

Medical cases, with occasional remarks. To which is added an appendix. Containing the history of a late extraordinary case / [R.W. Stack].

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Publication/Creation

Bath : R. Cruttwell, 1784.

Persistent URL

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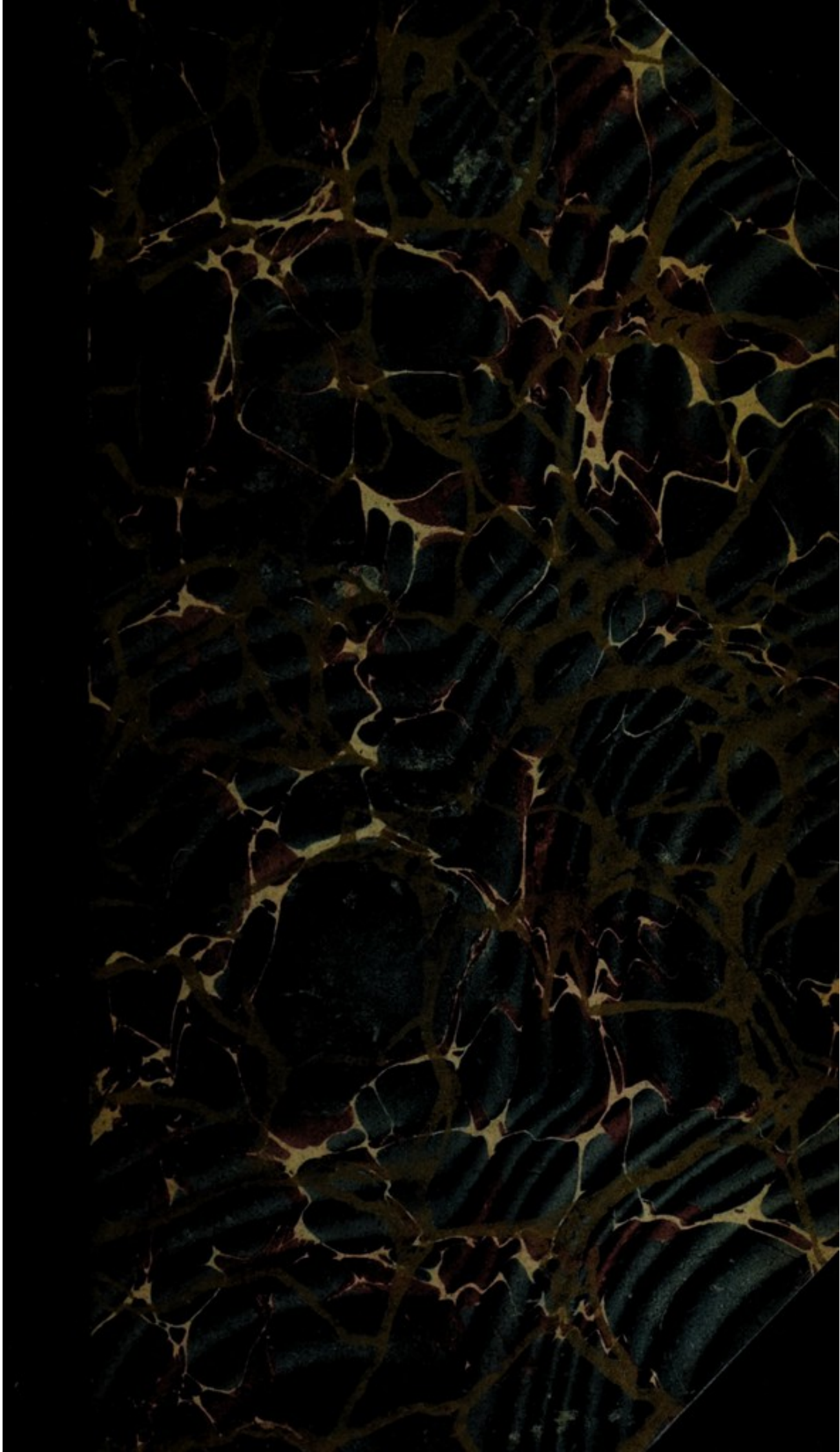
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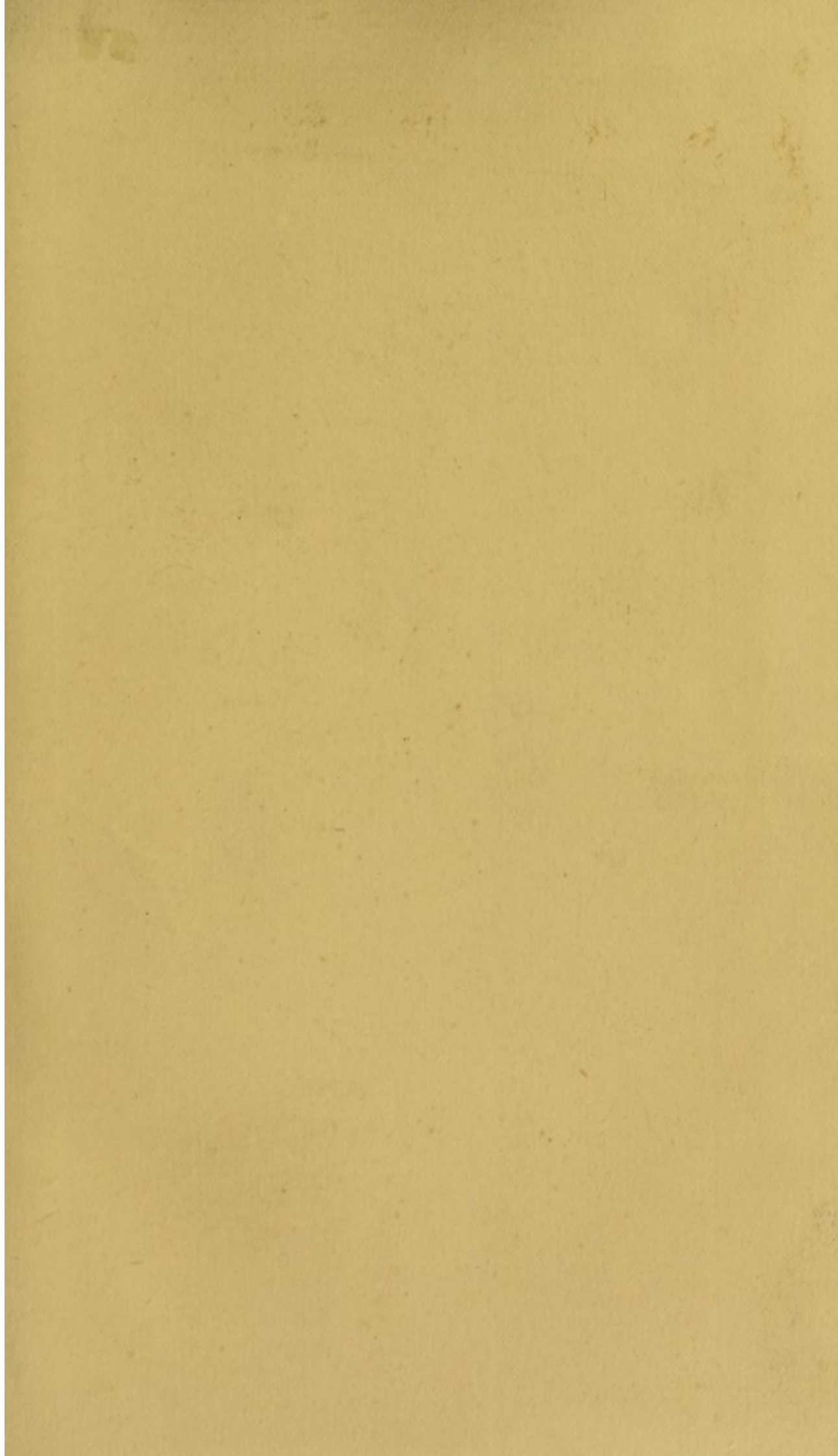


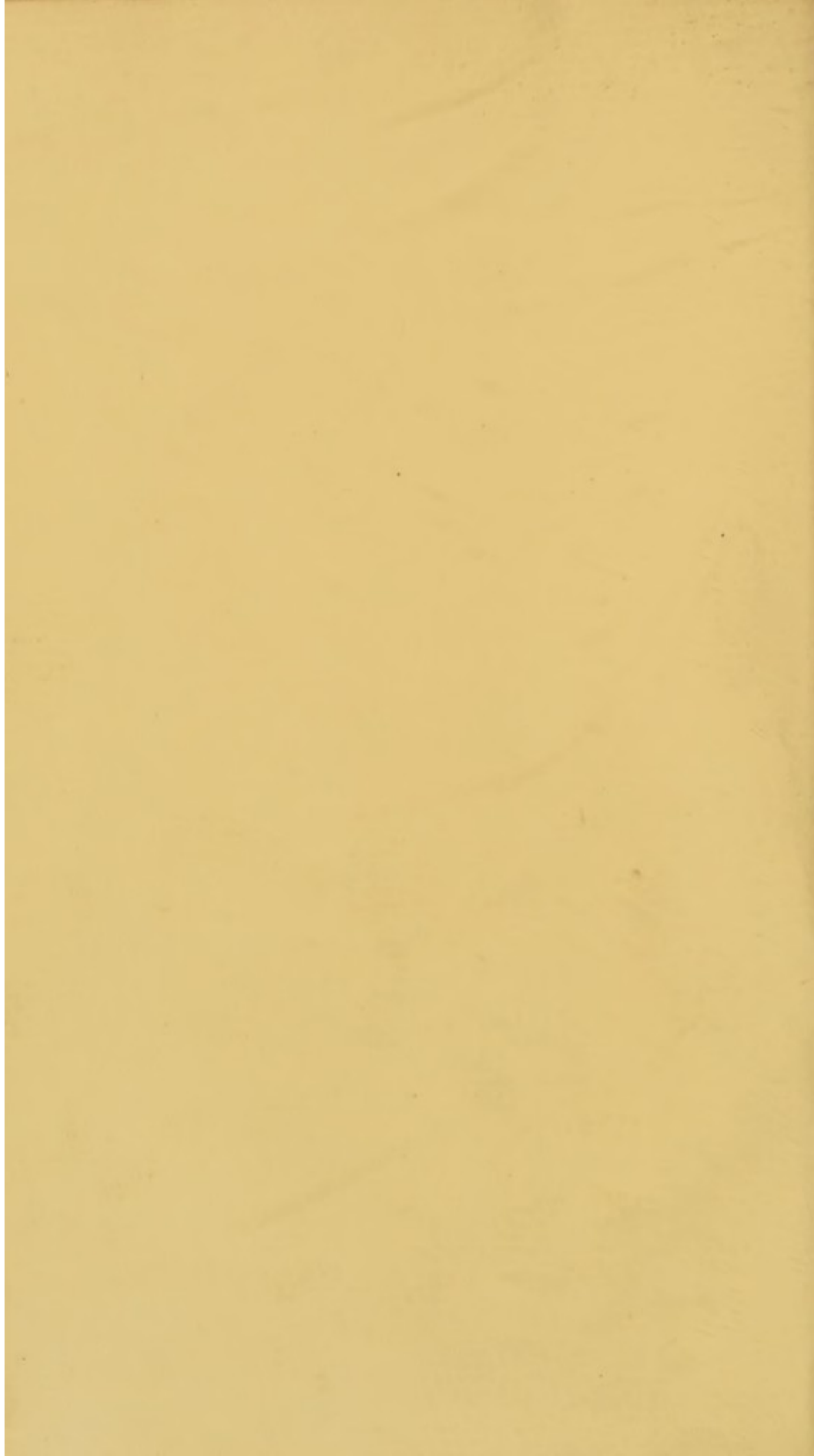
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MEDICAL CASES,

W I T H

OCCASIONAL REMARKS.

TO WHICH IS ADDED,

A N A P P E N D I X,

C O N T A I N I N G

The History of a late extraordinary Case.

By R. W. STACK, of BATH, M. D.

MEMBER of the ROYAL COLLEGE of PHYSICIANS of LONDON.

NULLA RE MAGIS QUAM EXEMPLO DOCEMUR ATQUE CONFIRMAMUR, PRÆSERTIM CUM RATIONIBUS INSTRUCTI ACTIONUM CAUSAS INTELLIGIMUS, ET ALIORUM FACTIS, NOBIS QUOD EX USU SIT, ADMONEMUR.

CRATO.

BATH: Printed by R. CRUTTWELL;

AND SOLD BY J. JOHNSON, ST. PAUL'S CHURCH-YARD, LONDON

AND BY THE BOOKSELLERS OF BATH, BRISTOL, &c.

M DCC LXXXIV.

MEDICAL CASES

OCULAR REMARKS

WILLIAM DUFFY, Esq.
M.D.

OF THE
FACULTY OF MEDICINE

OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO

LECTURER IN
OPHTHALMIC SURGERY



T O

WILLIAM CULLEN, Esq;

*Professor of the Practice of Physic, in the
University of Edinburgh, Physician to his
Majesty, &c. &c. &c.*

SIR,

I Feel a particular pleasure in DEDICATING TO YOU the following sheets; which, perhaps, I might have been tempted to offer at some other shrine, if partial considerations could prevail over my veneration of a distinguished medical Character; founded upon genuine natural abilities, and sustained by the durable pillars of strict investigation, accurate observation, and unremitting industry.

If such were not my sentiments of Doctor CULLEN, I could not express them, “Be-
“nevolentiam enim blanditiis ac assentati-
“onibus colligere turpe est.”*

I have the honour to be, with due attach-
ment,

SIR,

Your quondam pupil,

And very obedient servant,

R. W. STACK.

BATH,
Oct. 20th, 1784.

* Cicero de Amic.

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE following pages, except the Appendix, are selected from a collection of Observations, which were intended for publication many years ago. Some considerations having induced the Author to suspend his design, he thought himself, at least, bound to communicate them to some of his medical friends; and this he has done, from time to time, without any reserve.

As he has, in a great measure, retired from the fatigues of business, and flatters himself that he has some claim to security from the imputation of either vain-glory or interested motives, he at length ventures to give them, such as they are, to the public.

ERRATUM.

Page 90, line 10, for *incision* read *infition*.

C O N T E N T S.

I. A N Account of an extraordinary Recovery from a Peripneumony, by the use of Kermes Mineral.	Page 9
II. The History of Kermes Mineral, with some Reflections on the infrequency of its Use in these Kingdoms	17
III. The Method of preparing Kermes Mineral, with some occasional Remarks	22
IV. Some Account of an uncommon Ailment, seeming to proceed from a Redundance of Acidity in the Stomach	26
V. Of an alarming Inflammatory Fever, occasioned by suddenly stopping an Hæmorrhage from the Nose	30
VI. Of a Lipothymia, or Fainting Fit, occasioned by some Blood which, during Sleep, had trickled back from the Nostrils into the Stomach	35
VII. Some Account of a Fever, with unusual Symptoms, excited by a Worm in the Stomach	37
VIII. A Case of a remarkable Diffolution of the Blood	42
IX. The History of an uncommon Putrid Disease	45
X. Thoughts on the foregoing Case	49
XI. A singular Case of a rapid Diffolution	52
XII. The History of a Nervous Atrophy, or Consump- tion, occasioned by an Affection of the Mind; and un- expectedly cured by an extraordinary Accident	56
XIII. Reflections	

XIII. Reflections on the foregoing Case	62
XIV. Some Account of a Dropfical Disorder, flowing from an unsuspected Cause	65
XV. Some Account of an Anomalous Disorder, occa- sioned by a Tænia, or Tape-Worm	69
XVI. Thoughts on the foregoing Case	75
XVII. An Account of alarming Symptoms, occasioned by a Worm, during the process of Inoculation	77
XVIII. A rare Instance of a retarded Eruptive Fever, after Inoculation	84
XIX. An Attempt to vindicate the Practice of Ino- culation from some charges which have been made against it	87
XX. Some Account of the Efficacy of Warm Bathing in the Small-pox	95
XXI. The Appendix	103



MEDICAL CASES.

I.

*An Account of an extraordinary Recovery
from a PERIPNEUMONY, by the Use of
KERMES MINERAL.*

MR. D—— C——, an ingenious Apothecary, about thirty years old, of a spare habit, and subject, from his infancy, to a cough and frequent fits of the asthma; being called out of his bed on a night, happened to strike his breast, with some violence, against a post. To this accident he attributed the Peripneumony, of which he fell ill on the following day, though the having caught cold seemed to be the more probable cause.

During the first four days of his illness, he was regularly visited by a gentleman of eminence in his profession, who employed the means most likely to relieve his patient, but without any benefit.

A consultation being desired, on the fifth day, in which another physician and myself were requested to join, we found the patient's pulse so obscure as scarcely to be felt; his extremities were cool and clammy, his breathing laborious, his expectoration suppressed, and his strength so much impaired, that he could not move himself in his bed, nor speak loud enough to be heard at any distance. A large blister was ordered to be applied between his shoulders; boiled bricks, wrapt up in flannel, near the soles of his feet; and sack-whey for his common drink.

As the usual attenuants, and expectorants, had been to this time unprofitably tried, I proposed *Kermes Mineral* as a medicine of singular utility in similar cases; of which I mentioned some instances in my own private practice, and in conjunction with other physicians.

ficians. Accordingly, the following bolus was given to the patient at three o'clock, p. m. with instructions to repeat the dose every three hours.

R. Myrrh pulv. gr. quinque,
Kerm. Mineral,
Sal. vol. c. c. ana gr. tria
Syr. Croci, q. f. F. bolus.

In order to make accurate observations on the effect of this medicine, in a case so doubtful, I easily procured the consent of the gentlemen concerned with me, to visit the patient as often as I should think proper, between the hours appointed for our meeting.

At six o'clock, I found his pulse more palpable, and his extremities rather warm; in every other respect he continued in his former state. He now took a second bolus, and promised to admit the application of the blister, which his father had not urged before, because, said he, " I have no expectation of my son's recovery, and his antipathy to blisters has been at all times extraordinary."

At nine o'clock, we found his pulse considerably improved, his skin warm, and his breathing not so difficult as before. He had coughed with some strength, and brought up a small quantity of very viscid phlegm tinged with blood. He now swallowed another bolus.

At twelve o'clock, I was amazed at his extraordinary amendment: His pulse was greatly enlarged, his skin became warm and moist, his respiration was very little troublesome, and the quantity of bloody matter which he had brought up by coughing was enormous. His impatience had obliged the nurse to take off the blister-plaister, soon after ten o'clock; about eleven his expectoration began to increase considerably,* without
the

* I have sometimes imagined, that the removal of the blistering plaister had its use. A constriction occasioned by the irritation of the flies, in addition to that of an unreconciled mind, might possibly have been some check to expectoration; which began to increase abundantly, in about an hour after the blister had been taken off.

External stimulants are, no doubt, importantly useful upon many occasions: Under some circumstances, however,

the aid of *troublesome* coughing, and his strength got up so much that he was able to spit out the matter to some distance, upon a cloth laid over the bed-quilt.

ever, they may prove pernicious; a judicious Tract on the *Use* and *Abuse* of such applications would be an interesting work, and there remains much to be said on the subject.

I attended a young gentleman of a strong vigorous constitution, who lay ill of an inflammatory fever, accompanied with a violent head-ach: The antiphlogistic method was succeeding to my wishes, until an officious person, during my absence, had recommended poultices of salted herring, horse-radish, mustard, and vinegar, to be applied to his feet.

On my return in the evening, I found my patient extremely flushed, delirious, and his breathing short and quick; he had not made any urine for some hours, nor had he a stool, although laxative draughts had been given during the course of the day.

In examining the state of his abdomen (which was remarkably hot and swelled) he fortunately threw out one of his legs, and thus gave me an opportunity of discovering the cause of these evils, which probably would have been concealed from me, to the peril of my patient's life.

I ordered the cataplasms to be instantly taken away, and the feet and legs to be put into warm water; the consequence was, that, after some time, the flushing in the face and quickness of breathing went off, a purging came on, the belly fell, and right reason returned. Every thing went on prosperously afterwards.

I desired that he should now take another bolus, and continue to repeat the dose regularly every three hours, unless sleep should intervene ; in which case the nurse was ordered not to disturb him, upon any account whatsoever.

The *sixth* day, at ten o'clock in the morning, we all met, and had the satisfaction of finding our patient rescued from the danger with which he had been threatened. His pulse was full, soft and regular ; his skin moist and of a desirable temperature ; his strength and spirits recruited ; his breathing perfectly easy, and his expectoration free and abundant. He had slept with a good deal of tranquility, from one o'clock to five in the morning ; when, after shifting his linen, wet with perspiration, the nurse gave him another bolus : Soon after he again fell into calm sleep, which continued till near nine o'clock. It was then necessary to change his linen again before he took the sixth bolus, which occasioned a sickness at stomach for a short time. We ordered a clyster to be given, on account of a fullness and tension of
the

the abdomen; desired that the wine-whey should not be taken so freely as before, unless weakness or an abatement of expectoration should come on, and forbid the continuance of the Kermes.

At seven o'clock in the evening, every appearance wore a favourable aspect: His expectoration was sufficient and of a more laudable kind, he had perspired freely during the day, and enjoyed from time to time some comfortable naps. The abdomen, however, was still hard, and he complained of some uneasiness in his bowels, notwithstanding his having had two plentiful stools. A repetition of the Enema was directed for that night, and a solution of Manna and soluble Tartar for the following morning, in case his bowels should not be relieved.

The *seventh* day, at noon, every thing was well. He had passed a quiet night, the uneasiness in his bowels left him, and the abdomen became soft. He had four stools in consequence of the laxative potion, which was taken at six o'clock. His expectoration

daily decreased, his appetite and strength increased.

In some days after, he was in a condition to be removed into the country, whence he returned to his father's house, at the end of three weeks, perfectly re-established in his health, and much less subject to cough or asthma than he had ever been before.†

II. *The*

† One of the physicians concerned with me, upon this occasion, conceived so favourable an opinion of Kermes Mineral, that he commissioned a friend of his at Paris, to send him a quantity of it for his own particular use. The Doctor had been for many years subject to an habitual short cough, along with an infarction of his lungs, and received considerable benefit from the use of this medicine, in small doses.

The other gentleman—deservedly esteemed in life, and sincerely regretted in death—never lost sight of this recovery. He afterwards employed Kermes Mineral, with great success, in a variety of cases.

One of his friends, labouring under a Pleuro-peripneumony, would not, from the beginning of his disorder, consent to be let blood: On the sixth day of his illness my anxious friend, the Doctor, came to my house to inform me of his patient's alarming condition, and to consult me on the expediency of trying what Kermes Mineral might do; saying, Shall I risque its credit in a case so unpromising? My answer, that “*In casu ancipiti præstat anceps*”
“*experiri*

II.

*The History of KERMES MINERAL, with
some Reflections on the infrequency of its Use
in these Kingdoms.*

KERMES MINERAL, so called from its colour, is an antimonial preparation, ascribed to the celebrated Glauber. The manner of preparing it was communicated, by one of his pupils, to M. de Chastenay, governor of Landau, and by him to M. de la Ligerie. This last-mentioned gentleman gave a quantity of it to Father Simon, a Carthusian friar and apothecary, to be disposed of as a specific against most diseases; and hence it also obtained the name of *Poudre des Chartreux*, Carthusian Powder.

“ experiri remedium quam nullum,” confirmed my friend’s design, and his patient was rescued from the approaching danger of death. But even Kermes Mineral could not secure him from the irremediable consequence of his obstinacy, and repugnance to timely venesection—a pulmonary consumption, of which he died in five months after.

In the year 1714, the fame of an extraordinary cure of a Peripneumony, effected with this powder, by Father Simon, on one of his brethren almost at the point of death, prevailed throughout Paris, and served to lay the foundation of its repute. But in the year 1718, the recovery of the Marquis de Bayers from a violent fever, accompanied with an accumulation of the most formidable symptoms, established its character, † which daily increased so much, that the Duke of Orleans, at a considerable expence, procured from la Ligerie a publication of the process.

From that time it acquired, and has all along supported, its reputation among the French practitioners; who, comparing its powerful effects with the mildness of its operation, have not hesitated in deeming it one of the most important preparations of antimony, and have accordingly prescribed it with great success in a variety of chronic, as well as acute diseases.

† See Southwell's Abridgement of the Memoirs of the Royal Academy of Paris, vol. iv. page 266.

M. le Camus, of the faculty of Paris, in a Dissertation published in the year 1743, on the question “ *An Leucophlegmatiae Kermes Minerale?*” calls it an universal remedy; and says he had observed that, on different occasions, it acted as a tonic, an evacuant, an attenuant, a sudorific, a diuretic, an expectorant: He tells us, that he has had experience of its utility in the obstinate cachectic complaints, to which unmarried girls are often subject; and that in chronic disorders, founded upon tedious obstructions in the viscera, it has proved itself a most efficacious medicine. He relates the case of a woman (so much swelled and oppressed with the anasarca, that she could scarcely move or breathe) who, from the effects of small doses of this powder, frequently repeated, made great quantities of urine, by which her health was perfectly restored.

Certain it is that Kermes Mineral, in the dose of six to eight grains, usually occasions gentle vomiting, or purging, and sometimes both; but in doses of one to four grains, repeated every three or four hours, it rarely produces

produces either effect. In a limited dose it seems rather to act as an alterative deobstruent, capable of exciting the small vessels to more strong and frequent vibrations, and thus increasing the secretions and excretions, particularly those of the kidneys, skin, and lungs.

Is it not then rather extraordinary that a medicine, so powerful and gentle in its operation, should to this day be so little regarded among us ! Has not this arisen from the prejudices of some men, and the hasty determination of others ? Those have imagined that Kermes Mineral is churlish and uncertain in its operation ; and these have said that, chymically considered, it differs in no respect from sulphur aurat. antimon.

That this latter opinion might have been too generally received by our chemists, is rather to be feared ; and consequently that a substitution of *this* for *that* has not been deemed a trespass. Should this be really the case, and I apprehend it is, we may easily account for the disuse or disrepute
into

into which Kermes Mineral has fallen in this country.

For, if it be considered that sulphur antimon. præcip. is nothing more than a bare *mixture* of the regulus and sulphur of antimony; and that, however carefully prepared, it is liable to some variation in point of activity; we cannot wonder at its having proved precarious, and often rough in its operation, even when exhibited in cautious doses.

Not so with Kermes Mineral, which may, not improperly, be named *Hepar Sulphuris Stibiatum* ||: For, in it, the reguline part of the antimony is, by the mediation of the *alkali*, so intimately *united* with its sulphur, as not to be at liberty to exert any of its virulent properties, except under peculiar cir-

|| From Mr. Geoffrey's experiments it appears that one dram (seventy-two grains) of Kermes Mineral, contains about seventeen grains of regulus of antimony, fourteen grains of alkaline salt, and forty-one grains of sulphur. See Southwell's Abridgement of the Memoirs of the Royal Academy of Paris, vol. iv. p. 361.

cumstances

cumstances of constitution, or when given in too free a dose. It is, moreover, when duly prepared, invariably possessed of an uniform degree of strength, which, it must be allowed, is a circumstance much in its favour, as we are thereby enabled to ascertain the dose, for particular indications, with a great degree of precision.

III.

The Method of preparing KERMES MINERAL ; with some occasional Remarks.

THE following process is formed upon that communicated by M. de la Ligerie, in the year 1719, with this difference, that he, in a special manner, directs the ley of fixed nitre (*Glauber's Alkabeſt*) instead of the ley of Tartar ; and desires that the dried Kermes should be deflagrated§ with rectified spirit.

I have

§ The chemical reader will observe, that the deflagration of this powder is both useless and absurd. The superabundant acid of some metallic preparations may, possibly, be

I have prepared this medicine, in both ways, with scrupulous attention, and have not been able to discover any material difference in their effects*: That prepared with the ley of fixed nitre is more operose, expensive, and less in quantity, than that pre-

be detached in this way; an attraction taking place between it and the phlogiston: But an alkali, there is reason to suppose, cannot here be affected by alcohol. If such a thing were possible, it would, in this case, be unpardonable to make the attempt; as, the bond of union between the regulus and the sulphur being thereby weakened, the powder would become possessed of properties, very different indeed from those of Kermes Mineral.

* In the course of my observations, either kind has seldom failed in bringing on or increasing expectoration; in promoting the discharges by the skin and kidneys, and sometimes in moving the belly or causing a nausea. Not infrequently all these effects have followed upon its use. In one case indeed (an advanced fever with formidable peripneumonic symptoms) neither the one effect nor the other happened, although the patient had taken 24 grains of Kermes in the course of 20 hours: The medicine seemed, in this instance, to take a new course: a considerable salivation ensued, which continued during four days, and, in the end, left the patient extremely weak and emaciated, but free from his fever.

As I suspected that this effect had sprung from another cause, I made particular enquiries, and received strong assurances from the sick man that, to his knowledge, he had never made use of mercury in any form.

pared with the ley of tartar ; which, by the bye, ought not to be an object of consideration to the faithful chymist, if the medicine could possibly receive any improvement. But M. Lemery asserts, that he has always observed Kermes Mineral, prepared with the ley of tartar, to act more mildly, and with greater efficacy, than that prepared with the ley of fixed nitre.

Take of the best crude Antimony* in powder, 32 ounces ;
 Ley of tartar, 8 ounces ;
 Pure rain water, 4 pints.

Boil the whole in a glazed earthen vessel, on an even fire, for two hours, and then let about two-thirds of the remaining liquor boiling hot, be poured into a filter: to the remainder add three pints of boiling rain water, and six ounces of the alkaline ley ; boil as before, and pour off two-thirds of the boiling liquor into the same filter: Lastly, add four ounces more of the ley, and three pints of boiling water, boil a third time, and filtrate the whole, as hot as may be.

* The antimony which, on being broke, is found compact and abounding in long shining striæ, is to be preferred.

The filtrated liquor, as it cools, will let fall a powder of the colour of saffron, which, after twenty-four hours, is to be separated from the fluid,† to be dried with a moderate warmth, and to be kept, for use, in a bottle well corked.

N. B. This powder has been thought to succeed best, when joined with a volatile alkaline salt, or an absorbent substance, as circumstances may require. Hence appears the futility of washing it with warm water (as has been recommended) and hence also may be inferred the propriety of prohibiting the use of acidulated liquors, when this medicine is prescribed.

† It is perhaps needless to suggest to the frugal operator, that this decanted liquor, being duly saturated with the vitriolic acid, afterwards reduced by evaporation and then set by to crystallize, will yield a quantity of tart. vitriolat. sufficient to compensate his trouble: but it may be particularly necessary to inform him, that the reddish powder, precipitated by the acid, should be carefully separated from the saline solution before evaporation, and that this powder should not, upon any pretext whatsoever, be mixed with the Kermes Mineral—being in reality a sulphur antimon. præcipitat.

IV.

Some Account of an uncommon Ailment, seeming to proceed from a Redundance of Acidity in the Stomach.

MR. D——, between forty and fifty years old, of a corpulent habit, fond of high living, and much addicted to the free use of cyder and punch, (which he had conceived to be medicinal) was subject, four or five times a year, to a pain and tension across his loins, attended with a strangury, a throbbing in the glans penis, and a burning heat in the palms of his hands and the soles of his feet. His pulse, during these attacks, was found to be quicker and smaller than in health, and his skin much cooler.

Various physicians, whom he had consulted at different times, attributed his sufferings to the stone or gravel, and generally endeavoured to relieve him by the means of oily clysters, manna, opiates, and warm baths. These remedies afforded only a temporary redress,

redress, not serving at any time to remove his disorder until the fifth day, at which time an itching all over his body, succeeded by a profuse sweat, used to come on, and terminate his illness for that time.

He had formerly taken, in the intervals of his disorder, considerable quantities of Mrs. Stevens's medicines ; and afterwards tried every other nostrum mentioned to him : but neither did these prevent his disorder from returning, nor at any time bring away either calculi or fabulous matter.

When I was first called upon to visit this patient, and had been informed of every circumstance regarding the usual progress and termination of the disease, I conceived the idea of endeavouring to cure him, in imitation of nature, by promoting a sweat. To this purpose, I prescribed for him two doses of Dover's powder, which, notwithstanding their sudorific effect was copious, did not cure the disease : The symptoms indeed were mitigated, and went off as usual, on the fifth day, in consequence of a na-

tural sweating, without any previous itching of the surface.

In a few months after, a fresh attack obliged him to call in his apothecary, who sent him a solution of manna; and a phial of soap-liniment, with which the small of his back was to have been anointed. The servant inadvertently gave him the latter, instead of the manna, which soon affected his stomach and head in such a manner as to alarm his family, and occasion my being sent for.

I prescribed an emetic, which operated soon, and brought up from his stomach something so exceedingly sour that it set his teeth on edge, and diffused a scent like that of evaporating vinegar. The disorder vanished almost instantaneously, but returned in about two months after; when, without any difficulty, I advised him to take a vomit, which, without any other means, carried off his complaint.

Hereupon I counselled him to take some magnesia alba frequently; to abstain from
cyder,

cyder, punch, acids, malt-liquors, and garden stuff; not to indulge his appetite too freely, and to use more bodily exercise than he had been accustomed to take; having the management of a lucrative appointment in a public office, which obliged him to sit, during the greater part of the year, upwards of five hours every morning.

He enjoyed good health for many months after, and would probably have continued much longer in the same way, had he not grown tired of his regimen: Some irregularities brought on another attack, which was soon defeated by an emetic.*

V. Of

* I am inclined to believe that the stomach is very frequently the *unsuspected* source of remote complaints; and I can aver, that an attention to this object has been of considerable use to me in the course of my practice.

About the year 1763, I was sometimes affected with a nausea, bad digestion, and broken uneasy sleep, succeeded by a dull heavy sensation in my right kidney, and a frequent occasion to make water, in small quantities and painful, with a reddish sand-like sediment. These sufferings I attributed to the gravel, and became very unhappy, through apprehension of a future stone; nor were my fears diminished by the opinion of a respectable friend, and truly learned physician, whom I consulted on the occasion.

Emollients

V.

Of an alarming Inflammatory FEVER, occasioned by suddenly stopping an Hæmorrhage from the Nose.

MASTER C—, of a delicate frame and remarkable sprightliness, was subject, since the ninth year of his age, to a pain in his eyes and forehead, and a slight difficulty in swallowing his food; particularly in the months of July and August. These

Emollients and diuretics did not relieve, they rather seemed to aggravate my ailment.

Having, at length considered, that I had never been subject to any such indisposition, till after having suddenly changed an active and free manner of living, into a sedentary studious state; and that my sufferings were preceded by stomach-complaints (to which indeed I had been more or less subject for some years before) I adopted the following plan: Having taken two doses of Rufus' pills, I persisted, for some days, in the use of extract of bark, myrrh, and green vitriol; I substituted an infusion of cinnamon for common tea; I relinquished my studies for some time, and took as much exercise as my strength would allow. By these means my stomach was strengthened, and my nervous symptoms banished.

A worthy

These complaints were always relieved by a moderate bleeding at the nose, which generally came on towards evening, and usually returned for three or four days successively.

In his twelfth year, the hæmorrhage being more frequent, and the quantity seeming to increase, his mother became apprehensive of its weakening him so much, as to expose him to the danger of a consumption, and therefore suppressed it suddenly by applying a large key to his neck, and plunging his hands and arms into a pan of cold water. The child became, on that night, hot and restless with frequent startings, and was outrageously delirious before morning.

The *first* day of my being sent for to see him, I directed 6 ounces of blood to be taken

A worthy clergyman, in the north of Ireland, died much about this time, after having languished for many months under a gradual decay of appetite and wasting of flesh, with a train of sufferings, deemed nephritic by himself and his assistants. On examining his body after death, the kidneys, ureters, and bladder, were found, the stomach was found thickened, and reduced to about half of its natural size.

from his arm ; a mild purging draught to be given soon after ; an emollient fomentation to be applied constantly to his feet and legs, and the steam of water to be directed to his nostrils and the parts adjacent.

The *second* day, the state of his pulse, the heat of his skin, and the unabated severity of the other symptoms, indicated the necessity of taking away more blood, which was done at one of his feet, to the quantity of about eight ounces : a laxative clyster was prescribed, and a saline draught, with ten grains of nitre, to be taken every three hours.

The *third* day, the fever was a good deal diminished, and the raving neither constant nor ferocious. He complained of a pain and difficulty in swallowing, a stiffness of his neck, and a troublesome itching in his nostrils, which he often endeavoured to assuage by rubbing and compressing his nose.

I directed a repetition of his purging draught, desired that his neck should be anointed with volatile liniment, and that a
blister

blister should be applied, early in the afternoon, in case the stiffness of his neck, or the uneasiness in his throat, should increase. My instructions were followed.

I was sent for in a hurry, about eleven at night, and learned that he had been, for more than two hours, outrageous: His face was red as scarlet, his breathing short and quick, and his pulse 140 in a minute, the largest I had ever felt in any young person. He had passed the greater part of the day in much inquietude, frequently started up in his bed, and flung his hands and arms in every direction.

As I supposed that his uneasiness, during the day, might have been occasioned by the stimulus of the volatile liniment, and the evening alarm by the irritation of the blister,† I desired the nurse to take it off immediately, and to anoint his neck with fallad-oil warmed. Soon after this had been done, he began to sneeze heartily, and dis-

† See the note page 12.

charged from his nostril a plug of congealed blood, which was followed by a trickling of about half an ounce more.

The *fourth* day, his pulse beat only 100 strokes in a minute, the heat on his skin was less, the raving very little, and his throat free from uneasiness; but the crick in his neck still remained. He perspired a good deal during the night, and had some quiet sleep. The saline draughts with nitre were ordered to be given every four hours, and a clyster to be injected in the evening, if the fever should seem to increase.

The *fifth* day, I found him equally free from fever and from danger: Nothing remained but the stiffness in his neck, which was left to nature and flannel, and insensibly went off in a few days. He continued, however, for more than three weeks in a state approaching to fatuity, and extreme debility. A change of air and a proper regimen restored him to his former health.

VI.

Of a LIPOTHYMIA, or FAINTING FIT, occasioned by some Blood, which, during Sleep, had trickled back from the Nostrils into the Stomach.

IN two years after, Master C—— (the subject of the foregoing case) happening to remain in bed beyond his usual time, was found lying upon his back, in a state of insensibility—his face pale and besmeared with blood, his skin very cool, and his pulse exceedingly weak and small. The appearance of blood on his face, with that upon his shirt and bosom, led the family to believe that his weak state was occasioned by an abundant loss of blood: The apothecary was of the same opinion, and endeavoured to rouse the youth by the means of hartshorn-drops, Hungary water rubbed into his forehead and temples, and friction of his extremities with hot flannels—but in vain.

In the interim of his going to his shop for a blister and some cordial medicine, I arrived at the house; and not finding sufficient reason to ascribe the state he was in to exhaustion, I concluded, from the manner of his breathing, ‡ that the weakness proceeded from a diminution of the vis vitæ, occasioned by something oppressing the stomach; and that I presumed might be some blood, which had happened to have insinuated itself into the gullet.

Upon this principle I prescribed ten drams of vin. ipecacoan. which had no effect for more than half an hour: Ten grains of vitriol. alb. purif. were then given.—He soon after began to puke, and brought up a quantity of reddish brown stuff with a few clots.

As soon as the operation was over, I left him in tolerable spirits, with an improved

‡ I think I do not err in saying, that *long silent inspirations, and short sonorous expirations*, may be considered, pretty generally, as distinguishing marks of debility proceeding from a disordered stomach. In such cases, a cordial medicine might afford a momentary comfort, but expulsion of the oppressing load is necessary to permanent relief.

pulse and warm skin. A dose of purging physic was taken the following day, and, in a few days after, he regained his appetite and strength.

VII.

Some Account of a Fever, with unusual Symptoms, excited by a Worm in the Stomach.

MISS A——M——, twelve years old, of a delicate irritable constitution, and remarkably tall, was seized, in a short time after dinner, with a chilliness in her back, a pain and stiffness in her neck, weariness, drowsiness, and a sore throat: She soon after became hot, thirsty, and restless. Her mother, supposing her disorder to be nothing more than the effects of a common cold, made her use a family-gargle, and drink orange-whey.

As the uneasiness at her throat left her, and that she appeared lighter, for a few hours every day, nothing more was done for her;

her; nor was any medical assistance called upon until the tenth day of her illness; when, with an increase of the fever, a delirium came on.

The 10th day; I found her skin dry and remarkably hot, her pulse 120 strokes in a minute, her tongue foul and parched, her abdomen swelled and hard, her breathing quick, with a teasing short cough, her breath offensive, and her urine whitish and turbid: She had had no stool for three days.

R. Sal. marin.

Mellis, ana Cochleare amplum;

Solve in aq. commun. unc. octo;

Colaturæ adde ol. oliv. Cochlear. duo.

F. Enema sexta quaque hora injiciend.

R. Sal. Tartari gr. quindecim,

Succ. limon recent. q. s.

Aq. puræ drachm. decem.

Nitri purif. gr. sex.

Syr. simpl. drachmam M.

F. haust. tertia quaq. hora sumend.

The 11th day; Her skin continued hot and dry, her pulse 120 in a minute; the cough,

cough, breathing, delirium, and state of the abdomen, as before. She had two small motions, and her urine was clear, of a lemon colour.

R. Panac. Mercur. gr. quatuor,
 Conf. Cynosb. q. f. F. pilula,
 Quamprimum sumend.

Injiciatur Enema quarta quaque hora,
 Nisi bis terve responderit alvus.
 Perstet in usu haustuum salin.

The 12th day; Her pulse beat 100 times in a minute, her respiration was better, her cough less troublesome, and her delirium not so constant; her skin, however, was still hot and dry: Her belly was soft, in consequence of two large fetid stools, and her urine of a deeper colour than before. She had, at different times, some unquiet sleep, out of which she used to start, with tremblings and signs of great horror.

Perstet in usu haustuum, et repetatur
 Pilul. mercurial. nocte sumenda.

The 13th day; Her pulse was unequal with frequent subsultus tendinum, and the
 cough

cough almost incessant. She had had no sleep during the night, and passed very little urine. Her delirium increased, and, notwithstanding three copious stools occasioned by her medicine, the abdomen became more swelled and hard, than it had been at any time before.

Applicetur Vesicator. Nuchæ,

R. Camphor. gr. quinque,

Mucilag. Gum Arab. drachmam,

Commixtis adde Sacchar semidrachm,

Aq. alexeter. simp. unciam

Vin. Antimon. gutt. viginti.

F. haustus tertia quaque hora repetend.

The 14th day ; Her pulse beat regularly, but weakly, 80 times in a minute ; her skin was moist and less hot ; the cough, delirium, and subsultus, left her ; her tongue was soft, and disposed to grow clean round the edge ; her respiration was easy, the abdomen in good plight, and her urine abundant and turbid.

At eight o'clock on the preceding evening, she became suddenly mute, cold, and weak to the last degree ; her eyes were fixed, and her

her under-lip in unremitting motion. In about half an hour after, when the by-standers thought her expiring, a retching came on, and brought up a whitish live worm, six inches long, and as round as the barrel of a large swan-quill. Astonishing relief immediately ensued, so that she slept tolerably easy, and perspired considerably, during the greatest part of the night. Towards morning she called for the bed-pan, and voided a dead worm with some slime. I ordered some cups of seasoned gruel and chicken-broth to be given her, in the course of the day, and a rhubarb potion to be taken on the following morning.

The 15th day ; She had three stools, and was, to all appearance, out of danger ; so that, having given the necessary instructions with regard to her diet, and other management, I thought it unnecessary to continue my visits.*

* This young Lady lived in the country, near four miles distant from my house.

VIII.

A Case of remarkable Dissolution of the Blood.

IN six days after I had discontinued my visits to the young lady just mentioned, [Miss A—— M——, VII.] I was sent for early in the morning, and on my arrival, at noon, was alarmed at the state in which I found her: Her pulse beat only 48 strokes in a minute, her hands and arms were cold, and her skin sprinkled all over with bright-purple spots, a few of which, upon her chest and neck, were as large as the common petechiæ. She complained of extreme weakness, and sighed very frequently.

I was informed that every thing had gone on prosperously since the time I left her; that her appetite and strength were improving; and that she had slept well every night, except the last, during which she had been very restless; sighed almost constantly, complained of being weak, and scarcely ceased spitting of pale blood; for which, however,

however, I could not discover any outlet in her mouth or throat.

R. Extr. Cort. Peruv. gr. quindecim,
 Alumin. rup. pulv. gr. tria,
 Syr. simpl. q. f. F. bolus.
 Singulis bihoris sumend. superbibend.
 Cochl. un. cum dimidio Vin. rubr. Gallic.

R. Sp. Vitriol. ten. drachmam,
 Infus. rosar. rubr. unciam M.
 Cap. cochl. parv. in singulis potus
 Ordinar. haustib.

R. Alumin. pulv. drachmam,
 Aq. fontan. unc. octo,
 Aceti,
 Syr. moror. ana semunciam M.
 Pro Gargarismat. quo os et imæ fauces
 sæpius colluantur.

A composition of three parts of pure water, one part of claret, a toasted orange, and a little sugar, was recommended for her common drink.

The 2d day; Her pulse was stronger but not quicker, her skin warm, her spirits better, and her sobbing less frequent. The bloody

spitting was diminished, the small spots became red, the larger ones were less than before, but still purple. I desired that the bolus should be now given every three hours only, and that, in every other respect, she should be governed conformably to the instructions given on the preceding day.

The 3d day ; Her pulse was 64 in a minute and strong, her anxiety quite over, her spirits very good, and the bloody spitting ceased. Most of the spots disappeared, and the few which remained were of a bright red colour. I now advised a suspension of medicines, and only required that she should continue to take her drink, and a wine-glass of pure claret every three hours ; nay oftener, if a return of sighing or of weakness should be observed.

The 4th day ; Her pulse got up to its natural pitch. She was perfectly chearful, and no appearance of the spots remained upon her skin. Her shift was found here and there marked with reddish spots, and a broad patch of the same colour was discovered,

vered, where, it was reasonable to suppose, some blood had come away per vaginam.†

The 5th day ; She took a dose of rhubarb, and afterwards was put upon the use of a decoction of bark, which, together with daily exercise on horse-back, and a proper diet, perfectly restored her health and improved her constitution.

IX.

The History of an uncommon Putrid Disease.

MRS. M^cC——, aged twenty years and some months, had always enjoyed a perfect state of health, until a few weeks before her death, when it was observed that she became pensive and low-spirited, and that her appetite and complexion were not

† This girl had been subject to the fluor albus, from time to time, since her seventh year of age ; and had a *shew* of menstruation in her ninth year. The same thing happened to her, twice since that period, in a greater quantity, *instar loturæ carniū*.

as good as they had been. These appearances, being deemed the natural consequence of a pregnant state, gave no kind of alarm to herself or her friends, and were, therefore, not attended to.

She complained on a Thursday morning (forty-six hours before her death) of a heaviness in her head, a sickness at her stomach, a bad taste in her mouth, a pain in her back, and great weakness; and having believed that her indisposition was occasioned by a couple of eggs, which she had eaten the night before, she drank some draughts of camomile-tea in order to excite vomiting, but without any such effect. About noon, her skin began to change its colour, and a vast number of dull red spots appeared on her neck and breast. As the small-pox happened to be rife at that time in her neighbourhood, it was supposed she had caught that disease.

I was called upon to assist her, early in the afternoon, and found her pulse, small and weak, 50 strokes in a minute; her skin was very cool, her chest and neck beset with
large

large purple spots, her tongue white, and her breath offensive. She said that the pain in her back, the heaviness in her head, and the sickness of her stomach, were great ; but that a load about her heart, and a sinking of her spirits, distressed her much more.

My opinion being asked concerning the nature of her disorder, and its probable event, I told her husband that I did not think it likely to turn out the small-pox ; but that, be the disease what it might, her life was in danger, unless the rapid progress of putrefaction should be checked before morning. I, at the same time, expressed my desire of the assistance of another physician, which I did not obtain till the next day.

R. Vin. Antimon. unc. duas,
Quamprimum fumend. et paulo post,
Peractam operat. aggrediatur usum,
Misturæ seq.

R. Extract. Cort. Peruv. semunciam,
Solve in aq. menth. piperitid. unc. octo.
Adde sp. Lavendul. comp. semunciam
Conf. Cardiac.
Syr. e Cort. aurant. ana drachm. tres.
Capiat Cochl. tria omni bihorio.

Claret and water, acidulated with the juice of toasted oranges, was recommended for her drink.

At ten o'clock, on Friday morning, another physician was called in to assist me. We found her body in every part cool, and her skin of a copper-colour; the spots were abundantly increased, and of a deep purple, her countenance was sorrowful, her eyes weeping, dull and reddish, and her pulse only 42 strokes in a minute: She hiccoughed very frequently.

Applicentur Vesicatoria inter scapulas
et tibis internis.

R. Mosch. opt. pulv. gr. quindecim.
Camphoræ.
Sal. vol. C. C. ana gr. quinque
Mucilag. Gum. Arab. q. f. F. bolus.

Secunda quaque horâ sumendus, superbibendo,
Cochl. duo Misturæ antea præscript.

Pure wine mulled was ordered for her drink, a tea-cup full to be taken from time to time.

On Friday evening, her pulse sunk, her skin was cold, her respiration scarcely to be perceived, and her anxiety inexpressible. She died early on Saturday morning, having retained her mental faculties to the last moment.

It is somewhat remarkable, that the blistering plasters, which adhered closely to her shoulders and legs for almost eighteen hours, did not produce any other effect on her skin, than they would have done on that of a dead body.

X.

Thoughts on the foregoing Case.

IS it not reasonable to suppose, that this rapid dissolution was effected by a powerful putrid leaven, which acted the part of a most deleterious sedative? But surely, such dire and sudden consequences cannot, with justice, be attributed to the eggs she had eaten the night before her disorder commenced,

menced, even though they had been stale, which it may be presumed was not the case. A short review of this unfortunate woman's history, communicated to me by a near relation of her's, may serve to throw some light upon this subject.

Mrs. M^cC—— was the daughter of a wealthy farmer, whose house was, at all times, an hospitable rendezvous to his neighbours and friends: There she daily enjoyed the pleasures of chearful society, and the benefits to health which result from pure air, exercise, and innocent rural amusements.

About seven months before her death, her father bestowed her, in marriage, upon a young man, who, though very deserving, was not the object of her own private choice; and, in a short time after marriage, she removed from her father's house to that of her husband, ineligibly situated in a large trading town. There she passed many solitary days, having but a few town-acquaintances, and the nature of her husband's business obliging him to spend the greater part of his
time

time from home. Those unpleasant hours she generally devoted to female employments, and seldom walked abroad for fear of catching the small-pox. She appeared chearful, however, all the time, and seemed to be in good health, until about five weeks before her death, as has been already mentioned.

Q U E R I E S.

May not the insensible generation and the gradual increase of this poison, proceed from the operation of some depressing affections of the mind, upon a constitution so altered, as we may reasonably suppose her's to have been, in consequence of having quitted the pure animating air of the country, exercise, tranquility, and the pleasures of an agreeable society?

Or, May it be surmised that the deadly steams had been furnished by the *unsuspected* death and subsequent putrefaction of the foetus in utero? Do not the pensiveness, lowness of spirits, diminished appetite and
faded

faded complexion (noticed a few weeks before her death) favour this opinion? And, if so, Might not a *timely* free use of Peruvian bark and port-wine have been essentially useful, as well to obviate the bad effects of the putrid absorption, as to strengthen the system, and thereby enable nature to cast forth the source of all these evils?

XI.

A singular Case of a rapid Dissolution.

ABOUT six years ago, two young gentlemen, who lay ill of a malignant fever with ulcerated throats, were put under my care. Their mother (who was extremely corpulent, or rather bloated, from luxurious diet and indolency) was so apprehensive of catching the disease that, although she loved her children most tenderly, she did not go near them without much reluctance, and a bottle of medicated vinegar: This precaution she deemed the more necessary, as two of the servants happened to fall ill of the same disease.

On my arrival at the house, about seven in the evening,† I found this lady at her tea, seemingly in good health and rather chearful: I had not been there half an hour, nor yet seen the children, when she cried out with great agitation, “ I have taken the disorder,—I shall die of it,”—and desired me to look into her throat. I could not perceive any thing amiss, assured her she had nothing to fear, and said every thing possible in order to compose the hurry of her spirits, but all in vain. Her countenance was changed immediately, in a manner not to be described, and she became so weak and feeble, that it was necessary to have two assistants to support her to her bed-chamber. As soon as she had been laid in her bed, I went to her, and found her pulse remarkably weak and indistinct, her skin cool, and her breathing quick and uneasy. She looked at me, like a person in a state of stupefaction,

† These children were about 12 miles distant from my house; so that, for the satisfaction of the family and my own convenience, I went to them every afternoon, and returned to my town-patients in the morning. They had thus the advantage of being visited twice a day.

seemed unwilling, or unable, to answer the questions I asked her, spoke incoherently and was, before midnight, comatose. In spite of all the means made use of to rouse her, she remained in this state, urinâ et fæcibus inscié labentibus, until the following evening, when she expired.

After death, several large gangrenous blotches were seen upon the lower parts of her body, which became so intolerably offensive, that it was, on the next day, placed in a coffin.

How is this almost-sudden dissolution to be accounted for! We are told, that thunder-storms have frequently occasioned beer, in barrels, to become muddy or sour; fermenting liquors to become quiescent and spoiled; and joints of recently-killed animals to become *greenish* even to the bone. If these reports be true, § and that a *remote* cause

§ I remember being present, many years ago, at the stirring up some family tubs of well-fermenting wort, which

cause has been found capable of operating such effects upon inanimate bodies, may we not suppose that the *force* of a strongly pre-possessed *imagination*, might co-operate in producing extraordinary changes in a living body, circumstanced as this lady was,

—Ubi vehementi magis est commota *Metu* mens,
Consentire animam totam per membra videmus :

Sudores itaque, et pallorem existere toto

Corpore, et infringi linguam vocemque aboriri :

Caligare oculos, sonere aures, succidere artus.

Denique concidere ex animi terrore videmus

Sæpè homines : facile ut quivis hinc noscere possit,

Esse animam cum animo conjunctam ; que cum

Animi vi

Percussa est, exin corpus propellit et icit.

LUCRET.

which was found, the day after, in a quiet, muddy, and almost-vapid state ; supposed to have happened in consequence of a remarkable thunder-storm during the night : And I saw at the shop of my butcher—Mr. Watson of Hungerford market—a considerable quantity of meats rendered greenish and unfit for use, in the course of one thundering night. This circumstance happened in the year 1779 or 1780, and I was assured that many other butchers had suffered, in this way, at the same time.

XII.

The History of a nervous ATROPHY, or CONSUMPTION, occasioned by an Affection of of the Mind, and unexpectedly cured by an extraordinary Accident.

MRS. C——, who had borne many children, generally enjoyed good health, until the forty-third year of her age, at which time irregular returns of abundant menstruation, and other circumstances incidental to her sex at that critical period of life, harrassed her constitution considerably. In her six and fortieth year a dejection of spirits came on, attended with a gradual decay of appetite, a pain and fulness at the pit of her stomach, unusual costiveness, unrefreshing sleep, and very frequent eructations.

At this time I found her pulse, 60 weak strokes in a minute, sometimes unequal, at other times with intermissions; the back of her tongue thickly covered with foulness; her urine either in small quantities with a lateritious

lateritious sediment, or copious and pale. Her eyes were dull, her complexion faded, and her skin tinged with a yellowish cast.

R. Extract. cathart. gr. quindecem,
Calc. antimon. illot gr. quinque,
Calomelan. gr. tria,
Syr. simp. q. s. F. pilulæ iv. h. s. sumendæ
et post triduum repetend.

These pills operated kindly, and seemed to afford some relief: An emetic was afterwards directed, which performed its office well, and brought off a considerable quantity of viscid foulness. Her regimen was duly ordered, and the following course of medicines prescribed to her, in the use of which she persevered steadfastly, during three weeks.

R. Myrrh elect.
Galban. colat. ana. drachm. duas
Extr. flor. chamœmel.
Flor. Martial. ana drachmam,
Syr. q. s. F. Massa in pilulas lx. dividend.
Capiat tres mane et meridie, cum haustulo seq.

R. Aq. Menth. piperitid fescunciam,
—— Nuc. Moschat,
Vin. Chalyb. aromat. ana drachmam.
Tinct. aromat. gutt. triginta M.

R. Tinct. Rhei vinos ;

Sacræ, ana unc. tres ;

Senæ, unciam cum dimid. M.

. Capiat cochl. duo vel tria, hora fomni, pro re nata.

By these means the pain and fulness at her stomach left her, and she was much less afflicted with wind ; but neither her appetite nor her spirits received any amendment : On the contrary, her inappetency increased, and she was much troubled with retchings every morning, soon after getting out of bed. Her flesh wasted daily, and the state of her mind bordered upon despondency ; she passed many days in thoughtful silence, and most nights without much sleep ; she anxiously wished for retirement, and could not bear the visits of those whom she had esteemed most before her illness ; especially one person, with whom she had a long time lived upon the terms of intimate friendship.

The Materia Medica was ransacked upon this occasion ; the cortex alone, and with chalybeates, was prescribed in all forms, and a fair trial given to every approved antispasmodic—but all to no purpose. A short
voyage

voyage and journey to Bath was proposed, but she would not be prevailed upon to undertake it; she consented however, after many entreaties, to try the effects of a change of air, and of a light chalybeate water, at no great distance from the place she lived in. There, impatient of her situation—indeed impatient of every thing—she did not remain longer than a week, when she returned to her own house under an aggravation of all her sufferings, with oedematous swellings in her legs, which did not in the least subside during the night.

She now formed a resolution of not leaving her bed, and positively refused to take any medicine, except something to raise her spirits and help her to sleep. An ounce and half of *Tinct. Valer. volat.* (of which a teaspoonful was to be taken occasionally in a glass of peppermint water) and a draught with twenty-four drops of *Tinct. Thebaic* (to be taken at night) were directed for her.

One evening, her husband, having some business to transact from home, desired the

nurse not to give the night draught till his return, which happened not to be before midnight; when through mistake—in the consequence fortunate—he poured out the volatile tincture, which she drank off greedily and was almost suffocated. The alarmed husband immediately discovered his error, and sent for me.

On entering the room, I observed him in a very distressed state, with all the emotions and tender concern of an affectionate husband: He even vowed determined self-destruction for having been the unfortunate, though innocent, cause of hastening his wife's death. She, on the contrary, appeared very calm, and endeavoured to soothe her husband's disquietude, by saying that she was past all hopes of recovery, if that accident had not happened: She added that, for a long time, she had wished for death to put an end to her misery, and that she would often have sought it, by some mean or other, if religion had not checked her.

I prevailed

I prevailed upon her to sip a spoonful of fallad-oil ; desired the nurse to give her frequently a cup of almond-milk and chicken-broth ; used every argument to persuade them both to believe, that what she had taken would not affect her life, and then retired.

The next morning, her pulse (which had been for many days below 50) beat 64 times in a minute, her spirits were considerably better, and, what is extraordinary, neither her gums, tongue, nor throat, were excoriated, nor in any other manner affected so as to claim attention.

She gradually recovered her former health, without any further aid from medicine, and continued tolerably well for almost three years ; when an Ascites, sudden in its invasion, and rapid in its progress, put an end to her existence.

XIII.

Reflections on the foregoing Case.

NO person is ignorant that any inordinate affection of the mind is capable of disturbing the body, and of producing very obstinate disorders, if it should continue to act for any length of time : Nay, some examples have shewn that passions (useful and friendly to the well-being of the body, when moderate) have become, when sudden or vehement, the instruments of immediate death. It is also generally known that the *mens sana* depends so much upon the sound and healthy state of the body, that there are but a few, if any, diseases, in the course of which it may not be observed that the mental faculties are, in one manner or another, affected from simple anxiety, up to the greatest extravagance of fatuity, despondency or fury ; and this in proportion to the difference of constitution, or the nature and duration of the malady.

Observations, however, have taught us that, in the latter case, the mind resumes its wonted dominion, so soon as the obstructions in the bodily organs are removed ; and that, in the former circumstance, medicines, which act solely on the moving fibres, *sometimes* produce a particular effect upon the animal œconomy, by virtue of which the latent affection of the mind happens to be either moderated, suspended, or changed into some other of a less distressing kind.

———*Mentem sanari, corpus ut aegrum,
Et pariter flecti medicina posse videmus.

But since such fortunate instances occur but rarely, it were much to be wished that physicians (whose honour and discretion ought to be such as may entitle them to implicit confidence) could be informed of the state of the patient's mind, previous to, and often concomitant with the disease. For, in such a case, the judicious practitioner would not confide, too much, in the efficacy of drugs alone, however potent ; but would,

* Lucret. Lib. iii.

at the same time, endeavour to prescribe a suitable medicine to the mind, either by recommending gratification consistent with virtue and honour, or the comforting consolations of religion, or the wholesome dissipation afforded by chearful society, publick amusements, variety of objects, change of climate, &c.

Antiochus, the son of Seleucus, would have sunk under the weight of his disorder, had not the penetration of the attentive Erasistratus, his physician, discovered that he was pining away through love of the fair Stratonice:† And the father of physic could not have saved Perdiccas, King of the Macedonians, had he not found that his disorder, which, by every one else, was deemed a consumption, proceeded from an excess of passion for the lovely Phylas, one of his father's concubines: “ Ex cujus conspectu illum prorsus immutari animadvertit et regem sanitati restituit.”‡

† Plutarch. in Demetrio.

‡ Soranus in Vita Hippocrat.

The patient also, whose case we have just given, would have undoubtedly sunk under the pressure of her cares, had not the extreme alarm and tender anxiety of her husband, consequent to his mistake, served to convince her that the doubt of his affection, under which she had languished for a long time, regardless of life, was nothing more than the suggestion of a weak and jealous brain.

XIV.

Some Account of a Dropsical Disorder, flowing from an unsuspected Cause.

J R—, a day-labourer upwards of fifty years old, who had been for many years in the destructive habit of dram-drinking, came to my house to ask advice for a swelling in his legs and belly, a difficulty of breathing, and a hardness near the pit of his stomach, which gave him some pain on being pressed. Believing his disorder to be a dropfy, proceeding from a diseased liver, I directed for him, suitably to his circumstances,

stances, one dram of powdered jalap and two grains of emetic tartar, to be taken in the morning, and to be repeated every second day, *ad tertiam vicem*; with orders to come to me afterwards for further advice.

He came again to my house, after a few days, to return thanks for his recovery, being perfectly relieved in his breathing, free from swelling in his belly or legs, and rid of the hardness near the pit of his stomach. He told me that he had taken only one dose of his physic, which worked him violently up and down, and so carried off his disorder: That he had a natural purging, in two days after, which brought away many hard lumps, one of which he had washed and kept to shew me. It was a gall-stone much of the figure, and nearly the size, of an ordinary French olive.

Upon this I enquired minutely into this man's habit of body, and former complaints, and received assurances that he never had been subject to colic, vomiting, or any degree of the jaundice; and that he was accustomed

accustomed to have at least one stool every day, until about two weeks before his belly began to swell.

Who would have any suspicion of biliary concretions in this case?

In two years after, he was carried off in the course of one day, by a cholera morbus; and no mode of persuasion was sufficient to obtain the consent of the family to have him opened.

A Note to the foregoing Case.

I have no doubt that biliary concretions are formed more frequently than is suspected, and that they rarely create any considerable disturbance, whilst they remain quiet in their nest; unless the number should increase so much, as to over-distend the cystis, which, perhaps, was the case with J. R.

But, that gall-stones should pass, through the exquisitely-feeling ducts, into the duodenum, without occasioning great pain,
is

is scarcely to be conceived; and yet I have known such an instance in the late Rev. Mr. G——, with whom I lived, for some time, in habits of intimacy and friendship. That gentleman shewed me an extraordinary collection of gall-stones, of different forms and sizes, which had come away from him, at different times, since his childhood, without giving him any serious uneasiness, except what he suffered in the beginning, when his disorder was mistaken for a pleurisy, (as he told me) and treated as such. His father, who had been bred a physician, soon after discovered the cause of his complaints, and recommended temperance during his life, with the occasional use of laxatives and the warm bath.

Although Mr. G—— had the perfect outline of predisposition to the apoplexy, yet he lived to be near seventy years old, without any other disorder than slight attacks of the gout, and a constant dull pain in the right hypochondre. This pain became sometimes more acute, and was accompanied with loss of appetite, lowness of spirits, and a fallowness of

of complexion, which left him in a day or two after taking some doses of his Jamaica gout medicine,|| which he had, for a long time, preferred to every other laxative medicine he had tried.

His death was supposed to have been occasioned by the imprudent use of a *hot* bath, which brought on him a fever and lethargy.

XV.

*Some Account of an ANOMALOUS DISORDER,
occasioned by a TÆNIA, or TAPE WORM.*

P B——, a hard-labouring man, forty • years old, was afflicted with a pain between his shoulders, and a white swelling with a stiffness in his left knee, which, for some time, disabled the poor man from earning his bread. He was admitted, an out-patient, at the Cork infirmary, and various

|| A solution of two ounces of Gum Guaiac. and half an ounce of Nitre in a pint of Jamaica Rum.

means

means were ineffectually tried to relieve him ; upon which he became peevish, and declined coming there any longer.

In a short time after, without any apparent cause, he became suddenly free from these complaints ; but was, on the following day, tormented by a kind of hooping-cough, which continued to tease him for many days, and scarcely afforded any intermission, except for a short time after eating something, or swallowing a spoonful of brandy.

In about two weeks after this attack, he started from his sleep, at night, greatly oppressed, and complained much of a *squeezing at his heart* : A strangury was troublesome to him during the remainder of the night, and in the morning his face, hands, and every part of his body, were found considerably swelled.

At the request of this poor man's employer, I went to see him on the following day, and found him all over anasarcaous, labouring under a most threatening asthma.

His

His hands and feet were cold, a pulse could not be felt in any part, his urine was quite suppressed, and he had not had a stool for three days, although he had taken a dose of jalap, and three clysters. In this extraordinary and alarming case, I endeavoured to obviate the most urgent symptoms, by the following means.

R. Mercur. dulc. sublim. gr. sex;
 Elaterii pulv. gr. quatuor;
 Tart. emet. gr. unum,
 Conf. Cynosb. q. f. F. bolus,
 Sinè mora fumendus.

R. Lact. Ammoniac. unc. sex;
 Oxymel. scillit. unc. unam;
 Vin. Antimon. ;
 Syrup. Zinziber. ana semunciam. M.
 Capiat cochl. duo ampla, tertia quaque hora.

Mustard-whey was recommended for his drink, with directions to put a spoonful of Malaga-wine into every draught of it.

On the next day, he was remarkably relieved; his breathing distressed him much less, and the swelling had fallen considerably
 in

in every part of his body, except the abdomen, thighs and legs. His skin was warm, and his pulse, which I could then feel, was weak and quick. The bolus and mixture had purged him several times, he vomited twice, and made urine, from time to time, without any uneasiness.

Perstet in usu misturæ.

Perstet etiam in usu seri sinapin. cum vino.

Repetatur bolus vesperi sumend.

The following day, his respiration gave him very little trouble, his pulse was stronger and fuller, but the swelling on the belly, thighs, and legs, was not visibly diminished. He had made urine in abundance, and had three stools; the last of which brought away a piece§ of a jointed flat worm, measuring more than nine feet. I now suspected

§ In the part where the separation happened, one could easily see the conical vacuity into which the extremity of the preceding link had been inserted. Every succeeding link, joined in the same manner, gradually decreased in breadth. It soon became so tender in its connexions, that I could not preserve the whole piece; but the greatest part of it I put with spirit into a phial, and gave it to a curious medical acquaintance.

that

that his disorder, from the beginning, had been occasioned by this voracious guest, and, in order to dislodge the remainder of it, and to strengthen the absorbing system, prescribed to him as follows :

R. Merc. dulc. sublim. gr. sex.
Tart. emet. gr. unum ;
Conf. Cynosb. q. s. F. Pilula
quarta quaque nocte sumenda.

R. Pulv. stanni, unc. duas ;
Limatur. martis,
Electar. Lenitiv. ana semunciam ;
Rhabarb. pulv. drachm. duas,
Mellis despumat. q. s. F. Electar.

Capiat quantitat. nuc. Castan. medioc. bis in die superbi-
bendo unc. quatuor Infus. Tanacet. et Centaur. min.

In about twelve days he was in a condition to return to his business, which was made easy to him by his humane master, and he strictly followed, for a month, the instructions given to him. His strength increased, his breathing became free, and the swelling of his belly subsided ; but that of his legs and thighs continued in, nearly, the same state. Although his appetite was very good, he fell

away considerably, and was often troubled with pain in his bowels, and some difficulty in making water.

I advised him to discontinue the use of his medicines, and to take, in their stead, a spoonful of unbruised mustard-seed night and morning. This, being the last expedient made use of, was supposed to have performed the cure of his disease; for, in the course of a week, after he had begun to take it, the swelling in his thighs and legs disappeared, his belly was free from pain, and he made urine in great quantities without any difficulty. He told me, that the mustard purged him once or twice a day, and, he believed, had forced away the remainder of the worm, for that he had a very painful* stool, with some blood, in a few days after he began to take it.

* That the remnant of the worm had come away, is not improbable; but I imagine that the painful stool, with blood, rather indicated internal hæmorrhoids, which the irritation of mustard-seed frequently occasions.

XVI.

Thoughts on the foregoing Case.

IT were much to be wished that physicians could invariably come at the knowledge of the *real* causes of maladies, and accurately distinguish between idiopathic and symptomatic complaints: We should, in such case, be enabled, with greater certainty, to trace human infirmities up to their source; and less exposed to the danger of being misled in our endeavours to apply the means of affording relief.†

But, we sometimes meet with irregular cases, which so conceal their occasional causes under the disguise of symptoms peculiar to diseases of a different nature and

† Maximi in Medicina momenti est, similia a dissimilibus secernere, ut explorata et penitus cognita morborum, vel peritissimis medicis sub fallaci idœa illudentium, natura, et vero schemate, remedia affectui debita ab artis peritis assignentur. Hujus rei defectu, necesse est medicos in gravissimos errores incidere. *Frid. Loffius*, lib iii. ob. 28.

tendency, that the most sagacious and experienced practitioner may be led into perplexity, if not into error. Of this kind, I think, we may consider the case just related.†

For, although the disorder did not, from its commencement, nor at any previous period, furnish any diagnostic of the existence of a tænia in the patient's intestines, yet to me it appears extremely probable that this reptile had been the cause, not only of the alarming asthma and anasarca, but also of the pain between his shoulders, of the stiffness and swelling in his knee,|| and of the almost-unceasing cough which preceded them.

See also the Case No. iv.; the note page 29; and the Case of J. R. p. 65.

|| A medical gentleman, to whom I communicated this case, informed me that he had attended a young gentleman, who, at different times, was affected with pain, stiffness, and swelling in one of his knees, which did not, at any time, yield to the applications made use of, until he happened to void a round worm. Soon after, the pain used to quit him very suddenly, and the swelling and stiffness to go off gradually. Can the doctrine of sympathies help us to explain this phenomenon?

To account satisfactorily for those extraordinary symptoms, appears to me impossible: and to have prefaged that they were occasioned by a Tape-worm, would have indicated penetration more than human.

XVII.

An Account of alarming Symptoms, occasioned by a Worm, during the Process of Inoculation.

IN a variety of subjects whom I had inoculated, as well many who did not seem to require any preparation, as those who had been duly prepared, I was so fortunate as not to have met with any disquieting circumstance, except in the following case; which, however, happening to terminate well, relieved me from the great anxiety I suffered for the safety of my patient, and, at the same time, removed the occasion of an unfavourable charge against so salutary a practice:—
A practice which, in the preservation of thousands from the ravages of that dreadful and loathsome disease, (in the natural way)

not only contributes much to the national strength, but is also daily extending the empire of beauty in these kingdoms.

Master J—— M——, two years and three quarters old, of a gross habit, with a large belly, having taken two suitable mercurial* doses, which purged him sufficiently, and reduced the abdomen, was inoculated with recent matter in its crude† state.

In three days after, the punctures appeared so promising, that I had no doubt of the operation having succeeded. His skin was cool, his pulse 80, his belly rather tense.

* I very seldom prescribed a mercurial preparative except to gross subjects, or when I had reason to suspect foul bowels, worms, or mesenteric obstructions.

† Formerly, my method of communicating the disease consisted in laying an infected thread, about one-sixth of an inch, upon a slight scratch made on the arm, with the point of a lancet or needle; and securing it to the part with a small piece of sticking plaster. The threads, for this purpose, were well moistened with variolous matter, then dried, to prevent putrescence, afterwards cut into proper lengths, and kept in a phial. These threads, softened with the steam of water, have been made use of successfully, in several weeks after having been put up.

Two grains of calomel and some spoonfuls of fena-tea were given.

On the *fourth* day, there was a considerable degree of inflammation round the punctures, and his belly became soft, in consequence of four stools occasioned by what he had taken.

On the *fifth* day, the appearances on the arm were very forward, his skin was hotter than ordinary, his pulse beat 96 times in a minute; he had been restless in the night, and started frequently. The nurse was desired to give him some spoonfuls of fena-tea, and to take him into the open air for a few minutes.

On the *sixth* day, the colour round the inoculated part was less florid than it had been, the heat of his skin was increased, and his pulse beat 120 strokes in a minute. The fingers of his left hand were frequently convulsed, his eyes were hollow, his belly swelled and hard: He seemed to have a great propensity to sleep, with startings and grinding
ing

ing of his teeth. His respiration was quick ; and his breath tainted with the cheefe-like smell, that may be perceived with most children during the eruptive fever. From these appearances I began to fear that he had taken the disease in the natural way, and became apprehensive of the consequence.† I ordered a repetition of the calomel and senna-tea.

On the *seventh* day, in the morning, the vesicles on the arm were flat and discoloured, and the inflamed circle of a livid colour. The calomel and senna-tea did not purge him.—He had been often convulsed, during the night ; his left hand was now clinched, his abdomen remarkably tense and full, his pulse 140 in a minute, with frequent subfultus. I ordered a purgative

† As two children, whom I had attended, fell ill of the small-pox (the one in two days, the other in three days after being inoculated) and passed favourably through the different stages of a benign disease, taken in the natural way, I did not suppose that this child's disorder would be at all aggravated by the infection conveyed at the arm : But I had reason to fear that any bad consequence, which might have happened here, would be imputed to inoculation.

clyster,

clyster, a warm bath, sack-whey, and the following mixture :

R. Pulv. Contrayer. Comp. dr. duas ;

Aq. Rutæ, unc. quatuor ;

Syr. Croci, semunciam ;

Sp. C. C. gutt. triginta M.

Capiat Cochl. amplum omni bihorio.

In the evening, the convulsions were of shorter duration, and not so frequent as before ; the subfultus tendinum not considerable, the pulse much the same as in the morning, his belly much softer. The clyster purged him twice, and he slept almost an hour after the bath, in which he had remained upwards of twelve minutes. A repetition of the clyster and bath, and a continuance of the mixture, were recommended.

At two o'clock the next morning, I was called out of bed, and had the mortification of finding my little patient in a deplorable way : He was pale, cold, oppressed, and just recovered from a convulsive fit, under which he had struggled violently for more than half an hour. Both his hands were clinched,
his

his eyes stared obliquely, his jaws were closely locked, and his pulse so small and quick that it seemed impossible to number it. He was again put into a warm bath, for a few minutes, and a blistering plaster, which I had ordered to be in readiness, was applied between his shoulders.

On the *eighth* day, in the morning, his pulse was remarkably improved, and about 130 in a minute. His skin was rather hot, his belly soft, and his jaws free; but his hands remained closely shut, and his eyes distorted. He had no convulsion from the time I saw him last, was able to take some drink in about three quarters of an hour after I left him, slept a little now and then, and perspired freely. I imputed this unexpected relief to the eruption of some variolous pimples, but could not find any. The vesicles on the arm, indeed, became somewhat elevated, and the surrounding dusky colour changed to that of a bright red. I desired the mixture and sack-whey to be continued.

In the evening, his pulse was at 100 strokes in a minute, his skin temperate, his hands relaxed, and his eyes adjusted. He had slept a great deal during the day, but no eruption could be discovered upon any part of his body. The nurse, on arranging his bed, found a worm nine inches and a half long, which probably had come away during, or after, the severe fit of the preceding night, and gave occasion for the happy change that followed.

Every thing went on prosperously to the *fifteenth* day, when, without any apparent degree of fever, a cluster of eruptions appeared upon the inoculated arm, and were followed by a few more pimples upon the face and neck, all of which suppurated kindly.

XVIII.

*A rare Instance of a retarded Eruptive Fever,
after Inoculation.*

IT is probable that the usual process of inoculation was kept back, in the foregoing case, by the turbulence and disorder which the worm had excited. But I have seen another case, where the pimples did not break out until *nineteen* days after inoculation, for which I could not assign any reason. The child was so healthy, and fair a subject, as not to need any preparation, nor was she, in any manner, weakened either by spare diet or previous indisposition. As her case contains some circumstances deserving notice, I shall give it in this place, as it stood on my note-book.

1767.

March 10th. Miss N—- K—, four years
and a quarter old—inoculated from
Miss D—'s arm.

13th. Appearance of infection in one of the punctures, no appearance in the other.

15th. A vesicle formed—rubbed off in the night—discharged ichorous matter till the 19th.—No sickness.

20th. Inoculated on the other arm, with the matter of a natural small-pox.

23^d. Punctures disappeared—a dry scab on the arm first punctured—declared safe, and permitted to return to her usual manner of living.

26th. The first arm sore—The scab soft and surrounded with inflammation—Apply a poultice.

27th. Soreness and inflammation considerable.

28th. Soreness and inflammation increased—slight sickness and retching, drowsiness, starting, quick pulse, hot skin—Give three grains of calomel.

29th.

29th. Many coherent eruptions on and about the punctured part of the arm.

30th. A few distinct eruptions on the face, neck and breast.

All of them matured duly, and became the largest and most painful pustules I had ever seen upon any inoculated person; and this notwithstanding a plentiful discharge of matter from the arm, which continued to run for many days after all was over; and was thought to have been principally instrumental in the cure of diseased eye-lids, and a swelling of her upper-lip, § to which she had been more or less subject from her infancy; especially on catching cold, or eating any

§ In consequence of this remark, I have very often recommended (in similar cases, and for the cure of pimpled faces in young people) a drain to be made from either arm, by means of a perpetual blister, the size of half a crown: And I think I have generally observed better effects from a discharge in this way, than from that of a common issue. Is it, because the discharge is made from a larger surface, or that some benefit is received by an absorption from the macerated skin?—Cantharides have been given internally, in some obstinate cutaneous and glandular diseases.

thing

thing that happened to disagree with her stomach.

XIX.

An Attempt to vindicate the Practice of Inoculation, from some Charges which have been made against it.

ALTHOUGH Inoculation has been known in Europe, for many years, and has been practised among us, with very flattering success, yet there is not, perhaps, any branch of knowledge, whose progress has been so much kept back, by the superstitious notions of some people, and the groundless fears and unfair conclusions of others, who fancied that the *Evil*, the *Scurvy*, the *Lues Venerea*, &c. may happen to be blended with the variolous matter, and so communicated, by inoculation, from one person to another.

For this fanciful opinion, no other reason was offered, but the hear-say authority of
some

some children having appeared to be sickly, weak, scrophulous, and so forth, *after* inoculation, who before that time had been found and healthy ; and of some adults who had complained of various indispositions, to any of which they had not been subject, until in some time after having passed through the small-pox, in this way.

As to the first impediment, founded upon the fear of its being criminal to bring on a disease, of which the subject *may* happen to die, very little remains to be said : Calculations of the success attending the practice, supported by just observations, and corroborated by sensible and convincing deductions, have served so effectually to level this barrier, that those, who had been the most scrupulous and formidable opponents to the practice of inoculation, have insensibly become its most strenuous advocates, and no longer think it wrong to anticipate a dreadful evil.

With regard to the second obstacle, it is not sufficient to say that inoculators have been cautious in their choice of matter, and
minutely

minutely inquisitive into the state and condition of the persons from whom they take it; for, in spite of all precautionary investigation, those persons might happen to be scrophulous, scorbutic, or tainted with the venereal virus: But I venture to allege that, as far as we can know, it is not possible to introduce either disease—in the way of modern inoculation—with the variolous matter, which every one knows to be a specific leaven, *fui generis*.

As it would lead me too far, should I attempt to establish this allegation by proofs drawn from argument and observation; I shall, for the present, only appeal to gentlemen of the most extensive practice, and ask them whether they have, at any time, known a single clear instance to the contrary? I believe not; and, at the same time, I candidly own, that I have heard some persons complain that their constitutions were not so good, since the time they had been inoculated, as they were before; and that they were subject to disorders of the stomach, and to other indispositions new to them. Nay, I

have seen children affected with scrophulous, ricketty, and other illnesses, of which no symptoms had been discovered, until in some time after having had the small-pox in this way. But what then? Is it just, is it philosophical, to infer that these changes were produced by any distinct infectious serum blended with the variolous matter, and with it conveyed to the patient at the time of incision? By no means.

Let us then endeavour to discover the cause somewhere else, and I think we shall be most likely to succeed in our investigation, by taking a short review of the mode of practice, which was formerly in use, and had been too long a time implicitly followed by the generality of the practitioners of that period. This enquiry will also enable us to assign the probable reason, why fewer miscarriages have happened since that time; why the disease has generally proved more benign and less in quantity; and, why the bad consequences, formerly imputed to inoculation, are now very seldom, if at all mentioned,

mentioned,* notwithstanding the very great disparity in point of the number inoculated in our days.

In some years† after inoculation had come into vogue, the practitioners imagined that too much could not be done, in order to *reduce* their patients, and to *purify* their blood: and this with the intention of disposing them for the production of a mild and favourable disease. For these purposes a tedious preparatory process during six weeks, sometimes longer, used to be indiscriminately prescribed, with very little regard to the difference of sex, season, custom, or constitution.

* It may be presumed, that the modern method of inoculation will continue free from the occasions of cavil or reproach, unless some person shall venture to become so rash as, either by the *indeterminate* use of repellents, or of other means, to interrupt nature's regular conduct through the different stages of the disease.

† Until about twenty-five years ago, this idea, and the practice founded upon it, prevailed pretty generally in the southern parts of a neighbouring kingdom.

Some practitioners directed a mercurial dose to be taken over-night, and a purging draught in the morning ; with orders to repeat them twice a week, and to take, on the intermediate days, sweetening powders, so called, which consisted, for the most part, of Ethiops mineral, absorbent powder, and a few grains of rhubarb.

Others advised a smart purging physic to be taken once a week, and every other day, during probation, a cup of rhubarb-beer in the morning, and a paper of magnesia alb. with a few grains of mercur. alkaliz. at night.

Children were generally prepared with doses of rhubarb, repeated every third day, and a long continuance of the use of powders, composed of crab's eyes, Ethiop's mineral, and tin.

Every patient, male, female, young and old, was kept low in point of diet ; abstinence from animal food, was particularly insisted upon, and no kind of fermented liquor,

liquor, except very small beer at dinner, was allowed throughout the whole time of preparation ; during which period the patient was not suffered to go out of the house, lest he should catch cold, or receive the infection in the natural way.†

As soon as the person was judged to be sufficiently prepared, (of which a *pale face* was some indication) a doffel of lint, wet with variolous matter, was inserted into such an incision, upon the arm, as is commonly made for an issue. The wound sometimes

† One gentleman, Dr. Cr——, was more indulgent to his patients, and they, indeed, came off much better than those who were confined to the rigid regimen. He allowed a small portion of meat, three or four days in the week, until one week before the inoculation ; permitted the delicate, and those who were in the habit of living well, to take a glass or two of wine, diluted with water, on their meat-days, and made no objection to moderate exercise in the open air. As to preparative medicines, he walked in the ways of his cotemporaries ; but seldom continued their use for so long a time.

His general success and more lenient method procured him the first-rate reputation ; so that he was invited to practise in many places, distant from that of his residence, and, after a few years, retired from business, possessed of an ample fortune.

took on a gangrenous appearance, and frequently became a large ill-conditioned ulcer.

Though few of the inoculated happened to dye, after all this trouble, yet many produced a considerable quantity of bad pocks, from which they narrowly escaped with their lives ; to experience afterwards, in various ways, the evils of a debilitated constitution, languid circulation, vitiated fluids, and depraved secretions :—Natural consequences of the abuse of purgatives, and misnamed sweeteners ; of a tedious restraint from necessary sustenance, and of a mistaken prohibition from pure air and exercise.

From these sources have flowed the foul currents, which threatened, for a long time, to overwhelm inoculation,

XX.

*Some Account of the Efficacy of Warm-Bathing, in the Small-pox.**

HAVING seen many examples of the good effects of a warm bath, in the spasmodic and convulsive disorders of children, whether excited by dentition, worms, or eruptive fevers; it sometimes occurred to me that the same means might prove beneficial in that stage of the small-pox, wherein great numbers have perished, in spite of the most prudent and varied use of venesection, epispastics, purgatives, antiseptics, &c.

My thoughts upon this head became more pressing, on having duly considered the or-

* Extracted from the Appendix to my inaugural Dissertation, *De Ventriculi Imbecillitate*, printed at Leyden in the year 1764. As Essays of this kind are, for the most part, limited in their distribution, and consequently escape the notice of many medical readers, I have thought it not amiss to translate the following cases.

dinary effects of a warm bath ;† and calling to mind the symptoms which I had generally observed to take place, in the sick of this disease, not many hours before death : viz. shivering succeeded by intense heat, grinding or gnashing of the teeth, intolerable itching in the skin, restlessness, hoarseness, oppressed breathing, and, sometimes convulsive motions, or a rigid inflexibility of the limbs.

Specious however as the inference seemed to me, the novelty of the experiment, and

† A warm Bath is found to alleviate the most severe colical or nephritic pains. It relaxes the entire system, and, by this means, often facilitates the protrusion of biliary concretions, indurated fæces, and calculi. It unbinds spasmodic constrictions, and restrains convulsive motions ; It softens and cleanses the surface of the body, and so disposes it to perspire more freely ; whilst the numberless cutaneous absorbents copiously suck in the surrounding element. It softens and enlarges the pulse, and always disposes to sleep and sweat, unless the return of violent pain, as in fits of the colic or stone, happens to counteract these effects.

Its general properties are similar to those of opium, with this advantage on the side of warm bathing, that it may be used with safety and to good purposes, in ardent inflammatory fevers, and some other cases where opium is, for the most part, thought precarious, if not dangerous.

the want of authority from medical writers, discouraged me from putting it into practice, until the following case presented itself, in which a warm bath appeared to be a rational resource.

C A S E I.

“ I attended a tradesman’s child, eight
 “ years old, ill of the confluent small-pox :
 “ The necessary means were made use of to
 “ the *ninth* day, and the child went on, so
 “ far, in no unpromising way. Having
 “ called for something to eat, his mother
 “ gave him a piece of gingerbread, soon
 “ after which he complained of a sick sto-
 “ mach, and a pain in his belly : An offici-
 “ ous neighbour, who came in, desired to
 “ give the boy a little pepper in a glass of
 “ strong beer, from which he got immediate
 “ relief, and fell into unquiet sleep. He
 “ soon after awoke terrified and delirious,
 “ with extreme heat in his skin, a quick
 “ small pulse, laborious breathing, grinding
 “ of his teeth, and almost total subsidence of
 “ the swelling in his face. Whilst I was
 making

“ making some enquiries into the cause of
 “ this unexpected alteration, he was seized
 “ with violent convulsions, which afforded
 “ me a fair occasion to try the effects of a
 “ warm bath, into which he was put, ad
 “ claviculas usque, as soon as he had re-
 “ ceived a clyster.

“ After five minutes his pulse was slower
 “ and fuller, and the convulsive motions
 “ weaker: in ten minutes the convulsions
 “ left him: in twelve minutes he greedily
 “ drank a cup of whey: in fifteen minutes
 “ he began to yawn and seemed disposed to
 “ sleep: upon which he was taken out of
 “ the bath, was wrapt up in a warm sheet,
 “ and so laid in his bed, where he slept
 “ soundly, and perspired freely.

“ On the *tenth* day, the clyster and bath
 “ were repeated: A good deal of hardened
 “ fæces, with some blood, came away, by
 “ stool.

“ On the *eleventh* day, the clyster and
 “ bath were used, both in the morning and
 “ the

“ the evening. Nothing more was neces-
 “ sary afterwards, to the end of his disease,
 “ except an Enema once a day, and alternate
 “ draughts of butter-milk and wine-whey.”

This child's recovery, from a situation so critical, confirmed me in the opinion I had conceived of the utility of warm bathing, so much that I afterwards frequently put it into practice, not only in cases of immediate necessity, but also in such as gave me reason to apprehend future danger, either from the quantity or from the quality of the suppuration.

C A S E II.

“ Master J—— S——, two years and a
 “ half old, was seized with a confluent small-
 “ pox, in the month of July. His phyfi-
 “ cian, by the use of a decoction of the
 “ bark, the application of a blister, occa-
 “ sional anodynes and proper drinks, brought
 “ him forward to the *eleventh* day of his
 “ disease, free from any alarming symptom.
 “ He was then attacked with shudderings,
 “ itching,

“ itching, a short cough, hoarseness, and
 “ uneasy breathing.

“ Immediate venesection was ordered, but
 “ could not be done on account of the small-
 “ ness of his veins, and the thick confluence
 “ of pustules on his arms; upon which I
 “ mentioned my repeated experience of the
 “ benefit produced by warm bathing in such
 “ cases, and a bath was accordingly pre-
 “ pared, in which the child remained for
 “ ten minutes only, and was remarkably re-
 “ lieved. The same process was continued,
 “ and repeated twice a day, until the fif-
 “ teenth day.

“ On the *sixteenth* day, a troublesome
 “ diarrhæa came on, and a small hernia was
 “ discovered in his groin: This was relieved
 “ by a plaster and bandage, and that with
 “ small doses of rhubarb, and a solution of
 “ Extr. Cort. Peruv. in decoct. Fracastor.†

“ A milk diet, and a change of air, after-
 “ wards repaired his constitution, which

† See Fuller's Pharmacop. extemporanea.

“ had suffered much by the severity of
 “ the disease.”

C A S E III.

“ Miss H—— M——, three years old,
 “ fell ill of the small-pox in the month of
 “ June. On the *fourth* day of the disease
 “ her skin was red, from head to foot, with
 “ myriads of pimples, resembling those of a
 “ bad kind of measles which I have some-
 “ times seen, and interspersed, here and
 “ there, upon her breast with small pe-
 “ techiæ. Her skin was stiff and hot, her
 “ pulse small, quick, and somewhat hard;
 “ her tongue dry and foul, her belly bound,
 “ and her urine small in quantity and pale.

“ The operation of a clyster being over,
 “ she was placed breast-high in a tepid bath
 “ for eight minutes; in consequence of
 “ which the pulse, as generally happens, be-
 “ came softer and fuller; her skin more
 “ supple, and her eyes lively. She rested
 “ tolerably well in the night, and perspired
 “ moderately.

“ On finding appearances more favour-
 “ able, the following day, I thought it
 “ right to persist in the use of the warm
 “ bath, which was accordingly repeated
 “ daily, sometimes twice, until the *thir-*
 “ *teenth* day of her disease. Almond-milk
 “ and wine-whey were given alternately for
 “ drink, and a clyster was thought necessary
 “ every second day: No other remedies
 “ were directed for her.

“ From the *seventh* to the *twelfth* day, a
 “ copious discharge of lymph flowed from
 “ her mouth, and fretted the parts over
 “ which it trickled: To this perhaps, as
 “ well as to the early successive bursting
 “ of the pustules, || may be ascribed her
 “ exemption from any degree of a secon-
 “ dary fever.

|| The discharge was so great as to make it necessary
 to change her linen twice, sometimes three times, in the
 course of a day and night.

A P P E N D I X.

MRS. L——, aged 52 years, had generally enjoyed good health until the year 1768, when, in consequence of unusual sufferings in the birth of her *ninth* child, her constitution was considerably impaired, and she remained for more than twelve months subject to various indispositions, accompanied with a small hard swelling on the *left* side of the abdomen (near and above the navel) and a daily *stillicidium sanguinis per vaginam*: In some time after, her health was sensibly improved, so that she again conceived, and was, in due time, safely delivered of a son. The hard swelling, however, gradually increased, and shifted to the *right* side of the abdomen, about two fingers' breadth above the navel.

In this state she remained, with tolerable health and a good habit of body, until about *five* years ago ; when, soon after the death of a favourite child, she was seized with vomitings and shooting pains near the navel, which sometimes extended to her chest, back, and thighs : At other times she perceived a rotatory motion under the stomach, which was generally followed by an uneasy sensation in her throat, and sometimes with a short cough, all of which used to cease upon vomiting.

Gradual increase of pain, obstinate costiveness, a difficulty sometimes in making water, and a wasting of her flesh soon followed. Her appetite was, for the most part good—sometimes voracious—and she had frequently experienced some respite from pain, and a cessation of the rotatory motion, soon after eating ; but the abdomen used as frequently to swell and become tense.

In the beginning of last June, her physicians in Ireland advised her to come to Bath, for the purpose of drinking the waters and
bathing :

The latter she complied with six times, and took of the waters, in prudent quantities, for upwards of five weeks, without receiving any benefit. She moreover took, every night for a short time, four spoonfuls of a mixture of *Aq. Mentb. pip.*—*Cinnam.*—*Vin. aloet. alkalin.* and *Tinct. aromat.* prescribed by the physician whom she first consulted at Bath.

On the 26th of June, this lady employed another physician of respectable character and eminence, who, after having prescribed an *emetic*, endeavoured to relieve his patient by the means of occasional *cathartics*, *opiates*, *bitter infusion*, *mineral alkali*, and *aromatics*: She was duly conducted in the use of these medicines until the 12th of August; at which period *six drams* of purified *quicksilver**

H

were

* It might be useful to mention that small parcels of the quicksilver, in the form of a blueish paste, used to come off with her clysters, many days after it had been taken. On absorbing the surrounding moisture, and rubbing the paste with a finger, it returned to its splendid running form. I have seen about half a dram at a time recovered in this way, in 16 days after it had been taken, and yet no mercuria

were prescribed to her, to be taken every morning fasting; and this she continued to do for *eleven* days.

So far from accurate enquiries and information.

On the 29th of *August*, I was sent for to visit this lady—she had suffered under severe pain, and constant *four* vomitings, during the two preceding days; excited, she said, by the rotatory motion under her stomach. I found the epigastric region soft and in good plight; the abdomen was elevated without stiffness, but an indolent swelling (the size of a longitudinal section of a common egg) was evident near and above the navel on the *right* side, which, during excessive pain, used to subside and shift to the *left* side. Her skin or eyes were not, nor had been at any time as I was informed, discoloured—Her pulse was regular, and rather firm, 80 strokes

rial fœtor of the breath, nor any other symptom of its effects, were observed; which probably was owing to the diseased state of the mesenteric glands, and consequent impediment to its transmission into the circulating system.

in a minute—Her urine of an amber colour. She had no stools for many days, except in small quantity; and these were excited either by a laxative electuary, or the frequent exhibition of clysters, which consisted of common salt, water and oil.

Having given the necessary instructions concerning her nutriment, which I desired to be taken in small quantities whilst the vomiting should continue, I prescribed as follows :

R. Aq. Menth. pip.
 — Cinnam. simp. ana unc. duas ;
 Liq. Anod. Min. Hoffman.
 Elixir paregor.
 Syr. simpl. ana drachm. duas ;
 Magnes. alb. drachmam, M.
 Capiat cochl. duo ampla. singul. noctib. et urgente dolore.

R. Camphoræ, drachm. sex.
 Solve in ol. oliv. unc. quatuor.
 Abdomen hoc illinatur, per quadrant. horæ, singul. diebus jejuno Ventriculo.

30th. The vomiting less frequent, but very four—the pain considerable—the pulse

not altered—the lump again on the right side, seemingly softer, and not so elevated—she had no sleep during the night.

R. Aq. Menth. pip.

— Cinnam. simp. ana unc. tres ;

Liq. Anod. Min. Hoffman.

Syr. balsam. ana drachm. tres ;

Elix. paregor.

Liquamin. Tartar. ana drachm. duas, M.

Capiat ut antea.

31st. The vomiting frequent, and, seemingly, in greater quantities than had been taken into the stomach. She suffered great pain, and had no sleep during the night—The pulse was 88 in a minute—The abdomen softer than usual—The lump near the navel as yesterday—She had had two stools in consequence of repeated clysters.

Panado, fago-jelly, almond-emulsion, and beef-tea, recommended in small quantities, with a spoonful of tent-wine at times.

R. Caryoph. aromat.

Macis ana gran. octo ;

Extr. Theb. gran. un. cum dimid.

Syr. q. s. F. pilulæ octo æqual.

Capiat duas quamprimum et pro re nata.

September

September 1st. She was free from intense pain—The vomiting in a great measure ceased—The motion near the navel was frequent—The belly was more tense—The pulse 84.—She continued to take her diet with tent-wine, in small quantities, and two spoonfuls of the mixture occasionally.—The usual clyster was given.

2d. No other pain was felt than the uneasy sensations excited by the rotatory motions in the bowels—The vomiting was infrequent, and seemed only to be occasioned by taking too much food or drink at a time. The pulse was as yesterday—The urine in considerable quantity, of a deep amber colour—The abdomen full and rather hard on the right side—Clysters were repeated without effect.

3d. General appearances much the same as yesterday—She had some unrefreshing sleep—The belly was more tense—The urine in small quantity.

R. Extr. cathart. gran. decem;
 Præcip. a Calomel. gran. duo, M,
 Divide in pilul. duas hac nocte sumend.

R. Sal. rupellens. drachm. tres;
 Solve in Aq. simpl. unc. duab.
 Adde Syr. simplic.
 Aq. Cinnam. sp. ana drachmam.

F. haust. mane sumend.

4th. She was free from pain or vomiting
 —The pulse 80—The lump near the navel
 not to be felt—A fullness on the left side of
 the abdomen—She had two stools in conse-
 quence of the pills and draught, aided by a
 clyster of salt, coarse sugar, and oil.

It had been frequently suspected, that this
 lady's obstinate disorder might have been
 occasioned by *Worms*,† and indeed I was
 much

† It has been mentioned to me, and confirmed by the
 son J. L. esq; now at Bath, that the medical gentlemen,
 whom this lady had consulted in Ireland, suspected her ha-
 ving worms: and that the second physician, who visited
 her in this place, seemed to entertain the same opinion,
 and also to suspect *biliary concretions*. We have, indeed,
 instances of such productions having been found, without
 having, at any time, occasioned any yellowness of the skin

or

much of opinion that her sufferings, in a great measure, proceeded from a *Tape-worm*. The remarkable *rotatory motions* perceived in the abdomen—The unaccountable *desire of food*, even at the times of her greatest distress—and the *relief* often experienced soon *after eating*, served to suggest this opinion. Accordingly, as her stomach was now quiet, and no great apprehension of her throwing up the medicine, I endeavoured to dislodge the supposed reptile by the following means :

5th. R. Scammon. pulv. gran. decem ;
 Mucilag. G. Arab. drachmam ; contritis adde
 Rad. filic. mar. pulv. drachm. tres ;
 Aq. simpl. unc. duas ;
 — Cinnam. fp.
 Syr. Zinziber. ana drachm. duas.
 F. haust. hora 5ta. matutina sumend.

R. Jalap. pulv. gran. decem ;
 Præcip. a Calomel. gran. quatuor ;
 Syr. q. s. F. pil. quatuor hora nona sumend.

or eyes, or other considerable inconvenience to the constitution.

See Dr. Heberden's invaluable paper, on the diseases of the liver. Medical Transf. vol. ii. See also the Case of J. R. page 65 of this publication, and what follows.

6th. Her

6th. Her eager desire of relief prompted her to take the medicine at one o'clock after midnight, and the pills were given at five in the morning. I called upon her, a second time, at ten, and found her free from pain or vomiting. She said she perceived the lump to have fallen down lower in her belly, and that the motions, so long complained of, were not so lively—She had no stool, and therefore the former potion with Rochelle salt was given, and retained without having any effect—Two clysters, injected in the course of the day, occasioned one small liquid stool.

7th. The abdomen was distended—Some disposition to vomiting—A slight return of pain near the navel—No sleep—Very little urine—*bearing down* pains, with frequent unprofitable desires of going to stool—The usual clysters were given, and a large spoonful of castor oil taken ; but, these not having any effect, recourse was had to the following :

R. Spec. hier. picr. scrup. quatuor ;
Solve in Lact. recent. unc. octo ;

Adde Rad. Filic. mar. p. semunciam.

F. Enema diu. retinend.

R. Pil. e Styrace,

—— Rufi, ana gran. septem. M.

Divide in pil. quatuor hac nocte sumend.

8th. She had two stools—the first containing some balls of indurated fæces, the second liquid—She had a good night—The abdomen was full.

R. Pil. e Styrace,

—— Rufi, ana gran. sex. M.

F. pil. quatuor hac nocte sumend.

9th. The abdomen more swelled—She had no sleep during the night, and made very little urine, but was free from pain—She vomited, two or three times, a small quantity of brownish liquid, and took of her food frequently in the day. Towards evening a clyster, of coarse sugar, salt, and oil was given—She had one small liquid stool, with a considerable explosion of putrid air, and made urine freely.

10th. Appearances rather favourable until the evening, when she began to speak incoherently—The pulse became smaller than usual, and beat 100 times in a minute—The belly was very much inflated, and clysters afforded no relief.

11th. At seven in the morning, the delirium continued—The pulse was as yesterday—She had no sleep—The abdomen was more elevated than ever, and as tense as a drum-head,

R. Calomel gran. decem;

Conf. Cynosbat. q. f.

F. pil. duæ ilico sumend.

R. Fol. Senæ semunciam,

Coque per duo Minut. in aq. unc. quatuor.

Colaturæ, fescunciæ adde

Tinct. jalap. drachm. duas

— Aromat. gutt. quadraginta,

F. haust. hora 10 ma, sumend. et meridie repetend.

These purgatives produced no effect. The following Enema was given in the afternoon;

R. Sal. cathart. amar. fescunc.
 Solve in Decoct. fl. Chamæm. cum
 Sem. Coriand. unc. decem ;
 Adde Syr. e Rhamn. Cathart. unc. duas ;
 Vin. Antim. turb. unc. unam ;
 Tinct. Cardamom. drachm. duas.

No stool followed, but great explosions of air continued to come off for nearly a minute, which rendered the chamber intolerably offensive, notwithstanding a pan of evaporating vinegar with camomile flowers. The abdomen did not subside.

At ten o'clock at night, the delirium increased, with some degree of stupor, coldness of the hands and arms, and frequent subfultus tendinum—The belly was enormously large, but the pulse did not alter so much as to make me think her dying—The steam of hot water was conveyed to the lower extremities and abdomen.

12th. Every circumstance the same as the preceding night—A clyster was again tried, but in vain—No stool, no subsidence of the belly. The vapour bath was continued, and the following mixture ordered.

R. Linim.

R. Linim. Sapon. unc. quatuor;
 Sp. vol. arom. semunciam, M.

F. Embrocatio, quâ abdomen et bypochondria bené perfricentur, superimponend Pannum lan. calefact.

13th. No change—The Embrocation was continued, and the room again became intolerable; supposed to have been occasioned by mephitic air which had silently escaped through the Rectum—At night I left her under dying appearances,

14th. I was sent for early in the morning, and, to my astonishment, found her better than she had been—The pulse was distinct and regular, 120 strokes in a minute—The subsultus had ceased—her head was clearer, her skin warm, and the belly somewhat fallen.

The following clyster was given, and brought away three very fetid dark-coloured stools.†

† The maid-servant, who attended this lady during her illness, mentioned her having observed some *stringy* substance which had come away with the first stool. I did not see it, as it was inconsiderately thrown away before

R. Sal. cathart. amar.

Electar. lenitiv. ana unciam ;

Solve in Decoct. fl. Cham. cum sem. unc. duodec.

Adde Tinct. arom. semunciam.

At two o'clock, her pulse sunk, a colliquative sweat and coldness of the extremities came on, and at five she expired without agony.

OBSERVATIONS.

The body was opened, on the following day, by Mr. Perry, surgeon and man-midwife—He informed me, on the day of her interment, that he found the *stomach* considerably enlarged, and extended down so low as the pelvis—That there was a schirrosity on the inferior part of it the size of a man's hand—That the *Mesenteric glands* were considerably large and indurated—That the *gall-bladder* was distended with bile, and con-

before my return to the house. I have sometimes imagined, however, and perhaps not without reason, that the *extraordinary* intumescence of the abdomen, a few days before death, and the remarkable foetor diffused through the chamber, might have been occasioned by the phlogificated air, extricated from the suspected *Tænia*, during its putrefactive process.

tained

tained five stones, each the size of a pea—
That the substance of the *liver* and the
intestines were apparently found.

I have not been informed whether the
biliary ducts or that part of the *duodenum*, in
which they terminate, were found either
schirrous or otherwise diseased.

N. B. I give this report on the faith of
Mr. Perry, who undertook the examination
of the body without my being present. In-
deed, I regret much my absence, at the
time, as I should have wished him to lay
open the entire tract of the intestines, and
thus afford me an opportunity of inspecting
their *internal state*: *Valde, enimvero, suspicor*
anguis portionem sublatuisse.

F I N I S.

