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ANN MOORE,

THE FASTING WOMAN OF TUTBURY.

THERE is living in the village of TUTBURY, in Staffordshire, a woman named ANN MOORE, whose extraordinary and perpetual abstinence from food, has, for a considerable time been the subject of much wonder and attention:—the following is a concise statement of her case.

ANN MOORE had been in a declining state of health for many years previous to her first attack of anorexy, which she believes to have been occasioned by her attendance on a diseased boy, whose loathsome complaint produced that effect on her imagination, which caused an habitual disinclination for all kind of food.

FOR some time, this remarkable case was treated as an imposition, until humanity prompted some of her neighbours to represent her distressing state of existence to the neighbouring gentlemen of the medical profession, and others; who, to satisfy themselves and the public, instituted an examination of the truth of her case, which terminated in proving the facts here stated.

“ON the 14th of April, 1807, she took to her bed for a continuance. In the latter end of June following, she eat a few black currants, being the last substance she swallowed. From that time until the examination was instituted, she occasionally took a tea spoonful of water or tea, without sugar or milk; but it occasioned such extreme pain in swallowing, that she was advised by the medical attendant, to refrain from taking any more. For the space of sixteen days she was strictly watched, under the direction of MR. ROBERT TAYLOR, Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, London, and every method adopted, for detecting the supposed imposition. But the watch ended in proving, that she existed for thirteen days, without aliment of any kind, either liquid or solid; at the end of which time, she was better in health than when the examination was established.” For the period of several years from the time above stated, she has been in the same recumbent state of existence, without the support of nutriment of any kind.

THE state of her physical powers, is extremely weak and emaciated; the body resembling a human skeleton, more than a living subject; her legs are drawn up in a contracted form, and are quite useless. Her countenance is handsome, and her face has not that emaciated appearance to which her body is reduced, but retains the character of apparent health.

SHE seldom sleeps, and the position in which she usually sits in her bed, is that in which she is represented in a drawing, taken from life, by MR. LINCELL, and engraved by ANTHONY CARDON, Esq., which portrays her exactly as she was soon after the watch had ended. She is able to read with the aid of glasses, and has the Bible generally on the bed before her, which she calls her “best companion.” She seems free from superstition, and endures her sufferings with a serenity of mind, that characterizes the Christian in a state of patient and pious resignation.

HER readiness to satisfy any inquiries that visitors think proper to make, gives to every one an opportunity of investigating particulars, and ascertaining facts already given to the public. The curious in physiology, or anatomical detail, may be gratified with the particulars of her case by referring to the Medical and Physical Journals, which contain several accounts by medical gentlemen who have examined her.