from the instrument but on its first introduction, the management of which has already been fully explained in the above two cases.

CRITICAL ANALYSIS

OF THE

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

ON THE DIFFERENT BRANCHES OF

PHYSIC, SURGERY, & MEDICAL PHILOSOPHY.

Commentaries on the History and Cure of Diseases; by WILLIAM HEBERDEN, M. D. 8vo. 483 pages. 1802.

THE Medical Public will doubtless feel considerable interest in perusing these remains of a late venerable and excellent character, who had so justly attained that high eminence in his profession, which was the fair reward of extensive learning, acute observation, and an experience acquired by many years of long and active services in medical practice. — The author observes, in his short Introduction (and the internal evidence of the whole work confirms his assertion) that “the notes from which the following observations were collected, were taken in the chambers of the sick themselves, or from their attendants. These notes were read over every month; and such facts as tended to throw any light upon the history of a distemper, or the effects of a remedy, were entered in another book, from which were extracted all the particulars here given.” This work, therefore, is mostly composed of *clinical* observations, or such as occurred to the author when in the actual practice of his profession; and they are arranged under the heads of the different diseases, forming a number of short essays, or, as it were, *conversations* upon the several subjects, unconnected with each other, and almost entirely divested of theory, or disquisition on the opinions of others. Besides its intrinsic value, the work before us is interesting, as it shews, in some degree, the character of the present practice of physic in this metropolis; the most striking features of which are, cautious judgement, united however with considerable vigour in the use of powerful medicines; a comparative neglect of the purely theoretical part of medicine, arising not from ignorance in medical learning, but from a wholesome scepticism; a rational empiricism, which gives full scope to every fair trial of new remedies, and abandons them with equal readiness when they are unable to stand their ground by their own merits, or are supplanted by some more fortunate rival; a liberal indulgence to the tastes and inclinations of the patient, which, if it in some instances lessens the *authority* of the physician, increases his influence; in short, a practice directed chiefly to the relief of symptoms, and professional skill derived from actual observation much more than from books.

Our limits will not allow us to examine every subject of these Commentaries; and, indeed, as dispassionate judgement is the prevailing character of the work, we meet with several sections, in which the observations which they contain are valuable rather by adding a respectable testimony to the efficacy of the general mode of practice, than by introducing any new improvement. The first section is on the subject of *diet*, a subject which has at all times been much more attended to in other countries than in this, and on which very little stress is laid by present practitioners. Some of our Author's observations we shall give to our readers. "Many physicians appear to be too strict and particular in the rules of diet and regimen which they deliver as proper to be observed by all who are solicitous either to preserve or recover their health. The common experience will sufficiently acquaint one with the sorts of food which are wholesome to the generality of men. Whether meat should be boiled or roasted, or dressed in any other plain way, and what sort of vegetables should be eaten with it, I never yet met with any person of common sense (except in an acute illness) whom I did not think much fitter to choose for himself than I was to determine for him." The author then gives a few (and a very few) rules for diet in fever. For drink in this disease he allows water, either warm or cold, at the option of the sick person, and only in such quantity as is agreeable to him.

The *ratio medendi* is treated of in the second chapter, and we cannot forbear giving briefly the indications laid down by the author, as we believe they are (*in fact*) such as generally direct the operations of the physician. The first consideration in the cure of disease is, whether it requires any evacuation, and what? 2dly. Whether it be a distemper for which any specific has been found out? Here the author adds some remarks on the uncertainty attending this opinion, but thinks that the title of a specific may justly be retained by bark for the cure of agues, quick-silver for venereal disorders, sulphur for the itch, perhaps opium for some spasms, and Bath waters for the injury done to the stomach by drinking. 3dly. Vomiting, purging, pain, and other troublesome symptoms, are often so urgent as to require immediate relief, for which opium is commonly the most effectual means. 4thly. In long and obstinate diseases, which have resisted particular remedies, recourse must be had to the means of generally affecting the system, as by mercury, antimony, hemlock, and electrification. Lastly, where there is room for nothing else, the physician must support the power of life by strengthening the appetite, providing for proper evacuations, &c.—The remarks on *angina* and *scarlet fever* are valuable for the accuracy of observation, and judicious directions. The author is decidedly of opinion that the scarlet fever and the malignant sore throat are one and the same disorder, and require exactly the same method of treatment; regard being had to the local affection of the throat, so much more severe in the latter than in the former distemper. In the mode of treatment, the author speaks doubtfully of blood-letting, but highly in favour of blisters, which, he says, the patient should
never

never be without, until he be out of danger. We were rather surprized to find no notice taken of emetics, which are certainly much employed, and are recommended in the highest terms by an excellent writer on this disease, the late Dr. Withering.——The chapter on *gout* is pregnant with good sense and sound observation, and the author very successfully combats some of the popular notions concerning this dreadful malady, which have rendered it “the favourite disease of the present age in England, wished for by those who have it not, and boasted of by those who fancy they have it, though very sincerely lamented by most who in reality suffer its tyranny.” The author likewise takes occasion to introduce some of those *medico-moral* observations which so naturally spring from the consideration of certain diseases, and which flow with peculiar grace from the pen of a venerable and most respectable writer, himself distinguished for temperance, whose long and extensive experience entitle him to the highest attention.——The author never saw a case of *hydrophobia* from the bite of a mad animal, a striking proof of the comparatively rare occurrence of this disease.——Considerable attention appears to have been bestowed on the article *ileus*, or *inflammation of the bowels*, one of the most formidable of the catalogue of common diseases, and one in which very much may often be effected by the power of medicine. “The peculiar and distinguishing symptom which characterises the inflammatory colic in the very beginning,” the author observes, “is a costiveness, which it is always extremely difficult and too often impossible to conquer. As soon as a discharge downwards can be procured in a copious manner, the patient perceives a quick abatement of all his misery, and is soon restored to health.” He goes on to observe, that the evacuation must be complete, and points out the causes of fallacy in trusting to an imperfect evacuation which sometimes supervenes. For the treatment, besides avoiding heating things, applying blisters, fomentations, and above all things using purgative medicines, the author strongly recommends clysters of tobacco smoke, to controul the irregular action of the bowels, and force them to empty their contents in a natural manner. The use of opium in this malady has been much controverted, and the author states the advantages and objections in a very candid manner. He is strongly in favour of their use. “Under the protection of an opiate,” he observes, “I have successfully given more and stronger purges than would have stayed without its help; the patient’s strength has been kept up by some refreshing sleeps; and even in hopeless cases, in which the dying person is harrassed by unspeakable inquietude, he may be lulled into some composure; and without dying at all sooner, he may be enabled to die more easily.”

A caution of high importance is given under the article *Hypochondriacus affectus*. “Many,” he observes, “in a lowness of spirits, are not indisposed to raise them by wine and spirituous liquors, and they are encouraged and pressed to do it by their well-meaning but ill-judging friends. No words can be too strong to paint the danger of such a practice in its proper colours. The

momentary relief is much too dearly bought by the far greater languor which succeeds; and the necessity of increasing the quantity of these liquors, in order to obtain the same effect, irrecoverably ruins the health, and in the most miserable manner." The author much prefers opium as a cordial. "My own experience," he adds, "has often taught me how safely and consistently with business a course of opium may be continued for a considerable part of man's life, and how practicable it is to be weaned from the habit of it."

We shall only add, to our review of this valuable work, that we apprehend most of those who peruse it will regret that several subjects of importance are dismissed with a few cursory observations, where fuller particulars of the practice of the late author would have been peculiarly acceptable. We cannot, however, make this any reasonable ground of complaint, as nothing like a systematical description of diseases is at all intended to be given, and the Writer excuses himself from not having done more in a life of fifty years experience, partly for reasons which will only be attributed to his modesty, and partly from the very slow progress which is ever made in the science of medicine, and the almost insuperable obstacles which oppose our successful research into the nature of organized life: with which desponding sentiment the Author takes his leave of the public.

Facts, and some Arguments, tending to shew that the public Decision may with prudence be suspended respecting Inoculation of the Cow-Pox; by THOMAS LEE, a Member of the University of Edinburgh, 8vo. pp. 36.

THE title of the pamphlet before us sufficiently expresses its contents, namely, to throw a doubt on the inferences drawn from the numerous testimonies concerning the Cow-pox, which have lately been made the subject of discussion by the medical world in almost every part of the globe, and in our own country by a select body of the Legislature. After some remarks on the importance of the question concerning the efficacy of the Cow-pox, the author makes the following observations: "The decision of a parliament should be revered by the people; but parliament, like a jury, can only decide upon evidence; and if the evidence be all one way, of one tenor, can a parliament be blamed, or a jury arraigned, for giving a judgment contrary to the real fact?" He then adverts to what is doubtless a fact, that "parliament largely rewarded an old woman for the secret of disguising soap in veal broth, as a never failing solvent of stone in the bladder, and yet the stone still torments mankind;" and that, "the direful tape worm still infects us, although Mrs. Boufflers was pensioned and ennobled for communicating a nonsensical nostrum, which she pretended would effectually destroy it." As we differ considerably in opinion from the Author before us, we beg to observe in the first place, that the late examination before a Committee of the House of Commons on Dr. Jenner's

ner's petition, was conducted neither hastily nor partially; that every pains was taken to procure as great a body and variety of evidence as the case could admit of; and that if the testimony there given made such a vast preponderance in favour of Dr. Jenner's discovery, it surely is to be attributed to something more than private friendship or the fashion of the day. The cases of Mrs. Stephens's medicine and Mrs. Bouffler's fern powder are not exactly similar, because being professedly secrets in the hands of the claimants, their merits could not be so open to investigation of every kind, as in the case of the Cow-pox, where vaccine inoculation had been already tried with success over a very large space of country, and where all the arguments, from analogy as well as actual experience, had already been repeatedly canvassed. And after all, Mrs. Stephens's medicine (whatever might be *her* claim) was really found to be of use in relieving the dreadful complaint of the stone, and is still employed, under one form or other, with frequent success.

The author then represents the great enthusiasm which was excited by the introduction of inoculation for the small-pox, and the high expectations to which it gave rise—"The divine, the orator, and the physician, the eloquent, and the scientific, alike interested themselves, and displayed their abilities in the cause of humanity, and the grand jury of Europe pronounced inoculation of the small-pox to be a benefit to the human race. But this benefit has proved a phantasma, an illusion merely; the annals of mortality, through half a century, shew it to be all illusion; and that most obvious direful impediment to human increase is still unchecked and at large, laughing to scorn the power of man, and triumphing in its career of pestilential malignity. Now inoculation of the Cow-pox has usurped the language, and proffers to realize the hope which her elder sister so vainly encouraged, *and this beast* is said to work that miracle which man has failed to accomplish." We have given here the author's words, as it is right that the favourers of vaccine inoculation should know the mode in which their opinions are combated; but, in sober seriousness, we would beg to ask the author, where was the error committed in adopting small-pox inoculation with the zeal and enthusiasm with which its first promoters favoured its claims? The precise objections that are now urged against the Cow-pox were advanced with still more warmth against variolous inoculation. In particular, it was asserted to be a new and dangerous disease, and that it failed in giving a *permanent* security against the contagion of the disease caught in the natural way. And has not it stood the test of long experience, and risen triumphantly above all the attempts to injure its intrinsic worth? Is not the *security* which it affords, most completely established? And has not the celebrated female who introduced it into Europe, a high claim on the gratitude of those who, by its means, have at a cheap rate been delivered from the danger of a most loathsome and destructive disease? It is undisputed, however, that the mortality arising from the small-pox, *in the aggregate*, has increased since, and by the introduction of inoculation; and even to such a degree as

some years ago to have prevented its adoption into France after mature consideration. But will it be said that such a wonderful benefit to all individuals who chose to partake of it, should not have been patronized and adopted on its first introduction, because the legislature ought to have foreseen that the prejudice, obstinacy, and blindness of the great mass of people would, perhaps for centuries, reject the proffered boon? However, be it so; at least, the Cow-pox, *this beast* (as the author terms it, with equal elegance and propriety) is proved without any dispute to be free from that infectious nature which unfortunately rendered her *elder sister* so dangerous to all but her immediate friends, though of human nature.

The more sober part of our author's treatise, however, contains some theoretical objections to the probability of the permanent efficacy of vaccination, which, we think, he has himself sufficiently answered in the next page by the single observation, "that we are too little acquainted with the physiological or chemical conformation of the human constitution to be able to draw any just conclusion from the analogy."—*Facts* follow next, and to these we would wish to pay every attention. Two, in opposition to the efficacy of the Cow-pox, are alledged; the first, a declaration of one Robert Newman, whom the author represents as a very respectable man in a humble sphere of life, that he had the Cow-pox in Gloucestershire when young, and afterwards took the small-pox severely by inoculation. The second is the case of a young woman, who early in life had an eruption of a few pustules on her fingers when employed milking cows, which was then and there called the Cow-pox, who afterwards had several times resisted the small-pox, but at last caught it in a very severe form. We do not doubt of the fairness of the statement on the part of the author, but we hardly think it necessary here to point out several circumstances which might be suggested upon these representations. The question of the eligibility of the Cow-pox is before the public, the experiments are going on, on a very large scale, and our posterity will judge accordingly.

The author concludes this pamphlet with a proposal, that in every hundred parishes in the kingdom, ten subjects should be selected for experiment with the Cow-pox; that the magistrates, &c. should examine in person the operation and the authenticity of the reports; that Dr. Jenner should be retained at an ample salary as an Inspector General, &c. &c.; in short, that the government of the country should take it up as a national concern, and conduct the experiment with the weight of their authority. We have but two objections to make against this plan; the one, its utter impracticability, or, at least, the high improbability that it should continue for years to be conducted with the requisite care and attention; and the other, that the experiment is actually carrying on at an infinitely greater extent, by persons who have the powerful motive of private character and reputation to prevent them from attempting any systematical plan of imposing on the public, to whose final determination the whole business will and *must* be submitted.

An Account of an Ophthalmia which appeared in the Second Regiment of Argyleshire Fencibles in the months of February, March, and April 1802, with some Observations on the Egyptian Ophthalmia; by ARTHUR EDMONSTON, Surgeon, 8vo. pp. 33.

THE author in this pamphlet gives an account of an Ophthalmia which occurred in many individuals of the second regiment of Argyleshire Fencibles, who, in their passage to England, were embarked on board the Delft troop ship, in a healthy state, which ship had been employed in the memorable expedition to Egypt, and on board of which some cases of Ophthalmia had occurred. Several privates of this regiment were attacked on their return to England with Ophthalmia, which disease they appeared to carry with them in their marches to Colchester and Norman Cross, and which gradually wore itself out. The symptoms of the Ophthalmia are described in a clear unaffected manner, and they strongly resemble those of the true Egyptian disorder. The mode of cure employed was simple and effectual. Scarification of the eye in the beginning, collyria of lead and zinc, blisters, and insertion of an opiate solution in the eye, in the second stage, when the activity of the inflammation had abated. The author ascribes the disorder to direct contagion brought from Egypt with the regiment, which opinion he supports with effect.

Facts Decisive in favour of the Cow-Pox, including an Account of the Inoculation of the Village of Lowther; by ROBERT JOHN THORNTON, M. D. 8vo. pp. 240.

Dr. Thornton's activity in support of Vaccine Inoculation has been conspicuous from the beginning of its introduction. The occasion of the present publication was a scheme of Vaccine Inoculation patronized by the late Earl of Lonsdale, in his own place of residence and neighbourhood, in the county of Cumberland. After the most ample discussion which this subject has received, and the large share of this Journal which we have constantly devoted to this interesting subject, it would be useless to give to our Readers the contents of the present work (itself a Magazine) formed out of materials collected from every authentic quarter, and in which the direct subject professed in the title page, forms but a very small portion of the general contents. Owing, perhaps, to the extensive influence which the late noble Earl was so well known to possess, the practice of vaccine inoculation seems to have met with less opposition here than in most parts of the kingdom, and to have experienced uniform success.

A Treatise on the Means of purifying infected Air, of preventing Contagion, and arresting its Progress; by L. B. GUYTON MORVEAU, Member of the National Institute of France, &c. Translated from the French by R. Hall, M. D. 8vo. pp. 248.

THE ravages committed on the human race by infectious diseases, have always been considered as among the direst calamities to which mankind are exposed; they depopulate the most flourishing cities;

cities; they dreadfully overbalance many of the natural advantages for commerce and defence, possessed by several of the most important settlements; they spread alarm, terror, and confusion, wherever they appear, and oppose the exercise of one of the most important of the social duties, by rendering the attendance on the sick either an heroic sacrifice to affection, which few can make, or a mercenary service which must be made amply to repay the personal risk.

Few subjects, therefore, have a greater claim to public and national attention, than the discovery of any mode of lessening or preventing these formidable evils; and the sense of common danger has induced the governing powers of almost every civilized country, from the earliest ages, to establish regulations (more or less severe according to the exigency of the case) in order to prevent the spreading of infectious disease.

We have no hesitation in asserting, that the method of fumigation with the vapour of the more powerful acids affords a most important corrective of infection, the value of which has already been ascertained by numerous and extensive trials, and is therefore deserving of the highest attention.

The object of the author in the work before us, is to examine into this subject at large; to assert his claim to a priority of discovery, by incontestable proofs, and to establish the superiority of the muriatic acid over other substances of a similar nature, which have been employed in different trials. The history of the discovery and employment of acid vapours in checking infection is curious. The use of fumigations of almost every kind of combustible substance, is a practice of great antiquity, and has formed a regular part of the practice in various Hospitals and Lazarettoes for the plague for many centuries: even the vapour of vinegar appears to have been long employed, and the transition from these substances to the use of the mineral acid vapours, appears so obvious, that we may be surprized that it had remained so long undiscovered. The late Dr. Johnstone of Worcester, (a man of a very acute mind, and a warm zeal for the improvement of his profession) was certainly the first who is known to have employed the vapour of the muriatic acid in correcting (very successfully) the contagion of a very malignant fever which had appeared at Kidderminster in 1756, and had shewed such peculiar virulence, as to have acquired the name of "the Kidderminster fever." * This solitary fact, though so important, was soon neglected, and nothing more appeared on the subject, till in the year 1773, M. Morveau-Guyton employed the same acid to fumigate the cathedral church of Dijon, which had been made insupportably infected by the putrefaction of a number of corpses which it was necessary to remove; and also, in the same year, a few months afterwards, the same eminent chemist repeated the fumigation in the jails of Dijon, which were then infected

* Dr. Johnstone published an account of this fever, and the mode of fumigation, in a Treatise, entitled *An Historical Dissertation on the Malignant Fever which prevailed at Kidderminster*, in 1756.

infected with a very malignant fever. It will be proper to observe here, that we can scarcely entertain any doubt that this celebrated chemist and excellent philosopher proposed this method of fumigation from his own reasoning on the subject; for the Journals and other publications of that time shew, that the properties of the *muriatic acid gas* were then engaging the attention of the chemical world; and the striking experiment of its union with, and thereby neutralizing *ammoniacal gas*, had often been performed. Now, as ammonia was then known to be disengaged by putrefaction, it was certainly a highly ingenious idea of this chemist to let loose in putrefying air a quantity of muriatic acid gas, in order to correct the ammonia, in the production of which the putrid process was thought principally to consist.

In 1774, the muriatic fumigation (which had hitherto made but little progress) was employed, at the recommendation of the late *Vicq d'Azyr* to purify stables from the infection of a very destructive malady, which, at that time, proved fatal to a vast number of cattle in the south of France. In 1780, the Academy of Sciences, (who had been consulted by government on the best means of correcting the insalubrity of prisons), appointed a committee for this purpose, composed of Messrs. *Dubamel*, *De Montigny*, *Leroi*, *Tenon*, *Tillet*, and *Lavoisier*, all men of high reputation and ability, who, among other means, recommend in strong terms, the method of muriatic fumigation so successfully employed by M. Morveau.

Still, however, the progress made in the general introduction of this fumigation was very slow and imperfect; but the dreadful epidemic at Genoa in 1799, and the still more fatal and extensive malady which soon after ravaged Andalusia, and especially the town of Cadiz, (which our readers will recollect, from the circumstance of its being then blockaded by the British Fleet) obliged the governments to have recourse to every vigorous means of correcting the infection, and, among these, the muriatic fumigation was employed with eminent advantage.

The author of this treatise proceeds to notice the very important experiments made in this country, by desire of the Lords of the Admiralty, with the *nitrous acid vapour*, on board the Union Hospital ship in Nov. 1795, to correct the contagion of a very malignant fever, which had made great ravages on board the Russian ships at Sheerness. The trial of this acid vapour was made, (as our Readers must well know), at the suggestion of Dr. Carmichael Smyth; and the success was so complete, as to leave no reason to doubt of the high efficacy of this fumigation. Subsequent trials have confirmed this opinion, and have induced the House of Commons to vote a reward to Dr. Smith, for this valuable and easy method of destroying the contagion of infectious fevers.

In the third section of this very interesting work, M. Guyton introduces a number of comparative experiments, made with a view of determining what substances are the most effectual in correcting the fetor of air in which meat has long putrified. For the particulars of these valuable experiments we must refer the reader to the work itself, as well as for several chemical arguments which cannot be easily

easily given in a condensed form. Suffice it to say, that the various odorous resins, &c. burnt in the infected air, produced no other effect than imperfectly to conceal the fetor of the air itself, and this fully establishes the opinion (which indeed is now generally received) that merely to scent an infectious air with any strong perfume, takes away *none of its noxious properties*, and in general, does much harm in hospitals, and other large sources of infection, by rendering the offensive smell for a while tolerable, and therefore often supplying the place of thorough ventilation, or the more powerful fumigations, which appear actually to *destroy* the fetid particles by chemical combination. Of this latter kind of fumigation are all the acid vapours. The acid gases employed in the experiments were, the sulphureous, the nitric, the muriatic, and the oxygenated muriatic, and the power of the three latter by far exceeded that of the former. The author then attempts to institute a comparison between these three acids, with regard to the power which they possess in correcting infectious air. We cannot say that he has established, in a very satisfactory manner, the point which he endeavours to prove, namely, the superior efficacy of the muriatic and the oxygenated muriatic acids over the nitrous. The difficulties which lie in the way of such a comparison are very great and obvious, and probably it would require the experience of many years to establish the point. The author lays some stress on the circumstance, that Dr. Smyth thought it proper to fumigate much oftener with the nitrous vapour, than the French and Spanish physicians did with the muriatic. But it is evident, that in neither case could it be at all inferred, *how much* of the vapour was requisite; and where the method of employment is so cheap and easy of application, no great harm can arise from excess of precaution, at all comparable to the consequences of neglect. A more valid argument in favour of the muriatic acid is its much greater *diffusibility* than the nitrous, and its requiring a much less heat to be expelled in a gaseous form from the mixture of oil of vitriol and salt, than the nitrous, from oil of vitriol and nitre. However, it is by no means necessary to determine a preference between the two, since the anti-putrescent powers of both are so very powerful and extensive, that *either* of them may be resorted to with the highest confidence of success, and we earnestly wish to see this method of fumigation enjoined in every jail, hospital, and fever house in the kingdom, where the virulence of infection resists the common methods of ventilation and cleanliness.

A considerable part of this work is taken up with an attempt to extend the supposed operation of oxygen upon the animal system to a great variety of circumstances; and in the true spirit of modern chemistry, to explain the operation of medicines, and the effect of morbid causes, by the laws of chemical affinity, which are ascertained in the laboratory. We shall not trespass on our Readers time by detailing every crude notion and vague conjecture to which this method of philosophizing on the laws of the *living* animal has given rise. In the instance before us, we owe so much to the *strength* of chemistry that we shall forbear to expose its *weak-*

MEDICAL AND PHYSICAL INTELLIGENCE.

[FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.]

Observations on the Effects of the Carbonous Gas (Gaz Carboneux) in Animal Economy, by Cit. CHAUSSIER.

About twenty years ago, it was generally believed that saltpetre being melted on burning coals furnished vital air, and thus purified the atmosphere; Cit. *Chaussier*, however discovered, that this proceeding was very far from being of any use, but rather dangerous, as it produced an irrespirable gas, which is insoluble in water, and heavier than what is properly called *inflammable gas*. An analysis of that gas has since that time been made by *Guyton*, *Desormes*, and *Clement*, according to which it consists of gas carbonic acid and of carbonous gas; the first of which contains in 100 parts about 27 or 28 parts of carbon, while the latter had in 100 parts from 46 to 52 of carbon. With this carbonous gas, Cit. *Chaussier* has made several experiments on living animals, and on fresh venous blood; and in order to obtain a better knowledge of its particular action, he has repeated at the same time the experiments with the other irrespirable gaziform fluids. The results of all these experiments are the following:

In *pure hydrogen gas*, the asphyxia is slowly produced; the blood and other parts receive a brownish colour.

In *sulphurous hydrogen gas*, the asphyxia is suddenly brought on; the blood, the liver, and all other parts take a black colour.

In *carbonised hydrogen gas*, the asphyxia ensues less quickly than in the gas carbonic acid, but more rapidly than in pure hydrogen gas; the blood and the other parts of the body obtained a vermillion colour.

In the gas *carbonic acid* an asphyxia supervenes in a few minutes; and in consequence of the convulsive efforts to respire, the muscles are quickly deprived of their irritability; the blood coagulates a little, and receives a dark colour. It frequently happens, that the lungs will not swim on the surface of water, but go down to the bottom.

In the *carbonous gas*, the asphyxia ensues gradually, the muscles remain longer irritable, and the blood and other parts receive a scarlet colour.

It appears from these experiments, that the gasses which contain carbon impart to the blood a vermillion colour, analogous to that which it obtains by absorbing oxygen.

Preparation of the Naphtha Aceti Martialis.

Dissolve pure iron filings in pure muriatic acid, and when the solution is perfectly performed, add small portions of pure nitric acid,

acid, which continue to do till nitrous gas is no longer disengaged, and till the iron is perfectly oxydated. Having diluted the solution with water, impregnate it with the lye of kali or natron. The precipitation thus obtained must be properly edulcorated and dried in the air, till it appears in form of a somewhat moist and brittle mass. In this state the ferrugineous precipitation is added by small portions to the acetic acid, and frequently stirred with a glass tube, which must be continued till the acid is perfectly saturated. Nine ounces of this concentrated brown solution are mixed with one ounce of æther aceticus and spiritus vini alcoholisatus, and the whole mixture preserved under the above appellation. — Another mode of preparing this Naphtha, recommended by Mr. Fittner, is the following: One ounce of well dried sulphat of iron, or iron vitriol calcinated to perfect whiteness, and one ounce and a half of acetati of kali, or terra foliata tartari, are ground in a stone mortar and intimately mixed: this mixture having been exposed for a few days to the open air, to make it perfectly dry, is dissolved in a mixture of six ounces of distilled water and the same quantity of the very best alkohol, but without employing any heat. The liquor being separated from the residuums by the filtrum, six drachms of æther aceticus and 3 drachms of acetic acid are added, and the filtrum washed with a mixture of two parts water and one of alkohol, till the weight of the filtrated liquor (including the acetic acid and the æther aceticus) amounts to 9 ounces, which ought to be preserved in well closed glasses.

CIT. BERTHOLLET has presented to the National Institute a Memoir on the fulminating mercury, a preparation first discovered by Mr. Howard, which, though it possesses the property of fulminating, is produced by a proceeding different from that in which the aurum and argentum fulminans are obtained; because the fulminating mercury is produced by the ebullition of the nitrat of mercury in alkohol, whereby it is deposited in form of a grey or white powder. The analysis of this substance being the only way of explaining as well the production of it as its properties, this, consequently, ought particularly to engage the attention of chemists. The author of this curious discovery had concluded from his experiments, that the fulminating mercury was composed in 100 parts, 21.28 of oxalic acid, 64.72 of mercury, and 14 of etherated nitrous gas, and of a surplus of oxygen. On considering, however, this composition, we must confess, that it does not sufficiently account for the violent explosions of that preparation; and for this reason Cit. Berthollet undertook a new analysis, the results of which differ extremely from those given by Mr. Howard. The liquor, swimming on the preparation, contains mercury, and yields, with lime, a black precipitation in the same manner as is the case with mercurial solutions that contain ammonia; the exhalations of which are here sensibly perceived. The powder itself disengages ammonia when treated with potash, but no oxalic acid could

be traced in it by means of the same alkali. The fulminating mercury dissolves in muriatic acid, but after having precipitated from this solution the metal by means of the hydrosulphur of potash, the muriat of lime did not produce any precipitation in the liquor, as would have been the case if it had been oxalat of mercury. A similar solution yielded by distillation minute needles, which were nothing but a muriat of mercury and ammonia. Cit. Berthollet concludes from his experiments, that the fulminating mercury contains no oxalic acid, but ammonia with the oxyd of mercury. These, however, are not its only constituent particles, as in the aurum and argentum fulminans, which appears from its decomposition by diluted sulphuric acid. The fulminating mercury is changed by this acid into a white powder, which does not any longer occasion detonation. This powder Mr. Howard took for an oxalat of mercury, whereas Berthollet proves it to be a sweet sulphat of mercury. The action of the sulphuric acid disengages at the same time a gas, which for the most part consists of carbonic acid, about the twelfth part of it only being hydrogen gas oxicarbonated. The fulminating mercury contains, consequently, a substance which is easy to be decomposed; at least Cit. Berthollet could not separate it, without at the same time decomposing it, and he considers it in its nature as approaching to alkohol. The metal appears to be in the same state of oxydation in the fulminating mercury as in corrosive mercury; but it is deoxydated by the decomposition which that alcoholic substance experiences by means of the sulphuric acid, so as to form a sweet sulphat with the said acid.

VAUQUELIN, *on the Nature of the Earth which is eaten by the Inhabitants of New Caledonia.*

Cit. Labillardiere, on his voyage, had made the curious observation, that the inhabitants of New Caledonia, when pressed by hunger, devour a considerable quantity of a greenish steatites, (soap stone) which is very tender and friable. It may hence be easily conceived, how that horrid custom of eating the prisoners of war could be introduced amongst these savages, who in time of famine, have recourse for appeasing a hungry stomach to a terreous substance, which only distends the stomach and the intestines, and has no other alimentary quality but that of being light and friable. Cit. Vauquelin, curious to know the nature of this earth, and whether it contained any thing nutritive, made an analysis of some specimens which he had received from Labillardiere. This earth is soft to the touch, and formed of small threads that are easily divisible: It becomes red by fire, whereby it loses $\frac{1}{180}$ of its weight. It is composed of

- 37 parts of pure magnesia.
- 36 of siliceous earth.
- 17 of oxyd.
- 3 or 4 of water.
- 12 or 3 of lime and copper.

It contains therefore not a single nutritive particle, and must only be considered as a sort of ballast, or a mechanic expedient to assuage the pains caused by hunger.

At the annual District Meeting of the Benevolent Medical Society of Essex and Herts, held at Hatfield in Herts, May 3, 1802. The undersigned being strongly impressed with the invaluable advantages that the public have derived from the introduction of the Vaccine Disease, by Dr. Jenner, as a substitute for the Small-pox, are desirous of presenting their thanks to him for the liberality and indefatigable industry with which he has made it public.

JAMES PENROSE,
JOHN KINGSTON,
JOHN WINKFIELD,
SMYTH CHURCHILL,
ROBERT OLDMEADOW,

JOHN DARBY,
C. E. LUCAS,
E. HARROLD,
THOMAS COLBECK;

Mr. WILKINSON, Surgeon, of Sunderland, has in hand a work preparing for the press, to be entitled Experiments and Observations on the Cortex Salicis Latifoliae, to be illustrated by an accurate coloured plate of a branch of the tree and its bark, in a recent and likewise in a dried state.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications are received from Drs. Ryan and Noehden; and several anonymous Correspondents on Quackery, whose address we request. — We apprehend Mr. Marson has been anticipated by Mr. Lownds, of St. Paul's Church Yard. — We inform Pyrrho, jun. that Kate Hudson had long been in the habit of sleeping with pins, &c. in her mouth.

ERRATUM.

Page 52, line 3, for *Bucks*, read *Berks*.

THE LONDON MEDICAL REVIEW having been discontinued for want of due Encouragement, the Readers of that Work and the Public at large are informed, that henceforward all new Books, connected with Medicine and Natural Philosophy, will be regularly analyzed in the Medical and Physical Journal. This Work, by its punctual Analysis of all new Books as fast as they appear, will consequently recommend itself to the Readers of the London Medical Review, and be increased in Value to its own immediate Subscribers.