An appendix to A treatise on the hydrocele : containing additional proofs of the efficacy of injection for the cure of that disease / by James Earle.

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Publication/Creation

London : Printed for J. Johnson, 1793.

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AN APPENDIX

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TO A

TREATISE

ON THE

HYDROCELE:

CONTAINING

ADDITIONAL PROOFS OF THE EFFICACY OF INJECTION FOR THE CURE OF THAT DISEASE,

By JAMES EARLE, Efq.

SURGEON EXTRAORDINARY TO HIS MAJESTY'S HOUSEHOLD, AND SENIOR SURGEON TO ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR J. JOHNSON, ST. PAUL'S CHURCH YARD.

1793.

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APPENDIX,

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SINCE the publication of my Treatife on the Hydrocele many other inftances have occurred in which the means of cure by injection have been employed—conceiving it to be a duty incumbent on every one, who advances an opinion which interefts the health and eafe of mankind, to bring forward every information respecting it, which experience produces, until its appropriate value be completely afcertained, I have thought proper to print the following cafes.—As they are merely intended to exemplify and ftrengthen the ar-

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guments which I have before fully stated, I shall proceed to relate them without further preface or apology.

CASE XXXI.

JUNE 26, 1791. A gentleman who had fuffered much in his own perfon by the operation of incifion for the cure of a Hydrocele, having been confined by it nearly fix months, defired me to fee his nephew, about nine years of age, who had a complaint of that kind. It was for fo young a fubject very large, the fac very thin and transparent. I was informed by his father that it had been emptied in the country, that it had filled again in a few days, and that in a fortnight it was as large as ever. This account was confirmed by the furgeon who performed the operation: the shortness of the time in which the water had re-accure-accumulated appeared extraordinary, and very different from the common Hydrocele, which ufually is filled by fmall, and often by fcarcely perceptible degrees. Not long before, I had feen a complaint in a boy of about the fame age, in which there was fome fimilarity of circumstances with the prefent cafe, and which an attempt had been made to cure by incision, but it filled again; after which it was fimply let out by a trochar, and the water returned in a very fhort time. This was fuppofed to happen from a communication with the abdomen, by which opening moisture, collected within the peritoneal lining of the abdomen, was faid to drop down into the tunica vaginalis teftis, and thus again quickly to diftend it. Though I had not an opportunity of being completely fatisfied of the nature of that cafe, I thought probably this arofe from a fimilar cause, whatever that might be; at least it

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was evident that there were fome peculiarities attending it, and therefore, though preffed to perform the operation of injection, I declined doing it at first, and advised the fimple evacuation, to give me an opportunity of observing the manner of its refilling, and alfo of taking it at a more favourable period, when it should not be fo much diftended. Accordingly I let out a confiderable quantity of a straw-coloured fluid, and found the teffis in a good flate. The next day fome water was palpably collected, and in two days after, there was a confiderable quantity-in lefs than a fortnight it was nearly as large as when I let it out. These circumftances being new, and as I had not performed it on fo young a perfon, I thought proper to mention them to his friends, and not to give positive or even fanguine hopes of fuccess. When the operation was refolved on, he caught the measles, which obliged us to defer

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it. July 25, he was fufficiently recovered to undergo it; accordingly I let out the water, and introduced the injection of nearly the ufual ftrength. He complained of fome, but not violent pain, for a few minutes. In fix minutes it was discharged; in the evening a fmall degree of inflammation had taken place on the part; the following day it was increafed in fize equal to what it was before it was emptied. The little patient had a perfectly good night, and had not felt any pain fince the operation. As he was becoming rather heated, though, as I conceive, more from the irritability of conftitution, which he derived from the meafles, of which he was just recovered, than from the inflammation of the part, which was moderate and perfectly indolent, a clyfter and fome faline draughts were administered. In the evening he was cooler and perfectly eafy, the part rather more swelled, but without pain or

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apparent

apparent inflammation. The third day from the operation it continued to increase, and the whole fcrotum was confiderably tumefied, and feemed aggravated by the fever, which ftill continued. I could not but look on the fever as independent of the complaint, as there was no inflammation or pain attending which could caufe it. The 4th day the fever was much better, and the fwelling began to diminish, and so continued in a gradual state of subsidence. On the 7th it was evidently much diminished, and in a fortnight was reduced to little more than the previous diftention of the tunic might be fupposed to produce-he foon after got well enough to be fent to school. November 9th, his father affured me he continued well; I have feen him fince, and he remains perfectly free from any veftige of a Hydrocele.

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CASE XXXII.

AUGUST 4, 1791, I injected the Hydrocele of a young man of the family of his Grace the Duke of B. which I had once previoufly evacuated, and had fuffered to gain a moderate fize. He felt some pain during about half an hour, in the afternoon-in the evening was perfectly eafy; a flight inflammation had feized the part, which was increafed the next morning, attended with fome fwelling, but no pain. It went on as ufual, and though the man took improper liberties in using great exercise, particularly by running up and down stairs very early after the operation, no accident occurred, and he got perfectly well.

(10)

CASE XXXIII.

OCTOBER 28, 1791, I was defired to fee a gentleman in Artillery-Place, who had a very large Hydrocele, of the caufe of which he gave the following account: that he was afleep in his bed-room up two pair of ftairs, when he was alarmed with his houfe being on fire; he ran to the window and opened it, at the inftant a large quantity of fpirit of turpentine below flairs took fire, and made a violent explosion; excessively terrified, and fcarcely awake, he threw himfelf out of the window, and fell into the road. Though bruised and injured in the greatest degree in many parts of his body, limbs, and face, he miraculoufly recovered. Soon after he was able to move about, he perceived a fwelling in the fcrotum, which increased to a great degree, and formed a Hydrocele. This, at different periods, he had fuffered to be evacuated

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cuated fix times. Tired of the continuance of fo great an inconvenience, he wished to have a radical cure performed, and difapproving of the ufual methods, he preferred the mode by injection. It had now been collecting nine months, and was fo large that I doubted of the fuccefs, but as I had fucceeded in one of greater magnitude, and he was defirous to try it, I was induced to make the attempt. He was of a fallow unhealthy complexion, having never perfectly recovered of his internal bruifes; and I was informed that he was of a very irritable habit, and had always felt great pain after the fimple evacuation. I therefore prepared the injection much more diluted than ufual. I let out above three half pints of a greenish fluid, and returned a large quantity of injection. He now complained of confiderable pain leading up toward the kidney on the fame fide, but he faid little more than he had been accustomed to feel from fimple 128.6

fimple evacuation. After detaining the in4 jection the ufual time he was put to bed; as he still continued to feel pain; an opiate was given. However, as I afterwards learned, he grew fick, as was his cuftom after the fimple evacuation, and brought up the opiate, fo that its effect was loft, and as it was not repeated, his pain continued. In about three hours it left him; he paffed a good afternoon and an eafy night; the next day I found him with the fcrotum confiderably enlarged and tumefied, but perfectly eafy .- The following day it was more enlarged, being more than half the fize before the water was evacuated. On the 4th day, as I had left him fo well the day before, I miffed feeing him; but on the 5th, I found that he had been feized with ficknefs, a complaint to which he was very fubject, and had vomited inceffantly for two hours, notwithstanding every affistance from his very intelligent apothecary. He was languid, the

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part was confiderably more fwelled, and he felt a pain in the chord leading toward the kidney and bladder. It was however, on the whole, much better than could have been expected from fuch violent efforts of straining. A stool. was procured by a clyfter, and the next day he was better, the tumor nearly the fame, November 10, he still complained of pain in the chord, which was harder, and had partaken more of the inflammation than ufual, owing to the violence of vomiting, and the whole tumour continued very large. 11th, The gentleman informed me that it was certainly diminishing. On enquiring why he fpoke fo politively, he informed me that when it was at the largest he had measured it by a rule, when it was in length feven inches and a half by fixteen inches in circumference, that now it was fix inches and a half in length; and afterwards it continued to leffen daily near half an inch in length, and fomething more

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in diameter. Thus by line and rule we were fatisfied that the fize of the tumour arofe from inflammation only, and not from accumulating fluid. 16th November, it was leffened to four inches and a half by ten; in about a week after it fubfided to lefs than three inches; foon after he got perfectly well, and has continued ever fince free from any fresh collection. This is an inftance of the impropriety of performing the operation on a Hydrocele when fo much diftended. I was induced to do it by the defire of the patient, but it is better to take an opportunity when it is fmaller, as the quantity of inflammation, and the continuance of it, is generally in proportion to the fize.

CASE XXXIV,

OCTOBER 30, 1791, A gentleman from a diftant county shewed me a Hydrocele, with

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an intention of fubmitting to a radical cure; but as it was remarkably large, and had not before been evacuated, I perfuaded him to have it fimply let out, and to wait till it fhould fill again to a more moderate fize. At the instant when the trochar was passed in, he jerked back with fuch velocity as to pull it out again, by which means only a part of the water was drawn off, fo that there was not fufficient to admit of any other operation, nor was it totally emptied. Nothing remarkable appeared in the fluid which came away, and it was determined that the radical cure fhould be performed when more fhould be collected. He went into the country, and returned February 11, 1792. The tumor was not quite fo large as before, and in every refpect a good fubject for the operation which it was agreed to perform. As he appeared to be of a difpofition timorous and eafily fusceptible of alarm, and as he had given me the flip on the former

occasion.

(15)

occafion, with a view to effectually fecure him, he was laid on a bed. The trochar was then fairly paffed in, the water all drawn off, and thus the most difficult part of the operation being over, no doubt was entertained of the completion of it. Accordingly I began to throw in the injection; the first fyringe full was nearly thrown in, when he faid, he felt a pain, and being greatly alarmed, he contrived to draw himfelf backward with velocity on the bed. When he was quiet I attempted to throw in more, but foon perceived that what paffed from the fyringe did not fill the fac; it was now evident that in the effort which he had made he had forced the canula out of the fac, and it was in vain to endeavour to throw in more. This was an embarraffing circumstance, however the only thing which remained to be done, was to get it out again both from the fac and also what was diffused in the cellular membrane of the fcrotum,

fcrotum, left by remaining it fhould do mifchief by raifing an inflammation, as was mentioned to have happened in Cafe No. XXI. Accordingly I preffed it out of the fac, and it formed a fmall fwelling at the lower part of the fcrotum; this I opened with the point of a lancet, and emptied as accurately as I was able, by taking great pains, and repeated preffure, which was neceffary, as it was not in one cavity, but diffused through the cells: this was continued till it became nearly of the fize of the other teftis. I then left it, much doubting if fufficient had been thrown into the fac to complete the cure. In the evening he complained of a good deal of pain in his back. In a few days the fcrotum became moderately tumefied, and the teftis appeared enlarged-a fign that fome injection had entered. The inflammation continued moderate, both in the teftis and fcrotum; he got up the third day, and was free from

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pain,

pa'n, but the part was very tender on being touched; the teftis gradually fubfided, but a flough took place in the lower part of the dartos, where the injection had been, which by degrees came away; and what appeared to be part of the tunica vaginalis, followed by the fame wound, which foon after contracted and healed, and he got perfectly well .-- I have thought proper to mention this cafe fully, that, fhould fuch accident again occur, we may be aware of it, and endeavour to avoid the effect of it, by getting out as much of the injection as poffible; if it had been fuffered to remain, the inflammation and floughs would have been much more extensive and mifchievous. With the attention I paid to avoid fuch effects, the cure was completed with little more inconvenience than would have happened from the application of Mr. Elfe's cauftic. But I have fince thought I might fill have fucceeded better if I had thrown in

warm

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warm water to have diluted what neceffarily remained behind, and then have endeavoured to have again preffed out the dregs.

CASE XXXV.

NOVEMBER 9, 1791, A French gentleman, driven from his country at the age of fixty-three, fhewed me a Hydrocele of moderate fize, which he faid had been collecting about two months fince it had been last evacuated; being defirous of obtaining a radical cure, I let it out and filled it with injection. He complained of little pain, which went off before it was difcharged. I faw him in the evening, he faid his pain had continued about an hour, but that he was then perfectly eafy. The teftis was beginning to fwell a little; this continued to increase fo gently, that he got up the fecond day, and was not confcious of any thing but a fense of weight in the part.

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This continued to the feventh day without appearance of diminution. He was then attacked with a fit of the gout, for which he increafed his quantity of wine; this, with an obflinate coftiveness which ensued, brought on a pain in the part for two or three days. By paying attention to his general health this went off, and the swelling began visibly to diminish. By the end of the month he got perfectly well.

CASE XXXVI.

DECEMBER 17, 1791, I evacuated the Hydrocele of a young man at the hofpital: the teftis was larger than natural; but as no material difeafe appeared to affect it, I filled it with injection. He fuffered little or no pain, but walked by choice down ftairs and up another pair to his own ward. The third day the inflammation was gentle and moderate; the feventh

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feventh it continued fwelled without pain. In about a fortnight this man was entirely well.

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CASE XXXVII.

FEBRUARY 10, 1792, I affisted a gentleman in injecting the Hydrocele of a middle aged man. The observation I made at the time was, that the cannula of the trochar was preffed with too great violence against the teftis both before the evacuation and afterwards, from which I apprehended more inflammation than ufual. This accordingly happened, but was of little confequence, as it foon fubfided by the ordinary means, and I only curforily mention it by way of caution. The 26th I faw him; the teftis was nearly of its natural fize, and there was not the fmalleft appearance of a return of water.

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CASE XXXVIII.

MARCH 4, 1792, I performed the cure by injection on the Hydrocele of Col. -----, which I had previoufly evacuated feveral times. There always remained a confiderable tumour or fwelling after it was emptied, owing to the great thickness of the fac, and a fullnefs about the chord, chiefly owing to obefity; but as the teftis appeared to be in a good state, I did not hesitate to use the injection. He complained of confiderable pain and ficknefs, which lafted about two minutes, but got better before it was evacuated. Soon after he went to bed he felt a good deal of pain in the neighbourhood of the kidneys, which he faid was like what he had felt in fits of the gravel. I faw him in the evening; he was perfectly eafy, and paffed a good night. Next morning the teftis was gently tumefied, which increafed

creafed by next day. The third day he faid he had felt more of the gravelly pain, and had voided fome gravel, and was after that perfectly eafy. The teftis was fwelled, but fcarcely tender to the touch. This cafe proceeded remarkably well. The Colonel's active difposition gave him little quarter. The fourth day I found him in his ftudy amufing himfelf with books and the conversation of his friends. The fixth day from the operation the teftis began to fubfide. On the ninth he went out in his carriage; and in a few days the teftis was nearly fubfided ; and though he paid little more attention to it, but walked and took his ufual exercife, and lived in his ufual manner, the complaint gave him no trouble afterwards, nor has there ever been the fmalleft return of water.

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CASE XXXIX.

The following Cafe differed from the generality of those I have described, and had many peculiarities in its nature, progress, and cure.

I was defired to perform the radical operation on the Hydrocele of a gentleman from Scotland. The tumour certainly had the appearance of a Hydrocele, but on examining it, . felt heavy, and had not the feel of water alone, but as if an enlarged teftis made part of the difeafe. I mentioned my fuspicions, and faid the evacuation of the water only could determine the propriety of attempting the radical cure. I let out about three ounces of ftraw-coloured fluid from the lower part of the tumour, but found I had not evacuated the whole fwelling. On examining I found another Hydrocele of the chord, perfectly feparate and independent of the other, and the? teftis itfelf much indurated and enlarged. I let

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let out about two ounces from the fuperior Hydrocele, but on account of the difeafed state of the testis, advised no further operation. In confultation with a phyfician, he was put under a course of cicula and mercurial frictions. The teftis in one week became lefs, and the water did not appear to return. However, after feveral weeks had elapfed, the water began again to collect in fmall quantity in the lower tumour, and the upper. became as large as ever; it was now determined that he fhould leave off the mercury and cicula, and from an idea that it might arife from a fcrophulous difpofition, he was advifed to try the effect of fea bathing. As the fuperior tumour began to be inconvenient from the fize, I let it out the day before he intended to go. No inflammation having followed the former puncture I expected none from this, therefore faw no more of him; but was furprifed to receive a letter from Brighton, informing me that he had felt fome pain in the part during

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the night after the puncture, and that it was inflamed in the morning, notwithftanding which he fat off and travelled the whole way—when arrived the part was greatly fwollen and painful, and, in fhort, he was confined to his bed; the inflammation increafed, and an abfcefs formed, which was opened. As foon as he was able he returned to London. I found the fuperior Hydrocele divided through its whole extent; this foon granulated and healed. The collection which was again beginning below, and alfo a difpofition to a Hydrocele in the other teftis, difappeared.

CASE XL.

MARCH 10, 1792, I evacuated the water from the Hydrocele of a middle aged man at the hofpital, which had not before been emptied. He complained of fome pain during the evacuation, apparently more from apprehension than reality, as he faid he felt but little more when the injection was introduced. (27)

introduced. After the proper time it was difcharged, when being relieved from his fears, he became eafy. The next day he faid he had felt pain for about an hour in the afternoon, but fince had continued eafy. The part appeared gently tumefied; it grew larger for four or five days; by the feventh it was fo much leffened, that the man had liberty to walk about as ufual, and was difcharged in a fortnight.

CASE XLI.

MARCH 13, 1792, Another unfortunate French gentleman, forced to abandon his native country, fhewed me a Hydrocele of uncommon fize; he faid it had been before let out, but had been now three years collecting; it was larger confiderably than his head, yet he contrived to keep it out of fight by a bandage that drew it backward. It was much too large to admit of any thing but the fimple evacuation, which accordingly I did with a large trochar, trochar, and let out more than fix full pints of water tinged with blood, which he attributed to a bruife which he had received in it lately. The teftis was in a good ftate, the chord enlarged and fufficiently elongated to admit of the teftis lying at the bottom of the fwelling. Notwithftanding the immenfity of the tumour before evacuation, the forotum almoft immediately contracted to a fmall fize.

I wished to have observed the further progress of this extraordinary case, but have fince had no opportunity of seeing it.

CASE XLII.

The Rev. Mr. —— had a large Hydrocele, which I had emptied in June 1791. As he was defirous now to get rid of it entirely, I was induced to use the injection, though it was larger than I should have preferred, and by preffure it was apparently divided into two tumours, (29)

tumours, but the communication was evident, and they both were emptied by a puncture in the lower part. I threw in the injection, and he complained of a good deal of pain for a couple of minutes, but was eafy before it was let out. He paffed a good night and got up the next day; the third day the part was tumefied, but fo eafy that he dreffed himfelf and came down into the coffee room where he lodged. The following day he chofe to take a long walk, and continued to follow his amufements as ufual, only complaining of a little tendernefs of the part on being handled. Notwithstanding the little care he took of himfelf no material interruption to the progrefs of the cure took place; in lefs than three weeks he returned into the country well.

CASE XLIII.

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SECOND CASE OF ENCYSTED HYDROCELE OF THE TUNICA VAGINALIS TESTIS.

JULY 1, 1792, A gentleman applied to me with a Hydrocele which had once before been emptied. It was pretty large, but what made it remarkable was, that the teffis could be felt diffinctly under the tumour, fo that the water appeared to be collected in the chord, but yet the fwelling could not be diffinctly feparated from the upper part of the teftis. It was fufficiently evident that the cavity of the tunica vaginalis teftis was not the feat of the complaint. He wished the injection to be ufed. I thought proper to inform him that this was not a common cafe; but as I had fucceeded in one where the water was collected in the chord, I had hopes of being equally fuccefsful in the prefent; and as the coats 3

coats of the teftis were not affected, I imagined the fenfation which the injection would produce would be in a very fmall degree. I let out about five ounces of water; when the injection was introduced, he complained, as I expected, of very little pain; he went to bed to meet any pain which might arife, but he continued eafy all the afternoon; the next morning I found him up and dreffed. The part was attended with fome fwelling, which continued increasing to the fixth day, when he complained of fome uneafinefs, and was glad to keep his bed for a few days, which, with the affiftance of a faturnine application, foon reduced it. After which it gradually fubfided as a common hydrocele, and in lefs than three weeks he went out of town. The chord rather larger than the other, but without the least appearance of a fresh collection of water.

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(31)

(32)

CASE XLIV.

I hope Mr. Dunning will excufe the liberty I take in giving the following obliging letter in his own words.

SIR,

I take liberty to communicate the following cure of Hydrocele, becaufe it is the firft cafe, I believe, in this neighbourhood in which the injection has been ufed. This circumftance is not enough perhaps to juftify me in giving you this trouble; I will not therefore add to the interruption by making any longer apology, but will juft obferve, that as I write from a principle of refpect, I fhall be extremely forry to offend.

A gentleman of great refpectability, about two months fince, confulted me for a Hydrocele. He had noted the first approaches of it about a year ago, and could not refer it to any any caufe within his knowledge. As the cafe was fairly marked, and he was a temperate middle aged man, of good conftitution, I immediately proposed the radical cure by a small cauftic as recommended by Mr. Elfe, a practice I had hitherto adopted, and always with very complete fuccefs. My patient now put into my hands your valuable Treatife, faid it had made a wonderful impression on his mind, that he was very unwilling to fubmit to any other method of cure than that by injection, and earneftly requefted me to read the Effay. I never read any thing with more fatisfaction, for, partial as I was to the cauftic, all my prepoffeffions in its favour immediately gave way to the fuperior advantages of care and expedition, which fo remarkably characterize your management of the complaint. Accordingly on the 10th of December ult. having drawn off by the trochar feventeen ounces of a bright citron coloured fluid, I injected about eight or

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ten ounces of wine and water in the proportion of two parts of the former to one of the latter. The gentleman spoke of confiderable pain on the introduction, and indeed during the retention of it, which was precifely five minutes; the pain, however, foon left him. The acceffion of inflammation was announced the next day by a flight thickening of the parts only; indeed it was fo moderate, and the whole procefs had been fo gentle, my patient, apprehenfive that a fufficient degree of excitement had not been produced, did abfolutely on the fecond day exercise himself about the room, with a view to increase the irritation, and it was from this conduct, I believe, that he complained the following day of fome pain along the courfe of the fpermatic procefs, which, however, foon went off. About the ' fifth day the tumefaction had attained its height; the fcrotum was now about the fize of a middling man's fift, attended with rather a fenfe

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(35) a fenfe of fulnefs than of any pain; it continued in this flate two or three days, and then going off gradually in the clevereft way ima-

going off gradually in the clevereft way imaginable. At the end of a fortnight from the commencement of the cure, my patient had to congratulate himfelf on the riddance of a difeafe, which had long given him the greatest anxiety. When I reflect on the eafe and fimplicity of the operation, which really is not more formidable than that of common bloodletting, and oppose to it the many painful and operofe modes of cure hitherto, and indeed at this time too often employed, the cure by injection appears in a most striking point of view, must be ranked among the greatest improvements of modern furgery, and commands the gratitude of mankind. I have too long trefpaffed on your attention, shall therefore beg leave to fubfcribe myfelf,

Yours, &c.

Plymouth Dock? Dec. 8, 1792.

RICHARD DUNNING.

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P. S.

P. S. I got a trochar made longer than is ufually employed, with three lateral apertures about an inch from its extremity; by this contrivance I evacuated the whole of the injection without running any rifk of the trochar's flipping from the forotum.

CASE XLV.

NOVEMBER 10, 1792, A perfon applied with a very large fwelling, which appeared fo hard and heavy, that there was every reafon to fufpect that the teftis bore the greater fhare; however there was evidently fome fluid, which it was agreed to evacuate. On paffing in a trochar a larger quantity of fluid came away than was expected. The tunica was remarkably thick, which had made the feel of the fluid obfcure; and the teftis was very large, but as no pain nor any bad circumftances attended, it was determined to proceed no further,

ther, but to endeavour to foften and leffen it by medicine, which was the more likely to be effected now that the preffure of the water was removed. No means that were used had any apparent effect, as the water foon began to reaccumulate, and in fix weeks there was as large a quantity of fluid as before. On being now more certain of the nature of it, I again let it out, and as the teftis, though enlarged, was still without pain, I was tempted to endeavour to cure the Hydrocele. It was certainly a very unfavourable cafe, and not unlikely to bring difcredit on the injection, as I could fcarcely have room to hope that the very thick tunica and enlarged teftis would unite. I threw in injection; he complained of more pain than ufual; when it was evacuated he was easier, but still in pain. He went to bed and was ordered an opiate, but by the mistake of the nurfe it was not given, fo that his pain, not being at all checked, continued longer than

neceffary ;

(37)

neceffary; however he was perfectly eafy in the evening, and paffed a good night. The next morning the teftis was fwelled more than ufual, probably owing to the greater length of time the pain had been fuffered to remain, and to the difeafed flate of the parts; the inflammation and fwelling alfo remained longer than ufual, and there was reafon to fufpect that the water was again collecting: however after nine days the fwelling began to diminifh.

When it was confiderably fubfided, and no water was felt, the teftis continued fo large and hard, and the patient complained that it would be fo exceedingly inconvenient to him in his bufinefs, that it was in confultation agreed to be removed. On paffing in a trochar to afcertain the fact of the water being gone, about one ounce of deep ftraw-coloured fluid came away; as this diminifhed the fize of the teftis, which, though enlarged, did not now feel feel fchirrous or dangeroufly difeafed, I was again induced to try if any means could further reduce it; accordingly I ordered what I have repeatedly known of great fervice in thefe cafes; fmall quantities of mercurial ointment to be rubbed into the thigh: by continuing this procefs a fufficient length of time, the teftis fubfided, and became fo fmall as to take away every reafon for the removal of it, and there was not the fmalleft return of water; thus both the Hydrocele and Sarcocele being cured, he took leave of me, happy and well.

As this was the most unfavourable cafe I ever trusted the injection in, I shall close my account with it, though there have been many more cafes under my own care, and more have come within my knowledge, which have fucceeded; but I do not think it neceffary to trouble the reader with any further relation of them.

Such has been the fuccefs which has followed this mode of practice; and though there are who still prefer the painful operation of dividing the fcrotum and laying bare the teftis, or the tedious, loathfome cure by cauftic, I have the pleafure to know that many practitioners have followed the plan recommended in my treatife on this fubject, and have fucceeded to their complete fatisfaction. And hereafter, when contemporary prejudices are laid afide, and old habits, though ftrongly woven, are worn out; when all the different methods of curing the Hydrocele are fairly fcanned and weighed in an impartial balance, I have the gratification to think that the pains which I have taken to introduce a mild and eafy method will not be in vain, but will be the means of faving the rifing generation from abundance of pain and mifery.

(40)

THE END.

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