

Treatise on the injuries of the head : to which is added observations on the scrofula, popularly, but improperly called the "King's-evil" / by Jordan Roche, Surgeon.

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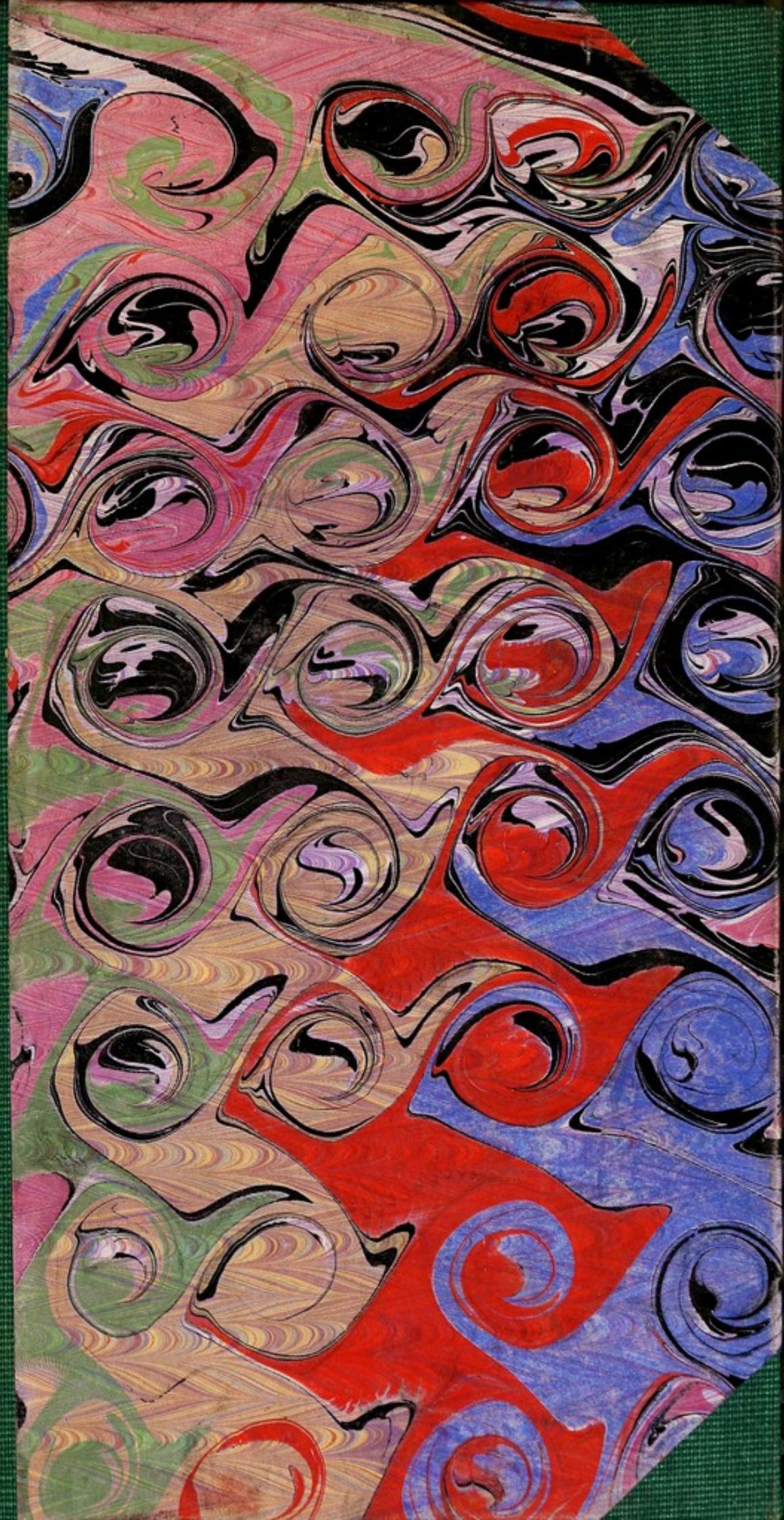
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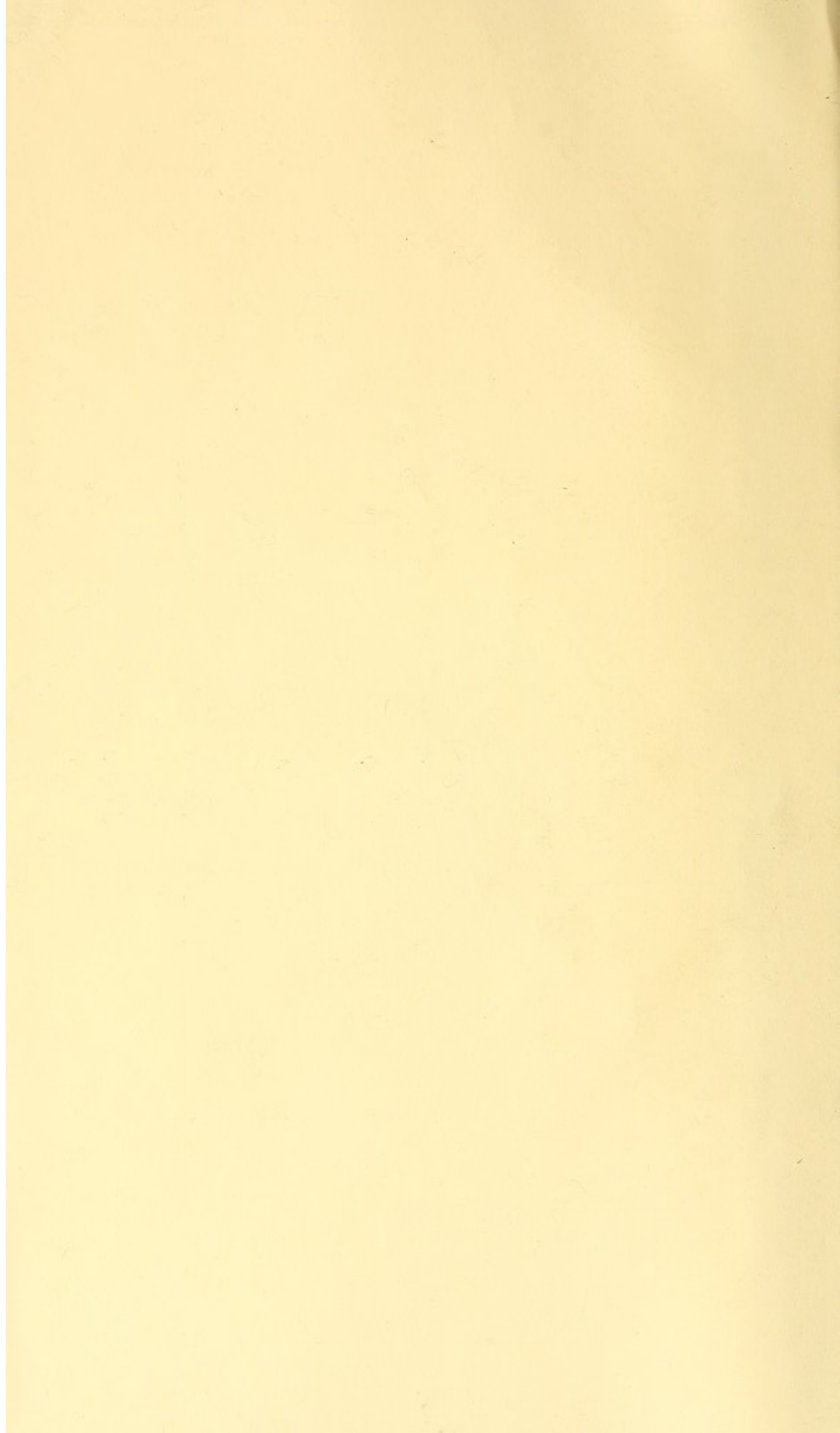


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Roche, Jordan

A
T R E A T I S E
ON THE
INJURIES OF THE HEAD.

To which is added,
O B S E R V A T I O N S
ON THE
S C R O F U L A;

Popularly, but improperly called,
T H E
K I N G ' s - E V I L.

By JORDAN ROCHE, SURGEON.

D U B L I N:

PRINTED BY P. BYRNE, No. 35, COLLEGE-GREEN.

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M,DCC,LXXXIV.

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T R E A T I S E

ON THE
1872, Sept. 16.

INJURIES OF THE HEAD
Gift of
Saml. A. Green, M.D.,
of Boston.
(H. U. 1851.)

OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

S C R O F U L A

Popularly, but improperly called,

THE

K I N G ' S - E V I L

By JORDAN ROCH, Surgeon.

D U B L I N :

Printed by P. DUNN, No. 35, Cornhill-Street.

1850, LXXIV.

T O
GEORGE CLEGHORN, Esq.

LECTURER OF ANATOMY, IN TRINITY-COLLEGE,
DUBLIN.

S I R,

ERUDITIO similis est coronæ aureæ,
quæ honorem simul cum pretio con-
junctum habet.

SIMILITUD. DEMOPH.

A Gentleman universally eminent in
MEDICAL SCIENCE, ought to be dis-
tinguished.

I am,

S I R,

With the highest esteem,

Your most obedient Servant,

DROGHEDA,

March, 1784.

JORDAN ROCHE.

following cases, &c. in order to induce others of the same profession to coincide in the same principles, as each have powerful advocates for their respective *theory* and *practice*.

The result of practice, fairly and candidly exhibited, seems to be the best and only impartial method of leading to precision, in the treatment of the several injuries, to which the head is liable

In many injuries of the head, success may take place, though very opposite methods have been adopted, which may furnish people of lively imaginations with materials for system-building; when in fact the success, of which

which they make the foundation of their fabric, is often owing to the powers of nature.

We are much indebted to the labour and industry of the ancients; and to derogate from them would be the height of ingratitude---“ Vos exemplaria Græca
 “ nocturna versate manu, versate di-
 “ urna-----incredibilis industria, dili-
 “ gentiæ: singularis.”

Tho' it may appear extraordinary that two of the most eminent Surgeons of the age, should pursue a very different mode of acting in the treatment of the injuries of the head:--- yet we cannot conclude that it proceeds from ambition or opposition; the sacrifice would be too great, and it is uncandid to suppose that Gentlemen of

such distinguished eminence and humanity, could be influenced in the least to act upon any other principle, than a desire of improving their profession for the good of society.

Mr. Dease has published a treatise on wounds of the head, which has gained him much honour, both at home and abroad. The strictures of this Gentleman upon Messrs. Pott and Bromfield, (as I have been informed) have met with the approbation of the most learned and eminent men of the profession.

Arguments derived from practice and experience, carry always with them irresistible weight and force. If Gentlemen, who commit their thoughts to paper, for public view, would adopt
the

the maxim of Locke, much uninteresting controversy would be avoided; and truth and knowledge would become much easier of access. If we look, says that celebrated author, into books of controversy of any kind, we shall there find, that the effect of obscure equivocal terms is no more, than disputation about sounds, without either convincing or improving the understanding.

Mr. Pott's theory and practice, in some species of the injuries of the head, are founded upon the free communication, that subsists between the vessels of the dura mater, which is carried on by means of innumerable *foramina*, found in all parts of both surfaces of the skull, as well as at

the

the futures; and that upon the freedom of this communication, depends the healthy and sound state of all the parts concerned therein; and that from the interruption or destruction of this communication, proceed most of the symptoms attending contusions of the head; extravasations of fluid between the cranium and dura mater; inflammations of the said membrane, &c. ---That by external accident, &c. some of the larger of these vessels, which carry on the communication between the dura mater and the skull, are broken, and a quantity of fluid is shed upon the surface of that membrane.-----That when the necessary and mutual communication between all the parts ceases, the pericranium is detached from the skull; the dura mater separates
from

from the inside of the cranium, inflames and suppurates.

From these principles it is evident that a more frequent use of the trepan is meant to be established:—But being aware of the arguments that might be made against him, he adds, —Although some would undergo an unnecessary operation, such an established rule would contribute to save many an useful member to society.

Mr. Dease has been often surprised at the number of patients, who died in consequence of wounds of the head, apparently the most inconsiderable, where the skull has been either laid bare, or the injury done extended no further than the external table. This

Gentlemen

Gentleman is of opinion, that the inflammation and putrefaction of the dura mater, are not in general the causes of death in such injuries; the dura mater, being a strong ligamentous membrane, and firmly attached to the skull, seems not to be so easily affected, being a fitter medium to transmit any shock it receives to the brain, than oppose it; for upon dissection he found the cause of death in the supuration of the pia mater or brain, but more generally in both.

When a person receives a stroke upon the skull with a blunt instrument, or the head, by any accident, shall be opposed to a solid body, with any considerable degree of violence, the part affected becomes contused; if the
accident

accident has not been so severe as to cause any of those symptoms, which are indicative of the depression of the skull, concussion or extravasation, the contusion in general is either slightly treated, or totally neglected. The consequence of which will probably be, that the obstruction, arising from the contusion, will *gradatim* produce inflammation, which by consent and connection of parts, will extend, producing heat and putrefaction, which will at length derange and destroy the texture and adhesion of the fibres and vessels underneath, *usque ad cerebrum*, and hence will arise the most dangerous symptoms.

That the separation of the dura mater, from the internal surface of
the

the skull, (when it takes place) proceeds from what has been just observed, seems consonant to reason; for it does not coincide in any manner with it, that a stroke or contusion, can suddenly destroy the cohesion, and intimate attachment of the dura mater to the internal surface of the cranium.

The perforation of the head is a very dangerous and operose process, and should not, as I apprehend, take place, but where the indications are notoriously evident, and where no other method can possibly succeed.

To have recourse to the trephine as a preventative, would be often unnecessary.--The practice is irreconcilable

ble with the feelings of humanity.---

*Ad extremos morbos extrema remedia ad
amissim optima.*

During fourteen years practice in the populous town and Neighbourhood of Drogheda, I was frequently employed, and called to injuries of the head; and I may openly declare without the least imputation of vanity, that my practice has been very successful.

When I found that the stroke, or accident was severe, had staggered, or brought the person to the ground, and had produced tumour, nausea, or vomiting, I made an incision upon the part contused, or dilated the contused wound, if necessary, and prescribed the *antiphlogistic* regimen; thus the incision
has

has answered as a drain or issue, and I am persuaded, has prevented those dangerous, and often fatal events which have been the consequence of such neglected cases.--*Nullum capitis Vulnus contemnendum.* I have been frequently called to cases, where I had reason from the phenomena to conclude, the presence of extravasation; notwithstanding, in consequence of evacuations, dilution, saline mixture, with the assistance of an issue on the part, I have happily succeeded, without the use of the trephine, in which however, I should have had the best authorities for my support.

As to the division of the pericranium from the skull, (abstractedly) I never found any inconvenience therefrom.

from. " Has it not, says Mr. Dease, been a practice recommended by far the greater number of both ancient and modern authors, in many diseases of the head, to open fontanels by the actual cautery over the futures, and that on account of the free communication, which exists between the interior vessels and those of the dura mater? have they not ordered those issues to be kept open even for years? is not this practice received and strenuously recommended by Mr. Bromfield, who has experienced the most salutary effects from them, founded on the same principle? have we, in their several works, a single instance of those issues being
productive

productive of an inflammation or sup-
puration of the dura mater, although
it evidently appears there must be a
total destruction of all those exterior
communicating vessels, and that in sub-
jects, it may be well supposed, of no
good habit of body."

It is evident that there is a
wide difference between the nature of
issues, made as above, and receiving a
contusion, or contused wound with a
heavy blunt instrument. In the for-
mer the wound is properly treated, the
matter being daily absorbed by
proper dressings; hence not confined,
or suffered to diffuse itself, or become
putrid, or to impart its malignancy
to the *infra* situated parts.—Therefore
the vessels of the dura mater remain
uninjured,

uninjured, especially, as a single instance of these issues being productive of inflammation or suppuration of the dura mater has never been produced.

Van Sweiten, whose knowledge of the animal œconomy, and extensive intelligence in every branch of medical science, will be denied only by those, who are unacquainted with his commentaries on the aphorisms of the celebrated Boerhaave, was not unmindful of the danger that attends a lodgment of matter, or extravasated blood upon the pericranium, which, says he, sends forth vessels to the bones of the cranium, and also receives vessels from these bones, whereby it is connected to them; so that the vital influx
and

and efflux of the juices, to and from the bones of the cranium, and especially their exterior table, depends on the sound state of the perioftium :----- This perioftium being therefore injured, will readily communicate the disorder to the bones of the cranium, and also to the dura mater, &c.

Hippocrates, impressed with true ideas of the danger of contusion, observes:----- "*Carnem enim contundunt, maturant et lacerant, et sub hujusmodi telis vulnera et latera in orbem olivantulum cava et purulentia magis redduntur; et humida & longiori tempore repugnantur; carnes enim contusas*

*fas & laceras necesse est in pus versas
tabescere."*

Van Sweiten relates, that a certain person was struck with a pewter pot over the right parietal bone; no fissure could be discovered in the bone: he walked, and was apparently very well, till ten months afterwards, he was taken with a vertigo in walking, and expired in a little time. After opening the cranium in the affected part, the bone and the dura mater were found perfectly rotten and foetid.

The above gentleman was called to a carpenter in a fever, who, having none of the symptoms, common to the epidemical one that raged, and not be-

ing able to detect any cause thereof, after a careful examination, was put altogether at a stand, since there were symptoms enough to make it evident, that some malignant cause lay concealed. He had a considerable pain in his head; his forehead, eyebrows, and both eyes were swelled, and looked red; and he complained of a tension in the nape of his neck, and his sleep being much interrupted,---he was asked, if his head was hurt by any external cause, which he denied; even though he told him a second time, that he suspected some such thing. By good luck, a servant standing by, remembered that eight days before, a tile fell upon the patient's head, but from a small height; the patient said, it was
so,

so, but that he had hardly any pain from it, and affirmed, he did not perceive any uneasiness from it afterwards; so that he reluctantly permitted his head to be examined. A small wound was found scarce larger than a pin's-head, and a contusion discovered so broad, that it was an inch over. Van Sweiten immediately ordered the integuments of the part affected to be divided; on the next day the fever was much abated, and all the symptoms were much milder. The part was afterwards deterged by a mild suppuration, and the patient soon recovered.

According to Mr. Pott's theory, (should a similar case now happen,) it would be inferred that the dura mater

had been inflamed, detached, &c. and perforation would consequently be made,---if the patient survived, he would have been conducted through an unnecessary and dangerous process, and there would thence issue another proof to strengthen this practice.

If (says Van Sweiten) there is any collection of matter, the wound is to be dilated by incision, and it will be also necessary to deterge or cleanse the parts: for the whole malignity of such a wound will arise from the extravasated humours, being confined by the thick skin of the head, and not being capable of discharging itself by the too narrow orifice of the wound, which will occasion it to make way into the cellular
membrane,

membrane, or else, by stagnation and corrupting, it may affect the pericranium and bones of the skull itself. A dilatation of the wound will therefore give vent to the extravasated and confined humours, and at the same time, make way for the application of deterging medicines. That the humours are thus confined, may be known from the narrowness of the mouth of the wound, and from the looseness and tumour of the adjacent integuments, especially if the wounded patient has a fever, for which no other cause can be found.

Hippocrates in summing up the wounds of the head, which require incision, says: "*Quæ non satis idoneam habent longitudinem & latitudinem, qua perspicì possit, numquid os*
a telo

a telo male affectum fuerit, &c. & ubi vulnera obliquam quandam cavitatem habent, cavum illud late incidere oportet, &c.---& ubi vulnera orbiculata, & admodum cava fuerint, ejusmodi quoque incidere oportet, ut circulari plagam longum bifarium divisa vulnus longum efficiatur." The enlarging or dilating of a contused wound is best and safest effected by incision, because the dilatation made the by swelling of lint, &c. as it obstructs the mouth of the wound for some hours, so that nothing can be discharged, therefore humours and abscesses will be formed.

C A S E I.

CONCUSSION *and* CONTUSION.

I was sent for to the assistance of a Farmer in the neighbourhood, who
had

had been brought home to his house senseless, in consequence of a fall from his horse. He frequently puked; upon examination, I found the scalp upon the left parietal much contused. I made an incision upon the part, but could not discover either fissure or fracture; he was let blood copiously, he being a strong man in the 40th year of his age. He was emptied by clysters, and laxative powders of rhubarb, sal polychrest and nitre, and put upon the following julep.

R. sal absynthii drachmam unam, suc. limon. q. s. peracta effervescentia aq. hord. semi-libram spir. mynd. unciam. syr. limon. drachmas sex adde, capiat cochl. duo horis tertiis.

He

He was plentifully supplied with whey and barley water; he was occasionally bled, and did not perfectly recover his senses until the 20th day. In about a year after, the opposite side became paralytic.

Doctor Alexander Monro observes in the 35th page of his Observations on the Structure and Functions of the Nervous System, that the right and left sides of the spinal marrow are divided from each other by deeper fissures than have been described by many late writers, or that the right and left sides of it are less intimately connected than is commonly imagined. From attention to this circumstance, we are in some degree enabled to explain the cause why one side

side of the body is much palsied, whilst the other preserves its powers unimpaired, or to understand the cause of hemiplegiæ.

It has been observed by very learned and experienced Physicians and Surgeons, that very bad fractures attended with very alarming symptoms, have frequently done well, without having recourse to trepanning; for why may not a fractured or fissured bone of the skull unite again in some cases, as well as other bones of the body?

Ruych, who had seen many cases of this nature in his many year practice in a populous city, says, that in fractures of the skull, where the
symptoms

symptoms are neither violent nor increasing, one ought not immediately to proceed to trephination. But after opening a vein, and applying warm cephalic fomentations, the cure ought to be attempted, and adds, that he had thus happily cured many, who were almost under the operation.

“ Antiquiores medicos, (says he) in omni fisso vel fracto osse, statim ad ferramentum venisse, quibus id exciderent: sed multo melius est ante emplastra experiri, quæ calvariæ causa componuntur, &c.---si autem caruncula increfcere cœperit, & febricula aut soluta fuerit aut levior, et cupiditas cibi reverterit, fatisque somni accedat, in eodem medicamento erit perseverandum hæc ratione sæpe
rimæ

rimæ callo quodam implentur; est-
 que eo offis velut cicatrix & latius
 fracta ossa, si qua inter se non cohæ-
 rebunt, eodem callo glutinantur; est-
 que id aliquanto melius velamentum
 cerebro quam caro, quæ exciso osse
 increscit. Si vero sub prima curatio-
 ne febris intenditur, brevesque somni,
 & iidem per somnia tumultuosi sunt,
 ulcus madet, neque alitur, & in cervici-
 bus glandulæ oriuntur, magni dolores
 sunt, cibique hæc fastidium increscit,
 tum demum ad manum scalprum-
 que veniendum est."

CASE II.

FRACTURE *and* CONCUSSION, &c.

A Brewer, by the sudden falling of a
 heavy iron beam, was knocked down.

He

He complained of his head, and puked frequently. There was a wound, which originated about an inch above his eyebrow, and terminated on his cheek. By the tact I discovered an extensive fracture, for by gently pressing upon the orbiter process, the upper end of the fracture became elevated, and vice versa. This man was about forty years of age; he was frequently bled, put upon the antiphlogistic regimen, and soon recovered without any operation.

At the time, the above man was under my care, a child about six years old, was brought to me from the country. The child had received a kick of a horse upon the left temple.

temple. There was a chasm made in the bone, through which the pulsation of the brain was apparent. The child got well, without any operation.

CASE III.

CONCUSSION *and* CONTUSION.

A gentleman in the neighbourhood of Drogheda, of a gross habit, in the fortieth year of his age, was thrown from his horse, coming from the races of Bellewstown. ---He was brought home in an insensible state. A physician and an apothecary were sent for, the Gentleman was blistered, and he took some medicines. The symptoms increasing to an alarming height, he was given up. I made an incision

cision upon the part contused, evacuations were made, and the Gentleman recovered.

C A S E IV.

CONCUSSION *and* CONTUSION.

A servant maid a few months ago, fell down stairs. The back part of her head was first opposed to a solid obstacle; she puked immediately, was much stunned, and complained of a violent pain in her head. She was bled freely, got a clyster, and saline mixture. There was a large tumour upon the upper part of the os occipitale. I made an incision upon it. There was a great discharge of extravasated blood, but neither fracture or fissure. The wound was lightly dressed, and she
was

was put upon the antiphlogistic regimen. The pain of her head continued a long time; at length she got well, having however lost the sense of smelling.

In the Commentaries of Heurnius it is observed, that injuries of the occiput have been frequently attended with the loss of taste and smelling.

CASE V.

CONCUSSION *with* TUMOUR.

A few months ago, a young man fell backwards, from a ladder, placed almost perpendicularly; the back of his head came first to the pavement; he puked immediately, and continued senseless.

senseless till morning. There was a large tumour upon the back of his head. In consequence of incision, a large quantity of extravasated blood was discharged. He was freely bled, put upon the antiphlogistic regimen, and speedily recovered.

C A S E VI.

VERTIGO *and* CONTUSED WOUND.

A Gentleman was knocked down by a stroke of a thick stick. He was much stunned, and his head gave him much uneasiness. He was bled, and evacuations were made. On the third day, not finding himself better, I was sent for. There was a contused wound of the scalp upon

upon the upper and middle part of his forehead. When he walked, he staggered, and complained of a giddiness. An incision and evacuations were made, and he was ordered the saline mixture. There was no fracture or fissure; a mild suppuration took place, and he quickly recovered.

C A S E VII.

CONCUSSION *and* TUMOUR.

A Weaver knocked his foreman down with a poker, who remained senseless a few minutes; he often puked. There was a tumour upon the upper part of the right os parietale. An

D

incision

incision was made, evacuations prescribed, &c. and he recovered.

By making incisions in cases of considerable contusions, and injuries of the skull, I am persuaded much danger, and fatal consequences have been prevented. The consequence of the incision, considered abstractedly, is of very little inconvenience. It guards against the possibility of any danger arising from confined matter, or extravasated blood; which often occasion tumours, abscesses convulsions, and corruption of the bone and its pericranium. &c.

We find from the observations of learned men, that concussions of the brain

brain rupture its vessels, while the skull remains entire, and that from extravasation follows an affection of its functions, which will be in proportion to the violence of the concussion. Van Sweiten informs us that Bochnius inspecting the body of a girl, sixteen years old, who died the fourth day after a fall, in order for him to report the cause of her death to the judges; could not observe any effects of violence in the head, though she bled plentifully out of the nose and mouth after the fall, while living; and even some time after she was dead. But upon opening the skull, and raising the brain, he found a branch of the right carotid ruptured.

CASE VIII.

FRACTURE *with* DEPRESSION.

John Waters, aged about twenty years, received a stroke of a spade, edgeways, upon the upper part of the os occipitale, by which he was knocked down, and remained senseless for some minutes. Next day he came to town, and informed me of the accident: he had puked; his head was much affected; two gentlemen of the faculty attended. We discovered an extensive fracture with depression, upon the superior part of the os occipitale, in consequence of which, it was judged necessary that I should make two perforations, by which I was enabled to raise thirteen fragments of bone.

He

He was bled occasionally, put upon the antiphlogistic regimen, and recovered.

C A S E IX.

FRACTURE *and* DEPRESSION.

A smith, was knocked down by a stroke of a loaded whip, in consequence of which he puked, and was brought to town. The pain of his head was very acute. There was an extensive fracture with depression, upon the left side of the os frontale. Three Surgeons were present, when by means of perforation I removed every impediment. There was a fissure, which passed over the coronal suture into the temporal bone. It
was

was agreed to leave this circumstance to nature. The patient persevered in the antiphlogistic regimen, &c. and recovered. One of the gentlemen, an advocate for opiates, was indulged, and the man got a few doses of the antimonial opiate, according to Mr. Bromfield.

CASE X.

FRACTURE *and* DEPRESSION.

Mr. Dempfy, aged about 22 years, received a blow of a stone, which knocked him down. I was sent for, and found his pulse quick and high, his head ached feverely, and he was not able to leave his bed. He frequently

ly brought up the contents of his stomach. His right eye was closed and swollen; above which, about two inches, there was an extensive fracture with depression, part of the temporal bone was concerned. Perforations were made, evacuations and the antiphlogistic plan persevered in, until a perfect cure took place.

CASE XI.

FRACTURE *and* DEPRESSION.

—Kelly of Herbertstown, a farmer near fifty years old, received a kick from a horse, whereby his skull was fractured a little above his right eyebrow. Robert Caddell of Herbertstown, Esq. directed me to be sent for.

for. In consultation it was agreed to perforate, in order to remove the bones that were beat in upon the brain; the greater part of the orbiter process came away. He was enjoined the Antiphlogistic regimen, and soon recovered.

CASE XII.

FRACTURE *and* DEPRESSION.

A Labourer, aged about 22 years, was accidentally thrown down, and his forehead came first against the pavement, in consequence of which, there was a small contused wound upon the part. He was brought to an apothecary, who applied the bloody future so frequently that he guarded
against

against any possibility of air getting into the wound. In three days after, I was desired to see him; his eyes were closed and puffed, his face was red and swollen, his pulse high and quick, his tongue foul, his skin dry and warm, and he felt a continual thirst.

Three of the Gentlemen of the faculty attended; there was a considerable fracture and depression in the centre of his forehead. I performed the operation, and evacuations were occasionally made, in consequence of which he recovered.

C A S E XIII.

John Mc. Can, aged about 24 years, was knocked down by a stroke of

of a spade edgeways. He was brought senseless into the adjacent house, and put to bed; I was immediately sent for by the direction of Thomas Pepper of Ballygarth, Esq. The man was totally insensible; his eyes were closed and swelled, his pulse was small and quick. There was a chasm, which extended from the middle of the os frontale to the upper part of the os parietale: it was almost five inches in length. The brain was oozing forth. After bleeding him plentifully, I removed as many fragments of bone, as I could come at, for many were buried in the substance of the brain. I ordered him a clyster, in consequence of which, there was a plentiful discharge of bile. He came a little to himself; I ordered him to get another clyster

clyster to be given him in a few hours, and sent him a saline mixture, with Myndererus's spirit. The next day, Mr. Delahoyde came with me; we found him convulsed. He was now sensible. On removing the dressings, many small particles of bone came forth with a large discharge of the brain. He was bled again, ordered clysters, and took his saline mixture *tertiis horis*.

The fifth day, the discharge of the brain and spasms ceased; a fungus began to rise, about the 15th day, which we suppressed in its progress, by means of gentle pressure, and prepared sponge; with which we prevented the progress of pullulating flesh, and the fungus gradually dissolved away, exfoliation
took

took place and he recovered, and is now in perfect health.

When this man found his head and stomach affected, he called for a clyster, in consequence of which, he had a bilious discharge, and got ease.

Doctor Monro doubts, whether, instead of considering the brain as the origin of the nerves, we ought not to consider it merely as connected with the nerves; or whether there are better reasons for supposing the brain to produce the nerves, than for supposing the nerves to produce the brain;---and in order to shew that the nerves may exist independent of the brain, he says, he observed in children delivered
at

at the full time, plump and well formed in their limbs, a substance which supplied the place of the brain, not more bulky than a small nut, and, instead of containing a white medullary substance, it was of a red colour resembling a clot of blood ; and small cords, occupying the place of the optic nerves were likewise of a red colour ; yet the spinal marrow, and all the nerves from it, had the ordinary size and appearance.

We have been taught, that when the brain has been greatly disturbed, considerable alterations of the bile, and discharges of it will take place. And that corrupt bile lodging about the præcordia, may considerably disturb
all

all the functions of the brain, and excite vertigoes, convulsions, deliria, &c. from which it is evident, that a wonderful consent of parts obtains between the head and the præcordia, so that they mutually and powerfully affect each other.

In the above extraordinary case, we find these observations confirmed; for as soon as the patient found his head grow uneasy, or felt any painful sensation about or upon the præcordia, he called for a clyster, which by exciting a bilious discharge, quickly relieved him.

Mr. Bromfield apprehends, that the fear of being treated with unjust and rigorous criticism, or of giving offence
to

to men of established character, has prevented many a modest and ingenious man from communicating his remarks to the public.

Notwithstanding the disadvantages and opposition, which a gentleman has to encounter, who offers his thoughts to the public, I think he should not be alarmed by such considerations, but deliver his sentiments freely and candidly, taking care however to avoid founding new systems, upon questionable hypotheses.

If a Surgeon should withhold from the world, any thing that may tend to the good of the public, I conceive he does not do his duty; since he is
an

an agent of society, for the benefit of which he has made his designation.

In order to introduce the use of opium into practice, which I am persuaded Mr. Bromfield has done from the most liberal and disinterested motive, he has made experiments in several cases, which were successfully treated. From the success of opium, and from an attentive consideration of the nature and cause of inflammation, he has been led to alter in some measure his former opinion, and seems to think that inflammations, particularly those arising from the injuries of the head, are frequently caused by spasm; and that the nerves leading to the muscular or vascular fibres, may be so irritated, as to produce spasm.

This

This doctrine, says he, may be worthy of attention; for certainly opium is the most likely remedy to take off spasm, as many of us, I dare say, have experienced in the most threatening case of that sort, the locked jaw. Few will deny, continues he, that opium is a great attenuant of the blood; and that therefore it must give the fairest chance for the absorption of extravasated fluids; and by dividing those detained in the vessels, fit them for future circulation. He quotes Doctor Mead, who told him, that in case women would apply thebaic tincture to their breasts, after contusions from a blow, or other violence received, the extravasated blood would be attenuated and absorbed, and the assistance of the

Surgeon's kife, would rarely be wanted for cancers or external injuries, done to their breasts. Of the truth of this observation I have had many fortunate proofs. As an external application, to painful inflammatory tumours, which sometimes afflict lying-in women, I am warranted in declaring there cannot be a more powerful resolvent.

About a fortnight ago, a Lady consulted me, who had been three weeks brought to bed of her second child; she is in the 24th year of her age and of a healthy habit, in her former lying-in, her breast inflamed, suppurated, and was a long time painful, and troublesome to her. There was now a hard lump of about the size and form of a turkey egg,

egg, which was moveable, and situated a little below the center of her former affected breast, unattended with inflammation. I ordered the nurse to bathe the tumour frequently with a linement composed of thebaic tincture, oil, and spirits of hartshorn, and to apply the flaxseed poultice softened with the linement. The fourth day the part began to impostumate, a plentiful suppuration succeeded, so that there is not now a vestige of the lump, perceivable.

Boerhaave, says he, defines inflammations thus:-- "*Estque sanguinis rubri arteriosi in minimis canalibus stagnantis, pressio et attritus, a motu*

E 2 reliqui

reliqui sanguinis moti, et per febrem fortius acti."

Mr. Bromfield affirms, that Boerhaave, is much mistaken, for the momentum of the blood being increased, from the irritation of the nervous coats of the vessels, heat will naturally follow, therefore this is as much the effect of obstruction in the circulation as in the former case.

We know, a posteriori, that spasm is often the consequence, or effect of obstruction, inflammation, and fever; and that as the fever increases, the irritation of the nervous system will also increase.

Doctor

Doctor Monro found that after he had cut the sciatic nerve, the member was insensible and motionless that the circulation of the blood remained for a year thereafter rapid and free in the hind leg of a frog; that when he had broken the bones and wounded the flesh, an inflammation was excited, and at last the wounds were closed, with new matter and the broken bones re-united. Yet, says he, we have the strongest reasons for believing, that the small vessels in circulating the blood, in inflammation, and in the production of new matter, are actuated by a nervous energy, which in the cases before us, could only have been furnished to the nerves by the vessels of the pia mater which inclose them and the

cineritious

cineritious substance it produces.
 Observations on the nervous system
 P. 34. sect the V. the greatest production of this age.

Extravasated blood by pressing upon the brain, excites convulsions, which early and copious bleeding and evacuations have often removed. If these precautions are delayed, or totally neglected, putrefaction takes place; or, if any principal blood vessel is ruptured, we shall find, that no remedy or mode of treatment can ever be struck out, *that will prove successful in all cases.*

Van Swieten thinks it is evident, (see his commentary upon the definition which Mr. Bromfield has pronounced erroneous)

roneous) that obstruction has many things in common with inflammation; but that no inflammation can be conceived without an obstruction also attending; besides which, a violent obstruction increases the velocity of those juices, which are to pass through the pervious vessels, so as to occasions a fever. But soon as a fever accompanies the obstruction, there is then an inflammation, which may therefore be termed an obstruction with a fever, either in the whole, or only in some particular part of the body.

The phænomena, of a concussion of the brain, according to the most eminent of the profession, are vomitings, vertigo, or apparent rotation
of

of the adjacent objects, a total loss of sight, hearing, smelling, tasting, or feeling; a deep sleep, a stertor, (that is, when the patient forces out the air with the whole action of the breast,) palsy, convulsions, deliriums, and shiverings. If a lethargic disposition, is an effect of a concussion of the brain, upon what principle can opium be given?

Is it not reasonable to conclude, that in cases where a lethargic disposition may not happen, it may be induced by opium, and thus the injury of the brain rendered more dangerous and difficult of cure?

Medical History abounds with cases of concussion of the brain, attended with

with the worst symptoms, notwithstanding, success has followed a free use of the lancet and evacuations, independent of opiates.

Numberless, but unedificive arguments, have been adduced on the nature and causes of inflammation, obstruction, spasm, crethism, &c. by which we find the observation of a great man is well founded, viz. that causes and effects are so intimately connected, and dependant on each other, throughout the system of nature, that we every where discover a series of energies, which whilst they are depending on, and derived from their preceding terms, are at the same time the causes of their succeeding ones. But what is the cause of all the rest, which being

ing not the effect of any preceding, may be called the source of all, and the first term in the series? In contemplating this source, the mind is lost in wonder, and after we are advanced a few steps, we find that a cloud obstructs our further progress, and from continuing our enquiry and contemplation, nothing more can be derived, but a conviction of human imbecility, and narrowness of our intellectual powers.

If Mr. Bromfield (as it should seem) recommends opium upon the principle of its being a great attenuant of the blood, and hence, well calculated to give a fair chance for the absorption of extravasated fluids, is it not evident in order to produce so material a change

a change in the animal œconomy, that large quantities of opium would be requisite, and that a few drops of *tinctura thæbaica* would not have the effect intended by the author with sufficient expedition.

Opium in general is but a temporary expedient, and does not frequently answer the intention of the prescriber, but often defeats it, and instead of procuring rest, occasions anxiety, dryness of the mouth, a redness and itching of the skin, lowness of spirits, difficult respiration, and a languid pulse.

T H E E N D.

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expedient and does not frequently
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fessor, but often debars it, and in-
stead of procuring rest, occasions anx-
iety, distress of the mind, a red-
ness and itching of the skin, looseness
of spirits, debility, relaxation, and
as long as it is used.

T H E E N D

©

O B S E R V A T I O N S

ON THE

S C R O F U L A,

POPULARLY, BUT IMPROPERLY CALLED,

T H E

K I N G's - E V I L.

By Jordan Roche.

D U B L I N:

Printed by P. BYRNE, No. 35, COLLEGE-GREEN.

M,DCC,LXXXIV.

RESERVATIONS

ON THE

SCROLLS

FOUNDED, BUT IMPROPERLY CALLED,

THE

KING'S-VEIL

DUBLIN:

Printed by P. Byrne, No. 35, College-Green.
MDCCLXXV.

OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

SEROFULA, &c.

THERE is not a disease that can be more disagreeable to the human species, than that which is popularly called the King's Evil, a disease, according to the ancients, totius substantiæ; which has almost resisted every remedy, that learning and skill could devise, and seems to be gaining ground rapidly.

It

It is extraordinary so noxious a disease has not been better defined. Like nerves in women, and worms in children, it serves as a sanctuary for the ignorance of practitioners, and complaints are frequently pronounced scrofulous, or the King's evil which terms do not convey determinate ideas.

Gentlemen of the faculty ought to be very cautious, in giving their opinion of fores, ulcers, kernels, and affections of the glands. The idea of the King's evil is extremely exceptionable, and unfounded.

The symptoms of a scrofula are generally said to be, scirrhus tumours arising about the neck, and
other

Other glandular parts, called also strumæ. * The word is Latin, and formed by diminution, from scrofa, a sow. The scrofulous infection principally settles either on the glandular parts, or the bones; and the disease appears in little kernels, or lumpy indolent swellings, down the sides of the neck under the chin, in the arm-pits, and about the breasts; in white indolent swellings of the joints of the fingers, wrists, knees, elbows, and ankles; and running sores discharging a yellow gleety sanies.

F

Scrofulous

* Strumæ, tumours arising most usually on the neck and throat, and commonly called the King's evil; the word is Latin, formed a struendo—struunt assurgunt—also *hoirades*, sores.

Scrofulous people are generally of a lax fibre, and relaxed habit; their aspect in general is pale, their skin fair, the eyes vitreous---they are inert, indolent, and if a person of a real scrofulous habit, receives a small wound, it will not be attended with much pain, or hemorrhagy, nor look florid, as wounds will do in a healthy person. Those who have made issues in scrofulous people must have observed these circumstances,

Loss of appetite is said to be a symptom importing great depravity of the humours in scrofulous habits, and indicates that the pancreas and mesentery are obstructed, particularly if the parotides are enlarged.

Scro-

Scrofulous people, according to Arbuthnot, can never be duly nourished; for such as have tumours in the parotides often have them in the pancreas and mesentery. The pancreatic juice is necessary to dilute the viscid cystic juice, to mitigate its acrimony, and mix it with the food, to dilute the mass of aliments, and does every other office of the saliva.---

Hallers Phys. p. 360.

The various, and ineffectual methods of treatment, which have been pursued, and recommended by the most learned of the faculty, in order to eradicate the scrofula, is a proof of the obstinacy and inveteracy of the disease.

It has been asserted, that the scrofula may be acquired, in consequence of luxury, debauchery and indolence.

Those who lead luxurious, intemperate and indolent lives, and indulge themselves so much even in sleep, as scarce ever to see the rising Sun, lose the exercise of their muscles, which powerfully contribute to a brisk and free circulation of the blood ; therefore digestion, and the assimilation of the chyle, are more slowly and imperfectly performed ; hence superfluous and crude humours are created, which either fall upon some vital part, or burst forth in running sores on different parts of the body ; to obviate which the miserable patients
roam

roam from one physician to another, in pursuit of health, which they would wish to enjoy without taking pains, or rather the pleasure to obtain it.

The celebrated Astruc, and others, were of opinion that when the scrofula accompanied the venereal disease, it was incurable by mercury, because the small drops of the scrofulous infection, so intimately lay up in it the fine drops of venereal venom, that they become inaccessible and invincible, in the same manner, as in an amalgama of gold and silver, the atoms of the gold are wont to be surrounded by the atoms of silver, that they can by no means be touched by aqua regia.

This

This analogy does not seem to be well founded, since there is a material difference between the scrofulous and venereal infection, floating in the blood and juices, and acted upon by animal heat, &c. and his amalgama and aqua regia.

Astruc distinguishes between the venereal and scrofulous infection; though, he says, if the lymph is tainted with the venereal virus, it will produce a stagnation in several conglobate glands, because from its thickness it will form obstructions in the folds of the glands; and from its acrimony it will stimulate them to more frequent contractions, by which the passage will be stopped up; hence therefore it will follow, that the lymphatic glands of
the

the neck, axilla, inguina, mesentery, &c. from the stagnation of the lymph, and indisposition, will grow turgid, and harden into circumscribed, round glandular firmous tumours, and that the venereal disease is as changeable as Proteus, and puts on the shape of every disease.

From parents who have been severely afflicted with the venereal disease, and not radically cured, their children *have* derived complaints, which have been pronounced scrofulous.

Nothing gives that which it has not. If an infection can produce another infection, of quite a different nature, it would follow, that the venereal infection was not one independant, but two different

different infections, which is a manifest absurdity,

Whether the scrofula (which is not so common as people imagine) is an effect of the venereal disease, is a question that has been much disputed. Gentlemen ought to be very cautious in ascribing effects to causes that existed at a remote period.

Experience confirms that an infection will produce different effects in different constitutions; yet it is evident every effect arising from it proceeds from one and the same cause.

In

In consequence of the improvements which have been made upon mercury, and its general use, we find that the venereal disease does not now produce such dreadful symptoms as have been represented by physicians a few years ago, and that in consequence of the improved and more general use of mercury, the leprosy is now hardly known among us.

There were in Christendom about 200 years ago 1500 Hospitals for lepers.

Before the use of mercury was discovered, the venereal disease must have made great havoc in the human species ;

species; as it could not have been radically cured, at least we know of no simples that will have that effect.

It appears reasonable to conclude, that the venereal disease was coeval with society, and that it has been a disease arising from the abuse of venery, and promiscuous embrace.

The Kings of England and France for a long time *pretended* to the privilege of curing the King's evil by touching; and some pious people to this day, say, they dispense the *royal blood* for the cure of the *King's evil*, which they alledge will have the wished for effect.

The

The right or faculty, 'tis said, was originally inherent in the French Kings; for that those of England only *claimed* it as an appendage, or appurtenant to that Crown to which they had a claim.

Stephen de Conti, a religious Corbie, who lived in the year 1400, and wrote a History of France, still preserved in M S, in the library of St. Germain des prez, describes the practice of touching for the evil. After the King had heard mass, a vessel of water was brought him, and his Majesty, having put up his prayers before the altar, touched the diseased part with his hand, and washed it with water.

Raoul

Raoul de Pruëlles, addreſſing his tranſlation of St. Auguſtin, de Civitate Dei, to Ch. V. France, ſays expreſſly : “ *Vos devanciers, & vous avez telle vertu & puiſſance, que vous eſt donnee & attribuee de Dieu, que vous faites miracles en votre vie, telles, ſi grandes & ſi apertes, que vous garriffeſſes d’une tres horrible maladie que s’appelle les eſcrouelles (i. e. the King’s Evil) de laquelle nul autre prince terrein ne peut garir hors vous.* ”

Much judgment and experience are neceſſary to diſtinguiſh the ſcrofula, from the effects of other diſorders ;-----A ſwelling of the upper lip, and an enlargement of the parotides, are ſaid to be pathognomonic ſigns.

In the first Volume of the London Medical Observations, P. 184, there are a few cases of scrofulous complaints, by John Fordyce. M. D. which have been considerably improved by means of the cortex, which resolved tumefied glands without suppuration.

In Vol. 2. P. 265 of the above Observations, there are two cases communicated by Doctor Bond of Philadelphia, which were successfully treated, by persisting in the use of the bark, though salivation had failed.

Doctor Fothergill in Vol. I. says, that the bark put a stop to the progress

progress of tumours of the parotid glands; in one case in particular, he says, the bark softened the tumours,---that he met with many other cases, in which the bark has had the like effects; checked the speedy progress of the disease, restored a better state of health in various respects, and laid a proper foundation to proceed upon, in attempting to cure by other methods.

He acknowledges that he made use of the bark in scrofulous ulcers, but hitherto not with the success one might expect, though he has assisted it with calomel and sulphur auratum antimonii.

This

This learned Physician observes, that all internal remedies given by the mouth, and designed to act beyond the stomach, must be exposed to the efficacy of the powers, by which digestion is performed: it is therefore incumbent upon the Prescriber to consider, how far the virtues of the medicines, he gives, are liable to be affected in their transit to the parts where he is desirous they should act. Most of the saline remedies are liable to great alterations in the stomach. Alkaline and acid salts may become neutral and saponaceous; neutral ones may be diluted, and disposed to run off immediately by the emunctories, and all of them contribute as little towards eradicating the scrofula, as they

they do towards effecting the change; we call digestion; a change whereby substances very remote from it, are converted into an animal nature.

And it seems to him, in the cure of all chronic complaints, however distant their seat may be from the stomach, those will have the greatest success, who attentively consider the present state of this organ; who remove every obstruction to its performing the office of digestion with ease, constancy and expedition; for if digestion is well performed, the chyle is proper, the blood, produced from this chyle, is natural, the secretions will be regular, disease will vanish, and health and activity ensue. If digestion is weak, the contra-

ry

ry happens, in spite of the best specifics, unless one part of their virtues be to restore the injured faculties of digestion to their pristine and natural state.

And from the most attentive consideration of the cure of many chronic complaints, and the most unprejudiced disquisition, what share the medicines applied have had in effecting such cures; by much the greatest part of these distempers seem to have been removed, rather in consequence of the medicines given, having had a certain effect on the stomach, and thereby enabling nature to perform her own office, than by any specific operations on the particular seat

of the distemper. See Vol. 2. Fothergill's works, where those, who cram their patients with medicines singula hora, quovis momento, will find they do not do justice to their patients.

A few years ago a young man applied to me, to be cured of the lues venerea, which was accompanied with a scrofulous habit:---his upper lip was swelled, his parotides were enlarged, and there were cicatrices of old sores on many parts of his body.

In consequence of small mercurial inunctions, aided by the warm bath, he was perfectly cured of the lues and scrofula.-----He concluded
his

his course with a decoction of far-
saparilla and milk.

The success of this case determined
me on giving small mercurial inuncti-
ons, warm bath, with the occasional
use of calomel, and the bark to aid
the appetite;—a fair trial, in such
scrofulous cases as might occur.

The bark I have often given ac-
cording to Doctor M'Bride, see his
Essay, p. 189.

C A S E I.

A lad was brought to me a few
years ago. The globe of his left eye
was more protuberant than that of his

right eye. There was an ulcer just over the external canthus of the affected eye. The parotides were affected. He had taken a great deal of medicine, recommended by different people. He resigned himself to an extended course of mercurial inunction, and restoratives—in consequence of which, he recovered, and has continued since in vigorous health.

Doctor Astruc was of opinion, that if the lues be attended with an enlarged parotid, tis incurable by salivation.

'Tis evident, that by inducing a salival flux, much inconvenience and danger will arise, when the parotides are enlarged: But small mercurial

curial injunctions, judiciously conducted, will not be attended with any inconvenience to the maxillary, salivary, or parotid glands.

C A S E II.

A girl in the 13th year of her age, was brought to the work-house for the assistance of Gentlemen attending there. The anterior part of the tibia was bare, from within two inches of the knee, to nearly the same distance from the ankle; the bone was of a blackish yellow colour, full of holes ---the circumfering ulcer was very foul, and discharged a yellowish thin sanies. On the upper, and internal part of her thigh there was an indolent tumour.

tumour. She was pale and (if I may be allowed the phrase) of a ferocious aspect. Her mother informed me the gentlemen proposed amputation,

In consequence of mercurial inunctions, calomel, and the bark, the bone separated, and the girl recovered a good constitution.

for the assistance of Gentlemen attending there. The anterior part of the tibia was bare, from within two inches of the knee, to nearly the same distance

C A S E III.

A woman in the last month of gestation applied to me on account of the lues, which she contracted from her husband some time before. I put

her On the upper and internal part of her thigh there was an indolent

(suppurated)

her upon the solution* with the intent of palliating her complaints, until she would be able to sustain an effectual course. The solution, with decoction of guaiacum, cured her. Her infant had a white swelling of its wrist, and its eyes were tender. The child recovered, being put upon the breast of a healthy woman, who took some alteratives,

CASE IV.

A woman in this town, in the 25th year of her age, and fifth

* R. mercur. cor. sublim. gr. quatuor, spir. vin. Gallici uncias octo, ol. sassafr. semidrachmam. misce. fiat solutio.

month of gestation, applied to me. There was an encysted tumour in the internal canthus of each eye. Her eyes were blood-shot, and the tears escaped incessantly down her cheeks. There was an indolent tumour on the back of her neck. I put her upon a course of calomel, decoctions of the woods, and brought the tumours to suppuration, and she perfectly recovered.

CASE V.

A married man of a remarkably good character, put himself under my care. A fleshy excrescence occupied one side of his nose; there was an exostosis upon the middle and anteri-

er

or part of each tibia, and matter was slowly forming upon each. Upon one of his shoulders there were three sinuous ulcers, and upon the superior part of the os frontale there was an ulcer: through it my probe dropped upon the denuded bone. He had been a long time taking medicines, notwithstanding his complaints were gaining upon him. He was not now able to persevere in his usual active way of life, wherefore he submitted to be confined. In consequence of mercurial inunctions, the warm bath, and restoratives, he recovered perfect health, and has uninterruptedly enjoyed it since, which is about six years.

This case shewed some characteristics of a venereal taint; but I am per-

persuaded he was free from it; his wife had no complaint, nor has had any symptom that could justify an idea of the kind since.

C A S E VI.

A Gentleman sent to me from Hammontown, a young man, who had upon the forepart, and basis of his neck, two large running sores, or ulcers, of considerable duration. There was also one upon the upper part of his breast, close to the right clavicle. His upper lip was enlarged and thick ---by the use of mercurial inunctions he was cured.

I have

I have had many cases of the above nature under my care, which were successfully treated, though the neck was full of running fores--the parotides enlarged, as also tumours of the breast, which with difficulty came to suppuration, when they could not be otherwise resolved. In the course of suppuration the lips often became dry, and callous, turning black, and sometimes blue. Suddenly a tumour was formed in the side, and came quickly to suppuration, and continued to discharge a long time. In the course of inunction, it is not uncommon for a large tumour to suddenly appear upon the forehead, and different parts of the head, and in a few hours to vanish, and return no more.

There

There are few (according to Doctor Fothergill) who are conversant in the practice of Physic, who do not find occasion, at one time or other, to be dissatisfied with the several methods and medicines hitherto recommended in the cure of the scrofula.

A swelled lip, a blood-shot eye, will frequently baffle a course of efficacious remedies under prudent directions. When the disease is farther advanced, it grows more obstinate, the greater the number of parts that are affected, the more the difficulties are increased. We have indeed a copious choice of alteratives handed down to us, all which, perhaps, have been in particular instances, beneficial, but nevertheless they too often disappoint

disappointing. Most of the remedies proposed for this distemper, are such as seem recommended more with a view to alter the juices, than immediately to affect the solids: but we know much less of the nature of fluids circulating in an animal body, or how to alter them, than we do how to apply such medicines as affect the solids, and in consequence thereof, produce certain alterations in the fluids.

It is not safe to infer, that the various kinds of salts have the same effects upon animal juices, whether taken from the animal, or circulating in their proper canals. Experience does not always warrant such conclusions. The digestive powers of the stomach,

stomach, by the same means that
 they convert different sorts
 of aliments, some of them
 sufficiently acrid, into a mild and
 milky fluid, seem able to deprive the
 most pungent salts of great part of
 their activity : and this circumstance
 alone, in my opinion, (says Doctor
 Fothergill) renders a dependence up-
 on one part of the materia medica,
 on which many pleasing expectations
 have been formed, much to be sus-
 pected ; I mean the different kinds
 of salts recommended in strumous
 disorders. It is very certain that the
 effects of the acid and alkaline great-
 ly depend on the present disposition
 of the juices in the stomach and
 first passages. The neutral ones are
 not altogether exempt from the
 same

same influence; and should they pass unaltered into the blood, we cannot ascertain their effects upon it: and could we even do this, can it reasonably be supposed, that a few drams of any kind of salt, however active, and properly adapted, mixed with so many pounds of blood, and other animal juices, could produce the effect we wish for, or be able to extirpate a disease, as the ancients expressed themselves, *totius substantiæ*, and fixed in the most inaccessible parts of the animal œeconomy? The chance, therefore, of curing this distemper, by means of remedies designed to act on the fluids alone, is but little. It may indeed be urged, that salts, as stimulants, affect the solids as well as the fluids; and
that

that they may do so is granted: but in this case their operation is much confined; for it may be doubted, whether their stimulus extends beyond the first passages.

The aspect, habit, and age of strumous persons; the nature of their tumours, in respect to their formation, progress, and issue, seem to indicate a general laxity of the solids as well as great viscosity of the fluids, especially those contained in some particular series of vessels; which causes, when combined, proceed with a slow but constant efficacy to produce the worst of mischiefs, unless prevented by the interposition of some favourable change in the non-naturals, or by medical assistance.

It

It may indeed be disputed, whether the solids being first relaxed, the fluids do not become viscid, and unfit for their office, in consequence of this relaxation; or whether the juices are not first vitiated, and from them a laxity of the solids is inevitably derived. Cases may happen, in which one or the other of these suppositions may, with great probability, be admitted; but in either case, since it seems beyond dispute, that the power of affecting the solids, is more under our command than that of altering the fluids, it is reasonable to direct our applications in the cure of this distemper more immediately to the solids, as, without their assistance, the fluids must still remain in a morbid condition.

H

I have

I have the pleasure of being acquainted with many young people, who are found, active, and strong, but were miserable objects when children, afflicted with eruptions, sore eyes, and their necks beset with lumps, kernels, and running sores upon different parts of their bodies, notwithstanding, from proper regimen, air and exercise, they grew into perfect health.

Parents, who indulge their children in indolence and luxury, and pay them a too tender and officious attention, particularly, in cramming them with manna, magnesia, rhubarb, and the various faragos every where extolled and recommended, ought to be informed that they are the Authors of an evil, and

and a very great one. They should know, that they thus nip the bud, impair the stamina, and lay the foundation of disease, and of every misfortune that can flow from it.

When a proper regimen in point of diet, air and exercise are neglected, medicine will prove a wretched substitute.

It is well known that the foundation of much evil has been established on the breast; hence, care in the choice and management of nurses cannot be too great. The wisest and most skilled in nature agree, that women should foster their flesh and blood, with the natural nourishment supplied by Providence.

Their

Their arguments are irresistible in support of this opinion; from which also it is evident, mothers would be amply rewarded, in health, ease of mind, and longevity for doing their duty.

When a proper regimen is pursued, diet, air and exercise are regulated, medicine will prove a worthless substitute.

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T H E E N D.

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T A B

