

**An account of the remarkable effects of the Eau médicinale d'Husson in the gout / [Edwin Godden Jones].**

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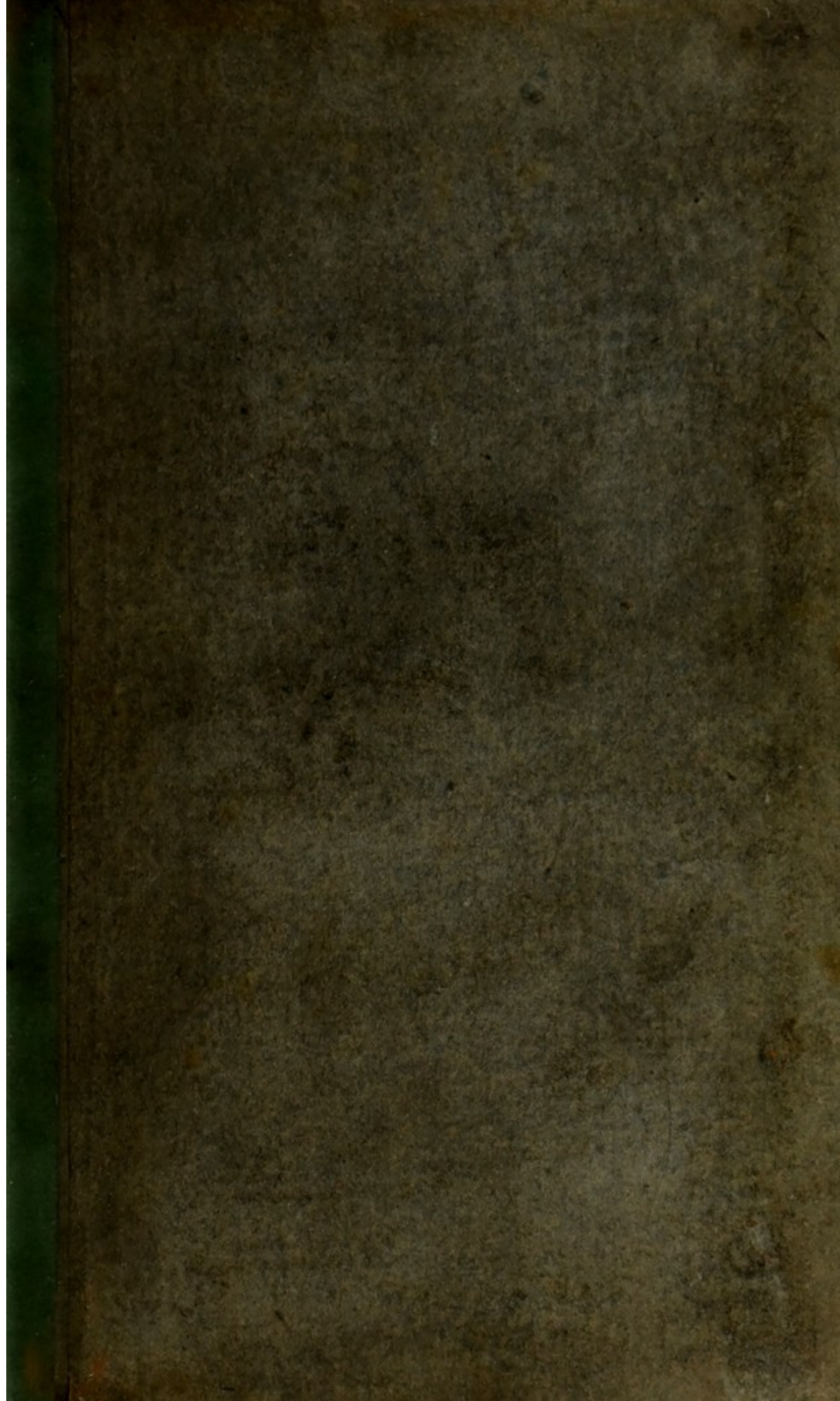
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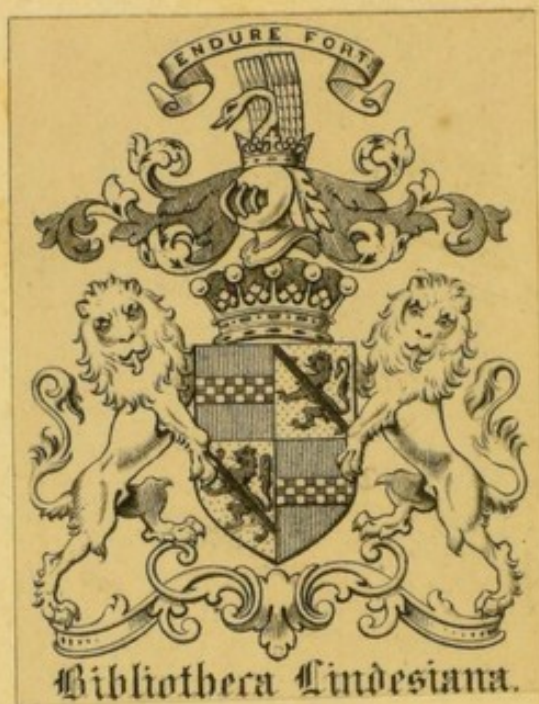


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Da

morning when Doctor B - called, expecting  
to find him in bed, he was up, & not only  
greatly relieved from pain, but the swelling  
so much reduced that he had on the sleeve of  
his coat which was impossible to attempt <sup>have</sup> the day  
before — 28 - was enabled to attend  
Parliament as he had wished to do



292  
A mem<sup>o</sup> of the Effects of the "San Medicinale"  
D'Anson on the Earl of Derby in Jan<sup>y</sup> 1811 told  
me by the Rev<sup>d</sup> Giff<sup>s</sup> Hervey - Feb<sup>y</sup> 7 1812 - 1811

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The Earl of D<sup>y</sup> was confined to Bed by a fit  
of the Gout which particularly affected one Arm -  
Being extremely anxious to attend the House of  
Lords at that time, he asked Doctor Baillie, who  
attended him, if he might try the San Medicinale


The Doctor said he never would recommend  
any one to take that Medicine by way of keeping



attended with great inflammation, he thought there would be no danger in trying it with caution.

D.D. took the proper dose at night, & watched in the middle of the night in extreme torture in the affected arm, which caused him to exclaim loudly what he suffered, brought Lady D. to inquire what was the matter - While she stood at the Bed-side, she distinctly heard the sound of a loud crack in the affected arm - After which the pain began to subside, & during the rest of the night he continued in a profuse perspiration - Next





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AN ACCOUNT

OF THE

Eau Medicinale d'Husson.

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*Printed by Harding & Wright, St. John's-square, London.*

AN  
ACCOUNT  
OF THE  
REMARKABLE EFFECTS  
OF THE  
EAU MEDICINALE d'HUSSON  
IN  
*THE GOUT.*

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By EDWIN GODDEN JONES, M. D.

MEMBER OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS  
OF LONDON, AND PHYSICIAN EXTRAORDINARY TO  
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF YORK.

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

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SECOND EDITION.

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L O N D O N :

PRINTED FOR WHITE AND COCHRANE, FLEET-STREET.

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1810.





—————“ A longâ cogitationum serie, quas huic rei impendere non sum coactus, inducor credere, ejusmodi remedium quandoque inventum iri. Quod si unquam acciderit, inscitiam suam dogmaticis exprobat, atque exindè liquebit, quàm insignitèr, tam in dignoscendis morborum essentiis, quàm in medicamentis quibus eos aggrediuntur hallucinentur.”

SYDENHAM.

“ Utinam tam in promptu esset invenire, quàm tutum esset adhibere, Podagræ remedium.”

HEBERDEN.

## ADVERTISEMENT.



*THE Public is respectfully informed, that Mr. Chardron, Proprietor of the Eau Medicinale, has appointed Mr. Befort to form a regular Dépôt for it in this country ; and that the said Dépôt is established in London, at No. 18, St. James's-Street, where in future there will be a constant supply of the Medicine.*



# ADVERTISEMENT

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*To Sir Walter Farquhar, Bart.  
M. D. Physician to his Royal  
Highness the Prince of Wales,  
&c. &c.*

—  
DEAR SIR,

I HAD an opportunity not long ago, of communicating to you in conversation, some remarkable facts respecting the very singular efficacy of the Eau Medicinale d'Husson, in the gout. What I then mentioned, however extraordinary, you have seen confirmed by several cases which have since fallen

under your own observation. The result of these has been so uniformly successful, as to interest and surprize you; and has led you to express an opinion, that some account of a remedy, evidently possessing very great powers, and hitherto unknown in this country, should not be withheld from the public. As you are pleased to think, from my having been immediately concerned in the first trials made of the Eau Medicinale in England, and from the opportunities I have had of being acquainted with most of the cases in which it has since been employed, that I am in possession of the materials for enabling me to afford much information concerning it; I have been induced to



set down in the following pages, what has come to my knowledge on the subject. And as they were written at your suggestion, I have inscribed them to you ; for I feel how much I shall be sheltered, by the influence of your name, from any suspicion of improper views, in introducing to the public notice, a medicine whose composition is unknown.

Though I acknowledge the advantages I expect my work will derive from your sanction ; allow me at the same time to declare, that in inscribing it to you, I am also actuated by motives of a less interested nature ; and that I am happy to have an opportunity of presenting you with a testimony, however trifling,

of the high respect and esteem, with  
which I have the honour to remain,

Dear Sir,

Your most obliged, and

Most faithful Servant,

EDWIN GODDEN JONES

Hyde Park Corner, Piccadilly, }  
April 10th, 1810. }

AN ACCOUNT  
OF THE EFFECTS  
OF THE  
EAU MEDICINALE  
D'HUSSON, &c.

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**T**HOUGH the gout has in all ages engaged the attention and researches of physicians, in a greater degree than almost any other disease, yet the afflicted have ever had to lament, that medical science had contributed no effectual means to alleviate their sufferings. Some methods have, indeed, been discovered by which its symptoms may be mitigated, and even the paroxysm sometimes removed ; but they are all uncertain in their



effects ; experience has condemned many of them as dangerous ; and none of them have failed, in the end, to disappoint the hopes of the patient.

I flatter myself, therefore, that I shall perform an acceptable service to every person subject to this most distressing and hopeless disease, by announcing the discovery of a remedy, which has seldom failed to relieve the pain of the severest paroxysm in a few hours, and to remove the paroxysm itself in two or three days, leaving the health in as good a condition as it was before the attack.

Those who are grown experienced in the miseries of gout, and have already tried every means of relief hitherto known, and, disappointed in their hopes, have at length resigned themselves to the old and last resources, patience and flannel, will probably at first receive these comfortable tidings with

distrust and incredulity, and will either look upon me as a visionary, or suspect that I am writing to recommend some nostrum of my own invention, whose sale I am desirous of promoting. But I have no part in the merit of the discovery, nor any hopes of sharing in the reward. The remedy I speak of is the *Eau Medicinale d'Husson*, which is prepared and sold only in France; and, though its composition be a secret to the public, it is equally so to me. I have not a single dose of it at my disposal; nor am I interested in its success, in any other way than as a means of relief to the sufferer in gout; and what I shall deliver in the following pages will, I trust, go far to prove, that its powers, in that disease, are not altogether imaginary.

It is not my design to write a treatise on the gout, but merely to communicate what



facts I am in possession of, relative to the effects of the Eau Medicinale in that disease, and to give such information, as may enable every sufferer to avail himself of the advantages it may offer. I shall therefore avoid, as much as possible, all technical disquisitions and inquiries on the subject, which would lengthen the work, without adding to its utility. And as I have no other motive for writing it, than an anxious desire to alleviate the sufferings of a numerous class of patients, by bringing them acquainted with a remedy, hitherto unknown in this country, which appears to me to possess most unexpected powers to afford them relief ; I hope it will be favourably and candidly received by those for whose use it is intended.

As most of my readers may be supposed never before to have heard of the Eau Medicinale d'Husson, I shall perhaps gratify



them, by giving, in the first place, some account of its history, and the manner in which I became acquainted with its properties. By doing so, I shall at the same time convey what information concerning it I have obtained from other sources, in addition to that derived from my own immediate experience.

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THE EAU MEDICINALE was discovered about forty years ago, by M. Husson, a military officer in the service of the King of France. We are informed by himself, that he had always an irresistible inclination for the study of botany, and the medicinal properties of simples. In the course of the researches to which this propensity led him, he discovered a plant, whose virtues were before unknown, which, on ex-

amination, was found to possess extraordinary virtues in the cure of various diseases. From this plant Husson prepared his medicine in its present form ; and, after some experience of its powers, he was persuaded to publish it, and it was accordingly announced to the world as a sovereign remedy for almost every disorder incident to the human body.

It was at first recommended with a view to its *evacuating* powers, which it sometimes exerted very violently, both as an emetic and cathartic. It was probably useful in some cases, for it had acquired a degree of reputation, before its most valuable property, that of relieving the gout, was known. Accident led to this knowledge :—Some persons, subject to that disease, took the Eau Medicinale during a paroxysm, probably as a cathartic. They were agreeably surprized to find their pains abate in a few hours, and



soon go entirely off, and that they got rid of the paroxysm itself in two or three days, which, in its ordinary progress, would very probably have lasted as many weeks. A number of similar cases having occurred, it soon became known, that this remedy really had great influence over the gout.

The singular success of the Eau Medicinale, in a disease which had hitherto been considered as beyond the reach of medicine, attracted the attention of several physicians of considerable eminence, who, after a careful investigation of the facts presented to them, candidly recommended the remedy to their own patients. As the same satisfactory results were obtained, it began to make a great noise in the world, and to excite much inquiry. It was not only frequently employed in the gout, but also in many other diseases ; and, if we may credit the testimo-



nials adduced by the inventor in its favour, it was attended with unexampled success, even in cases where all other resources had failed.

It met, however, from the beginning, with much opposition. It was decried as a poison, or at least, as a dangerous remedy, whose use ought to be proscribed by the public authorities. The clamours against it became at length so loud, that the sale of it was suppressed at Paris, in 1778, by an order from the police. But on the representations of several respectable persons, that it was a valuable medicine in many diseases, and that it had none of the ill consequences of which it was accused, the prohibition was removed on the fifth day. Several pamphlets and papers were also written from time to time, both in its favour and against it, and either printed apart, or inserted in the periodical works, or public journals.

The Eau Medicinale was chemically examined, in 1782, by MM. Cadet and Parmen-  
tier, who declared that it contained no metallic or mineral substance, and that it was a  
vinous infusion of some bitter plant or plants :  
what these plants were, they could not of  
course discover by chemical means.

As the remedy grew into reputation,  
many attempts were made to find out the  
secret of its composition, by comparing its  
properties and effects, with those of some  
well known vegetable substances, supposed  
to be analogous. Many fancied they had  
found out the very plant employed by Hus-  
son, and gave the world an account of their  
pretended success. It was, at different times,  
said to be, the *Esula*, the *Euphorbia*, the  
*Veratrum album*, the *Hyoscyamus*, the *Bel-  
ladonna*, the *Digitalis purpurea*, the *Momor-  
dica Elaterium*, &c. &c. M. Alyon, a che-



mical professor, asserted in his *Elémens de Chimie*, that it was the Gratiola, and even gave a recipe for preparing a liquor, by infusing the root and leaves of that plant in wine, exactly resembling, as he pretended, the Eau Medicinale, in all its properties.

Husson published, at different times, refutations of all that had been said or written against his medicine ; always accompanied by new testimonials of its great success. He repeatedly denies that any one is acquainted with his secret, notwithstanding the boasted discoveries, with which the public credulity had been so often amused ; he declares, that the Eau Medicinale is the simple extract of a plant, whose properties have been hitherto unknown, both to the ancients and moderns ; and he pledges his honour as an officer, for the truth of his assertion.

In 1807, the papers written by Husson on



his medicine, were collected, and printed in one volume. This book contains a vast number of cures and testimonials, from very respectable authorities, as well physicians, as others. The cases of gout are not so numerous as those of other diseases; but they are highly interesting, from the singular manner in which the Eau Medicinale is represented to have carried off the paroxysm. The patients describe their torments to have been alleviated as if by enchantment, and many of them who were bed-ridden from the violence of the attack, were able to move their limbs, and even walk about, within twenty-four hours. Many of these histories of gout are written by physicians, and accompanied by letters to Husson, containing their observations and opinions on his medicine, and its almost *specific* powers in this disease. From a few of these letters taken

at random, I have thought it worth while to translate some short extracts, merely to shew in what degree of estimation this remedy has been held, by those who may be supposed capable of forming a correct judgment on the subject. I have inserted them in a note below\*.

\* *Extracts of Letters from M. Dejean, M. D. Regius Professor of Medicine in the University of Caen.*

—————“ We also declare, that the Eau Medicinale has the greatest influence over the gout, of which it relieves the most violent paroxysms in a few hours; and that several persons, who had almost lost the use of their limbs for years, have in great measure recovered them, by the use of this medicine.

(Signed) “DEJEAN, M. D. &c.

“ Caen, 23d of October, 1783.

—————  
FROM THE SAME.

“ In spite of prejudices, the gratitude due to Mr. Husson increases daily. Above all, patients afflicted with gout look upon this precious remedy



But, notwithstanding the daily occurrence of these remarkable cures, 'the Eau Medici-

as a present sent by Divine Providence, to relieve them from the severity of their sufferings. I have not met with one who has not experienced the happiest effects from it.

(Signed) "DEJEAN, &c.

"Caen, 25th of November, 1783."

There are some other letters from M. Dejean, on the same subject, accompanied by remarkable cases.

*From M. Delaville, M. D. Physician to the Royal Military and Naval Hospital at Cherbourg, &c. &c.*

—————"The successes I have met with from the use of the Eau Medicinale, would be altogether incredible, if I had not witnessed them myself. This remedy has a singular influence over the gout; and every one who has employed it in that disease, has expressed the greatest satisfaction.

"Cherbourg, 28th November, 1783."

—————  
FROM THE SAME.

"I have used the Eau Medicinale d'Husson, for several years, in the treatment of gout, over which



nale was never so extensively employed for the gout in France, as might have been expected. The prevalence of old doctrines and speculations, and the commonly received opinion, that it was highly dangerous to attempt curing this disease, or to tamper with its paroxysms, raised a prejudice against it in the minds of many ; and patients were deterred, either by their own fears, or the advice of their physicians, from having recourse to a remedy, which, though it afforded a prospect of immediate relief, might, it was apprehended, produce some future dreadful consequences.

it has the most singular influence. I hope, for the sake of suffering humanity, that so useful a remedy will be more generally known.

(Signed) "DELAVILLE, &c."

There are several other letters and cases from Dr. Delaville.

I come now to relate the manner in which I first became acquainted with the properties of the Eau Medicinale. I passed the winter of 1802-3, at Montpellier, with Mr. Craufurd, of Auchnames, a gentleman whose sufferings in gout have scarcely ever been exceeded, and which, beginning at an early period of his life, had nearly deprived him of the use of his limbs. In a conversation on the subject of that disease, we were informed by Dr. Chretien, a physician of great reputation, that a medicine, whose composition was not publicly known, had long been advertised and sold in France, by the name of the Eau Medicinale d'Husson, which, from all that he had seen and heard of it, did really appear to possess almost infallible powers in the cure of gout. But he was unwilling to recommend it to Mr. Craufurd, because its mode of operating was sometimes very violent, and might be even



dangerous to a person of his habit of body. At Mr. Craufurd's request, however, he introduced to him an old gentleman, past his ninetieth year, who had been cured by this remedy above thirty years before. This person told us that he had been subject to the gout till he was between fifty and sixty, when being seized with a violent fit, he took a bottle of the Eau Medicinale; that in a few hours he was relieved from his pain, and that he entirely got rid of the paroxysm in three days. But the most important part of the history is, that he never had another attack, and had continued to enjoy an almost uninterrupted state of good health. He had made it a constant practice ever since, to take a small dose of the same remedy, every day, which he thought had preserved him from any return of his gout. He was a stout, hale, old man, and walked upwards of two miles to pay Mr. Craufurd a visit.



The climate of Montpellier was so favourable to Mr. Craufurd's health, that he escaped that winter from the gout ; and there was no question of his trying the Eau Medicinale himself. While we were at Paris, on our return to England, in the ensuing spring, I procured Husson's publications, and took every opportunity of informing myself about his medicine. I was told by a physician, that it was considered as a violent and unsafe remedy, whose powers in the gout, if it had any, had been exaggerated. I was disappointed in my hopes of obtaining any further information concerning it ; and Mr. Craufurd no longer felt interested on the subject, and did not even trouble himself to procure any of the medicine, for the purpose of making a trial of its effects in England, which, under the first impression in its favour, he had intended to do.

In 1805, Mr. Craufurd received a letter from Dr. Chretien ; who informed him, that since our departure from Montpellier, he had prescribed the Eau Medicinale in several cases of gout, with great success ; and that, with proper caution, he found its use was perfectly safe. On the whole, he considered it as the greatest discovery ever made, in the treatment of that disease.

Soon afterwards, the Baron de Roll told Mr. Craufurd, that several of his friends in France and Germany had taken the Eau Medicinale for the gout ; and that they were perfectly satisfied with its effects. He also said, that a physician at Warsaw, Dr. Wolfe, had written a treatise on that disease, wherein he strongly recommended the Eau Medicinale, as a most efficacious remedy. The Baron, having a copy of the book in his possession, presented it to Mr. Craufurd.



In this work, which is written in French, the author, after speaking of the common methods of treating the gout, announces the discovery of a new remedy, possessing extraordinary powers in that disease. He relates, that among other pretended specifics and universal remedies, continually sent from Paris to Warsaw, there was one called the Eau Medicinale d'Husson, recommended as a cure for all sorts of diseases, but not at that time particularly for the gout. That some patients, labouring under a paroxysm, took this remedy accidentally, probably by way of experiment; but the fact was, that as often as they used it on such occasions, they experienced most unhopèd-for effects; their pain was alleviated in a few hours, and they were delivered from the attack itself in two or three days.

Dr. Wolfe having heard of several of



these singular cases, thought them highly deserving of attention, and determined to inquire into all the circumstances attending them. He, therefore, addressed himself to a person long subject to the gout, who had repeatedly taken the Eau Medicinale for more than fifteen years; and who then, at the age of sixty, enjoyed a high state of health, a ruddy complexion, and the full use of his limbs. From this person he got the necessary information respecting the manner of taking, and the usual effects of the remedy; and afterwards prescribed it to his own patients. Its success was beyond all expectation; and he declares that, out of a great number of cases, he never knew it fail, in a single instance, to remove the pain and the paroxysm in a very short space of time. These happy effects were always succeeded by a state of health as good,

and often better, than the patients had before enjoyed.

Mr. Craufurd also saw one of his Majesty's messengers, who had long been in the habit of taking this remedy. He was formerly very much afflicted with the gout, and got rid of a violent attack, a great many years ago, by using Husson's medicine. He had since employed it several times with the same success. Of late years, he had parried off the fits altogether, by regularly taking a full dose once every week.

From the information thus obtained, making every allowance for exaggeration, it appeared that the Eau Medicinale really possessed some influence over the gout. Mr. Craufurd, therefore, who had suffered severely from repeated attacks of his unrelenting enemy, since our return to England, had a strong desire to make a trial of its powers,



and with great difficulty procured four dozen bottles of it from Paris. Still, an apprehension remained that its operation was unsafe ; and he experienced several terrible fits, without having recourse to the remedy.

In the summer of 1808, however, being attacked with the gout in both his hands, he determined to try the Eau Medicinale. As the pain and other symptoms portended a severe fit, he ventured to take the full dose. It produced all the good effects that could be hoped for ; a speedy cessation of pain, and the entire removal of the paroxysm, within forty-eight hours. This success was obtained without any further disturbance than a considerable nausea, which came on in about seven hours after the medicine was taken, and lasted, gradually decreasing, two days. The event of this case removed all fear and anxiety as to the safety of the re-

medy, and was a strong evidence of its efficacy in this disease.

Not long afterwards the Honourable H. F. Stanhope, and the Baron de Roll, who had witnessed the effects of the Eau Medicinale in Mr. Craufurd's case ; also took it, while labouring under paroxysms of gout, with the same advantage and safety.

After these first successes, I had several opportunities of prescribing the Eau Medicinale ; Mr. Craufurd having been so good as to supply me with some bottles for that purpose. He also spared a considerable part of his little stock to many of his friends, who were desirous of trying a remedy that seemed to promise so much. It was thus very soon employed in a number of cases, and always with the same fortunate result. In not a single instance did it fail to relieve the paroxysm, however violent and severe,



in a manner that appeared almost miraculous.

The greater part of these cases, having happened to persons of considerable rank and consequence, very soon became generally known. From having had some share in the introduction of the Eau Medicinale into use in this country, I was sometimes consulted about it; and my experience of its effects would have been more extensive, could a sufficient quantity of the medicine have been procured. At first, Mr. Craufurd was the only person in England who possessed any, and the little communication between the two countries rendered it difficult to obtain a supply from Paris. But at length several gentlemen got over small quantities from time to time; and of late, some tradesmen in London, who have communications with France in the way of their

business, have, notwithstanding all obstacles, made pretty large importations of this article. As the speculation has turned out a good one, it is to be hoped that in future there will be no want of a supply.

After it became less difficult to procure the Eau Medicinale, the cases multiplied very fast, and since the publication of this work, they have increased to a very large number. They have all been attended with the same happy success ; at least I have not yet heard of any failures : and it seems to be now ascertained, almost beyond a doubt, that the Eau Medicinale has the power of relieving a disease, which has hitherto held all remedies at defiance.

Having thus succinctly sketched the history of the Eau Medicinale, and the manner in which it was first introduced into this country ; I now proceed to give an account



as far as my experience will allow me, of the circumstances to be attended to in its administration, and of the effects to be expected from it ; together with such observations on its properties, as are naturally connected with the subject.

The Eau Medicinale d'Husson is sold in small bottles, which will hold little more than two drams by measure, and always contain exactly that quantity of liquid. The medicine is of the colour and appearance of ale, but becomes brown and turbid on agitation. Its taste is nauseous and bitter, but not intensely so, nor does it leave a durable impression in the mouth, as many bitters do. Its smell partakes of that of Spanish wine, the menstruum employed, and that of the plant, or ingredient, which is the basis of the composition. It is strong, and very peculiar and characteristic.

The whole contents of the bottle are intended by Husson for a dose, but there are many cases, to be presently considered, where only half that quantity should be administered ; but where there are no circumstances to forbid it, the full dose may be taken. It is necessary to observe, that it must be first mixed with rather more than an equal quantity of water. It should be taken on an empty stomach, and any part of the day may be chosen, but the most convenient time is certainly at night. The recumbent posture, and the warmth and quiet of the bed, seem to be favourable to its producing the desired effects, and to lessen the chance of its disturbing the stomach and bowels, to any great degree. Its operation may be advantageously promoted, by an infusion of peppermint, penny-royal, or other aromatic herbs, or of ginger tea, of which the patient may drink freely from time to time.



It happens for the most part, that, in four or five hours after taking the remedy, the patient begins, however severe the paroxysm may be, to experience a diminution of pain. He generally falls into a quiet sleep, and awakes in the morning, nearly, or quite free from suffering; and often begins already to enjoy some returning use of the affected limb. About this time he commonly feels a considerable nausea, sometimes accompanied by vomiting, and this is followed by some bilious stools. In the mean time, the paroxysm goes on diminishing; and on the third, or even on the second day, little more of it remains, than a swelling and stiffness of the parts, which soon go off, leaving the patient in his usual state of health.

The above is the common manner in which the medicine has operated in the cases I have observed. But it produces other effects no

less singular and deserving attention. Together with the diminution of pain, there is an abatement of fever and irritation, and of the action of the heart and arteries. The pulse is often reduced twenty strokes in a minute, and in many instances considerably more. At the same time a moderate diaphoresis not unusually takes place, and the febrile symptoms, which are often considerable in the gouty paroxysm, soon disappear altogether. It very frequently, also, acts as a powerful diuretic, and its operation in this way lasts sometimes several days. These effects may not be in every case apparent, but I believe that they always happen in a greater or less degree.

Though the paroxysm has been removed, in a great part of the cases I have seen, in the way above described; the time in which this is effected, varies under different circum-



stances. Several persons have got rid of a smart fit the next day, so as to be able to walk about, and even go abroad. In others it has yielded more slowly; and, though a single dose has, in general, been sufficient to carry off the attack, yet it does not always effect it completely. Should, therefore, any painful sensations remain, after two or three days, in the affected parts, it may be advisable again to have recourse to the remedy. In such cases, half the bottle will generally be found sufficient to remove the remaining symptoms; if not, it may be repeated in the same, or in a still smaller quantity, according to circumstances.

In its effects on the stomach and bowels, the Eau Medicinale is extremely capricious and uncertain. It usually operates in the way I have described. Sometimes it produces no evacuation at all; at others it proves

powerfully emetic and cathartic ; and, in a few cases, it has acted with considerable violence. This does not seem to depend on the relative strength of the patients, but on some peculiarity of constitution, not easily ascertainable. Several weak and delicate persons have repeatedly taken the full dose, without experiencing any disturbance. On the other hand, I have seen it, in robust habits, act very powerfully, both by vomit and stool, even when only half the bottle has been given. It is also very uncertain as to the time when these effects are produced. It usually begins to operate in eight or ten hours from its being taken ; but sometimes not till after twenty-four, or even forty-eight hours have elapsed ; and, in some rare cases, not till after three days. Hence, when there is any question about giving a second dose, it should not be repeated too



soon after the first. It is important, however, to know, that whatever habit of body this remedy has met with, and however it may have acted on the stomach and bowels, it has equally succeeded in removing the paroxysm of gout.

But, as we have no criterion for judging *à priori*, of the effects the Eau Medicinale may possibly have, and as it does sometimes act very powerfully, there is some caution required in administering it, and the full dose should not be taken indiscriminately. In those cases, therefore, where such violent effects may be dangerous or alarming, it is prudent, at least to begin, with no more than half the bottle, and in very irritable and debilitated habits, with even less. This quantity seldom produces more than two or three evacuations, and often only a slight nausea; and is generally sufficient to relieve the

symptoms, and sometimes to remove the paroxysm altogether. But it does not so certainly succeed as the full dose, and it is more frequently necessary to repeat it in two or three days. Dr. Wolfe, the Warsaw physician above-mentioned, gave only half the bottle in every case, which he repeated, if the symptoms were not removed by it, in forty-eight hours. If, however, the pain and other symptoms are very severe and do not speedily abate, and the medicine should produce no considerable effect on the stomach and bowels, the second half of the bottle may be taken in twenty-four, or, in some cases, even in twelve hours after the first.

For the most part, the operation of the Eau Medicinale, even where it has been more violent than was expected, has not been followed by any ill consequences. It is proper, however, again to observe, that, like all other



powerful medicines, it requires much caution in its administration, and that the constitution and state of the patient ought to be previously well considered. Two cases have lately been communicated to me, where it acted with alarming violence, though no more than half the bottle was taken. Persons of weak and irritable habits, and particularly females, are liable to suffer great disturbance from it if incautiously employed. It may therefore be often prudent for such persons not at first to venture on so much as half the bottle, but to begin with a third, and sometimes with even less. These small quantities are frequently attended with beneficial effects, and may, if necessary, be safely repeated. It may be considered as a general proper rule, to administer the Eau Medicinale for the removal of a gouty paroxysm, as nearly as possible in such a dose as to produce a

slight degree of nausea, and two or three moderate evacuations, experience having shown that it commonly succeeds best when it operates in this manner. It is not easy, in prescribing this remedy to the unaccustomed, to adjust the dose so as to produce exactly the desired effects ; but, by beginning cautiously, we may safely ascertain, on a trial or two, what quantity is best adapted to each individual constitution.

The Eau Medicinale may be employed with advantage at any time during an attack of gout. But, as the longer the paroxysm is suffered to run on, its removal becomes more difficult, and the recovery more tedious, the remedy should be resorted to as near the beginning of it as possible, when it may often be carried off in a few hours, and all the ill consequences of long suffering and confinement be thus prevented. I was at



first led to believe that the Eau Medicinale was almost exclusively applicable in that stage of the disease attended with great pain and inflammation, and indeed, under such circumstances, its effects are the most rapid and apparent. Experience has, however, since proved that its powers also extend to the weakness and swelling of the joints, which often remain and deprive the patient of all use of his limbs, for many weeks after the violence of the other symptoms has abated. In such cases the suppleness of the joints is frequently restored in a few days by the use of the remedy, but it generally requires to be oftener repeated than when it is employed at an early part of the attack.

I have found that the Eau Medicinale is often very useful in small doses, as a fourth, a sixth, or an eighth of the bottle. In this way it may be advantageously employed

when the paroxysm has been removed by larger doses, to complete the cure, and prevent the danger of a speedy relapse. It may be continued to be taken in this manner, every other night, for a week or longer, according to circumstances. Such small quantities, too, are useful whenever increased irritability of the system, general uneasiness, and flying pains of the joints, seem to threaten the approach of a paroxysm, which may be thus often warded off. The remedy does not, in these small quantities, occasion either nausea or evacuations; and acts in many gouty habits as a sedative, allaying irritation, and procuring sleep, when other medicines have failed. Of late I have seen several cases where considerable advantage has appeared to be derived from still smaller doses, taken regularly every day, for a considerable length of time. In this point of view also, its



properties may be found to be highly valuable.

The Eau Mediciuale, during its operation, does not, in general, require the assistance of any other medicine. If it does not operate by stool, and the bowels should be costive, it will be proper, on the second or third day, that the patient should take any mild cathartic to which he has been accustomed. If, on the contrary, the stomach and bowels should be greatly disordered, an aromatic cordial draught may be taken occasionally. And if the evacuations should be unusually violent, a few drops of tincture of opium may be added, and repeated, as the case may require; but this has seldom been necessary. The patient will probably have little inclination for food the first day, and chicken broth will best suit the state of the stomach, and favour the effects of the remedy. He may,

however, take any light food, if he should have a desire for it. After the paroxysm is removed, he may return to such a plan of medicine and regimen as his own judgment, or the advice of his physician, may have determined him to follow.

From what has been said above, respecting the effects of the Eau Medicinale d'Husson, it will appear, that it possesses properties, to which there is nothing analogous in those of other substances hitherto employed in medicine. Its extraordinary influence over the gout, claims the highest attention. The discovery of a remedy, capable of safely and almost immediately removing, often by a single dose, the severest paroxysm of that disease, is an event very little expected. That it does possess such powers is now, I think, sufficiently ascertained by the multitude of facts collected from various sources ;



and it exerts them so constantly, that after having seen it administered in a very large number of well marked cases, I can safely assert, that it has not failed in one of them to relieve, and, except in two or three instances, completely to remove the paroxysm. It can hardly be supposed that it will be always equally successful, but there are strong grounds for believing that it will very seldom disappoint our expectations.

There are, I confess, limits to the powers of this singular remedy. It does not perform what is called a radical cure of gout. It removes a paroxysm in a day or two, that might have afflicted the patient for weeks, but it does not prevent its return, which sometimes happens very soon. I ought also to observe, that some persons who have often had recourse to it, have conceived, though it always succeeded in removing the paroxysms,

that they returned oftener than they had been accustomed to do. There may be some mistake in this notion ; or, if it have any foundation, these more frequent returns may be perhaps accounted for, by the greater liberties in regimen, and manner of living, which many patients have allowed themselves, since they became acquainted with this remedy, which has lessened the terrors of gout, by the facility it affords of removing its attacks. But in general the Eau Medicinale has been far from producing a more frequent recurrence of the fits, and many persons, to my own knowledge, have enjoyed much longer and more perfect intervals of health, since they have employed it, than they had done for a length of time before ; and, in some instances, it has carried off the gout, not to return for years.

But the Eau Medicinale is so far a cure for



the gout, that by it we may almost certainly remove the paroxysms as often and as soon as they occur ; and, perhaps, this is as much as we can effect, by the curative means we are possessed of, in the treatment of most other diseases. Many persons, by a proper management of this remedy, have been able to cut off the attacks in their very beginning, so as scarcely to have suffered from them ; and it is very probable, that, by employing it in doses adapted to circumstances, and by combining its use with a plan of regimen, judiciously directed, and continued with due perseverance, even the desirable object of preventing the return of the fits may be in a great measure accomplished.

If, then, the Eau Medicinale be not, strictly speaking, a cure for the gout, it seems to approach nearer that great desideratum, than we could almost have ventured

to hope. Sydenham, Heberden, and others, had, indeed, looked forward to a remedy, capable of affording effectual relief in this disorder, and their expectations seem to have been realized by the discovery of the Eau Medicinale. To how great an extent it may be found useful, future experience must determine ; but it is much that we already know it to be capable of almost certainly and immediately delivering the patient from the attacks of a cruel and harassing disease, from agonizing pain, from all the miseries of long confinement, and to restore him to his usual state of health and the exercise of his limbs. Among other advantages, we may fairly expect, that the use of it will, by immediately cutting short those terrible inflammations of the joints, prevent their disorganization, and preserve the patient from lameness ; and, if they are already irreparably



injured, will at least save them from further mischief. In short, we are not without grounds for believing, that, by a prudent and judicious management of this remedy, a great part of the evils and miseries of that hitherto hopeless disorder, may be alleviated, or even altogether removed.

But an inquiry will naturally arise in the minds of many, whether it be safe to employ the Eau Medicinale in the treatment of gout, with reference to the remote consequences it may have on the system. There are those, indeed, who, to get rid of the severity of pain in a gouty paroxysm, would tamper with any means, however hazardous. But the question of safety presents itself to every prudent man, and can only be satisfactorily answered, by referring to long experience, in a number of well-authenticated cases; and what we have already acquired, although

perhaps not so extensive as we could wish, is decidedly in favour of the remedy. I do not adduce the cases published by Husson himself, because they are liable to suspicion; but we have others of unquestionable authenticity. The old gentleman I saw at Montpellier, not only had continued free from the gout, for more than thirty years, by taking the medicine, but still enjoyed, at upwards of ninety, a degree of vigour and health which fall to the share of but few men at that age. The English messenger had safely employed it a number of years. Dr. Wolfe, the Warsaw physician above-mentioned, conversed with an old gentleman, who had taken the medicine fifteen years, and continued in the full enjoyment of his health, and the use of his limbs. I have carefully attended to its effects myself during two years: all the patients who have used it



within that time, that I know of, are alive, and I believe none of them are become worse ; which is more than could have been expected, considering that some of them are advanced in life, and have had their constitutions impaired by previous sufferings in the gout. They are all highly satisfied with its effects. And it is important to know, that some of these patients, who rank among the foremost of the afflicted with this distressing disorder, have not only been relieved from their paroxysms, and have even, to a great degree, warded them off, by the use of this remedy, but have enjoyed a greater share of health than they had been accustomed to for years. The space of time I have mentioned, may be fairly considered as sufficient for the ill consequences of using the Eau Medicinale to have manifested themselves, if there were really any to be apprehended.

The old notion, that the gout is a salutary disorder, that it prevents others, and that it ought to be courted as a friend, rather than repelled as an enemy, has of late years gone very much out of fashion. It is now hardly doubted, that, instead of being a remedy for other diseases, it disposes, by the injury it inflicts on the constitution, to a great many very dangerous ones ; or that the health would be much improved, and the disposition to other disorders lessened, by a deliverance from so tormenting an enemy.

That the cure of gout may be safely attempted, could we find an appropriate remedy, we have the opinion of a physician, whose authority on this, and every other subject connected with medicine, will have its due weight—the venerable Heberden. I shall quote his words :—“The itch is supposed to be wholesome in countries where it



is endemial, and an ague has been considered as a minister of health, whose presence ought by all means to be courted. These opinions are now pretty generally exploded in England ; and I hope the time will come, when a specific for the gout, as certain as those which have been discovered for these two disorders, will ascertain the equal safety and advantage of immediately stopping its career, and preventing its returns." And again : " But as it is now generally believed that the gout cannot be cured without the greatest danger, it is just that it should not be made the opprobrium of medicine, till patients will lay aside their fears, and suffer an attempt to be made to cure them. I wish it were as easy to discover, as it would be safe to use, a remedy for the gout."

It has been dreaded that the Eau Medicinale might eventually produce the same fatal

consequences that have been attributed to the famous Portland powder ; or that, as the application of cold water, and some other practices are said to have done, it might, by removing the gouty inflammation from its seat in the extremities, make it wander to some vital part, as the stomach, or brain, &c. But it is evident that the operation of the Eau Medicinale, is different from that of any remedy, or means hitherto proposed in the treatment of gout. Here is no question of swallowing large doses of strong bitters every day for years, as in the case of the Portland powder. It operates, for the most part, by a single dose ; its use may be only occasional, and in many instances will be extremely rare. Nor does it relieve the gout merely by repelling the inflammation from the extremities, as the other methods spoken of may be supposed to do. It carries



off the paroxysm, not by partial or local effects, but by acting at once on that state of the system, whatever it may be, on which its presence depended; and I conceive that there is no reason for believing, that it may not be as safely employed in the gout, as the appropriate remedies in other diseases.

I do not, however, mean to assert, that the Eau Medicinale may be administered in every gouty case. There may exist circumstances connected with the health of the patient, or a complication of gout with other disorders, wherein it could not be employed, either with safety or advantage. I am not yet prepared to say exactly, how far it may be useful or adviseable, in many anomalous forms of this disease, but I believe there are very few cases of regular gout, wherein it may not be employed with perfect safety, and with almost certain and immediate advantage.

Before I conclude, I shall say a few words on the general effects of the Eau Medicinale, and on the subject of its composition. No medicine, I believe, hitherto discovered, possesses such extensive properties. It appears to be a powerful sedative, diminishing, almost immediately, the irritability of the system. Hence, it allays pain, procures rest and sleep, reduces the pulse, and abates fever. It is a strong evacuant, and seems to have considerable action on the liver, often producing very copious bilious discharges, both by vomiting and stool; but its operation is, as I have above stated, very uncertain, and unlike that of other medicines. It is sometimes sudorific; and its diuretic effects are frequently very remarkable and durable.

It may be supposed, that a medicine acting so extensively on the system, in a single dose, would be found highly valuable in the



treatment of many diseases besides the gout. It would, probably, from its sedative properties be useful in other inflammations, and from analogy, particularly in rheumatism. Dr. Wolfe tells us, however, that he has tried it in that disease, and in sciatica, without success. But in some cases that have lately come to my knowledge, it has removed very severe acute rheumatism, in the same singular way it does the gout. Husson has published a great number of cures of various disorders, performed by this remedy, many of them apparently well attested ; but such general pretensions must be received with caution. I have, at present, little experience of its powers in any disorder except the gout.

The ingredient from which the Eau Medicinale is prepared, would be a most valuable addition in the *Materia Medica*. I have

therefore taken some pains, during the last two years, in endeavouring to discover the secret of its composition ; I wish I could say with success, and that I was able to communicate it to the public. Besides the examination by Cadet and Parmentier, at Paris, it has undergone that of an excellent chymist in London, and the result of their inquiries is, that it contains no metallic or mineral substance, and that it is an infusion of some vegetable matter in wine. Husson himself declares, that it is an extract of a single plant, hitherto unknown in medicine. Alyon, as I before observed, asserted in his *Eléments de Chimie*, that he had discovered that plant, and that it was the Gratiola, infused in Spanish wine ; and even gave a recipe for preparing it. Dr. Wolfe, the Warsaw physician, believes the same thing, and says, he has prepared a liquor by Alyon's recipe, ex-



actly like that of Husson, but admits that he never employed this imitation in the gout, because his patients always insisted on having the original remedy. I can safely say that they are both mistaken in their conjecture. I have repeatedly prepared a vinous infusion of the Gratiola, by Alyon's recipe ; and find it differ in every circumstance of taste, smell, and effects, from the Eau Medicinale ; and, above all, it will not remove or relieve a paroxysm of gout.

I have carefully examined all those plants which were conjectured in France to have been the basis of the Eau Medicinale, and a great number of others, whose properties seemed at all analogous to those of the remedy ; but my experiments have only led in a great measure to satisfy me, that it is, as the inventor declares, a plant hitherto unknown in medicine.

Let us hope, however, that the composition of this remedy will not always be concealed ; and that, if it should continue to deserve the high reputation it has lately acquired, the time is not far distant, when the French government will, by rewarding the proprietor, obtain possession of the secret, and publish it for the general benefit of mankind.

I have thus delivered what has come to my knowledge respecting the valuable properties of the Eau Medicinale d'Husson, in the cure of gout. As its influence over that disease, seems to me to be now proved, by evidences as strong as any we can possibly have of the powers of medicine, I thought I should deserve ill of all gouty sufferers, if I did not take an early opportunity of making them acquainted with so great a blessing.

But how comes it that this remedy has re-



mained almost in obscurity for near forty years, when its effects in the gout are so striking and undeniable? This has probably arisen;---First, from the discountenance of regular physicians, who, as a general proper rule, think it their duty to oppose the sale of nostrums. Secondly, From the inventor and others having recommended it for almost all other diseases, in many of which it could not be applicable, and probably failed or did mischief; and thus fell into general discredit, as some of the common remedies have done, by having almost universal powers attributed to them. Notwithstanding these disadvantages, however, it always enjoyed a considerable degree of reputation, not only in France, but in many other parts of the Continent. Its later introduction into England may be accounted for by the greater difficulty, and more frequent

interruption of communication between the two countries ; and the little curiosity, and general distrust entertained with regard to nostrums, which prevented its being noticed by our countrymen, till it became accidentally known, and attended to in the manner I have described.

I have investigated the properties and effects of the Eau Medicinale, as I should those of any substance admitted into the *Materia Medica*. I apprehend that the circumstance of a medicine being a secret, does not of itself create an objection to its being employed in practice. All medicines, even the most simple may be deemed secrets, inasmuch as we are ignorant of the principles on which their agency depends. No one has yet attempted to shew how rhubarb purges, or how ipecacuanha excites vomiting\*.

\* Locke.



The medicine in question is, with respect to me, exactly on this footing ; and if the fidelity of its preparation could be such, as to give it an efficacy equally certain as the constancy of Nature in the production of simples, it would stand exactly in the same relation to our knowledge and experience. The Eau Medicinale is ascertained to be a vegetable substance, and it is sufficient for us to know, that it really possesses valuable properties, that its use is safe, and that we are well enough acquainted with its effects, to enable us to employ it with advantage. And this is all that the patient who takes, or the physician who prescribes it, need be solicitous about. It would, indeed, be highly absurd as well as cruel, to withhold a remedy from the afflicted, that offers an almost certain and immediate relief, merely because we are ignorant of the name of the plant it is ex-

tracted from ; the discovery of which is not essential to the knowledge of its properties.

In other points of view, indeed, it would be very desirable to be acquainted with the composition of the Eau Medicinale. There would then be no danger of its being counterfeited, which at present there is, from the exorbitant price at which it is sold when it arrives in this country ; it would be within the reach of every body ; and we should be able to ascertain its powers, not only in the gout, but in other diseases, to a greater extent than we can do at present.

No man, however, can more sincerely lament than I do, that secrecy, which is commonly employed, only to abuse credulity, and promote the sordid views of individuals, should ever be observed in the composition of medicines. If, therefore, any effectual means of relief had been already known for



the gout, I should not have brought forward to the public notice, a remedy presenting itself in so questionable a shape. But as it is generally admitted that no such means have been discovered, I thought it not only justifiable, but that it was my duty, to recommend the Eau Medicinale, as a remedy I had found singularly efficacious in that most distressing disease, and as one that would seldom disappoint the hopes of the patient. I should, however, have probably withheld my account some little time longer, in the hopes that further opportunity, and observation, would enable me to render it more satisfactory ; but as I have been repeatedly solicited to set down what I already knew respecting this medicine ; and as I was sure that we were sufficiently acquainted with its effects, to employ it with the happiest success, in by far the greater proportion

of gouty cases ; I felt myself in some measure called upon to be thus early in my publication.

The whole of what has been said concerning the Eau Medicinale, is submitted, with great respect, to Professional consideration ; and I feel assured that it will be candidly received by all practitioners truly desirous of extending the boundaries and resources of Medical Science. They will, I hope, be induced to repeat the experiment themselves, and to investigate the effects of this remedy ; and, if the facts I have advanced respecting it should be confirmed by their experience ; if it should be found, as I have stated it to be, really powerful to alleviate so great a portion of human misery ; I have no doubt, that, instead of meeting with opposition, it will be gladly and generally adopted in practice. The same liberal and



philosophical spirit of inquiry, with which the enlightened Faculty of this country at first embraced, and at length brought to perfection, the unexpected discovery of the Vaccine Inoculation, will, I trust, be also extended to that of the Eau Medicinale; which, although it be not, perhaps, comparable to the former, with regard to the degree of benefit it may confer on mankind in general, is yet of the highest importance to a very numerous class of sufferers. And if the powers and effects of this extraordinary remedy shall be investigated and directed by the united zeal and talents of the Profession, I am persuaded that it will become the means of enabling us to afford effectual relief, in a disease that has hitherto been considered as the opprobrium of medicine.

It will be naturally expected, that having brought forward facts so new and extraor-

dinary, I should support them by the evidence of several cases of unquestionable authenticity ; and indeed I should fear, if they were not so supported, that every thing I have said would be received with scepticism and distrust. I have therefore obtained permission to make use of the names of some distinguished and highly respectable persons, who have employed the Eau Medicinale, and to whom I can confidently appeal for their general knowledge of what I have advanced concerning it. I have selected, however, only a small number of cases, out of the very large number that have occurred, lest the work should be swelled to an inconvenient size ; and the latter consideration has induced me to relate them as briefly as possible. They are inserted by way of Appendix.



## APPENDIX.

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JOHN CRAUFURD, Esq. of Auchinames, to whom the introduction of the Eau Medicinale into this country is chiefly owing, has been subject to the gout more than forty-five years. He may indeed be considered as one of the greatest sufferers in that disease, upon record, whose head and stomach have not been attacked. He was first seized at an early period of life, after which the fits frequently visited him with great violence. For many years he recovered without lameness, but as he advanced in age, the paroxysms increased in severity and duration; the

joints were injured and gradually disorganized, and chalk stones, as they are called, were every where formed about them. He at length entirely lost the use of his feet, and his hands, fingers, and elbows, were also considerably crippled.

The paroxysms continually thickened, till at last he was hardly ever tolerably free from them, seldom recovering perfectly from the effects of one, till another made its appearance. For many years he had never escaped from a long and terrible confinement every winter, and each succeeding attack visibly added to the injury the joints had already sustained, besides committing dreadful havoc in the constitution. The longest interval he had enjoyed for several years, free from gout, was during the winter he passed at Montpellier, where he seemed to derive considerable advantage from the effects of the climate



on his general health. After his return to England, however, the paroxysms again visited him with their usual frequency and violence.

Perhaps no individual had ever tried so many plans of treatment, or so great a variety of remedies; but none of them have been attended with the least success in keeping off the paroxysms for a longer time than usual, or have afforded any effectual relief, or alleviation of their severity.

Two years have now elapsed since Mr. C. began to take the Eau Medicinale d'Husson, as I have before related, and from that time he has got rid of several paroxysms in the same manner. Indeed, by prudently managing the remedy, in different doses according to circumstances, the gout has never been allowed to form completely. The most violent attack, and which advanced to the

greatest length, happened in January last. It came on suddenly in the night, in the most alarming and tremendous way. Agonizing pain seized the right side of the neck, the shoulder, and both hands and wrists. Before the hour of dinner the next day, he was unable to feed himself, or lift his arms off the cushions on which they were placed. At night the gouty swelling and inflammation were already apparent on the right wrist and elbow. Indications of the disease also began to appear in the knees and feet. Everything, in short, portended a long and terrible fit, if suffered to run through its usual course. At bed-time he therefore took a full dose of the Eau Medicinale. In the morning the pain was greatly alleviated, and he could bear some motion of the affected limbs. By dinner-time he was able to make use of his hands, and on the third day the symptoms



had totally disappeared. The remedy had no other perceptible effect on the stomach and bowels, than to excite a considerable degree of nausea, during the whole of the day after it was taken.

The Eau Medicinale has been so highly useful to Mr. Craufurd, that since he has regularly begun to employ it, he has not suffered from gout more than two days together, and is besides much better in every circumstance of his health, than he had been for a long time before. His lameness is now incurable, from the extensive injury done to the joints, by so many terrible inflammations during a long series of years; but he feels convinced, that if he had fortunately been acquainted with this remedy at an early period of his life, he should not only have preserved the use of his limbs, but have escaped from almost all the miseries and suffer-

ings which he has undergone from this cruel disease.

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The HONOURABLE HENRY FITZROY STANHOPE has been a great sufferer from gout. Of late years the paroxysms have been very frequent, long, and severe. In the summer of 1808 he first took the Eau Medicinale, as I have already related, with all the success that could be hoped for. He has since had frequent recourse to it with the same good fortune, and by its means, instead of being confined during a great part of the year, he escaped almost free from gout till January 1810, when he was again seized with a violent paroxysm. He took the Eau Medicinale as usual, but not altogether with the same advantage. The symptoms were all greatly relieved, but not entirely removed. They returned with equal severity in a



few days, and it was necessary to repeat the medicine, in different doses, several times, before he got quite rid of the attack. On the whole, though Mr. Stanhope has experienced great benefit, and is highly satisfied with the effects of this remedy, yet I consider his case as one of the least successful of all those which have fallen under my observation.

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The BARON DE ROLL has been many years subject to the gout. He was seized with a violent paroxysm in the summer of 1808, which began in the great toe, and thence spread all over the foot. After suffering severe pain, and passing a sleepless night, he determined to try the Eau Medicinale, and took the full dose at bed-time. The first part of the night was passed in great torture, but in a few hours he felt relief, and towards

morning fell asleep. When he awoke, he found himself almost free from pain, and the swelling and inflammation had already greatly subsided. In the course of the day he was able to walk about the room. The operation of the medicine was in other respects very trifling, and without the least disturbance. All the remaining symptoms of gout gradually disappeared, and in a few days he had quite recovered his usual state of health. He has since had two returns of the disease, which were removed by the Eau Medicinale, in the same easy and expeditious manner.

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JOHN RODBARD, Esq. has been many years subject to the gout. He is of a very gouty family. In March 1809, he had a severe attack, which began in the knee, and in a few days seized the great toe, and very



soon the whole foot of the same leg. After much suffering, he was recommended to try the Eau Medicinale, and accordingly took the whole bottle at bed-time. He rested much better than he had done for several nights, and by twelve o'clock the next day almost all the symptoms had disappeared, and he was able to walk about the room. The remedy began to operate powerfully as an evacuant, early in the morning, and he felt great sickness and disturbance till towards the evening, when they gradually went off. In three days he had completely recovered, and was able to walk about in boots. In the summer he had a similar attack, which was removed with the same facility by the Eau Medicinale.

At the end of February 1810, he had another paroxysm, and again had recourse to the remedy. Its effects were even more

rapid than on former occasions, and he was able the next morning to walk up and down stairs with perfect ease. The medicine operated with considerable disturbance, but without any other unpleasant consequences, for on the third day he felt his appetite keener, and his health better than it had been for some time before ; and all the symptoms of gout had entirely disappeared.

About the beginning of June 1810, he was again seized in the feet and the knees. The paroxysm was more violent in its onset than any he had ever experienced. It was removed with the same facility as the others, within three days, by the Eau Medicinale. On this occasion he took only half a bottle. Its operation in other respects was scarcely perceptible.

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JOHN CHARLES CROWLE, Esq. has been



afflicted with the gout a great number of years, and has undergone many severe attacks. In the spring of 1809, he had a terrible paroxysm, his sufferings during which have scarcely been equalled. He had conceived a prejudice against the Eau Medicinale, and allowed the fit, which lasted several weeks, to wear itself out, without being prevailed upon to have recourse to it. In the middle of the summer, he was again violently seized in the right hand. The pain was excruciating, and on the second night he took forty drops of tincture of opium, without the least alleviation. On the third day, judging by the symptoms, that the gout would probably extend itself into other parts, and that the fit would be a long one if its career was not checked, he consented to make a trial of the Eau Medicinale, and accordingly took the whole bottle, in an equal

quantity of water, going to bed. At that time the hand, fingers, and wrist, were greatly inflamed and swelled, and the joints stiff and immoveable; the pain was also increasing. In a few hours he began to experience considerable relief, and before morning got into a sound sleep. On awaking, he found himself free from pain, though the swelling, and a degree of tenderness of the parts still continued. In about ten hours from taking the medicine, great nausea came on, followed by some vomiting, and copious bilious evacuations, which lasted all day. On the following day, he was able to use his fingers and to write, and very little stiffness now remained. The remedy still continued to operate smartly, but without uneasiness, or any debilitating effects. On the fourth day he had quite recovered the use of his hand, and in a short time every symptom of the



disease had vanished. Mr. C. has since had another attack, which he cut off on its very onset, by a bottle of the Eau Medicinale. He thinks that his general health is greatly improved by the effects of the remedy; and that the stiffness of his joints, the consequence of so many preceding inflammations, is in some measure diminished.

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Mr. Crowle has been so good as to communicate to me the following case:

JOHN SANDS, Lodge-Porter to the Marquis of Salisbury, at Hatfield, has been a deplorable victim to the gout. Of late years he had hardly been ever tolerably free from it, and his limbs were so much injured, that for the last twelve months he had not been able to walk from the lodge to the mansion-house. In December 1809, he had a most violent

attack, which confined him entirely to bed. Mr. Crowle, who was at that time on a visit to the Marquis of Salisbury, being informed by his servant of the deplorable state to which this poor man was reduced, sent him a bottle of the Eau Medicinale, with proper directions. He willingly took it at night, and in a few hours was relieved and slept comfortably. In the morning he awoke without pain, and the swelling of the hand, the part now chiefly affected, was greatly diminished. The medicine operated very powerfully by stool only. The following morning he was greatly surprised to find that he could button the knees of his breeches, which he had not been able to do for a year before, and within forty-eight hours from taking the medicine, he walked up to the mansion, to return thanks to Mr. Crowle, for the benefit he had received from his present ;



all the symptoms of gout being removed. This case, as the man and his miserable condition were well known, made a great noise about Hatfield and the neighbourhood.

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The EARL OF CARLISLE has been for a great number of years afflicted with the gout. In September 1809, he was seized in the foot. The symptoms went on increasing for some days, till at length the hand was also attacked. The swelling, inflammation, and pain of the parts, soon became very great, and every thing portended a long and severe paroxysm. His Lordship, therefore, determined to resort to the Eau Medicinale, and took half a bottle at bed-time. In a few hours he felt relief, rested well, and in the morning was nearly free from pain; the swelling of the parts was also greatly diminished. The medicine operated as a sudo-

rific, and occasioned besides only a slight nausea. All the symptoms of gout rapidly subsided; but at the end of forty-eight hours, some little uneasiness of the parts still remaining, it was thought advisable he should take the other half of the bottle, which completely removed the paroxysm. In three or four days his Lordship was able to go abroad, and soon afterwards left town for his seat in Yorkshire, perfectly recovered.

His Lordship has since had two attacks, which were removed by the Eau Medicinale in the very beginning; so that they were attended with scarcely any suffering or confinement.

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Dr. ANDREW THYNNE has had the gout several years. In November 1809, he was violently attacked in the feet; he now deter-



mined to try the effects of the Eau Medicinale, and took a whole bottle at bed-time. It soon operated, as he declares, like a charm ; he fell into a sound sleep, and the next morning found himself quite free from pain. About ten o'clock in the forenoon it began to excite considerable nausea, and very frequent and copious evacuations, but was so far from producing any debilitating effects, that he felt lighter and better after every motion. On the same day he was able to walk about, and even to go abroad ; and on the following day scarce any vestiges of the paroxysm remained. He has since been twice attacked, and relieved in the same manner each time, by only half a bottle of the remedy.

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The EARL OF ESSEX has undergone several attacks of gout. On Wednesday,

about the middle of December 1809, he was seized with a severe paroxysm in the foot. He passed the night in excruciating pain, without the least sleep. Foreseeing, by experience in his past sufferings, that from the present beginning, a long confinement was to be expected, unless the career of the fit could be checked, he resolved to have recourse to the Eau Medicinale. As the pain was intolerable, he would not wait till bedtime, but took half a bottle on the Thursday morning, fasting.

By four o'clock in the afternoon the pain had considerably abated. He took the remaining part of the bottle, going to bed ; and passed a comfortable night, and slept well. On Friday he awoke without pain ; and though the parts were still tender on pressure, or on being moved, he was able to walk about in a cloth shoe. The medicine produced a



great many evacuations during that day. He rested well the first part of the ensuing night, but about two o'clock in the morning it began to operate again, and continued to do so the whole of Saturday. These effects induced a degree of languor, which, however, soon wore off. On Sunday morning his Lordship got up as well as ever he was in his life, and went abroad as usual.

His Lordship has been so good as to communicate to me the following letter from a medical practitioner.

“ I have, my Lord, the honour to acquaint your Lordship with the effects of the Eau Medicinale d'Husson.

“ On Saturday last I was unable to move my legs without great pain, from an attack of gout which began the evening before. At half past one I took half the bottle, which

produced no immediate effects ; but in about twelve hours it began to act on the bowels, and continued to do so, moderately, during the whole of Sunday. On Monday I walked down stairs, and on the following day visited all my patients, both in and out of town ; and am much better than I have been for the last three months.

“ I hope I shall not trespass too much by stating, that Mr. ———, of ——— Hall, was at the same time laid up with a most severe attack of gout in both hands, both feet, and stomach. My friend, Mr. ———, having visited him for me on Sunday, I could not resist sending him the remaining half of the bottle, which he took. I called on him to-day ; he is perfectly recovered from the attack, and in high spirits. About two years ago he had an apoplectic fit, ending in a palsy of the left side. A total loss of



the use of the left arm, and an imperfect use of the right, have continued ever since. The gout was as violent in the paralytic parts as in the others. Probably this may be the first case where the medicine has been given under such circumstances.

“ I must express my gratitude to your Lordship, for having conferred on me the favour of this invaluable medicine, and

“ I have the honour to be, &c. &c.”

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Mr. WILLIAM BULL, his Lordship's Butler, had a stiffness, and considerable swelling and pain of the knee, which appeared to be gouty, as he had a regular attack in the foot about a year ago. This swelling continued for a week, gradually increasing, till he was unable to move the limb. About the beginning of March 1810, he took half a bottle of Husson's medicine at

bed-time. The next morning it began to operate a great deal, for several hours ; in the evening he was able to move about, and on the following day waited at table, and did his business as usual. As some stiffness of the parts, however, still remained, he took the other half of the bottle, which completed his recovery.

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VISCOUNT MORPETH has been several years subject to the gout. In the beginning of January 1810, he was seized in the ankle, and suffered a great deal of pain. From all the symptoms he had reason to expect that the attack would be a long and severe one, and he therefore determined to make a trial of the Eau Medicinale, whose effects he had witnessed in the Earl of Carlisle's case. He took half a bottle at night, and soon experienced relief. It produced a very copious



perspiration, but neither sickness nor evacuations. The paroxysm rapidly subsided ; but at the end of forty-eight hours, some degree of gout being still left, he took the rest of the bottle, which effectually removed every remaining symptom, and in four days he was able to walk about.

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Mr. WOOD, house-steward to the Earl of Winchelsea, has been many years dreadfully afflicted with the gout. In January 1810, he was seized with a most severe paroxysm in both feet, which confined him to his bed. After suffering three or four days, he was advised to try the Eau Medicinale, and took the whole bottle at night. It acted, as he expressed it, like a composing draught. He slept soundly, and in the morning found both the pain and swelling greatly abated. On getting out of bed he felt a little sickness,

which soon went off after some moderate evacuations. Before night he was able to put on his shoes, and walk without pain, and on the following morning every symptom of gout had disappeared, he was able to go about as usual, and was much better in every respect than he had been for some time before.

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Mrs. ——— was seized with a severe paroxysm of gout in the foot, about the middle of January, 1810. It was attended with great swelling, inflammation, and intolerable pain. For two nights she had never had a moment's rest; on the third, she was prevailed upon to try the Eau Medicinale, and took half a bottle at bed-time, then suffering more severely than ever. She describes its effects as having been like those of enchantment; in three hours the pain had almost subsided, and she slept soundly. In the



morning scarce any symptoms of gout remained, except a swelling of the parts, and a degree of tenderness on pressure.

The medicine occasioned a slight nausea, and two trifling evacuations. The swelling rapidly decreased; but at the end of forty-eight hours some little uneasiness still continued; she therefore took, I believe unnecessarily, the other half of the bottle; the following day every vestige of the disease had disappeared.

About the latter end of May she had another still more severe attack, which was removed with the same facility by half a bottle of the remedy.

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The Hon. JAMES STEWART WORTLEY, has been many years a great sufferer from the gout. About the middle of February 1810, he was seized with a very severe paroxysm

in both feet. The pain was excruciating ; and from past experience he had reason to expect a long confinement. After suffering a few days, he determined to resort to the Eau Medicinale, and took a full dose at night. The pain was soon alleviated, and he rested comfortably. In the morning scarcely any of the symptoms remained, and he was most agreeably surprised to find, that though for some days he had not been able to put his feet to the ground, he could now walk down stairs with ease. The medicine occasioned considerable nausea, vomiting, and copious evacuations, during all that day. On the third day he went abroad, perfectly recovered from the attack.

In about a fortnight afterwards he experienced a return of the paroxysm, and took only half a bottle of the remedy, which completely removed it within twenty-four hours.



VISCOUNT DILLON has been a great number of years subject to the gout, which he inherited from his ancestors. He experienced the first fit at the early age of twenty-six. It made its appearance at the heel, and has invariably continued to attack that part ever since, always beginning there, and spreading thence over the whole right foot, after which it seizes the left in the same manner. It was confined to the feet till within these ten years, when it began to appear in the knees, and since that in the right elbow and right hand. At the latter end of January 1810, his Lordship was seized with a most tremendous paroxysm, which began in the usual way, ascending progressively from the feet to the knees, the right hand, and the elbow; and, in addition to his former sufferings, the right shoulder, and all the muscles of the neck, from the ears downwards, were now affected.

In this situation he lay nearly five weeks, unable to move in his bed, and undergoing most excruciating pain, with a high symptomatic fever, the tongue greatly loaded, and a total disgust to every species of food ; only existing on a little barley-water, which he could scarcely be prevailed upon to take. He twice had recourse to large doses of tincture of opium, which, instead of affording relief, considerably aggravated all the symptoms, and made him delirious.

In this dreadful state he was prevailed upon to make a trial of the Eau Medicinale ; he took a whole bottle of it at night, and drank a cup of infusion of peppermint every two or three hours. The first effect was a most profuse perspiration. He afterwards got into a quiet dozing, and in twelve hours from the time of taking the medicine, he was totally free from pain. It operated four



times during the day very moderately, and without nausea or uneasiness. In the evening he was able to rise and walk into the next room, though for weeks before he could scarcely bear, with the assistance of four servants, to be lifted out of bed to have it made.

His Lordship considered the paroxysm as already removed ; great swelling, stiffness of the joints, and general debility, the effects of such a long and severe attack, of course still remained, but they gradually wore off, and he was restored to his usual state of health.

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The Right Hon. Sir JOSEPH BANKS, Bart. K. B. may be numbered among the greatest sufferers in gout. He is now in the sixty-eighth year of his age, and was first attacked by the disease twenty-three years ago. As

he advanced in life, the paroxysms increased in number, duration, and severity, so that at last, a great part of the year was passed in suffering, either from the actual presence of gout, or its immediate consequences. By these frequent and terrible attacks, he has become almost a cripple, and his constitution has been nearly destroyed. He has tried every regular plan of medicine, without obtaining any effectual relief. Of late years he has rigidly observed the severest diet, totally abstaining from animal food, and all fermented liquors ; which has not had the effect of preventing the returns of the disease ; though he thinks that his sufferings would have been still more severe, if he had not embraced and persevered in that system.

On Saturday noon, February 17, 1810, Earl Spencer called on Sir Joseph, and found him actually confined to his bed by a



violent and decided paroxysm of gout. After the first inquiries, his Lordship began to try him on the subject of the Eau Medicinale, with the remarkable effects of which he had lately become acquainted. Sir Joseph required a great deal of expostulation before he gave way ; and at length consented to take the medicine, more in compliance with his Lordship's wishes, than with any hopes of deriving the smallest advantage from it. In the evening, about ten o'clock, Mr. Home called on him, and found the pulse at ninety-four, and the gout in possession of the left side, beginning at the toe, from whence it had progressively seized the ankle, the heel, the knee, the hip, the elbow, the hand and shoulder ; and there was every appearance of the disease creeping to the right hand, preparatory to its becoming universal.

On Mr. Home leaving him, Sir Joseph took half a bottle of Husson's medicine, without having mentioned his intention of doing so. The effect of it, during the night, was a gradual alleviation of pain, and the gout, first quitting the hand entirely, then the left shoulder, then the elbow, and so on. On Saturday the 18th, the next day, Mr. Home came to visit him : to his great surprise he found the pulse got down to sixty-two, and in every respect natural ; and the gout giving way in every joint of which it had taken possession, in the inverse order in which the attack had proceeded.

Forty-eight hours after the first dose, the remaining part of the bottle was administered, and in the course of the next twelve hours the medicine began to operate, and procured five evacuations. Until this time it had had no perceptible effect, except a slight nausea, not amounting to vomiting.



Lord Spencer, on Wednesday the 21st, saw Sir Joseph perfectly free from all gout, and as well as ever he had been for many years, excepting a degree of weakness, which his having had so severe an attack for four days previous to his taking the medicine, sufficiently accounts for.

In about a fortnight afterwards Sir Joseph was seized with a severe gouty lumbago. He had again recourse to half a bottle of the Eau Medicinale at bed-time; and before morning the pain and every other symptom were entirely removed.

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MAJOR RENNEL has been so good as to favour me with his case, which I have inserted exactly in his own words.

Major Rennel\* had a fit of gout in the beginning of March 1810. He had it in one

\* In his sixty-eighth year, and 27th of the gout.

hand and one foot. The foot was swelled to a shapeless mass, and the joints immoveable; the hand inflamed and beginning to swell, and the fingers stiff and unpliant. Indications of the disease also appeared on the other hand.

He began with half a bottle of the Eau Medicinale d'Husson, and conformed to the directions, save only, that he took it in the day-time, and sat up instead of going to bed. In thirteen or fourteen hours afterwards, the joints of the foot became pliant, and the inflammation was visibly abated. The hand, although better, advanced more slowly towards recovery; perhaps because the disease began there later, and had a course to run. The improvement went gradually on, yet at the end of forty-eight hours, symptoms still remained, particularly in the hand. Accordingly, conforming to the directions, he



took a second and smaller dose, that is, one half of what remained.

The foot in about a day after, that is, three days after taking the first dose, was reduced to its natural size, and nothing but weakness remained ; but the hand recovered so slowly that at the end of the fourth day he judged it proper to take the remaining fourth of the bottle, and by the end of the fifth day the hand was also completely restored, and no symptoms of gout appeared any where.

The medicine had no effect whatever on his stomach, and the slightest possible on the bowels. He felt an unusual degree of lassitude on the evening of the days on which he took the medicine, which might be owing to long fasting. It may, perhaps, be worth remarking, that on one of the days, when the inflammation in the hand was nearly gone, the eating of a moderate dinner (with-

out wine) brought back the swelling and inflammation for some hours. It may be added, that on the first night he had the sweetest sleep that he had enjoyed for a length of time.

---

GEORGE HARRISON, Esq. Secretary to the Treasury, has been subject to the gout six years, and has experienced several severe paroxysms.

On Sunday, the 25th of February, 1810, he was violently seized in the ankle, the part where the attack usually begins with him. He suffered great pain, and passed a sleepless night. On the Monday morning he took half a bottle of the Eau Medicinale, in an equal quantity of water; in the evening he already felt relief, and took the remaining half of the bottle: he enjoyed a good night's rest, and awoke on the Tuesday morning without pain. The medicine now began to



operate in a very gentle way on the bowels. In the afternoon he was able to walk down stairs, and would have gone abroad the following day, had the weather been favourable. On Thursday he went out as usual, perfectly recovered from the attack.

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It would be easy to multiply these details, were it necessary, to a much greater extent ; but the facts already stated, will probably be deemed sufficient to shew that the Eau Medicinale is a remedy of singular power and efficacy in the gout. To add to them, indeed, would be a repetition of nearly the same circumstances, and their uniformity has perhaps already rendered them tedious. I have only to observe, that since the first publication of this account, the Eau Medi-

cinale has been employed in several hundred cases of gout, many of which have occurred to persons of the greatest distinction and respectability, and are very generally known. I can safely assert, that, as far as I have myself witnessed, or have been able to acquire information on the subject, it has continued to be attended with the most extraordinary success. The cases, however, that I have now inserted, are the same that appeared in the preceding edition ; for, I could not have substituted any others of more unquestionable authenticity, or more demonstrative of the usual effects and operation of the remedy.

FINIS.



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