

Tyrocinium medicum, or, A dissertation on the duties of youth apprenticed to the medical profession / by William Chamberlaine.

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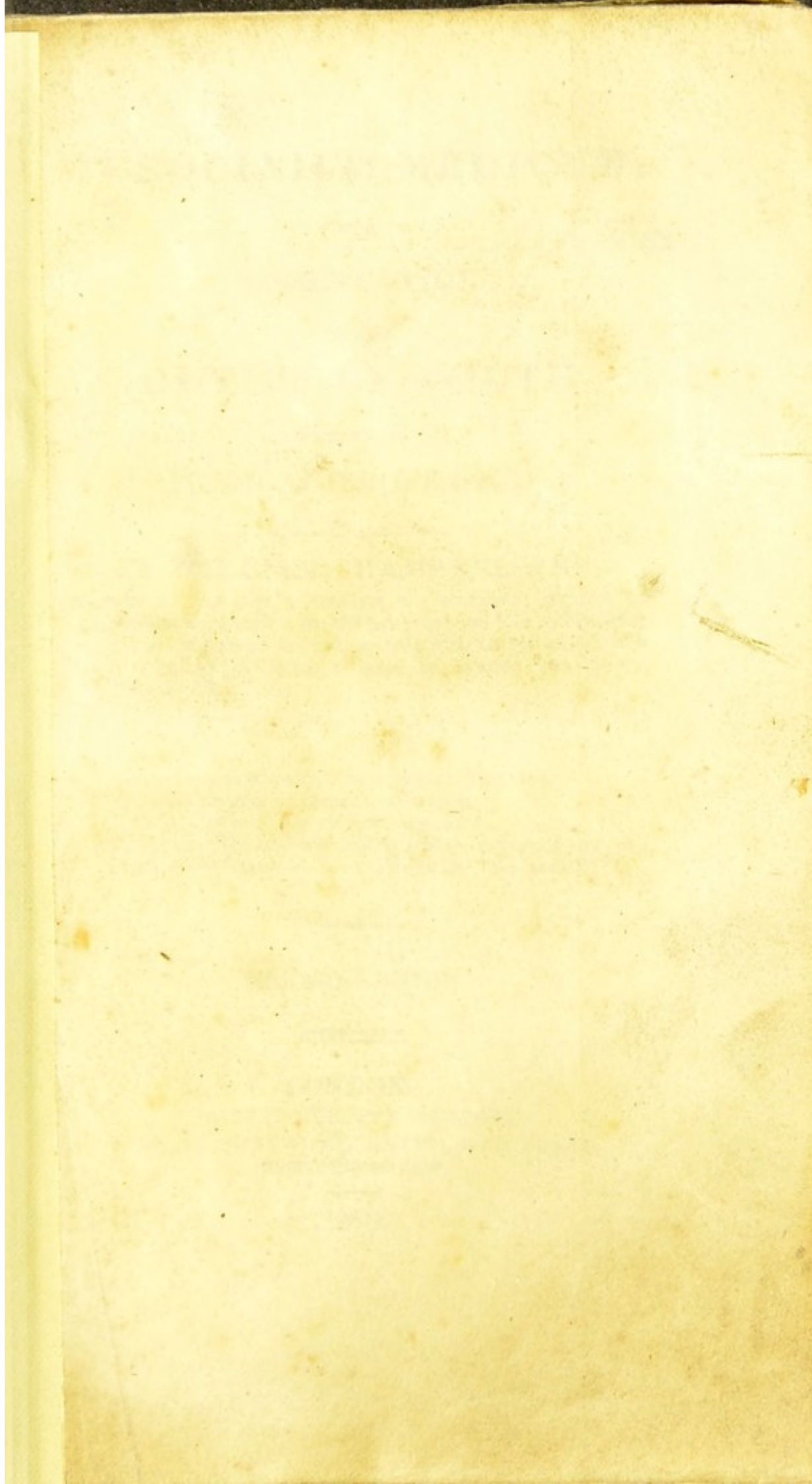
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TYROCINIUM MEDICUM;

OR A

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DISSERTATION

ON THE

DUTIES OF YOUTH

APPRENTICED TO THE

MEDICAL PROFESSION.

medical
BY WILLIAM CHAMBERLAINE,

MEMBER OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS; FELLOW OF
THE MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON; ONE OF THE INSTITUTORS
OF, AND SECRETARY TO, THE SOCIETY FOR RELIEF OF WIDOWS
AND ORPHANS OF MEDICAL MEN, IN LONDON AND ITS VI-
CINITY, &c. &c.

Gratum est, quod patriæ civem, populoque dedisti,
Si facis, ut patriæ sit idoneus, utilis agris,
Utilis et bellorum et pacis rebus agendis;
Plurimum enim intererit, quibus artibus, et quibus hunc tu
Moribus instituas.— JUVENAL. Sat. xiv. 70, 74.

SECOND EDITION.

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PATERNOSTER-ROW.

1819.

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HAS THE HONOUR TO ANNOUNCE
THAT THE FOLLOWING
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PREFACE

TO THE

FIRST EDITION.

WHEN I first began business in London, I was, as it were, like one dropped out of the sky! I knew nobody, I was known to very few, and those few, *next* to nobody.

For a man to attempt to set up in London, to practise Surgery and Pharmacy, without connexions, without even acquaintances, was a bold undertaking. But I had no alternative. Dublin, where I served my apprenticeship to a Surgeon, (old Mr. Boat,) would not answer for me, because, as in most parts of Ireland, the Surgeon and Apothecary are distant from each other, and the one does not interfere with the practice of the other—my connexions were not numerous enough to insure me practice in that metropolis as a Surgeon only.

As to Pharmacy, all the knowledge I had of it was obtained during the two or three happiest years of my life, when I was fortunate enough to fall into the employ of my excellent and venerable old master, Doctor David Morton,
then

then in extensive practice in Jamaica, now of Warren-street, Fitzroy-square; a man who always was, what the Almighty intended a good Physician ought to be; the enjoyment of whose friendship, down to the present day, is an honour I am proud to boast of*.

After

* Since the above was written, the death of that most worthy man has taken place. The author is one of the many who can bear testimony to the uncontradictable truth of the following well written Eloge, on that excellent character, which appeared in the EXAMINER Sunday newspaper of the 2d of August, 1812.

“ Died, on the 18th instant (July), aged 80 years,
 “ at his house in Warren-street, Fitzroy-square, David
 “ Morton, M. D.—It is to be lamented, (says a corre-
 “ spondent,) that the world do not know more of cha-
 “ racters of eminence, *while living*; and it is an act of
 “ injustice, that they should not be held up when *dead*,
 “ for the imitation and excitement of others, to be *good*
 “ and *wise*, as they were. The prominent excellencies in
 “ Dr. Morton’s life, were,—right thinking and purity of
 “ conduct;—he possessed bold, and independent prin-
 “ ciples, both in politics and religion; and was to the
 “ utmost extent, an abettor of the freedom of Enquiry,
 “ of the uncontrolled Liberty of the Press, and of un-
 “ fettered discussion. His practice as a Physician, both
 “ in the West Indies and England, was for many
 “ years very extensive; and when he declined much of
 “ this, through age, and a wish to close a life of con-
 “ tinual exertion in retirement and quietude, he still ex-
 “ tended his advice, without a fee, to his friends, his
 “ acquaintance,

After I had been in the employ of Doctor Morton, as his assistant in the Liguanea practice for near three years, one of those fortunate incidents which sometimes occur when least expected, introduced me to the knowledge of the Reverend Mr. Williams, the rector of the Parish of St. Mary's, at the north side of Jamaica.

The circumstance of my having received my education at Harrow School, under the learned and justly esteemed Doctor Sumner, at the same time when Mr. Williams was Curate to the Rev. Mr. Saunders, then Rector of Harrow, brought

“ acquaintance, and the needy. He was a good scholar,
 “ and most profoundly read; indefatigable in his re-
 “ searches, almost boundless in knowledge; and if his
 “ various conversations could be collected, perhaps a
 “ richer fund of information, fine reasoning, and acute
 “ satire, could hardly be found, since the days of Voltaire.
 “ Pure religion, integrity, the most circumspect morals,
 “ humanity, and universal philanthropy, marked the con-
 “ duct of this very great and very good man. The writer
 “ of this sketch is impelled to make it, in gratitude to a
 “ friend, who has been the source of infinite solace, im-
 “ provement, and entertainment, to himself and family;
 “ and hopes some one, better qualified, will, more at
 “ length, transmit to the public, the life and sentiments
 “ of a character of such inestimable value.

“ And when old Time did lead him to his end,
 “ Goodness and he filled up one monument.”

SHAKESPEARE.

ON

on an intimacy with this gentleman, which proved useful to me ever after.

Through his good offices, I was enabled to go into business for myself at North-side; and during all the time afterwards of my remaining in Jamaica, the kind patronage and friendship of Mr. Williams were of most essential service to me.

Loss of health, however, after nine years residence under the Torrid Zone, rendered it necessary for me to bid adieu to that Island, where in every part of it,

“ True Hospitality opens the Door :”

an Island I ever liked, and even now should like to re-visit, on a good errand.

My friend and patron, Mr. Williams, strongly recommended it to me to settle in London, and gave me letters of introduction to some of his friends in this metropolis. But these letters, as well as every thing else belonging to me, I lost when I was taken by the French, and carried into Cape François, where I lay comfortably at my ease in a prison, and “*fared sumptuously every day*” on horse-beans and stinking oil; just about the time the inhabitants of this great city were *not* lying comfortably nor at their ease, it being in the same month when the No-POPERY heroes of St. George’s Fields were spreading ruin and

and conflagration in every direction, “for the
“honour of true religion!”

After a variety of adventures, I was at last enabled to carry into execution the advice of my friend Mr. Williams, and ventured to settle in this metropolis.

I was, as I have already observed, like one dropped out of the sky, unknowing, and unknown. Nevertheless, I determined to persevere; and as changing from place to place too often shews the truth of Doctor Franklin’s adage, that “*three removes are as bad as a fire*,” I determined to remain, for some time at least, in the spot in which it has been my fate to sit down at first.

It was not long before I formed a connexion, and soon after, finding that I could not do without an apprentice, I was fortunate enough to receive into my house a most worthy young lad, whose good behaviour during the whole term of his apprenticeship was most exemplary, and whose friendship to this day I am proud of.

For *his* use and instruction I first began to throw together, on paper, a few precepts; subsequently, and from time to time, circumstances gave rise to hints for precepts that had not before suggested themselves; and a succession of apprentices gave occasion to a revisal of the work with each new apprentice.

But

But the whole of the manuscript, which did not consist of more than forty quarto pages of foolscap, might still have remained on the shelf, (as I had not for full eighteen or twenty years the most distant idea of ever committing the work to press,) were it not for the advice, and at the solicitation of my revered and excellent friend, Doctor Morton, who, accidentally taking it up to read, when he was one day at my house, remarked, that as the instructions therein contained had been useful to those placed under my own immediate care, they might also be useful to others, and strongly recommended it to me to turn my thoughts towards making them public.

Such counsel from such a man, who scorned to flatter any man,—and least of all, one to whom he was always a sincere friend, and useful adviser, was not to be slighted. With this intention I had made a beginning, and written the first chapter, when I met with a treasure, which, it is somewhat strange that I had never seen before; this was a book, written by that very respectable and philanthropic Surgeon, MR. JAMES LUCAS, of *Leeds*. It was first printed in 1800, under the title of “*A Candid Enquiry into the Education, Qualifications, and Offices, of a Surgeon-Apothecary.*”

A second edition was printed in 1805, the
title

title a little varied, being, "*On the Education, Character, and Practice of a Surgeon Apothecary.*"

If, from this most valuable book, copious extracts have been made, it is not only because Mr. LUCAS has expressed his thoughts on similar subjects in better language, and more to the purpose than I had done*, but, because I wish to induce my readers, in the same manner as readers are often induced, by a perusal of various extracts of a work, recommended as interesting, or pleasing, by some of our periodical publications, to purchase the work for themselves; a work, which, in truth, ought no more to be wanting in the shop of every Apothecary, than the Pharmacopœia, or the utensils necessary in carrying on his business.

Nor would it be justice to pass over in silence the assistance I have received from *Mr. Parkinson's HOSPITAL PUPIL*, a book, the perusal of which I would wish to recommend most earnestly

* This was the case with the first chapter, addressed to PARENTS and GUARDIANS. I had written nearly the whole of a first chapter, before I met with Mr. Lucas's book; but having perused what he had written on the same subject, I was so much better pleased with it, that I rejected my own matter, and substituted those extracts from Mr. Lucas, which are now presented to the reader.

to every parent who has it in contemplation to bring up a son to the Medical profession.

I am perfectly well convinced, that if every parent, before he determines on educating his son to the profession of Physic or Surgery, would give an attentive perusal to the first and second chapters only, of this valuable work of MR. PARKINSON'S, and also pay strict attention to what Mr. LUCAS has advanced on the same subject, we should not see so many young gentlemen, after the loss of three or four years, or even more, of the best time of their lives, and the total loss of all the money expended in their education, and the premium given with them as an apprentice-fee, relinquishing the profession, either from dislike, or the inability of parents to advance money to finish their education at Hospitals and Lectures, after the expiration of their apprenticeship, and going into the army and other situations in life, very different from what they were at first intended for*.

To

* I will trouble the reader with naming only one more book in the way of recommendation, from which both parent and pupil will derive some useful instruction. It is intituled, "An Essay, addressed to Medical Students, "on the importance and utility of the Profession; and "on the urgent necessity there is for them to obtain a
" more

To your dashing young men of fortune, who think they have learned enough already; to those, who, (if there are Masters that will permit it,) come down stairs in a morning, and lounge about the shop and surgery in a clean flannel gown, silk stockings and red slippers, until breakfast time; or, to those who, without having any business to take them from behind

“ more perfect knowledge of its different branches than is
 “ acquired by Pupils in general, 12mo. pp. 77.” It was published without a name, in 1808, but was written by an ingenious but very unfortunate poor man, of the name of EDWARD MOORE DIGBY, who once lived with me as an assistant. The manuscript was shewn to me after his death, by Mr. Highley, who on my recommendation, agreed to purchase it of his Widow, provided I would revise it and correct the press, which I did. It is thus spoken of in the *Anti-Jacobin Review*.

“ This is a well-meant effusion of an intelligent and
 “ well-educated practitioner, who is deeply affected with
 “ the murderous ignorance of the inferior classes of the
 “ Medical tribe. We sincerely wish that all Students in
 “ medical science or art, would read this little Essay,
 “ which, although not distinguished by any brilliancy
 “ of wit or sentiment, is yet replete with good sense,
 “ most salutary advice, and considerable experience in
 “ Medical tuition. A strict observance of the precepts
 “ here inculcated, must infallibly produce a good member
 “ of society, a skilful practitioner (particularly in Surgery,
 “ which appears to be the branch contemplated by the
 “ writer), and lead to well-founded fame and fortune.”—
Anti-Jacobin Review, October, 1808.

the

the counter, are never seen to wear a pair of *shoes*, but pound their mortar, and roll their pills, in a pair of jockey boots with tops turned down to their ancles, in the hottest summer weather, to such as these, who take much more pains to learn the best composition for cleaning boot-tops, and spend more of their valuable time in taking spots out of the leather, than in studying the Edinburgh Pharmacopœia, or learning to dress a blister, to such, I do not address myself. These high gentlemen, who have servants to wait on them, would despise and laugh at many of the precepts here inculcated :

No ; the directions given in the succeeding pages, are addressed to the young pupil, favoured by nature with a good disposition, docile, tractable, and willing to make himself useful ; whose parents, unable to pay a very heavy fee, have bound him to an Apothecary, whose business, not yet fully established, will not allow him to keep an assistant ; nor, perhaps, for the first two or three years of his getting into business, even an errand boy—who, for that very reason, must sweep the shop, keep it clean ; and, after he has made up the medicines, carry them out to the patients ; who must, in addition to these employments, find time to post his books, and write out his bills—ay, and at the beginning of the ensuing year, deliver them too.

Whew !

Whew! exclaims Mr. *Boot-tops*, Why this man is an *Utopian*.—Who the plague could go through all this?—Not such as *you*, Sir, who perhaps are too proud to wash a mortar, or brush the dust off your own shoes—but, I *have* had apprentices, who *have* “gone through all this;” and who are now full Surgeons in the Army and Navy, and in other situations; and who evince their respect and gratitude to me, on every opportunity.

But, if the instructions herein contained, were found useful to the tyro, moving in so humble a sphere, they will, I flatter myself, be no less useful to the pupil, who has the advantages of having an elder apprentice to assist and instruct him, and where there is a servant kept to do the rough work and carry out the medicines; and, I will presume to say, that by paying attention to the rules laid down, the pupil will transact his daily business with ease and pleasure to himself, satisfaction to his employer, obtain the confidence and respect of his patients, and the good-will of every one.

W. CHAMBERLAINE.

London,
September 1st, 1812.

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face page 224.*

TYROCINIUM MEDICUM.

CHAP. I.

To Parents and Guardians.

“ When you reflect on the vast importance of the Science
“ of Medicine to mankind, and on the mischiefs which may
“ ensue from the errors of an ignorant practitioner, you can-
“ not be disposed to place your son in the profession, unless
“ you are confident he is equal to the arduous duty. You
“ will, I trust, not think of placing him in a situation so loaded
“ with most serious responsibility, unless you are satisfied that
“ his mental abilities are such as give a fair prospect of his ob-
“ taining those acquirements, by which he may be enabled to
“ practice the Art of Healing to the greatest extent of advan-
“ tage which the state of Medical and Chirurgical Science
“ will admit.”

Parkinson's Hospital Pupil, p. 5.

IT is no uncommon thing for Parents, dazzled with the sight of so many Medical Men riding in their carriages—or, determined (holding *trade* in *contempt*,) that a son shall be brought up to a *genteel* occupation, to destine one or more of their sons, at a very early period of life, to the Medical

B 5

profession,

profession, without taking into consideration, whether the boy, when he comes to be of proper age to be an apprentice, may like the business, or, whether he has talents and qualifications for it.

“ Could PARENTS be made sensible of the permanent estimation of literary and professional rudiments, or STUDENTS foresee the lasting reproach of *ignorance*, the former would need no further spur to incite their vigilance, nor the latter fail to embrace the advantages offered for their improvement.—The first reflection of some parents has been, to select a professional master, without any examination how far their sons have been prepared for the situation of an apprentice.

“ A parent who would wish a young man to follow the profession of a Surgeon or Apothecary, with credit or commendable emulation, should take a very early survey of the requisite school-learning, as well as competency, of a professional preceptor; and should not fail to count the costs of subsequent studies.

“ In the selection of a master, it is no less essential, that he should be renowned for his integrity, and a strict regard for the honour of his profession.

“ It might be very pernicious to a young man, if the interval between leaving school and commencing an apprenticeship, were of
“ long

“ long continuance ; for at the time of ado-
 “ lescency the disposition will be active ; and,
 “ by the partial indulgence of parents, a pro-
 “ pensity to idle or bad habits may be easily
 “ acquired. During such vacation, a sedulous
 “ parent may expatiate on the charges already
 “ incurred, and those to be expected in pro-
 “ curing a suitable education, the advantage of
 “ turning such opportunities to profit, and the
 “ unavoidable disgrace that must be the con-
 “ sequence of indolence, or want of application.
 “ Economy in dress, or other trifles, may be
 “ urged, by pleading the use of expending the
 “ money in more lasting professional attainments.

“ The choice of proper companions may be
 “ another fit topic at such a season ; since a par-
 “ ticular kind, once preferred, however erroneous
 “ the choice may have been, will be afterwards
 “ with difficulty changed. The nature of the
 “ profession demands a grave deportment, and
 “ the exigencies of it oblige young men to
 “ submit to greater confinement than is required
 “ in other apprenticeships.

“ To a failure in such necessary and season-
 “ able inquiries may be imputed the ignorance
 “ of many adventurous practisers.

“ When parents have placed their children
 “ under proper teachers, they are too apt to
 “ neglect exacting obedience, or assisting in the

“ correction of bad habits, whereas they might
 “ often animate proficiency, and preclude irre-
 “ parable misconduct. Parents are not always
 “ adequate judges of the literature necessary to
 “ qualify an apprentice to a Medical practitioner ;
 “ but masters who are, or ought to be, well ac-
 “ quainted with the requisite rudiments, should
 “ be cautious of admitting illiterate youth, in-
 “ capable of being safely trusted, to compound
 “ medicines from Latin prescriptions.

“ Unless the health as well as capacity of a
 “ boy be duly regarded, his studies may be
 “ materially retarded ; yet the most unhealthy,
 “ or weakest son has, sometimes, been selected
 “ for a Medical apprentice ; as if indisposition
 “ were no obstacle to learning, or that employ-
 “ ment, liable to harassing fatigue, to untimely
 “ calls, and contagious diseases, were suited to
 “ a distempered frame ! As well might it be ar-
 “ gued, that the smell of drugs can repair a
 “ feeble constitution, or that an apprentice may
 “ be a complaining invalid, instead of an active
 “ assistant : to become master of science, and bear
 “ the drudgery of business, strength of body,
 “ and activity of mind, are indispensable.

“ Every youth should first be thoroughly in-
 “ structed in his native tongue, by parsing, and
 “ being grounded in grammatical rules ; for one
 “ who remains ignorant in these rudiments, may
 “ reasonably

“ reasonably be expected to be no less deficient
 “ in more difficult attainments.

“ A clear understanding of that language in
 “ which prescriptions are commonly written must
 “ be obviously necessary for every Medical stu-
 “ dent, employed in compounding medicines, and
 “ executing directions, prescribed in Latin. An
 “ ability to expound abbreviated characters, and
 “ to comprehend their true meaning, cannot be
 “ dispensed with, but at the risk of fatal conse-
 “ quences.

“ Many technical terms in the science are de-
 “ rived from the Greek language; hence, the
 “ comprehension of intricate and compound
 “ names is much facilitated by a knowledge
 “ of this element. A student in medicine will
 “ more easily ascertain and remember the titles
 “ of maladies, and a pupil studying Anatomy
 “ can scarcely forget the situation, attachment,
 “ figure, or use of a muscle, borrowing its ap-
 “ pellation from that language, nor will the
 “ advantages which a practitioner will receive
 “ from such a qualification be inconsiderable.”

LUCAS.

For whatever line of life a parent may destine
 his son, the writing a good hand is so *indis-*
pensably necessary in many businesses, and so
 ornamental and useful in all, that parents ought
 to pay particular attention towards the perfec-
 tion

tion of their children in this useful attainment. In the business of an Apothecary, it is not absolutely necessary that a young man should write like beautiful copper-plate writing, but still, as he will be expected to keep his employer's books, he ought to write a neat, clean, free, and *perfectly legible* hand, both for the books, and for writing labels; for, how disgraceful is it both to master and apprentice, to see labels and directions sent to patients, written in so shameful, slovenly, and careless a manner, with blots and bad spelling, as to cause patients to be afraid of taking the medicine, or oblige them to send it back to have the writing explained. Besides, it may so happen that he may be called upon to manage a correspondence with some of his employer's patients, or others, and in that case, how necessary is it that he should be able to be perfect in grammar and orthography, as well as good writing.

As it will be expected, as I have just now observed, that an apprentice to an Apothecary shall keep the books, and write out the bills, the absolute necessity of being well versed in the common rules of arithmetic must be evident. “ A good arithmetician finds the attainment of it of so much advantage in common life, and it may prove so beneficial to a professional man, that such an acquisition ought
“ not

“not to be overlooked or disregarded. It is the
 “rudiment of mathematics; and although few
 “Medical pupils have leisure for making any
 “considerable advances, yet there is no doubt
 “of the benefits capable of being derived from
 “this adscititious accomplishment.”

LUCAS, sec. 9. p. 7.

“To sum up all, it is a debt due, not only to
 “your son, but to the circle in which he may
 “move, that his capacity, his education, and his
 “disposition, be fully inquired into, and ap-
 “proved, before it is determined to place him
 “in a profession, in which, if he fail, it is at the
 “expense of the health and happiness of those
 “around him*.”

* *Parkinson's Hospital Pupil*, p. 24.

CHAP. II.

To the Master.

“ ALTHOUGH a master and an apprentice
“ may have, in a great measure, approved of each
“ other, yet before a covenant between them
“ be finally concluded, a little time is usually
“ allowed, for a trial how they may accord in
“ their dispositions towards each other.

“ The sum to be paid as an apprentice-fee
“ is ordinarily a principal question. With an
“ assiduous, well-informed, and tractable pupil,
“ the sum may be comparatively of much less
“ signification; while no money can compensate
“ for the loss sustained, or the inconveniencies
“ resulting from an illiterate, indolent, and un-
“ manageable apprentice. The recompense must
“ depend on such a variety of circumstances,
“ that a proper sum cannot be stated, but must
“ be left to the discretion of the parties. Not
“ only a reasonable compensation for defraying
“ the costs of board, but something for instruc-
“ tion may be expected, by those masters, who
“ make

“ make a point of attending to the application
“ and proficiency of their pupils. It is always
“ desirable that an apprentice should board with
“ a master, or parent; and the latter should
“ engage to co-operate with the former, in urging
“ a pupil’s conformity with the stated regula-
“ tions of a family.”

LUCAS.

LUCAS.

To the master, about to take an apprentice, I would strongly recommend a probation of at least *two* months, instead of *one* month, as usual ; it is as little a time as can be allowed to a boy ; for, in less time he cannot well tell how he will like his business, his master, the difficulties and restrictions he will have to submit to, and, in short, the every thing incidental to his situation ; nor can the master acquire sufficient acquaintance with the young pupil's temper and abilities in a shorter period.

Again, should the master have already in his shop an assistant, or an apprentice who has nearly served his time out, it would be well worth his while to submit to the inconvenience of permitting the old stander to have, in the beginning of the second month, a fortnight's or three weeks' holidays, in order that he may have unequivocal proof how the young stranger gets on; for if he be a very stupid fellow, the old one will sooner do every thing himself, than be at the trouble of shewing the new-comer his business;

business; or if he should, on the contrary, be docile, tractable, and obliging, the master may have an assistant or apprentice, who may think it more his interest to keep him back, than to instruct him.

There is another thing very requisite to be inquired into by a master, before he takes an apprentice, indeed, I may say, before he takes a boy into his house on liking; and that is, whether he has been put to any business before he was offered to him; how many different masters he has been on liking with, or bound to, and why he would not stay; he should learn, by every means in his power, the names of the people that the youth has been with on trial, and to each of these he should make personal application, to learn all he can of the disposition, talents, and habits of the youth, and all other matters necessary to be inquired into; for, however a lad may seem to like his business, and his master, and his situation in the family, a master will most assuredly find very little satisfaction, and his family find very little comfort, in being plagued six years with a boy that had been already with five or six masters, and had not steadiness to stay with any of them.

Let the master inquire most particularly, into the morals of the youth he is about to take *as a son*, for six years. Whether he is cleanly
in

in his person and dress; affable and gentlemanlike in his behaviour to customers, and all persons coming on business; honest in money matters; careful or wasteful of his master's property entrusted to his care, or within his reach; whether fond of the kitchen, the company of servants, and of low company in general; inquire particularly who are his associates, and what sort of persons they are; whether he be given to swearing, lying, or obscene discourse; whether he rises early, or requires to be called a dozen times before he can be got out of his bed in a morning, &c.

If the youth has never been on trial with any person, the master must make it his business to learn as many of these things as he can come at, from the parents; and indeed, if he have not some previous knowledge of the parents, it would be well to endeavour to obtain some knowledge of *them* also.

But, as parents, in their enumeration of their childrens' good or ill qualities, will naturally say the best for them, I do say, that where the master has no opportunity of making the proper inquiries of any persons except the parents, he ought not to content himself with a short trial of a bare month; and I do aver, that he *never* will learn the true disposition, talents, and character of a boy, unless he has him for a week or two by himself, without any associate, shopmate,
or

or assistant, to control, assist, or instruct him; he will then see, and, when he is absent, his family will have an eye on the lad, to see whether he is active and diligent in the shop, whether he is inquisitive in informing himself where every article is to be found; fond of hunting into drawers and bottles, empty, or almost empty, that they may be replenished; whether he is ever seen with a piece of Rhubarb, or Jalap, or Columbo, or any other drug, in his hand, or lying before him, while he compares it with the description, as to colour, taste, smell, and other qualities, given in the *Materia Medica* of Dr. Duncan's *Edinburgh Pharmacopœia*; or whether he takes a pride in having a clean counter, scales and weights bright, and utensils clean; whether he pays close attention, at his leisure hours, to his Latin grammar, or, if he is perfect in that, to studying any elemental work in that language, which his master may think proper to put into the hands of a beginner, &c. &c. Or, on the contrary, whether he is dirty in his person, or morose in his address; whether, at his master's table, he is always ready to come when called, or never ready to come until breakfast or dinner be half over; whether he seems totally absorbed in himself, or whether he is too talkative, and given to putting in his oar with an unbecoming forwardness, and having something to say on every subject started, as if he were
one

one of the company; whether fond of sneaking down to the kitchen, or absenting himself from the shop, during the absence of his master; whether he is on too good terms with the servants, so as to be always playing with them, or makes so free as to be frequently quarrelling with them; whether, when he has nothing else to do, and is *obliged* to be in the shop, he sits at his desk with his Latin book or Pharmacopœia before him, not for study, but as a blind, over which he places the Seven Champions of Christendom, the Newgate Kalendar, some silly Novel, or some book much worse than a silly Novel, which he makes *his* study, and which, with a slight-of-hand readiness, attained by constant practice, he jerks under the counter, or whips under his seat, when he hears his master's approach, and then seems to be busily employed in turning over the leaves of his Dictionary. Should a master meet with a youth of this latter description, no fee that he can receive will make him compensation for the five or six years of plague, trouble, and vexation, he will experience with such a one. From such a bad bargain of live lumber, let him be off, while he may.

“Hic niger est, hunc tu, Chirurge, caveto.”

It sometimes happens that a member of the College of Surgeons, or of the Apothecaries' Company, may meet with a youth fit for his
purpose,

purpose, who may want some months of being of that age, at which, by the laws of the College or Company, he can be bound apprentice; and it may so happen, that there may be a mutual convenience to all parties, to take the youth into the master's house at so early a period: whether the master, therefore, agrees to take the youth from his parents or guardians, for one month, two months, or half a dozen months, he ought not to omit to insist on a specific stipulation with the parents or guardians, either in writing, or *in the presence of competent witnesses*, that in case the boy, at the expiration of his time of trial, or liking, should dislike the business, or express a repugnance to being bound apprentice, the friends of the youth shall pay so much per week, for his board and accommodation, for the number of weeks the youth shall have boarded in the family;—this ought not to be less, at any rate, than a guinea a week; for it would be hard indeed upon a master, if, besides the trouble he has had in teaching the youth during the time, he shall have given one, two, or six months' maintenance to one who has been, and will be, of no use to him; and, what is worse, the time and opportunities he shall have lost, wherein he might have been on the look-out for an apprentice that would have answered his purpose better.

“ It

“ It is certainly of moment, that every regular and well-educated student should be properly indentured, and be freed from any disputable contraversion, or degrading prevarication.—Many practitioners bring up their sons to the profession, and are doubly interested in such doubts being removed.

“ A youth cannot hereafter possess a legal testimonial of a regular education, unless not only the requisite term be served, but the fee paid be unequivocally recited, and the tax, according to the sum paid, be timely settled. —When an apprentice is a relation, the necessary indenture should be with equal regularity framed; for what compensation can be made to a young practitioner for the stigma that may accompany neglect? Such a deed should also contain a full account of the expectations of each party, in order to exclude disputation and preserve harmony.—It might perhaps be useful, if such covenants were read over, in the presence of all the parties, every year, and any encroachments then observed might be seasonably adverted to, and remedied. It is not unworthy of observation, that all the three parties, commonly inserted in such covenants, are equally concerned in the compact being fulfilled, and a failure in any one affects the whole.

“ An

“ An apprentice cannot reap the intended
 “ advantages, unless his application be exerted ;
 “ a master cannot expect his apprentice to be
 “ early initiated, and his services valuable, un-
 “ less pains be taken to point out to him the
 “ necessary steps for his improvement ; nor can
 “ the ends proposed by the parent be obtained,
 “ except he lend his assistance in exacting com-
 “ pliance, and precluding misbehaviour on the
 “ part of his son.”

LUCAS, pp. 18, 19.

A master ought to be most particular in his inquiries whether the young gentleman will expect many holidays ; or whether the parents will, themselves, be for ever dragging him home from his business. I once had a very good lad with me, as an apprentice, the son of a worthy man who had a most numerous family ; and who would have attended to business very well, if papa and mamma had not been too indulgent, and too fond of his company.

“ I hope, Sir, you will have no objection to
 “ allow Henry to come home on Thursday, to
 “ be present at the celebration of his own birth-
 “ day ?”——“ O certainly, Sir : on so *important*
 “ an occasion I must not refuse permission,
 “ however inconvenient it may be to me, as
 “ I have no one else to assist me, and am without
 “ a servant.” Soon after came *mamma's* birth-
 day ; then came *papa's* birth-day : then there

was

was the anniversary of mamma's and papa's WEDDING-DAY; *Caroline's* birth-day; *Louisa's* birth-day; the anniversary of Margaritta's *prize in the lottery*. Then, a lady, a very old friend of the family, celebrates *her* birth-day; and on each annual occasion of this kind, she invites her friends to the performance of a play by the young folks.—“Do you remember your part in the *Mock Doctor*?”

“Yes, father, very well.”—“That is to be the *Farce*. The Play is to be the *Revenge*, and your part is cast for *Alonzo*.”

Well; so here is not only a day entirely cut out for me to be without any help, but my business must many times be neglected, that the favoured youth may study and be perfect in his part of *Alonzo*—besides attending rehearsals! In short, in this family there were Sixteen Anniversaries on one occasion or other, in every year; no matter how much the poor master was inconvenienced by these numerous calls of the ladies away from his business. Sometimes it was absolutely impossible to grant the permission solicited—and when that was the case, there was murmuring and the sulks, and mamma and sisters open-mouthed, with “How cruel to refuse,” &c.*

Of

* Apropos of private theatricals.—Although I would not wish to be understood to condemn all manner of private

Of the young man's honesty, industry, habits of early rising, courteous behaviour, and many other

private representations by wholesale, yet I am decidedly of opinion, that a youth cannot have a propensity more tending to destroy his time, take off his attention from his business, lead him into improper company and expenses, than a taste for spouting, and acting plays at private theatres; it grows upon him like the itch for gambling; it absorbs all consideration for his business. Upon his Pharmacopœia, as it lies open, he places the Cheats of Scapin, which on the master's approach he whips into his pocket.—Instead of the works of Cullen or Bell, he is studying the works of Otway or Congreve; and instead of writing out Mr. Abernethy's Lectures, he is writing out the part of Jaffier or Romeo, in which he proposes to appear in Berwick Street; his ambition is, not to aim at the celebrity of a Hunter, a Cheselden, or a Lavoisier, but to have it said, that he plays Octavian in the Mountaineers better than Kemble; or Hob in the Well better than Emery.

Had a young man upon trial no other failing but that, so fascinating is the practice, so difficult to be got rid of, so overcoming the inclination, that, with me, that talent alone would be a reason for my rejecting him.

I knew a very respectable man, whom Nature certainly intended for a schoolmaster, and who, in the course of more than half a century, educated more than half the children of the nobility and gentry of the sister kingdom.—If this good man had any failing, it was that of making his scholars spouters, and being too fond of converting his school-room into a little theatre, for his pupils to act plays in:—the consequence was, that many of them were so
run

other qualifications necessary, there is no master who will be so negligent of his own welfare as not to make inquiry; but there is no quality concerning which a master ought to be more exact and particular in his inquiries, than the temper of the lad, and whether he is apt to give SAUCY ANSWERS.

Were a youth possessed of every other good quality requisite, insolence, impatience of rebuke, and SAUCY ANSWERS, would spoil all. No comfort can ever be expected in a family, with a lad who dares to answer his master in a saucy and insolent manner.

Another of my apprentices was the son of a clergyman. At the time of taking him on trial,

run away with by the play-acting mania, that instead of becoming useful members of society, after leaving school, and endeavouring to raise themselves into eminence at the bar, in the pulpit, the compting-house; instead of giving their minds to useful pursuits, they have ran away from their parents, and given up all their connexions—all their hopes of rising in the world, for the miserable gratification of seeing themselves “strut and fret their hour” in imaginary dignity, as mock kings and queens, on the boards of a country barn or waggon-house, the associates of itinerants and vagrants, struggling, throughout the best time of their lives, with poverty which they have courted, and galled by the contempt or pity of those who knew them formerly, and know that they might have done better if they had chosen it!

among

among other questions I particularly asked if the lad was apt to give saucy answers? The father said, "O no—I never heard him give a saucy answer to any one; but he will give you a witty answer!" I replied, that I should not much relish his wit, if treated with it at an improper season, and at a time when I might be remonstrating with him on a very serious subject. But I soon found, when it was too late, that this young gentleman's WIT consisted in the most unparalleled insolence, obstinacy, and a regular system of lying, even in affairs where truth would have answered his purpose better than falsehood.—Indeed, it was rather fortunate for me, who in the first instance was so unfortunate as to take him, that he was so daringly insolent at last; for, had he kept a civil tongue in his head, and behaved himself with common decency, he might have gone on robbing me for three years and a half longer, with the same art and cunning as he had done in the two first years and a half of his time. Some of my friends, however, indignant at his conduct towards me, set themselves to detect some parts of his villany, which it did not lie in my way to find out: in no long time, such a system of long-continued deceit, fraud, theft, and other mal-practices came to light, as would fully have justified me in sending him to Botany Bay.

Tenderness

Tenderness for the reputation of his family restrained me from going to this extremity, and I contented myself with petitioning the Quarter Sessions of the County of Middlesex, which would have effectually answered my purpose to get rid of him: but the father, who, I am sorry to say, turned always a deaf ear to any remonstrances or complaints preferred against his favourite, had the good sense not to suffer his son's delinquencies to be made the subject of a public inquiry in an open Court, and very wisely consented to a private adjustment, at my Attorney's Chambers, and I got rid of my gentleman without any trouble or expense; the father very gladly consenting to pay all costs, as well as he might.

In the city of London, the Chamberlain of the city is the proper officer to take cognizance of disputes between the master and the apprentice, provided their residence be within the city only, and to give redress to the aggrieved party.

It is not an advisable thing for a master in any business, to suffer his apprentice to deal in the same article with himself. I speak not of those trades where such things have been allowed time immemorial, and where the rules of the particular calling or trade do not forbid it; I confine myself to the Pharmaceutical profession.

Perhaps

Perhaps I may better elucidate my meaning, by giving an instance of what took place, in a business in which I myself was a party injured.

The same adroit gentleman of whom I have just now spoken, happened, among the many cronies and acquaintances, who would have been eternally lumbering up my shop, had I not forbid some of them to come near it, scraped acquaintance with a young hospital pupil, who being in want of money to go abroad, as he said, was willing to let seven or eight pounds-worth of drugs go for two guineas.

My youth borrowed of his father (or else out of my till) two guineas, and brought home the prize: he offered me the whole at one guinea advance more than he paid; but, not choosing to have any thing to do with drugs that might or *might not* have been honestly come by, for any thing I knew, I declined the purchase.

From that day the youth was never at home. The moment I turned my back to go my morning round among the patients, he was off, until the time he expected me to return, and then he managed so as to be sure to be at home, and apparently very busy at his Latin or his pestle and mortar. But, having at one time met him in the city when I supposed him very busy at home, I took him to task, and he answered,
that

that "as I did not choose to buy his drugs, he
 "could not be a loser, and therefore had been
 "to a Druggist's who had already bought some
 "of them." Another time he set off without
 leave to Dock-head, to get the money, as he
 pretended, for Peruvian Bark he had sold; and
 thus, for several days, he hawked about his drugs,
 to the almost total neglect of my business. But,
 this was not the worst part of the story.

He had the assurance to visit patients, and
 furnish them with *my* Medicines, bring in bills
 as if from me, and receive payment, and that in
 several instances. This was detected in the
 following way. I was sent for to a woman who
 had had a dangerous miscarriage; I being ab-
 sent, he attended, and supplied her most abun-
 dantly with Medicines. A lady, who was a
 very good friend of mine, sent for me, to learn
 the reason of such very unusual neglect on my
 part, in never once having been to see a faithful
 servant of hers, who had been several days
 dangerously ill, and expressing her astonish-
 ment, that in so serious a disease, so very unfit
 for a BOY to attend, I had always sent my ap-
 prentice, and never so much as once gave my
 own attendance. I went with the lady to the
 poor patient, and found her all but dead! She
 had been most shamefully mismanaged; ten or
 twelve half-pint phials, with my labels on them,
 stood

stood on the mantle-piece, besides pills, powders, and gallipots of stuff—Pretty well, you will say, for five days!

I requested my friend to accompany me home, when I soon convinced her, that all this was done wholly without my knowledge, by shewing her my prescription book, in which not a single entry appeared in the name of the patient in question. The youth, as usual, was attending HIS own patients.

I knew the hour at which he would attend next day, and was prepared to meet him: with the most unparalleled effrontery, he replied, that “other apprentices had liberty to have
“patients, and why should not HE? That the
“Medicines were none of mine, but part of the
“parcel he had purchased, and of which he
“made me the offer, &c.”* Although I could
not

* This reminds me of a circumstance that happened many years ago in Jamaica, the relation of which may not be considered as altogether irrelevant in the present instance.

One of his Majesty's frigates, I remember not her name, but for the sake of making short the story, we will say, *the Venus*, being in great want of nails of various descriptions, one H——r, who kept an old iron shop in Port Royal, being known to have a large assortment of nails, was applied to. H——r, although offered double and treble the value of his nails in money, refused to *sell* a single pound, but said he would LEND as many sorts as
were

not *swear* to the Medicines, yet I was perfectly confident they were mine, for he had sold all his cargo above a month before. If this woman had died, I should have had no hesitation in saying the woman was *murdered*. She however, by dint of a very strong constitution, recovered; but the circumstance of this maltreated case, with many other aggravated provocations, rendered it necessary for me at last to seek the redress I have mentioned, and petition the Quarter Sessions to get rid of him: a measure seasonably undertaken, but prevented from coming to an

were wanted. This was objected to of course; but, as old H——r would hear of no other terms than the return of the same sort of nails, sort for sort, when the King's stores for the *Venus*, sent from England, should arrive in Jamaica, imperious necessity compelled an acquiescence in this demand, and H——r delivered the nails that were wanted.

When the stores came out, King's nails (having, as usual, the broad arrow marked upon them) were returned to Mr. H——r, agreeably to stipulation. This was exactly what H——r wanted. It is illegal for any one to have King's stores, unaccounted for, in his possession; but having *these* nails, in lieu of those he lent, H——r scrupled not to buy clandestinely King's nails of any people that would sell them to him: he never afterwards was without plenty of King's nails in his store, which he publicly sold; and, if questioned how he came by them, "Why, they were *King's nails, part of the Venus's stores, returned to him in lieu of those he lent to her.*"

issue in a public Court, in the way I have already stated.

It is of the utmost importance that the master should know what sort of companions his intended pupil likes to associate with. The old saying, "*Noscitur a Socio*," should be kept in remembrance.

It would be hard indeed, if, during the whole term of an apprenticeship, a young man were not to be allowed to have a friend to come to see him; but this permission should only be extended to a very few, and those only such as are known and approved by the parents; but the indiscriminate admission of any acquaintances the youth may pick up, and the allowing such to stand gossiping in the shop, is injurious to the credit of the master, and robs the apprentice of much time that might be more valuably employed. Followers after an apprentice are just as inconvenient as followers coming to servants, and should be equally discountenanced. In particular, I should object to his scraping acquaintance with the young apprentices of the neighbouring professional men. These young chaps, when they get together at such times as they know there is no danger of the master's coming in to surprise them, are admitted behind the counter, examine the books, and all the private history

history of both families comes out, to be retailed in other places, as occasion may serve. Therefore, it is best not to allow an intimacy with any of the young men whatever who live in the neighbourhood, because, in the master's absence, one or other will be always running out to gossip with his companions, and perhaps get into bad company.

And here let me dilate a little concerning the admission of followers:

Among the many disadvantages attending the mismanagement of business, that of permitting your apprentice or assistant to have many followers coming after them is not the least: their visits during business are a serious interruption. If the youth is making up medicine, he is more likely to make mistakes than if he were alone; and as to posting the books, that is wholly impossible. But these are not the only inconveniences. If they are very intimate, and known also to the master's family, they will take still greater liberties, and think themselves privileged to come behind the counter, and amuse themselves by *examining* the tamarinds, honey, and such like, considering the *little* they make free with as *no loss to the master, because Apothecaries drugs cost almost nothing.*

If any of them should happen to be an apprentice or assistant to a medical man, with a

smattering of Latin, little scruple will be entertained of peeping into the prescription book—thus learning the names of the patients, and often becoming acquainted with what should be known only to the master and his pupil.

More ill consequences, however, attend this lounging system. There are many timid females who are so extremely bashful that they will not ask for those medicines, which even any one might boldly inquire for, without being ashamed,—others come on business, either of their own, or for some female friend, which they would feel no embarrassment in mentioning to a discreet apprentice or assistant, if the master himself was not in the way, but of which they would on no account speak before strangers.

There are also many of our own sex who have no objection to stating their case or ordering medicines, if no strangers were present. But there is certainly a great danger of losing such patients, where a shop is never without these intruders. The consequence to the master may be easily conceived. “*Experientia docet.*”

There is not, among all those things which it is of moment to attend to, a matter of greater importance than that of which I am now about to speak, and I cannot inculcate the necessity of an attention to it in stronger terms, than by representing that the very existence of a master may depend

depend on it ; because, if the youth is dishonest, and the master unsuspecting, the lad may soon run him into a jail. This is, an inquiry into the quantum of pocket-money which is to be allowed to the young gentleman during the term of his apprenticeship ; and what, on an average, one year with another, he may receive from friends.

It will be incumbent on the master, before the Indentures are executed, to make himself acquainted, by every means in his power, with the situation in life, the pecuniary resources, and as far as he can, the connexions of the parents ; and not, through a false and ill-timed delicacy, be bashful in asking and endeavouring to find out, the *maximum* of allowance of pocket-money the youth is to be supplied with ; and that, not only from the more immediate parents, but it should likewise be inquired into, whether any liberal supplies are to be expected from grandmothers, or godmothers, or other particular friends. I do not mean that every shilling, or even every pound, is to be exactly scrutinized ; but it is certainly right that both master and parent should know the probable strength of a young man's purse, and that a reciprocal understanding should exist, with regard to the sources from whence he draws his supplies ; and for this reason :

When, in the course of a year or a year and a half, we see a youth, whose parents have with
difficulty

difficulty been able to raise fifty or an hundred pounds as an apprentice fee, dashing away with a new pair of expensive boots every two or three months, a massy gold chain and three or four gold-mounted seals dangling to his watch, which he had not when he first came as an apprentice; a library of expensive and elegantly bound books; when we hear of his sporting a road horse or a gig every time he is allowed a holiday; when he can find money to go to plays, and with parties to Richmond and Vauxhall; or to treat a pretty cook-maid with peaches, nectarines, and the choicest fruit, at the time they are at a very high price; when you see or hear of all this, and at the same time know that neither his parents, nor any of their relatives, are in circumstances to allow a supply of money sufficient to support such extravagance, there can be but one inference as to where all the money comes from, and it behoves you to look to your till.

Where five or six hundred or a thousand guineas are given as apprentice-fee with a young man, we may reasonably suppose the allowance to such a youth will be proportionate to the means of the parents who can afford such a premium; but even in that case, it can be of no prejudice to the youth for his master to be acquainted with the annual allowance of his pupil; but, it will naturally occur to *you*, when you see such
finery,

finery, and your apprentice running into such expenses as you yourself can by no means afford, to inquire into the *means* whereby these expenses are supported.

Suppose, for instance, the father to be a good honest tradesman, whose earnings may just enable him to support a large family; suppose him to be an unbeneficed, or a *beneficed* clergyman, who cannot possibly increase his income beyond a certain annual, and perhaps scanty, stipend; suppose him again to be a person in embarrassed circumstances, or even a bankrupt; how are we to account for it, when we see the son of any person of this description still going on in the same routine of extravagance in dress and trinkets, and always having plenty of money in his pocket?

On inquiry, the youth tells you, that “his *godmother* made him a present of the watch “and appendages; his *grandfather* gave him “some other valuable present; and he has a *rich* “*uncle* that supplies him with pocket-money, as “much as he can spend.”

If you take this for granted, all goes on smoothly with him for some time longer; but perhaps at last, from the profusion of money with which he appears to abound, and from his wearing fine clothes and trinkets, which you, his master, cannot afford to wear, you at last think
it

it right to make some inquiries of the parents into the state of his finances.

From them, *IF they are honest*, you will learn a very different story.

“ Alas, Sir, (the father says) as I wish him
 “ to appear decent, I struggle hard to keep him
 “ in such clothes as are befitting his appearance
 “ in your shop and at your table; and half-a-
 “ crown a week is the utmost I can afford him
 “ for pocket-money, without injuring my other
 “ children. He has an uncle, as he tells you,
 “ truly who is rich, but, that uncle would not
 “ give him a shilling if he were starving. It is
 “ also true that his godmother made him a
 “ present of his watch; but it had none of
 “ those fine seals nor the gold chain that now
 “ append to it; for she, Sir, is a widow with a
 “ very small income, and if she can afford to
 “ give him a guinea at Christmas, and one other
 “ guinea at Midsummer, it is as much as she
 “ can possibly do.

“ All these helps, however, would not enable
 “ him to buy these splendid boots, massy gold
 “ seals, and his elegant case of pocket instru-
 “ ments, &c. &c. Now, Sir, on my questioning
 “ him how he came by such expensive articles,
 “ he answered, that his case of lancets were a
 “ present from his master; (*so far might be*
 “ *true,*) and also his pouch of pocket-instru-
 “ ments,

“ments, as a reward for good behaviour. That,
 “in order to account for his having so much
 “money always at command, he said his master
 “allowed him all the perquisites of bleeding and
 “drawing teeth; surgical operations performed
 “by himself, and gratuities given to him by his
 “master’s surgical patients, for dressing and at-
 “tending them; and, that you, Sir, his master,
 “also allowed him very kindly to have private
 “patients of his own!”

Perhaps, of all this fine story not one single
 iota may be true, except as to the present of the
 case of lancets.

It is bad policy, and I believe not usually
 practised, to allow to pupils the privilege of
 pocketing for their own use the money received
 in the shop for bleeding and tooth-drawing. For
 it may be an inducement to the youth to advise
 bleeding in cases where bleeding would be pre-
 judicial, for the sake of receiving the fee; and
 in attempting the extraction of a tooth, (which
 would require the skill of an experienced Dent-
 ist,) to do irreparable mischief.

As to perquisites of presents made to a young
 man for his diligent and attentive conduct to-
 wards any of your own patients, when he has
 been sent by you daily, or occasionally, to dress
 a wound for several days, for sitting up all night
 with a patient, and many other services that may

lie in his way to perform, God forbid I should recommend such to be withheld from him: no master would prevent such encouragement to a pupil for good behaviour; and the more the pupil can obtain in this fair and honourable way, the more any good master would rejoice.

But then, yourself can be a very good judge from the nature of the neighbourhood you live in, and from your knowledge of the general run of patients you attend, what his perquisites in that way are likely to be from year to year; and, it will be a good way if, at the beginning of your connexion, you give him to understand, not only what perquisites you do, and what you do not allow him to receive, but also, that however it may give you pleasure to hear of his receiving such perquisites as you allow him, still it is an established rule with you to expect he will let you know the amount of each compliment or present he receives from any of your patients.

Although it may not be inconvenient for those whom we may denominate *pure* Surgeons, that is, Surgeons who practise *only* Surgery, and who do not keep shops, to permit their pupils to have their own private patients; because the pupils of such men cannot rob a man of drugs who keeps none—and of course must purchase elsewhere the medicines they dispense; yet it is not
advisable

advisable for an *Apothecary* to allow the same privilege, because an ill-disposed young man may not only take drugs for the use of his own patients, but take *more than they require*, to a very considerable amount; for, to those who are thus dishonestly inclined, temptation and the difficulty of detection are no small incitements—and to such the ways and means of finding a ready purchaser for the purloined articles will not be very long a secret.

Therefore, while you, the master, are amused with accounts of the munificence of uncles, and grandmothers, and godmothers—and the father is imposed on by a fabricated story of the various ways he has of making money in your service; all this while the young gentleman has been plundering the till of the Retail-money daily coming in; of which he may, perhaps, be generous enough to allow his master *one-half*; and selling his employer's Rhubarb or Saffron by wholesale to some itinerant Jew dealer in drugs and old clothes!

There is also another source from which a dishonest apprentice can draw, occasionally, large supplies.

Patients will frequently call to pay their bills in any part of the year, without waiting for having them sent in as usual at the year's end.

They

—They are going off into the country, or to some foreign part of the world, in a hurry—not to return.—“How much is the money?—“Never mind writing out the bill; but just tell me the amount.”

“*Two pounds twelve.*”——“Very well—“there it is—you may save your stamp, for I cannot stop for a receipt—just cross it out.—“My compliments to your master.—Goodbye.”

The hopeful youth takes care *not* to cross out the bill—and of course, taking care also *not* to give credit in the proper book for the cash received, snugly pockets the whole of the money without fear of detection.—Then, when the time of year comes for the bills to be sent round, and this patient’s bill is put in the bundle with all the rest, it is of course returned with an indorsement, “*Gone away, not known where*”—and the employer sets it down as a lost debt.

The depredations on your till, and the losses, by various ways and means, specified in the foregoing part of this chapter, are trifles, in comparison with the mischief which a badly-disposed apprentice may bring upon you.

The first symptoms or manifestations of a dislike to your service will be exhibited in a careless way of performing many of his duties, and a wilful neglect of others. This naturally
calls

recalls forth justly-merited reproof from you ; but, when you find fault, instead of thanks, and expressions of sorrow for neglect, with a promise to do better in future, you meet with either sulky silence, or a pert reply—" Well, Sir, since I cannot please you, I am very willing to go—I do not wish to stay."

As soon as ever he holds out this kind of language, prepare yourself for a separation. Perhaps it may not be altogether convenient to you to refund the fee, or part of the fee: detesting to be ever changing, you apply to his parents to remonstrate with him on the impolicy of leaving his master; the loss of time—of money. In vain may they remonstrate; in vain do you determine to hold him by his Indentures—his mind is made up; but if, through threats or intreaties, he should apparently seem satisfied to remain in his situation, it will be only for a short time; the next angry word you give him, you receive the same answer as before; and for every day you keep him, you may be well assured he will cause you to be a sufferer one way or other; therefore, your safest way will be, when it comes to this, to **GET CLEAR OF HIM AS SOON AS YOU CAN.**—For should you think to detain him, once that he is determined on going, he will study to do every thing that is prejudicial to your interest.

He

He will drive away customers from your shop by unmannerly behaviour—by serving too little of the article wanted—by serving it out without weighing or measuring—in dirty paper, or in dirty phials. He will neglect keeping the shop stocked with such preparations as it lies within his province to provide and prepare; so that to two calls in three, for common retail articles—“*We have not any,*” or, “*We do not sell it,*” is the answer. He will keep you constantly in hot water, by making mistakes in prescriptions; writing the labels so that they cannot be read; sending the medicines to wrong places; sending them many hours later than they ought to be sent, or else not sending them at all.

He will send Draughts, Pills, or Powders, different in colour, taste, or smell, from those which he sent to the same patient the day before, when they ought to have been exactly the same in every respect: a more certain way of destroying the confidence of your patients, and inducing them to change their Apothecary, he could not take.

He will, if your avocations require you to be much from home, affix the mark used to denote their having been sent out to prescriptions which you have written in the book in the morning, although he has never troubled himself about them; thereby involving you, unless you find it out in time,

time, in frequent disputes with patients, when the time comes to settle the bill.

He will, as soon as your back is turned, desert your shop, while he goes to join his idle companions in the neighbourhood, or to associate and play with the servants in the kitchen.

Messengers and customers may knock or ring, or patients call, in vain: there is no one to answer them; or if, at last, he vouchsafes to make his appearance, he will give unsatisfactory or impertinent answers. Should a patient send for you in a hurry, he will answer, that he does not know where you are—cannot tell how long it will be before you come home; perhaps in two hours, and perhaps not until evening. Too lazy, or else wickedly with intent to injure you, he neglects to set down the patient's name and message in the book.

If the patient sending for you is one who has a partiality for you, and is not willing to change, that patient will contrive to see you by some means or other; either by sending a note, or calling in person, or sending a servant soon in the morning, or at such times as it is well known you make it a rule not to be from home, unless some very urgent business calls you out. In that case you are obliged to the patient; but in cases where there is not that partiality, and especially with new patients, whom you have never attended before,

before, after two or three messages sent, and no attendance given, wearied with sending so often, they will send for some other Medical man; and thus a good and valuable patient is lost to you for ever.

He will deliver impertinent messages to your most respectable patients, when he takes out bills to deliver, and, not unfrequently, will, unauthorized, threaten those who may be most excellent patients and good pay, but very touchy, with Lawyers' letters, and rigorous measures to be employed by his master to enforce payment of the bill in case of delay.

At other times, when you give him a parcel of bills to take out to patients that owe money, he will put them in his pocket; and, instead of delivering them, go and spend two or three hours with a companion as idle as himself; bring back fictitious answers, and promises of payment from people that he never called upon; and, perhaps in six months' time—or, in some time after his leaving you, you find the whole bundle of bills that you gave him to deliver, quietly reposing in some old neglected corner of the lumber garret!

If you oblige him to set about making any preparation that is particularly wanted, he will, unless you can make it convenient to stand over him all the time, destroy one-half, or spoil the
whole

whole of the preparation. If it be a preparation tedious or difficult in its process, he will throw the greater part of it into the street, or the dust-bin, or down the privy, if you turn your back; if an ointment or decoction be to be made, he will leave the *fire* to prepare it, to the endangering your house, which, if destroyed, he would only laugh at the mischief he had occasioned, and, perhaps, brag of it at his next visit to his associates.

Should he live in a family, among which there should unhappily exist any domestic discontent, he will take pleasure in widening the breach—will act the part of an Eaves-dropper and Informer, in order to make mischief, and to curry favour with one part of the family for the purpose of making unhappy the other, and thus gratifying his malevolent disposition at the expense of all.

All this is possible to happen to a man who has the misfortune to take a bad Apprentice: all this, and much more than is here enumerated, *has* happened, and, of course, *may* happen again. Can a man then be too circumspect, and too particular, in inquiring into the character and conduct of the youth whom he is about to take as an apprentice? and can any premium whatever compensate him for the pecuniary losses,
the

the daily, and almost hourly complaints preferred by patients, of inattention, neglect, mistakes—the harassing vexation of mind consequent thereon, and all the troubles that he must continually labour under, while he retains so dangerous an inmate in his house?

CHAP. III.

To the young Candidate for Apprenticeship.

YOUNG GENTLEMAN!

YOU are now about to embrace a profession, which you have persuaded yourself you have a partiality for, or your friends have persuaded you, you are very fit for. If you have made the choice yourself, if it be your own free, unbiassed choice, you will be the more likely to succeed in it; but before you irrevocably tie yourself to this business, a few weeks of probation are allowed to you, that you may have the better opportunity of knowing whether it is such a business as you shall take a pleasure in; for no man can ever arrive to eminence in any profession, or in any line of business, who does not give his mind to it, and take delight in learning every thing appertaining to it.

In the space of time allowed to you for trial, you will weigh well the advantages and disadvantages attending practitioners in the Medical Profession; nor think, because you see many of them

them live in a style of elegance and keep their carriages, that all this is to be obtained without much study, and a diligent attention, at all times, to the duties of a laborious and fatiguing profession.

“ Qui studet optatam cursu contingere metam,
 “ Multa tulit, fecitque puer ; sudavit et algit.”

It will be an injury to yourself, in your loss of time, to your parents, in the loss of both time, money, and the opportunity of apprenticing you to some business better suited to your inclination and genius, and a very great injury to the master whom you may have chosen, or your friends may have chosen for you, if, after suffering yourself to be bound apprentice, you find at the end of eight or twelve months, that you have not diligence enough to apply your mind to the attainment of proficiency—that the confinement is too much for you—that you have not health to bear the fatigues of being called up in the night to make up medicines in cases of sudden illness—that the Sabbath, which in all other trades is a day of rest, shines no sabbath upon you ; but that it is, like every other day in the week, a day of work—that you cannot go out with your juvenile companions, or entertain them at home, as others may do who have their Sundays and holidays, and the house of a parent
 to

to invite them to on such days—if you take it in your head, that your master's temper and your humours do not agree together—or, in short, if you take it in your head to dislike and quarrel with your business altogether.

The emoluments accruing to a skilful and diligent practitioner; the way to arrive at eminence and opulence in the profession; the many advantages arising from unwearied assiduity, will be daily before your eyes. If you really love the business, you will surmount or brave all the discouraging circumstances attending it; but if you have only taken a fancy to it in the whim of the moment, and have said, you will be a *doctor*, without knowing whether you may like it or not, it is very proper you should be made acquainted with some of the *disagreeables* incidental to a Medical man's life, not by way of frightening you, but in order that you may not say, “ I was not told of these things; for if I had, I would never have chosen the Medical Profession, and I now wish to be off, and learn some other business.”

There is no space of time, I believe, in which a boy is more his own master, or has more leisure for play, for holiday-making, for amusements, drawing, music, going to plays, balls, or on country excursions with his companions, than between the time of his being finally taken away from

from school, and the time he goes on liking to the person he is intended to be apprenticed to.

In the first place then, the contrast, or difference of situation in this respect, will be the first thing that will strike the young disciple:—here are no set holidays to be expected—no Sundays—no more country jaunts.—All work, and no play. There are few masters, however, who will not contrive to give their apprentices part of a day, once in six weeks or two months; but this indulgence ought only to be the reward of proper attention and diligent performance of duty, and must depend greatly on circumstances. An apprentice must not be allowed to stipulate with his master that he shall have a day regularly once in six weeks, and then hold him to his promise to let him have the very next day after the expiration of the period.—The master may have a labour impending—may have to attend a court of justice—may have company at home, or have an evening engagement abroad, on the very day the youth may choose for his excursion; so that a lad is not to fall “*into the sulks,*” mutter and grumble, and say he is ill-treated, if he cannot always have the day he wishes for; but must learn to bear disappointments; for he may be well assured, if he means to follow the Medical profession, he will find *many* such after he shall have set up in business for himself;

himself; and the better his practice, the more frequent will be his disappointments; when he thinks to enjoy the society of his friends, or once in a way indulge himself with going on a "*party of pleasure*." No Christmas holidays. No going to see uncles or grandfathers in the country. Say this to your mind, young man, and ask yourself whether you can bear such confinement, not only during your apprenticeship, but also all your life afterwards, until you shall have made a handsome fortune; or shall have, in the more advanced part of your life, the good fortune to have a diligent and attentive partner, equally well received as yourself, among all your parents?

If you dislike this prospect, relinquish your choice in time, and tell your father to put you to some business where you will be allowed plenty of holidays.

Can you bear early rising? For a young man like you should never be found in his bed later than six in summer, and seven in winter. If you love your bed so that it is necessary for you to be called six or seven times in a morning before you will get out of it, nor will you, if the servant calls you, bestir yourself until your innaster comes himself to rout you out of your nest; if you want so much indulgence in sleep, choose some trade, where you will have no occasion

sion to make your appearance until nine or ten o'clock in the forenoon.

With all your diligence, you will sometimes commit a fault; you will forget to set down or deliver a message; you will, perhaps, through a little carelessness, send one person's medicine to another.—Can you bear to be told of your faults without thinking yourself very ill used, or receive reproof without giving a saucy answer? If you think yourself infallible, or if you think that because, perhaps, you were a petted favorite at home, and never received an angry word; because mamma would not for the world see a cloud on your brow, you are not to be told of any piece of neglect, or any other fault you may commit, you had better shake hands with your intended master, and you and he part as friends, without proceeding to *tie* the knot that is to bind you for six or seven years. Study his temper, and consider with yourself, whether you think you and he can agree; and if not, be off, by all means, in good time.

Can you bear the thoughts of being obliged to get up out of your warm bed in a cold winter's night, or rather morning*, to make up medicines

* To have his rest broken, by nocturnal calls, is so certainly the lot of a Medical Man, and especially if he has much Midwifery practice, that unless he has both constitution

medicines which your employer, just arrived from attending a labour, through cold, frost, and snow,

constitution to endure it, and resolution to submit to it cheerfully, he had better relinquish the idea of practising physic.

It were well if he could promise himself a good night's rest after a fatiguing day, *provided* a labour, or some serious and sudden indisposition of a patient, should not require him to be called up; but very frequently he will be called out in frost and snow, storms and tempests, on the most frivolous occasions. A person shall be very ill for three or four days—and at last, never think of sending until an unseasonable hour.

By great attention and exertion, and regular attendance three times a day, I preserved the life of the eldest child of an Attorney of the Marshalsea Court, suffering under a very bad confluent small pox. The child was recovering very fast, but still I continued my *three visits* a day:—one very inclement morning I was called up at two, (I had seen the patient at eleven the night before—all going on well), nothing was the matter, but the mother took it into her head that the child *looked blue*!!—

I sent no medicine; for the child wanted none. However, I charged five shillings for the out-of-bed visit in my bill. This gave so much offence to the Attorney, that the next time his family wanted Medical aid he employed another practitioner; alleging my charge of five shillings as a reason for his dereliction of me, which five shillings, however, he took care to deduct when he sent money by his servant to pay the bill. So much for the *conscience* of some people.

snow, prescribes for a lady just put to bed, or a patient taken suddenly and dangerously ill?
Or,

Some patients have no mercy on their Medical attendant, and think, because they pay for what they have, he ought to come at all hours of the night, whether wanted or not.

There was no greater pest to the Medical men, that had the honour of his custom, than old COOKE, the Miser, who died some short time ago at the age of 86, leaving behind him the enormous sum of *One Hundred and Twenty-seven Thousand Pounds*, in the 3 per cent. *Consols*, with which he never assisted any one individual, nor ever did any good in the course of that long life!!! This old man would without ceremony go to the houses of Apothecaries, and have them called up at four or five in the morning, to administer some medicine for a complaint in his bowels; which he would want to have made up for *twopence*; if this was refused, he would go as far as fourpence, but if it was to cost sixpence, he would go to another shop, and call the house up for a pennyworth of Jalap; for he said he would sooner bear the pain in his guts all day than pay such a great deal of money as SIXPENCE for *physic*.

I once had the honour of this old gentleman's custom, but, after a few visits from him, finding that it was too much to give up a *full hour* to hearing the history of his complaints every time he chose to call on me, for the sake of receiving *twopence* a time for the stuff, and a *penny for the gallipot*, I got rid of him by protesting that his case was "so totally complicated and difficult to judge of, that "I knew not what to make of it."

Many are the anecdotes of the tricks this avaricious old

Or, supposing that your master is not yet in sufficient business to keep a boy to take out the medicines—

old man used to play, to cheat Medical men of their time and save his money; such as his putting on ragged clothes and going as a pauper to Mr. Saunders, and other gentlemen, to have gratuitous advice for his eyes—getting a Letter for a Dispensary, and attending there; a decayed tradesman, for several weeks, until detected.

One or two we must not pass over. Having an ulcer on his leg, which (he being of a gross habit of body) alarmed him, he employed a Mr. Pigeon, that lived nearly opposite to him in White Lion-street, Pentonville, to cure it. “How long do you think it will be before you can cure it?” “A month.” “And how much must I give you?” Pigeon, who saw that the sore was not of any great importance, answered “A guinea.”

“Very well,” replied Cooke; “but mark this—a guinea is an immense sum of money, and when I agree for sums of such magnitude, I go upon the system of ‘*NO CURE NO PAY*,’ so if I am not cured at the expiration of the month, I pay you nothing.” This was agreed to.

After diligent attendance for several days, the wound was so near being healed, that Cooke expressed himself satisfied, and would not let Pigeon see it any more. However, within two or three days of the month being up, the old fellow got some sort of plaster, with EUPHORIUM in it, from a farrier, and made a new ulcer on the place where the former had been, and sending for Pigeon on the last day of the month, shewed him that his leg

medieines—can you make up your mind to think it no hardship to take them to the patient after you have made them up?

Are you too fine a gentleman to think of contaminating your fingers by administering a clyster to a poor man, or a rich man, or a child dangerously ill, when no nurse can be found that knows any thing of the matter? This is a part of your profession, that it is as necessary for you

was not well, and that of course the guinea he had agreed for was *forfeited*!

This story the old fellow used to tell of himself with great satisfaction, and used to call it “*plucking a Pigeon.*”

When on his death-bed, he sent for several Medical men; some would not attend—among those who went to him, Mr. Aldridge, of Pentonville, was one. Him he permitted to send him some medicine.

At one of the interviews, he earnestly entreated Mr. Aldridge to tell him candidly how long he thought he might live. The answer was, that probably he *might* last six days.—

Cooke, collecting as much of his almost exhausted strength as he could, started up in bed,

“And are you not,” said he, “a dishonest man—a rogue!—a robber! to serve me so?” “As how, Sir?” asked Mr. Aldridge, with surprise.

“Why, Sir, you are no better than a pickpocket—to go to rob me of my gold, by sending in two draughts a day to a man that all your physic will not keep alive above six days!—Get out of my house, and never come near me again!!”

to

to know how to perform as it is to bleed or dress a wound.

Or are your olfactory nerves so delicate, that you cannot avoid turning sick when dressing an old neglected ulcer; or when, in removing dressings, your nose is assailed with the effluvia from a carious bone?—If you cannot bear these things, put Surgery out of your head, and go and be apprentice to a man-milliner or perfumer.

But it is not only during apprenticeship that the man, intending to earn his subsistence by the practice of Medicine, encounters a few discouraging circumstances; it is when he is in business for himself that he has to conquer many difficulties, and bear with philosophy many rubs that will try his temper, and hurt his feelings.

After the utmost possible exertions both by night and day, on his part, to save the life of the father of a family, or a valuable member of it, and those exertions attended with the desired success, he will often have the mortification to learn, that in the next illness, the family have recalled in some other practitioner.

Sometimes, after having brought his patient through the worst part of a fit of illness, after having subdued the danger, and nothing remains but for the patient to get well, he will, in one of his visits, be surprised at seeing one or

two

two phials of stuff on the table or on the mantle-piece, which he knows are none of those he sent to the patient: he naturally asks, "What medicines are these?" Then the murder comes out—and murder indeed it must be to the feelings of a man that has paid every attention and done his utmost for a patient! "Why, indeed, "Sir, my husband was so very bad, and his "sister came to town on purpose to see him, "and she insisted on having Doctor —— sent "for, and he has been to see him, and has *wrote* "for him, and desired us to take his prescription to a Chemist's; so if you please to send in "your bill, it shall be paid." The name of the Doctor is no sooner mentioned than the Apothecary readily can account for the new bottles on the shelf—he is known to be one of those Physicians who wage war with all Apothecaries; who think to curry favour with their patients, by telling them they will get their medicines cheaper and better, by having them made up at a Chemist's; but the true reason is a very different one.

All this is bad enough; but it often happens that the bill is not the nearer being paid for *this* promise—nay, it has often happened to *me*, that after waiting two years, payment has been disputed, on this very ground, that a Physician was *obliged* to be called in to *cure* the patient.

Sometimes

Sometimes a practitioner shall attend twice a day at a considerable distance—a Physician is needlessly called in; the doctor prescribes a little *two-ounce mixture*; a *tea-spoonful* to be taken twice a day! This little bottle will of course last four or five days. The regular attendance of the Apothecary twice a day will still be expected; and as an Apothecary in town cannot legally make a charge for his visits, the payment for this little two-ounce mixture is all that he receives at the end of the year for his time and trouble for five or six days, unless the patient has liberality of his own accord to make a present, which does not always happen.

How must it hurt the feelings of an honest and conscientious Apothecary, who has exerted himself, morning, noon, and night, to effect the recovery of a patient, to find himself cast off—to learn, that Doctor X or Doctor Z had been to see the patient; that he had prescribed a dram of Extract of Hemlock, to be made into sixty pills; and that the doctor insisted that this medicine should be procured from Apothecaries' Hall, and nowhere else, because it was not safe to trust to medicines had from Apothecaries, by reason that they sometimes kept stale medicines that were good for nothing*!

The

* The maid-servant of a family whom I attended brought

The numerous and harassing avocations of Apothecaries, together with the uncertain remuneration

brought to my house, one night after I was in bed, the Prescription of a Physician, whom, from the hand-writing, I knew to be that of one of those who are in the habit of worming out the Apothecary wherever he comes.

The contents of it were,

Hirudines viij statim,

Continuantur haust. vj, ut ante.

The verbal message brought with the prescription was, that I was to bring with me the leeches, and apply them directly; but that I had no occasion to make up the receipt at the foot of the paper. I did not explain to her *why* I could not make up the prescription, but merely asked her why I should not bring the draughts with me! The maid very innocently let the cat out of the bag (as the vulgar saying is) by informing me, that none of the medicines I had sent in for two or three days last past were administered to my patient; but that Doctor — had been called in, and had ordered the family to send the prescriptions to Corbyn's, from whom six draughts had been sent every day, for three or four days past, besides other articles—but care was taken that I should not know of it: leeches were at this time four shillings a-piece; and I learned from the loquacious messenger, that the patient had sent to Corbyn's, also, for the leeches; but understanding how very dear they were, and that they not only must be paid for in ready money, but that it was not the custom of Corbyn's house to send people to apply leeches, my very conscientious patient sends to me at that late hour, expecting to get thirty-two shillings-worth of leeches, and my attendance to boot, on tick.

This

muneration that attends the exercise of their talent, at length called forth the following Report of a Committee, appointed to remedy the

This was *too* bad. I therefore wrote a note back by the maid servant, recommending it to her master to procure the leeches, and an attendant to put them on, from the place where he had had his draughts made up.

I next day, as I expected, received a very haughty letter from the family, who were highly affronted—with a command to send in my bill: I was glad of this; for though I did not expect payment of the bill, I saved some medicines, and a good deal of trouble, by it; for these people went away without beat of drum soon after,—in debt with all the neighbourhood!

And here let me be permitted to take occasion to say, that in the many years I have been in business, I have ever found, without one single exception, that those people who take the greatest airs upon themselves—who expect the attendance of a Surgeon or Apothecary, as if he had no one to wait on but themselves; who say, “Sir, “I suppose you expect to be paid, but you give your attendance as if you thought I did not mean to pay you; “however, Sir, if you do not choose to attend, send in “your bill, and I will discharge it, and shall employ some “one else who will be more punctual;”—I have, I say, invariably, and without one single exception, found, that in the end, such people are not so very ready to discharge their bills, and that it would have been better for me if I had taken them at their word; and better still, if I had never had any thing to do with them; for they have UNIFORMLY turned out to be either bankrupts or swindlers; and that their *pomposity* and *insolence* have been in proportion to their BEGGARY.

evil—and I think it right to introduce such report, because it will tend strongly to impress upon the *juvenile* mind the serious inconvenience which men of ability have endured before they compelled themselves to attempt a remedy.

The Report of the Committee, and Resolutions of the General Meeting of Apothecaries, held, by Adjournment, at the Crown and Anchor Tavern, November 20th, 1812,

MR. BURROWS IN THE CHAIR.

The Committee having examined and maturely considered the various communications they have received, and having reviewed with due attention the opinions that have been delivered, and all the circumstances which their own experience conveys, are firmly convinced, that although the new impost on Phials will considerably augment the very great expenses incident to the practice of Pharmacy, yet that, that additional duty, with the previous rapid rise in the price of Phials, forms a very small portion indeed of the grievances and difficulties with which the Apothecary has to contend. As the removal of this new burthen, in the aggregate comparatively insignificant, will afford but partial relief, the Committee, conformably with the duty which they conceive devolves upon

upon them, have taken a more extended view of the existing state of Pharmacy, and they now have the honour to submit its results for the consideration of the General Meeting.

It evidently appears, that within the last thirty years, the condition of the Apothecary has been gradually declining, owing to various causes, which the Committee will endeavour to unfold and particularize.

1. That, although the Apothecary practices a highly honourable and useful branch of a scientific and liberal profession, yet he is generally improperly regarded, by the Legislature and the Public, as a trader; by which incongruity he is degraded, and experiences all the disadvantages attached to the professional man, without acquiring the advantages belonging to the trader.

2. The Apothecary, by long established custom, exercises the functions of a profession, without receiving its recompense; while, in his character of a tradesman, he cannot raise his charges, so as to make his increased expenses fall on the consumer. Hence, having no legal title to other compensation than that of a tradesman, he has been too frequently compelled to seek an adequate remuneration for his professional skill and attendance, solely from his charge for medicines: a system utterly repugnant to the feelings of a liberal and conscientious mind, decidedly inimical to

to the genuine interests of all parties, and most justly the opprobrium of Medical science.

From the higher and the more enlightened circles, some few Apothecaries occasionally receive gratuities worthy of their merits: but it is a lamentable and undeniable fact, that the bulk of them are entire strangers to any recompense exceeding their precise accounts; while, in consequence of bad debts, there is a certain but variable deduction from their hard-earned incomes.

3. It is notorious, and therefore must be obvious to all, that to meet the exigencies of the times, and to maintain the respectability of character and appearance, which is expected in a Medical attendant, the Apothecary is now induced to unite Surgery and Midwifery with Pharmacy, and it appears that the very few who depend on Pharmacy alone are annually decreasing; but although this union requires a greater extent of information, as it is absolutely necessary that every Medical Student be conversant with the elementary principles of each department of the Medical Art, that he may be competent to discharge the varied functions of the country Practitioner, or the more defined practice of the Metropolis, yet that neither respectability nor adequate emolument has resulted from this superiority.

4. No class of men possessing equal claims on the
the

the gratitude of the community has experienced so much undeserved neglect and privations as Apothecaries, since the charges for medicines have undergone little variation for the better during a century. The circumstances of the Apothecary must, therefore, be embarrassed, and his situation depressed, because his resources bear no adequate relation to the extraordinary increase in the price of all the necessaries of life, and of every article essential to the conducting of his business. If proofs be required, it may be unnecessary only to mention, that the prices of the most useful and indispensable drugs, and chemical preparations, have risen from 100 to 500 per cent.; while phials, from an average of 8s. have advanced to 45s. per gross, being an addition of more than 500 per cent.

5. But unexampled as these difficulties are, they might have been sustained, by exciting additional exertions, if innovations had not been introduced into the practice of the Medical profession, that affect the character and emoluments of the Apothecary, and which, if not repressed, threaten even the existence of the branch of the profession to which he belongs. The origin of these dangerous innovations has been traced, but need not be explained.

6. From the want of a proper superintending body, Pretenders of every description have assumed

sumed the character and functions of the Apothecary, and even Druggists and their hired assistants visit and administer to the sick; their shops are accommodated with what are denominated private Surgeries; and as an additional proof of their presumption, instances are recorded of their giving evidence on questions of forensic medicine, of the highest and most serious import!

Thus we find every part of these kingdoms teeming with ignorant Practitioners, without either classical or medical knowledge, or any other recommendation, save that of having served in some dispensing Druggist's shop, which, although their only pretension, is unfortunately a passport to public favour.

7. The practice of the Apothecary, being thus infringed on and disgraced, has ceased to be an eligible occupation, to which youth can be advantageously apprenticed; even Practitioners themselves are discouraged from educating their children to a profession so lowered in public estimation, and yielding so incompetent a maintenance for their families. Hence also the extreme difficulty of procuring properly qualified Assistants.

8. From this retrograde state of the practice of Apothecaries, by the toleration and continuance of encroachments on an indispensable branch of the Medical profession, the most serious effects
on

on the public health will ensue; the public service will be greatly impeded; and the population of the country, which is the strength of a nation, may suffer, and must be ultimately diminished: for under the Apothecary must be formed those Students, who constitute the mass of country Practitioners, and who, by the knowledge they obtain in the various branches of their profession, are best adapted to fill the different medical departments required for the army and navy, and our very extensive colonies. The paucity of such medical assistants has already been felt by the Government in a very distressing manner upon several emergencies, notwithstanding the superior advantages offered by the Medical Boards.

9. It is manifest to your Committee, that the mal-practices and irregularities which they have exposed and censured would never have succeeded, but from the supineness and indifference of Apothecaries as a body; or if there had existed some vigilant and permanent executive, invested with due authority. To this striking and leading defect in our constitution may its declension in a great measure be ascribed. To show how easy it is to obtain the redress of grievances, if properly represented, we will mention, that in 1802 an Act for the further regulation of the sale of Drugs and Medicines, liable to stamps, had nearly

nearly passed, which, if enacted in its original shape, would have subjected every Apothecary to the vexatious intrusion of informers, and their consequences; but these disagreeable inconveniences were then averted solely by the intervention of a few retail shopkeepers.

In the last Session, another Medicine Act was passed, the purport and provisions of which were probably unknown to Medical Practitioners in general.

Other instances of the ill effects of the non-existence of a superintending body might be adduced; but these will probably suffice to justify the inferences of the Committee.

10. However painful and humiliating the confession, yet your Committee, consistently with the important charge with which they are entrusted, cannot conceal that, from the operation of the numerous causes above detailed, and the consequent declension of the practice of Apothecaries, the present state of many of them is most melancholy and distressing; and unless some energetic and comprehensive measures be suggested, and speedily applied, that the rank in society which the Apothecary ought to maintain will become so degraded, as to be absolutely irretrievable by any subsequent efforts.

11. Your Committee would impress the necessity

necessity of fully and justly appreciating the importance and value of the office of the Apothecary, for the guidance and care of the public health; which has also been unequivocally recognised and acknowledged by the Legislature *. It is undeniable that there are in that class many men of unblemished integrity, active humanity, and eminent abilities, who, by their medical knowledge and scientific acquirements, would adorn the highest order of their Profession. It is a duty such men owe to themselves—to their children—to their country—to urge that these wrongs be redressed; that these abuses and discrepancies be corrected; and that the merits, usefulness, and respectability of regular Apothecaries, should be vigorously defended and steadfastly upheld.

12. In this Report, your Committee have

* Whereas the art of the Apothecary is of great and general use and benefit, by reason of their constant and necessary assistance to his Majesty's subjects, which should oblige them solely to attend the duty of their professions; yet, by reason that they are compelled to serve several parish, ward, and leet offices, in the places where they live, and are frequently summoned to serve on juries and inquests, which take up great part of their time, they cannot perform the *trust* reposed in them as they ought, nor attend the sick with such diligence as is required, &c. Wide Stat. 6 Will. III. c. 4. 1694.

been

been guided by truth alone—unbiassed by passion—unprejudiced by personal motives, they have sedulously endeavoured to develop the real causes of those evils which they sincerely lament and deprecate. Agreeably to the tenor of their instructions, they have confined their discussions to objects immediately relevant to the prosperity of the Pharmaceutic Art; but independently of private and professional considerations, the subject under review involves a question of the greatest national moment, in which the welfare and happiness of the country is so indissolubly interwoven, that it demands the most powerful and prompt interposition.

13. Hence your Committee extend prospectively their regard to the results which they trust will emanate from this investigation. They have endeavoured to execute their charge with fidelity and due deliberation, and confidently commit their Report to the judgment and decision of the great body of Apothecaries. They have now, therefore, the honour to propose to this highly respectable Meeting a series of Resolutions; which, if sanctioned, will, it is hoped, lead to such regulations as will tend to lessen the embarrassments under which Apothecaries labour, as well as to secure to their branch of the profession its merited share of public respect and approbation.

Resolutions

*Resolutions of the General Meeting of
Apothecaries.*

RESOLVED, *Nem. Con.*

- I. That although the excessive price of Glass led to the original appointment of the Committee of Apothecaries,—yet upon mature deliberation, it is determined that the consideration of this subject be for the present suspended.

RESOLVED, *Nem. Con.*

- II. That the improved education of the regular Apothecary has much advanced the utility and importance of his character, and been highly advantageous to the Public; but that his services have been by no means sufficiently remunerated, nor his respectability advanced in proportion.

RESOLVED, *Nem. Con.*

- III. That a large body of Pretenders have assumed the character and functions of the regularly educated Apothecary, to the great detriment of the public health.

RESOLVED, *Nem. Con.*

- IV. That these evils have arisen from the want of a proper superintending Body.

RESOLVED, *Nem. Con.*

- V. That the Executives of the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons; and Society of Apothecaries, be requested to concur and unite in an application to Parliament for an Act for the improvement and better regulation of the practice of the Apothecary, throughout England and Wales.

RESOLVED, *Nem. Con.*

- VI. That the present Committee be invested with full power to obtain the objects of this Meeting by such means as in their judgment may be thought proper.

RESOLVED,

RESOLVED,

VII. That the Committee report their proceedings from time to time, and that a General Meeting be again called, should a requisition for that purpose be signed and sent to the present Chairman, by twelve Subscribers.

RESOLVED, *Nem. Con.*

VIII. That Mr. PARKINSON, Hoxton Square, be appointed one of the Committee.

RESOLVED, *Nem. Con.*

IX. That Country Practitioners be requested to form District Committees, to co-operate and correspond with the London Committee, on the means best adapted to promote the general and local interests of the profession.

RESOLVED,

X. That to defray the expenses of an application to Parliament, a subscription of *Two Guineas* be solicited from each Apothecary in England and Wales; to be paid into the Banking-house of Messrs. GOSLING and Co. No. 19, Fleet-street; or to either of the Treasurers; or to any Member of the Committee.

RESOLVED, *Nem. Con.*

XI. That Messrs. BURROWS, SIMONS, and FIELD, be appointed Treasurers.

RESOLVED, *Nem. Con.*

XII. That all communications to the Committee be directed (*postage free*) to Mr. POWELL, No. 13, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury.

RESOLVED, *Nem. Con.*

XIII. That the thanks of this Meeting be given to the Committee for their very able Report, and for their unremitting attention to the objects for which they were appointed.

GEORGE MAN BURROWS, Chairman,

RESOLVED,

RESOLVED, *Nem. Con.*

XIV. That thanks be given to the Chairman, for his impartiality, zeal, and attention, in discharging the duties of the Chair.

RESOLVED, *Nem. Con.*

XV. That this Meeting do adjourn, *Sine Die.*

JOHN POWELL, Secretary.

The Committee witness, with peculiar satisfaction, the zeal and alacrity with which the ninth Resolution has already been acted on in Kent, Surrey, Middlesex, Essex, Sussex, and the adjacent counties, whence many respectable Practitioners came to the General Meetings in London: and they hope that the circulation of the REPORT and RESOLUTIONS will extend a similar spirit to the more remote counties. These excellent intentions will be best promoted by some one or more individuals undertaking to collect the Contributions, and to transmit them, with the Names and Residences of all Practitioners within the District, and any other useful information, to the Committee. Communications of their proceedings should likewise be promptly made to the more distant parts of the county.

At the General Meeting it was liberally voted, that the Subscription should be two, instead of one Guinea; which many Gentlemen *erroneously suppose excludes the smaller sum.* The Committee conceive that numbers as well as property are

are essential to a successful event. They, therefore, take the liberty to declare, that they will thankfully receive any donations which may be offered, and that the Names of Subscribers will be regularly published, without specifying the sum subscribed.

The Committee beg leave to hint to their brethren, that, when their proceedings are sufficiently matured to appear in Parliament, it will be necessary that every individual exert his influence with his Parliamentary Representatives for an impartial consideration of their appeal, and for their steady support if approved.

A gentleman, whose name, I believe, is Beresford, has made a handsome sum of money by writing a book, which has gone through several editions in a very short time;—it is entitled, “THE MISERIES OF HUMAN LIFE.” I think I could make out a book, though not quite so thick as Mr. Beresford’s, to be entitled, “THE DISAGREEABLES OF A MEDICAL MAN’S LIFE.” I could enumerate from my own knowledge, having experienced them, a good many; and if all gentlemen of the profession, Physicians, Surgeons, Apothecaries, and Accoucheurs—Accoucheurs!—Oh! these latter could give a most ample contribution!—would furnish

ffurnish me with materials in addition to my own
 sstock, I have not a doubt I should be able to
 ecompile a tolerably decent-sized volume, the pro-
 fits of which I should be happy to give towards
 inincreasing the funds of those Institutions set on
 ffoot in town and country, for the Relief of Widows
 and Orphans of Medical Men, who dying in em-
 bbarrassed circumstances, have left those near and
 ddear relatives to the wide world, without a pro-
 vvision, and, often, without friends!

I have said Institutions (in the plural), be-
 ecause it would be unfair to confine the profits,
if there should be any, to one; as I should have
 reason to expect large contributions of MISE-
 RIES from *Country* Practitioners, especially
 ifrom those towns where they are left scarcely
 any thing to do, and where the business of the
 Apothecary is almost wholly annihilated, by the
 ddaily increasing practice of Physicians sending
 their prescriptions to be made up at the shop of
 the Chemist and Druggist, instead of the Apo-
 thecary*.

* A Surgeon-Apothecary of Islington attended a patient
 of large fortune as far as Hornsey House. An Hospital
 Surgeon was called in, who ordered three pills a day, and
 requested the Surgeon-Apothecary to see the patient
 ddaily!—Was this sufficient remuneration, when the
 Hospital Surgeon demanded three guineas for a single
 visit?

Apothecaries,

Apothecaries, thus starved into real MISERY, between the Doctor and the Druggist, may with truth exclaim with the Frogs in *Æsop*,

“ *Though 'tis play to you, 'tis death to us.*”

Suppose I try my hand for a page or two?

“ *Ridentem dicere verum*

“ *Quis vetat?*”

No—it is too soon for a motto—and besides, this motto would not do; for what I am about to treat of is no *laughing* matter.

THE MISERIES OF A MEDICAL MAN'S LIFE.

CHAPTER THE TENTH.

Now for it.

First of all we must have a *Motto*; for it is now the *fashion* to have *Mottos* to every chapter.

They help to make more *pages* in a book, and thus swell it out in bulk; and create what Compositors and Pressmen like very well, and what is called in the technical phrase of the Typographic Art, *FAT*.

But as we are not to have any thing about *laughing* in a matter so serious, we must choose one widely different from the preceding one.

Well

Well then, let us take a crying Motto,—

Quis talia fando

Temperet a lachrymis?

or,

———“*Quæque ipse miserrima vidi*

“ Et quorum pars magna fui !”

Admirable! We could not have chosen a better! The worst part of the story is, that this Motto is but too truly applicable to *many* unfortunate Pharmacopolists of the present day!

SCENE, *A Parlour adjoining the Shop.*

TIME, *Breakfast-hour.*

Enter the *Twopenny Post-man.*

P. M. “Four-pence, if you please, Sir.”

How pleasant must it be, after reading *one* of the letters that this useful messenger has just brought, containing a Dun from your Druggist, with an intimation that he cannot give any farther extension of credit, to find that *the other* is a notice to attend a *Meeting of Creditors* of a man that has been running up a debt with you, amounting to twenty or thirty Pounds, for three or four years' Medicines and attendance; and whose money you thought as sure as the Bank of England.

Your mind, placed in an unpleasant state by these ungracious notifications, it is not very un-

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natural

natural that it should, once in a way, slip your memory to set down in your diurnal list of visits to patients, or leave word with your domestics, of the place or places you mean to go to, in the hope of raising some money to answer your Druggist's demand, and pay rent and taxes still owing; and you sally forth among those of your debtors, whose appearance in the world induces you to *believe* they are very well ABLE, and to *hope* they are also WILLING to assist you.

While waiting in the apartment of your cidevant patient, to whom you make your visit for this purpose, you take up a newspaper to pass the time, and the first thing you read is, that the Minister has, among other curses of *Pandora's* box, alias THE BUDGET, doubled the Tax on *Glass!!!*

Without any intention of *cross-reading* the newspaper, it so happens that in the adjoining column appears the Bankrupt list from the last night's Gazette, and directly in a line with the delightful intelligence of the *tax on your* PHIALS, your eye is directed towards a name in that heart-cheering list, which you know to be that of a near neighbour and patient, that owes you for two Labours, three Inoculations, a four-months' attendance upon a scalded leg, and for Medicines, &c. altogether amounting to—Lord knows how much!

Before

Before you have had time to ruminate on those mighty amusing occurrences, in comes, we will suppose, the lady of the house, the personage you wished to see; and on your venturing to ask how soon she can make it convenient to allow you to call for the amount of your bill due above a twelvemonth—she “wonders at your conscience—to expect any payment from her, when times are so hard that she finds it as much as she can do to pay Butcher and Baker; adding, that she is very sure such people as *Doctors* and *Apothecaries*, that get eleven-pence three farthings in every shilling, cannot want money!”

No wonder Apothecaries make large fortunes, when they meet with such munificent customers!!

But the measure of your disappointment and mortification is not yet full.

On your return home, fretted and weary, you are accosted by your wife—“Run like lightning to Mrs. Hastily; there have been no less than five messages after you; the lady’s husband is gone after you in one direction, the boy in another, and the assistant has been to Doctor Friendly, to get him to attend for you, but he was from home: Fly to the lady as fast as you can.”

Not many words are necessary to induce you

to make the best of your time in hastening to a Three Guinea Patient, in labour with her first child: but what must be your mortification, when you go to the house of the patient, to learn that she has been safely put to bed above an hour ago, and that Mrs. Slanderman, the Midwife, the sworn enemy of all male Accoucheurs, had got the job, and completely succeeded in ousting you!!

Mr. PARKINSON, Surgeon, of Hoxton, author of several most valuable tracts on subjects connected with Medicine, has feelingly described some of the harassing and vexatious incidents of a Medical man's life, in a well-written and sensible little work, entitled, "*The Villager's Friend*." Adverting to the labours of the Apothecary, he enters into the following just observations.

"The husbandman, when his tasks are performed, may suffer from weariness of the body;
 "BUT HIS EMPLOYMENT HAS NO TENDENCY
 "TO *disturb his mind*. It is not so with the
 "Medical man, with however much ability and
 "conscientiousness he may execute the duties
 "of his profession. Aware that the lives of
 "his fellow-creatures depend on the judgment
 "he may form, and on the measures he may
 "adopt, his mind is constantly harassed with
 "anxiously attending to the event of some distressedly

“tressedly interesting case, whilst, after every
 “sacrifice, his professional character is liable,
 “beyond that of every other professional man,
 “to the misrepresentation of those, to whom
 “the inability of comprehending the propriety
 “or impropriety of the measures adopted is
 “a sufficient warrant for the most cruel and
 “scandalous imputations of ignorance or ne-
 “glect: Nor is this all; recollect with how lit-
 “tle consideration for his comfort, is the time,
 “as well as the labour of a Medical man tri-
 “fled with. Have you to consult your lawyer;
 “to employ any person in almost any descrip-
 “tion of business? you will require his attend-
 “ance at that time which may best suit his con-
 “venience: but should a trifling rash on the
 “skin, which has hardly excited your attention
 “for a week or two, at last induce you to call
 “for the attendance of your Apothecary, the
 “application will generally be deferred to the
 “close of the day; nor will the roughest and
 “most tempestuous weather excuse his attend-
 “ance, which will, in general, be thought ne-
 “cessary to be insisted on DIRECTLY, to give
 “*energy* and *effect* to your message, not consi-
 “dering that he who calls *Wolf* unnecessarily
 “may call in vain when in real danger.”

VILLAGER'S FRIEND.

To sum up all in a few words (and I wish to
 impress

impress these points strongly on the mind of the young probationer), Whoever wishes to learn the business of a SURGEON, or APOTHECARY, or both in one, should first consider whether he has TALENTS, ABILITIES, and LEARNING, to enable him to go through the duties of a laborious profession, with credit to himself and advantage to his fellow-creatures. The youth who means to live by the practice of SURGERY should have

“ A LION’S *heart*,

“ A LADY’S *hand*, and

“ A HAWK’S *eye*.”

He must have a *resolute mind*, that he may not have a *trembling hand* when he goes to perform an operation; he must be perfectly cleanly in his person, and in all his actions;—but not so nice as to be afraid of dirtying his fingers when his duty requires it; nor must he be of too delicate a nose, as he will have many bad smells to encounter, both with LIVING PATIENTS, and DEAD BODIES.

He must, before he undertakes the profession of either Surgeon or Apothecary, consider, whether he can, when the term of his apprenticeship shall have expired (or sooner, as may be agreed on), bear the thoughts of poring whole days over a DEAD BODY; for—as no person would undertake to repair a Watch without being first acquainted

acquainted with the structure of it, so no man whatever, however great his genius may be, can have a proper idea of the Nature, Cause, and Cure, of Diseases, of Fractures, of Luxations, &c. without a knowledge of Anatomy, which teaches the structure of the human Machine: And this knowledge cannot be perfectly attained by attending Lectures, even of the most eminent Professors, unless the pupil *take the dissecting knife into his own hand*; for I will affirm, that a young man will learn more, and have the knowledge of the part much more firmly impressed on his memory, by the clumsiest dissection performed by his own hands, than by transiently looking at the neatest Dissection executed by another.

A good memory, and a steady, collected mind are also requisite; that when performing an operation, or compounding a medicine, he may not be confused, and, forgetting what he is about, do one thing instead of another, or substitute one medicine for another.

A knowledge of the Latin is so absolutely necessary, that it ought to be a *sine-quâ-non*, in the engagement between Master and Apprentice; not only because without it, it is impossible to compound Physicians' prescriptions, but because in Medical books, Latin words so frequently occur, that he who is ignorant of that language

language must ever be at a loss for the meaning of almost every third word that he reads.

Of the necessity of writing a good hand, and a competent knowledge of Arithmetic, I have already made mention in the second chapter. An accuracy in the second rule of Arithmetic, viz. ADDITION, is an indispensable requisite, because the apprentice will probably have to keep his master's Ledger, and write out all his bills, and when he comes into business for himself he will reap the advantage of it.

If, after considering all these circumstances, and seriously weighing them in your mind, you think you can surmount all the disagreeables of the Profession, and are still fully bent on learning the business of a Surgeon-Apothecary, and that you think the temper of the man you are on trial with, and yours, will suit, then prepare for your Examination, that you must go through, before the Indentures are executed.

CHAP. IV.

On Apprenticing, and the previous Examination.

WE are now arrived at an important period ; in which what is about to be done cannot be undone, but with great trouble and difficulty, and not without very great faults on one side or the other.

It is therefore highly incumbent on the master, before the indentures are executed, to reflect with attention on what has been said in the chapter particularly addressed to him, and, summing up the whole, seriously consider, whether the youth he is about to take will suit him. And it is no less the part of the young novice, and his parents, to take a view of the conduct, temper, and disposition, of his intended master ; and of the disadvantages as well as the advantages of the profession he is now going to tie himself to ; and seriously determine, whether it is one in which he will have a pleasure to pass the whole of his life.

Supposing, then, that all these things have been duly considered on all sides; and every thing agreed on; the preliminary step to the execution of the Indentures is, an Examination: if to a member of the Royal College of Surgeons, this Examination takes place at a stated time, before the Court of Examiners; and if to a member of the Society of Apothecaries, the youth is examined before the Court of Assistants of the Apothecaries' Company.

If we were to look for perfection, there would be very little occasion for these official examinations; for no master would take an apprentice, if he would only weigh with himself the disadvantages, anxieties, doubts, and fears, consequent on having an ignorant apprentice in his shop; and the mischief that might occasionally accrue to his patients, and his business, in case of absence for a whole day, or perhaps two or three days, at a labour, or in the event of his being obliged to dance attendance several miles off, at a trial in a court of justice.

But as there may be private motives that may influence a man to take a particular youth that is offered—the largeness of the premium—long standing friendship—the necessity of acquiring an immediate sum to satisfy the demands of creditors; to help to portion out a daughter, or send a son out into the world; and many other

other reasons, the practitioner may, for some of these reasons, not always be as careful as he ought to be, in looking into the talents and education of the youth that is offered to him: So that these examinations, at the Hall of the Apothecaries' Company, or the College of Surgeons, are indispensably necessary. A man who has none of the motives before mentioned will not wait a College examination; he will himself strictly examine the youth before he takes him on liking; and also frequently, during the time he is on liking. It is his duty to see that he is well-grounded in Latin, and able to construe other books, as well as the *Latin Testament*; and if he find him a dunce, his best way is to send him back to his parents, and have nothing to do with him.

But it may so happen, that the lad may be the son or a nephew of a man of learning, and well known as a very excellent scholar. This man may give assurances, that if you will allow the youth two or three evenings in the week to receive instructions, he will engage to perfect him. Trust not to such assurances.

“ For, even granting, that if the capacity of
 “ a youth be good, he may, by considerable
 “ industry, make up for the waste of time he
 “ has suffered, yet the hours, thus employed,
 “ must be snatched from those which ought to
 “ be

“ be devoted, entirely, to the study of those
 “ sciences which more particularly refer to the
 “ Healing Art, and which claim an undivided
 “ attention.”

PARKINSON.

But on the contrary, if the boy was a block-head before he came to you, it is not the instructions given for two or three hours in an evening, while his head is full of other business all the rest of the day, can ever make a scholar of him who came to you a dunce !

“ EX QUOVIS LIGNO NON FIT MERCURIUS.”

What has the boy been doing in all the 14 or 15 years before he came to be apprenticed ? Why did not his friends make him a scholar in all these years, before they brought him to you ?

Reject him by all means.

“ But (says the father) suppose I give you
 “ my word and honour, that he shall have such
 “ instructions from me, or from a Latin teacher
 “ whom I will engage at my own expense to
 “ attend him, at your house, at such hours as
 “ may be most convenient to yourself; and
 “ suppose, after the expiration of the time
 “ agreed on between us for his being on liking,
 “ he passes his Examination at the College, and
 “ is approved by the Board of Examiners, will
 “ you *then* take him ?”

“ Yes—

“Yes—if he pass the College, I, depending
“on your assurances, will take him.”

The Examination, either before the College
of Surgeons, or at Apothecaries’ Hall, is thus
conducted.

After inquiry into the age of the lad brought
to be bound apprentice, and other matters, a
member of the Board takes him aside to a win-
dow, or the far end of the room, and causes him
to construe a few sentences in CICERO’S OFFICES.

I feel personally glad that the former examina-
tion in the *Latin Testament* is dispensed with; the
opportunity of learning by rote a few verses
was too easy.

I know a gentleman, who, relying on assur-
ances like those I have stated, was prevailed on
to give his promise to take a youth, in case of
approval by the College of Surgeons. He, how-
ever, secretly hoped the College would reject
the lad; but it unfortunately happened, that the
examiner opened the book, by mere accident,
at a chapter which the boy had read with his
father, the night before; of course he was very
perfect in the few verses he was set to construe,
and acquitted himself to the satisfaction of the
examiner, who reported him competent, and he
was bound!

Now had this youth been examined in differ-
ent parts of the same book, or rather, in any
other

other Latin book, it would then have been seen that he was *not* competent.

His master, relying too much on the fallacious promises of the lad's father (who was not inferior to a *Porson*, in point of scholastic knowledge), did not give himself that trouble that he ought to have done, during the period of probation, in making his own examinations whether the boy's improvement kept pace with the time allowed for evening instructions from his father, but took the boy apprentice.

Having occasion to set him to make some preparation of the London Pharmacopœia, one day, he put the Latin Pharmacopœia of the College before him. Finding he made no great hand of it, and that his father wholly neglected him from the time the Indentures were signed, he made an exercise book for his pupil, and began with the first chapter of Clarke's Introduction; and, by way of trying farther progress, he provided for him another book, in which the youth was to write a page of Latin prescriptions on the one side, and the same prescriptions, construed, on the other, every day. The following is a specimen of his improvement.

Calomelas.

Recipe. Take, *Hydrargyri muriati* of clear
quicksilver

quicksilver *p. libram unam*; weigh one pound.
Hydrargyri purificati p. Uncias Novem. Of
 purified quicksilver weigh nine ounces. *Tere*
ssimul donec globuli visum fugerint et sublima;
 which rub together until a little ball is seen to
 fly away on high!! *Dein materiam totam ite-*
rum tere, et sublima. Afterwards to stuff the
 whole a second time, which also is on high.
Eodem modo sublimationem quater repete. In
 the same place now lifted up very often found
 out. *Postea materiam in pulverem subtilissi-*
mam tere, et affusâ aquâ distillatâ fervente, lava.
 Afterwards stuffed with—(the rest was too hard
 to construe!!!!)

[Courteous reader, figure to yourself a little ball, pro-
 duced by the trituration together of *clear* quicksilver, and
 purified quicksilver! rising out of the mortar, furnished,
 no doubt, with wings like one of the Genii that we read
 of in the Arabian Nights Entertainments; and after this
 little winged ball making a circuit about the top of the
 room, fairly making its *escape* out of the window!! And
 figure to yourself, what sort of capacity a youth of sixteen
 or seventeen must possess, who could be satisfied of the
 practicability of making Calomel by such a recipe!!]

Calx Hydrargyri alba.

A Stone of White Quicksilver.

Recipe. Take, *Hydrargyri muriati* of clear
 Quicksilver; *Salis Ammoniaci*, a Gum so called;
Aquæ

Aquæ Kali præparati, Water of Kali prepared ; *singulorum p. libram dimidiam*, Weigh a pound and a half! *Solve primò salem Ammoniacum et dein Hydrargyrum Muriatum*—Melt first the Gum, and afterwards the Quicksilver of pure Water.—[Cætera desunt.]

It would swell this book to too great a size, to enumerate all the mischiefs that must arise or may have arisen from the want of a knowledge of Latin, in those who are entrusted to make up Apothecaries' medicines.

Mr. Good, in his History of Medicine, published in the year 1795, relates the following story.

A Physician prescribed for the son of a poor woman labouring under a Dyspnœa the following draught, to be given at bed-time.

R. Syr. Papav. alb. ʒi. Tinct. Opii. C. ʒij. Aq. distillat. ʒv. M.

Unfortunately, the person to whom this prescription was brought, not being acquainted with the new name for the Paregoric Elixir, and not attending to the *C* (for *Camphorat.*) made it with ʒij *Tinctur. Opii*; and though he advised the woman to give the child only *half* the draught, it proved sufficiently strong to deprive him of life before the evening of the following day.

The same author relates a story of a prescription

cription being sent to a shop to be made up, wherein the ignorance of the compounder was the occasion of some trouble, but not such fatal consequences as in the former instance.

A gentleman of Worcester, who does not practise Pharmacy, prescribed for his patient as follows.

R. *Decoct Cascarillæ* ℥vi; *Tincturæ ejusdem* ℥ii. *Misce.* The Shopman, who had the principal care of the business, having sought for a bottle labelled TINCTURA EJUSDEM in vain, not being able to consult his employer, who was gone to attend a labour some miles off, sent to some neighbouring shops to inquire for it; and, not succeeding, he at last took the prescription to the gentleman who had written it to know what he should substitute in its stead, as he could not procure any TINCTURE of EJUSDEM in any of the shops in the whole city!

Good's *Hist. of Medicine*, Appendix, p. 14.

A prescription was sent by an Accoucheur for the usual medicines for a lady, after her delivery.—The child was *dead*.—In addition, there was also a prescription for some sort of embrocation for her breasts; the affected parts to be rubbed with the same, PRO RE NATA, (occasionally.) The compounder, who knew about as much of Latin perhaps as the ingenious translator of the Pharmacopœia recorded

a page

a page or two back, knew very well that "*pro*" was "*for*," but not being quite satisfied about *re*, goes to his Dictionary, and there finds *res*, a thing; then turns to *nata*, and finds *natus*, a, *um* "BORN;" now then he has it right: "*For the little thing born;*" but deeming *little thing* as too familiar, he, wishing to shew all due respect to his master's patient, wrote on the label.—"*The little infant newly born to be well rubbed with this embrocation!*"

A Physician, who is in the habit of leaving *verbal* directions with the patient how his medicines are to be taken, and very frequently writes the prescription in LATIN, but *very short* directions in ENGLISH, wrote at the foot of his prescription, *sum. more dict.* "to be taken in the manner directed." The *c* in dicto being either carelessly written as an *e*, or mistaken for such, the apprentice read it DIET, and as *he* did not understand Latin, and the Doctor often wrote directions in English, he took it to be "SOME MORE DIET;" and therefore was quite proud of the elegance of his translation, in writing, "to be taken with a more liberal allowance of food!"

The Doctor, who had just been ordering a regimen for his patient, bordering on *dowenright starvation*, on reading the label at his next visit, flew into a most violent passion at having
his

his orders about *diet* so diametrically contradicted; and driving to the shop of the Apothecary, threatened him with all the vengeance of Warwick Lane. The Apothecary knew not what to make of this storm; for he had nothing to do with visits in this case, as the doctor does not like Apothecaries, and therefore usually desires those who call him in to send their prescriptions to a Druggist's.

On shewing the label, the young man with whom the mistake lay very candidly acknowledged that the fault was his: "Do not, Sir, be displeased; I can always read your Latin very well, but your English I am sadly puzzled very often to make out; and as you much oftener write the directions in English than in Latin, I really took your Latin, *more dict*, for English words, *more diet*." The Doctor, who is not an ill-natured man, forgave the blunder, advising the young man to be more cautious in future.

But a more serious event was near terminating the life of a valuable patient, through the coinciding ignorance, inattention, and total indifference as to consequences, of an apprentice to a Surgeon and Apothecary, to whom, in the absence of his master, the following prescription by a fellow of the College was brought to be made up

up for a man labouring under a severe pulmonary complaint.

“ R̄. *Liquoris Ammoniacæ Acetat.*

Sp. Armoraciæ comp. āā f̄ij ss.

Aceti Scillæ, f̄ij. Syrup Croci f̄ij ss.

Aquæ Cinnamomi,

— *puræ āā f̄ij.*

M Sumat quartam partem sextâ quâque horâ.

Die Jovis, 10 Jan^{rii} 1811.

Fortunately, and by God's good Providence, the death of the patient, and the total ruin of the master's reputation in his neighbourhood, were prevented by the following circumstances. The master had forgot to take his case of lancets out with him, and came back for it before he had gone all his rounds. The medicine had been made up, but very differently from the above form, and sent out; but the prescription, instead of being filed, was lying on the counter, having been not yet transcribed into the prescription book. The master took it up, and knowing he had no *Sp. Armoraciæ comp.* (compound Spirit of Horseradish) in the house, asked the apprentice where he had procured it. His answer was—
“ Oh, we have plenty in the house.”

“ Shew me it.”

He produced the bottle with “*Spiritus AMMONIÆ Comp!!!*”

“ And

“ And did you make up the prescription with this ?”

“ Yes.”

“ Boy, run away with all speed to Mr. F.’s, and bring back the medicine you carried there just now.”

During the time the servant was gone, the master asked the pupil if he knew what he was about. “ Yes, I made the prescription as it was ordered.” “ Read it. The hand-writing is particularly good and clear.”

He read it—“ O I see it is *Armorac* ; I read it : *Ammonia*.”

“ And did you reflect on the consequences of giving such an enormous quantity of a strong volatile alkali, an ounce and a half to an eight-ounce mixture, one fourth to be taken for a dose, for a dying man with asthma!!!?”

Answer. “ I did not reflect any thing about it ;” and, with all the sang-froid in the world, turned on his heel and fell a whistling, while he wiped down the counter or adjusted his neck-cloth!!!

It was high time to get rid of so dangerous an inmate as this, and the employer, who had many causes of complaint against him before, now set himself seriously to work to arrange matters with the youth’s father to give him redress. The father, however, carried himself with a very high hand ;

hand ; insisted on a return of the apprentice fee ; and sent his LAWYER to intimidate the poor Pharmacopolist.—The latter, however, was so little afraid of him, that he employed neither counsel nor attorney ; but having plenty of matter against the youth, amply sufficient to ground a complaint to the Quarter Sessions at Hicks's Hall, instead of sending a brief to his own lawyer, he sent it to the *lawyer of his adversary* !—and the father, by the advice of his own lawyer, who recommended him not to suffer the matter to come into court, took back his son without any refund of premium.

When it is considered that a fatal error made in the making up of a prescription, through ignorance of Latin, may cause the death of a valuable member of society, and deprive a whole family of its only support—and in addition to this mischief, for ever blast the character and prospects in life of the practitioner—the necessity of something more than a mere examination in a few verses of the Latin Testament must be evident.

With the utmost respect and deference, and without the most distant intention, directly or indirectly, to give offence, or seem presumptuously to dictate to those respectable bodies, the Royal College of Surgeons, or the Society of Apothecaries,

ries, I should hope I may be permitted to state the opinion of an humble individual on these important points.

It would appear to me not an ineligible man, to adopt something like those rules which the Corporation of Apothecaries of the City of Dublin* adopt with regard to the examination of boys brought to their Hall to be bound apprentices.

The Examination, at the *Dublin* Apothecaries' Hall, is held every Friday at two o'clock: The young men are expected to have read *Cæsar*, *Ællust*, *Justin*, *Ovid's Metamorphoses*, *Virgil*, *Horace*; and in *Greek*, the four *Gospels*: Their writing a good hand is necessary, as well as a knowledge of Arithmetic. In all or most of these he is examined; and, if found incompetent, he is sent back for six months.

But my system, if adopted, would go farther. I would not be satisfied with his construing a few passages of these, but he should be tried in *parsing*, in order to shew that he thoroughly understands the language, and that he does not derive all his knowledge from English translations. I would farther recommend that he be tried in composition.

* An abstract of some the Laws of the Corporation of Apothecaries in Dublin is given at the end of this chapter.

After

After being set to construe one or two of the Formulæ of the Latin Pharmacopœia, he should have two or three other prescriptions set before him, written in a legible hand, but abbreviated in the common way; these should be so written that room should be left after each word, enough to add the terminations; let him be sent to a desk or table, at a distance from any one to help him, and desired to write the terminations to each word, and write the quantities, and other abbreviations at full length.

To perfect the trial, let him then have a prescription given to him in English, and let him turn it into Latin; the words not abbreviated, but given, with their terminations, at full length. The quantities, in the English prescription given for translation, to be written in characters, as ʒ iij ʒ iss . ʒ iv . but the Latin to be written in words, *Uncias-tres, drachmam unam cum semisse, (or, sesquidrachmam;)* *scrupulos quatuor*.

If he acquit himself well in all these trials, he is fit for his business, as far as Latin and Greek are concerned. The latter trials will also shew to the examiners the fitness or unfitness of his hand-writing; and lastly, as at Apothecaries' Hall in Dublin, the Examination should not conclude without a trial of his abilities in the first rules of Arithmetic.

To all this it may possibly be objected, that
were

were such close and scrutinizing examinations of apprentices to take place, they would take up so much time, as would render it impossible for the Boards to transact other important business—such as, in the College of Surgeons, the Examinations for Diplomas, of those who are out of their apprenticeships, and have gone through their Hospital courses.

To this I answer, that it would save the Court of Examiners much time and trouble too, were they to confine themselves merely to the Examinations for Diplomas, and instead of condescending themselves to examine boys in their ABC, devote that business solely to some member of the College who had either declined business, or who would be willing to give up his time to the duties of the office: To this *Extra-Examiner* an oath should be administered, in the same manner as to all other officers of the College, to do justice, and execute his duty without favour or affection to any one. And as this employment would necessarily engross a great deal of his time, the College is rich enough to afford a salary to such an officer, for the use of his brains.

CHAP. V.

Abstract of some of the Laws of the Corporation of Apothecaries of the City of Dublin.

Anno Regni tricesimo tertio GEORGII III. *Regis.*

§ XVIII. “ AND inasmuch as many dangerous and
“ fatal consequences have heretofore arisen from the prac-
“ tice of taking as apprentices to the art and mystery of
“ an Apothecary, boys or persons disqualified by the want
“ of proper education, to prepare or vend medicine, not
“ being capable of learning their nature, difference, effects,
“ and qualities, to the imminent hazard of the lives of his
“ Majesty’s faithful and loyal subjects, be it enacted by
“ the authority aforesaid, that from and after the twenty-
“ fourth day of *June*, in the year one thousand seven
“ hundred and ninety-one, no person or persons shall be
“ received, taken, indented, or employed as an apprentice,
“ foreman or shopman to any Apothecary throughout the
“ Kingdom of *Ireland*, until he or they shall be examined
“ by the Governor, or Deputy Governor, and Directors
“ of the Apothecaries’ Hall of *Dublin*, any five to make
“ a quorum, who are hereby authorized and required to
“ examine into the education and qualifications of such
“ person or persons who shall apply to them for that pur-
“ pose, and the majority of such examiners are hereby
“ authorized and empowered after such examination to
“ certify that such person or persons so applying to them,
“ as shall appear to such examiners properly qualified to
“ become an apprentice or apprentices, journeyman or
“ journeyman,

journeymen, to learn or transact the business of an Apothecary, in the manner or to the effect following, that is to say,

“*To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting, know ye, that we the Governor, Deputy Governor, and Directors of the Apothecaries’ Hall of Dublin, have this day duly and carefully examined A. B. the son of C. D. of, or late of*

(as the case may be) in

the County of

and we think him pro-

perly educated or qualified to become an apprentice or

journeyman (as the case may be) to learn or transact

the business of an Apothecary, and we do hereby certify

the same. Given under our seal the

day

of

in the year of our Lord

§§ XIX. “Provided nevertheless, that if such examiners, or the major part of them, shall see cause to refuse such certificate to any person applying to become an apprentice or shopman, yet it shall and may be lawful to and for such person or persons who shall be so refused to apply at any future time, so as the same be not within six months of such first examination, to be again examined; and if on such second examination he shall appear to the examiners, or the major part of them, to be then properly qualified, it shall and may be lawful for said examiners, or the major part of them, to grant such person so applying such certificate as herein-before mentioned.

§§ XXII. “And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that from and after the twenty-fourth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-one, no person shall open shop, or act in the art or mystery of an Apothecary within the Kingdom of Ireland, until such person shall have been examined as to his qualification and knowledge of the

“ business, by such persons and in such manner as here-
 “ inbefore mentioned and required, for the examination of
 “ persons applying to become apprentices or shopkeepers;
 “ which examiners shall take the oath before mentioned,
 “ in manner as hereinbefore required, and shall grant or
 “ refuse to the person so applying for a certificate to open
 “ a shop, or follow the art and mystery of an Apothecary
 “ within the Kingdom of *Ireland*, with the like remedy
 “ of appeal as hereinbefore mentioned.

§ XXVI. “ And be it further enacted by the authority
 “ aforesaid, that if any Apothecary within the Kingdom
 “ of *Ireland*, shall after the twenty-fourth day of *June*, in
 “ the year aforesaid, have, take, indent, receive, or hire
 “ any person or persons as an apprentice or as a shopman,
 “ journeyman, foreman, overseer of his shop, or manager
 “ of his business as an Apothecary, or shall open shop or
 “ ware-room for the retail of medicine, or practise the art
 “ and mystery of an Apothecary within the Kingdom of
 “ *Ireland*, without such person or persons having obtained
 “ the proper certificate for that purpose hereinbefore di-
 “ rected ; or shall take any apprentice for less time than
 “ seven years, whose indentures shall be enrolled in a book
 “ to be kept for that purpose by this Corporation for which
 “ the sum of one shilling shall be paid, such person so
 “ offending shall for every such offence forfeit the sum of
 “ twenty pounds, to be recovered by the Governor and
 “ Company of the Apothecaries’ Hall of *Dublin*, by action
 “ of debt, suit, plaint, or information, in any of his Ma-
 “ jesty’s Courts at *Dublin*, wherein no essoign, protection,
 “ privilege, injunction, wager of law, or stay of prosecution
 “ by *nonvult ulterius prosequi*, shall be admitted or allowed,
 “ or any more than one imparlance, and the sums so re-
 “ covered shall be and enure to the use of the said Com-
 “ pany.

THE EXAMINER'S OATH.

"*I A. B. do sincerely promise and swear, (or affirm,) that I will faithfully, impartially, and honestly, according to the best of my skill and knowledge, execute the trust reposed in me, as an Examiner, on the examination of C. D. and that without favour or affection, prejudice or malice.* So help me God."

"Which Oath or Affirmation any FIVE or more of the Examiners, on their first Examination, or on any appeal, are hereby authorized and required to administer to each other." § XXI. p. 6.

As, in all examinations, much depends on the Examiner, some are *rigid*, others *lax*. But in all cases, the Examiners are expected to be so far instructed—and proved to be so, as to prevent any ill consequences from ignorance.

At the *second* Examination of a young man, who, after he has served his apprenticeship, applies to be examined in order to qualify himself as *journeyman* or *assistant*, he is examined as to the method of dispensing; in Posology, the apportioning of doses to different ages; and other points, which it is requisite a journeyman should be well versed in.

The Examination to qualify for *Master* is very strict, and embraces all the great points of the profession.—If the *Examinee* be found incompetent, he is sent back for six months, and prevented from opening and keeping shop during that period; at the expiration of which he undergoes another examination.

CHAP.

CHAP. VI.

Of the Prescription Book.

TAKING it for granted that our young pupil has passed his Examination, and that every thing relative to the Indentures, and to money-matters, have been fairly and legally adjusted between the parents and the master, we are now arrived at the period when we see the lad, now an apprentice, officially behind the counter, resolved to buckle to business, and diligently to fulfil the conditions expressed in his Indentures.

As that part of his business, in which he will be most generally employed, will be the preparing and dispensing of medicines—the Prescription Book is that which more immediately demands his closest attention—it may be said to be the great wheel of the machine which puts all the rest in motion.

The prescription book, by some called the Day book, is the book into which all prescriptions whatever, to be made up in the course of the day, whether by the master, by Physicians or Surgeons, or by the assistant or apprentice—
are

re to be entered; in short, not only all medicines whatever which are sent out, without being paid for, but also all *prescriptions* that come in, and are compounded for patients or customers paying ready money.

Every practitioner has his own way of constructing his books; I am not so arrogant as to dictate to those who know better than myself, how to form their Prescription book, so as best to suit their own purposes—I shall only describe that form which I have found best to answer my purpose, but do not presume to recommend it farther, than as the old hacknied motto may be applicable to it:

*“ Si quid novisti rectius istis
Candidus imperti; si non, his utere mecum.”*

The form which I have for many years found best to answer my purpose, is, the long folio, ruled with faint lines, and ruled also with red lines, differing in no respect whatever from a common account book.—The three red lines, answering to those which are commonly used for pounds, shillings, and pence, are convertible to a very important purpose.

Instead of £. s. d. the columns are marked

| W. | D. | S. |

The *first* column, (W,) shews the hour at which

which the Prescription is WRITTEN, or, if by a Physician or Surgeon, is BROUGHT to the shop.

The *second*, (D,) is for marking the hour at which it ought to be DELIVERED at the residence of the patient.

The *third*, (S,) is for the apprentice or assistant to set down the hour at which he SENDS the medicine out of the shop, by the boy, or by a patient's own messenger, or takes it out himself.

Necessity is the mother of invention. I was driven to invent this plan, by the continual and harassing complaints of patients, on account of their medicines coming *late*. Draughts or powders to be taken before breakfast, not coming until the middle of the day; and things to be taken throughout the day, or at bed-time, not coming until after every body was in bed.

To my questions, Why were not these things sent earlier? some lying excuse was made—"I made the medicines up as soon as they were written down in the book."—"Possibly you might; but when were they *sent out*?" The answer might be, "*immediately*," although they were suffered to stand on the counter for three or four hours after being made up—then expect fending and proving, and prevarication, between the apprentice and the boy—as to who was to blame. Now if the master marks the *hour* at which he writes the prescription, suppose twelve o'clock

o'clock at noon, and, allowing a reasonable time for it to be made up, and also for the distance of place it is to be carried to, he writes in the DELIVERY column, three o'clock, there ought to be no excuse whatever for its not being sent out in proper time; and the assistant or apprentice will then mark in the third column the time of its being taken away; suppose half-past two—or earlier, if *earlier ready*. But it will be of no use unless the master *regularly adheres to this rule himself*: He ought never to omit, (even when it is of no importance,) setting down the hour of *writing*, and hour of *delivery*—and his example of punctuality in this respect, will deprive the youth of any excuse for failure in his part of the duty of making up or sending out. It will *oblige* him to attend to the getting out his medicines in proper time; the master should therefore keep him to the marking the *third*, or “SENT OUT” column, and not allow of any omission of this duty. A failure of punctuality in this point, in the one, will assuredly be productive of total neglect in the other—and then these columns become a dead letter, and complaints from patients, of medicines sent late, and frivolous excuses on the part of the apprentice, again harass and fret the master.

The top of each page of the Prescription book should be marked with the day of the

week, month, and year, in a large and legible hand-writing, and this **SHOULD NEVER BE OMITTED**, because without it the book appears imperfect and bears the marks of negligence; and again the want of it gives trouble in posting the Ledger.

When beginning a day's work, I have been in the habit for many years back, of writing immediately below the date, a list of all the patients whom I conceive it my duty to visit on that day, and which, being written in red ink, I call "*my red List.*"—The names set down, promiscuously, as they come, from the list of the preceding day; but in transcribing this list into my pocket-book, to carry about with me, I do not take them in the same order as written in the P. B., but take more pains, and arrange the names in the order of the streets in which the patients live, *sorting the names*, as a *postman* sorts his *letters* for delivery.

There are various marks appertaining to the different entries in a Prescription book; and whatever marks a practitioner is in the habit of using, should not be departed from without good reason.

Some mark medicines sent out, with ✓, others with =.

My own rule has been, to mark the medicines made up and quite ready to go out with a single
line

line —, and then when it is gone out, add a parallel line to it, thus =.

When posted into the Ledger, two perpendicular strokes are drawn through the horizontal strokes, thus ++.

When paid for on delivery, I make a circle round the = and either write *paid*, or draw a perpendicular line through the whole prescription.

When a new patient comes on the book, the first entry of his name and christian name should be written in larger characters, and an accurate statement of his place of abode, number, trade, or calling, and whether holding the house or only a lodger; and, under his name, the letter N. for *new*. It will also be of use, if you can learn it, to know and set down who of your patients or acquaintance recommended him, because, by learning who are his companions, you may partly judge of what expectations you may have as to payment, and it may also be a clue for you to find out where he is gone, if he should depart the neighbourhood without paying you.

If an old standing patient wants a medicine and it should be the *first* entry on account of that patient, in the current year, let the name be written large, and B. A. (*begin again*) with the date of the year, adding residence, &c. as if new, for the guidance of the person who posts the books,

books, and to save the trouble of referring to Ledgers of former years to learn these matters.

The most accurate attention should be paid to every part of a prescription; and here I refer my reader to the very useful and excellent advice on this subject, laid down by Mr. Lucas, in his book; but there is no part of the prescription that ought to be attended to with greater scrupulosity, than the direction for taking the medicine. This comes under the cognizance of different individuals, and if a variation is found in it from the direction given originally, much blame may be incurred, and particularly if a prescription is written and sent to the Apothecary's house by a Physician; for in this case, if the Physician sees a direction different from that which he gave, the Apothecary is blamed and loses the confidence of the prescriber ever after; and if the Doctor be one of those who sets his face against Apothecaries, (as there are too many such, who, when they can, send their patients and prescriptions to a chemist's,) he will be glad to have the story to retail among his patients. A master must therefore from the first setting out see that his pupil is steady to this important point.

Some idea then will be formed of the Prescription book I have adopted in my own practice, and which from long experience of the utility

utility of the plan, I would venture to recommend to young practitioners setting up in business; (subject to whatever corrections or improvements their own ingenuity may suggest to them,) by my shewing a specimen of a page or two.

SPECIMEN

SPECIMEN OF THE PRESCRIPTION BOOK.

Die Lunæ 15^{to} Januarii, 1813.

Wilson	Reid	Wheeley	0 Knox
Smith, Old St. V. V.	Read	Simon	0 Hewitt
Smith, Cov. Gard.	Hickes	Simmons	0 Edgworth
Dickins	Day, City	Aldridge	0 Shephard
Armstrong, V. V.	Day, Gosw. St.	Ball	0 King
Pitt	Butler	Carter, V. V.	0 Crosbie
Saunders	Grimaldi	Forrest	
Leonard	Webb	DOBSON, new	
Brown	Moore	MOORE, b. a.	
Sharp			

N. B. The list of names should be invariably written on the over night, or else very early in the morning. The names in the fourth column of the list, having a cypher prefixed, are those of patients not requiring to be visited on this day, but not yet well enough to be struck off the list.

V. V. VISIT VESPERE, when patients are so ill that they require to be visited in the evenings as well as in the early part of the day.

<i>Pitt, Mrs.</i>	W.	D.	S.
= Repetantur haust iii ut heri	7 a.m.	10	9
<i>Hewitt, Mrs. *</i>			
= Repr. Mixtura.			
= Repr. haustus anodyn. horâ somni sumendus.	7	10	$\frac{1}{2}$ p. 9

* Hewitt being a convalescent, whom it is not necessary to give a visit to this day, the name is put in the fourth column, with a cypher prefixed to it.

Die Lunæ 15^{to} Januarii, 1813.

<i>Leonard's Child.</i>	W.	D.	S.
= R̄ Ung. Cetacei ʒi.	7	8	8
= Repetantur Pulveres ut die			
Veneris ultimo præscr.			

*Dobson, Marmaduke, Esq. Army Agent,
No. 34, King's Row, Pentonville.*

N. To examining and dressing a wound on the head, oc- casioned by a fall from a horse; daily dressing twice			
W.V. a day for days, and once a day for days until well.			
= Detrah. Sanguis e brachio.			
= R̄ Potassæ subcarbonatis	11	12	$\frac{1}{2}$ p. 11
ʒiv. Succi Limon q. s. ad saturand; Aq. Menth. &c. M. divide in haust. 4. Sumat i quartâ quâque horâ.			
= Mitte h. p. n. ʒij ad ij v. c. m. s.*			

* For an explanation of this, see the *Vocabulary*, letter H.

Die Lunæ 15^{to} Januarii, 1813.

<i>Scortum.</i>	W.	D.	S.
(<i>Ne tradas sine pecuniâ.</i>)			
℞ Flo. Sulphuris ℥i cum Directione propria.			
℞ Ung. sulphuris ad psoram ℥vi. cum D. P.			
℞ Inject. Antisyphilitic. ℥viij.			
℞ Salts ℥iss. (<i>paid, entered retail.</i>)			

Armstrong, Mr. Joseph (pr. Dr. Thornton.)

= Admoveantur Hirudines vj temporibus			
= Attendance for 4 hours, to apply.			
= Sumat Olei Ricini ℥ss. statim.	2	2	2

*Groves, Mrs. A lodger in a back room up three
pair of stairs, No. 4, Frying-pan Alley.*

[Drunken Hysterics.]

*N. B. She is to send for these, but probably as I told her they were
to be paid for on delivery, she will not send for them at all, therefore
do not make up these articles until the messenger comes.*

℞ Pulv. Ipecac. ʒj. statim sumend.			
℞ haust. neutral anod. h. s. s.			

Die Lunæ 15^{to} Januarii, 1813.

Hickes, Captain, Jamaica Coffee House.

	W.	D.	S.
	£.	s.	d.
++ Four boxes of the Strengthening Pills as before, at 2s. 6d.	0	10	
++ Two pint bottles of the Strengthening Tincture as before, at 6s. 6d.	0	13	
++ A small phial of Goulard's Extract.	0	0	9
++ Four copies of Treatise on Cowhage, at 4s.	0	16	
Box and booking,	0	1	
Posted Ledger, page 157.	£2	0	9

[To be packed in a box, directed for Captain Hickes, Ship Jamaica; care of Mr. Belam, Druggist, Portsmouth; and sent to the Spread Eagle, Gracechurch Street, to be at the Coach Office and booked, not later than half past six this evening.]

[This bill to be written out and inclosed in my letter, which is to be left at the Jamaica Coffee House, by the boy in his way back after leaving the box at the Inn.]

<i>A poor Man.</i>	<i>Gratis.</i>			
== R̄ Flor. Anthe	midis, Capit.			
CO papaver. q. s.	pro fotu. cum			
Directione	propriâ.			

Die Lunæ 15^{to} Januarii, 1813.

Moor, Richard, Watch-maker, No. 24, Aldersgate Street.

(An acquaintance of James Doncaster.)

for Mrs. Moore.

B. A. 1813.

N. B. These are not to be sent, but Mrs. M. will call for them in the evening. If not called for this evening, send them before eight to-morrow morning.

R _x Pil. Scillæ gr. v. in singulis. Mittr. xxiv. Sumat ij. vel. jij. bis. terve in die. cum Cyatho Infusi flor. Anthemidis.	W.	D.	S.
	$\frac{1}{2}$ p. 2	5	

Wheeley, Miss, No. 4, Lower Smith Street.

B. A. 1813.....	3.		
May be sent to-morrow any time before.....		11a.m	
Repetantur Pilulæ ut Die 16 ^{to} Maii, 1812, Scilicet, R _x Pulv. Rhei Opt. ʒij. Pulv. Aromat. gr. x. Ol. menth. pip. gutt. v. Saponis ʒss. M. fiat Massa in pilulas mediocres dividend; Sumat ij. bis die, cum Cyatho Infusi menthæ viridis.			

Thus much will serve to shew a specimen of the manner in which a Prescription book may be kept by those who cannot hit on a more concise or better method. The List, which the Master ought to make it a rule to mark every night before he goes to bed, distinguishing those whom he has visited, by a single line——against their names; those whom he has visited *twice*, by a single line with two perpendicular strokes running through it, thus ++; and those whom he has *not* visited, by a cypher, 0.

The list, thus marked, at night, will appear as underneath.

W. Wilson	—Reid	—Wheeley	0 Knox
S. Smith, Old St. VV.	0 Read	—Simon	0 Hewitt
S. Smith, Cov. Gard.	—Hickes	—Simmons	0 Edgworth
J. Dickins	—Day, City	0 Aldridge	0 Shephard
A. Armstrong, VV.	—Day, Gos. St.	0 Bull	0 King
J. Pitt	0 Butler	++Carter, VV.	0 Crosbie
J. Saunders	—Grimaldi	—Forrest	
J. Leonard	—Webb	—DOBSON, new	
J. Brown	—Moore	—MOORE, b a	
J. Sharp			

The writing such a list at the head of each day's work answers many good purposes. On looking over it, the Master sees at one view, whom of his patients he has omitted visiting; and thus he is reminded not to suffer too many days to pass over without visiting again: It is a perpetual register to look back to: In Surgical cases, by referring to it, a master can know how

how many days successively he has visited his patient, and on what days he has omitted his visits; if kept with fidelity, it may be a good guide to point out what number of days' attendance to charge for, in case the bill for Surgery should come to be contested in a court of justice, &c. &c.

“ After a knowledge of the various articles in a
 “ Dispensatory has been satisfactorily obtained,
 “ the proper regulations to be observed in com-
 “ pounding medicines, must be learned.

“ The original prescription should be dili-
 “ gently read over, and unerringly compre-
 “ hended, or any doubts clearly satisfied; it
 “ should always be placed in view, not only
 “ during the compounding of any medicine,
 “ but also until the directions be written; and
 “ every thing that has been executed carefully
 “ supervised. *On each label should be subjoined*
 “ *the date.** When a medicine is repeated, the
 “ date of the original prescription may be pre-
 “ ferable as a guidance to the compounder;
 “ when a farther repetition may be required,
 “ then the same aid may be procured by a
 “ similar rule in the day-book.

“ A medicine should never be verbally pre-

* I cannot too often inculcate the expediency of
DATING ALL LABELS.

“ scribed,

scribed, except it be immediately entered, and read over by the transcriber to the person who dictated the formula; nor should any compounder proceed, without knowing with certainty, that the medicine selected be agreeable to that in request. An apprentice cannot be blameable for mistakes arising from the prescriptions of a Physician, or from a day-book being unintelligible, unless he have neglected opportunities of procuring an explanation.

“ The importance of a medicine being faithfully compounded, and unerringly labelled; the multifarious ingredients often included in a medicinal mixture; the danger from one substance being mistaken for another, *or the risk of inefficacy from essential omissions*; the chance of a misnomer, or an inaccuracy in explaining the directions; the unavoidable absence, together with the unexceptionable responsibility of a practitioner for the acts of his deputies; the consequential reliance usually reposed in juvenile compounders; *and the difficulty of regaining credit, after the slightest deviations in a composition have been detected by an invalid**, may be urged as cogent

* I lost upwards of forty pounds once, by the OMISSION of a scruple of *Confectio Aromatica*, in a draught. Mrs. Upjohn, of Red Lion-street, took three draughts a day

“gent arguments in favour of superabundant
“accuracy.”

LUCAS, § 20. p. 28.

Every Medicine should be made up as soon as possible after the prescription for it comes into the hands of the compounder; and sent out as soon as possible after being made up.

Every prescription, not written down in the P. B. in the first instance, but brought in on loose paper, should be transcribed into the Prescription book, before it be made up; but where a medicine is wanted in so very great a hurry, or where there is so great a press of business that there is no time for doing this, let the prescriptions or slips of paper be carefully filed.

Prescriptions for medicines for strangers, that are paid for on delivery, should be transcribed into the P. B. with the same accuracy as those

a day, in which *Conf. Aromat.* was an ingredient. On the fourth or fifth day, by some oversight, my apprentice—except in this instance a very steady young man, whom I had never before known to make a mistake, omitted that ingredient.—The lady saw the difference immediately, and, the Physician calling on the same day, she shewed him the medicine. It was not what he prescribed. She sent for me, but it was to receive her orders to send in my bill. She employed another Medical man, who had forty or fifty pounds of her money before she bid this world good-night.

to

regular book-patients; because it would be very hard that people who pay their money cheerfully should be worse attended to, than they that have a twelvemonth's credit—or who, perhaps, never intend to pay at all.

In the making up of a Prescription, let nothing be left undone, that ought to be done; even though it should not be immediately necessary to send it out just at the moment of its being finished. Do not content yourself with leaving on the counter, all prepared properly, it is true; but you have omitted to write the label; after that, you do not do your duty until you shall have capped the cork, wrapped the phial in a clean and sightly piece of paper, and written the name and abode on the outside: in short, in this, as in every thing else that you have to do, and to do properly, never lose sight of the maxim,

Nihil actum reputans, si quid superesset agendum.

Besides, if the party who had had the medicine and paid for it, should come in a week, or a month, or a year after, for a repetition of the same medicine, how are you to know what was unless it has been written down where it ought to be; that is, in the prescription book; for, rummaging over a file is not always satisfactory; and the trouble of transcribing is very little; moreover, it is *your Duty*.

An

An apprentice or assistant should never, on any account, think of going to bed, until he shall have entered into the Prescription book, every prescription on loose paper, that has come in in the course of the day.

Whenever, through the fault of your employer delaying to write a prescription in due time, or from any other cause, a medicine is sent so late that people are gone to bed, and it is refused to be taken in, it should be made an invariable rule to send the medicine as early as possible, before breakfast the next morning.

As cleanliness in every department is to be rigidly observed, so in an especial manner it is necessary in what appertains to the books.

The Prescription book, and the Ledger, are sometimes brought into a court of justice, as evidence. How disgraceful, then, to a Master, even more than to the assistant or apprentice, must it be, to have exposed in open court, before the judge, counsel, and all who are present, a Prescription book, whose every leaf is defaced with infamously bad writing, extensive blurs, and large blotches of red or black ink, elongated by rubbing the finger or thumb over them while wet; soiled by laying other dirty books upon the pages when the book lies open; greased with lamp-oil; dog-eared in every leaf; the external part of
the

the cover an inch thick with dirt, scribbled over with nonsensical sentences, or with profiles of faces, or the man in the moon, or with flourishes cut with the pen, or incisions cut in the forril, with a penknife; with here a spot of hard plaster, and there a daub of soft ointment—and other such beautiful ornaments. How much more creditable would it be to all parties, to see the book neat and clean as it ought to be; neither the youth nor his master need then be ashamed to produce the book either in court, or bring it into the best room in his master's house, in order to have the book looked through, under the eye of some very precise Gentleman, a stranger, when it is of importance to come at some particular Prescription, the time of preparing which has been totally forgotten for want of a date on the label.

CHAP. VII.

Of the Ledger.

OF the Ledger I shall say but little, as every Medical man has his own way of keeping his accounts; I shall only make two general observations, namely, that the writing be particularly neat and clean; and that the person to whom the posting of the books is intrusted, should never, on any account whatever, be more than a week behind-hand with the posting. This is a business of such importance, that a Master should never neglect to look into it himself. If he does not post his own books, *let him see that the posting* is scrupulously continued by the person he employs, and let nothing but *urgent business* furnish an excuse for the neglect of it.

CHAP. VIII.

Of the Message Book, and of the very great Importance of Attention in the recording and reporting Messages.

THE Medical practitioner will find very great advantage in keeping, in preference to a slate, a book, exclusively appropriated to the entering of all manner of messages. It is extremely simple. It consists of three columns; the first for the day of the month, the middle for a very exact entry of the name and place of abode, of the party sending or calling. The third column for setting down the hour of the day at which the message is brought to the shop. The following is the form of it.

Day of Month.	October, 1814.	Hour when the Message was brought.
Wed. 13th.	Mr. King, B. W. S. statim.	9 a. m.
	Mr. Johnson, 63, Newgate Street, any time you go that way.	10 a. m.
	Mrs. Wright, 2, Red-Lion Street.	$\frac{1}{2}$ p. 10 a. m.
	A Gentleman brought a Letter from Jamaica; will breakfast with you to-morrow morning.	3 p. m.
Th. 14th.	Miss Wilson, (next door,) sat down on a needle, which broke in.—Vis. quamprimum.	4 p. m.
	Mr. Long, for £7 15s. for King's Taxes.	10 a. m.
	Mr. Cooper, Black Friars; No business, only to ask how family are.	10 a. m.
	Mrs. Bennett, 7, London Wall. Child very ill; wants to see you before 2 o'clock.	1 p. m.
Fr. 15th.	Mr. Wood, to take leave. Going to Ireland in 4 days; will take any letters or parcels.	4 p. m.
	Mr. Johnson, 63, Newgate Street. Call on him to-day, wants to pay his bill.	$9\frac{1}{2}$ a. m.
	Mrs. Monk, 11, Greenhill's Rents.	12.
	A Lady in deep mourning. Will call at 10, cras mane.	5 p. m.
	Lodger, back garret, Public house, corner; would not tell his name, nor pay for $\frac{3}{4}$ j. Tinct. Rhei, which he drank. Wants you to call on him. [Appears not worth powder or shot.]	7 p. m.
	Capt. Barry; wants you to dine with him to-morrow, at Hungerford Coffee-house, at $\frac{1}{2}$ p. 4, and bring your bill.	8 p. m.

I have a

I have in the foregoing specimen selected the most common names, in order to shew the absolute necessity there is, of carefully attending to the residence, and particularly, the *numbers* of the houses; and this is most essentially needful, where the name is a very common one; as Smith, King, Jones, &c.* Therefore we cannot be too correct in this point; and the same rule of exactness should be observed with regard to the name of the *street*, especially if it is a street of which there happens to be many of the same name; as King Street, Duke Street, Charles Street, and the like.

Of the many circumstances that may operate to the losses of a Medical Man, or indeed, of any man in business, nothing is more ruinous than a slovenliness in receiving, or a neglect in delivering messages. The practitioner may lose a patient, or what is worse, a patient may lose his life, while his friends are in expectation of his coming. Nothing offends more than not coming to a patient that has sent; and there are very few who will be content with the excuse, "*that it was the young man's fault who neglected to deliver the message.*"

* In the *Business, or Trade-Alphabet of Holden's Directory*, there are no less than FOURTEEN columns of the name of Smith; and of Jones, in the alphabet of *Trades*, NINE columns (about sixty names to a column.)

That

That no forgetfulness may prevent the delivery of a message, it ought to be written down accurately, while the messenger who delivers it is in the shop; and read over to that messenger, that there be no mistake; and, even if the master is himself present, and hears the message delivered, even that should be no excuse for the want of an exact compliance with this injunction; even if the messenger brings a card, or a written direction, still that direction should be *faithfully* copied.

I lost the advantage of attending a patient that proved a very valuable connexion to the gentleman, who was called in through my not going to her, owing to a most unpardonable piece of negligence in the young man that then lived with me. Coming home very late one night, he shewed me the entry of a Mrs. Tr. No. 34, Lower Charles Street, who wished to see me that night, or if too late, soon the next morning; being more in the habit of visiting in Upper and Lower Charles Street, Northampton Square, I fruitlessly sought a No. 34, in both, then went to Charles Street, City Road, to as little purpose.—Returning home, I reported my ill success to the youth—“Perhaps, Sir, “it may be Charles Street, Westminster, or “Charles Street, near Berners Street.” “Perhaps nonsense,” I replied pettishly,—“if
“people

“ people will not be more accurate in giving
 “ directions, when there are so many streets of
 “ the same name, I cannot lose so much of my
 “ time hunting from one street to another. Why
 “ was not the message sent in writing? If the
 “ messenger should come again, which is now
 “ improbable, say how much time I have lost
 “ through this want of precision.”

Four days afterwards in rummaging a drawer of waste paper for something else that I just then wanted, I found a *card* that the lady had *actually* sent, with the words, *Mrs. T—*, 34, *Lower Charles Street*, HATTON GARDEN! but which card had been inexcusably thrown aside, unnoticed—! Although I had now no hope of having the lady as a patient, still I thought an apology was necessary; and I went to the house for that purpose, but she would not see me; the master of the house however said he “ was very
 “ sorry I had lost her, for that both the lady and
 “ all her connexions were truly respectable; that
 “ she was a good patient to the Doctors, being both
 “ rich and liberal, and her money always sure!”

A young man should never trust to memory, in such important points; if he will but give himself the habit of setting down the name of every person, not only who sends or leaves a message, but who calls, without having any message to leave, if he can by any means learn
 the

the name, it will become perfectly easy to him; and an assistant or apprentice ought to consider it as much his duty to *tell* his employer of the message when he comes in as it is to write it. He is not to trust to the master's *looking at the message book*, when he comes in: It is certainly what every master ought to make a practice of doing; but there are so many things that may occur on his return from his round of visits, to prevent his paying *immediate* attention to the message book, that it is not to be wondered at, if, prevented from looking at it on his first coming in, it should sometimes slip his memory to look at it afterwards; therefore, on this ground, it is a duty, an *imperious* duty, on the assistant or apprentice, to obviate the ill consequences that might arise from an oversight.

And even, should the employer be wanted in a great hurry while from home; and, in consequence of his absence, a second message should come, that he need not trouble himself to go to the patient, yet still the name of the party sending should be written down, even though the messenger should forbid it. The master has it at his own option, to go or not.

If the master practises midwifery, a more particular attention in the delivery of messages, than in any other case, is requisite. The master is, or ought to be, at all times careful in leaving
not

not only verbal directions, but also the names in writing, of the round of visits he is going to make; but if he has a labour impending, that he thinks it is possible he may be called on, while from home, to attend, he should leave on a slip of paper the exact road that he is going, and not deviate in his walk from the order in which he has written the names of patients to be visited. If he is sent for to the labour, it is the assistant's duty to send the servant, or some one after him directly, but he ought to send to each house, in writing, a little note, thus—

“ *Mrs. Jones, 224, Holborn, in Labour,*”

and one of these left at each of the houses where the assistant knows that the master must certainly call.

If he be gone out a long while from home, and the messenger goes *after* him, in the order he left word he should travel in, there will be but small chance of overtaking him; and the master may be home before the messenger. The best way in that case will be, to make out the list of patients in a retrograde order, writing that name first, at whose house the master is expected to call the last in his round; and by going in that retrograde order, and leaving a small slip of paper as described above, at each house, the messenger will be sure to MEET him; there is

another advantage in sending the name and residence in writing, which is, that when the people of the house see that it is for a *labour* the practitioner is wanted, they will be anxious for the sake of the distressed female to expedite the Doctor when he comes, and not delay him unnecessarily. Then again, the name being in writing, there can be no mistake in giving a wrong name, and the master may choose whether to go home first, or take a shorter way to the patient.

For want of such caution as this I lost a valuable patient not only for the labour which I was sent for to attend, but ever after. I was engaged to dine, and had arrived, at a friend's house in Bishopsgate Street, near the Church; just as I was going to sit down to a good dinner, my servant came to call me to a labour, saying, *that I must go home directly.*

I lost no time, but left my dinner and hastened home directly, to know where I was to go. Had my blockhead of an assistant written the name of the patient, and residence, which was in Houndsditch, within a stone's throw of where I was sitting at dinner, I might have transacted my business and returned in half an hour; whereas, for want of this knowledge I had to hurry home in a hot summer's day, measure every inch of the ground back again, and was
too

too late at last. So I lost that job, and the Lady liked the Gentleman so well that was sent for to come in my stead, that she employed him ever after.

Never say any thing in the presence of a servant or messenger, that can in any way be misinterpreted or misrepresented. If a hurrying message be brought to you, requiring your speedy attendance, and that a case of life and death requires your still more immediate attendance elsewhere, never tell the messenger that you must go to the patient in the greatest danger first—for it is ten to one the messenger will twist the answer, either from misapprehension or design, to your disadvantage—and return with “Ma’am, “I saw Mr.—, and he says he must attend to “somebody else before he can attend to you.”

Or, if you had just formed your list of visits, when a message should come, from such a place as must wholly alter your plan, or put you entirely a day back in your business, and should only say, “How unlucky! I had just now intended going to the west end of the town on “urgent business, and now I must put it off “until to-morrow,” you may think yourself very fortunate if the servant does not go back to her mistress and say, that the Doctor says, “he is “going to the west end of the town on particular “business and cannot come till to-morrow.”

These

These two statements are not merely suppositions or inventions; I have been served in both these ways more than once or twice.

I once lost a family where I had attended for 20 years, and thought nothing could throw me out, by saying, "I wish Mrs. C—— could be
 " prevailed on to send messages for instantaneous
 " attendance, only when there is absolute occasion
 " for it; and then I would always attend on the instant; but when that is the message invariably,
 " (come without a moment's loss of time;) and
 " when I have attended, I have found it to be for
 " some little scratch or pimple on the arm that had
 " been there a week, it is like the fable of the
 " shepherd's boy and wolf."

Even when you make an observation, that is not intended to be noticed, merely a soliloquy—it will be sure to be carried back.

I once had an assistant to whom an urgent message was brought requiring his immediate attendance; he merely said to the servant, "oh,
 " that is the child that I was sent for to when in a
 " fit, twice, and when I went to it, it was very well
 " both times; I will go after you as soon as possible."

The servant took the observation as an answer; "that as he had been twice sent for to the same
 " child, and nothing was the matter with it, he
 " should take his time."

The father, and the aunt of the child, irritated
 at

ant this answer, which was made worse by the young man's not attending for two hours and a half, immediately sent for another practitioner to the child, who was really taken very dangerously ill; and I lost from thenceforward, through no fault of my own, an opulent and profitable family with whom I supposed myself too great a favorite to be easily set aside for another.

The best way then, on every occasion of this sort, is to say nothing that either your friend or foe can misinterpret, or misrepresent. It is enough for either master or man to promise attendance with all possible speed: If the apprentice or assistant will be accepted, he should go with the messenger if possible; or, if not with the messenger, go with such dispatch as totally to preclude the family having time to send for another practitioner; and if they are dissatisfied, let him say, "allow me to send something that I pledge myself shall do good and not injure, until my employer comes home; and I promise for him that he shall attend without a moment's delay, on his return."

I once lost, not the family but the temporary attendance and profit on the medicines, in the case of a little boy I had attended twice a day for three weeks. Some officious meddler had terrified the parents by saying the patient was in imminent danger; and persuaded them to take him
to

to a Physician ; the prescription was brought to my house ; I was not at home, but my assistant was ; and a very skilful young man he was ; the father however did not choose to trust him to make up the medicine, and because I was not at home myself, took the prescription a mile and a half, to be made up at Corbyn's, where all future prescriptions, from that day, were made up during the boy's illness. I state this case merely to shew by what a slender thread the bread of a Medical man hangs, and what a slender hold he has of the confidence even of those families where he may suppose himself so great a favorite that nothing can turn him out. Let him, however, make but the dangerous experiment, and he will find himself mistaken with even the *best* of his patients.

Nothing is more tiresome than for an Accoucheur to be confined at a distance from home, for a whole day or perhaps two or three days, and neither know what is doing at home, nor seeing any of his people by whom he could send instructions, what is to be done, and who are to be visited in his absence. To prevent this, the assistant or apprentice, whether he receive instructions for it or not, should always make it a rule to send the servant some time in the course of the day, to let him know how things are going on at home, and to inquire who are to have medicines,

medicines, or who are to be visited. Some patients may be so very dangerously ill, that it will be necessary to send for a friendly neighbouring practitioner to visit for you; others your assistant or apprentice can visit, and give satisfaction; others can wait—but all are pleased with this mark of your attention, and many would be very highly offended, if a day were to pass over without their being attended to.

Under the unpleasant confinement in which your employer is kept for so many hours, it lightens his trouble to know that his patients are not neglected, and that the most captious of them cannot grumble on account of not being attended to.

Whenever the master is at a labour, if he leaves word that you are to send the servant at any particular time, for commands, let no excuse prevent your sending him punctually to the moment; and as the people of the house will not always permit the person whom you send to see his master, and will not unfrequently send him away without letting him know of his calling, you should never omit sending a piece of paper with him; and, as a *sealed* paper might be suspected by the husband or friends of the Lady in labour, to contain a summons to another labour, if you have even *nothing* to communicate, write something

something that may be *supposed* to require an answer, as, “ Sir, Mr. Anderson wishes to have some more of his pills; I wish to know what sort I shall send him, as he has had two sorts.

“ Sir, Mrs. Dickins has sent for some stomachic draughts; be so good as to prescribe what I shall send her.

“ Sir, Brown’s child has a cough; be pleased to call in your way home, and prescribe what I shall send in the mean time, as they are very particular people.

“ Sir, Smith wants his bandage tightened. Shall I visit him and do the needful, or wait till you are released?”

When people see such *open* notes as these they are not alarmed, and there can be no excuse whatever for their neglect to convey them to the Accoucheur, however busily engaged he may be.

A very great number of instances could be named of the master of the house sending away the servant without letting the Accoucheur know of his having called, and keeping the sealed letter to deliver; but not until the labour is over, without any regard to the nature or possible urgency of its contents.

A master should also be careful to say to the domestics, that he expects his servant, or some
one

the belonging to him will call, or that he particularly requests he may not be sent away without being told of his coming, as he has instructions to send home for the management of the business the day in his own absence.

CHAP. IX.

Of the Retail Book.

A FEW sheets of ordinary paper tacked together, with as many leaves as will answer for one month or two months, or in short, just such a book as the proprietor chooses to fancy, will answer the purpose of making a Retail-book. Its use is, to be the common receptacle of every memorandum, not intended to be permanent; and of the account of all money received into or paid out of the till. The form that best answers this purpose is a quarto foolscap size.

This Retail-book being considered merely as a blotter, to be cut up for waste paper when the accounts shall have been transcribed into their proper books,—other books are kept for the *permanent* accounts of the house and shop: the house accounts generally fall to the mistress of the house, if there be one; or a grown-up daughter: if the master be a bachelor, most probably

Probably the *house* accounts will fall to the share of the assistant or apprentice; but the *opp* accounts most certainly will and ought. Whoever it be that has the bringing up of those accounts, they ought to be regularly entered once a week, when time best can be spared.

Proceed we now to exhibit the form of a Retail book, such as I have been in the habit of making use of for many years.

Specimen of Retail Book. (Left hand.)

On the left hand side of the book, are two columns, the one for AGENDA, the other for DEFICIENTIA, that is, articles that, if not wanted immediately, will be wanted soon. Thus,

Tuesday, April 2nd, 1811.

Agenda.	Deficientia.
Make Tinct. Cardamom. Comp. sine mora.	Cinchona 4lb. Labels printed. Rad. Ipecac. 1lb.
Make Ung. Resinæ flavæ.	Cetaceum 4lb. Bladders.
Put up ounces of Cham. flor.	Demy paper for shop, and foolscap for writing bills.
Pulverize Rhubarb.	
Make Calomel pills, 1gr. 2gr. 3gr. 5gr. 64 of each.	Syringes.

Specimen of Retail Book. (Right hand.)

On the right hand page, are two columns, the one for the entering the money received for every article in the retail business of the shop, the other, the money taken out of the till, for the purchase of articles for either shop, or personal expenses. According to the following form.

Tuesday, April 2nd, 1811.

Shop Expenses.				Left in the till last night 3s. 8½d.			
	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Provisions,	0	0	10	In this space the articles sold by retail are entered, amounting, on adding up at night, to			
Saddles,	0	1	0				
Beer on business,	0	0	8				
Shop,	0	2	6		0	17	2
C. took	0	5	0	In till last night	0	3	8½
	0	7	6		1	0	10½
Remaining in till at 10 o'clock on Tuesday night,	0	14	3	Deducting 13s. 11d. the money taken out of the till, from £1. 0s. 10½d. there would only remain 6s. 11½d. but as it appears on counting the money at night, that there is more, viz. 7s. 10d. it follows that some things have not been set down, therefore we say, not entered,			
	£.	1	1	Which balances the opposite side,	£.	1	1
			9				9
				And proves the Receipts of the day to be, not 17s. 2d. but			
					0	18	½

CHAP.

CHAP. X.

Of the Price Book, and Place Book.

IT is an ungracious thing for a man to ask another how he keeps his accompts.—For this reason I never could bring myself to request permission of any gentleman to let me see in what manner he kept his book of the Druggist's prices, and of the retailing prices for the use of the shop.

As I had no examples to go by, I was obliged to invent a Price Book, as well as I could, for my own use, and for the use of apprentices.

The following is a description of it.

The size of the paper is quarto post; thickness, about three quires; ruled with faint lines, and, as being intended to last for some years, strongly bound in forril.

Throughout the alphabet (it should be a *cut* alphabet), the name, in *English*, comes first—the hand-writing should be perfectly legible;—after the name, the selling price; then the place in the shop where it is to be found; and as in process of time prices may vary, or necessity
point

point out a more convenient place for the situation of the article, than the one first allotted to it. The price and place may be written with red ink in the place with black lead pencil, that it may be either rubbed out, or at some future time written over with strong black ink.

Below this, comes the Latin name or names; the old name should be retained, because the compiler might be at a loss, in the event of prescriptions coming in, written by practitioners who have not conformed to the new Nomenclature, and in the next line, the name given in the latest edition of the London Pharmacopœia. These Latin names may, by way of distinction, and to catch the eye immediately, be written in red ink.

By making allowance for a good breadth of margin, there is room afforded to set down in very small writing the different prices which different Druggists may charge, from time to time, as the trade-price to Apothecaries. A few words, by way of specimen, will serve to illustrate my meaning.

Specimen

Specimen of the Price Book.

Acacia Gum, The new name in the Pharmacopœia of 1809, for **Gum Arabic.**

Hankey, 5s. 6d.—5s.

Tyrrel, 4s. 6d.

White, from 20d.
to 3s. 6d. & 4s.

Old name, GUMMI ARABICUM.

New name. (Pharmacop. 1809.) ACACIA GUMMI.

powdered, 6d. & 8d. 3j. *Specie Bottle, No. 1, second shelf, front.*

Hankey, 3s. 8d.

— 4s.—5s. 6d.

Jackson & Manley,
4s.—4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.

PULVIS GUMMI ACACIÆ, or ARABICI.

Acetated Ceruss, formerly **Sugar of Lead,** 4d. 3j. *In a square bottle, top shelf, E. Corner, commonly called the Poison shelf—(where all very dangerous Drugs are put.)*

2s. 6d.—2s. 8d.

2s. 8d.—2s. 10d.
3s.

O. N. SACCHARUM SATURNI.

Ph. 1788, CERUSSA ACETATA.

Ph. 1809. PLUMBI SUPERACETAS.

Acid Vitriolic, or Oil of Vitriol. *Winchester bottle, top shelf over window; also, in a little bottle for serving. 3d. 3j. In niche, 4th shelf from the top.*

6d. lb. 1.—8d. lb. 1.

8d.—8d.—9d.

O. N. OLEUM VITRIOLI.

Ph. 1788. ACIDUM VITRIOLICUM.

Ph. 1809. ACIDUM SULPHURICUM.

Diluted, ACID VITR. vel SULPHURICUM DILUTUM. *Made according to the Pharmacopœia, one ounce and a half of Oil of Vitriol and fourteen ounces and a half of water. (This is what maid servants and others mean when they ask for VITRIOL to clean their coppers with.) Quart Flint 3d shelf, East Corner. Retail, about 1d. 3l.*

Three Shillings per ounce. *Among the Tinctures, 3d shelf front. N. B. This must be kept very carefully tied over with bladder, and white leather. Tie the cork or stopper over, of the customer's bottle, when you sell or send out any.*

H

H. W. D. 11s. 6d. lb. 1.
J. & M. 11s. 9d. lb. 1.
12s.

12s. 6d.—12s. 9d.

O. N. ÆTHER VITRIOLICUS. } *Not worth while to sell less*
Ph. 1809. ÆTHER SULPHURICUS. } *than a Shilling's worth.*

Æthiops Mineral.

O. N. ÆTHIOPS MINERALIS.

3s. 6d.—3s.—3s. 9d. Ph. 1788. HYDRARGYRUS CUM SULPHURE.

Ph. 1809. Left out.

Specimen of the Price Book, (continued.)

Alkanet=root. (Very dear and scarce now, in 1812,) 6d. & 8d. 3j. *Drawer No. 4,*
 1s. 8d.—2s.
West Corner.
 4s.
RADIX ANCHUSÆ.

Aloes Succotrine, 8d. per 3j. the best kind of Aloes. *East Corner, Drawer*
No. 2.

6s. 6d.
ALOE SUCCOTRINA.
 7s. 6d.—8s.
Ph. 1809. EXTRACTUM ALOES SPICATÆ.
 7s. 9d.

Aloes Barbadoes. This is what is commonly sold by retail. 6d. per 3j.
East Corner, Drawer No. 3.

2s. 6d.—5s.
ALOE BARBADENSIS.
 7s. 6d.
Ph. 1809. EXTRACTUM ALOES VULGARIS.

Aloes Hepatic, or common Aloes, 4d. per 3j. *East Corner, Drawer No. 4.*
 2s. 4d.—5s.
ALOE HEPATICA.
 7s. 9d.

Antimonial Wine, 6d. 3j. *Among the Tinctures, 3d shelf, front.*
 lb. ij. 6s. or 7s.
VINUM ANTIMONII.

Arsenic. We never keep it; consequently do not sell it.

[N. B. This most dangerous Poison should be wholly excluded from the Shops of Apothecaries, and never found in them on any account whatsoever.]

Anquintum. See Unguentum.

But we will now travel a little out of alphabetical order, in order to give a specimen or two of the cautionary remarks, that it will be proper to intersperse, for the greater safety in dispensing Medicines.

Blue Ointment. *By this is understood that which the lower class of people call by a variety of Names, viz. Uncion, Child's Ointment, Trooper's Ointment, Oil of Bays and Quicksilver, Grey Ointment, Soldier's Ointment, &c. &c. 2d. 3j. Blue jar, No. 6, 3d Shelf, Always made at home. Stands us in about 1s. 8d. lb. j. South.*

O. N. UNGUENTUM CÆRULEUM MITIUS.

Ph. 1809, UNGUENTUM HYDRARGYRI MITIUS.

Specimen of the Price Book, (continued.)

Sublimate Corrosive, (*by the vulgar pronounced Supplement.*) *In an octagon Bottle, glass Stopper; top, or Poison shelf, 1s. per Ounce.*

6s. p. lb.
8s. at the Hall.

This very dangerous preparation of mercury is never to be sold to any but workers in gold, with whom you are certain I am in habits of intimacy; nor to them, unless they send a written note, signed with name, or come themselves for it.—

MERCURIUS CORROSIVUS SUBLIMATUS.

Ph. 1788. HYDRARGYRUS MURIATUS.

Ph. 1809. HYDRARGYRI OXYMURIAS.

Unguentum, (*by the vulgar pronounced “Ann quintum.”*)

By the simple word UNGUENTUM, without any addition, the lower class of people mean the Ceruss Ointment, or White Lead Ointment, 2d. 3j. *Blue jar, No. 7.—3d shelf, South.*

Made at home. Cost about
1s. 4d. lb.

UNGUENTUM E CERUSSA.

Very properly omitted in both Pharmacopœias of 1788, and 1809.

The blank leaves that may remain, after a most full and comprehensive Alphabetical List shall have been made out, may be applied to various useful purposes; such as, permanent Memorandums, Precepts, Rules and Regulations, Memorandums of the residence of Dealers in Leeches, Lint, Bladders; Names of Monthly Nurses, and Nurses for Sick;—Wet Nurses, and Women who take children to dry nurse; and many other such notices of matters not intended to be forgotten, but to go from year to year.

The whole of the Twenty-first Chapter (*On the Arrangement of an Apothecary's Shop*), of Mr. LUCAS's book, is well worthy the attention of both Master and Pupil, and will well repay either for their time and trouble bestowed in the perusal; indeed, I may say, for the money paid for the purchase of the book itself.

Of the Cash Book.

This book, as its name imports, is the book in which every account of cash received is to be entered.

Accounts can never be kept with accuracy, unless things are entered at the moment. What-
ever

ever money is received, should be entered at the very moment it is paid to you, and, if possible, in the presence of the person who pays it; and the same exactness should be attended to in the paying out of money for the expenses of shop, &c.

CHAP. XI.

Method.

Est modus in rebus.

WHEN a youth fairly enters on his business, with a full intention of giving his whole mind to it, he will overcome many difficulties, that to minds less sanguine would appear insuperable. And the first essential point which I should recommend to him is, *Method*.

The advantages of Method are pointed out in so many pages of Mr. Lucas's excellent Treatise on the duties of a Surgeon-Apothecary, as plainly shew his just estimation of the good effects of Method and arrangement.

“ It is justly observed (says he) by Mr. Locke,
“ that nothing so much clears a learner's way as
“ a good Method; hence it is of the utmost
“ consequence, that professional students be
“ early trained in the elementary parts of the
“ Science, and that they be constantly employed
“ in acquiring proficiency.

“ The Pharmacopœia is the primary book
“ necessary to be studied by a young apprentice.

“ By

“ By this he is to learn the weights, and mea-
 “ sures, the characters in length, of labels, which
 “ in the shop are usually abridged, and an ex-
 “ planation of formulæ commonly met with in
 “ prescriptions. In ascertaining this useful in-
 “ formation, great benefit may be derived by the
 “ instructive comments of a Master, or compe-
 “ tent associate. A familiar acquaintance with
 “ the contents of the Dispensatory may teach
 “ a youth to explore the meaning of the ab-
 “ breviated titles in the shop, by comparing
 “ them with the words at length. Experiments
 “ of this kind may lead on to his remembrance
 “ of the places destined for different articles; a
 “ knowledge which he will find to be absolutely
 “ necessary, when he has to select various in-
 “ gredients for medicines directed to be by him
 “ compounded. In proportion to the multipli-
 “ city of business transacted, the number of ar-
 “ ticles is ordinarily increased, and in many in-
 “ stances amounts to four or five hundred. It
 “ must be a long time before a young man, with
 “ the best memory, can retain the exact place
 “ of any considerable number of the contents
 “ in a shop, unless he have some established
 “ regulation to assist his recollection, and ex-
 “ pedite his search. In the chapter on the ar-
 “ rangement of an Apothecary’s shop, an ap-
 “ prentice may find a method of furnishing
 “ himself

“ himself with rules for his framing his own
 “ guidance, or copying that form already con-
 “ trived by an ingenious instructor. I have for
 “ several years experienced the refitting, or re-
 “ newing the titles of a Dispensatory to be pre-
 “ ferable to any other mode of initiating a young
 “ apprentice; nor have I ever found a difficulty
 “ in a satisfactory recommendation of such a
 “ profitable lesson.

“ Coloured papers instead of painted labels
 “ are particularly advisable, because they are
 “ well fitted for occasional changes of obsolete
 “ to significant titles, and also for admitting of
 “ a frequent and thorough renovation of a whole
 “ shop, and at a trifling expense. Should a mas-
 “ ter object to the charge, a parent would always
 “ find the defraying of it fully compensated by
 “ his son’s improvement. There is nothing pro-
 “ posed in executing such a scheme, that is out
 “ of the reach of any youth, who has had a proper
 “ education: the whole is practicable, and in
 “ proportion to the difficulty, the exercise will
 “ be found permanently instructive.

“ An apprentice engaged in this renewal of
 “ titles should proceed with caution; should
 “ aim at gaining a knowledge of each appella-
 “ tion, and occasionally consult an experienced
 “ guide. The last edition of the London Phar-
 “ macopœia, and a Latin Dictionary, may be

“ found essential aids. It is to be taken for
 “ granted, that the most alert juvenile performers
 “ will be liable to mistakes, and that the super-
 “ intendence of some quick-sighted preceptors
 “ will be absolutely necessary; and such requi-
 “ site corrections may also afford an able master
 “ an opportunity of expatiating on the necessity
 “ and utility of such performances. For the
 “ credit of practitioners, as well as pupils, and
 “ for the satisfaction of employers, a scrupulous
 “ nicety in the cleanliness of shops must be ob-
 “ vious.”

LUCAS, *page 23.*

The Master who wishes his books to be posted, and his bills written out well and expeditiously, will not be niggardly in allowing a good supply of pens, and these pens ought to be very good and serviceable. For, if otherwise, the time lost in mending pens is incredible.—I have known a youth who in four hours writing out bills, absolutely wasted three out of those four hours in mending pens, and in five days, in this sort of work, cut me up more than thirty pens.

Every Master should therefore look to this, and make such arrangements to prevent this sad waste of time as his judgment will direct.

CHAP. XII.

Primary Duties.

DESIROUS of impressing on the mind of the pupil the necessity of a close attention to the preliminary observations set forth in the preceding pages, I now proceed to the exposition of his more immediate duties.

“Early rising,” says Mr. Lucas, “especially in summer, is not only salutary, but the early part of the morning is the most seasonable time for studious exertions; the thoughts being least incumbered, and interruptions least likely to happen.”

Although it is scarcely possible for a medical man to get through his business in the day, who is not in the habit of early rising, yet it may so happen, that through delicacy of constitution, or ill health, the master may not be in the habit of rising before eight, or let us even say *nine*; how would that man's business be carried on if the apprentice chose to lie in bed as long as his master?

In making an engagement with an Assistant,
a Master

a Master should particularly insist upon that point, that he shall be in his shop in proper time in the morning to set the boy about his business; and see to the setting the shop to rights; and when the young man is engaged, the master should be very exact in seeing to the performance of these duties for some days, that there be no slackening in this particular point.

When a master takes an apprentice, he should break him in to this business among the first duties taught, and spare no trouble to keep him to it: for if once suffered to relax, and the youth falls into the habit of lying in bed, the master will be plagued with him the whole time of his apprenticeship.

Be in your shop not later than SEVEN o'clock every morning, summer and winter; and if much is to be done, or any thing lies over from the day before, rise earlier, that you may not have two days business crowding on you, and only one day to do it in. The first thing to be done in the morning, is to set the shop to rights. In your shop let cleanliness in every respect be strictly attended to, and in your own person also.

Where there is not a man or a boy kept, your first care, after opening the shop, will be to sprinkle and sweep it; if your bed is in the shop, turn it up, and put every thing that is not immediately wanted to be made use of into

its

its own proper place: see that your bolus knives, mortars, measures, &c. are all clean and fit for immediate use: look into the prescription book, and see whether your master has written, at a late hour on the preceding night, and after you were gone to bed, any prescriptions to be made up and sent out: if he has, begin and finish, and send them out before you do any thing else. Let your next care be to see that such medicines as could not be made up yesterday for want of time, or were too late to be sent out last night, be sent to the patients without loss of time, and let no other business prevent you from attending to this most essential part of your duty. If lamps are used, take this time for trimming your lamps, for packing up such unsightly things as are to be carried into the store-room, or be put entirely out of the way, and doing all of what is called the dirty work; and let this be done so early as that you will have full time enough to clean your own person, so as to be perfectly ready to come in to your breakfast with the family when called; combed hair, clean hands, clean face, and clean shoes, are indispensables that no youth should neglect, on coming in to breakfast with the family.

“Sint nitidæ vestes, Comptaque cæsaries.”

I have seen a young gentleman make his first appearance in his employer's shop in a morning gown

gown and red Morocco slippers: this foppishness is as bad the other way, and ought by no means to be suffered: indeed, the use of slippers ought to be wholly interdicted; for a Medical man, whether master, assistant, or apprentice, ought to be ready to start at a moment's warning, to any sudden case to which he may be called out. It is no time to be gartering up your stockings, tying the knees of your breeches, adjusting your neckcloth, or hunting for your shoes, when half a dozen messengers one after another are running into the shop, breathless, to call you to a man that has fallen off a scaffold, a child suddenly seized with alarming fits, a person apparently dead, and just cut down or taken out of the water, or any other accident requiring instantaneous assistance; if you have all these preparations to make before you are ready to attend the messengers, other messengers, sent in different directions, will have succeeded in fetching some other Medical man, who will arrive before you; thus you will lose the credit that you might have obtained by effecting the recovery; and your employer may, eventually, through your not being ready, lose a valuable patient!

Besides, it is highly disrespectful to the family of your employer to come in to breakfast with your stockings about your heels, your shoes slipshod, a coloured handkerchief about your neck,
or

or what is worse, no handkerchief at all; your neck all bare, and it, and your face and hands, exhibiting indications that you have been too lazy to wash them.

I once lost an introduction into a very valuable family, who had sent their footman in a great hurry, to my house, being the nearest, for either the master, or *any body the servant might find at home*, to come and dress a slight wound in the forehead, that a child had received through a fall off a low chair.

Unfortunately, I had gone out before breakfast on that day, and perhaps should never have known of the circumstance, had not a friend of mine, the next door neighbour to the newly-come family, and who had recommended me to them, told me of the accident; and that my apprentice had refused to go, when applied to, in consequence of which they were obliged to send to some other professional gentleman in the neighbourhood.

On questioning my youth why he refused to visit? his answer was, "Why Sir, you would not have me go in that figure!" "What figure?" "Why, Sir, I was not dressed!" "Not dressed!" "Why, you were not wanted to go like a beau going to a ball!"

"No Sir—but I had no clean shoes."

"If you had gone in your dirty ones, it would have

“ have been better than my losing a good patient

“ by your not going at all.”

“ But my stockings were not gartered; and

“ then I should have had to wash my face, and

“ it would have taken me up so long a time be-

“ fore I could get ready—and the servant was

“ impatient, and—”

“ And so you refused to go?”

“ I only said I *could not* go!”

Thus I lost a respectable and opulent family, which did not pay less than from eighteen to thirty pounds per annum; during the four or five years they lived in my neighbourhood, to the gentleman who was sent for in consequence of my apprentice's refusal to attend, and who, having the good fortune to please, was employed in the family thenceforward, because a worthless and indolent young man was too lazy to pull up the heels of his shoes, and to garter his stockings!

If you live with a master who keeps a boy to carry out the medicines and do the drudgery, you have the less excuse for being unprepared, and coming in to your meals like a sloven.

Always bear in mind, that it is the bounden duty of the apprentice, or of the assistant, when a boy is allowed, to see that the boy is about his work; for, if the young man who has the care of the shop lies in bed until eight o'clock, the master

is

is obliged to neglect his own immediate business, in order to do that business which is the duty of his apprentice or assistant to do, namely, to look after the servant and keep him to his work.

The master must not suffer the shop to be made a dressing-room. If the young man has no other place to sleep in but the shop, still there will be allowed some upper room in the house where he may be permitted to keep his trunk, and dress himself in the day-time.

In some shops, where the master is remarkably neat and strict, I know for a certainty that every shelf, and every bottle, pot, jar, &c. is required to be dusted every day in the week, regularly, before the apprentice is allowed to eat his breakfast.

But as this cannot well be done in a shop where the interruptions attending the serving of retail customers must necessarily occur, or where a youth is without any help, I advise the following plan.

Divide your shop, if small, into three, if large, into six districts; and make it a rule, never to be swerved from, to clean one district each day in the week, except Sunday.

Thus, you can go through every pot, bottle, box, jar, &c. in the shop, twice a week, in a small shop, and once a week in a larger one.

Let Saturday be the day for cleaning the inside

side and outside of the window, and the shew-bottles. For this purpose let the shew-bottles be taken out of their places on Friday night, after business is over, to expedite matters, and placed in some convenient and safe place (but not on the counter), that time may not be lost in the morning in removing them.

Beside the general cleaning here recommended, there is one other rule that ought scrupulously to be adhered to, and this is, that whenever you take down out of its place a bottle, pot, or other article, be sure to accustom yourself to wipe the dust off from it before you return it to its place; nay,

“ *Si nullus erit Pulvis, tamen excute nullum.*”

OVID.

How disgraceful must it be to a youth, for customers, or servants, waiting for medicines, to see things all covered with dust, and to see the young man so filthy as to return the article to its place with all its dust and dirt upon it, just as it was taken down!

Besides, by adopting the mode I have recommended, the bottles, &c. take the less time in wiping when you come to make a general cleaning. If you have any time to spare, after setting the shop to rights and cleaning yourself to be ready for breakfast, employ it in looking through the

see drawers, bottles, pots, &c. to see what articles are almost expended; make memorandums of every thing that is wanted.—Of the drugs to be had from the Druggist, write them down on the left-hand page of the Retail-book; of those you are to prepare with your own hands, your best way will be to write them in a memorandum-book, which I advise you to keep for your own use, in which may be set down all that is to be done from time to time.

After breakfast, first see that there is a good supply of phials on the rack; of boxes, and gallipots in their proper drawers; and of cut paper of all sorts and sizes. Let no dirty phials remain on the rack, or in sight any where. Examine the necks of phials, in order to cut off strings tied round them; taking care that no phials with strings, or with chipped mouths, be sent to gentle patients.

Once a week make a general search through the Pill-box drawer, and burn all boxes that there are no tops for, and tops that there are no bottoms for; and all the unglued and broken pieces of boxes.

Have all your knives, bolus knives, tiles, spatulas, funnels, pestles and mortars, &c. perfectly clean at all times, and ready in their places for immediate use: thus, when a medicine is wanted
in

in a hurry, you have your measures and mortar ready to make it without any delay.

How disgraceful would it be to the credit of the shop, if a gentleman should come in, wanting a little Tincture of any sort, and choosing to drink it on the spot, diluted with some of the distilled waters, to hand him the graduated glass, bedaubed with the remains of some unsightly mixture, or the carcasses of a dozen flies, entangled in some syrup, lying at the bottom, to drink it out of!—

Or, supposing a delicate lady to come in, wanting some Honey, Tamarinds, or Conserve: What must she think of the shop and its owner, if she sees the man behind the counter take a knife or spatula, not from the place where it ought to be hung up *clean* and *in readiness*, but *off the counter* where it had been lying, all GAUMED with yellow Basilicon, or some other unsightly substance; what must she think, I say, if she sees you take up such a knife, and give it what is called a slut's wipe with a piece of dirty paper, or dirty tow, and then make use of it to serve her with what she wants? If, through unwillingness to refuse it, she should pay for, and take it away, rely on it she will not suffer it near her lips—she will only make a determination not to come to the same
shop

shop again, where things are served in so nasty manner.

Again, What could shew poverty and a want of business worse, than being obliged to take pour shot and water to clean a dirty phial, in the presence of a customer coming in in a hurry, and waiting for a medicine to be made up?

The best way to avoid censure for keeping your utensils in a dirty condition is, to make it a rule to return every thing to its place clean, the moment you have done with it. When, having served a customer, or been preparing pills, or any thing else, you neglect cleaning your knives, tile, mortar, glasses, scales, weights, or whatever you have been using, and putting them in their places—but suffer to remain, unwiped, or unwashed, on the counter, after they are done with; not only will your counter be so encumbered and crowded that you will not have room to compound the next prescription that comes in, but your graduated glasses, together with bottles, funnels, and other articles, are liable to be thrown down and broken, and sometimes a great deal of other mischief may be the consequence.

All wet spilled on a counter should be instantaneously wiped off. How creditable would it be to a shop, if an elegantly dressed lady, coming in for an ounce of Magnesia, or to have a prescription

prescription made up, were to have a handsome cambric handkerchief, a pair of Limerick gloves, or a spick-and-span new umbrella, or *all* of these, that she had laid on the counter while taking out her purse to pay for her medicine, burnt and destroyed past all recovery, by Vitriolic Acid, or Spirit of Salt, or Aqua-fortis,—or any corrosive liquid, or preparation, causing an irremediable change of colour—spilled on the counter just before her coming in, and neglected to be wiped away!

It is impossible that you can ever have your shop in regular order, unless you have a place for every thing; and if your shop is small, you will be obliged to put, sometimes, half a dozen different articles into one drawer. In this case, every article should be well designated, and well tied up in paper not liable to break. For instance, in the drawer marked Gum Ammoniacum, you may, for want of room, be obliged to put not only one Gum, but Gum Olibanum, Gum Mastic, Gum Guaiacum, and half a dozen others.

In taking out any of these parcels to use, always, after you have taken out what you wanted for immediate use, tie up your parcel securely, and return it to the identical place from whence you took it, and do not cram it into the first drawer that comes to your hand, without tying up.

pp. Do not cram the Gum Mastic into the drawer with Rose leaves; the Assafoetida into the same drawer with the Balsam of Tolu; the paper of Valerian into the Isinglass drawer, a half-pound paper of Bole Armenic Powder, in a wrapper full of holes, among your Senna leaves, nor put Cream of Tartar into the same drawer with White Lead.—All these things, and worse, I have known to be done.

There are various articles in a shop that must have their own drawer, into which drawer no other article whatever ought to be put; because of some particular smell, or quality, which might be communicated from one to the other. Of this description are, Valerian-root, Assafoetida, and some other of the Gums—Flores Sulphuris, Cerussa, Chamomile flowers, and many others. But where you are necessitated, for want of room, or for want of drawers to put more than one article in a drawer, let the articles be such as will be so completely dissimilar in appearance, that if a paper of either be put into its proper drawer, carelessly, and without being tied up, the one cannot be mistaken for the other; and, at the same time, care must be taken that the one shall not injure the other.—To illustrate my meaning, I should say that there would be no harm in letting the paper of Pomegranate shells have its proper place in the same drawer with

Rose

Rose leaves; Cascarilla Bark, dried Orange-peel, Columbo root, and Gentian, all kept in their respective wrappers, would take no harm if all were kept in the same drawer, always bearing it in mind, that there must be a book kept in the shop, in alphabetical order, to which reference must be made of the exact situation and proper place of each article; and these arrangements once judiciously made, the place should never be changed without very good reason.

There are some articles that may without any impropriety be kept in the same drawer, even without papering: for instance, there would be no harm in keeping a log of Quassia, or a junk of Sassafras root, or even a bag of Sassafras chips, in the same drawer with Lignum Vitæ raspings: but it would be highly improper to put the Sassafras among Rose leaves.

It is wonderful how easily a bad flavour is communicated to some articles. If Coffee is sent home in a ship that carries Pepper or Pimento, even though these latter are deposited in a different part of the ship from where the Coffee is stowed, the Coffee will have a peppery flavour, or the flavour of Pimento.

The same cautions are to be observed, but with redoubled strictness and attention, where, from the smallness of your shop, you are obliged to keep your powders, that you have not drawers

or

cor glasses for, in paper, and several papers in the same drawer. A paper of Hellebore powder should not be kept in the same place with powder of Ipecacuanha; nor Turmeric powder near powdered Rhubarb.

It is hard upon a master to be obliged to *purchase* articles which he can have made at home at half the expense, because his assistant or apprentice was too lazy to set down in time that such things were nearly exhausted.

To illustrate my meaning:—The young man serves out of the *Tinctura Opii* bottle, until every drop is gone. He then goes to the stone bottle, in which it is customary to make it in quantity, and he finds nothing but dregs in it; and that he has neglected to make a minute, when he poured the last remainder out of the bottle, that there was no more. *That* was the moment to enter the memorandum, and to lose no time in making a fresh quantity.

“Sir, we have no Laudanum in the house” So by this neglect, it will be necessary to buy all the Tincture of Opium that is wanted for fourteen days, admitting that the ingredients are put together to make the fresh quantity, as it will take so many days for them to stand before the Tincture is fit for use.

In like manner, it will be proper to make a memorandum, to set about making more Ipecacuanha

cuanha wine, when you filter the last quart out of the stone bottle into the serving bottle; and not leave it till every drop in the house is gone, and thus be obliged to buy all that will be wanted for a fortnight to come, that is, until your own fresh made wine is fit for use.

The master ought by no means to allow his apprentice or assistant to alter the arrangement of the shop just as he pleases. The experience of some years has taught in what manner to dispose of the stock to the best advantage; and you having made and written an account of the place of each article with care, the displacing of any of these must make a confusion in the Place-book, which it will take no small time and trouble to rectify.

CHAP. XIII.

Of General Conduct.

THE multiplied duties of a surgeon-apothecary (a character rapidly rising in honour and respectability), often compel him to sacrifice domestic indulgence, and perhaps apparently to compromise his religious exercises;—for if a suffering patient requires his attention, humanity inclines him to offer on the instant such assistance as is necessary, and the repeated interruptions he is subject to, prevent a regular attendance at church. Perhaps the immediate effect upon a youth who observes *only the absence* from church of his master, without reflecting upon the motive, would be as an operative excuse for *himself*; but as a medical Tyro should be a lad of education, better things are naturally hoped of him; and as few medical apprentices can really be allowed to go regularly to church, let me earnestly enjoin the necessity of making every opportunity of so doing, and never neglect employing one or two hours every

Sunday in reading the church service, and perusing a discourse from Blair, or some other divine.

That upright man, Lord Chief Justice Hale, made the following observation: "I have found," said he, "that a due observance of the duty of
 " the Lord's day hath ever joined to it a blessing
 " upon the rest of my time; and the week that
 " hath been so began, hath been blessed and
 " prosperous to me; and, on the other side, when
 " I have been negligent of the duties of that day,
 " the rest of the week hath been unsuccessful and
 " unhappy to my secular enjoyments."

While ever the shop door is open, for the receipt of customers, the shop, *and the shop only*, is the place where you are at all times to be seen. It is the ruin of a shop to have the name of being deserted, to have it said by passers-by—
 " *I never see any one in that shop, either be-*
 " *hind the counter, or customers coming in.*"
 If you are not busy with customers, or preparing for future calls, sit at your desk and study your books on Pharmacy or Anatomy.

If, *after the shop is shut at night*, the little parlour behind the shop is allotted purposely for your studies, study there; but if occupied by the family, you will find plenty to do in your shop until bed-time, in arranging matters for the business of the ensuing day; but, if all these arrangements are already made, sit down to your
 studies,

studies, *at your desk in the shop*, until the hour of going to rest. Doubtless, in those seasons when fires are necessary in the other parts of the house, a fire will be allowed in the shop, if the family use the parlour for their own sitting.

Keep out of the kitchen. An apprentice or assistant has no manner of business in the kitchen, unless in the summer-time, when he is making Ointment, or preparing some infusion or decoction that requires close watching, and where there is no other place to do it in. An apprentice or assistant who is too fond of the kitchen, is never good for any thing. As soon as ever a hankering after the kitchen, and too great familiarity with servants is manifest, THERE IS NO MORE GOOD TO BE EXPECTED. If the servant maid is too fond of being in the shop, as well as the young man who has the care of the business fond of being with her in the kitchen, the best way for a master to do, is to get clear of both as soon as he can.

In some families of Medical men certain reasons may exist, which may make it inconvenient to have the assistant or apprentice to dine at the table with the family. But in such cases as these, he ought to have an apartment allotted to him wherein to take his meals, and those meals should be served to him with all possible regard to his comfort; and the servants should, by the
example

example of the master and mistress of the house, be taught to shew him all due respect. It is degrading to a young man, in the situation of an Apothecary's apprentice, or the assistant of a professional man, to send him to mess with the servants in the kitchen. I know it is done in some families; but it is a conduct most highly to be condemned;—a practice, followed by many evil consequences; bastard children; marriages with cook-maids; learning gambling from footmen; and many other evils have been traced to that source. It was a very proper sense of the high breach of decorum, which the lady of a Medical gentleman expressed towards her husband's apprentice, who, in the last year of his time, had gotten the maid-servant with child. "Sir," said she, "you have always been treated
 " as a gentleman since you have lived in this
 " house, but you must pardon me if I decline
 " admitting you to my table in future; for they
 " who make companions and bedfellows of my
 " servants are no longer fit company for me."

Make it an established rule to be always ready to come to meals when you are called. If any preparation is necessary in the adjustment of your dress, set about it previous to the time you expect to be called; you will always know the hour, and find time to get yourself ready.

ready. If you are engaged with a customer, or making up a medicine that must go out soon, that alters the case; allowance will always be made—but when you are *not* so engaged, it is disrespectful to your employer and his family not to be ready to make your appearance until breakfast or dinner is half over.

When the cloth is removed, it is your duty at all times modestly to withdraw: for, however respectable you may be in point of birth, education, and connexions, still, while you are an apprentice, or, having served out your apprenticeship, while you hold a respectable situation, in the capacity of an ASSISTANT, either to the man you have served your time to, or to any other Professional Gentleman, you are not to consider yourself, *while holding that station*, as one of the company. It will be proper to recollect, that you were not engaged to be the *companion* of the person in whose employ you either enter as an apprentice, or are paid for your services as his assistant, but to DO HIS BUSINESS.

The most intimate of your employer's guests would think your remaining, uninvited, or coming in and taking your seat, sooner than decorum admits of, to be an intrusion; and it is contrary I believe to the usual and established custom, in all trades and professions, for assistants, shopmen,

men, or apprentices, to remain in the room after the cloth is removed. Nay, even should the company consist of your own parents and relations, still it is your place to withdraw after the meal is over; and if you have no particular work to do, sit down at your desk to your studies, or post your Ledger. This rule you must never break through. Even after supper, when it is to be supposed the business of the day is entirely over, it is equally your duty to retire. The time between supper and bed-time is generally the only time the master and mistress of a family have to talk over their domestic concerns; and whether they are by themselves or have company with them, they and their guests like to be left to themselves. At such times, the presence of an assistant or an apprentice would be a restraint on the conversation; therefore it would be considered as an intrusion in him to sit still after supper, and, as I said before, it is a thing not customary*.

Even

* If you are a good lad, and have always conducted yourself well, modestly, and as a gentleman, should there be any little matter of festivity going forward after supper, such as music, or a dance, your master or employer most probably will tell you to remain, and take a glass of wine; in that case, comply with his request, and having done so, make the motion again to withdraw; if, on this second motion to retire, he says, *sit still and enjoy yourself*, then, but

Even the Duke of Clarence, the son of our King, did not sit after dinner with his Captain, unless especially invited, but retired like other officers, as is the custom, to go about his professional duties after the removal of the cloth.

Never think of going to bed, however tired you may be with a hard day's work, or however pleased and happy you may be in the company of your master's friends at the social *after-supper* hours of innocent mirth, until you shall have put, or seen the boy, under your direction, put every utensil, book, or other articles of the shop, in its proper place, clean and ready for use; and your counter perfectly clean, and clear of every thing that ought not to remain upon it. You cannot tell what hurrying business but not otherwise, you may consider it as his wish that you should stay as long as you please, and be merry with the rest of the company; but never avail yourself of this permission, until you have settled the till-account of the day, and set every thing to rights in your shop. If this has not been done, tell him in a whisper, that you have business to settle; and then if he says, "*Very well, return and resume your seat when you have made all your arrangements for to-morrow,*" THEN you may with confidence consider yourself as his guest for the remainder of the time that his company remain with him. In return for this gratification, you will have many opportunities of making yourself useful; which, to a polite and well-bred young man, it would be superfluous to enumerate.

may come in, in the middle of the night, that may require all the room on your counter.

In sudden and dangerous cases, gentlemen are themselves often the messengers; and nothing can be more disgraceful to the credit of a shop, than for a gentleman, either friend or perfect stranger, to come in and see a deranged counter; the mortars with the remains of medicine lying in them from the day before; the scales lying straggling about, with, perhaps, the remains of powders in them; the small grain weights, drachms and scruples, scattered here and there, and lying any where but where they ought to be; the bolus knives sticking to the counter, cemented to it by their ends, bedaubed with Ointment, Conserve, or Electuary; the graduated glass opaque for want of rinsing; boxes, bottles, and pots, standing on the counter, that ought to be on their proper shelves; shop-cloths lying in sight, and the counter itself as filthy as a hogstye; add to this, no water in the *Aqua pura* bottle, and the pitcher empty; so that if you have to make up a medicine, in which that useful article is an ingredient, you have to go to the cistern or pump for it; thus affording room for the remarks of the stranger on the great utility of *Aqua Pumpaginis* to the Apothecary.

Moreover, it is no small impediment to your
business,

business, to have so many things to remove and put by before you can begin your work.

There are few things more disrespectful to a Master, than not to make some sort of reply when he speaks to you, be the subject what it may. If he is only telling you a common piece of news, not appertaining to business—such as, “Stocks are fallen to-day,” or, “There was a hot press on the river last night.”—To remain silent, would appear as if he were not worth an answer: it is easy to say to the first, “Then I suppose there is some bad news from the Continent;” or, to the latter, you may observe, “Then many a poor fellow will never see his friends again.” It is worth while, I say, always to say *something*, because the very circumstance of your Master telling you this sort of common-place news, shews that he and you are on good terms—but, if he speaks to you on business, it really almost amounts to an *offence* not to answer him; because, by your answering, you shew you have attended to what he has said.

The practice of making *no* answer is adopted by ill-tempered youths who wish to distress, or get away from their employers; and it answers their purpose thus:

Suppose

Suppose the Master, preparing to go his rounds, mentions the names of the patients he is going to—Mr. Sulky remains dumb. Master on his return finds he has been sent for to a labour, or on some other very important business, requiring immediate attendance.—He very naturally asks, “Why did you not send after me?”

Answer. “I did not know where to send to you, because I did not know which way you were gone.”

Master. “The very last thing I did before I went out was, to tell you, *distinctly* and *accurately*, the names of all the people I was going to!!”

Answ. “I did not hear you.”—No; the real state of the case was this, he *did* hear; but thinks to have this salvo for his lie, that he did *not* hear; *he* HEARD, *but would not* HEED. It is too much trouble for him to say, “Very well, Sir;” or, “I shall not forget.” And it is unpleasant to a Master, after he has given his instructions to his *dumb* pupil, to be obliged to say on every occasion, “Do you hear what I say?” Therefore a *good* youth will always make *some* reply: “Yes, Sir; No, Sir;”—or, “Very well, Sir.” And here let me observe that the word “*Sir*” is a mark of respect, which
should

should never be omitted when you address or apply to your employer, unless among that very respectable body of people, the Quakers.

Next to this doggedness of disposition, is the habit of making frivolous excuses, and the taking advantages of slight errors. For instance, if a Master writes a memorandum of something to be done by the young man: Not choosing to understand it, he will, when questioned why he neglected it, answer, "I thought you wrote it as a memorandum for yourself!"

A medicine is written for at 8 o'clock, a. m. for a child. Not sent at 7 in the evening. "I thought it would do better to-morrow, being Friday, because the former was taken on a Friday!"

Aqu. Pluvialis, in a prescription.

"Why was this medicine neglected?"

"I could not get any *Rain Water*!"

"Why were not these twenty letters sent to the Twopenny Post-office?"

Answ. "I thought you had more to write, and therefore waited."

"See, Sir, what you have done. These letters, that ought to have gone out at ten this morning, were for the purpose of calling a meeting on most important business, at TEN
on

“ on *Monday forenoon*; and your *thoughting*,
 “ or more properly, your not thinking of it at
 “ all, has brought it to eight o'clock at night;
 “ this being *Saturday*, the letters will not be
 “ now delivered until the hour of meeting on
 “ Monday morning is past!!”

Mrs. G. complains that you have neglected to send the Tincture of Bark that she spoke for yesterday.

Ans. “ I had no Tincture of Bark filtered.”

“ Why had you not?”

“ Because I had no filtering paper!”

A servant calls the *third* time for a Fomentation, for a patient in great agony.

“ Why was not this Fomentation done and sent?”

“ There was no fire to boil it.”

“ Why did you not cause the boy to light the
 “ fire, or request the cook to light one for you; or
 “ even light it yourself on so urgent an occasion?”

“ I had no vessel to boil it in.”

“ How so?”—“ The old pipkin is broken.”

“ Why did you not buy another?”

“ I did not know *which shop to go to!!!*”

“ Why did you not ask the cook to lend you
 “ a vessel?”

“ The cook had her water on to wash her
 “ dishes!!!”

“ Just

“Just now you gave as a reason that your decoction was not boiled, that there was no fire to boil it.”

(Once that a Master finds his pupil goes to saying cross purposes with him in this way, the best thing he can do is to get clear of him as soon as he can.

CHAP. XIV.

Cleanliness.

CLEANLINESS in your own person, and in every thing you do, is strictly to be attended to. There are many dirty things both in Surgery and Pharmacy: no people are sooner disgusted by an appearance of slovenliness or negligence, than sick or ailing people: if you are performing a surgical operation, leave every thing clean after you, and leave not the least sign to shew that a Surgeon has been in the room. Collect all the old dressings, bits of lint, cuttings of pledgets, and other annoyances, all into a heap, which, if in small quantity, you may put in the fire, if near one; but if they are likely to cause a crackling or a disagreeable smell, or if victuals are on, or near the fire, or indeed whether they are or not, the better way would be to request the servant or attendant to remove them (where there is a servant or attendant.) If it is not giving too much trouble, it is always most advisable to ask for water and a towel, even though you may not have soiled your fingers; it gives
people

people an idea of your neatness ; and they may think you a nasty fellow, if you go away without washing your hands after handling sores. I once heard a lady say of a Surgeon who had left the room after dressing an ulcered leg without washing his fingers, though he had not the least occasion to soil them, “ I wanted my tooth drawn, “ but cannot bear that dirty beast should put his “ fingers near my mouth, for after dressing my “ sister’s leg, the filthy wretch put on his gloves “ without washing his hands ; I dare say the “ inside of the finger-tops are incrustated with the “ matter of a thousand ulcers!!” The Surgeon lost a good patient by this trifling neglect, or rather this foolish bashfulness, merely intended to avoid giving the servant trouble.

Never, after bleeding, and having secured the arm ;—nor, after dressing a wound on the hand or arm, think your work is done, until you have adjusted the patient’s dress ; if it be a man, pull down his shirt sleeve, and button it for him, and help him on with his coat ; if a female, be sure and leave the arm perfectly clean from blood, and by every little attention make her satisfied with you ; if a wound on the hand or arm, never let the patient tie on the handkerchief over the dressing, but do it yourself : Such little attentions gain you respect, and impress
on

on the minds of strangers, that you know your business, and know good manners.

Remember that nothing hurts the credit of a shop more than these four things, viz.

1st. The not having articles good in their kind.

2nd. The not having them at all.

3rd. The not having a pleasing address to customers and patients.

4th. A dirty shop.

In the two first cases customers will necessarily be obliged to go elsewhere; and if they find themselves well treated at the next place they go to, they will naturally forsake your shop, and continue to use the new one; thus you may lose a good customer for ever.

In the third instance, even if your goods are of the first quality, people expect civility who lay out their money; and if you do not give them satisfactory answers to their questions, they will not come again: having too much of what is called small talk never did any harm; slowness of speech often disgusts. The first apprentice I ever had, by his polite address, his affability to all, from the richest to the poorest, gained the love and esteem of all who knew him; and brought me some valuable connexions, some of whom I retain to this day. His successor, by his manner
of

of answering people, as if they were not worthy of an answer, drove away both customers and patients, and very materially injured me in my business.

There is a certain description of females, whom, as it would be mean to curry favour with, so it is equally dangerous to offend: these are maid-servants; by not treating these as they ought to be treated, you may often do your Master irreparable mischief.

The best way of gaining the respect of this class, is by a dignified civility, and never forgetting the respect that is due to yourself.—

There are many of these (but they are skittish young lasses, full of mirth and levity) who “*desire no better fun*” than to be sent to the Doctor’s shop; “because there is such a charming young man there, so good-humoured, so funny, and full of his jokes.”——But then there are others of a more sedate turn, “who do not at all relish these *funny jokes*,” that delight the others so much; and who, if treated only with a little excuseable pleasantry, are so starched, and so wrapped up in the consequence their own mistress attaches to them, that they misconstrue the most harmless expression into a lessening of their importance, and return home to their mistress with an avowal that they will never go to that shop again; for that the young
man

man “ does nothing but *keep JIBING them, and JEERING them,*” when they go for medicines; so that they would rather go the distance of a mile extra to some other shop, &c.

By these and such-like insinuations, magnifying every trifling expression into offensive language, they frequently succeed in giving the shop a bad name, and prevail upon their mistress and her connexions to transfer their custom to some more favoured competitor.

Civility on all occasions is indispensably necessary to customers. If you speak to them as if you were desirous of driving them away, or *toss* an article served to them in a contemptuous manner *down upon the counter*, as if the touch of a plebeian would contaminate you, instead of handing it to the party with an air of politeness, you assuredly banish them from the shop.

NEATNESS in putting up of medicines is of more importance than may at first be imagined. A dirty paper, a foul phial, or a draught with a fly in it, has lost many an Apothecary a good patient. Medicines being in general nauseous, should have every advantage of *dress* to induce patients to take them.

For the same reason, whatever is sold in a retail shop ought to be always weighed or measured, especially if it be any thing that a patient

tient is to take. There are some things, where extreme nicety in weighing or measuring may be dispensed with; such as Salves, Ointments, and the like. Where you are in the habit of keeping small articles neatly put up ready for sale, such as Rhubarb or Magnesia, Salts, Jalap, Red and White Præcipitate, a dozen, or a couple of dozen at a time, people give you credit for having weighed these out at your leisure; but when people see a young apprentice serving out an Emetic, or a dose of Crem. Tartar and Jalap, by guess, they distrust him; they are afraid of taking things served in so slovenly a manner, and will say to themselves, and to their neighbours—"That young chap in Mr. ——'s shop is too lazy to weigh out his Master's medicines.—I bought some stuff for my child, but I will not give it him for fear it might poison him—I'll go no more to that shop." The gossiping neighbour replies—"Well, I went to the same shop the other day, for an Emetic for my husband, and he gave me, without weighing, four times as much as he ought to have given me; I am sure, if my husband had taken it, it would have killed him." A third neighbour enters into the conversation:—"Well, that is not the way the same youth served me; for I have been to the shop several times, for different articles, and he never gives me above
half

“ *half* what I ought to have, and he never gives
 “ any thing but *by guess*; so now I have left
 “ that shop, and go for my medicines to the
 “ Chemist’s at the corner.”

Thus it is that the character of a shop is destroyed, and with the defection of retail customers, the Master is always sure to experience the loss of some of his respectable *book*-patients—for the ill report of the shop spreads like wild-fire in a neighbourhood.

CHAP. XV.

Right and Wrong.

Detrahere aliquid alteri, et hominem hominis incommodo, suum augere commodum, magis est contra naturam, quam mors, quam paupertas, quam dolor, quam cætera quæ possunt aut corpori accidere, aut rebus externis.

TULL.

“ THERE are two other vicious qualities
“ which render a man very unfit for a place of
“ trust.

“ The first of these is a *dilatory* temper, which
“ commits innumerable CRUELITIES without
“ design. The maxim which several have laid
“ down for a man’s conduct in ordinary life
“ should be inviolable with a man in office,
“ never to think of doing that to-morrow which
“ can be done to-day. A man who defers doing
“ what ought to be done, is guilty of injustice so
“ long as he defers it. The dispatch of a good
“ office is very often as beneficial as the good office
“ itself. In short, if a man compared the inconveniences which another suffers by his delays,
“ with the trifling motives and advantages which
“ he himself may reap by such a delay, he would
“ never be guilty of a fault which very often does
“ an irreparable prejudice to the person who de-
“ pends

“ pends upon him, and which might be remedied
 “ with little trouble to himself.”

SPECTATOR.

For instance, if you serve out an article without weighing or measuring, through laziness, it is a hundred to one the article is brought back again. But I have already mentioned the ill consequences of this in page 189.

If, through being too lazy to take a bottle, pot, or other containing article, from its place to the counter (to which every thing ought to be taken, when you want to measure or weigh out, or compound, any medicine), you take out what you want, without going *near the counter*, you shall be sure to do wrong. Either you will give too much or too little:—If Syrups, Oils, Balsam of Copaiba, and the like, you spill some on the floor. The same spirit of laziness that prompts you to neglect taking it to its proper place, the counter, will prevent you from wiping it up; wiping it up!—O no, you are too fine a gentleman to take a dishclout in your hands to wipe up the floor, although yourself have made the nuisance; and if the boy is not in the way, there it may stay: Then, if Oils or Syrups, they deface the floor with an hundred spots, and in process of time the floor of your Master's shop will look like the floor of a dirty Oil-shop; and you or those who go into the shop, and from
 the

the shop, about the house, carry on their shoes this grease and clammy annoyance all over the house, to the great delight of the mistress of it and the maid-servant, who will give you many a blessing for the trouble you give her in cleaning after you.

Vitriolic Acid, and the other mineral acids, I allow you to pour into phials or bottles, without bringing them to the counter; and I give you leave to over-fill a bottle, or pour the liquid on one side of it as much as you please, in moderation, because, falling on the shop floor, these fluids splash about, and your stockings or pantaloons are sure to get some of the splashings, which assuredly burn a hole wherever they fall; and then, you know, you can come upon your father for a new pair.

Suppose you are about to make a Spermaceti mixture, or any other in which the yelk of an egg is an ingredient; and suppose you have but one, and neither time nor place will afford a possibility of procuring another egg.

It is too much trouble to stoop down to the bin or drawer, to take out a clean gallipot *and place it on the counter*. The wash-hand basin is at hand, with perhaps half a pint of dirty water in it. Over this wash-hand basin, with dirty water in it, you break your egg.—Through want of proper care, and taking time, away
K goes

goes the yelk along with the white, into the dirty water. You endeavour to fish it up with a *bolus knife*, because you have not a spoon at hand—and in fishing it up with this improper implement, you break the yelk.—Well—then you take one of the broken halves of the egg-shell, and scoop up as well as you can the broken yelk, with *quant. suff.* of the dirty water mixed with it, and you throw it in your mortar with the Spermaceti.

And now you fall to rub, rub, rub, and thump, thump, thump—and you express your wonder they do not mix—“you never saw Spermaceti “and egg so difficult of union before!”—Why, *blockhead*, to be sure they will not unite. Do you not recollect that full one-half of what you call *yelk of egg* is *dirty water* out of the wash-hand basin, and that the quantity of aqueous fluid it is that impedes the union?

Well—then, as you have not another egg, away you go to the powdered Gum Arabic, and at last, with a great deal of labour and loss of time, you get your Emulsion made *somehow or other*; and as to the half egg-shell-full of dirty water that is in it, you have this consolation, that “*all that does not poison, fattens.*”

I am not here supposing a fiction, or a barely possible case; I am relating a circumstance of which I was an eye-witness!

Now

Now, my worthy good friend, if you had done all things the *right* way, instead of the *wrong* way, all this mischief would not have happened. If you had carried your oil bottle and poured from one vessel to another, *over the counter*, the droppings would have *improved* the colour of the mahogany—the maid-servant or shop-boy could not have carried the Syrups or Oils on their shoes into the parlour, to the indelible spoiling of a good carpet, and you would not have burnt your stockings or pantaloons with Aqua-fortis or Oil of Vitriol; a small piece of wiping tow, that would not take the tenth of a minute to apply properly, would have prevented all these mishaps.

And if you had, instead of the dirty basin, only taken the trouble of placing a clean gallipot on the counter, and broken your egg into that, you would have saved your yelk, and have had it, *clean* and uncontaminated, to make your Emulsion, pleasantly, and with far less trouble—And you might have also preserved the white, (for it is a sin to throw any thing away that can be useful,) and this white of egg might have been useful to the maid in helping to make a pudding, or frosting a plum-cake, or making black japan varnish for your shoes, or fining down currant wine, or, with a little lime, form a cement to join

broken china, or crockery-ware, or twenty other uses.

Again, as to your phials and bottles. Never let any of them stand one minute without their corks and stoppers being in them.

You well know, or you *ought* to know, that some articles are good for nothing if they stand but a very short time without a stopper, as the Volatile Alkalies; some wholly evaporate, as *Æther*, Camphor. If you leave Syrups open in summer, your Syrups will be covered with a compact surface of dead flies, and, summer or winter, the dust of the shop, when raised by the daily sweeping in a morning, will fall, more or less, into every thing left uncorked or uncovered.

Look well then to your phials that you are going to send out; see that there are no flies, straws, or grains of shot in them. If you let flies get into your Syrups, you will be plagued in making draughts or mixtures, and must strain them, which is not always convenient or proper: and if you send lemon juice, or a Bark mixture well acidulated with the dilute sulphuric Acid, in a phial in which five or six grains of shot (used in cleaning the phial) are obstinately fixed, and refuse to come out, what a charming dose of *Saccharum Saturni* do you
prepare

prepare for a patient of a delicate habit and weak stomach!

Let there be always kept up a regular and plentiful stock of such articles as in a retail shop are called for in small quantities. What are most in demand, time will soon shew you; and of these, such things as can be put up in paper, should be weighed out, a dozen or two, or more, according to the usual demand for the article, when there is leisure from other business. It will be a great recommendation to the shop, if these little matters are written on; or, what is better still, if the Master will allow of printing types, the apprentice can print a sufficiency of papers, half a quire or a quire at his leisure, which may serve to go through a twelvemonth at once. So far from its being a trouble, it will be found a mere amusement, if done at a proper time, when no other more important business requires his attention. If a boy be kept, the boy, by a little instruction, may be taught to print with the types as well as his master. Customers like such marks of accuracy; and they purchase medicines with more confidence, when they think that the name, printed thus, must render mistakes almost impossible. The subjects to be wrapped in printed papers may be these: *Aloes*, *Assa-fæ-tida*, *Bol Armenic*, in squares of white paper, 16
to

to the sheet, put up 24 or 32. *Cream of Tartar*, ounces, 16 to the sheet, blue; half ounces, 24 to the sheet, blue. *Gum Arabic*, *Gum Dragon*, *Hellebore powder*, *Jalap*, (rubbed fine, and not lumpy,) *Magnesia*, 16 to the sheet, blue. *Magnesia and Gascoign's powder*, *Magnesia and Rhubarb*, *Præcipitate red*, in white paper, 24 to the sheet. *Præcipitate white*, in blue paper, 24 to the sheet. *Rhubarb*, in white; not many of these to be put up at a time, because pulverized *Rhubarb* is apt to form itself into a cake, by being long kept. *Saffron*, *Senna*, in ounces, half ounces, and 2 drams, each in different coloured papers; *Staves Acre* powdered, *Sulphur*, *Sulphur vivum*, *Milk of Sulphur*, *Turmeric*.

The above comprise the greater part of such articles as may very well be kept ready put up in papers with the names printed. Other articles, such as *Chamomile Flowers*, *Glauber Salts*, *Lint*, *Liquorice*, *White and Yellow Wax*, &c. &c. where there can be no mistake, it is not worth while to mark; only let there be plenty of each kept ready weighed up at all times.

I must here strongly recommend to the Master, when he has not a very steady pupil to deal with, to have a strict eye to the consumption of his rectified spirits, and to insist on an exact account of the application of every drop. In a small shop, perhaps

perhaps the Master thinks it sufficient to have two gallons at a time from his distiller. The youth is in a great hurry to make all the tinctures that he thinks are wanting; but, before he begins, let him make out an account of the tinctures he intends to prepare, and their quantities, and show that list to his Master, that he may make what alterations he pleases in it.

For want of this caution, I once had half a gallon of rectified spirit wasted by a chap, who thought proper to make, of his own accord, as much tincture of Cantharides, and as much tincture of Squills, as consumed the whole of the quantity; so that here was a loss not only of the spirit, but of a large quantity of two very expensive drugs; whereas an eight ounce phial of each would have been amply sufficient to make at one time. If he is not honest, he will also make free with your rectified spirit to put his foetuses, his lizards, scorpions, &c. into.

To the most inaccurate observer it cannot but be evident, how much civility in the people who officiate in shops brings and attaches customers to that shop.

Many a careful man has lost good customers by not having a person in his shop that knew how to treat comers-in with politeness; and many an owner of a shop has, though himself
deficient

deficient in politeness, had a good run of business, merely from his having civil and obliging shopmen.

A decent customer of either sex should always be asked to take a seat: To a female, with a child in her arms, this mark of respect should never be omitted;—if above the common vulgar, set a chair for her yourself:—A pregnant woman you should be particularly complaisant to. Women are the sources of all our comforts; without them, we should be brutes; and their sex, independent of every other consideration, demands our protection, our respect, our best regards!—But, even in an *interested* point of view, policy requires that the man who has his employer's well-being at heart, should shew particular civility to ladies in that situation; it certainly will induce her to re-visit a shop where she has been well treated, and in one of these visits, it is more than probable a meeting with your Employer may gain him a patient, and, through her, many others.

Make every thing as comfortable and agreeable as possible to them. If ladies come in who want a medicine, the compounding of which may require some time, use every intreaty to make them take seats in the parlour; if they persist in refusing, bring out parlour chairs to them:—If they come on business to the master
of

of the house, and are desirous of waiting his return, if he should be from home, suffer them not to wait in the shop, but intreat them to walk into some other apartment; and find them a newspaper, or a book of entertainment to amuse themselves with until his return.

There is a way of talking off patients and customers, not difficult to be learned by one who gives his mind to it; it is the art of pleasing without seeming to lay one's-self out for it: it very much benefits the Master; and, if the apprentice or shopman reap no immediate benefit by it, it is so far useful, that when he comes to be himself a master, he will have been so far habituated to a pleasing manner of address, that he will have as it were a ready-made stock of politeness to begin business with for himself, which will very much conciliate good-will, and ensure an attachment with those who may come to deal with him.

You will have many people coming to ask for advice, which you perhaps may not know how to give.

If the master is at hand, call him: if not, answer *modestly*, that “you are a young beginner, and for fear of mistakes they had better wait, if time will allow, to consult him; if they cannot wait, they will be sure to find him at home from 8 to 10 in the morning, or

“from 3 to 4 in an afternoon.” As you get forward in learning your business, you may venture to give your advice in certain cases, which every day's experience, and the making of a few memorandums, will make you a proficient in in a very short time.

Whenever you are dressing a wound, do not content yourself with barely having cleaned it and applied the dressings; leaving the patient to apply the roller and tie the handkerchief on. It is as much your duty to apply the roller, secure the wounded part with a handkerchief, help the patient on with his coat, and make him quite ready for departing, as it is to do the most essential part of the business; nor is your business at an end here, nor until you have properly disposed of, in a basin, or in the fire, all dirty dressings, bits of lint, or other fragments; strictly attending, in this as in every other transaction, to the good old precept,

Nil actum reputans, si quid superesset agendum.

Never whistle, or wear your hat in the shop, and particularly when behind the counter. Whistling is a most abominable custom, only practised by blackguards—and both that and wearing your hat are customs disrespectful to strangers, and to your employer. I would sooner see my assistant with a handkerchief tied round

round his head, than see him officiating behind the counter with his hat on. What would the ladies think or say, if the young men behind the counters of such elegant shops as Paytherus's, in Bond Street,¹ or any other fashionable Drug-gist's or Apothecary's, were to be seen serving Duchesses and Countesses with their hats nailed to their heads?

CHAP. XVI.

Of Mistakes in making up Medicines.

THE life of the father of a numerous family, of a beloved wife, of an only child,—the fate of a WHOLE FAMILY, often depends on an Apothecary's apprentice or journeyman! How often have most lamentable mistakes occasioned death!—Let us suppose a gentleman desirous of having the best advice for his wife; to have brought her up to town from a distance of two or three hundred miles, at a very heavy, and, perhaps, most inconvenient expense. He consults the most eminent Physician, who receives his guinea a day: perhaps, has three or four Physicians, each receiving his two guineas a day for consultation; or, let us suppose a patient unable to go the journey, and an eminent Physician is sent for, who has his guinea a mile, exclusive of his fee, besides other expenses; in either case the prescription is sent to the Apothecary:—there may be some one article that the prescriber may place a greater dependence on, for
the

the restoring the patient, than all the rest. The Apothecary (we are supposing a possible case,) may not have this one article; and the shopman or apprentice, ignorant of its importance, substitutes something similar in colour or consistence, as a Succedaneum; or perhaps in a mistake gives *Tinctur. Opii* for *Tinct. Opii camphorat.*, (as has been related in page 88), or in a hurry mistakes ʒi (*a drachm*) for ʒj (*an ounce*), or writes in the direction, *a table spoonful*, instead of *a tea-spoonful*, or any other mistake of a similar nature.

Never, to save yourself trouble, do things by halves. If you are at a loss how any thing is to be done, do not be too proud or too timid to ask your employer.

In the making out of Physicians' prescriptions, sometimes difficulties will occur, either as to the composition of the Ingredients, or with regard to the direction for taking or using. If the Latin be such as in some part you understand, but such as to puzzle you in the conclusion, do not content yourself with writing the direction just so far as you may know it and no farther, but ask.

A master must, from the first, see that his pupil makes no variation in the directions which he prescribes for his patients; but that all directions shall be faithfully copied or translated from
the

the prescriber. I have seen the following directions :

“ *Give the child two tea-spoonsful every two hours.* ”

“ *Mrs. Gregory.* ”

When the direction, as written by the master, ought to have been,

“ *One or two tea-spoonsful to be given once in two hours, or oftener, if the cough is very troublesome.* ”

“ *Miss Eliza Gregory.* ”

Nay I have known the following Latin, (which by the by is continually written) translated thus :

“ *Maneat in lecto.* ”—In milk in a morning.

“ *Pro re nata.* ”—For the little thing newly born.

“ *Mane in lacte exhibend.* ”—And be particular to remain in bed !!

What must be the consequence? In many cases, DEATH!! And in that event what to the Apothecary? Certain loss of business, by being exposed every where, and possibly, *prosecution.*

The foregoing examples I have mentioned, because I have actually known instances of every one of these mistakes having been made.

I wish some other character could be substituted either for the OUNCE or the DRAM; for the two characters being so extremely alike, I am well persuaded many very bad mistakes occur; the DRAM being nearly a figure of three,

(3) requires nothing but one small angle over it, ⁷ to make it an OUNCE, (3̄) thus the mistake is easily made in the hurry of writing, by the prescriber, or in the making it up, by the compounder.

So sensible of the possibility, or rather so well acquainted with the *certainty*, of fatal mistakes having happened from this similarity of figure in the marks of the DRAM and the OUNCE, was that excellent and incorruptible Patriot, Doctor Charles Lucas, (of Dublin), that the very first Bill he brought into Parliament after he had been returned a Member for the City of Dublin, was a Bill to compel the Physicians of Ireland to discontinue the using of characters in their prescriptions, and to write the words at full length, *Uncias tres, drachmas duas, scrupulum unum cum semisse*.

Whenever you are in doubt about a word in a prescription, never guess at it, but wait until your Master comes home; or if he is not expected, do not be ashamed to carry it to some professional man in the neighbourhood, whom you may know to be on terms of intimacy and friendship with the gentleman you live with.

Never trust to once reading, but look at the prescription as you put in every separate ingredient; and after you have written the label or direction, look over the receipt again, to see that
all

all is right; then, having neatly finished the putting it up, deliver the box, phial, or other containing vehicle, to the messenger that waits for it, or leave it ready in a proper place to go out as soon as possible; but do not file the receipt until you have transcribed it into the Prescription-book, unless you should have transcribed it first of all, before you began to make it up: a method I the rather recommend in preference to the other, because the transcribing it into the P. B. first of all, imprints it better on your mind, and you can be the more correct in the preparing it, when you read it from your own hand-writing. But, in either case, be sure to put the prescription on its proper file, after transcribing, that it may not be lost.

CHAP. XVII.

Of the Manner of sending out Medicines.

“ A MASTER, and if there be an apprentice, both, should make every necessary preparation for the transaction of each day’s probable business.”

LUCAS, p. 156.

MEDICINES, as I have observed in a former part of this work), being in general nauseous, should have every advantage of dress.

Medicines for *Children* ALWAYS be careful to send before six o’clock in an evening; because the usual hour for children to go to bed is about *seven*; and purging medicines for young or old, *to be taken in the morning*, should always be sent on the *over-night*.

Never give one medicine for another; but if you are in doubt, always ask.

If you substitute one medicine for another, in making up a prescription, and the composition is examined by the Physician who wrote the prescription, and found to be wrong, your employer

employer loses the family and their connexions for ever; and the Physician, unless he has a very great personal respect for him, becomes his enemy ever after. Besides, if the medicine be of importance, you may do irreparable injury to the patient. It may so happen that the drug you leave out is the very one on which the prescriber places his whole dependence for saving the life of a patient.

Never on any account postpone the making of prescriptions which you find written for you in the Prescription-book. If you find that your employer has written on the over night, or early in the morning, for a medicine which is not to be taken until bed-time; that is no rule to you why you should postpone it until the evening, and allege as an excuse that *you thought* it would do in the evening, because the medicine is ordered not be taken until bed-time. That is nothing to you; you see your orders, and it is your business to execute them, as soon after seeing those orders as you can. When done, they are done; you have no more trouble with them except to send them out. You will by this means have the less to do when the hurry of the day comes on. Whereas, by delaying the matter until evening, such a press of business may come in, such a number of prescriptions requiring to be done in immediate haste, that you may find it
very

very inconvenient *then* to do that which you had plenty of good time to do in the morning. Again, the boy may be gone a mile or two off with that very medicine at a time when you want him most urgently for other business and other walks. Thus your employer gets censure for sending his medicines out so late that patients are gone to bed and the medicine is useless, or else it is refused to be taken in, and the messenger brings it back. Again, if you postpone that until evening which you might and ought to have done in the morning, circumstances may so happen that you cannot do it at all; as, for instance, supposing you should be required to attend your principal to the reducing of a fracture, or be obliged by yourself in his absence, to undertake the resuscitation of a person apparently dead by drowning or otherwise, which would take up several hours of your time: therefore never postpone that till evening or till the middle of the day, which you can do, and ought to do, early in the forenoon.

It ought to be a rule never to be swerved from, that when all the medicines to be sent in one direction are ready to be taken out, whether by yourself, or, where a servant is kept, by such servant, let a list of the patients to whom these medicines are to be sent be made out, exactly in
the

the order they are to be delivered; but do not content yourself with this, for it is of the utmost importance that the boy should know how many packages he is to deliver at each house, and this he cannot know accurately without being rightly informed of it; and it is the duty of the assistant to see that he places each article in his basket in proper order, putting the articles which he is to deliver last into the bottom of the basket; so that all shall be properly sorted, in the same way as a postman sorts his letters for delivery, thus :

1	Andrews, 34, Hatton-Garden.	3	Articles.
2	Smith, 105, Hatton-Garden.	.	1
3	Mason, Holborn.	.	4
4	Taylor, 94, Fetter-lane.	.	2
5	Jasper, 96, Fetter-lane.	.	5
6	Evans, 28, Chancery-lane.	.	2
7	Dixon, Grays Inn Coffee-house.	.	2
8	Jones, 74, Guildford-street.	.	3
9	Carter, 4, Coldbath-square.	.	2

24

In the above list, the two articles for Carter, the last in the list, are to be first put into the basket; next, the three for Jones, and so on; and it is the duty of the apprentice or assistant to make this list, and not the boy's duty: and even
where

where any number, above *one* article, is to go out for delivery, if there is but *one* place to go to, the number of articles, whether two or more, should be specified on a slip of paper. I have known, from carelessness in this respect, a poor boy sent with a medicine a walk of two miles, and on coming back he had to go a second time to the same place with a medicine that he had either forgotten to take, or which had been omitted through the assistant neglecting to specify how many articles he was to put in his basket. And here I must recommend the most strict attention to what has been before said, relative to marking on the outside of the wrapper the name of the patient, and particularly the writing in a legible hand most accurately, the name, street, number, and every particular, such as (if Lodgers,) “ring the bell,” “go up an entry on the left hand,” when a medicine is sent to a new patient, whose residence the servant has not yet been made acquainted with. For want of this caution being observed, many a long and fruitless walk has the servant had, while the patients or their friends are fretting and impatient, and every minute blaming the poor blameless doctor for his neglect or dilatoriness; until perhaps at last out of all patience, they send for another practitioner, and your employer is thrown out through
your

your inattention to this very necessary part of your duty.

There are certain occasions, in which it is impossible for an assistant or apprentice to choose his time for getting out medicines; that is, when they are to be sent out in a hurry, *omni alio negotio post habito*; but, if the master is systematic in his visits, and enters his prescriptions in the book, or sends them in, in proper time, the compounder should always get them out as fast he can; and always, if possible, so manage, that the boy shall not be obliged to be out of the way at the hours when he is wanted to attend at the dinner or supper table. If medicines are to be sent to a distance, they had better be the first to be made up, and while the boy is absent with them, the apprentice or assistant can be busy about the rest; and if all cannot be got out before dinner, a youth who has any brains can always calculate what medicines may safely and without any inconvenience be postponed, until the business of dinner is wholly concluded. A little attention to method will soon make this come very easy and familiar.

Phials,

To decent patients, should always be capped; to single phials, this little mark of neatness should
never

never be omitted. But draughts which are sent in numbers should also be capped; nor should it be omitted but when there is very great hurry, and no time allowed. When phials are sent, barely corked, without being capped, a fanciful patient might naturally say, "How do I know whether my servant, or some liquorish devil, may or may not have been putting the mouth of this phial into his nasty mouth, and tasting the medicine that I am now about to swallow?" I have heard a patient say thus much, on receiving a phial not capped.

Always examine the phials that you are going to send out, that there be no straws, weevils, or flies in them; also see that they are not chipped or broken at the mouth, or cracked in the body of the phial.

By inattention to the latter point, you or the patient may lose the medicine. The former shews slovenliness and disrespect.

Pill-Boxes,

When time admits, should be lined with clean white or coloured paper, especially for nice Ladies.

When two or more boxes of Pills are sent at one time to a patient, the quality of the Pills in each box being different, let the boxes to be used

used be of different sizes, that neither lid may fit any but its own box.

A very good patient of mine was very near losing his life for want of this caution. Two boxes of Pills were ordered for him, by Doctor Nankivel. The one box contained Pills with a grain and a half of Opium in each. "*One Pill to be taken at bed-time.*" The other box had purging Pills. "*Three Pills to be taken three times a day.*" The boxes were alike in size. Mr. Johnson in examining the contents of his boxes changed the lids. The lid of the purging Pills he put on the box that had the Opium Pills, and *vice versa*. He took three of the Opium Pills when he should have taken the others, which injured him much.

Mr. Saunderson, a patient of Dr. Sims's, was dangerously ill, and his fever high for want of evacuations. Extract of Gentian in pills was sent instead of Extract Colocynth Comp. merely through the obstinacy and unwillingness of a bad apprentice to ask a simple question, which mistake had nearly cost the patient his life.

Although the lid of a Pill-box often affords but a very small surface, yet however small that surface may be, still it is expedient that some sort of label should be affixed; if it be not of a size sufficient to contain the whole direction,

direction, gum on a label with no more than "*Pectoral Pills, Purging Pills, Anodyne Pills,*" or whatever their quality may be; and write *the full direction* on a clean bit of paper, neatly folded up, and inclosed, along with the box, in the wrapper. Or, what is better, will be to fasten the slip of paper containing the full directions, with a drop of strong Mucilage, on the lid of the box, in such a way as that it *must* be noticed. If the paper be to be folded, write the words, "*directions within,*" on the outside of the slip of paper. But never write the directions for taking any medicine in any wrapper whatever, unless sometimes for powders; and in that case, never omit writing, on the outside of the paper, "*directions within.*"

Through the directions for taking some Pills being written in the *wrapper* of the box, a very valuable patient that I had was very near losing his life. There was no label on the lid of the box, no cautionary word, "*directions,*" written. He had been taking Pills previously: he thought they were a repetition of those, and did not notice the writing on the wrapper.

It is advisable, (when it can be done with propriety), to specify the quality of a medicine on the label; as, *Aperient Pills, Pectoral Pills, Composing Pills.*—I have said, "*when it can be done with propriety,*" because sometimes we

cannot ascertain the prescriber's intention, and sometimes it would be wrong to permit a patient to *know* the intention of the prescriber, and quality of the medicine; as, in many cases where patients may have an insuperable antipathy to the taking of Calomel, or Opium, they would refuse them if they knew it.

But where a patient has been in the habit of taking two or three different sorts of Pills for a continuance, and a repetition is ordered from time to time, first of one, then of the other, then, do not content yourself with writing on the label merely, "the Pills as before, but specify the quality, as, *the ANODYNE Pills as before; the PURGING Pills as formerly,*" that the patient may know what Pills they are; always taking care that whatever Pills they be, they shall be *exactly of the same size, smell, and colour*, of the former Pills of the same sort, *without the smallest variation*.

The practice of gilding Pills was formerly very much in request; but for the last fifty years it has grown into disuse.

Nevertheless, as unlikely things *do* sometimes occur, it might so happen, that some very particular old lady or gentleman, placing peculiar confidence in some prescription of an hundred years old, at the foot of which the words "*Deaurentur pilulæ,*" are written, might not be satisfied

satisfied without having the same medicine in its usual *splendor*; therefore it is as well that we should know how to do this, especially as it is the easiest and simplest thing in the world.

Open a book of leaf gold, or leaf silver, and having formed your Pills perfectly round, lay them, without rolling them in any sort of powder, on the leaf of gold, or silver, at equal distances.

For Bolusses, four are enough for one leaf; for large Pills, eight or twelve; and for very small Pills, you may put sixteen or twenty upon one leaf; then, pour off the Pills, gold and all, from off the book, into a *clean* and *perfectly dry* gallipot, cover the gallipot with the palm of your hand, and shake it round and round, in the same manner as on ordinary occasions you would do if you were going to roll them in any sort of powder; and on taking them out you will find the Pills perfectly covered with the leaf gold, or leaf silver.

CHAP. XVIII.

Powders.

DRY Medicines, sent in paper, should be very neatly put up, and the paper tied with twine. No paper, containing only one article, as, a piece of Rhubarb, Camphor, Manna, or the like, should ever be sent without a second paper, by way of cover or outside wrapper; and on no account whatever omit writing the name of the article.

No paper, containing only one Powder, should be sent out without similar caution as to directions; and where there are more than one, let them be put up very neatly, and, if there be room on the outside paper in which they are folded to write the direction, write it on the outside; if there be not room sufficient, write on a separate piece of paper the full direction, fold it, and put it along with the Powders, and write on the outside of the wrapper, "*Directions within.*"

And

And here I may be allowed to reiterate what I have before said concerning sending out medicines in good time: As the form in which medicines are usually administered to children is that of Powders, let it be an invariable rule to send out all Powders, as well as other medicines for children, to be taken at their bed-time, before seven o'clock in the evening, and those to be taken in a morning, at a proper and reasonable hour over-night, or in the day-time of the day before, if more convenient.

Be very accurate and explicit in your directions; and, when nothing forbids, write how the powder is to be taken, that is, in what vehicle; whether water, tea, gruel, currant jelly, roasted apple, moist sugar, or the like.

For, though any one possessed of common sense must know that a dry powder must have some vehicle in which it must be taken, yet a *thin* liquid would not be proper to take Calomel or some other heavy powders in; and again, as there are many fools in the world, such will be sure to make some blunder, if there is a possibility that a blunder can be made.

Some will be such fools as not to look at the direction, but take their medicine at a venture. Such was the case of one Barnes, an Irishman, (May 17, 1816.) This man and his wife were both sick;

sick ; to the wife ʒi of Vin. Ipecac. was sent. To the man, 5 grains of Tartar Emetic. Previous to their being sent, the prescriber asked him if he could read ; on being answered in the affirmative, he was told, that the Emetic to be sent to him would be very different from that to be sent for his wife : that he would receive, not a *written* but a *printed* paper, containing the most exact directions possible, and that he must be very particular not to vary from them.

Paddy, however, thought himself wiser than the Doctor, and mixed the 5 grains of Tartar Emetic in a tea-spoonful of moist sugar, and swallowed the whole at once. He did not die, but his recovery was a long time doubtful.

Mrs. Bosden, Rawstone Street, May 17, 1816. Six papers were sent to her, *R \acute{e} Magnesiæ Sulphat. ʒi. Pulv. Zinzib. gr. v. Sumat. j. omni mane, in theâ, vel decoct. hordei, et si non alvum duxerit, repetr. circa horam meridianam.*

As the assistant who made up this prescription neglected to write it properly, inasmuch as he omitted to write that it was to be taken in tea or barley water, the old lady took some of the dry powder into her mouth, exclaimed she was a dead woman, and no power on earth could afterwards induce her to take any more medicine from that Doctor.

Gallipots,

Gallipots,

Containing, generally, either unctuous or clammy medicines, should be well cleaned on the outside, after securing the contents by first tying over the containing vessel a bit of bladder, or fine paper, and then a single or double paper over all. But as the palms of the hands are much used in fitting the paper to sit close and neatly over the mouth of the Gallipot, there is more care requisite to prevent dirtying the paper on which you are to write the direction, than in putting up those of phials or pill boxes.

CHAP. XIX.

Labels.

LET NO MEDICINE WHATEVER, WHETHER MADE UP FOR A PATIENT, AND TO BE SENT OUT, OR PREPARED FOR A CUSTOMER, WHO WAITS FOR IT, AND WHO PAYS FOR IT IN THE SHOP, BE, ON ANY ACCOUNT, DELIVERED, WITHOUT HAVING A DIRECTION OR LABEL AFFIXED TO IT.

Many accidents have happened from the loss of Labels tied round the necks of phials. Mineral acids destroy the ink, and corrode the paper. Sometimes, not even the pains to tie the Labels round the neck is taken, but they are, through laziness, stuck into the mouths of phials, and only held there by the cork.

A fatal mistake once happened in my neighbourhood by the changing, through the carelessness and inattention of a drunken nurse, the Labels of two phials, thus improperly thrust in, and held by the corks only. A two-ounce phial of a Saturnine Lotion was sent at the same time,
and

Date 18
Chamberlaine Surgeon.

Date 18
Chamberlaine Surgeon.

Date 18
Chamberlaine Surgeon.

Date 18
Chamberlaine Surgeon.

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Chamberlaine Surgeon.

Date 18
Chamberlaine Surgeon.

Date 18
Chamberlaine Surgeon.

and to the same place, with a two-ounce draught of some White Emulsion. The nurse thought proper to take the corks out of both; probably for the purpose of tasting them. Be that as it may, she stuck in the labels at a venture. Unluckily she stuck them in *wrong*; the patient drank the Preparation of Lead, *and died before morning!*

A gentlewoman of Chad's Row was delivered of a fine child. She was attended by a Midwife who ordered her some Embrocation for a painful affection of the arm, with some Laudanum in it, from a Chemist's; and some Syrup and Oil for the child. The nurse took one of the labels to light a candle; and as the first label was burnt out before the candle caught the flame, she took the other label, and burnt *that* out also.

Thus left without a direction, she rubbed the lady's arm with the child's Syrup and Oil, and gave the infant a tea-spoonful of the *Volatile Liniment and Laudanum!!* Need I say that the poor infant died in excruciating agonies?!

To avoid similar accidents, it has been my rule, ever since I have been in business in the metropolis, to order my Labels in a different manner. I have a copper-plate, containing sundry blank labels of different sizes, and, in the corner of each label, the word *Date* is engraved,

to remind the writer of this very necessary addition.

I commonly have 500 impressions struck off at a time; 40 or 50 slips of these are sufficient, at one time, to be gummed on the back, with a moderately tenacious Mucilage of Gum Arabic, laid on with a soft brush, and hung up till perfectly dry. The cutting out of those Labels, and putting them in the drawer, is an employment for any young lady whom I can catch in a good humour*.

There is no trouble in the affixing Labels managed in this way. After writing the direction, and DATING it, you have only to moisten the paper with your tongue on the gummed side, and stick it on the phial, or lid of the box: this soon dries and adheres so strongly, that it will require long soaking in water, and some trouble to get it off the body of a phial.

When there is any particular direction, taking up more paper than the usual size of a label, let a direction, in general terms only, be put on the phial or other containing vessel; but be not con-

* Having this copper-plate already by me, I did not think it necessary to have one purposely engraved for this work; therefore the reader will excuse my exhibiting, instead of a *new* plate, one that I have employed in my own service for several years.

tent with this: Let there be also a slip of paper, large enough to contain the more particular direction, sent with the medicine. On such a piece of paper write the full direction, clearly and legibly, and date it; and take care to place it in such a way that it shall not be lost, or escape the notice and observation of the patient or attendants.

AN Apothecary's apprentice who writes a very bad hand, and writes what he does write in a slovenly way, endangers both the life of a patient and his Master's reputation. When a label is written so badly, the nurse, or people about the patient, generally keep it until the Master or the Physician comes next day: the patient thereby loses the benefit which the medicine was intended to produce, and the Master gets blame.

What is here recommended to an Apothecary's apprentice, like many other precepts throughout the book, applies equally to an assistant, with this difference only, that blunders in this point are far more inexcusable in an assistant than in a raw apprentice.

A young Apothecary should always bear it in his mind, that it is not wholly to sensible and rational persons he writes directions, but that the directions accompanying medicines must often
fall

fall to the most ignorant and stupid nurses and attendants, who, if there can be a possibility of making a blunder, will make it. Therefore it will be necessary, on every Label, to write the direction in as plain and legible a hand, and as explicit a manner as possible.

Suppose a Mixture with an Alkaline Salt to be taken in the act of effervescence, with Lemon-juice: this requires most particular directions. Suppose, when all shall have been taken, it is necessary to continue it, and have a fresh supply.—Do not content yourself with saying, “*the Mixture as before,*” but say, “*the Mixture to be taken with Lemon-juice, in the same manner as yesterday.*”

In writing directions for taking any sort of medicine, avoid abbreviations as much as possible. Let numbers be expressed in words, not in figures; and let every word, throughout, be perfectly legible.

Do not write a label in this manner: “ Dissolve these ingredients in $\frac{1}{2}$ a pint of gruel or broth; take 4 tablespfls at 1st, & 2 tablespfls every $\frac{1}{2}$ hour until it operates, adding, wⁿ you take each dose 2 tea-spfls of the Tinct. sent herewith.”

But write it in this manner: “ Dissolve these ingredients in *half* a pint of gruel or broth, and take *four table-spoonsful* at *first*, and *two table-spoonsful*

“ *table-spoonsful* every *half* hour until it operates ; adding *when* you take each dose, two tea-spoonsful of the *Tincture* sent herewith.”

I have known, even in cases where a man writes a very good hand, mistakes made by figures resembling others, or being mistaken for others by readers whose sight was not good. I have known a 3 resembling an 8, and being mistaken for it ; a 4 resembling a 7, and often a 7 for a 4. In writing for the word, half, the abbreviation, $\frac{1}{2}$, the one is often expressed by a dot so small as to be scarcely visible, while the 2 is much larger than it ought to be. The consequence has been that a medicine ordered to be administered every half hour, in a case of extreme danger, has been given only every *two* hours, and the patient *died*.

When you make any officinal preparations, it will be but very little trouble to take a small bit of your gummed paper, and write the quantity you make, and the day of the month and year, and stick it on as a label ; thus, you will not only readily be informed, without recurring to your Expense-book, whether an article has stood long enough to be fit for use, as in the Wines, Tinctures, &c. but you will be enabled to form an estimate how long such an article commonly lasts.

CHAP. XX.

Of being absent.

THE being deprived of those hours of relaxation from duties, and those enjoyments which almost all descriptions of people, Medical Men excepted, can sometimes command, forms one part of the *disagréables* inseparably attached to the life of a man who embraces the Medical Profession.

The youth therefore, who destines himself for that profession, must learn self-denial. He must, during his apprenticeship, break himself by degrees of his inclination for the pleasure of society, and conform himself to that life of confinement, which, when in business for himself, he must submit to.

Nevertheless, as it is not to be expected that a young lad can be always nailed to the counter, I recommend that the compact relative to the granting of holidays, should be well defined, and well understood by both parties.

To

To both master and apprentice I recommend an attentive perusal of what I have said on this subject, in some preceding pages of this work.

Therefore, my young friend, when you have it in contemplation to spend part of a day with your associates or relations, always give your Master as early notice as you can, that both for his sake and yours he may make his arrangements so as that it shall not be inconvenient to him to stay at home while you are making holiday; that he may have all his visits gone through, and no engagements to take him abroad on that day, (accidental and unexpected calls excepted.)

You will in the mean time be particularly careful to have the shop stocked with every thing that can possibly be wanting. See, beforehand, what articles are needful to be provided; make up all such as are to be made by yourself. See also that no one of the *small-trade* retail articles be neglected; but, that there be a sufficient stock of each, and particularly be careful to fill the rack with clean phials, and leave all utensils clean and fit for immediate use.

Employ the day previous to your going abroad in stocking the shop with every thing that you think may be wanting during your absence. Let there be plenty of papers of all sizes cut and hung up, both for wrapping up medicines, and
for

for wiping knives: Inspect the drawers, and see that nothing be wanting. Look to the Tincture bottles, and give supplies to those that are nearly empty. Make up for the morrow such draughts, powders, and other medicines as you know will be wanted to be sent out on the morrow.

Whether you may want to go out for a whole day, or only for an hour, always observe it as an invariable rule to give your employer as much notice as you can. If you go out for a whole day, having given him due notice, you put him to no inconvenience, because he *knows* what he has to expect; but if you ask him for an hour, *taking him by SURPRISE*, and not saying a word about it until the very moment you want to go out, that very hour may be precious to him, and, if so, one of two things must take place; either that he must put himself to very great inconvenience, and forego an appointment in order to indulge you, or else be under the disagreeable necessity of refusing you; a thing very irksome to a man disposed to treat his apprentices with all proper indulgence. But if he does refuse, you have no one to blame but yourself for it, nor can you be off from admitting that he served you rightly.

There may be exceptions to this rule; as, when you receive a letter by post, or otherwise, requiring

requiring instantaneous attention, or where a parent or very particular friend calls, immediately on the eve of departure for a journey, or to sea, and wishes for half an hour's conversation with you. But these instances happen rarely.

And when such sudden and unexpected calls do happen, always make it a point to apprise your employer, or in his absence the lady of the house (if there be one,) that urgent business requires your going out, and calculate, as nearly as you can, for how long a time, and how soon you may be expected home; but never say you will return in two or three minutes, when it is possible you may be absent as many hours.

Least of all, take every advantage and opportunity of your Master's absence to absent yourself from your business, without leaving word with any body in the house where you are going, how long you intend to be absent; to give opportunities to customers and people coming on business, to see the shop deserted, or to find no one in it to give answers or serve a medicine, but a little brat of an errand boy; or perhaps, after knocking and ringing the bell several times, none but the maid-servant, who comes to the door with "There is nobody at home. My Master is gone among his patients: the boy is gone out with medicines, and the apprentice is
" never

“ never in the way once that my Master turns
“ his back.”

Let it be no excuse for going out of the house, when your Master is absent, that you went to visit a patient of his. If you know, in the early part of the day, that it will be part of your day's duty to visit that patient, arrange the time with your Master before he goes his rounds ; or ask him at what time you shall visit—or you may even go so far as to tell him the hour you ought to visit. If it be a matter of indifference as to the time, take that time when he shall be at home himself; **BUT DO NOT GO OUT WHEN HE IS ABSENT.**

Prescriptions may be brought in, and patients and servants, if they find no one in the shop, will take them elsewhere to be made up. Certainly, if a sudden call to a person very ill and that will not wait, or a Surgical case requiring immediate attendance, that alters the case ; and a regard for your Master's interest, and a wish to prevent a stranger from being called in on account of that absence, will then demand your attention, and go you must. But whenever you are thus called out, never neglect to leave exact word of the place where you are going to, that your Master may attend if he comes in in the mean time ; or that the servant may pacify an impatient messenger

essenger who is waiting for a medicine to be made up, by going to you and bringing back word that you are coming directly.

“Where is your master?”

“Gone his rounds.”

“Where is the assistant or apprentice?”

“Gone out.”

“I want a prescription made up. Where is he gone to? Is he gone far?”

“I’m sure I don’t know.”

“How soon will he be in?”

“I don’t know, I’m sure.”

Set down that as a lost patient. For, if the prescription is carried to another shop, and there made up, and the customer treated civilly—in the next illness the family have in their house, they will send there; observing of your Master’s shop, It is no use sending, for Master and Man are never at home, and the medicines are always sent so late that a patient is in bed and asleep before they come, or perhaps may be dead.

The Master, who has an apprentice given to such habits, had better return the fee and get rid of him; and if he has an assistant, to whom he pays a sum of money for his time and services, who uses the freedom of going out on his own business the moment his employer’s back is turned, although he well knows that he may have

have as much reasonable time as he can ask or wish for, by only giving proper notice—and who of course leaves the shop to the mercy of an ignorant little boy ; it is so highly blameworthy, so injurious to the interests, and even so dangerous to the property, of an employer, that whatever other good qualities such an assistant may possess, however useful in other points he may be, that one circumstance alone ought to afford sufficient ground to seek an exchange for another, of a more domesticated turn, whose pride it is to be at all proper hours found where he ought to be, in his shop, or at his desk.

When you do not intend to spend a whole evening abroad, but only half an hour, or an hour, or *two* hours, to go about either business or pleasure, you will, on asking, hardly ever be refused, provided you ask in time. LEAVE IS LIGHT.—In such cases your Master will make no conditions, save a notice from you how long a time you wish for, and a promise to be punctual to the hour that you yourself shall have named.

There is another rule I must strongly recommend to be observed rigidly :—this is, whenever you have leave to go out for a whole night, suppose to a ball at your parents' house, or to Vauxhall, or to see or sit up with a sick friend or patient ; always remember to be home in time next morning to open shop ; for how distressing would it be,

be, and how disgraceful, supposing your Master called out to a labour during your absence, which labour may render it absolutely impossible for him to return home in due time in the morning, to have no one to open the shop, and no one to serve an article, or give an answer to comers in. Therefore make it a rule, never to be departed from, to come home at Six o'clock in the morning, at farthest, on such occasions.

IT is a wrong thing for a Master to throw in any business of his own when he gives his apprentice a holiday, in the expectation that, as it is *all in his way* to transact the business, he can do it without loss of time. Boys, when they get leave to make holiday, should have that day all to themselves.

Suppose he ask leave to go to Camberwell, and you, the Master, grant it. You may naturally suppose, that as they lie in his way, it will not take him half a minute's time to leave a letter or a bill at the house of some friend or patient at Newington, or Walworth: now, perhaps, the youth may either have to go some other way—or he may have had his time so much occupied in his own concerns, that he cannot spare a moment to give to your commission; of course, he neglects it altogether; and when questioned on his return home, he either
tells

tells you that he has delivered your letter, which, instead of being delivered, lies at the bottom of some ditch, or else, that he was so long finding out the place that he entirely lost his opportunity of dining where he intended, or missed his chance of going to Astley's with his friends; for which he hopes to have indulgence granted for another day.

Better far have said nothing about your own business, but let him have his day entirely to himself; and choose some future day, in which you will expect his time devoted to your own concerns.

A hopeful youth I once had with me, having obtained permission to go somewhere in the Vauxhall road, asked me could he do any thing for me that way, as he would have plenty of time. I gave him the bill of a very honest patient that had removed from my neighbourhood to Lambeth. On his return home at night, he said he had seen Mr. P. who inquired very kindly for the family, and would call and pay his bill soon. I asked him where about the street lay, in which this man lived? He answered, "Close by Astley's, and a little to the westward of it." Having occasion to go that way some time afterwards, I found that the street I inquired for, so far from being near Astley's, and to the westward, was nearly *a mile* from Astley's, and to the eastward. He had never
called

called on the person, nor even made any inquiry about the street he lived in.

Had he done his duty, the man had then plenty of money to pay his bill, and would have done it; but when I called in about a month afterwards, he had sold off every thing, and was gone to Portugal.

Another time the same youth, on being sent out with a parcel of short bills to deliver round a certain district, (by short bills, I mean those that have no more than "To bill delivered," written in them,) brought fictitious messages from many that he had never called on; among the rest, from a poor book-binder's wife, that she "thanked me very much for my indulgence, could not pay directly, but would pay at the rate of ten shillings a month, beginning after Christmas."

I was astonished at such a message from a woman I made it a rule never to take any money from at any time, as I always permitted her to work her little debt out in her own way; and calling on her the next day, to ask what she meant by such a message, as I never in my life asked her for money, her surprise was greater than mine; no one had ever called on her from me, nor did she ever send any such message by any one!

If you have not an apprentice in whom you
can

can place strict confidence, it will be always proper for the Master to keep a copy of the list of bills delivered at the beginning of the year, made out in the order of delivery, according to the different districts, and streets; and to go the rounds in 3 or 4 weeks afterwards. Because, by this measure, you not only have an opportunity of learning whether any of your patients are removed—or whether they have deserted you, and employ some one else—of receiving payment for some of your bills that would not be paid so soon if you had not called; but also of learning whether your youth has neglected to deliver any of the bills, by simply asking the question, “Did my young man deliver in your bill after Christmas?” Indeed, this is a duty which ought never to be neglected by a Master, whether his apprentice be trust-worthy or not.

It would be advisable also to go the rounds again, in order to collect in the unpaid debts, about the latter end of June, or beginning of July, for if this be neglected you may lose, through removals of patients, many good bills that might have been paid if you had called at an earlier time.

CHAP. XXI.

Having too many Things in hand at once.

NEVER take in hand more than you are able to do in the course of the day, unless you are perfectly certain that you will have full time to go through and finish what you have began with, by the beginning of the following day at farthest. Suppose, for instance, you have a mass of Pills to make, and form into three or four hundred Pills—This requires time—some of them are wanted immediately, and cannot be postponed; business comes in, that prevents your making more than are absolutely necessary for the patient.—The preparation may be such, that it will become hard by keeping two or three days, and then you have all your *pounding* and hard work to go over again. The best way is, to prevail upon yourself, if it be not a letting down of your dignity, to rise next morning one hour earlier than your usual time, and if one hour is not enough, an hour and a half, so as to set to work on your unfinished jobs, and

M finish

finish all, if possible, before the regular routine business of the day comes on; and if you cannot get through all by yourself, you have the advantage of the boy to help you, if your Master keeps one: he can work at the pestle and mortar, under your inspection and direction, while you are employed on the more scientific part of the preparation.

Young men (as well as old men) should contrive to *MAKE time*; and none but they who have tried it, can conceive what a wonderful deal of business may be got through, by rising at six in Summer, instead of lying in bed until seven, or, perhaps, eight!

For want of a young man's contriving thus to "*MAKE time*," I have known, in my own business, at one and the same period, a mass of half a pound of Pill Cochiae, only half-beaten, stowed away in a brown paper, in one hiding-hole—a parcel of Almonds, half pounded, with a small quantity of sugar, *intended* for Confectio Amygdalæ, which, from its colour and hardness, I took to be old pieces of crumbled bread, hid away in another; a mass of the Solutio Oxymuriat Hydrargyri cum Mica panis, intended to be formed into 556 Pills, lying, perhaps, in the *bell-metal* mortar—for 5 or 6 days. A mass, of the weight of seven or eight pounds, for
making

making Cowhage Lozenges*, and, perhaps, three or four more such *postponed* articles, all put aside until my youngster could *find time* to make them!

And here let me again intreat the attention of the Master, to the necessity there is of giving his young pupil a holiday sometimes. Perhaps his out-door business may be such, that he cannot possibly give up time to look, *every day*, to what is wanting in the shop.—But, while his apprentice or assistant is gone out for a day's pleasure, the Master is necessarily confined to the shop: Retail customers come in—or prescriptions are required to be made up.—He hunts for what he wants; he finds pots and drawers empty, that he supposed to be well-stocked with contents; he finds himself, after a fruitless search, obliged to send to a neighbouring shop, for an article immediately wanted, of which article there is enough in the house, but

* I once had a chap, an apprentice, who, when he had Cowhage Lozenges to make, would sometimes make short work of it: When he began to be tired of cutting out three or four pounds of the Lozenges, with a *former*, he would take handfuls of the mass, and throw them over the wall, into my neighbour's premises. A friendly neighbour brought me in a lump of the Compound, one day, that when put in the scale, weighed two pounds wanting an ounce!

not where it ought to be: In searching for what he *did* want, he finds a great many things he did not expect to be forthcoming: this induces him to continue his rummaging search, and he finds, to his surprise, stores of valuable medicines, and a great deal of money's worth, stowed away, not through roguery, nor through wantonness—nor badness of disposition; but through downright carelessness, in holes and corners, where they have been lying, neglected and forgotten.

Therefore I would strongly recommend it to the Master, to take one day, at least, in a month or six weeks, to make a general rummage throughout the shop; and I will answer for it, that in nine cases out of ten, he will find his labour well paid for, by what he finds during his search.

I do not mean to attach any degree of criminality to boys, by making these observations—I only mean to infer, that boys will be boys: we cannot expect perfect steadiness at so early an age; nor can we expect that any youth can have that perfect regard for his Master's interest, that thought of every shilling that goes out of his pocket, which is to be expected in older people. In short, acquiescing in the truth of a very old saying, we are not to expect to find “old heads” upon young shoulders.”

Where, instead of an apprentice, the business
is

is transacted by an assistant, there is not so much excuse for *his* neglect and giddiness, as there is for a young apprentice.

An ASSISTANT, being supposed to have gone through a regular apprenticeship, ought to have attained, with his years, some degree of STEADINESS; and a perfect knowledge of all his duties.

Besides this, he is *paid* for his services; and therefore, having agreed to accept such salary as he presumes his services to be worth, it is his duty to attend assiduously to his employer's business; to consult his interest in all things; and to be in every respect, a second self to that employer, whose professional duties call him so frequently from home, that he cannot superintend, as he would do if he could, his *domestic* concerns.

And therefore, if a Medical man finds that he has engaged an assistant, who pays more attention to his own concerns than his employer's; or who is never out of the kitchen, or who is never without a set of followers coming to lounge in the shop and interrupt him, or who is fond of frequenting an alehouse, and getting into low company; who gives up more time to his flute, his fiddle, to poetry*, drawing, card-playing,

* I should be very sorry to have it inferred that I am an advocate for "*all work, and no relaxation whatever*:"

playing, going to plays, or *acting* plays ; and for all or any of these, neglects his duties ; who, when at home, is to be found in *any other part* of the house, rather than that part of it where he *ought* to be, (the *shop* ;) who cannot be roused out of his bed in a morning, without six or seven times being called ; who requires, daily and hourly, to be reminded of waste of Drugs, of paper, &c. —of dirty mortars, spatulas, and measures ; pots and bottles without covers or stoppers—preparations left unfinished ; labels with wrong directions ; medicines sent out late, or sent out dirty, or not sent at all ; messages wholly neglected, or else wrong taken ; he is not worth his salary and maintenance ; and in such case, the best thing that can be done is to get rid of such a one as soon as possible.

far be it from me to be an enemy to the cultivation of the Muses, or to any other rational amusement :

——— *ingenuas didicisse fideliter artes*
Emollit mores, nec sinit esse feros.

I only mean to be understood as disapproving of so close an attachment to any pursuits, as evidently tend to a *complete neglect* of more important concerns.

CHAP. XXII.

Fines.

SOME eighteen or twenty years ago, the parents of a very amiable youth whom I had as my apprentice, being at my house to spend the evening, (we being on terms of the most friendly intimacy), jocularly observed, on the occasion of some trifling neglect on the part of their son, that I ought to *fine* him for that, or similar acts of omission. This brought on a conversation on pains, penalties, fines, and forfeitures, and led to the establishment of a code of laws, to which was annexed a system of fines for the breach of any of those laws.

I observed, that, as a Master has many more years passed over his head than his apprentice—that, as it was more incumbent on him to take care of his own business, &c. the reciprocity of fines would not be fairly conducted, unless the master should forfeit twice the sum that the apprentice should be amerced in, for the same
act

act of delinquency: this being acceded to, the next grand points to be settled were, who should be Treasurer, and what was to be done with the money collected. No great difficulty could be expected to arise in the adjustment of this important business. It was agreed that the lady of the house should hold the forfeitures; and that the money should be expended, one half in the purchase of such periodical Medical works as should be of equal utility to us both, and the other half in a pleasant little supper party, to to which each should be at liberty to invite as many friends as the extent of the fund at the end of the year would admit of.

This being fully agreed to, and the list of fines made out, and exhibited at a subsequent meeting, all the high contracting parties ratified the same, by affixing their signatures to the contract with all due solemnity; the father placing in the hands of his son a sum of money to enable him to pay such fines as he supposed he would incur at first setting out.

This sort of agreement made us both so vigilant, that it was three days before a single farthing came into the *treasury*: at last, to make a beginning, I purposely incurred a half-crown fine myself, by neglecting to write in the Prescription-book, after coming in from a round of visits.

We

We both found this plan extremely useful; it saved the trouble of reproof when things were done wrong, sharpened the industry of the youth, who would of course do his best to escape as many fines, and bring me in for as many as he could, and was productive of much pleasantry and good-humour.

The following Table exhibits a Specimen.

<i>Fines applying to both Parties.</i>		Mas. s. d.	App. s. d.
1	For not being out of bed and dressed when the clock strikes seven	1 0	0 6
2	For coming to breakfast in slippers, or dirty shoes	0 6	0 2
3	For leaving a stopper out of a bottle after having been using it	0 4	0 2
4	For leaving any thing dirty on the counter	0 6	0 2
5	A medicine being to be prepared with <i>Aqua pura</i> ; for pouring the <i>Aqua pura</i> out of the pitcher, instead of out of its own proper bottle, no stranger being present	0 4	0 2
6	For doing the same in the presence of strangers	1 0	0 6
7	For neglecting to put in their right places, any of the books, utensils, or other articles belonging to the shop	1 0	0 4
8	Mislaying any key that is often wanted, or the corkscrew	1 0	0 6
9	Putting by any drug or composition, without a label to shew what it is	1 0	0 6
10	For every fly found in a syrup-pot or bottle, through carelessness in not keeping it properly corked or stopped	0 3	0 1

&c. &c. &c.

Fines on the Master.

	<i>s. d.</i>
For not looking at the Message-book, on coming home	1 0
When, on coming home, and having Prescriptions to write for the patients that have been visited, the writing for these patients is not done immediately, but delayed longer than is necessary	2 6
For sitting down to breakfast, so as not to be perfectly ready to start off to a sudden call, at a moment's warning	1 6
For writing in mistake, $\bar{3}$ 1 instead of 3 1, or 3 1 for $\bar{3}$ 1	2 6
For omitting to say how often a medicine is to be taken, (unless I have reason to expect you ought to know it without my telling you)	2 6
For writing Cochleare <i>magnum</i> , instead of Coch. <i>parv.</i> or any other similar mistake	2 6
&c. &c. &c.	

Fines on the Apprentice.

For directing or sending one person's medicine to another, or affixing a wrong label	2 6
For writing a direction in a wrong manner; i. e. differently from what the prescription orders	1 0
For sending out a direction so badly written, or blotted, that the patient, either through fear of committing a mistake, or not being able to read the name, does not take the medicine	1 0
For sending out a medicine in a slovenly manner, viz. in a dirty phial, or with a fly, or a straw, or shot in it	0 6
For	

	<i>s. d.</i>
For neglecting to make up a medicine written for in due time, or for making it up wrong .	2 0
For neglecting to forward it in due time to the pa- tient or customer, reasonable time being allowed	2 0
For not marking it off thus=, in P. B. when sent out	0 1
For not setting down in the Message-book, the name of a person who sends or leaves a message — <i>This being an omission through which I may stand a chance of losing a valuable patient, it cannot be set down at less than</i>	2 6
When, on coming home, I neglect to look at the Message-book, you have a fine against me of One Shilling; but, as <i>your</i> neglect of telling me the message in case of <i>my</i> omitting to look at the Message-book, may prove highly injurious to me; your omitting to tell me the message first, and fine me One Shilling at the same time, (al- lowing a quarter of an hour, and no more,) ought to be punishable by a fine of	2 0
For neglecting to write out a bill, (orders having been given in writing, and reasonable time allowed,) .	1 0
Neglecting to deliver it, (orders in writing to that effect being given)	1 0
For neglecting to enter a prescription, written on loose paper, into the Prescription-book .	1 0
For losing, or breaking <i>through carelessness</i> , any of the shop utensils——Replace them with new.	
For dirt, or grease, or careless blotting in any of the Account books	0 1
For unintelligible figures, or for a figure awkwardly turned into another, in the Ledger, or in a writ- ten-out bill, through laziness to erase the wrong figure with a pen-knife—each	0 1

&c. &c. &c.

All

All fines on both parties to be double on the party neglecting to declare the fine at the time it is incurred.

In any case, where a system of Forfeitures, similar to the above, may be ventured on by way of experiment, the occurrences of every day will suggest ground for other fines—not mentioned in the foregoing list.

In strict equity, there ought to be two chances to one, that the sum arising from penalties levied on the Master should amount to double the money from that arising from the fines on the pupil.

With regard to those established between my pupil and myself, the money in Mrs. Treasurer's hands, at the end of eight months, so circumspect were we both, (much to our credit), being equally divided, scarcely afforded a few Numbers of the Medical Journal; and as to the supper moiety, if something more had not been added to the amount of the fines, the *merry party of friends* must have been content with a bread and cheese supper, and *perhaps* NOT *quant. suff.* of *Whitbread's Intire*.

I certainly can say, and with the greatest truth, that I never had business conducted so well, and with such strict regularity, so smoothly, and with so little fault-finding, either at home,
or

or by patients, as during the time we kept up the fines. An untoward accident dissolved the connexion.

But it is necessary to observe, that only so long as strict cordiality, and the utmost good-humour subsist between a Master, his pupil, and the parents of the pupil, can this system of fining be kept up: the same may be said where a practitioner, instead of an apprentice, keeps one or more assistants; so long as there is a perfect agreement, and *willing* acquiescence, among the juniors, to be governed by this plan, so long will it be useful, and perfect order and regularity will be the result. Once that there appears symptoms of cavilling, and discontent, there is an end to the business.

CHAP. XXIII.

*Of the Acts of Parliament, imposing Duties on
Quack Medicines.*

**“ The People have nothing to do with
the Laws but to obey them.” !!!**

An odd sort of expression, this, to issue from the mouth of a BRITON !

But allowances must be made for the infirmities of Human Nature. The Right Reverend Gentleman who advanced this most extraordinary, and most arbitrary doctrine, was, as every one of the Lords Spiritual, (and Lords Temporal too), ought to be, a firm supporter of the Rights of the Church of England ; and the *Dissenters* were, just at that time, endeavouring to obtain a Repeal of the TEST LAWS. To this end a meeting had been held, at which Dissenters of all denominations attended in great numbers ; and various resolutions were entered into and published from time to time in the newspapers. Doctor Priestley was warmly engaged in combating

bating the arguments, and writing *Philippics* against what were deemed the intolerant dogmata of the learned Prelate. This kept him at home; because he presumed he could better serve the cause of the Dissenters by his controversial writings, issued from his closet in Birmingham, than by attending meetings and dinners at the London Tavern.

“ *Non aderas, Priestley! potior te cura tenebat*

“ *Rure, ubi magna inter centum miracula rerum,*

“ *Horslæi caput in rutilantia fulmina forgis;*

“ *Sulphuris et satagis subtilia grana parare,*

“ *Church quibus et Churchmen in Cælum up-blowere*

“ *possis.*” *

Now, it is very possible that these memorable words, recorded in the exordium of this chapter, were spoken in a moment of irritation, and at a time when those *terrible Turks*, the Dissenters, were making more free than welcome with the Test Laws, “ *test-Oathibus atque profanis;*” and that some of Doctor Priestley’s “ *rutilantia fulmina,*” or explosions of Church-polemical gunpowder, smiting the Bishop too severely, had ruffled his Lordship’s temper!

Be that as it may, I had the hardihood to dif-

* Epistola macaronica, ad Fratrem, de iis quæ gesta sunt in nupero Dissidentium Conventu; ab Alexandro Geddes, D. D.

fer in opinion from the worthy Prelate; and when, in the year 1802, a Law was made to *explain* and *amend* a law, that was made to *explain* and *amend* a *former* law for the regulation of Quack Medicines, I found that, that Law of 1802, did, in itself, stand in need of so much *explanation* and *amendment*, was fraught with so many dangers to the regular Practitioner, who did *not* deal in Quackery; such palpable contradictions against its own clauses, such ordinances *impossible* to be OBEYED, such teasing tautology and nugatory nonsense, that, not holding with the Bishop of Rochester's maxim, that "*the people have nothing to do with the Laws but to obey them,*" I used the freedom to take the dissecting-knife in my hand, and exposed the incongruities and blunders of this Act;* so, that the framers themselves were ashamed of its standing a disgrace to the Statute Book, and saw clearly the necessity of making an amelioration, which, by the unwearied diligence and attention of a Committee of Apothecaries and Druggists, who gave up a great deal of their time, and left no effort untried, was brought about in the following year 1803, in which year a *new* Act was made, repealing or

* See my first Letter to the Editors of the Medical and Physical Journal, Vol. VIII. page 127, for August 1802.

ameliorating the obnoxious clauses of the Act of 1802, and containing an amended Schedule, consistent with justice, common sense, and grammar.

But, as the strictures on the Medicine Act of 1802, are to be found in the VIIIth volume of the Medical Journal, page 127, and the history of the transactions which led to its amendment by the Act of 1803, are detailed in the *tenth* volume, of the same publication, and still more at large in a Two Shilling pamphlet, sold by my friend Mr. Highley, in Fleet Street, it only remains for me to state in this place, the substance of so much of the two Acts of 1802 and 1803, (which I then collated and consolidated, one with the other, for the better understanding of both), as is necessary to be known by every practitioner in Pharmacy, who wishes to steer clear of prosecutions for infringing on either of these two Acts, and avoid the machinations of informers, and their employers, the pettifogging *Qui-tam* attornies.

Rates of Stamps, ad valorem.

“ For every packet, box, bottle, or other in-
 “ closure, containing medicines coming within
 “ the meaning of this Act, not exceeding in value
 “ 1s. a three-half-penny stamp.

“ Above

- “ Above 1s. and not more than 2s. 6d. a
- “ stamp, value 3d.
- “ Above 2s. 6d. and not above 4s. stamp 6d.
- “ Above 4s. and not above 10s. stamp 1s.
- “ Above 10s. and not above 20s. stamp 2s.
- “ Above 20s. and not above 30s. stamp 3s.
- “ Above 30s. and not above 50s. stamp 10s.
- “ And, all above 50s. stamp 20s.
- “ Every person vending preparations liable to
- “ the duty, to take out an annual Licence.
- “ Rates of Duties on Licences as follow.
- “ In London, Westminster, Southwark,
- “ and all within the limits of the Two-
- “ Penny post, forty shillings.
- “ Within the city of Edinburgh, forty
- “ shillings.
- “ In any city, borough, or town corpo-
- “ rate, or in Manchester, Birmingham,
- “ or Sheffield, ten shillings.
- “ In any other part of Great Britain, five
- “ shillings.
- “ Penalty for selling Quack Medicines with-
- “ out Licence, twenty pounds.
- “ Vendors of Quack Medicines, to apply to
- “ Commissioners for labels or stamps, and de-
- “ liver in, in writing, a note containing their
- “ names and residence.
- “ Stamps must be affixed to the packets,
- “ boxes, &c. containing Quack Medicines, *not*
- “ at

“ *at the time of selling*, BUT BEFORE EX-
 “ POSURE TO SALE; either *Wholesale* or
 “ *retail*; printed rules and regulations to be given
 “ by the Commissioners to Vendors when they
 “ apply for their Licence; and such rules to be
 “ strictly abided by.

“ Penalty for either buying to sell again, or
 “ for selling, or for *exposing to sale*, or for
 “ *keeping ready* for sale, either *Wholesale* or
 “ *Retail*, whether for *foreign* or *home* consump-
 “ tion, goods, without stamps, or without the
 “ proper stamps, *well and sufficiently fastened*
 “ *on, so as not to be separated without tearing*,
 “ TEN POUNDS.

“ Twenty Pounds penalty for fraudulently
 “ tearing off the stamps with intent to use them
 “ a second time.

“ Twenty Pounds penalty for buying or sell-
 “ ing second-hand stamps, or for affixing on any
 “ box, packet, &c. a stamp that had been before
 “ made use of.

“ Buyer or seller may inform against the
 “ other, and be himself indemnified.

[*The following Clause, being of the greatest Importance, is here given at greater length than the others.*]

XIX. “ And in order to obviate any doubts
 “ which may arise in the construction of this Act
 “ for want of a particular specification of the
 “ different

“ different preparations subject to the duties by
 “ this Act imposed; be it enacted, that the
 “ rates and duties hereby imposed on prepara-
 “ tions used, or to be used, as medicines for the
 “ prevention, cure, or relief of any ailment in-
 “ cident to or affecting the human body; and
 “ upon persons uttering or vending the same;
 “ and all the powers, provisions, penalties, &c.
 “ prescribed by this Act, shall extend to every
 “ article mentioned in the Schedule: and also
 “ to all Pills, Powders, Lozenges, chemical and
 “ officinal preparations whatsoever, of the same
 “ or the like properties, made, prepared, vended
 “ or exposed to sale, wherein the person prepar-
 “ ing, uttering, &c. the same, hath or claims to
 “ have any occult secret or unknown art for the
 “ making or preparing the same; or any ex-
 “ clusive right and title to the making or pre-
 “ paring the same; or which have been, are, or
 “ shall be prepared under the authority of Letters
 “ Patent, or which have ever been, are, or shall
 “ be by any public advertisement or printed pa-
 “ per or hand-bill, or any label affixed to or de-
 “ livered with any such packet, box, or other in-
 “ closure aforesaid, held out to the Public, by
 “ the makers, vendors, or proprietors thereof,
 “ as nostrums, or proprietary medicines, or as
 “ specifics, or as beneficial for the prevention,
 “ cure, or relief of any such distemper or com-
 “ plaint,

“plaint, as aforesaid; and shall also extend to
 “charge with the duties imposed on Licences,
 “all and every person who shall utter, vend,
 “or expose to sale, any such preparations or
 “compositions as aforesaid, in such manner as
 “aforesaid.”

On the 28th of July, 1812, another Act of Parliament (being, I think, the fifth on the same subject) received the Royal Assent, intituled, “An Act to amend an Act passed in the
 “Forty-fourth Year of His Majesty’s Reign,
 “for granting Stamp Duties in *Great Britain*,
 “so far as regards the Duties granted on Medicines, and on Licences for vending the same.”

From the answer which I received from Mr. Hanson, the Solicitor of the Stamp Office, (to whom I take this opportunity of returning my best thanks for his politeness, and his promptitude in answering my inquiries on all occasions), I had no reason to apprehend that any great inconveniences would arise to the Profession, from the passing of this new Act; I however waited for its publication, and now find it to be no more than, as Mr. Hanson said, an Act to remove the doubts of those persons concerned in the sale of Soda Water.

Its principal feature is a new Schedule, containing, in all, between five and six hundred QUACK MEDICINES !!! (Mercy on us!) and the principal

principal *object* of the Bill is to render liable to the Stamp Duty, *unequivocally*,

“ *All artificial Mineral Waters, and all*
 “ *Waters impregnated with Soda or*
 “ *Mineral Alkali, or with Carbonic Acid*
 “ *Gas, and all Compositions in a liquid*
 “ *or solid State, to be used for the Pur-*
 “ *pose of compounding or making any*
 “ *of the said Waters.*”

As the article, Soda Water, is rather a *luxury* than a *medicine*, the dealers in it will not object to affix a three-halfpenny stamp to it; which tax they can levy on the consumers; and seeing that the makers and vendors of Soda Water are for the most part Druggists, who are already in the habit of taking out annual Medicine Licences, on account of *other* stampable articles, neither of these imposts can be deemed to be hardships.—

In other respects, the new Act of July, 1812, does not affect the regular Medical Practitioner in any way whatever.

APPENDIX.

*Queries to be made when about engaging with
an Assistant.*

- 1 HOW long did A. B. live with you?
- 2 What was the cause of your parting with him?
- 3 Did he behave very well while with you?
- 4 Is he sober?
- 5 Careful?
- 6 Honest enough to be trusted in a Retail shop, whose returns are from to per week, and where many opportunities of embezzlement, not easily to be detected, unavoidably occur?
- 7 What sort of a Latin scholar is he?
- 8 How is he as an accomptant?
- 9 Can he be trusted to post the books?
- 10 Or write out the bills?
- 11 Or deliver bills?
- 12 IS HE GOOD AT DUNNING FOR BAD DEBTS?
- 13 If a fair question, What salary did he receive from you?

14 Does

- 14 Does he delight in keeping his shop and all utensils clean?
- 15 Is he cleanly in his person?
- 16 Is he destructive of glass ware?
- 17 Is he calculated to transact business in a shop where much is to be done both in retail and in making up prescriptions?
- 18 Is he quick at making up medicines?
- 19 Apt to make mistakes?
- 20 Does he require looking after?
- 21 Can he bear confinement?
- 22 Is he desirous of having many holidays?
- 23 Has he many acquaintances or followers?
- 24 Is he an early riser?
- 25 Or fond of lying in bed, requiring to be called very often before he will stir himself?
- 26 Is he fond of the kitchen, and of the company of servants?
- 27 Was he correct in his manners, or, on the contrary, vulgar, and given to low company and conversation?
- 28 When Employer is from home, and he is not immediately engaged in making up medicines to go out, how have you found him or heard of him spending his time?
- 29 Is he good at keeping the shop stocked, or did he suffer the shop to be in want of different articles through neglect of making
ing

ing memorandums of such things as are wanted, before the old stock of any particular article was exhausted?

30 Is he obliging to customers, and respectful to his employer and his family?

31 Did he, when with you, open and shut shop?

32 Did you ever employ him to take out medicines, or, if the boy was out of the way, was he too fine a gentleman to take them out?

33 Can he bear to be told of his faults?

34 IS HE APT TO GIVE SAUCY ANSWERS?

35 When sent out on business, is he quick at returning, or is he, on the other hand, given to loitering and staying out long?

36 IS HE APT TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR ABSENCE, AND ABSENT HIMSELF FROM THE SHOP THE MOMENT YOUR BACK IS TURNED?

37 When sent to bleed, or visit a patient, was he generally well received and well liked by patients?

38 Is he skilful in dispensing medicines, and in prescribing for patients; and may he be trusted to go to visit patients and prescribe for them, when his employer is sent for in a hurry and happens to be from home?

- 39 In fine, was his general conduct such, while he lived with you, as gave you reason to be satisfied with him?

Questions to be asked of the person who offers himself as an Assistant.

- 1 IN whose employ were you last engaged?
- 2 How long is it since you left it?
- 3 How long did you live in it?
- 4 What was the cause of your quitting it?
- 5 Can you refer me to your last employer for a recommendation of you, as to honesty and all other requisite qualifications?
- 6 Or can you refer me to any one in town that knows any thing of you?
- 7 What salary do you expect?
- 8 Can you bear confinement?
- 9 Can you bleed, and draw teeth? *

* The not being possessed of these two qualifications, is of serious importance to a master. In many cases it may happen, that a patient may send in a very great hurry on an occasion wherein immediate bleeding is absolutely necessary; and unless the assistant can bleed, another practitioner is sent for, and thus the master loses a patient who may perhaps prove a most valuable one to the operator sent for in your stead; the same may be said of tooth-drawing, so that if an assistant can do neither, that circumstance ought to have its weight in making a great abatement in the salary.

10* Can

- 10* Can you be content to sleep in the shop, be ready to rise at all calls in the night, and come to my chamber, to call me in case of labours or other exigencies?
- 11* Can you be satisfied to open and shut shop every morning and night, and do every thing that is necessary to be done where no man-servant is kept?
- 12* As I keep no errand boy, are you willing to carry out the medicines after making them up?
- 13 Would you think it a hardship to be expected to have the shop open at six in summer and seven in winter?
- 14 Would you think yourself ill used, if, not having had any indulgence of going out for five or six weeks, a labour, or some other engagement of my own, should occur to prevent my performing my promise of letting you have your holiday on the very day you asked for?
- 15 Have you many acquaintances or followers? Because I allow no visitors, except fathers and mothers.

** These three Questions, 10, 11, and 12, to which an asterisk* is prefixed, are only necessary when the Employer does not keep a servant to take out the Medicines to the Patients.*

- 16 Have you it in view to attend any course of lectures, and how soon?
- 17 Or to go into the army or navy?
- 18 Will you think it a hardship, to be required to replace any article broken by your own carelessness in the shop (except phials?)
- 19 Are you satisfied to do it, when you are now told, before our concluding the engagement, that you are to replace such things, or allow yourself to be charged for such articles, to be paid for out of your salary?

[Having received such answers to all or most of these questions, as might induce you to think the young man will suit you, provided his knowledge of Latin, his hand writing, and his correctness in writing out a bill and adding it up, will convince you he is competent to post the books, (provided you require it), the next step is to take the address of the Medical Gentleman he refers you to, and if his character be satisfactory, the engagement is concluded on of course.]

Queries to be put, on hiring a Servant.

[Some of these Queries are calculated for asking the Servant who offers himself, others are proper to be put to his former Employer.]

- 1 WHAT age?
- 2 Can you read and write sufficiently to read the written direction on the wrapper of a medicine you are to take out, or enter a message in the book, in the absence of the assistant or apprentice?
- 3 Are you strong enough to lift heavy shutters, in opening and shutting up the shop?
- 4 Do you know the town?
- 5 How long did you live in your last place?
- 6 On what occasion did you leave it?
- 7 What wages do you require?
- 8 Did you board and live in the house, or out of doors?
- 9 Do you want many holidays, or can you bear confinement?
- 10 Will you not think it a hardship to have no holiday on Sundays, as it is very seldom a day of rest with the Medical Profession?
- 11 Have you friends that will wash for you?
- 12 On what day, and at what hour may I wait
on

on your late Master, to inquire your character?

Queries to the former Employer.

- 1 How long did C. D. live with you?
- 2 What was the occasion of your parting?
- 3 If a fair question, What wages did he receive from you?
- 4 Is he honest and trust-worthy?
- 5 Is he docile and willing to learn, and thankful for what is taught him? or,
- 6 Is he conceited, self-opinionated, obstinate, or stupid?
- 7 Does he want many holidays, or can he bear confinement?
- 8 Does he often want to go home to his parents; and on pretence of that, does he often stay out on his errands a much longer time than is needful?
- 9 Are his parents creditable and of good repute; or are they low and vicious?
- 10 Has he many followers?
- 11 *Is he good at going on errands; or DOES he LOITER AND PLAY TRUANT?*
- 12 Is he fond of making acquaintance with the boys in the neighbourhood, and idling away his time out of doors?
- 13 Is he very heavy and hard to be awaked?

16 Or,

14 Or, is he good at early rising, with or without being called up?

15 Is he cleanly in his clothes, person, or about any part of his business?

16 Or, on the contrary, is he dirty and slovenly?

17 IS HE APT TO GIVE SAUCY ANSWERS?

18 Is he of a temper not likely to quarrel or disagree with a fellow servant?

19 Is he civil and respectful to his superiors; and also, is he willing to do any thing that is *not* immediately his own business, in a case of hurry, or distress?

20 Can he wait at table? and lay a table for dinner?

21 Is he good at cleaning boots and shoes, knives and forks, and keeping exactly clean and bright, all the pewter, brass, tin, and other utensils of the shop?

22 Is he handy at going about any thing he is set about; or is he wasteful, careless, awkward, or clumsy?

23 Is he careful of securing doors and windows at night; and, above all, is he careful of his candle?

24 Is he civil in giving answers to strangers?

25 Is he unfortunate in breaking glass and crockery?

26 Is

26 Is he apt to tattle or make mischief, or carry every thing that he hears spoken in the parlour down to the kitchen, or out of doors?

27 How stands he for clothes?

A

VOCABULARY

*Of the Words most frequently occurring in the
Prescriptions of Physicians.*

A.

A, **aa**, or **ana**, of each ingredient; (more properly expressed in the New Pharmacopœia of the College, Edit. 1809, by the genitive case plural, (SINGULORUM) of each—for instance,

Rx. Aquæ Cinnamom, Tinct. Rhei āā ʒij. means,
Take of Cinnamon Water, and Tincture of
Rhubarb, of each two drachms.

Abdomen, the belly. **GEN.**—*inis*, of the belly. **DAT.**
—*ini*. to the belly.

Absente febre, while the fever is off.

Accuratè (adverb) accurately. *Accuratè pensi*, weighed
with the utmost exactness—*accuratè misceantur*,
mix very completely.

Aciditas, sharpness. *Ad gratam aciditatem*. Make it just
acid enough to be palatable, and not too sour.

Acmè. The height of a fever or any other disease.

Ad, to. *Ad duas vices*, at twice taking: *ad libitum*, as
you like.

Adde, add. *Addantur*, let there be added; *Addendus*,
to be added; *addendo*, adding.

Admoveatur, let there be applied—*antur*, plural, when
more than one is to be applied.

Adstrictus, a, um, bound.

Adstante febre, while the fever is on.

Æger, a sick person, a patient. *Ægra*, a female patient.

Aggrediente febre, when the fever is coming on.

Aggressus, an attack. *Aggressus febris*, the attack of a fever.

Agitato vase, shaking the phial.

Albus, white.

Aliquot, some. *Aliquoties*, sometimes.

Alter, altera, alterum, the other.

Alternus, alternate. *Alternis horis*, every second hour.

Alternis diebus, every alternate day.

Aluta, leather. *Extende super alutam mollem*, spread on soft leather.

Alvus, the belly, the bowels. *Adstrictâ alvo*, when constive.

Amplus, large. *Cochleare amplum*, a table-spoonful.

Ante, before. *Ut ante*, as before.

Antemeridianus. In the forenoon: any time before twelve o'clock at noon.

Aperiens, opening, gently purging.

Apparatus, any sort of preparation, instruments, or, in short, every thing that is requisite to be had in readiness for performing any sort of operation. —Also, the more delicate term for a bladder and pipe for glysters.

Applicetur, let there be applied.

Aqua, water. *Aquæ*, of water. *Aqua bulliens, Aqua fervens*, boiling water.

Armatus, armed. *Fistula armata*, an apparatus for glysters; a pipe and bladder.

Auris, the ear. *Auri*, to the ear. *Aures*, ears. *Auribus*, to the ears.

Aut, or.

B.

Bene, well.

Bibat, let him drink.

Biduum, two days. *Omni biduò vel triduò*, every two or three days.

Bihorium, the space of two hours. *Omni bihorio*, every two hours.

Bis, twice; *bis, terve*, twice or thrice.

Bullio, to boil; *bulliens*, boiling. *Aquæ bullientis*, of boiling water.

Bulliant, let them boil.

C.

Calefactus, made warm.

Capiat, let (the patient) take. *Capt. Cochl. iij larg.*
Three table-spoonfuls to be taken.

Cataplasma, a cataplasm or poultice.

Catharticus, purging.

Cautè, cautiously.

Cerevisia, beer. *Cerevisia Londinensis*, porter.

Charta, paper. *Charta cærulea*, blue paper. *Chartula*, a little piece of paper. *Cola trans chartam*, filter through paper.

Cibus, food.

Circa, about; *circiter*, about.

Citò, soon, quickly. *Citissimè* (the superlative degree,) as quick as possible.

Clausus, *clausa*, *clausum*, covered. *Vase clauso*, in a covered vessel.

Cochleare, a spoonful. *Cochlearia*, spoonful. *Coch. magnum*; *amplum*; a table-spoonful. *Co. infantulorum*; *Coch. modicum*, a child's spoonful, a desert spoonful. *Co. parvum*, a tea-spoonful.

Coctio, a boiling. *Sub finem Coctionis*, towards the end of the boiling; when almost boiled.

Cæruleus, blue. *Charta Cærul.* blue paper. *Unguentum Cæruleum*, mercurial ointment.

Cola (imperat. of *Colo*,) strain, to filter.

Colatus, strained, filtered. *Colato liquori*, to the strained liquor.

Colatura, a straining. *Colaturæ*, to the strained liquor.

Colatus, let be strained. *Colentur*, let them be strained.

Collum, the neck.

Comp. Compositus, compound.

Congium, a gallon.

Continuo, to continue. *Continuantur remedia*, go on with the same medicines as last prescribed.

Contundo, to bruise. *Contusus*, bruised.

Contusio, a bruise; a contusion.

Coquo, to boil. *Coque*, boil. *Coque parùm*, boil a little while.

Coquantur, let them be boiled.

Cor, the heart. *Scrubiculus cordis*, the pit of the stomach.

Coxa, *coxendix*, the hip.

Cras, to-morrow; *c. m. cras mane*, early to-morrow morning; *c. m. s. cras mane sumendus*, to be taken early to-morrow morning.

Crastinus, (adj.) of to-morrow. *In usum crastinum*, for to-morrow's use.

Cribrum, a sieve; *trans cribrum*, through a sieve.

Cujus, of which. *Cujus capiat*, or *sumat*, of which (the patient is to) take.

Cum, with.

Cyathus, a cup. *Cyathus vinarius*, a wine glass. *Cyath. theat.* a tea-cup full.

D.

Da, give. *Detur, dentur* (plural,) let be given.

De, of; *de quo*, or *quâ*, of which—*de die*, in a day.

Deauratus, gilt. *Deaurentur pilulæ*, let the pills be gilt.

Debilitas, weakness.

Debitus, due; *ad debitam spissitudinem*, to a proper degree of thickness, as to consistence.

Decem, ten. *Decimus*, the tenth.

Decubitus, lying down. *Horâ decubitûs*, at bed-time.

Deglutio, to swallow. *Deglutiatur*, is swallowed,—*etur*, let be swallowed.

Dein, *deinde*, then; afterwards.

Dejectio, a depositing, or putting down, also a going to stool; as, *post duas dejectiones alvi*, after two motions.

Dejicio, to deposit. *Donec alvus bis dejiciat*, until the patient shall have had two stools.

Dens, a tooth. *Dentes*, the teeth.

Dexter, the right. *Manus dextra*, the right hand. *Auri dextro*, to the right ear.

Dictus, spoken of, said.

Dies, a day. *Die*, in a day; as *bis die*, twice a day.

Diebus, in days; as *tertiis diebus*, every third day. *Alternis diebus*, every alternate day.

Dilutum, diluted.

Dimidium, the half. *Dimidius*, *a*, *um*, (adjective) half.

D. P. Directione propria, with its proper direction.

Diu, a long time. *Tere diu*, rub for a long time.

Diurnus, long continued. *Diurnâ trituratione*, by long continued rubbing, or grinding in the mortar. *Diurna coctione*, by long boiling.

Dolor, pain. *Dolores*, pains. *Doloris*, of the pain.

Dolens, pained. *Parti dolenti*, to the pained part.

Donec, until.

Dum, whilst.

Durante dolore, while the pain continues.

E.

Eadem, eandem, the same. *Eodem*, in the same.

Ebur, ivory. *Eburneus*, made of ivory.

Effunde, pour out.

Effervescentia, the effervescence.

Effervescet, effervesces.

Ejusdem, of the same, the genitive case of *Idem*.

Enema, a glyster. *Enemata*, glysters.

Erit, shall be.

Evanesco, evanui, to disappear. *Evanuerit*, shall have disappeared.

Exemplar, a pattern. *Fiat emplastrum lyttæ ad exemplar*, make a blister according to pattern.

Exhibe, exhibeatur, give. *Exhibendus*, to be given.

Exinde, thenceforward.

Extendo, to extend, also to spread. *Extende super alutam*, spread it on leather.

Extensus, a, um, spread.

F.

Fac, make. *Fac in pilulas xij.* makes into 12 pills.

Farina, flour. *Farina seminis lini*, linseed meal.

Febris, a fever. *Febre durante*, while the fever is on.

Femur, a thigh.

Femoribus, to the thighs. *Femoribus internis*, to the inner sides of the thighs.

Fere, almost.

Ferrum, iron or steel, a lancet or scalpel.

Fervens, boiling. *Fervidus, fervida*, hot.

Ferventis, of boiling. *R̄. aq. ferventis*, take of boiling water.

Fiat, make (the singular number.) *Fiant*, make (plural.)

Finis, the conclusion. *Sub finem coctionis*, when almost boiled enough.

Fluiduncia, a fluid ounce, an ounce liquid measure.

Fluidrachma, a fluid drachm.

Fontana, fountain. *Aqua fontana*, spring water.

Fonticulus, an issue.

Formula, prescription.

Fotus, a fomentation.

Fuerit, shall have been ; as *donec alvus soluta fuerit*, until a motion is (or shall have been) procured.

G.

Gargarisma, a gargle.

Gelatina, jelly. *Gelatina ribesiorum*, currant jelly. *Gelatina quavis*, any sort of jelly.

Globulus, a little ball. *Globuli Gascoigni*, Gascoign's ball. *Donec globuli evanuerint*, until the globules (of quicksilver) totally disappear, (so that they cannot be seen even with a microscope.)

Gradatim, by slow degrees.

Gratus, *grata*, *gratum*, agreeable, pleasant. *Ad gratam aciditatem*, so as to make it pleasantly acid without being too sour. *In quovis grato vehiculo*, in any agreeable vehicle.

Gutta, a drop. *Guttæ*, drops. *Guttas*, drops.

Guttatim, drop by drop.

H.

Hac, this. *Hac nocte*, this night. *Hanc*, this. *Sumat hanc*, let him take this.

Hactenus, hitherto, heretofore, up to the present day.

Harum, of these. *Harum pilularum sumat tres*, of these pills let him or her take three.

Haustus, a draught.

Hebdomada, a week.

Heri, yesterday. *Ut heri*, as yesterday.

Hesternus, of yesterday. *Hesternæ nocte*, last night.

Hirudo, a leech. *Hirudines*, leeches.

His, in these, to these. *His adde*, add to these.

Hora, an hour. *Horæ*, of an hour. *Horæ* (plural) hours.

H. S. (*horâ somni*,) at the hour of rest.

H. S. S. (*horâ somni sumendus*,) to be taken at bed-time.

Hora decubitus, at the hour of going to rest, bed-time.

Horâ vespertinâ, in the evening.

Horæ unius spatio, in the space of one hour.

Horæ $\frac{1}{4}$, *horæ quadrante*, quarter of an hour.

Horis intermediis, at intermediate hours. When two medicines are to be taken, *horis intermediis*, it means, that one is to be given exactly at mid-time from the other; suppose a draught is ordered (to be taken every six hours,) and a powder *horis intermediis*, that is every six hours intermediately, then a draught will be taken at 6 o'clock and at 12, and a powder at 3, and at 9.

Hujusmodi, of this sort, like these.

H. p. n. *Haustus purgans noster*, a formula of purging draught made according to a practitioner's own private pharmacopœia, and is prepared so as to keep a long time without spoiling, that we may not have the trouble of preparing it every time a draught is wanted.—Mitt. *H. p. n.* $\mathfrak{z}\text{ij}$ ad ij vices c. m. s. *Mitte haustus purgantis nostri uncias duas, ad duas vices cras mane sumendus*, send two ounces of our purging draught to be taken to-morrow morning at twice, that is, half at first, and the remaining half in an hour if the first do not operate.

I.

Idoneus, proper, appropriate.

Idem, *Eadem*, the same. *Ejusdem*, of the same, the genitive case of *Idem*.

Illico or *illico*, immediately; also, there, from thence, in that very place.

Imponatur, (sing.) let there be put on—*nantur*, (plural.)

Imprimis, first.

In, in. *In die*, in a day.

Indies, (an adverb) every day, daily.

Indicaverit, shews, indicates.

Infra, under, below, underneath.

Infusio, *infusum*, an infusion.

Infunde, *infundatur*, infuse.

Injectio, injection.

Injicio, to throw in, to inject.

Inquietudo, restlessness. *Urgente inquietudine*, if restless.

Injiciatur, throw in, throw up. *Injiciatur enema*, let a glyster be administered.

Injiciendus, *Injiciendum*, to be administered.

Interdum, sometimes, now and then.

Instar, (an adverb) as big as. *Sumat molem instar nucis moschatæ*, the bigness of a nutmeg to be taken.

Inter, between. *Inter edendi tempora*, between meals.

Intermedius, intermediate.

Internus, the inner side.

J.

Jam, already. *Jampridem*, *jamdudum*, some time ago, heretofore.

Jugulum, the throat.

Jusculum, broth. *Jusculum ovillum*, mutton broth. *Jus bovinum*, beef tea.

Juxta, near to.

L.

Lac, milk. *Lactis*, of milk. *Lacte*, in milk.

Levigatus, levigated.

Lana, flannel. *Lana nova*, new flannel.

Languor, faintness, lowness. *In languoribus*, in the fainting fits, when low and faint.

Latus, the side. *Lateris*, of the side. *Lateri*, to the side. *Latus dolens*, the pained side. *Lateri dolenti*, to the pained side.

Latus, lata, latum, (adjective,) broad.

Lectus, a bed. *In lecto*, in bed.

Leviter, lightly.

Liber, a book.

Libet, (a verb impersonal) it pleases. *Ad libitum*, just as you please.

Libra, a pound.

Linteum, lint; also linen.

Liquesco, to liquefy, to melt. *Donec liquescat*, till it melts.

Liquidus, liquid. *Sedes liquidæ*, loose stools. *In quovis liquido*, in any liquid.

Londinensis, of London. *Pharmacopœia Londinensis*, the London Dispensatory.

Lumborum, of the loins.

M.

Magnus, magna, magnum, large. *Magnum cochleare*, a table-spoonful.

Major, greater, larger. *Cochlearia duo majora*, two table-spoonsful.

Maximè, chiefly.

Maximus, the greatest. *Maximâ curâ*, with the greatest care.

Malleolus, the ankle. *Malleolus internus*, the inner ankle.

Manè, in the morning. *Manè primo; valde manè*, very early in the morning.

Manus, a hand. *Manú calefacta*, with a warm hand.

Massa, a mass. *Massa pilularis*, a mass fit for forming into pills.

Matutinus, in the morning or forenoon.

Mediocris, middle-sized. *Pilulæ mediocres*, middle-sized pills. *Cochleare mediocre*, a dessert spoonful, a pap spoonful, or a child's spoonful. *Mediocris*, also means indifferent, as to quality.

Medius, middle. *Media nocte*, in the middle of the night.

Melior, melius, better.

Minatur, minaretur, threatens. *Minante*, threatening.

Minimus, very small. *Cochleare minimum*, a tea-spoonful.

*Minutum**, a minute.

Misce, mix. *Bene misceatur*, let it be well mixed.

Mistura, mixtura, a mixture.

Mitigatio, mitigation, alleviation. *Donec doloris mitigatio sit*, until the pain is easier.

Mitigatus, a, um, mitigated, lessened.

Mitte, send.

Mittatur, (singular,) let it be sent. *Mittantur*, (plural,) let them be sent.

Mittatur sanguis, take blood away; *i. e.* bleed the patient.

* The word *minutum*, for a minute, is very barbarous Latin; I believe there is no such word; but the right Latin for minute, *Sexagesima pari horæ*, is as long and as tiresome to write, as “*Semivitreous oxyd of lead*” for the simple word “*Litharge*.”

Modicus, middle-sized.

Modus, a manner. *Modo prescripto*, in the manner directed.

Moles, a mass, a lump, a piece. *Sumat molem instar nucis moschatæ*, let him (or her) take the bigness or size of a nutmeg.

Molestus, troublesome. *Molestor*, to trouble, to be troublesome. *Molestante dolore*, when the pain is troublesome. *Molestante tussi*, when the cough is troublesome.

Mollis, *molle*, soft.

Mora, delay. *Sine morâ*, without delay.

Mortarium, a mortar. *Mortario æheneo*, in the brass mortar. *Mortario marmoreo*, in the marble mortar. *Mort. vitreo*, in the glass mortar.

Mos, *moris*, manner. *More solito*, in the usual manner; also, in the same manner as I am in the habit of prescribing it to other people.

N.

Narthecium, a gallipot.

Nates, the buttocks.

Ne, lest, also, do not; as *ne tradas sine nummo*, do not deliver the medicine without the money.

Necnon, also.

Nequaquam, not at all. *Neutiquam*, by no means.

Niger, *nigra*, *nigrum*, black.

Ni, *nisi*, unless.

Nihil, nothing.

Nimis, *nimum*, too much.

Nisus, an endeavour, an attempt, a straining, a motion, a straining to vomit, or go to stool.

Nocte, at night. *Noctes*, nights. *Nocte manequæ*, night

and morning. *Alternis noctubus*, every second night.

Nodulus, a little knot. *Nodulo ligati*, tied up in a piece of clean rag.

Nomen, nominis, a name. *Signetur nomine proprio*, write its common name upon a label.

Nonus, the ninth.

Novem, nine.

Novissime, very lately ; the last of all.

Novus, nova, novum, new.

Nuper, lately. *Nuperrime*, very lately.

Nucha, the nape of the neck. *Nuchæ*, to the nape.

N. M. Nux moschata, a nutmeg. *Sumat magnitudinem nucis moschatæ*, take the bigness of a nutmeg.

Numeri. Numbers.

1. or j. <i>unus, una, unum</i> , one. <i>unius</i> , of one.	6. <i>vj. sex</i> , six. <i>sextus</i> , sixth.
2. <i>ij. duo, duæ</i> , two. <i>duorum</i> , of two. <i>duobus</i> , in two, to two.	7. <i>vij. septem</i> , seven. <i>septimus</i> , seventh. <i>septimana</i> , or 7 <i>mana</i> , a week.
3. <i>ijj. tres, tria</i> , three. <i>tribus</i> , in three, to three. <i>trium</i> , of three. <i>ter</i> , three times.	8. <i>vijj. octo</i> , eight. <i>octavus</i> , eighth.
4. <i>iv. quatuor</i> , four. <i>quartus, a, um</i> , fourth. <i>quater</i> , four times.	9. <i>ix. novem</i> , nine. <i>nonus</i> , ninth.
5. <i>v. quinque</i> , five. <i>quintus</i> , fifth.	10. <i>x. decem</i> , ten. <i>decimus</i> , tenth.
	11. <i>xj. undecim</i> , eleven.
	12. <i>xij. duodecim</i> , twelve.
	20. <i>xx. viginti</i> , twenty.
	24. <i>xxiv. viginti quatuor</i> , twenty-four.

O.

Obstante, hindering, preventing.

Occasio, occasion, opportunity.

Octo, eight.

Octavus, eighth. *Octava quaque hora*, every eighth hour.

Octariis,
Octarium, } a pint.

Olim, some time ago.

Olla, a pot, a gallipot.

Ollula, a little pot.

Omnis, all. *Omni mane*, every morning. *Omni horâ*, every hour. *Omni bihorio*, every two hours. *Omni nocte*, every night. *Omni $\frac{1}{4}$ horâ*, *Omni quadrante horæ*, every quarter of an hour. *Tere omnia*, rub all together.

Omniñò, quite, wholly, entirely.

Optimè, very well, as well as possible.

Optimus, *ma*, *mum*, best.

Ope, by the help of. *Fiat fonticulus ope caustici vel ferri*, make an issue by means of caustic or the lancet.

Opus, need, occasion. *Si opus sit*, or *fuerit*, if it be necessary.

Ovillum jusculum, mutton broth.

Ovum, an egg. *Vitell. ovi*, the yelk of an egg. *Ovorum*, of eggs.

P.

Panniculus, a little bit of rag.

Pannus, a rag. *Pannus linteus*, a linen rag. *Pannus laneus*, *pannus è lanâ*, a piece of flannel.

Paroxysmus, a paroxysm, a fit, a convulsion fit.

Pars, a part. *Partes*, parts. *Parti dolenti*, to the pained part.

Partitus,

Partitus, parted. *Partitis vicibus*, means, that you are not to give a medicine all at once, but divide the dose according to the directions most commonly previously given; for example, if a purging or emetic draught, half, or a third (as the case may be) to be taken at first, and the other half or third at a certain distance of time, if the former quantity be not found sufficient to take the desired effect.

Parvus, little. *Cochleare parvum*, a tea spoonful.

Parum, a little. *Parumper*, a little.

Pauculum, *pauillum*, *paululum*, a little.

Pectus, the breast. *Pectoris*, of the breast.

Pediluvium, a bath for the feet.

Penitus, entirely, quite.

Pensus, weighed. *Accuratè pensi*, exactly weighed.

Per, by, or through.

Pergo, to go on with. *Pergat in usu medicinarum*, continue the medicines as before.

Peractus, { completed, perfected, quite done, gone
Perfectus, { through with; as, *Peractâ operatione emetici*,
 after the emetic has quite done operating.

Perfricetur, let it be rubbed. *Perfricandus*, to be rubbed.

Persto, *persisto*, to persist or proceed with, as *perstet*, or *persistet in usu medicinarum*. Go on with the medicines that the patient is now taking.

Perpetuus, perpetual. *Fiat perpetuum*, keep it open, (when it refers to a blister.)

Pharmacopœia, the Dispensatory.

Plumbeus, made of lead. *Syphon plumbeum*, a leaden syringe.

Pluvialis, also *Pluvialis aqua*, rain water.

Pollex, the thumb. *Pollex pedis*, the great toe.

Pomeridianus.

Pomeridianus, postmeridianus, in the evening or afternoon time of the day.

P. R. N. pro re natá, occasionally, according as circumstances may occur, according as the symptoms may require.

Poculum, a cup.

Pomum, an apple. *Pomi*, of an apple.

Pone, behind. *Pondere*, by weight.

Porro, moreover. *Post*, after. *Postea*, then, afterwards.

P. M. post meridiem, afternoon, in the afternoon, after 12 o'clock at noon.

Postulet, postulent, may require, demand.

Potus, drink, any kind of beverage.

Præcipue, especially.

Præparatus, prepared.

Præparo, to prepare. *Præparentur*, let them be prepared.

Præsertim, especially.

Primus, ma, mum, the first. *Primò*, first of all. *Primo mane*, very early in the morning.

Prior, prius, the former, the first.

Priusquam, before that.

Pro, for. *Pro re natá, p. r. n.* occasionally, &c. *Pro ratione*, according to, or, in proportion to; as, *pro ratione ætatis*, according to the age of the patient.

Proprius, a, um, proper. *S. N. P. Signetur nomine proprio*, mark it with its proper direction.

Pro ut, according as. *Prout venter postulaveret*, according as the state of the bowels may require.

Pruritus, an itching. *Pruriens*, itching. *Dolichos pruriens*, Cowhage.

Psora, the itch.

Pulvis,

Pulvis, a powder. *Pulveres*, powders. *Pulveribus*, in powders.

Purificatus, *a*, *um*, purified.

Puls, *Pullis*, water gruel.

Pyxis, *Pyxidis*, a pill-box, or lozenge-box.

Q.

Quadrans, *Quadrantis*, *Quadrante*, quarter. *Omni Quadrante horæ*, every quarter of an hour.

Quacum, with which.

Quamprimum, as soon as possible, without the least delay.

Quartus, *a*, *um*, the fourth.

Quâqua, every. *Quâvis*, (fœm.) with any.

Quater, four times. *Quatuor*, four. *Quarta pars*, a fourth part.

—*que*, (at the end of any Latin word,) and.

Quem, *Quam*, *Quod*, which, (the accusative case.)

Qui, *Quæ*, *Quod*, which, (the nominative case.)

Quibus, to which, with which.

Quibusdam, to or with some. *Cum guttis Quibusdam*, with a few drops.

Quilibet, *Quælibet*, *Quodlibet*, gen. *Cujuslibet*, abl. *Quolibet*, any.

Quiescat, goes to rest, is easier.

Quinque, five. *Quintus*, *a*, *um*, the fifth. *Quinquies*, five times.

Quinquina, (*Cinchona*,) Peruvian bark.

Q. S.—*q. s.* *Quantum Sufficiat*, as much as may be sufficient.

Quorum, *Quarum*, of which. *Quos*, *Quas*, which. *Quocum*, *Quacum*, with which. *Quovis*, with any.

R.

Ratio, a reason ; also, a proportion. *Pro ratione ætatis*, according to the age of the patient. *Pro ratione doloris*, according to the urgency of the pain.

Raucedo, hoarseness, (genit. *raucedinis*.)

Recipe, take. *Recipe*, (taken substantively,) a prescription.

Regio, a region, (an anatomical term for certain parts of the body) ; as *Regio Epigastrica*, the epigastric region. *Regio Lumborum*, the region of the loins. *Appl. Emplastr. Regioni Umbilicali*, to the umbilical region, or, parts in the neighbourhood of the navel.

Redigo, to reduce. *Redige*, reduce. *Redigetur*, may be reduced. *Redigatur*, let it be reduced.

Redactus, *a*, *um*, reduced. *In pulv. redact.*, reduced to powder.

Refrixerit, pl.—*int*, the subjunctive future of *Refrigesco*, to cool.

Reliquus, *a*, *um*, the rest, the remaining part.

Remedium, a remedy. *Continuantur Remedia*, go on with the same medicines as before.

Repetatur, let be repeated, repeat.

Repetendus, to be repeated.

Respondeo, *Responderit*, shall have answered. *Donec alvus ad sedes ij vel iij responderit*, until two or three stools shall have been procured.

Ribes, currants. *Gelatina ribesiorum*, currant jelly.

Ruber, *Rubra*, *Rubrum*, red.

Rubus, *Idæus*, Raspberry.

Retinendus, to be retained, or kept.

S.

S. V. R. Spiritus Vinosus Rectificatus, rectified spirit of wine.

S. V. Ten. or *Tenuis*, proof spirit.

Saccharum, sugar. *Sacch. rubr.*, moist sugar.

Sæpe, often; *sæpius*, oftener; *sæpissime*, very often.

Saltem, at least.

Sanguis, blood,—*inis*, of blood. *Sanguinis missura*, blood-letting.

Saphena vena, the ancle vein.

Sapor, taste. *Ad gratam saporem*, to give it an agreeable taste.

Scapula, the shoulder blade. *Inter scapulas*, between the shoulders.

Scilicet, to wit, namely.

Scrobiculus cordis, the pit of the stomach.

Secundus, a, um, (adjective) second.

Secundum, (preposition,) according to.

S. A. Secundum Artem, according to art; that is, you are to use your own ingenuity to do it in the most proper and scientific way.

Sed, but.

Sedes, a stool, (plural) stools.

Semi, or *Semis*, half. *Semihora*, half an hour. *Semi drachma*, half a drachm.

Sesqui, one and a half, as, *Sesquihora*, an hour and a half. *Sesquiuncia*, or, *Sescuncia*, an ounce and a half. *Sesquidrachma*, a drachm and a half. Remember well to attend to the difference of these two words; for many young men, by not knowing that *Sesqui* means one and a half, but confounding it with *Semi*, have made bad mistakes.

Semper, always.

Semel, once.

Septem, seven.

Septimana, a week, seven days. *Septimus*, seventh.

Sequens, following.

Serum lactis, whey. *In sero lactis vinoso*, in wine whey.

Serum, [is also the watery part of the blood, which separates from the red part, or *crassamentum*, on standing until cold.

Sex, six ; *sextus*, sixth.

Si, if. *Sive*, or ; whether.

Signatura, a label or direction.

Signetur, let it be marked ; directed ; written upon.

S. N. P. Signetur Nomine Proprio, mark it with the name it is usually known by.

Simul, together, as *terantur simul*, let them be rubbed together. *Simul ac*, at the same time that.

Sin, but if.

Sine, without. *Sine morâ*, without delay.

Singulis horis, every hour.

Singultus, hiccup.

Singulus, *a, um*, each ; *in singulis*, in each ; *singulorum*, of each.

Sinister, *-tra, -trum*, the left. *Auri sinistro*, to the left ear.

Siphon, a syringe.

Sitis, thirst ; *si sitiât*, if thirsty.

Solitus, accustomed.

Solus, alone ; only.

Solutus, *a, um*, dissolved, also loosened ; as, *donec alvus soluta fuerit*, until a stool is procured.

Solve, dissolve.

Somnus, sleep. *Hora somni*, at bed-time.

Spina, the spine, the back-bone ; also, a thorn.

Spina,

Spina Cervi, in the new Pharmacopœia called *Rhamnus*,
Buckthorn.

Spissus, thick. *Spissitudo*, thickness of consistence.

Statim, directly ; immediately.

Stent, let them stand. *Stet*, let it stand.

Sternutatorius pulvis, Sneezing powder ; Snuff.

Stupa, Tow.

Sub, *subter*, under. *Sub finem Coctionis*, when the boiling is almost finished. *Sub*, prefixed to a word, implies diminution, or a process not completed ; also, in many words has the same signification as the termination *ish*, in English words, as *subniger*, blackish, not quite black. *Subtepidus*, lukewarm. For its meaning, when applied to terms of Chemistry, as *Subcarbonas*, *submurias*, the pupil must study his Chemical Nomenclature.

Subactus, *a*, *um*, subdued, dissolved.

Subitus, *a*, *um*. *Subitaneus*, sudden. *Subito* (adv.) suddenly.

Subtepidus, a little warm, lukewarm.

Subige, dissolve it, make it unite. Subdue Quicksilver with Lard or Balsam of Sulphur.

Subinde, frequently, now-and-then.

Subtilis, subtile, reduced to fine powder. *Pulvis Subtillissimus*, the very finest powder.

Sumat, let him take. *Sumatur*, *sumantur*, let be taken ; take.

Sudor, sweat.

Superbibo, to drink after taking any thing, as, Chamomile tea or warm water after an Emetic ; or a cup of water, or any liquid medicine to wash down a dose of any sort of Pills.

Superinfundo, to pour upon.

Supervenio,

Supervenio, to come on. *Paroxysmo superveniente*,
when the fit is coming on.

Supra, above. *Supradictus*, above mentioned.

Syncope, a fainting fit.

T.

Tabellæ, *Tabulæ*, lozenges.

Talis, such. *Sumat Talem*, let him take such a one as
this.

Talus, the ancle.

Tam, so. *Tamen*, yet.

Tactus, the touch.

Tænia, the tape-worm.

Tempus, *Temporis*, time.

Tempora, the temples. *Temporibus*, to the temples.

Tempori dextro, to the right temple. *Tempori
sinistro*, to the left temple.

Temperies, *Temperamentum*, temperament, degree of
heat.

Tenacitas, tenacity. *Ad debitam Tenacitatem*, of a pro-
per degree of tenacity or consistence.

Teneo, to hold. *Tenendus*, to be held.

Tenuis, weak, thin, small, slender.

Tepidus, *a*, *um*, warm.

Tepefactus, warmed, made warm.

Ter, three times, thrice. *Ter quaterve*, three or four
times.

Teres, *Teretis*, round, taper; also, *Teres* is a name for
the long and round worm infesting the human
body, *qu. d. vermis teres*.

Tergum, the back. *A Tergo*, behind.

Tero, to rub; *tere*, (imperative,) rub; *terendus*, to be
rubbed; *terantur*, let them be rubbed.

Tertius, *Tertia*, *Tertium*, the third.

Testacea,

Testacea, the prepared powders made of oyster-shells, egg-shells, crab's-claws, &c.

Thorax, the chest; *thoracis*, of the chest.

Thus, frankincense.

Tinea Capitis, scald head.

Torrefactus, toasted.

Tres, *Tria*, three; *tribus*, in three, to three.

Triduum, three days.

Trituratio, a grinding, rubbing in a mortar. *Trituratus*, triturated, ground. *Tritus*, ground.

T. O. Tinctura Opii, what is commonly called *Laudanum*.

T. O. C. Tinctura Opii Camphorata. Camphorated Tincture of Opium, called, formerly, Paregoric Elixir. This Tincture is now called by the College, in the late Reform of the Pharmacopœia, Edit. 1809, *Tinctura Camphoræ Composita*.

Trans, through. *Cola trans Chartam*, filter through filtering paper.

Tussis, a cough. *Tussi molestante*, when the cough is troublesome.

U.

Ultimus, *Ultima*, *um*, the last. *Ultimo præscript.*, which was last prescribed.

Umbilicus, the navel.

Unà, (adverb,) together.

Uncia, an ounce. *Unciam cum semisse*, an ounce and a half.

Undecim, eleven.

Unus, *Una*, *Unum*, one. *Unius*, of one. *Uni*, to one.

Urgente tussi, when the cough is troublesome.

Urgeo, to urge, to oppress, to be troublesome or painful.

Usus,

Usus, use. *Pergat in usu remediorum*, continue the use of the medicines as before.

Usque ad, up to, as far as. *Usquedum*, until.

Ut, as, that, so that; in the same manner as.

Utendus, to be used.

Utatur, let him make use of.

Uterque, *Utraque*, *Utrumque*, both. *Utriusque*, of both.

Utrique, to both, to either. *Admoveantur hirudines ij tempori utrique*, apply two leeches to each temple.

Utriuslibet, of which-ever of the two, or more, the patient likes best.

V.

Vaccinatio, the act of inoculating for the Cow Pock.

Variolæ Vaccinæ, the Cow Pock.

Vaccinum lac, Cow's milk.

Valde, very, very much.

Valeo, to avail; *si non valeat*, if it does not answer.

Variolæ, the Small-pox.

Varicella, the Chicken-pox.

Vas, a vessel. *Vasis*, of a vessel. *Vase clauso*, in a covered vessel. *Agitato vase*, shaking the vessel.

Ve, vel, or; either; *ve* is never at the beginning, but the end of a word.

Vertebræ, the joints of the neck, back, or loins; the *Vertebræ*, altogether, form that column of Bones, which is called the Spine.

Verus, true, real, genuine.

Vena, a vein. *Vena saphena*, the ancle vein.

Venæsectio, bleeding. *Fiat Venæsectio*, bleed him.

V S B. Venæsectio Brachii, bleeding in the arm. *Fiat Venæsectio in Venâ sapena*, bleed the patient in the

the ancle vein—or it may be understood, to bleed wherever you can find the best vein at the top of the foot to get blood from.

Vespere, in the evening.

Vespertinus, in the evening, as *horá vi^a*, *vespertina*, at 6 o'clock in the evening.

Vehiculum, a vehicle; that is, whatever liquid or any other eatable or drinkable we take a medicine in, as barley water, whey, jelly, or panada, &c.

Viginti, twenty. *Vicesimus*, *vigesimus*, the twentieth.

Vinosus, *Vinarius*, of wine. *Cyathus Vinarius*, a wine glass.

Vices, turns; *ad duas vices sumendus*, to be taken at twice; that is, half to be taken at first, and the other half in some time after.

Vicibus partitis, See PARTITUS in P.

Vice, in the room of. *Vix*, scarcely, hardly. *Ut vix sentiatur*, so as that it can scarcely be perceivable.

Vitellus, the yelk of an egg.

V O S. Vitello ovi Solut^m; dissolved in the yelk of an egg.

Vitrum, a glass. *Vitreus*, made of glass.

Vires, strength; *si vires permittant*, if the strength will bear it.

Vomitio, a vomiting. *Vomitioe urgente*, when the vomiting is troublesome.

Vultus, the countenance.

Characters.

Cong. *Congius*, a gallon.

℔. *Libra*, a pound.

O. *Octarius*, a pint.

ʒi. *Uncia*, an ounce.

℥i. *Fluiduncia*, a fluid ounce.

℥ss. *Semiuncia*, half an ounce.

fl℥ss. *Semi fluiduncia*, half a fluid ounce.

℥i. *Drachma*, a drachm.

fl℥i. *Drachma*, a fluid drachm.

℥ss. *Semidrachma*, half a drachm.

fl℥ss. *Semifluidrachma*, half a fluid drachm.

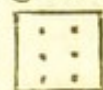
℥i. *Scrupulum*, a scruple.

℥ss. *Semiscrupulum*, half a scruple.

gtt. *Guttæ*, drops.

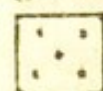
M. *Minimi*, minims.

gr. vi.



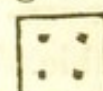
Grana sex, six grains.

gr. v.



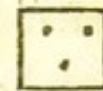
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gr. iv.



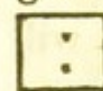
Grana quatuor, four grains.

gr. iii.



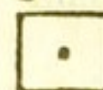
Grana tria, three grains.

gr. ii.



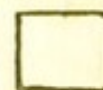
Grana duo, two grains.

gr. i.



Granum unum, one grain.

gr. ss,



Semigranum, half a grain.

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