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OBSERVATIONS

ON

PSELLISMUS, OR STAMMERING,

WITH

ACCOMPANYING CASES OF CURE.

BY

JOSEPH POETT, Senior,
SURGEON.

DUBLIN :
PRINTED BY JOSEPH BLUNDELL,
187, GREAT BRITAIN-STREET.

1828.

OBSERVATIONS ON STAMMERING,

&c. &c. &c.

THE superiority which man claims over the brute creation is chiefly founded upon his possessing a mind, and being endowed with the faculty of speech. Deprived of the latter gift, his ideas would be limited, incapable either of conferring or receiving pleasure; his life would be passed in a state of solitude and silence; and the sources of his knowledge being thus dried up, the moral dignity of his character would be degraded, and “this distinguished link in nature’s animated chain,” with difficulty recognised.

For the security of such a blessing, Providence has admirably provided, as the anatomy of the mouth and larynx sufficiently

demonstrates. Indeed, so intimately are these parts connected with the functions of respiration, that any injury to the one necessarily implies proportionate damage to the other, and the destruction of either, the annihilation of life.

But in proportion as this gift is excellent, so must its loss prove severe, even in its limited exercise, as in the case of **IMPEDIMENTS OF SPEECH.**

Cut off from all the innocent pleasures of society, the unfortunate sufferer is doomed to observe a painful and unnatural silence—in proportion as he sees himself, perhaps, the only one afflicted in the whole circle of his acquaintance: for such is the formation of the human heart, that the degree of the calamity is ever estimated by the number of those who may be sharers in it with ourselves. Still, however, the unhappy results of the affection do not stop here, for it not only cuts him off from all the pleasures and comforts of social life, but is also an effectual bar to success, in almost every department,

depriving the sufferer of availing himself of whatever relative advantages he may be possessed of, by means of birth, fortune, talent, or education. Besides all this, a defective utterance seriously injures the health. We rarely see an old person stammer, and this is not owing to years effecting a cure, but because the dreadful efforts made to speak, sooner or later excite some organic disease, which, once induced, invariably consigns them to an early tomb.

During the convulsive paroxysm, the whole mental effort of the individual being directed to effect the utterance of the impeded word, the subject matter is little attended to, and then only at intervals; hence the discourse of Stammerers is not more confused in the matter than in the manner, and their ideas as limited and jarring as their collocation of them is irregular and interrupted.—Accompanying the attempt to speak there is commonly more or less spasm of the voluntary muscles; the circulation of the blood becomes slower—the veins of the neck, face and forehead, turgid; and the whole aspect

much like one labouring under an epileptic fit. This is not an erroneous narrative; it is a plain description, illustrations of which we may meet with in our every-day observations.

It is much to be lamented that, under such circumstances, the attention of the Medical Profession had not for so many centuries been directed to the examination and relief of so distressing an affection. Such a neglect has generated a belief amongst the better classes of society, that the cure of an Impediment of Speech is impossible, and that those who would be so credulous as to indulge any hope in the contrary must invariably meet, in disappointment, a cruel increase of all their sufferings; but such is the mental distress of the Stammerer that he will fly to any one who will promise even a chance of relief, or cling to any hope, however slight or precarious, provided he may indulge in the idea of ultimate success.

Hence the most incredulous of them have ever been the prey of empirics, whose pro-

mises are ever extensive in proportion as their means of realising them are deficient. Their promises are therefore generally unbounded, holding out to the sufferer the hope of a cessation of his malady in a few hours; and it is not until after the waste of much time and money that the deluded sufferer finds out the extent of the imposition which has been practised upon his credulity, and then, between depression of mind and a sense of wounded feeling, his original affection becomes, almost in every such instance, aggravated to a degree of melancholy intensity.

The result of my discovery of the different causes of the various species of Impediments of Speech, and the consequent method of their permanent removal, must, however, soon effect a favourable change in the absurd opinion, that the cure of such affections is impossible—an opinion which is solely to be attributed to the little attention that had hitherto been paid to the subject, and the description of people to whom the care of such cases was allowed to devolve; besides, the perfection to which I have brought my sys-

tem, and the anatomical and physiological facts which I can adduce in support of it, amounting almost to actual demonstration—the unparalleled success I have had in my practice, and the number and respectability of the cases I shall here lay down, must be sufficient to prove its merit, *even to the most sceptical.*

Indeed, I can venture to stake my character, without the slightest danger of its suffering any imputation, that there is no case of Stammering, however hopeless it may appear, (*if the patient but observe my prescriptions and directions,*) I cannot cure in the most satisfactory manner.

Hitherto, as I before remarked, the cure of Stammering had been left, with very few exceptions, to ignorant Charlatans; the consequence has been, that all confidence in the possibility of a removal of the affection had ceased to exist: many, indeed, have repaired to me, and, as they afterwards assured me, did so more from curiosity than from any expectation of deriving success.

In fact, a true demonstrative knowledge of the proximate cause of Impediments of Speech had hitherto been a kind of desideratum in medical knowledge, and Stammering an opprobrium on the character of the profession. The merit of the recent discovery I have made rests entirely with myself. Justice to my character requires from me this unqualified assertion, for there is scarcely a civilized city of opulence in the world, but has one or more individuals who pretend to have the power of removing the affection. It may, perhaps, appear surprising, that sufficient encouragement should be held out to them, when they so repeatedly disappoint; but hope, some way or other, is so blended with our existence, that the example of another's disappointment does not always induce us to expect a similar fate ourselves; besides, this affection is so intimately connected with the powers of the mind, that frequently the most ignorant and inefficient persons succeed in effecting a temporary and partial relief: ever ready to avail themselves of even the slightest appearance of improvement, they contrive to gain from their patient some acknowledg-

ment of an approaching cure. This of course they turn to their own advantage, and thus in a manner we may account for their partial success. Few, however, of those itinerants remain, for any length of time, in one situation. They fly from town to town, “breathing the word of promise to our ear, but breaking it to our hope.”

My principal object in offering these observations, and subjoining *a few of the most remarkable cases of my cures*, is for the purpose of disseminating a discovery that must prove so generally useful—a discovery, I conceive, in a manner closely identified with the character of the profession, to the members of which I here beg leave to respectfully return my sincere and grateful thanks, for the kind patronage I have hitherto experienced from them. To their exertions, indeed, may be ascribed the approaching restoration of that confidence which is absolutely necessary for the successful application of my system.

Various means have, from time to time, been devised for the removal of Impediments

of Speech ; but, after floating for a short time on the tide of public favour, they all successively sunk into merited oblivion. This was chiefly owing to an ignorance of the proximate causes of the affection, which, if not perfectly understood, must ever leave the curative part undecided, and limited in its application. Of the truth of this observation, we may see daily instances in those foreign and domestic publications which occasionally come before the public. Such publications can do no good, but, on the contrary, much harm, in as much as they are calculated to mislead and disappoint those who may be so credulous as to place any confidence in them ; besides, it is a matter of utter impossibility for a Stammerer to cure himself, even if he were well acquainted with the pathology and proximate cause of the disease.

As well might we expect that an acquaintance with the essential nature of any organic affection, would be sufficient to obliterate the disease, as that a Stammerer could effect his cure, by being merely made acquainted

with the proximate cause of his impediment ; but let it not for a moment be imagined, that such a knowledge has as yet been made public—it has been discovered only by myself, and rests with me, *for the present*, an impenetrable secret.

The Stammerer, on the contrary, requires the aid and direction of a skilful practitioner, who is well acquainted with his profession, and one calculated to gain an ascendancy over the mind of his patient. Possessed of these qualifications, and put in possession of my discovery, he must succeed in every case he undertakes to cure.

With few exceptions, persons labouring under Impediments of Speech are peculiarly sensitive, and averse to any proceeding which might make them or their affection the subject of critical observation ; hence, most of my patients have rendered it *obligatory on me* not only to conceal their names, but even their references, from the casual inquirer. Such promises I consider myself sacredly

bound to keep, although often militating against my own interest.

The medical man is frequently obliged to consult the feelings of his patient, even before his own interest; indeed, in my case, any other line of conduct would be ill requiting the flattering confidence and distinguished support with which I have been honored. The circumstance, however, I regret, in as much as it limits the number of cases, of several formidable species of Impediments of Speech, which I have cured. Still, however, many remain, which, with the general references and acknowledgments of cure, must be amply sufficient to gain the confidence and support of not only my own profession, but of every well-wisher to a meritorious discovery, or the real interests of society in general.

From the many instances we daily see of fictitious cases of cures, it may be necessary, perhaps, for me to assure those to whom I have not the pleasure of being known, that I have ready for inspection, the

original documents of all the correspondence which herein appears, and that the references are not only all in existence, but most of them persons of the highest respectability.

In submitting the following *selection of cases*, with their accompanying acknowledgments of cure, I do so with the intention of restoring those to hope who had hitherto given up themselves entirely to despair. I also trust that the invariable success which has marked the progress of all these cases, will prove, even to the most sceptical, that there is no species of Impediment, however deplorable it may hitherto have appeared, but is now susceptible of a perfect, speedy, and permanent cure.

Mr. Charles Dempsey, aged 22, of Fairview-Avenue, Annesley-Bridge.

This gentleman had, from the earliest period of his childhood, been afflicted with an impediment in his speech. Time appeared rather to aggravate the affection, so that, at

the period when he called on me, it had considerably increased. Not only had it threatened to involve in ruin all his hopes of advancement in life, but also seriously to militate against his health and comfort.

In *four weeks* he was *perfectly cured*, and the consequence was soon visible, even in his appearance. The peculiar nervous affection, and the symptoms of dyspepsia under which he had laboured for some years, vanished, and shortly after he left me he was admitted a Member of the College of Surgeons in London, and is now a Medical Officer in the Royal Artillery, an appointment which, he was informed, he could never have obtained during the existence of his impediment.

The following letter respecting his Cure was sent me by L. Armstrong, Esq., A.B., T.C.D., Member of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland:—

“ 136, *Stephen's-green*, Dec. 27, 1827.

“ DEAR SIR,

“ You are at perfect liberty to refer any person
“ to me that wishes to ascertain your capability of removing
“ impediments of speech or defects of utterance, as *I con-*

“ *ceive it an act of justice towards you to state, that your*
 “ *cure of Mr. Dempsey, one of my apprentices, of the dis-*
 “ *tressing impediment of speech he laboured under from his*
 “ *childhood, has not only given me, but every person ac-*
 “ *quainted with him, the highest satisfaction.*

“ I am, dear Sir,

“ Faithfully yours,

“ L. ARMSTRONG.

“ To JOSEPH POETT, Esq., Surgeon,

“ 31, *Denzille-street, Dublin.*”

The gratitude of Mr. Dempsey was such, that previous to his leaving Ireland he sent me the following letter, with permission to make what use I pleased of it:—

“ *Fairview, August 27, 1828.*

“ DEAR SIR,

“ It is with infinite pleasure I take this oppor-
 “ tunity of returning you my sincere thanks for the service you
 “ rendered me, *in removing a most unpleasant impediment*
 “ *of speech with which I was afflicted from my infancy,*
 “ and gave me much unhappiness in the pursuance of my
 “ professional studies.

“ I feel perfectly confident, that by an *attentive adherence*
 “ to your directions and prescriptions, from which I derived
 “ such manifest benefit, *even the first day* I attended you,
 “ that I shall never relapse, or allow my late Impediment to
 “ return.

“ Yours very truly,

“ CHARLES DEMPSEY, Surgeon.

“ Surgeon POETT, &c. &c.”

Miss R——, aged eight years, of ——, County Carlow.

This case relates to a Niece of a Peer of the Realm, a most interesting child, whose intellectual capacity far surpassed her years. Her defect of utterance became perceivable in her infancy, and had gradually continued to increase. The sensations of her parents can better be imagined than described, when we consider that this dear little child was not more remarkable for brilliant talent than personal beauty. Her susceptibility of mind was such as to render her, even at that tender age, peculiarly sensible of her calamity.

When this young Lady was first introduced to me by her uncle, Lord D——, I confess I had some apprehensions lest the application of my system to her case might fail, my mode of cure being closely connected with a knowledge of the anatomy and physiology of the organs of voice and speech, and with an intimate acquaintance with their improper action, during the paroxysm of the Stammer, which differs almost in every individual.

I hardly anticipated so favorable a result, but perceiving at once the capabilities of the child, I proceeded in a method of cure, adapted, as far as it was possible, to her tender years, and in the short space of one month I had the satisfaction to see her perfectly cured.

Previously to her family leaving this country for Paris, I had the honour of the following letter from her mother :—

“ *Merrion-square.*

“ SIR,

“ I have connexions who might object to our names being published, but any reference, *personal or by letter*, I will be most happy to attend to.

“ Little N——, most grateful for your attention, will attest it to any person you please to send here, and I will always thankfully acknowledge the goodness of Providence, in instructing you in the means of removing her mortifying infirmity.

“ Truly your obliged

“ M. R——.

“ Surgeon POETT.”

As I knew that the Surgeon-General, in his range of intimacy with the Nobility of the United Kingdom, was well acquainted with this family, I took the liberty of addressing him on the subject, and requested he

would allow me to use his name as a reference for the efficacy of my mode of cure. He most condescendingly and kindly authorised me to do so, and honored me with the following letter. One of the cases he alludes to is that of the young Lady I have previously mentioned :—

“ Merrion-square, Feb. 17, 1828.

“ SIR,

“ Having witnessed the complete success of your
“ method of treating Impediments of the Speech, in two in-
“ stances, I shall at all times feel great pleasure in bearing
“ testimony as to the excellence of your system.

“ I have the honor to be,

“ Sir,

“ Your obedient Servant,

“ PHILIP CRAMPTON.

“ DOCTOR POETT.”

This case clearly illustrates the merits of my discovery, and proves my plan of cure to be adapted to every age. Had it not been extremely simple, an infant of eight years of age, however gifted she might have been by nature, could hardly be suspected of having conquered, through its means, an affection which had bid defiance to the united attempts of herself and family for years before.

It is now seven months since I had the

honor of receiving the Surgeon-General's communication, and the child remains as free from any return of the impediment as when I first pronounced her cure effected; and, from the very extensive practice Mr. Cramp-ton enjoys, I apprehend that since the receipt of his obliging and valuable communication, he has witnessed additional cases of cures performed by me.

The three following cases relate to three sisters, the Misses J——, ladies of the first respectability in the North of Ireland. The eldest was 26, the second 22, and the youngest 19 years of age.

These three young ladies had been affected with the malady from their earliest years. With the difficulty of utterance, various other distressing symptoms were also complicated, such as, extreme nervousness, debility, and much mental depression. In one of them particularly, I often remarked that the attempt to speak would frequently excite a kind of spasmodic paroxysm. The force of

the circulation of the blood would, in this case, become lessened, owing probably to the whole energy of the nervous system being directed to the organs of speech; the action of every other function thus becoming in a manner more or less impeded, the vessels of her head and neck would be apparently distended with venous blood in such a manner that, but for her cure, I am convinced would, at a future period, have ended ultimately in the production of some organic disease, either in the brain, liver, heart, or lungs.

The gratitude of their friends could only be equalled by that of my fair patients themselves, who, in every word and act, seemed fully to feel the extent of their obligation, in being entirely freed from a malady which interfered with their happiness, from the earliest dawn of reason.

The following acknowledgment of those cures I had the pleasure of receiving from their near relative, **LADY HASSARD, No. 39, SUMMER-HILL, Dublin,** a Lady whose kindness is so unbounded, that she authorised me to

refer any person to her I pleased, and she would cheerfully acknowledge the foregoing statement:—

“ 39, *Summer-hill, Dublin.*

“ SIR,

“ As you do not intend to publicly mention the
 “ names of those patients whose impediments of speech you
 “ have removed, I feel pleasure in complying with your re-
 “ quest, by stating, that *three young Ladies*, relatives of mine,
 “ who laboured under a distressing impediment of speech from
 “ their infancy, have been cured by you in a few weeks; and
 “ so satisfied are their friends that the removal of the malady
 “ is fully in your power, that they intend to recommend you to
 “ any person of their acquaintance who may require your as-
 “ sistance.

“ I am, Sir,

“ Your obedient Servant,

“ ANNE HASSARD.

“ Surgeon POETT.”

On these three interesting cases I shall make a few observations. The eldest had stammered for 24 years, the second 20 years, and the youngest 17 years, and yet, in one short month, they were enabled to speak in as free and unembarrassed a manner as persons who never had experienced such a defect. So speedy and effectual a cure might at first appear incredible, if we look to the inveteracy of custom—for, supposing we had indulged in a particular habit for a num-

ber of years, would not the breaking off or overcoming of that habit be considered almost impossible, in such a short space of time? Besides, in these cases I had to contend, not only with the impediment and its accompanying spasms, but also with much nervousness and constitutional debility.

Mr. Joseph Tracy, a young gentleman, clerk in the firm of Cosgrave and Tracy, wine merchants, &c. in Cecilia-street, in this city, applied to me to remove a very unusual species of impediment with which he was afflicted for some years before. His attempts to speak were extremely distressing, and nearly rendered him unable to discharge the duties of his office. In eight days I effected his permanent and satisfactory cure, as his following letter testifies:—

“ 31, *Mabbot-street*, 16th Jan. 1828.

“ DEAR SIR,

“ Allow me to return you my most sincere and
 “ unfeigned thanks for the favor you have conferred on me,
 “ and at the same time to express the high sense I entertain of
 “ your professional skill. *I have been long and painfully*
 “ *afflicted with an affection of Stammering*, which has been
 “ effectually removed in the short space of eight days, under

“ your immediate care, and *solely by your exertions*. Accept,
 “ then, dear Sir, the eternal gratitude of

“ Your obliged and obedient Servant,

“ JOSEPH TRACY.

“ To Surgeon POETT,

“ 31, *Denzille-street*.”

This case is principally remarkable for the short time the cure occupied, it being really effected in the space of eight days, although he attended me, at my express desire, a few days longer, without manifesting the slightest tendency to a relapse. A considerable time has now elapsed, without his experiencing any difficulty whatsoever in speaking, and is performing all the out business of the firm he is engaged with, in the different banks, public offices, &c. &c. with perfect ease to himself.

In addition to Mr. Tracy's letter, I insert one which I received from Mr. Moran, of the office of *Saunders's News-Letter*, a gentleman who is well known, and whose character is highly valued by his fellow-citizens :—

“ *Saunders's News-Letter Office,*

“ *September 10th, 1828.*

“ DEAR SIR,

“ As Mr. Joseph Tracy lodged in my house
 “ for a considerable time before and during the period he was

“under your care, I had the opportunity of witnessing the
 “successful cure you performed on him, by removing, in a very
 “short time, a most unpleasant and distressing defect of Stam-
 “mering he laboured under. You are at perfect liberty to
 “add my name to the list of referees, convinced, as I am, of the
 “efficacy of your system for removing impediments of speech.

“Believe me, my dear Sir,

“Yours most truly,

“N. MORAN.

“Surgeon POETT.”

Case of Mr. Hearne, of Summer-hill, Dublin.

This young gentleman's stammer was accompanied with a painful and spasmodic affection of the muscles of his face, especially of the orbicularis palpebrarum, zygomatici, and corrugatores supercilii muscles.

Having received a very liberal education, his parents intended he should take a medical degree, hoping, like many others in a similar situation, that his hesitation would “wear off” by time. This, however, was far from being the case, and the idea of his being able to become what they sincerely wished for, was abandoned.

He was, however, placed as an apprentice with Mr. Shaw, a most eminent and highly respectable gentleman, an apothecary and

chemist, at No. 71, Great Britain-street, who, hearing of my success in removing impediments of speech, at the request of the parents of Mr. Hearne, very kindly consented to his being placed under my care. In a few weeks the young gentleman was completely cured; and his friends, perceiving that their dearest wish respecting him was realised, they resumed their former intention of professionally educating him for a Medical Doctor, and he accordingly matriculated in Trinity College, took out medical tickets for lectures, and is now studying for his degree. His letter of acknowledgment of cure I here subjoin:—

“ March 12, 1828.

“ DEAR SIR,

“ It is with infinite pleasure I take this opportunity of returning you my sincere thanks, for the great service you have rendered me, in *removing a most unpleasant impediment of speech, under which I laboured since the age of three years*, and which was increasing every day.

“ I feel perfectly confident that, by a *strict attention to your rules*, from which I derived infinite benefit from the first day I attended you, I shall never relapse, or allow the impediment to return; and I shall recommend to you any of my acquaintances who may be affected similarly, feeling perfectly confident that the removal of all *species of impediments*, whether acquired or not, are fully in your power to cure.

“ I remain, dear Sir,

“ Yours truly,

“ SAM. E. HEARNE.

“ To Surgeon POETT.”

In addition to the foregoing letter, I received one from an old and highly-respected citizen, Mr. Bambrick, of No. 6, Wellington-quay, an intimate friend of Mr. Hearne's family, residing in the County Galway.

Mr. Bambrick, knowing that Mr. Hearne was nearly a stranger in this city, has had the kindness to present me with the following letter, for which I am much obliged, and esteem it a valuable document :—

“ 6, *Wellington-quay*.

“ DEAR SIR,

“ I am very happy to certify, that a young gentleman of my acquaintance, named *Hearne*, whose address I shall give to any person calling on me, in order that he may be personally visited, was affected with a very bad impediment of speech from his infancy, and, being placed under your care, in a *short time you perfectly cured him*.

“ I am, dear Sir,

“ Yours most truly,

“ EDWARD BAMBRICK.

“ Surgeon POETT.”

William Brophy, of Killeran, Co. Westmeath.

This was a very extraordinary case. The gentleman informed me that he was afflicted since his infancy, and that his malady in-

creased as he grew up. He mentioned that at times the attempt at utterance would bring on symptoms strongly resembling a sense of *actual suffocation*. His extraordinary sensations are best described in his own words, viz.

*“ Whenever I attempted to speak, at such time
 “ my first sensation would be that of a rope
 “ closing tightly round my neck; my sight
 “ soon failed, my head reeled, and I trembled
 “ universally; and, to save myself from fall-
 “ ing, I was obliged to instantly cease making
 “ any further effort to speak, otherwise I
 “ feared I should have died in the attempt.”*

These symptoms went on gradually increasing, until the young gentleman had to relinquish a situation he enjoyed in that most respectable and extensive mercantile establishment of Messrs. Boileau and George, Bride-street, Dublin.

When he came to me he found it impossible to verbally mention his address, and actually had to write it down.

This young man returned to the country in about two months, perfectly cured; and

the following letter respecting his recovery I had the pleasure of receiving from a gentleman, a friend of his, Mr. James Moran, tobacco merchant, No. 144, Thomas-street, Dublin :—

“ 144, *Thomas-street*, 6th March, 1828.

“ SIR,

“ I hasten to inform you, that I have received a letter this morning from Master Brophy’s friend, approving of your astonishing and very successful cure. Astonishing, indeed, it must be to those persons who were acquainted with him previous to his becoming a pupil of yours, when *he could not articulate a syllable* without giving pain to his hearers and the *utmost distress to himself*, and now he can converse on any subject.

“ I am, Sir,

“ Yours very sincerely,

“ JAMES MORAN.

“ Surgeon POETT.”

Samuel Whitmore, aged twenty-two, Castle comer, Co. Kilkenny.

This gentleman laboured from his infancy under an embarrassing impediment. Whenever he attempted to speak, his eyes and tongue became affected with convulsive twitchings; he was also so extremely sensitive, that the very sight of another Stammerer was sufficient to throw him into a state of

great nervousness. He could not be induced, whilst under cure with me, to remain in a room with a new patient, so that he was obliged to be provided with a separate apartment.

Some will require the utmost lenity and indulgence, in complying with their wishes, whilst others, on the contrary, must be treated with determination; but in his case I found it necessary to pursue the former line of conduct.

After a moderate course of tonics, and the application of other remedies, I succeeded in sending him home in six weeks cured. The following is his acknowledgment:—

“ Cavendish-row, 8th March, 1828.

“ DEAR SIR,

“ I feel much happiness in acknowledging that
 “ by pursuing your directions, I have been cured by you of a
 “ distressing impediment of speech, attended with a *spasmodic*
 “ *motion of my eyes*, in the short space of six weeks. I am
 “ now returning home (to Castlecomer, County Kilkenny),
 “ and I shall always feel happy in vouching to the above, and
 “ recommending you any other person afflicted as I was, being
 “ *convinced* it is fully in your power to remove such affections.

“ I am, dear Sir,

“ Very truly yours,

“ SAM. T. WHITMORE.

“ To Surgeon POETT.”

John Birmingham, aged eleven years, Milbrook, County Galway.

This young gentleman was brought to me from the above County, and came to my house, accompanied by his father, and a most respectable resident of Dublin, Mr. Jennings, of Gloucester-street. The boy was *totally unable to read*, and he spoke *very unintelligibly*. Although a young lad, he was enabled, by the means of a good natural capacity, to avail himself, in the fullest manner, of the practical benefit of my system, and in one month he was perfectly cured.

The following letter I received from his father, a short time after his return to Galway:—

“ Milbrook, Co. Galway, 6th April, 1828.

“ MY DEAR SIR,

*“ I would have written to you before this period, but waiting for Doctor Little’s return from Cork, where he has been for the last month. On his arrival at Tuam I lost no time in calling on him. He examined John, both in reading and speaking, and seemed much *pleased* and *surprised* at his sudden recovery, and the Doctor has no objection that you would refer to him.*

“ John still continues to observe your directions, and I am

"glad to say he is going on well. He desires to be most
 "kindly remembered to you.

"Believe me, my dear Sir,

"Yours truly,

"EDW. BIRMINGHAM.

"Surgeon POETT."

A few weeks afterwards I had the pleasure of receiving the following unsolicited letter from Doctor Prendergast, of Tuam, a gentleman with whom I had not any previous acquaintance. Such a letter, coming from so eminent and respectable a practitioner as Doctor Prendergast, flatters me very much, and for which I am extremely obliged:—

"Tuam, 22d April, 1828.

"SIR,

"I have just visited young Birmingham, of
 "Milbrook, who was a patient of mine for some months previous to his being placed under your care. During my attendance upon him, *so great was the hesitation of his speech*, that he was almost *unintelligible*, so that in fact it was *through the medium of his mother* I could ascertain the nature of his disease.

"I was, therefore, highly gratified, indeed I must confess astonished beyond measure, at finding him so completely cured, that he spoke and read for me *distinctly and articulately*.

"From your success in this case in particular, I look upon

“ the infallibility of your system proved beyond all question—
 “ a system which must be considered as one of the greatest dis-
 “ coveries of ancient or modern times, and one which must
 “ secure for you (if the discoverer) a place in the ranks of
 “ those who, by their genius, have rendered their names im-
 “ mortal.

“ You should have had this communication from me sooner,
 “ but that whenever Mr. Birmingham brought in his son to me,
 “ I was unfortunately away on my professional duties. You
 “ are at liberty to make any use you please of this letter, and
 “ to add my name to the list of your referees.

“ I have the honor to be,

“ Your very humble Servant,

“ JOHN PRENDERGAST, M.D.

“ Surgeon POETT.”

Miss J. C—, County Carlow.

This young lady, aged twenty, was afflicted with an impediment in her speech, of a very melancholy nature, since it not only obliged her to withdraw from society and the pleasures of social intercourse, but was also militating against her general health.

Some time after the completion of her cure she candidly informed me, that during the existence of the malady which the Almighty had visited her with, she utterly despaired of

ever enjoying a ray of happiness here below, and looked forward with anxiety to the moment when she should be removed to another world, where all her cares would have a final termination, and that it was more to gratify her relations and friends, than from any hope of being cured, that she came to Dublin and claimed my assistance.

However, in five weeks this young lady's complaint was perfectly removed, and she became enabled to enter and partake of all the gay and elegant society which this city affords, and in about two months returned to the country. I have since been told by many of her friends, that it was utterly impossible to discover that she ever had been the victim of so distressing an affection.

Previous to the young lady's leaving town, she favoured me with the following letter:—

“ Earl-street, Dublin, 30th July, 1828.

“ DEAR SIR,

“ Allow me to return you my most sincere
 “ thanks for the service you have rendered me, in removing a
 “ distressing impediment of speech, with which I was affected

“ from my infancy, and from which I am now, thank God, perfectly freed.

“ Believe me, I shall always feel happy at having it in my power to be of any service to you, and remain,

“ Dear Sir,

“ Yours very sincerely,

“ J. C——.

“ Surgeon POETT.”

For the accuracy of this case, I am authorised to refer to Thomas Francis Comyn, Esq., of Hollywell, Ennistymon, a respectable Magistrate of the County Clare.

Master J. Malone, aged ten years.

In this case the impediment was accompanied by spasmodic twitchings of the muscles of the mouth and face. He also had some tendency to spasm of the muscles of the throat, and I doubt not, if the affection had continued some few years longer, but it would have laid the foundation of some fatal disease. His progress towards recovery was not the less rapid, for *in three weeks* I was enabled to pronounce his *cure complete*.

As I entertained some fears lest this child

should relapse, from the extreme susceptibility of his nervous system, I kept him in attendance upon me for some time longer; but during the entire of this period, he never manifested the slightest hesitation, either while he read or spoke.

I had the pleasure of receiving the following acknowledgment of cure from his father, a gentleman of the law profession:—

“ William-street, Dublin.

“ MY DEAR SIR,

“ My son being now completely cured of the
“ impediment of speech with which he was so long and so severely affected, I cannot avoid expressing my grateful acknowledgments, for the great skill and attention with which his
“ case has been treated.

“ As the child (now aged between nine and ten years) had
“ laboured under this defect for nearly *seven years* prior to
“ his being placed under your care, and as, in spite of every
“ effort made, by myself and others, it was daily increasing,
“ until at length it became quite painful to witness his attempts
“ at utterance, I had given up in despair all hopes of ever
“ seeing him cured, or indeed relieved in that respect, and sat
“ down under the conviction that he was by it disqualified from
“ filling many situations in life, in one of which I might have
“ been enabled to place him.

“ Thus circumstanced, at the pressing entreaty of his mother
“ and several friends, I was induced to place him under your
“ care, more, I confess, in accordance to their wishes, than from

“ any hope I entertained of his deriving any material benefit
 “ from your exertions.

“ The result has proved that it is not right to be pertina-
 “ ciously attached to our own opinion, for I have now the satis-
 “ faction of seeing the great barrier removed to the boy’s ad-
 “ vancement in life, whereas, had I acted on my own opinion,
 “ he, although possessed of some abilities, would have been
 “ effectually shut out from filling any public situation, profes-
 “ sional or otherwise.

“ I fear you will think I have been too prolix, but as I for-
 “ bore from expressing myself on the subject, *while a doubt*
 “ *remained as to the cure being perfect*, so I should now
 “ consider myself most ungrateful, in longer delaying the ex-
 “ pression of my admiration of your skill, and my thankfulness
 “ for the great attention with which you applied it to the ef-
 “ fectual cure of my son, during the very short time he has
 “ been under your care.

“ I remain, dear Sir,

“ Yours truly,

“ J. E. MALONE.

“ Surgeon POETT.”

William F. Graham, Esq., aged twenty-six,
No. 40, French-street, Dublin.

This gentleman is a most respectable at-
 torney, and his hesitation having operated
 very much against his professional pursuits,
 he found it absolutely necessary for his
 advancement in life, to have it removed.—
 Although he heard of my name early in the

year, yet he very prudently deferred placing himself under my care, until he could ascertain that I had performed decided cures.— Having made diligent inquiries respecting my capabilities, which appearing satisfactory, he commenced with me in April last, and I am happy to assert that he was perfectly cured in *one month*.

Mr. Graham very obligingly sent the following acknowledgment, with permission to use his name in any manner that could be the means of serving me. Indeed this gentleman, with a degree of philanthropy highly creditable to his character, added, that he conceived it but a duty due by him to his fellow-creatures, who might labour under the same affliction, to give the utmost publicity to his cure :—

“ 40, French-street, 10th August, 1828.

“ MY DEAR SIR,

“ I beg leave to make my warm acknowledgments,
 “ and to return you my best thanks, for the kind and unremit-
 “ ting attentions paid me when under your care, for the pur-
 “ pose of curing the impediment of speech under which I had
 “ laboured from my childhood.

“ That those professional attentions of years have been won-

“derfully successful, all my friends, as well as myself, are
 “willing to testify. I am now, and ever since I left your care,
 “*enabled to speak perfectly free, firm, distinct and unem-*
 “*barrassed*—quite free from stoppage, or *impediment of any*
 “*kind*. The names of those friends which I have specified
 “underneath,* you are perfectly welcome to make whatever
 “use you please of, in the way of reference; and I myself shall
 “shall be at all times ready to bear testimony to the *success of*
 “*your system*, and to the unremission of those exertions by
 “which I have been so materially benefitted.

“Ever, my dear Sir,

“Yours truly,

“W. T. GRAHAM.

“Surgeon POETT.

* “William M'Dermot, 43, French-street, Dublin; Mrs.
 “Graham, Mullingar, County Westmeath; James Kirkland,
 “Esq. of Hermitage, County Longford.”

A gentleman, a senior sophister of Trinity College, was with me at the same time with Mr. Graham. Their species of impediment being the same, I made a similar cure of both. I am not authorised to mention his name, but received the permission of a friend of his to refer to him as to the efficacy of my mode of cure. The gentleman who was so kind as to thus become one of my referees is **MAJOR KIRWAN, OF CASTLE HACKETT, COUNTY GALWAY.**

Mr. Edward Coughlan, of Belville, County

Carlow, aged twenty-five, called upon me about the commencement of May last, to ascertain could I remove a very distressing impediment of speech, under which he had laboured from his infancy. He informed me that about two years before he had proceeded to England, and placed himself under the care of a gentleman professing to remove such defects; that by him he had been obliged to reside in his house, and under his immediate care, for five months, at the end of which time he had been dismissed, as if effectually cured, but that he had scarcely arrived in Ireland *until he relapsed*. This gentleman's name he mentioned to me in confidence, and added, that if my system of cure was in any degree similar to his, which obliged the patient to make the most extraordinary and fatiguing exertions that the human frame could possibly be forced to, he would not, for any consideration, place himself under my care. I assured him my mode of cure was so easy and simple, that it had been successfully applied, in numerous cases, to children, of the most tender age and delicate constitution, and did not, therefore, re-

quire the least bodily exertion. He, however, I suspect, had not fully made up his mind, doubting, in all probability, my capability of fulfilling my promises, a circumstance not at all to be wondered at, when we consider how seriously he had suffered in England.

However, in the commencement of July he called on me a second time, having been particularly recommended to do so by Surgeon Kirby, of Harcourt-street, for whose kind and generous support of my system, from the earliest period of its discovery, I can never be sufficiently grateful, and I here take the opportunity of returning him my most sincere thanks, not only for his assistance in this particular, but also for the numerous acts of kindness which he has conferred on me, during a period of near twenty years.

Dr. Kirby, on examination, having discovered that Mr. Coughlan's impediment was of such a spasmodic nature as might, if not relieved in time, ultimately terminate his existence, by inducing some organic lesion,

he recommended him to lose no time in making the application to me, which directions he immediately followed, and the result was, that in less than eight days his impediment was removed. However, I prevailed on the gentleman to remain a short time longer in town, with which he complied, but no tendency to a relapse appearing, he returned home cured, and I am persuaded that, by observing and keeping in recollection my directions, he never can stammer in future.

In compliance with my request, Mr. Kirby favored me with the following letter:—

“Harcourt-street, Sept. 19, 1828.

“DEAR SIR,

“I perfectly recollect that a Mr. Coughlan, of Carlow, called on me early in July last, to ascertain your character and capability of curing impediments of speech. Upon examination I perceived he was a very bad, spasmodic stammerer, and I recommended that he should place himself under your care.

“The following week he called on me a second time, and correctly and deliberately thanked me for recommending you to him, and stated, that he had been afflicted from his infancy with a defect of utterance; that two years ago he was for five months under cure, and living in the house of a person in England who professed to remove impediments of speech, but that he had scarcely arrived in Ireland when he relapsed, and became as bad a stammerer as before.

“ Perceiving that he was cured, I told him to return home,
 “ to punctually observe your directions, and he never could
 “ stammer in future.

“ I remain,

“ Yours very truly,

“ J. KIRBY.”

Mr. Coughlan also sent me his acknowledgment of cure, as follows, viz. :—

“ *Belville, Carlow, Sept. 23, 1828.*

“ MY DEAR SIR,

“ I have had an impediment of speech since I
 “ was a child, but from the first day I put myself under your
 “ I derived such manifest benefit, that not only my friends but
 “ myself were much surprised.

“ I had been under the care of a person in England for five
 “ months, but did not receive the relief I have experienced by
 “ your mode of treatment; and by adhering to your directions,
 “ I shall always be able to speak as well as any person who
 “ never had a stammer.

“ You are at liberty to place my name amongst the many
 “ referees you have in your catalogue, and, if necessary, I can
 “ get many friends to vouch for the excellence of your talents,
 “ so ably evinced in my cure; but I imagine that the person
 “ who actually received the benefit of them would be the best
 “ to refer to.

“ I am, dear Sir,

“ Very truly yours,

“ EDW. COUGHLAN.

“ To Surgeon POETT, 31, *Denzille-street.*”

**In submitting the following letter from
 C. Roney, Esq., A.B. T.C.D. President of**

the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, I feel more than ordinary pleasure to find that my mode of cure has met the approbation of so eminent a gentleman :—

“ 40, *Great Dominick-street*, Sept. 29, 1828.

“ MY DEAR SIR,

“ In reply to your note, asking my opinion as to the advantage of your system for removing impediments of speech, I think it but justice to you to say, from what came under my observation, your successful treatment of the distressing malady, I cannot refrain from giving it my unqualified approbation.

“ In one case in particular, the son of a most intimate medical friend of mine, who was placed under your care, has received the most decided advantage, and, from being nearly unable to make himself understood, he can now, in consequence of your treatment, speak most fluently. From this case, as well as some others I have seen, I think your system of cure most excellent and judicious; and, with these impressions, you are at perfect liberty to make any reference to me.

“ I am, my dear Sir,

“ Very faithfully yours,

“ C. RONEY.”

“ Mr. POETT, Surgeon.”

The following letter from Doctor Stratten, lecturer on the practice of medicine, chemistry, &c. &c., I received in consequence of an application which I made to him as to his opinion of the efficacy of my system, a medi-

cal gentleman, a pupil of his, having been cured by me, who had previously laboured under a most distressing impediment:—

“ Dublin, 19, William-street, Sept. 10, 1828.

“ MY DEAR SIR,

“ Having witnessed a very successful cure
“ you performed on one of my pupils, who was affected with a
“ very bad impediment of speech, I cannot but give my decided
“ approval of your excellent mode of treating the disease. You
“ are at perfect liberty to add my name to your list of referees.

“ I am, my dear Sir,

“ Yours truly,

“ SAMUEL STRATTEN.

“ To J. POETT, Esq., Surgeon.”

The last case which I shall here beg leave to offer, is that of a young gentleman, who had an impediment of a distressing nature. The very idea of the word he wished to utter threw him into a state of spasm, closely bordering upon an entire suspension of the respiratory functions. He was placed under my care, by the desire of that highly-talented and eminent physician, Doctor Marsh, who obligingly honored me with the following letter and enclosure:—

“ 24, Molesworth-street, Dublin, Sept. 26, 1828.

“ DEAR SIR,

“ I beg to send you the enclosed certificate,
“ which, but for the hurry of business, I should have sooner

“ sent you. I feel much pleasure in bearing testimony, in the
 “ most unqualified manner, to your great success in the treat-
 “ ment of the case, apparently a most unpromising one, which,
 “ under my recommendation, was placed under your care.

“ I remain, dear Sir,

“ Very truly yours,

“ H. MARSH.”

“ ‘ A young gentleman, aged fifteen years, was brought to me
 “ ‘ by one of his relatives. He laboured under an impedi-
 “ ‘ ment in his speech, so great that I could scarcely under-
 “ ‘ stand what was uttered by him, and his attempts to read
 “ ‘ were painful to witness. Upon my recommendation he was
 “ ‘ placed under the care of Surgeon Poett, of Denzille-street,
 “ ‘ with whom he remained for two months. At the end of that
 “ ‘ time this young gentleman visited me. I was surprised and
 “ ‘ pleased to find that he conversed with me, and read with me,
 “ ‘ with ease to himself, and without the slightest impediment.

“ ‘ H. MARSH,

“ ‘ Molesworth-street.’ ”

Having concluded this detail of cases, perhaps it may not be amiss to offer a few observations on the affection. Although developed in different ways, in different individuals, its essential nature is still the same in all, so that, however stammerers may appear to differ in form, feature, disposition, mode of delivery, &c., you will, nevertheless,

be enabled to trace among them many things in common. Thus we find in them the same excitability of mind, the same rapidity of thought, and the same convulsive efforts at delivery.

Particular varieties will be, however, observable in each individual case, some, for instance, during the effort to overcome the obstruction, will be sympathetically affected in one way, others in another. These peculiarities require for their treatment the particular exercise of the judgment and skill of the practitioner. Still the general rule holds good, that all Stammerers may be said to resemble, more or less, each other.

One of the most remarkable idiosyncracies to be met with among Stammerers "*en masse*," is a peculiarly limited disposal of the nervous system, especially where the vascular apparatus is concerned, preventing the voluntary powers being directed with a strong impulse to any one object, without the vessels of the head, the heart, or lungs suffering, in proportion, a greater or lesser degree of debility.

Thus, for instance, the sudden shutting or opening of a door will so much abstract the vital energy of a nervous person to the occasion of the alarm, that the action of the heart will become interfered with. The nervous energy being for the moment withdrawn from that organ, venous blood accumulates in the right auricle of the heart; its action is interrupted, and the process of respiration for a time put a stop to. This generally occasions such a shock, that the powers of the mind become in a manner restored to their proper balance of power. In such a case the action of the heart will only be interrupted for a short time, which is manifested by a few inordinate efforts, called palpitations, to get rid of the overplus of blood. But if the cause of alarm be great and continued, or the susceptibility of the mind extreme, the abstraction of the vital stimulus of the heart still continues, and nature becoming unable, under such circumstances, to keep up the proper exercise of the functions, syncope or fainting is the result.

In a similar, although in a slighter man-

ner, is the Stammerer affected when about to speak. In many cases the idea of the approaching apprehended difficulty of utterance is so strong, and occupies the powers of the mind with such a degree of intensity, as to seriously interfere with the action of the involuntary power. Hence we may easily account for the palpitations, quivering of the lips, trembling of the limbs, &c. &c., with which Stammerers are so frequently affected previous to their commencing the attempt at speaking. I have known cases where the very idea of it soon coming to their turn to read or speak was sufficient to render respiration so extremely difficult as to be actually distressing to witness.

Mr. Brophy's case, page 27, is a good illustration of the truth of these observations. He has often declared that he would be frequently obliged to cease all effort at utterance, lest the accompanying feelings of strangulation and approaching insensibility would actually occasion his death.

Without wishing it to be thought that I

place implicit confidence in the doctrines of Spurzheim, (the truth of whose system has not as yet been entirely established,) I do imagine that all Stammerers in a manner more or less resemble each other, in the conformation of their minds, upon this particular point. I could detect, in all my patients, the same hasty conception, or outstripping of their own powers, attended with such a weakness of mind on this subject, as nothing but the strongest efforts of their reasoning faculties could enable them to overcome.

It is certainly surprising with what obstinacy some will continue to do that which gives them so much uneasiness, even long *after they are put in possession of the way in which they may avoid it.* This, therefore, confirms me in the opinion, that those mental functions which regulate and direct the organs of voice and speech, and which arrange and transmit ideas, are weaker in Stammerers than in other individuals, and that in many cases the *speediness of the cure* depends on the *greater or lesser* degree of power enjoyed by the Stammerer in this faculty.

There are very few Stammerers who do not look upon their malady with mingled feelings of contempt and fear. Sometimes, in the moments of excitement, they will in a manner rise superior to its influence; but something or other invariably reminds them of their weakness, and then, sinking beneath the stings of wounded feeling, they will at such times give themselves up to the most melancholy despondency. In vain will philosophy, or even religion, yield them, in many cases, either comfort or content. The idea of their inferiority, in this respect, to the rest of mankind, has, to my own certain knowledge, followed them all day like a shadow, and at night haunted them even in their dreams. In such temperaments, every hope of pleasure, every fear of anticipated evil, becomes in a manner blended with the idea of their infirmity. They look on themselves as peculiar objects of affliction, and, in proportion as they may be distinguished for rank, wealth, talent, or education, will the misfortune appear great, which they consider isolates them from a free converse with the rest of mankind.

Those interested in the nature of impediments of speech, cannot but have frequently observed the efforts the Stammerer will make to effect the utterance of the impeded word. This, (during the effort,) he is unable to accomplish; but, when reduced to a state of comparative exhaustion, then and then only, does he become enabled to pronounce that word which had occasioned him so much previous labour. This may be explained as follows:—

During the effort to speak, the voluntary powers are directed in so forcible a manner to the pronunciation of the word, as to seriously interfere with those powers that are involuntary. The consequence is, that at every such attempt the person, far from being enabled to articulate, becomes incapacitated even from a much more simple act which might require any effort of the will. *Let it not be supposed, however, that I want to assert that this alone is what is called the proximate cause of stammering; far from it. Such a state of the system might be produced without any stammer being made; and also,*

one might stammer without the existence of any such state. I merely make this remark, inasmuch as I conceive that accompanying the impediment there is generally induced an unequal distribution of the nervous power, which occurs in the manner I have here described.

The Stammerer, then, in his forcible attempts at enunciation, having reduced himself to a state of extreme exhaustion, the powers of his will become abstracted from the object towards which they had been so forcibly directed. The good effect of this is immediately conspicuous, as he becomes *ipso facto* enabled to utter the word quite free, and with perfect ease to himself, which never could have been done whilst the two powers, voluntary and involuntary, were in even balance opposing each other. Another peculiarity common to stammering is the dread those afflicted have of not being able to pronounce certain words or letters. In some cases, this is so great, as to induce them to resort to any subterfuge, however painful, or distressing to their feelings, sooner

than attempt the enunciation of that particular word or letter, which they conceive themselves unable to effect.

In such cases it may generally be observed, that at some former period the persons so affected had, in a moment of haste, or more than ordinary excitement, stammered on that particular word or letter he afterwards conceives himself unable to express.

It is a circumstance such as this that usually generates the difficulty, for I am sure it is unnecessary to assure the reader, that there is no real reason why a person should not pronounce one word as easily as another.

There is no system, however perfect, but may be at times abused, and so fail in its application. This observation applies to the merit of every useful discovery. However anxious, therefore, stammerers in general are to get rid of their defect, and willing to co-operate with you in your exertions to remove it, still I am obliged to confess that

there are many, with minds so weak and vacillating, that every effort to make them sensible of the necessity for their setting their own shoulders to the wheel is only so much time and trouble thrown away by the practitioner. With such individuals the merit of my system must in a manner be obscured, not because it is deficient in *se*, or inadequate to effect their cure, but because such people can never be brought to apply it to their own cases. Like the countryman in the fable, they are loud enough in their invocations for extraneous aid, but not at all inclined to co-operate with the practitioner, by making the necessary exertion themselves.

Hence I am obliged to be extremely particular in the examination of my patients before I consent to receive them, for if, through stupidity, carelessness, or a disposition entirely given up to sensual pleasure, they make no exertion to apply the knowledge they may receive to the removal of their affection, all my exertions become nugatory, and the risk incurred of an undeserved odium being at-

tached to my character, and the merit of my discovery.

Hence it may be seen, that in order to insure a perfect cure, it is necessary that the patient should not only have a strong desire for the removal of his defect, but also that he possess some degree of capacity, not, however, more than might be met with in a child of eight or nine years, as is seen in the cases of Miss R——, page 17, and Master Malone, page 35.

In closing these observations, I conceive it necessary to state, for the information of the public, that the regulations I have laid down, concerning the attendance of my patients, differ most materially from the mode hitherto adopted by all those who may have preceded me in the cure of impediments of speech.

It is required by many who profess to remove the affection, that their patients must reside and board in their house during the process of their cure, at an additional expense; besides, those gentlemen not being

able to guarantee a certain cure, they make no promise to return their fee in case of a failure.

The attendance which I require is, on the contrary, extremely short, the patient being merely obliged to remain at my house between the hours of twelve and three daily, for a few weeks, and frequently only for a few days. I also bind myself in a legal document to return my fee if the cure be not satisfactorily accomplished. My prescriptions are handed to my patients, in order that they may be prepared by their respective apothecaries. An operation is seldom indicated, but, when required, the cure is instantaneous.

Before I conclude, I think it necessary to state, that although I had been in full possession of the different modes of cure adopted by many persons, professing to remove defective utterance, in the United Kingdom, still, having found them, on trial, totally inadequate to cure the affection, I was induced to commence a course of anatomical, physiolo-

gical, and pathological researches, connected with the subject.

The result of my labors exceeded my most sanguine expectations, in as much as I have been enabled, within the last eight months, to bring this important discovery to the fullest perfection. I would also beg leave to observe, that the cure of every case now submitted to the public has been effected within that limited period.

It may now be required from me to state, why I withhold from the public the whole nature of my discovery, and the peculiar method of cure I have adopted.

That such a sacrifice should not be expected from me, every candid gentleman must allow, when he is informed that I have now confined my practice *exclusively to the removal of impediments of speech*; and that, from the comparative small number of those that are thus affected, were my system made public, it would seriously militate against my interest. Numbers would then start up, and

leave nothing to the discoverer but an empty name, and the melancholy reflection, that, by a premature and ill-advised promulgation of a system which might otherwise have liberally re-paid the time, trouble, and expense it cost him in bringing it to perfection, he threw away every hope it was calculated to inspire, and sacrificed to a foolish ambition the welfare of himself and family.

FINIS.

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