

Of the late Dr. Jenner / [Henry Jenner].

Contributors

Jenner, Henry

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JENNER

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Lexicon Biographies II

JENNER, H.
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N^o. 93, To Sept. 1st, 1823.

PRICE ONE SHILLING.

THE MONTHLY
Gazette of Health,
OR,
Popular Medical, Dietetic,
PHILOSOPHICAL AND ANTI-EMPIRICAL
JOURNAL.

EDITED BY
DR. RICHARD REECE,
OF LONDON,

MEMBER OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, AUTHOR OF THE "DICTIONARY OF
POPULAR MEDICINE," "MEDICAL GUIDE," "CHEMICAL GUIDE," CORRESPONDING
MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY OF PRACTICAL MEDICINE OF PARIS, &c. &c. &c.

*Aided by several eminent Physicians in America, the East Indies, and on the Continent of
Europe.*

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And sold by all Booksellers in Town and Country.

J. G. Barnard, Skinner-street, London.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The proffered communications of Mr. Harrison, and a "Lover of Truth," will be very acceptable.

The Editors thank "M. C. W." for the information respecting the case of the *scientific* murder of his friend. The contracted state of a part of the intestinal tube was no doubt the effect of the operation, which was performed under the erroneous supposition of an effusion of water in the cavity of the belly.

"N. I." of Southwark, will probably find the following Lotion (applied night and morning), to succeed in removing his troublesome complaint.

Take of Emulsion of the bitter Almond, 8 ounces;
Saturated Solution of Nitrate of Quicksilver, 4 drops;
Ditto ditto ditto of Lead, 10 drops.

He may take a tea-spoonful of the Harrowgate Sulphureous Aperient Salt, every, or every other morning, in a tea-cupful of water or whey.

The Editors advise their "Subscribers of Goswell Street," to boil the Grains with a quantity of Sugar and Bran, and ferment the Liquor (after hopping it) so as to make good Table Ale. After having boiled the grains, they may consider them fit only for manure.

The theory of Philo-Chemico-Medicus, is not correct. Iron has not been discovered in the blood, its existence is only inferred from the action of the magnetic fluid. Carbonic acid gas is disengaged in the stomach in considerable quantity, and the acid vomited, is the acetous acid, and not an animal acid. Acid has not been detected in the *substance* of the stomach of the Calf. Vital air and oxygen being synonymous terms, the observation that "*vital air* is deprived of its oxygen," and that "carbon is exchanged for the oxygen of the vital air," is not correct. There

To Correspondents—continued.

are also many other erroneous assertions, as "a redundancy of a secretion of an organ from *debility*;" the effect of debility of an organ is a diminution of secretion. The Editors will return the M. S. for revision, and after he has corrected it, they will be happy to give it insertion, some of his ideas being original, and no doubt correct.

With the requests of P. F. and S. W. the Editors intend to comply in their next number. They thank them for the trouble they have taken in collecting the parcels of advertisements they have had the goodness to send them.

Mr. W. and S. P. will find an article in the present number, in explanation of the part Dr. Thornton has taken in the "Bethesda Pool Water."—The subject is, of course, open for their comments, or any further information they may obtain respecting it.

Mr. Rowley informs the Editors that a certain *respectable* writer in the pay of Mrs. Cox, declares that he has seen a ghost in the garden of St. Thomas's Hospital.—He thought at first that it was Sir Astley Cooper; but on approaching it, he was satisfied that it could not be the ghost of Sir Astley, because it had *petticoats*.—He then thought it was the ghost of the poor man, on whom Sir Astley performed the operation of taking up the descending aorta. Mr. Waller, however, says that it is all delusion, that the man was under the influence of incubus; and here, says Mr. Rowley, the Ghost affair rests.

Mr. Jones has sent us a curious piece of "Surgical intelligence extraordinary," viz. that Mrs. Cox has discharged Sir Astley Cooper, and placed herself under the care of Dr. Eady; and that, in consequence of the judicious treatment he has adopted, and his very pleasing address, she has proposed a co-partnership with the young surgeon, who, in the Borough School, is denominated *the* phenomenon. Dr. Eady declined the *honour* of the connexion, in consequence of intending to tender his services to the governors of St. Thomas's Hospital, on the first vacancy!!

A medical bookseller of Southwark informs us that a certain *lady* has thrown such a slur on the Borough school of *surgery*, that he suspects the flock of gulls this season will be very thin, and this opinion some of the lecturers entertain. He adds that one of the *lady's* gulls has grown so rapidly, that by way of distinguishing it from the others, she has named it the GREEN GOOSE. When she has fattened it, she intends to send it to a great man, in Lincoln's-inn Fields.

The Letter on Grace before Dinner, of which Mr. B——n complains, was inserted by a mistake, which was not discovered till it was too late to correct it. The Editors received it from a respectable Quaker, and if Mr. B——n will take the trouble to read it attentively, they think he will discover that it was by no means the intention of the writer to reflect on any set of men or to scoff at religion.

The case of W. P. of Salisbury, being evidently rupture, the Editors advise him to adopt the treatment recommended in the present number.

Mr. Bell's communication of the Superior Efficacy of a Plaster of Burgundy Pitch, with a little Emetic Tartar sprinkled over the surface, was not received in time to appear in its proper place.

To "W. R. G." the Editors return their best thanks for his hints respecting Dr. James Johnson, and the erasure of his name from the list of Surgeons.

If the Editors had ever inserted "A Notice of a Lecture," or a new work, they would have complied with the requests of a few respectable professional gentlemen. The cover of their work is at their service.

To "A. B." the Editors recommend either the Dinner Pills, in the 91st number, or the Alkaline Tincture of Fumitory. His case is clearly indigestion.

The Queries of "S. B." and "T. W." of Hull—"Miss E——" of York—and "S. W." of Hereford, the Editors will answer by post, agreeably to their requests.

"S. B." and "T. W." are referred to the Appendix to this work, and to the Addition to it, lately published, containing an account of the Buchu Leaves.

The Editors have been under the necessity of omitting several articles, in consequence of the length of the Biographical Sketch of the late Dr. Jenner. Napoleon's Remarks on Dreams, Second Sight; and Experiments on Rabbits; Remedy for the Hectic Fever; Effects of the Love-apple in allaying Nervous Irritation; Dr. Barah on Gout and Rheumatism; Mr. Jones on the Beneficial Effects of the Buchu Leaves in Spasmodic Stricture, &c. are among the number.

Mr. Cooper's account of the *Wallerian Ass* and the *Green Goose* is too ludicrous even for the cover of this work. They advise the Proprietor to exhibit them as *natural* curiosities.

The Editors advise "an Old Subscriber" to give the sulphuret of soda a trial in leprous affections of the skin.—The dose is from three to five grains two or three times a day, dissolved in a wine-glassful of the decoction of marsh-mallow root or elm bark, or common water. No particular diet is necessary. The parts affected may also be washed with a solution of it, in the proportion of five grains to eight ounces of elder-flower water, or the bitter almond emulsion.

SUPERIOR SODA WATER.

Mr. PAYNE, Pneumatic Chemist, late of No. 136, New Bond-Street, Manufacturer of all the Mineral Waters, to His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, respectfully begs leave to return his most unfeigned Thanks to the Nobility, Gentry, and Medical World, for the generous encouragement they have been pleased to honour his Manufactory of the Mineral Waters with, particularly his superior Manufactory of Soda Water; and trusts, by a continuance of its superior Quality, not only to obtain their future Orders, but Recommendations.—All Orders, by Post, or otherwise, to No. 11, Salisbury Place, New Road (Five Doors West of Gloucester Place, Portman Square), will be most thankfully received, and instantly attended to.



GAZETTE OF HEALTH.

No. 93. To SEPTEMBER 1, 1823. [VOL. VIII.

OF THE LATE DR. JENNER.

(BY A CORRESPONDENT.)

DR. JENNER is no more! and mankind will mourn him now, and go to his tomb, and dwelling-place, as pilgrims of his genius hereafter. Near this period last year, his fellow-associate in "youth's gay morn,"* the highly-gifted Dr. Parry, of Bath, passed away, and Dr. Jenner was one of the dark throng that paid the last honours to profound talents. He himself, in the lapse of one short year, is now called away of a sudden, but after a long, though anxious, we trust, upon the whole, a happy life.

There is so much of joy in the contemplation of such a life as Dr. Jenner's, so much that redeems our opinions of the general corruption, and final nihility of most human characters, that, as a subject of particular speculation, it has some exceeding beauties. We have been long and much attached to him, and to his interests, we have seen the generosity and the gentleness of his heart, and have been shone over by some of the more central beams of that sunny benevolence, which diffused its healing and beneficial radiance over all men, and to all distances; it would ill become us now if we spoke not of these things, while our hearts are yet heavy with regret.

Having possessed his confidence and friendship, in a particular degree, during a part of some years spent under his roof, the tale is of those domestic habitudes, of those private and social qualities, of those personal characteristics, of which we took much account.

These details will serve to complete the unity of his character, to shew that he was that within the circle, to which every man gathers himself towards the last, which he appeared beyond it.

His life was long, and, as far as personal prosperity need be considered, it was much blest. Fame and fortune seem to have chosen him at an early period for their own: and in many changes of situation, and of undertakings, they accompanied him. The story of his life has been too often told to need express narratives; the particulars are related best by Dr. Lettsom, in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, and in the lately published *History of Berkeley*, by the county historian, &c.

While early distinguished in professional life, he was quietly and steadily pursuing natural science, and looking around for wherewithal to gratify the philosophical ardour of his mind. Natural history, and especially ornithology, was his favourite science; and unknowingly he

* Dr. Parry's words on their long friendship, work on angina pectoris.

proposed to Sir Joseph Banks, a plan of study, for the advancement of this science; which corresponded with that proposed by Mr. Addison, in the Spectator, namely, the dedication of a whole mind to the consideration of *two or three* individuals only of the animal kingdom. In pursuance of this plan, he chose the cuckoo and the cow; of the one he gave a history, which established his title to originality of mind; and attention to the other elicited the cow-pox. His published writings are:—1. History of the Cuckoo.—2. Inquiry relative to the Origin of Variola Vaccina.—3. Observations on the Interference of Herpetic Eruptions, with the regular Progress of the Vaccine Vesicle, in various Medical Periodicals, Tracts, and Circular Letters.—4. A Letter to Dr. Charles Parry, on Artificial Eruptions.

We shall forbear to mention Dr. Jenner's writings, seeing that these and his biography are in hands, so well fitted to give them discrimination and ability. They are grossly mistaken about Dr. Jenner, who have considered his powers to have been limited to a singleness of subject. A most interesting inquiry relative to the causes of the migration of birds, made many years ago, at the request of the Royal Society, was revised by Dr. Jenner, with the Rev. G. C. Jenner and myself, for presentation this year, which is now about to be done by the Rev. G. C. Jenner.

Through the constant and harassing correspondence relative to Vaccination, he had little time to bring forward the great stores of his mind. In fecundity he rather resembled the lion than the fox; and his productions the cubs of the one, rather than of the other. Vaccination was the chief aim of his ambition; and, with every exception, it has done more good than any human discovery ever yet achieved. It was the crown and sceptre of the inductive philosophy, and Bacon would not have desired a greater triumph for the advancement of natural science, by means of his method, than this.

These being his claims as a philosopher, let us regard his traits as a man. He partook much of the generic features of characters of this original class, viz. great humility, suavity, and simplicity of manners, with nature's own dignity; his mind was very open, and sometimes, when it was hinted that he was not enough reserved, in many things, he used to say, "that he shewed every thing to his friends but his back." His most constant thoughts were turned to the expression of his ideas and lights upon topics of a scientific and philosophical cast. In the illustration of such subjects, he made choice of a style particularly simple and perspicuous, though abounding in the use of metaphorical and imaginative terms, which gave to every thing he said a peculiar interest and effect. His diction was free, and not impeded or embarrassed, except in public speaking, in which he told us that he could never overcome the difficulty of leading the trembling spirit forth. He grew very animated in discourse, if he saw that he made strong impression on the minds of his listeners; and was particularly happy in assembling all the analogies that related to the subjects of his conversation, and surrounded them with many sparkling touches of fancy, and many illusions familiar to the heart.

In his rides, when in early practice as a surgeon, he was often accustomed to have the society of some friend to whom he would discourse

of favourite topics, and impart his ideas. If any struck the hearer as new or profound, he would request him to take minutes. One anecdote of his literary habits may be given with propriety. It was his practice to think, especially before rising in a morning; and he often brought detached ideas, or medical aphorisms, on slips of paper to his breakfast-table, which generally was the "feast of reason," and made there the subject of discussion. These *sybilline* inspirations often accumulated, until they presented a scene of which he used to say, "I never heard that there was more than *one* chaos, but in my house there are *many*."

Mr. Hunter's comprehensive spirit led him to form a design of adding lectures on natural history, and comparative anatomy, and physiology, to those which he usually gave; and Dr. Jenner was asked to take part in them. Mr. and Mrs. Hunter said, "You must come to us!"—"No," said he, "I am too fond of the blackbirds at Berkeley." He was especially enamoured of rural scenes, and of those which were native. He preserved a number of associations with green lanes, and certain spots, and certain inanimate objects, from which he extracted particular delight; and would never be wholly disunited from these objects for any worldly advantages. He was fond of retarding his walks, to discuss natural productions, and of connecting with them very interesting speculations concerning their origin and essential attributes, according to the principles of order and utility in the scheme of creation. The last time we walked out together, was one of those melancholy and pensive autumnal days when the vestiges of summer are gradually receding into fall and decay. He pointed out to me a recess, where he said there had been a holy well, the superstitions concerning which he explained by reference to natural causes; he marked the progress of a chestnut-tree, planted by a relative; the accord of the red-breast with the season; and the uses of some vegetable matter which overspread a pond by the road side, in preserving the sweetness of the water. Human creatures always drew his attention, and he seemed displeased if those who were with him stopped not to join in the conversation. I was often much diverted with the facility with which he conversed with villagers in their own dialect, and adapted himself to their phraseology and capacities. He once said to another, "You pass by these little children as *weeds*, I treat them at least as *vegetables*." A maid servant in nowise defective in robust health and vermilion cheeks, once opening the door to him at a patient's house, he said, greatly to the confusion of the blushing girl, "What shall we do for this poor creature? she is certainly in the last stage of consumption."

Country life did not overlay the energies and intellect of Dr. Jenner, though, as he often confessed, he had a family tendency to indolence. His mind was restless and active, though his execution was slow; "when once the enchanted spring had been touched," to use the words of another, "his mind recurred with eagerness to its newly-discovered pursuit; he would hang with a secret and inexpressible fondness over its hidden beauties; he would expatiate on its varying appearances, and trace its unfolding graces, until it came forth, prepared to astonish with pure and original excellence." He said that he had never read a book wholly through, but that he dipped into all, and that he gained much by leading others to converse of that which they understood best. He could not

long preserve uninterrupted attention to any subject, and was given to procrastination. He never attempted long compositions; and in his longest, he was not considered to have written throughout with precision. He excelled in epistolary compositions, in which his style was jocund, easy, and figurative. This beauty of correspondence, which bore the impress of his original and peculiar ideas, was of that cast, that without a natural bias, would have resisted every effort for the attainment. It gained force notwithstanding his dislike of letter writing, and his last letters shew his full power.

He delayed the publication of his Inquiry into the Laws of the Variola Vaccina, for a great length of time; and he has said that the period of delay might have been indefinite, had he not been told that he would be anticipated. He was not a learned man: and I believe that, besides his own, he knew the Latin tongue only. He was full, however, of the richest scientific information, especially on chemistry and geology. He was more partial to inquiry, by means of experiment and ocular demonstration, than by means of books, according to the precepts and example of "the dear man," as he used to term Mr. Hunter, when he quoted him. He was very acute in tracing cause and effect, and when any thing difficult was proposed, he would colloquially say, "I'll hammer it out."

If he had not been engulfed in the vortex of vaccination, and had it not been in some measure for the tendencies alluded to, he would have acquired unexceeded reputation in medical and natural science. He would have been greater than Boerhaave, who was more of a *mistress* than master of medicine; and not less than Haller. In many respects he was similar to the latter, if we can gather somewhat of personal character from the epistles and poetical sentiments of Haller. He took similar views of general and particular benevolence, and of human nature, was partial to similar pursuits, and resembled him in strong affections, though he had less of industry, of melancholy, of religious awe, and of metaphysical penetration. Like Haller he was poetical and irritable; that is, he was a poet in his forms of speech, and in his love of nature. For want of discipline and learning, he was not equal to the former in the art. He wrote verses on rural and comic subjects, and, as in conversation, produced much that was humorous and epigrammatic. Except some verses on the signs of weather, his epigrams were best. I have seen also, parodies of Ossian, and facetious specimens of village dialogue. He loved to trace the origin and analogy of words and names.

He was a great patron of genius, without the pretence of profession, and, was fond of having a "batch of geniuses about him, being much pleased with their eccentricity." If he saw "signs of true genius, with empty pockets," he took pleasure in filling them. He said "I have often found these men up to the chin, but I would never let them sink below." Some respectable, and now wealthy and eminent individuals, have been indebted to him at their beginnings. *No man lives, who with the same means has done the same generous things.* Once, in a journey to Bath, he stopped at an inn, the mistress of which had not prospered in her concerns; he immediately proposed a situation elsewhere, and undertook to manage the affair, though they had scarcely ever met before. I inquired of him, "Whence comes all this, Doctor?" "It is the fa-

mily," said he; "all the progenitors on my side had it;" and he afterwards pointed out the portrait of one, eminent for the same view. He thought it the duty of rich men to draw out, and succour obscure merit; and his sentiments in this respect accorded with those, admirably propounded in a sermon of the Rev. Sidney Smith, on this subject. He always felt that aversion natural to the "fiery grandeur of a generous mind," towards those beings of a sordid and dirty traffic, who shoot up to poison, with the rank breath of their groveling sentiment and invidious policy, the underling of superior merit. When he walked about the town, he was apt to be surrounded by poor persons, and gave away money, and inquired into their rustic concerns. A colonel observed to me, "The doctor is always picking up recruits, like a recruiting sergeant." He much wished that servants, and persons in the middle classes of life, should know something of the elementary principles of natural philosophy. I was present at the examination of an individual in the laws of gravitation; the doctor let fall a knife, and asked why it fell? "Because you let it go," said the person. He then explained the cause; but the pupil seemed cordially to hate philosophy, and was glad to escape.

He condescended to men of low estate, and suffered them to have access to him at all times, and in a way that seemed prohibitory of more valuable objects. But he was rather disposed to favour interruption, and let them tell their own stories at all times, with the usual circuitous diffuseness. He also flattered the conceit peculiar to the inferior orders. He was capable of sarcasm, where there was cause. Two proposed to settle a noisy dispute by calculations; "I hope then," said he, "it will not be by vulgar fractions."—A person once replying to him in a muttering tone of voice, he said, "Are you a ventriloquist?" "No;" "Then I am wrong, for I thought the voice came from the bowels." He housed, and clothed, and found instruction for numbers.

Dr. Jenner had a great dislike for the artificial manners of very high orders of society, being considered by him as inconsistent with nature and a proper freedom. "It is all very well," he said, "to attain to a certain rank; but there is one beyond, where mind and nature cease, and man becomes a thing made of imaginary dignity, of form, rule, starch, and ruffles." Tired of "absurd pomp," he had left the vain, cold-hearted, and treacherous scenes of fashionable life, on the one hand; and the enviable ostentation of listening levees, and circles of scientific compeers, to which he had attained by his genius, and to which he was intitled by descent and personal pretensions, comprehending all that is brilliant and glorious in existence, on the other—for the debrés of those scenes in which he too often appeared like an aged solitary swan, that oared and paddled about the waters, upon which he had plumed his brightest quills, over-much bereaved.

He was very bountiful, and his house was open to all who came. Though scientific conversation best pleased him, he loved music, and sometimes sung, especially two medleys which he himself had made. He did not like to be visited as a *lion*; and on these occasions he said, "They come to see me under the pretence of visiting. ———, the puff of the country, indeed it is made of puff-stone." A visitor who came into the town last summer, asked what were Dr. Jenner's pursuits?

He was answered by some individual, "Feeding poultry, and clipping of hedges!" He often complained of the way in which the ignorant part of his neighbours appreciated and misrepresented his pursuits. He was cheerful in society, and affected no superiority nor undue restraint. He was fond of little attentions, and remissness in this respect displeased him. His temper was irritable, but soon calmed.

We have said much, and left very much unsaid, of our departed friend, who had the "wisdom of the serpent, with the simplicity of children;" we profited by his instructions, and plumed our first flights in his cause; and so long as the laws of truth are regarded, so long we will "hold together in our chivalry in this well-foughten field."

Z. Z.

LAMENESS.—In the practice of surgery, temporary lameness of a lower extremity, from great exertion in leaping, running, dancing, or sudden jar, is a common occurrence, and cases often happen in which it is difficult to say what part of the leg is injured. We, some time since, met with a case of lameness, which followed a sudden effort the patient made to get out of the way of a carriage. He stated that he felt something snap in the calf of the leg. There was considerable effusion of blood and pain on pressure. Three surgeons who had examined it, gave different opinions; one stated that a vein was lacerated; another, that a small branch of a nerve had snapped; and the third, that the tendon of the thin long muscle, termed the plantaris, had given way. Dr. Barlow, a physician of Bath, has published a similar case, which happened to himself, and which he attributes to laceration of fibres of the large muscle of the calf of the leg. As to the treatment the doctor adopted, it was so very judicious, and being equally applicable to all cases, whatever part may be injured, we shall give it with his prefatory remarks, nearly in his own words.

"Notwithstanding the signal improvements of modern surgery, there are yet particular cases in which the general practice might, perhaps, be modified with advantage. This appears to arise from such cases not occurring to *any* practitioner with *sufficient frequency* to afford adequate opportunity for investigating their real nature, or devising the most judicious and effectual treatment. An instance of this kind has lately occurred in *my own* person; and as I was thus enabled to observe its progress minutely, a brief report of the case may not be uninteresting.

"A few months ago, while crossing a street at night-time, I incautiously struck my foot against an *elevated* flag-way. The force of collision was great, and I instantly fell, experiencing the most excruciating pain in the *calf* of the leg. Swelling of the limb ensued almost immediately, and, ere I reached my own house, it was considerable. *Simple* treatment was employed for that night; and next morning, having no doubt that a *rupture of fibres* had taken place in the fleshy belly of the large muscles of the leg, being of a full habit, and satisfied that the first object was to prevent inflammation, by reducing plethora and lessening arterial action, I lost twenty-four ounces of blood from the arm, and took a saline purgative. By this means inflammation was obviated, and the progress of serous effusion in the limb arrested. Immersing the leg night and morning in warm water, I found the most soothing local

treatment; and on these occasions, *gentle* friction, facilitated by the use of soap, was grateful. Sensible support was experienced, by bandaging the leg from the foot to the knee every morning with a calico roller, which was removed at night.

"In a few days I had recourse to an embrocation, composed of soap-liniment, camphorated spirit, and spirit of ammonia, which was employed with increased diligence on the extravasation of blood becoming more manifest from the absorption of the effused serum. The effusion of blood was considerable, and appeared first in the lower parts of the limb, to which the extravasated blood had *speedily* gravitated. I did not confine myself a single day, but pursued my *ordinary* avocations, by the aid first of a wheel chair, and afterwards of a walking-stick. Such was the course of treatment employed, the *success* of which will appear from the *following* results. In ten days I was enabled to dismiss my *wheel chair*; in a fortnight I relinquished *my* walking stick; within three weeks *even* the bandage was laid aside; and, in a day or two more, I could walk without halting, and *descend* stairs as before the accident, this latter power being that to which I was latest restored. Although recovery was thus speedy, yet, judging from the intensity of pain, from the rapid swelling and great enlargement of the limb, and from the extensive effusion of blood, I can have no hesitation in pronouncing the accident to have been *very* severe. The *rationale* of the treatment (says the Doctor) is so obvious as scarcely to need a comment. By a *full* blood-letting *promptly* employed, inflammation was prevented, and *serous* effusion arrested. Warm bathing allayed pain, and, by the gentle stimulus of moderate heat, excited the absorbents to a more speedy removal of effused serum than would have otherwise taken place. Bandages gave support to the injured muscle, and, by restraining its action while under exertion, saved me from much suffering, and contributed, I have no doubt, to a more speedy recovery. Their discontinuance at night was as grateful to my sensations as their application by day. The frictions and embrocations were clearly instrumental in promoting the absorption both of the effused serum and extravasated blood.

"Such is the case to which I wish to direct attention, chiefly from its affording satisfactory evidence that, in this species of accident, confinement and absolute rest are not indispensable. So far from it, I believe them to be actually injurious; and, in order to illustrate the subject in this respect, I shall here offer a few observations. A *clear conception* of the injury sustained appears to me to shew manifestly that confinement and absolute rest are *not* necessary. By the sudden force excited, *certain* fibres in the fleshy belly of the muscle became lacerated. These fibres *unquestionably* contract when torn, leaving a chasm of some extent between the ruptured extremities. As these do not admit of being replaced in apposition, it seems clear that a direct reunion can *never* take place; and it is nearly certain, that such fibres become afterwards wasted, and gradually decline. If rest be enjoined, then, with a view to their reunion, the end, *I* have no doubt, is unattainable, and the practice unsupported by *sound* reasoning. But rest has been pronounced necessary, from an apprehension of the motion of the limb causing fresh laceration of fibres. This fear I believe to be utterly

groundless; for, when I reflect on the force required to cause the original rupture, and the violence of concussion by which it is occasioned, I cannot imagine any hazard of fresh laceration from such gentle motion of the limb as a person suffering from this accident is capable of exerting. That such motion did me no injury, I was fully persuaded, from the fact that, when under no necessity of moving, I frequently felt it a sensible relief to exercise the limb gently, by walking across my room.

“When such cases are treated by strict confinement, absolute rest, and continued bandaging, the result is far less favourable than what I experienced. By continued inaction, the parts become rigid, and unfitted for motion, and recovery is generally slow. To contrast such progress with my more speedy restoration, may afford a useful lesson in *practical surgery*.”

We suspect, from the circumstance of the swelling and effusion of blood, so rapidly following the accident, that the mischief it produced was laceration of a blood-vessel, instead of muscular fibres, for the latter could not, we conceive, be produced by striking “the foot against an elevated way,” with the slight exertion of the muscle during walking. Besides, during dancing and other violent actions of this muscle, the tendon has always given way, instead of its fibres. If muscular fibres had been lacerated, the Doctor would have found confinement necessary.

In cases of effusion of blood, exercise and friction, by promoting absorption, are likely to prove beneficial. The idea that the effusion of blood was rendered more manifest by absorption of serum is not correct. It becomes more evident in a day or two after an accident, in consequence of the blood being more diffused through the superficial cellular substance.

PEMPHIGUS AND SMALL-POX.—Dr. Gregory, senior physician to St. George’s and St. James’s General Dispensary, and Lecturer on the Practice of Medicine, has published a case of pemphigus, under the name of *Pompholyx*. The case, in his opinion, affords a striking illustration of all the most interesting features of that rare malady. The patient (a female) was 73 years of age. The vesicles, he says, were large and numerous, more particularly on the legs, thighs, and arms. Many of a smaller size were intermixed with them, of a *livid* colour; and all of them originated in a degree of cutaneous inflammation, which might be correctly denominated *erratic* erysipelas. They were attended with excessive itching, and upon the legs extensive excoriations, which healed, however, without difficulty. This disease has always been noticed as one of peculiar obstinacy; and this case fully corroborates that opinion. “The symptoms first shewed themselves on the 20th of April, and did not yield till the first week of July. Purgatives, Peruvian bark, sarsaparilla, and a variety of other medicines, were tried, but apparently without producing the smallest effect on the disease. The appetite continued unimpaired through its whole course.” On one occasion, to relieve a cough which had come on, the Doctor says, “he took *away* fourteen ounces of blood from the arm,” and this, for the time, seemed to suspend the formation of vesicles. Anasarcaous swellings of the legs have supervened, and symp-

toms of effusion of water in the chest are now developing themselves. Considering the *age* of the patient (observes the Doctor), no *reasonable* hopes can therefore be entertained of a favourable issue."

Did not the livid colour of the small vesicles, the state of the digestive organs, and also the advanced age of the patient, contra-indicate bleeding? As Dr. Gregory is a *teacher* of medicine, he will, no doubt, inform us on what principle he had recourse "to taking *away* fourteen ounces of blood." Had he prescribed small doses of the blue pill, the progress of the disease would have been considerably checked, and the result more creditable to the healing art.

Pemphigus is so rare a disease, that the late Professor Cullen never met with it. A well-marked case occurred in the practice of Dr. David Stuart, who published the following account of the treatment he adopted:

"The largest of the vesicles were snipped, and dressed with brown cerate. In the evening he was vomited with a solution of tartar emetic, given in small quantities, and at intervals. This also operated as an aperient; and he was ordered for drink water-gruel, acidulated with lemon-juice.

On the following day, he still complained of sickness, some oppression about his breast, and sore throat: he had slept little during the night; his tongue was foul, and blackish; his skin, however, was not so hot as on the preceding day; his urine was high coloured, but had the appearance of separation; his pulse 90, and soft; most of the sores on the trunk of the body looked clean; others, particularly where the vesicles were confluent, seemed beginning to ulcerate, and to have a bluish sublivid appearance. They were dressed afresh with cerate, and he was ordered the following medicines:—

Take of Decoction of Bark, 6 ounces;

Red Port Wine - 3 ounces.—Mix.

Three table-spoonsful to be taken every four hours.

The acidulated drink was continued; and, on account of the very offensive smell on approaching him, some vinegar was placed in a basin before the bed, and sprinkled on the floor; and the room was kept well ventilated.

"On the subsequent day his sores appeared healthy, except those on his arms and thighs; where they were livid, a little ulcerated, and discharged a sanious ichor. His head-ache, nausea, &c. had nearly left him, his tongue was cleaner, pulse 68, and soft. As the decoction of the bark agreed with him, the following draught was ordered to be taken every third hour:

Take of Peruvian Bark, in five powders, half a drachm;

Port Wine and pure Water, of each half an ounce.—Mix.

The acidulated drink was continued, and fresh dressings applied to the sores.

"The following day, viz. 18th of April, the little ulcers in his arms and thighs still discharged a sanious ichor, and looked unhealthy; his other complaints were better; pulse 82. The bark not having nauseated the stomach, it was continued, as well as the acidulated drink.

"April 19. His sores looked much cleaner and better; the fever was gone, his pulse natural, and he had no complaint but weakness and a

troublesome itching of the skin: the Peruvian bark, &c. were continued.

"April 20. Some of the ulcers still poured forth a sanious ichor; most of them, however, looked well, and had begun to heal—fever gone—medicines continued.

"From the 21st of April he went on gaining strength, and the sores appeared to heal fast: he was desired to take only four draughts every day; and by the 27th his sores, &c. were totally dried up. He had no complaint, and was dismissed, cured.

"This disease is, no doubt, erysipelas, modified by some condition or peculiarity of constitution."

Dr. Gregory has also lately published some cases of small-pox which proved fatal. "The parents of the children," he says, "were either obstinately prejudiced against, or indifferent to, the advantages of vaccination." He adds, "It is gratifying to perceive, however, that there is no indisposition on the part of the great bulk of the people to submit their children to vaccination; and, though the annual deaths in London by small-pox (as reported in the Bills of Mortality), have not, for some years past, diminished, they are not increased. If practitioners steadily discourage all *partial* inoculations for the small-pox, the cause of vaccination cannot fail to prosper.

WORMS.—M. Virey, whose Dissertation on Worms we have noticed in an early number, informs us, that he has received a Memoir on the antivermifuge powers of the cortical part of the pomegranate fruit, from Dr. Gomez, who relates fourteen cases in which it was successfully administered. Dr. G. presents us also with descriptions of *five* varieties of tape-worm, different from those found in the human body in Europe. He thinks that one species, the *filaria papillosa* of Rudolphi, is one of the causes of the Egyptian inflammation of the eyes, as a pellucid small worm has been found in the vitreous humour of the eyes of horses in India.!!

Dr. Macleod observes, "If the figures and description given by M. Gomez are exact, containing the forms of the heads of five *tænia* he has observed, the catalogue of the species that attack mankind must be augmented."

We suspected the different species of tape-worm existed only in the brain of Monsieur Virey. The antivermifuge property of the rind of the pomegranate fruit, and the bark of the root of the tree, we have already noticed. The essential oil of tar, in the dose of four drachms, taken every morning, mixed with honey, is considered a specific remedy for the tape-worm, by many Italian and German physicians.

As a remedy for the long round worm, to which children who are indulged with fruit are very subject, at this period of the year, the old pharmaceutical composition, termed *basilic powder*, is the most efficacious.

CLASSES OF PHYSICIANS.—(continued from fol. 574.) Next to technical or jargonic medicine, of which the *learned* doctors, James Johnson and Jordan, of Rakasiri notoriety, are the leaders, ranks in degree of contempt the "*Philosophical Class*." Of this highly gifted tribe, there are three kinds, which seem to vie with each other in

originality, profound research and impudence. They all hold legitimate or classic physicians, and the jargonic, in great contempt, representing them to be "*vox et preterea nihil*," systems founded on the fine sounding words, and sublime flights of fancy, the practice of which is "hit or miss," whilst the basis of theirs is *philosophical* knowledge either of animal life or of remedies.—The one entitled to first notice on account of modest pretensions, impudence, and ignorance, is that which is founded on the "*philosophy of life*." To these enlightened physicians nothing is mysterious.—They can (to themselves) satisfactorily account for all the phenomena of life and diseases. The other classes of physicians being unacquainted with the "*philosophy of animal life*," they deem empirics a set of men who may sometimes do a little good by amusing the minds of invalids. A knowledge of anatomy and chemistry they consider, not only unnecessary, but by leading the minds of students into useless physiological disquisitions and giving erroneous ideas of animal life, very injurious to *practice*. As to the articles used in medicine, they have been multiplied for the purpose of *trade*, three or four, in their opinion, being, only, necessary, to combat all the diseases that assail poor humanity: viz. opium, bark, calomel, and alcohol. They talk much of excitability, accumulated excitement, direct and indirect debility, &c. They do not consider the human body as a compound of different organs, to which the principal of life is superadded, but as a machine to which a certain series of actions and effects are allotted by means of an excitability, differing in degree, but generally, though on the whole imperceptibly, exhausting. In fact, they regard life as a kind of flame, kept up by excitements, such as heat, food, passions, &c., which ultimately destroy the pabulum, which they denominate excitability. Hence they not only philosophically account for life, but also for death, and from the immense number of lives that have been sacrificed to this once fashionable doctrine, the system would be more properly termed "*the Philosophy of Death*," than that of life. Although this system is generally termed "*the Brunonian*," in *compliment* to the supposed founder, the late Dr. Brown, who was a teacher of Latin, in Edinburgh, it was first broached by the late Dr. Darwin, of Derby. The doctrines from their beautiful simplicity, and philosophical character, were warmly taken up by the medical students of Edinburgh,—they so far simplified the study, that the most illiterate might make himself a *philosophical* physician in a week. The fatal effects of the system in practice, have destroyed its fascinations, by proving that it was founded in error. The number, therefore, of the Brunonian tribe, fortunately for the afflicted, greatly decreased; but the few we have, pretend to have made great improvements in the system, and boldly assert that the founders, Darwin and Brown, did not understand it. They have lately endeavoured to introduce themselves to general notice, by giving publicity to some flights of fancy respecting contagious diseases, and particularly the "*non-contagious nature of the plague*," and yellow fever, which such *ignorant* physicians, as Cullen, Gregory, Sydenham, &c. considered contagious!! The public, being too enlightened on the subject of medicine, to be misled by such flighty theories, this philosophical tribe are reduced to the sad necessity of living, as Sir Richard Birnie lately observed, on "*their wits*;" and the *physicking effects* of their philosophic system,

are chiefly confined to their tradesmen; some of whom have shewn themselves to be so ignorant of "*philosophical principles*" as to accuse them of philosophical *swindling*." Such is, however, the philosophy of these gentlemen, that they can submit to the greatest indignities, and for the *satisfaction* of their creditors, agree to be immured for a few months. So much for "*improved Brunonianism*." The next of this philosophical class found their system on the "*philosophy of medicine*." They pretend to be acquainted with the *modus operandi* of remedies, and from some confused idea of the principles of animal life, they contend that no articles can operate on the system, except "those of the philosophical kind," of which oxygen and galvanism are the principal. The first they consider to be the grand stimulus of life. That this vivifying fluid is absorbed by the red particles of the blood during respiration, and by them conducted over the body, stimulating all the parts through which it passes. We heard one of this tribe make the very shrewd sensible observation, when delivering a lecture, "that man cannot die as long as he can breathe," therefore, said he emphatically, the old saying, of a man dying for want of breath, is not so good a witticism as some imagine! Galvanism they consider a most valuable diffusible stimulus, in cases of nervous debility, local or general. These remedies, in consequence of having been quacked by this tribe, for some time fell into disrepute. In one case of extreme debility, after scarlet fever, the life of the patient was suddenly terminated by an attempt made by one of this philosophical tribe, to introduce a tube into the wind pipe for the purpose of inflating the lungs with oxygen. The patient absolutely died with the pipe in the mouth, a few minutes after the philosophical physician had declared that the remedy would certainly restore her to health! The enraged father of the patient, who happened to be present, took the liberty to term him an ignorant brute, and to order his servant to turn him out of the house, sans ceremonie. They rarely employ any other drug than an opiate, and an aperient, attributing the stimulating or tonic properties of all remedies to the presence of oxygen. All diseases they ascribe either to an excess or diminution of oxygen in the body. The former they pretend to cure by charcoal powder or confinement in an air, with a less proportion of oxygen than the atmosphere, (as in a cow-house with cows.) For the latter diseases, oxygen is a never failing remedy.

The founder of this philosophical sect had the honour of introducing into practice the nitric acid, which, by supplying the system with oxygen, he deemed an infallible specific for a great variety of diseases. Some weak practitioners, who have a great taste for any thing that bears a semblance of philosophy, warmly took up the idea; and by it, many thousand lives have been sacrificed. Organic diseases of the stomach, and insanity have been the unfortunate effects of this practice.

In cases of pulmonary consumption they contended that the blood is over oxygenated, and consequently, that the lungs perform their office better in a state of disease than in health! Charcoal, by uniting with the oxygen, and forming carbonic acid gas, they have proved to be a specific by the publication of numerous "confirmed cases!" In the hands of sober practitioners the practice has failed to afford even the slightest relief; and, as to living with cows, a few patients were found dead by the

side of their horned companions. The complete failure of the oxygenating and de-oxygenating practice, and the result of the experiments of Mr. Pepys, and others, that oxygen is not absorbed by the red particles of the blood, have proved fatal to the reputation of this flighty system. The other philosophical remedy, galvanism, was highly extolled as an infallible remedy for local paralytic affections. For deafness, from whatever cause it might arise, they promised, by it, a certain cure. All deaf patients who could pay the fee were deemed proper subjects for the remedy. The daily papers were paragraphed with *anonymous* cases of extraordinary cures of deafness, by galvanism. The remedy being employed in cases of deafness arising from over distension of the vessels of the brain, occasioned so many instances of fatal apoplexy, that its reputation as an universal remedy for deafness, was of short duration. That galvanism is a valuable remedy for many affections of the stomach and bowels dependant on nervous debility, and also for partial palsy, every practitioner who has employed it, or is acquainted with its effects on the living animal body, will admit. In the hands of the scientific and judicious practitioner, M. La Beaume, it has unquestionably proved very beneficial in cases of indigestion, habitual costiveness, and sluggishness of the liver, atonic gout, &c. and that too, after the blue pill and tonic medicines has afforded very little relief. It is in the hands of ignorant selfish men, that galvanism and oxygen have proved injurious. The reputation of these active agents, as well as that of all new remedies, suffer, and some of the most valuable fall into disuse, in consequence of being quacked by ignorant pretenders, whose only object is obtained if they bring grist to the mill.

The system of the third set of philosophical physicians is founded on a knowledge of the animal economy, and the *modus operandi* of medicine. Unlike the two preceding philosophical physicians, they pretend to be great anatomists, and still greater physiologists. The head of this learned tribe is Dr. Philip Wilson Philip. This *Physiologist* during his residence at Worcester, took up the idea of some old writers, that a subtle fluid is conveyed from the brain by the nerves, and that it keeps up the functions of the different organs. To prove that this was not mere hypothesis, he subjected several rabbits to a variety of experiments, the results of which, were made to prove the fact. The Doctor considered his pretended discovery so lucky a hit, that he resigned his practice in Worcester to the philosophical or physiological Dr. Hastings, to reside in London, in order that the "Royal Family," and the good citizens of the metropolis might reap the full benefit of it, under his immediate superintendence. A new book on indigestion, complaints of the liver, &c. was accordingly made with a most attractive title, and for the benefit of invalids, is as industriously advertised, as the *celebrated* works of Solomon and Brodum. The doctor's experiments were unfortunately, repeated by others with opposite results. It has been indubitably proved, that the nerves are not better conductors of galvanic fluid than muscles, and that in the experiments made on rabbits, by Dr. Philip, the galvanic fluid did not pass through their stomachs. The system being founded in error, it will soon share the fate of the other philosophical systems, notwithstanding the Doctor's attempts to keep it alive, by dint of advertising his book, and the puffing aid of a set of ve-

nal scribblers, who have so long disgraced the Medical department of the periodical press.

The Chemical and Medico-chirurgical classes of physicians, we shall notice in our next number.

PRESCRIPTIONS.—Sirs, As you have requested the transmission of communications, I have much pleasure in sending you a few prescriptions and remarks. The following composition has been found extremely beneficial in eruptions of the skin, termed scorbutic.

Take of Æthiops' Mineral;

Castile Soap, of each two drachms;

Compound Colocynth Pill with Aloes, one drachm;

Calomel;

Camphor, of each half a drachm.

Mix, and form a mass, and divide it into seventy-two pills; two or three to be taken twice or thrice a day.

The following pills have proved very beneficial in *rheumatic gout*, face ache, &c. One taken at bed-time, I have found to act like a charm in procuring sleep, and easing pain. They are much used in St. Thomas's Hospital.

Take of Prepared Calomel, twelve grains;

Emetic Tartar, three grains;

Purified Opium, six grains;

Syrup, sufficient to form a mass, to be divided into six pills, one to be taken at bedtime.

In a most distressing case of syphilitic rheumatism, I have known one of these pills to give ease, and when the most powerful anodynes were perfectly inert. The proportion of emetic tartar is, no doubt, greater than some stomachs will bear, without producing nausea or sickness, but, in general, I have not found any unpleasant effects from it. As you have not been able to procure a specimen of Dr. Birkbeck's prescriptions, I send a copy of one, which the Doctor did me the favour to write in my own case, viz. indigestion, costiveness, laborious breathing, &c.

Take of Mercurial Pill, four grains;

Compound Rhubarb Powder, five grains.

Mix, and form two pills, to be taken every other night.

Take of Soluble Tartar, one ounce;

Liquor of Potass, one and a half drachm;

Cinnamon Water, three ounces;

Syrup of Saffron, one and a half drachm;

Distilled Water, nine ounces.

Mix. Three table-spoonfuls to be taken twice a day.

This being the common routine of the day, affords no room for comment. The following is a very good mixture, to accompany the blue pill.

Take of Soda, or Magnesia, one drachm;

Infusion of Rhubarb;

————Gentian Compound, of each, four ounces.

Mix. Two table-spoonfuls to be taken three times a day.

I have found this of great service in stomach complaints.

Being myself a good deal troubled with rheumatism of the pectoral muscle, which has lately shifted to my right shoulder, I rubbed in, for

three or four nights in succession, one drachm of the emetic tartar ointment, made agreeably to the formula of Mr. Gatiskill, in your number for this month. It has produced no eruption, but the arm is certainly much better, probably from the friction. I by no means wish to undervalue the curative effects of this remedy thus used in many diseases, but I have no doubt that, like turpentine, it will be overdone, and from curing all disorders, it will be at length laid on the shelf as of no value in any. The use of it, in croup at least, is no novelty, for I saw the late Dr. Day, a practitioner of the old school, order it, in a case of that kind, fourteen years ago. Among the preparations of the pharmacopœia of St. Thomas's Hospital, the following appears under the name of *Confection of Cream Tartar, with Iron*.

Take of Cream Tartar, six drachms;

Tartarized Iron, two scruples;

Powdered Ginger, ten grains;

Simple Syrup, as much as is sufficient.

Mix. A fourth part to be taken for a dose, three times a day.

In cases of dropsy, this composition has been administered at Bartholomew's Hospital with great success. It is certainly a most useful formula.

I am in possession of some original prescriptions of a certain medical baronet, now a great favourite with an illustrious character, which, at a future period, I shall either transcribe, or send to you, as may be most convenient. If you think them worth the trouble, which please to signify as much in your notice to correspondents. Humbug is become quite the order of the day, both regular and irregular, of which your publication affords a most amusing and laughable exposure, and any assistance that it may be in my power to render you in such a laudable undertaking, shall be most cheerfully contributed. The Gazette of Health may have abler friends, but not a more sincere well-wisher than, Sir, your obedient Servant,

Newport, 21 July, 1823.

W. HARRISSON.

INFANTILE ATROPHY.—The following valuable practical observations on the modifications and treatment of atrophy or emaciation of children, termed marasmus, (which generally prevails at this period of the year) are from the pen of a physician, to a public dispensary.

“Though the diseases of children appear to have occupied the attention of late medical writers more than formerly, and though they are generally better acquainted with them, yet too many instances of inefficient or injurious practice must occur to every physician, to render fresh dissertations useless. Neither altogether are these to be blamed, if they contain nothing absolutely new or unknown before; for of the great mass of medical works that issue from the press, a few only can meet the eye of each individual, and it may happen that those which escape his attention, may have a powerful claim upon it, from their practical utility. With this impression on my mind, it has not appeared entirely without its use, to make some observations upon that disease of children, which has been variously named *marasmus*, *verminatio*, infantile remittent fever, &c. Some doubt, perhaps, may exist, whether the latter disease be the same with the two former; but whoever will consider the histo-

ries of the infantile remittent fever of children, can scarcely fail to perceive its coincidence with the disorder to which Dr. Hamilton and Dr. Ayre, have given the name of marasmus.

"The symptoms of marasmus differ in some way according to the age of the child. In young infants, it will often chiefly show itself by dulness and great unwillingness to be tossed about. From being manageable and crying little, the patient is perpetually whining, and it is impossible to engage its attention for more than a few minutes. The face becomes pale and leucophlegmatic, occasionally, lighted up with a hectic flush. The feet and hands burn, and even if the child sleeps, it is restless, tossing about in the bed, and moaning frequently. The appetite varies, being sometimes even voracious, and at another loathing every kind of food. The bowels are irregular, and the motions unnatural, sometimes greenish, and what the nurses called griped; at another, when there is nothing improper in the colour of the *fœces* at first sight, minuter examination shows it to be covered with a semi-pellucid jelly-like matter, apparently being merely the effects of an increased secretion from the internal surface of the bowels; occasionally the *fœces* are very black, but this occurs more frequently after opening medicine than at any other time, and it may, perhaps, be in some measure attributed to the remedy. Whatever may be the appearance of the *fœces*, they are always exceedingly offensive. The bowels are not always much enlarged nor hard; and indeed frequently it would be impossible to perceive any difference in the feeling and appearance of the abdomen, from its state in perfect health. As this disease often recurs during the time of dentition, it has not unfrequently been attributed to this cause, and it is undoubtedly not seldom aggravated by it; but, upon the whole, I am much more inclined to refer the severity of the symptoms which attend dentition to the previous bad state of the health than the reverse. The wasting of the muscular flesh is not so marked in very young children as in those of more advanced age, to whom the description of Dr. Hamilton more particularly applies.

In children of four or five years of age, besides the above symptoms, it is not unusual to observe a palsy of the lower extremities supervene, when the disease has continued a considerable time, while no derangement can be observed in the course of the spine. In the earlier stages of the disease, however, older children have more distinctly the symptoms referrible to worms, such as cough, sometimes merely dry and hacking; at others, occurring in severe paroxysms, and attended with expectoration, itching of the nose, and of the fundament, dry and scaly, sometimes swelled lips, and protuberant and hard abdomen. If the disease takes place in children, who are just beginning to walk, they are frequently taken off their legs, and even those who may have walked firmly for a month or two, will totter and require to be carried. It would appear that the earth of bone is often not sufficiently deposited, for it is during this state that I have seen the bones of the legs most frequently curved.

The general cause of this disorder has undoubtedly its place in the stomach and intestines, through which, perhaps, the secretions of the liver may, as Dr. Ayre inculcates, become vitiated, together with the other glands which contribute to perfect digestion.

The treatment of this disease has varied very much ; by Dr. Hamilton, purgatives almost entirely have been employed and recommended. Dr. Ayre gives minute doses of calomel, and, as he states, with the greatest success. Those who have been brought up in Mr. Abernethy's school confine themselves to mercury with chalk, jalap, and calomel, while the old nurses, to whom in this country most of such cases are confided, give rhubarb in different forms. It seems impossible that these plans could have been pursued or recommended if success had not attended them ; and it appears to me chiefly necessary to point out the different states of the disorder to which the various remedies are applicable.

In the very early stages of this disease, a brisk purgative, or a repetition of purgatives, every other day, will frequently remove it ; but when we speak of the early stages of this or any other disorder, it must be referred rather to the order of symptoms than to time ; for it will often happen, that the progress of the complaint will be very various in equal spaces of time in different patients. In one it will long be merely observable in a want of animation and general sluggishness, while the alvine evacuations are offensive and improperly formed. In another case, and no longer time, it shall be accompanied with cough, considerable emaciation, large, protuberant, and hard bowels, and great debility. The enlarged abdomen, however, does not seem peculiar to the latter stages of marasmus, in which it is frequently wanting, until effusion or organic disease of the mesenteric glands has taken place. But in this case, the tumour is either soft, and giving a sense of fluctuation to the touch, or irregular and tuberculated—two states which cannot possibly be mistaken for that kind of tumour which arises from constipated bowels. When, from investigation, we find reason to believe that the enlarged abdomen is accompanying the early stages of the disease, and before there is any threatening either of watery head or organic disorder of the abdominal cavity itself, we may almost promise a speedy removal of the symptoms by the use of purgatives. In prescribing these remedies for children, it is essential to remember, that they will usually bear and require proportionably larger doses than older people, and that the first dose or two must be stronger than what will afterwards be necessary. From the nature of the discharges after purgatives, it seems probable that this arises from the bowels being lined with more mucus than natural, and thus preventing the action of the medicine upon their internal surface.

CASE 1. June, 1818.—William Langford, aged six, the only surviving child of a large family, who, by report, had died of marasmus ; affected with headach, slight hacking cough, dulness, frequent hectic flushes, and great restlessness, pallid countenance ; had fallen away within the last fortnight ; abdomen protuberant ; bowels costive ; pulse weak. Purgatives with jalap and calomel, six grains of the former to two of the latter, repeated on alternate days for a fortnight, restored this patient to health ; but it has been necessary to repeat them from time to time, as symptoms have recurred. I saw him about a year ago, when he was strong and healthy.

CASE 2. October, 1822.—Joseph Smith, aged eleven ; symptoms of marasmus, combined with an eruption on the face ; tongue furred,

elevated red papillæ; pulse feeble and quick; bowels protuberant, hard, and generally costive. The mother had in this instance given calomel and jalap occasionally, but without much relief. Purging with jalap (4 grains), scammony (4 grains), calomel (2 grains), continued on alternate days for six weeks, restored the health of this patient, and removed the eruption. The matter discharged from the bowels in the early part of the disease was slimy, green, and extremely offensive; and for the first fortnight nothing like natural *fæces* passed.

CASE 3. October, 1822.—Bromfield Kerry, aged nine; general symptoms of marasmus; large abdomen; bowels alternately costive and relaxed; a scrofulous appearance; had been poorly for six weeks. Purgatives removed much offensive matter, and he was dismissed, cured, in the course of a month.

In these cases the disease had been of short duration; and there seems little doubt, but that the first case would quickly have terminated fatally, as the former instances had done, if it had not been arrested in its early stage. The second case shows the combination of marasmus with eruption (*porrigo*) and I may strictly say, that I have never known a single example of this eruption without affection of the general health, and, indeed, the directions which Dr. Bateman has given for the treatment of the disorder seem to prove that he had a similar opinion. Still, however, in the case before us, local applications are, for the most part, necessary, in addition to the general treatment.

There are, perhaps, very few instances of marasmus in which it is not advisable to commence the treatment with the exhibition of purgatives, though it may not always be safe to rely upon them solely for a cure. And here great caution is necessary, not to be deceived by the report of the parents with regard to the bowels: it is no unusual thing to be told that the child is extremely relaxed, and that the bowels are moved seven or eight times in the course of twenty-four hours, when stricter inquiry shows, that though the child makes frequent attempts, little or nothing passes away. Here it can be scarcely necessary to observe, that purgatives must absolutely be required; and, indeed, no other means can be advantageously employed till the bowels have been cleared out. Even, however, where looseness really exists, much matter will still remain upon the bowels; and though the more powerful purgatives, as calomel and scammony, might be injurious, it is quite essential to give something which may effectually dislodge the offending matter. When this lies, as it generally does, in the lower part of the alimentary canal, glysters, with oil of turpentine, will be a powerful auxiliary, and will most completely destroy any *ascarides* which may be present, and which so usually accompany the disorder. As an aperient medicine, under such circumstances, nothing can be found more beneficial than castor oil; and disagreeable as this drug is to most adult persons, it is not often refused by young children. When diarrhœa attends marasmus, the dejections will for a long period consist of nothing but a dark coloured slimy and offensive matter; and if occasionally a more natural evacuation should appear, it is quickly superseded by these diseased secretions. After the exhibition of castor oil, a great quantity of small black pellets, resembling sheep dung, are usually expelled, and it will require frequent repetition before they en-

tirely disappear. Sometimes when this is effected the disease vanishes, but much more frequently considerable derangement of the animal functions continues; the cough, bad appetite, furred tongue, and restlessness, remain, and demand additional treatment. If under these circumstances, purgatives be persisted in, the disorder is only increased, the debility and emaciation are augmented, and death speedily closes the scene.

When diarrhœa continues, mercury with chalk, with two or three grains of rhubarb, twice a day, is a very useful medicine; and I have found, the diarrhœa being previously stopped, the infusions of camomile and rhubarb, given in such proportion as to ensure a tonic effect, particularly serviceable with one or two grains of calomel, at first every day, and afterwards only every other day.

CASE 4. November, 1822.—Mary Ann Parkes, aged ten years, for three years had been observed at times to be poorly, varying very much with general bad appetite and great restlessness at night; she had lost much flesh, but more especially within the few last weeks; countenance pale; abdomen little if at all prominent; tongue furred; pulse weak; bowels alternately costive and relaxed. Purgatives removed a great quantity of green slimy matter, but without any corresponding relief to her general state.

Take of Prepared Calomel two grains;

To be taken every second night.

Take of Infusion of Rhubarb;

———— Camomile, of each, 4 drachms ;

For a draught, to be taken three times a day.

Under this treatment she quickly regained a good state of health, and was dismissed cured at the end of the month.

This case is an evident proof that much general weakness may remain after the original cause of the disorder has been removed, and that a tonic treatment will be necessary to ensure a complete restoration to health. With regard to the choice of medicines, I cannot, I trust, be misunderstood as to recommend those only which I have been accustomed to prescribe myself, but merely to indicate the *principle* upon which the curative plan is generally to be conducted. How far Dr. Ayre's mode of giving small doses of calomel alone may succeed, I am unable to say, as I have never found it necessary to recur to it.

There is still another modification of marasmus, which is attended by worms, and more particularly the round long species. When Dr. Bateman changed the term *verminatio* in his reports to that of *marasmus*, because the symptoms which indicated the presence of worms were not peculiar to them, he announced a fact of very great importance in a pathological point of view. But it is to be regretted that he did not go farther; for there seems to me little question, not only that the symptoms are not peculiar to worms, but that these may be completely removed without the removal of the diseased state. The truth is that worms are never generated in the healthy state of the body, and that they ought themselves to be considered rather among a series of symptoms of a peculiar disorder, than as the essential and sole cause. And this view of the subject is highly important as it regards practice;

for, if when no more worms are expelled, we consider every thing done, or if we persist in treating for the worms, because the symptoms which are supposed to indicate them have not disappeared, we shall probably equally fail in our purpose. Undoubtedly, as foreign and irritating bodies, it is most necessary to remove these animals, but it is not less necessary afterwards to correct that state of the system in which they were originally generated. This opinion of the nature of the disease in which worms are found, is not, I believe, original, though it seems but rarely adverted to, and I have seen somewhere (though I cannot now recover it) a paper in which mercury was persevered in with success, upon this principle.

CASE 5th.—April 8, 1822, William Haurey, aged five; affected with symptoms of marasmus, cough, itching of the nose and anus, protuberant abdomen, &c.; often passes large pieces of tape-worm.

Take of Prepared Calomel, four grains;

Powder of Jalap, five grains.

Mix. To be taken every second night.

Take of Oil of Turpentine, one ounce and a half;

Mucilage of Gum Arabic, two ounces;

Pure Water, six ounces and a half.

To be well rubbed and mixed together. Two table-spoonsful to be taken every second morning.

He continued this plan till the 26th, having passed several yards of the worm at first, but none for the last week. The dejections were slimy, dark-coloured, and offensive, mixed with a considerable quantity of a substance resembling the white of an egg. For the last two days, the fæces have been more natural in appearance.

Take of Infusion of Camomile;

————— Rhubarb, of each, four drachms;

Subcarbonate of Potass, five grains.

For a draught. To be taken three times a day.

He continued this for a fortnight or three weeks, and was dismissed cured. I have heard of him within the last three months, and he continued well. I ought to have observed, that he remained very poorly and weak, after there seemed reason to believe that all the worms were expelled.

With respect to the structural disease which takes place in marasmus, very little information is to be acquired, since it seldom proves fatal while in its simple form. The most usual organic derangement appears in the mesenteric glands, which are often enlarged and scirrhous, more or less broken down, and in every way having the appearance of scrofulous tubercles. On one occasion, in which an opportunity was afforded of examining a patient of four years old, no disease whatever was discovered, except, perhaps, a very contracted state of the sigmoid flexure of the colon. The pericardium firmly adhered to the heart in every part, but there had been, I understood, no symptoms of disease of that organ during life. The symptoms which distinguish marasmus, are, not unfrequently, also the precursors of watery head, and if this disease ensues, of course the chief disease will be found in the head, though, as is well known, the abdominal viscera are also frequently found to have undergone some change.

In the above observations on marasmus, I have not had it in contemplation to give any thing like a complete essay upon the complaint, but merely to point out some of those circumstances which I have found useful in a considerable experience of it. I might have easily extended the paper by a greater enumeration of cases, but it appeared to me fully sufficient to give such instances as would illustrate the points I had in view; if what has been stated be correct, one case will be sufficient to exemplify it; if incorrect, a hundred cases would not make it true.

With the late Dr. Cam, a celebrated physician of Hereford, the basilic powder was a very favourite remedy for marasmus, or the spurious worm fever. He prescribed it in the dose of five grains for a child of two years, and increased the dose one grain for every year above that age till it arrived to twenty. He was also in the habit of ordering a light tonic medicine, to be taken twice a day, as cold infusion of columbo root, or cascarilla, in lime water. This treatment we should prefer to that recommended above.

RUPTURE.—M. Depuis, a French surgeon of considerable experience, informs us that he has succeeded in curing several incipient cases of rupture in the groin, by applying over the part, (after reduction) by means of compresses with Ody's Patent Truss, the following composition:

Boil two ounces of oak bark, bruised, in a pint and quarter of water, till reduced to a pint; strain off the liquor whilst warm, and dissolve three drachms of powdered common alum in it, and when cold, add one ounce of tincture of gum kino.

He employs a compress (lint) of the size of the pad of the truss, and directs it to be kept on day and night, and to be moistened with the lotion about four times a day.

The bowels, he directs to be kept in a regular state, by tonic aperient pills, similar to the dinner pill, noticed in our 91st number. He adds, that for many years, he ridiculed the idea of *curing* rupture by a *topical* application; but that experience has now convinced him that it is to be effected by a powerful astringent lotion, with the aid of a truss, in subjects not far advanced in life.

CONSTIPATION.—Dr. Wright, in a dissertation on the nature and treatment of fever, states that he has found the mustard poultice, or a blister, applied to the dorsal region of the spine, to excite the bowels to action, after the most powerful purgative medicines had failed to produce any effect on them; and Mr. La Beaume has often witnessed the same effect to follow the application of the galvanic fluid in the course of the spine.

Mr. James King, an experienced surgeon-apothecary, has lately published the two following cases, in which the emetic tartar ointment, rubbed over the spine, excited purging.

M. Gregor, a young man aged twenty-five, was seized, during the month of April, 1821, after exposure to cold, with a severe rheumatic affection of the dorsal portion of the spine, for which bleeding and other remedies, usually found of service in similar cases, were resorted to without any benefit; by the advice of a medical friend, I was induced to rub tartar emetic ointment on the surface of the part affected. Two

days after the first application of this ointment, he informed me that he had been troubled during the night with a severe purging, which he attributed to the rubbing. At the time not being aware that tartar emetic, when applied externally, would produce such effects, I ridiculed the idea, and attributed it to some derangement of the alimentary canal. I ordered the ointment to be continued till next day, when I was informed the purging had been still more severe than it was before my last visit. I now began to suspect that the emetic tartar might be received into the system by means of the absorbents, or act through the medium of the nerves, so as to produce this effect; but to obtain a more satisfactory proof, I ordered it to be discontinued for three days, during which time the bowels returned to their natural action, as he had only one stool each day. I again commenced the use of the ointment, and again it exerted a similar influence over the alimentary canal, which obliged me to give up its use entirely.

—— Hamilton, a boy aged thirteen, some time in the month of September, 1821, felt, for the first time, pain and weakness of the back, and difficulty of walking, which, along with other symptoms, became more and more severe, and at length terminated in a very bad case of diseased spine. He was repeatedly blistered, and an issue kept open for six months on each side of the diseased bone; which, though it had produced little or no benefit, would have been allowed to discharge a longer period, had it not been for his friends, who, by the advice of some ignorant person, would not allow it to be kept open any longer. As soon as it was completely cicatrized, I rubbed this ointment around the diseased part, as often as I was able from the state of the pustular surface. His bowels, previously to this, were always rather costive, and occasional doses of laxative medicine were required to produce regular evacuations; after the first rubbing, their action was considerably increased, as he had daily two stools, at least, without the use of any opening medicine.

In the first case, the action of the medicine was very severe, keeping up a continual diarrhoea; in the other, however, its effects were more moderate, but sufficient to shew distinctly its operation on the alimentary canal. During the external use of this medicine, neither sickness, nausea, nor any other of the effects produced by its internal administration, were observable. I have repeatedly rubbed it on other parts of the body, such as the nape, breast, &c. without observing any effect produced on the abdominal viscera.

In cases of indolent bowels of children, rubbing the spine with oil of turpentine, diluted with an equal quantity of olive oil, is a common practice with some nurses. It has also been found beneficial in whooping cough. The effects of a strong solution of opium rubbed over the spine, in allaying pain in the intestines, uterus, and bladder, have been noticed by the late Mr. Ward, of Manchester, and ourselves.

EPILEPSY.—We were lately informed by a gentleman that he cured himself of this disease by taking a teaspoonful of the “spirit of hartshorn” three times a day, in a wine-glassful of cold water. Having met with an account of the efficacy of this article in an old book, he ordered it to be made according to the directions of the Pharmacopœia of the time, which differs from that of the New London College of Physicians, containing an empyreumatic odour. The spirit of

hartshorn of the London College is a solution of the *subcarbonate* of ammonia, but that obtained from bones is not a subcarbonate, and, on account of containing an empyreumatic oil, is a better nervine medicine. Few compounders and venders of drugs are aware that when the *old* name is used, the *old* preparation should be employed or sold. The *new* name applies only to the *new* formula. The old and altered forms vary so much in strength, that much mischief may be produced by using or selling one for the other; for instance, the dilute *vitriolic* acid is only half the strength of the dilute *sulphuric* acid, and yet the latter is generally used or sold for the former, even when the old name is employed. The College luminaries tell us, that the alterations they have made are improvements in the *science* of medicine. They have had the good effect of mystifying medicine, and this, in the opinion of legitimate physicians, is an important desideratum, if not an improvement. They have to learn that the monachism of medicine, in this country at least, has for ever ceased, and consequently that *Hohenlohism* will meet with few converts beyond the limits of Warwick Lane, whose slaughter-houses are become a nuisance to the enlightened citizens of London.

Surgeon EARLE, v. Sir ASTLEY COOPER.—About three years ago, Sir Astley Cooper and Mr. Travers, a city surgeon, instituted an *occasional* periodical work, for the laudable purpose of communicating *all* improvements in surgery to the profession, especially those members that reside in the country. The real objects of the work were to prop up the reputation of the Borough Hospitals, and to introduce Mr. Travers as Sir Astley's successor in the city, on his taking up a residence within the sunshine of royalty. Sir Astley was to be the *sun* in the West, and Mr. Travers his satellite in the East!! The work was introduced, as a wonderful production, by some venal periodical works, the editor of one of which termed it "a comet in the medical world, of such dazzling powers that appears only once in a thousand years."!! Poor fellow, we must do this wholesale dealer in words the justice to say, that his knowledge of surgery is very superficial, although he styles himself an *extraordinary* surgeon to a royal Duke, and also an Esquire. The analysis we gave of this dazzling comet induced the profession to examine it minutely, the consequence of which was, it soon lost its dazzling brilliancy. They discovered that it was made up with common routine practice, without an original idea, or any novelty of the smallest practical utility. A second number was published, which experienced so small a demand, that the learned editors or collectors "thought it prudent not to risk another."

"Hic transit gloria mundi Medicalis!"

Saint Bartholomew's Hospital has, of late years, gained such an ascendancy over the Borough Hospitals, as a school of surgery, that the teachers at the latter are alarmed, lest their benches may not be sufficiently filled to pay them for the time they may devote to lecturing. Sir Astley Cooper, with the most laudable views no doubt, has boldly advanced with a new book on fracture, in the support of the Borough school, which, of course, will be puffed off as another dazzling comet in certain Journals. Sir Astley, in his remarks on fracture of a certain part of the neck of the thigh bone, positively asserts that although the bone may unite, "the limb will remain shortened, and the patient lame for life."

Surgeon Earle, feeling as every surgeon should feel, indignant at a declaration which throws unmerited discredit on the art of surgery, has taken up his pen in its defence. He boldly maintains that under his care at Bartholomew's Hospital and in private practice, he has kept the limb in a position by means of machinery which he invented some years since, so that the fractured neck of the

bone united, and the limb of the patient, on leaving his bed, was not shorter than the other, and that he could use it with the same degree of ease and power, although the fracture was accompanied with the most unfavourable circumstances Sir Astley Cooper has noticed. The Society for the Encouragement of the Arts, having awarded Mr. Earle their gold medal for his valuable invention, one would suppose that so great a man as Sir Astley Cooper could not have been ignorant of it. Sir Astley has announced his intention of replying to Mr. Earle's assertions, and hence a controversy is at length provoked by the Borough Hospital surgeons, the termination of which every surgeon must foresee, will not be to the credit of the latter. Indeed, although Messrs. Green, Travers, Rowley, and old mother Cox, and her congenital phenomenon, are put into requisition to support their patron, the contest is so unequal, that Sir Astley would act wisely, by following the advice of my uncle Toby, "Wipe it over, and say nothing about it." No surgeon of experience, acquainted with the professional abilities of Sir Astley, will give him a rank above mediocrity. His knowledge is mere routine, not advanced in the smallest degree by his long experience beyond that he obtained from his teachers!! On anatomy, physiology, and operative surgery, in which his strength lies, he has not communicated one novel idea. His medical surgery or constitutional treatment of surgical cases, is contemptible. For his *public* reputation, he is indebted to the report of his numerous pupils, who ignorant from the country, pronounce him a wonderful surgeon, merely from rote knowledge, which a man of inferior intellect may acquire by habit. There are many surgeons in the metropolis equal to John Hunter, or Pott, who are kept in the back ground by lecturers and hospital surgeons, who purchase their appointments. As Sir Astley Cooper's reply to Mr. Earle's work, will probably appear in time for us to notice it in our next number, we shall defer the conclusion of this article till then. In the interim, we advise Sir Astley not to risk his *public* reputation as a surgeon by a controversy with a man of science, long experience and observation. The result may endanger the fee trade, which, under the knuckling system of Charley, has proved very productive to master and servant!! As Sir Astley has resolved to lay open his immense reservoir of practical knowledge, he will *perhaps* oblige us by giving the extraordinary case of the late Lord Stair, which terminated fatally in two hours after a simple operation, and that of the Liverpool merchant, who went through the formidable operation of lithotomy a second time, within two months, in consequence of a calculus having been left in the bladder!! He may also assign some reason for the failure of the operation of lithotomy, in the case of the late Mr. Drummond, under the care of Mr. Brodie. This operation has proved unsuccessful in so many cases, that it is really incumbent on the operators to assign some reason for the disastrous failures, we say disastrous, because, in Paris, and Vienna, it has generally succeeded, and we know, that in the practice of Mr. Allard, Sen. surgeon to the Bristol Infirmary, an instance of failure did not occur, and we believe he performed the operation as many times as any London surgeon. We are of opinion, that the publication of unfortunate results of internal remedies, and of operations, would prove more instructive to practitioners, than fortunate results, as, by promoting inquiry, they often afford much practical information.

DEAFNESS.—The editor of the Gentleman's Magazine has published an engraving, and the particulars of a very interesting case of a young lady (Miss Thatcher) who was born totally deaf, and of course ignorant of the use of language. It appears by Mr. Wright's work on nervous deafness, which we have noticed in a late number, that the cause of the deafness of this young lady, was a dropsical thickening of the drum of the ear, which he considers to be a very common cause of congenital deafness.—Under the care of Mr. Wright, a scientific aurist of

Hanover Street, the disease of the membrane was cured, when she speedily acquired the important sense of hearing; after having been deaf about eight years. The young lady's countenance is peculiarly interesting on account of the great power of expression the features of deaf subjects acquire, by the action of the mind on them, to express their wants, dislikes, gratifications, &c.

The editor of the *Gentleman's Magazine* has also noticed the case of deafness in the Duke of Wellington, for the cure of which an aurist had been so bold as to apply a powerful caustic to the drum of the ear, under the supposition that it was morbidly thickened. So much irritation and inflammatory action followed, as to disturb the Duke's general health, that the physicians and surgeon whom he consulted declared that his life was endangered by the practice. What little power his Grace possessed of hearing, by the ear, previously to this treatment, was diminished by it, and we understand that Mr. Wright, who has since attended him, is in great doubt whether he will ever have the power of hearing with it again. The other ear which had been more mercifully treated, has been restored to health by Mr. Wright. The application of caustic to the drum of the ear, in cases of thickening, was first recommended by Mr. Earle, a scientific and experienced surgeon of London, who has published a few cases in which it proved useful. In cases of disease of the internal cuticle of the membrane of the tympany and of the external ear; caustic judiciously applied, so as to destroy the cuticle only, is, no doubt, a most important remedy, even where no thickening exists.

Many valuable remedies have fallen into disrepute in consequence of being quacked or indiscriminately employed, in all cases of the diseases for which they were recommended, without regard to the state or peculiarity of the constitution.

A correspondent at Leeds informs us that he cured himself of deafness of long standing, by exciting sneezing every day, by sniffing up the nostrils a pinch of the compound asarabacca snuff, and that he has adopted this practice in several cases of nervous deafness, with success. When a patient suffers from determination of blood to the brain, he had recourse to an abstraction of blood, either by leeches or cupping, or if the subject be advanced in years, to opening a vein in the arm, and to the occasional use of an active purgative. He also syringes the ears with warm water, when there is evidently a collection of the secretion, vulgarly termed wax. This practice we find is recommended by Mr. Wright, in his valuable treatise on nervous deafness.

In cases of deafness of elderly people it is of great importance to ascertain if the sinuses or blood vessels of the brain are really overloaded. "Ringing in the ears," which some aurists have considered a symptom of over-distension of blood vessels of the brain, or premonitory of apoplexy, is also attendant on nervous debility, and a deficiency of blood, for it is a common attendant on an excessive bleeding. The late Archbishop of Armagh was probably hurried to his grave by following the advice of an aurist, to lose blood for a "singing in the ears." His Grace had suffered so much from atonic gout, that he never rallied after the second bleeding.

REPORT OF DISEASES.—In consequence of the long continuance of rain, and sudden changes in the temperature of the atmosphere, rheumatism, gout, diarrhœa, and intermittent fever, have been very prevalent: the tincture of the *colchicum* seeds continues a great favourite with many physicians, as a remedy for gout and rheumatism. In the former disease, in the dose of from one to two tea-spoonsful, it speedily subdues the pain, and terminates the paroxysm; but unless the system be rendered healthy by the occasional use of a brisk alterative purge, by a tonic mixture (see mixture for gout in the present number) and by strict attention to diet, the disease will return in a few weeks. In acute rheumatism, the effects of this tincture are permanent. Intermittent fever has in general proved so obstinate, that some practitioners have found it necessary to have recourse to a solution of arsenic, to bring it under the influence of the Peruvian bark. Diarrhœa has in general been very mild, giving way to the cretaceous mixture after a gentle dose of rhubarb and calomel. In many distressing irritative affections of the bladder, rectum, urethra and vagina, attended with a mucous discharge, the tincture and infusion of the *diosma crenata* (buchu leaves) have been administered with complete success. In many cases of irritation of the urethra, which had been attributed to spasmodic or organic stricture, the infusion of the buchu leaves with the tincture, has entirely cured the disease.

In cases of indigestion, chronic affections of the liver, and constipation, the alkaline tincture of fumitory, in the dose of two tea-spoonsful twice a day, in a wine-glass of water, has effected extraordinary cures after the blue pill, the Peruvian bark, and other tonic medicines had failed. The fumitory is not only an excellent stomachic, but also a diobstinent, producing all the good effects of the blue pill without any of the bad.

In incipient pulmonary consumption, the oxymel of the *colchicum* seeds, and the tartar emetic ointment, have proved highly beneficial, generally removing every symptom in a few days. In advanced consumption, the oxymel of the hedge-hyssop in a decoction of Iceland moss has succeeded in improving the general health, promoting expectoration, allaying cough, and in some cases, which were considered far advanced, it has restored the patient to health. The tincture of Iodine supports its character in scrofula and wen.

Galvanism continues to be administered by Mr. La Beaume in cases of constipation of the bowels, debility of the stomach and nervous system, and chronic affections of the liver, with the most decided benefit. The prussic acid with the carbonate of soda, have been successfully exhibited in two cases of tic douloureux, as recommended by Mr. Taylor in our last number. The ointment of the prussiate of mercury has proved very successful in cases of scald head, and leprous and other diseases of the skin, in the practice of an eminent physician. Of the effects of sulphureous fumigation in itch, and the affection of the skin, termed land scurvy, we have received several very favourable reports. The good health many gouty and dyspeptic subjects have enjoyed since they adopted the composition of rose-leaves recommended in a late number, as a substitute for tea and coffee, clearly proves, that their complaints were produced by the two latter articles. In cases of

hypocondriacism, nervous restlessness, indigestion of nervous subjects, and gravel, an infusion of the buchu leaves in the dose of three table-spoonsful with eight grains of the carbonate of soda, have been successfully prescribed. The uniform success which has followed the exhibition of the essential oil of tar and the basilic nut, in cases of every species of intestinal worms, prove that these articles are specific remedies for those diseases. In a few cases of female obstruction, a gentle electric shock passed through the region of the uterus, after the general health was improved by the ecphractic pill, produced the desired effect.

BETHESDA POND WATER. Dr. Thornton positively denies having ever manufactured the article which is sold by Mr. Bell and Mr. Wild, under this name, or having appointed Mr. Bell, the chemist of Oxford Street, or any other person to sell it. The proprietor of the water, he says, is Mr. Eardley, a cooper of Bear Lane, Tower Street. The Doctor says he became acquainted with its virtues in consequence of an old patient having cured himself of rheumatic gout of fifteen years standing by it, during which time he was under the Doctor's care, without deriving any essential benefit from the various remedies he prescribed. By means of the internal and external use of the water, he was restored to perfect health in six months. The name of "Bethesda Water," was given to it by Mr. Eardley, "than whom," says Dr. Thornton, "there is not a more honourable man living. His opposite neighbour, a Mr. Waller, who appeared to the Doctor to be in a *deep decline*," also took it with an equal degree of benefit. The Doctor also asserts, that he has ascertained that the article is a *native* mineral water. We certainly do not blame the Doctor for prescribing a *new* remedy, or one, the virtues of which he had witnessed in many obstinate diseases, although apparently a nostrum, but on the contrary, we admire his liberality in employing the remedy, from the conviction that it would prove beneficial to an afflicted fellow creature. In our notice of the Bethesda Pond Water, we condemned the practice which is become common, of giving an article a name to which it is not entitled. The adoption of a name, taken from the holy writings, in our opinion borders on blasphemy. As the water is the product of this country, why not give it a proper name? To sell a remedy under a fictitious name, is a fraud, cognizable by the criminal laws of this country, although the name may have been given to it with a good motive, viz. of increasing the confidence of the patient in its curative powers. Mr. Bell has, therefore, very properly relinquished the sale of it, and we advise Dr. Thornton, to persuade the proprietor to call it by its proper name. The water, we find, to contain the sulphate of magnesia, and the sulphate and muriate of soda. When fresh it emits a strong odour of sulphur, which goes off in a few days, although the bottle be well corked. It appears to us to be similar to the mineral water of Jessop's Well, near Leatherhead.

PRINCE HOHENLOHE.—A correspondent in Dublin informs us, that many Catholic priests have lately been very active in circulating among their flocks an account of the supposed miraculous cures of Prince Alexander Hohenlohe, and that the Catholic Bishop of Dublin, has attested a most extraordinary cure of a dumb Catholic lady, through the kind intercession of this highly favoured prince, with the Almighty!! From the conversation he has had with many respectable Catholics as well

as those of the lower class, he is convinced that Hohenlobism is making such rapid strides in Ireland, that in the course of a few weeks, the Prince will be considered a peculiarly favoured saint, because the priests tell them he is so, and consequently that the Prince will have a most commanding influence over the Catholic part of that country. The cases which have been cured were all of the nervous class, on which the religious ceremony, through the medium of the mind is likely to produce great effect. A Catholic surgeon informs us, that the name of the young lady, on whose supposed miraculous cure we made some remarks in our last number, is Clara Mather, and that the eminent physicians who attended her, viz. Drs. Babington, Bright, and another, whose name we cannot make out, in consequence of its being nearly obliterated by the seal, have attested the cure.

Now if these physicians were satisfied that their patient was restored to health by supernatural agency or the intercession of Prince Hohenlohe, why should they request the editors of the *Times* not to publish their names? If they were convinced that the cure was miraculous, one would suppose that no worldly consideration would deter them from announcing the fact. About seven years since, we were much censured for having given an indecisive opinion respecting an abdominal enlargement of a woman who thought herself highly favoured by the Almighty, and although we were unacquainted with her particular religious tenets, and are so at the present time, our good friends did not hesitate to aver that we sanctioned the imposition. We merely stated, that when certain symptoms occurred the *inference* was pregnancy, but of course, the real existence of the leading symptoms depended on the veracity of the patient. This opinion we gave uninfluenced by any anticipation of the effect it might have on the public. Our catholic correspondent is very angry with us for discrediting the miraculous cures of the Prince of Hohenlohe, and for having recommended the benevolent and learned Dr. Doyle, the catholic bishop of Kildare, to advise his master the pope, to divest his religion of bigotry and superstition. The catholic religion, he says, is the *true* religion of Jesus Christ, and *therefore* unchangeable, and not subject to the caprice of man*!! Reason, says another, has nothing to do with religion, the man gifted with a spiritual understanding, admires the mysteries which protestants term bigotry and superstition, because he knows they are from God. The doctrines of transubstantiation, for instance, are termed ridiculous by protestants, but are admired and cherished by the catholics! After commenting on the benevolent and truly christian disposition of the learned Dr. Doyle, he observes—"Protestants would do right to look homeward before they censure Roman catholics for bigotry and superstition." Now if reason has nothing to do with religion, surely it will be useless for them to look homeward, and if the believers in Mahomed, and the Jewish nation are not to be guided by that power their Creator has given them to conduct them through life, termed reason, can he

* We observe that a cheap edition of *Fox's Book of Martyrs*, is now publishing in weekly numbers, which exposes the absurd and cruel bigotry and superstition of the Roman Catholics, and affords the best answer to their pretensions to *exclusive Christianity*.

expect they will ever embrace the christian religion, and that the happy period will ever arrive, when there shall be only *one* flock, and one shepherd? It is the mysteries and the bigotry of the Roman church, and the violent opposition which exists between the different sects of christians, that have prejudiced the Jews, Mahometans, &c. against christianity; and as long as they exist, the attempts to make sincere converts to it, will prove abortive. The fact is, good Dr. Doyle, primitive christianity is free from mystery. The parables of our Saviour are intelligible to the meanest capacity, and the substance of the christian religion may be concentrated into a nut-shell. Notwithstanding its beautiful simplicity, many millions of volumes have been published to explain the doctrines, or rather to mistify them, and to stultify mankind in order to make them submit to tyranny and imposture. We agree with our catholic correspondent, that the religion which teaches a man to be good cannot be bad, but that monarch who makes a tool of religion for the purpose of enslaving his subjects, is not worthy the name of man. It is true, we know, no infallible judge to decide, which religion is the best, but this we know, that the protestant religion, in our humble opinion, is the most rational, and approaches nearest to primitive christianity, which we may venture to say, is the *true* religion of Jesus Christ.

SURGEON LYNCH.—A respectable gentleman, well acquainted with the parentage and education of this advertiser of a *new* mode of curing all strictures, *except* the spasmodic kind, by internal remedies, has favoured us with the following short biographical sketch of him:—

Black John, now Mr. Lynch, of Duke Street, St. James's, was born in one of the West India islands, on the estate of John French Lynch, Esquire.

More than forty years since, John was brought to this country by "Massa," and went to reside with him at Richmond, in Surrey.

About the year 1787, Mr. Lynch removed to Mitcham, into the house of his brother, Andrew French, Esq. who at that time carried on business, as a merchant, in Copthall Court, Throgmorton Street.

Mr. Lynch, being in a bad state of health, was regularly attended at Mitcham, by Dr. James Sims, then a physician in Lawrence Lane, Cheapside, until the month of July, 1819, when he died.

During the long illness of "Massa," John was his constant attendant, day and night, and it is but a tribute due to merit, to say that he discharged his duty with fidelity; in consequence of which, "Massa" rewarded him by bequeathing him an annuity for life.

From his attendance upon "Massa," and from having noticed the remarks of his medical attendants with respect to the egesta, John thought himself competent to the treatment of bilious complaints, and resolved to establish himself in business as a professional man, but, as "single blessedness" was not very agreeable to him, he determined to enter into the holy state of matrimony, and accordingly married Mary Banks, then Cook to Mr. Andrew French.

John having now assumed the name of Lynch, took a house on Duppa's Hill, Croydon, where he first began his professional career, and there were not wanting dupes, in that neighbourhood, to lend their names towards sanctioning his presumption. It is a curious fact, that John's first patient was a woman of the name of *Wildgoose*, who signed a document in praise of his superior skill and judgment.

In our 91st number, we have noticed the magnanimity of this man of superior skill, in having recourse to legal proceedings to induce his patient, (a servant) to pay him a most exorbitant demand for medicines, which had no beneficial effect on his malady; and also, the manly conduct of the patient, who, with the true feeling of honest John Bull, determined to abide by no other decision than that of a British jury.—John Bull was not to be frightened by the processes of his loving friends, John Roe and Richard Doe. The magnanimous *black* John's heart failing him on the day of trial, he exhibited the *white* feather. The cunning gentleman was, no doubt, aware, that that affair would not bear sifting, and that the publication of the "*strictures*" of the court, and the evidence of the defendant, would ruin his *stricture* trade.

In consequence of the notice we have taken of these proceedings, we have been favoured with a copy of the bill, the *learned* plaintiff delivered to his patient. The following extract is sufficient to shew, that John is, at least, a conscientious man in his charges for medicine to a servant. A regular surgeon-apothecary would not have had the conscience to charge an opulent patient more than one third the sum.

	£	s.	d.
6 bottles of decoction (Nov. 9, 1818.)	-	-	3 6 0
1 large bottle of emulsion	-	-	1 10 0
1 do. do. oriental	-	-	1 10 0
2 small do. aperient	-	-	0 9 0
8 bottles of decoction (Dec. 8.)	-	-	4 8 0
1 large do. oriental	-	-	1 10 0
1 do. do. botanical oil	-	-	1 10 0
1 do. do. emulsion (Dec. 18.)	-	-	1 10 0
8 bottles of decoction (Dec. 27th)	-	-	4 8 0
1 small bottle of aperient	-	-	0 4 6

At the bottom of the bill is the following item, "paid for stamps for the medicines, five pounds."!! If the *surgeon* had decorated all the medicines with a stamp, which he ought to have done, instead of five pounds he would have paid nearly fifteen pounds.

We cannot, in justice to this *learned* and *conscientious* surgeon, conclude this article without warmly recommending him to the attention of the College of Physicians, the College of Surgeons, the Court of Examiners of the Apothecaries' Company, the Solicitor of the Stamp Office, and to the Magistrates of the Public Office, in Bow Street. A copy of his bill we shall take the liberty to send to the Court of Examiners of the Apothecaries' Company, who will, no doubt, pay him all the honour that is due to the high rank he assumes in the profession.

DR. JAMES JOHNSON.—Notwithstanding the very friendly advice we some time since gave this doughty writer, to suspend his trade of bookmaking, and to study matter more than flowery words, or in the language of Mr. Lawrence, to stock his brains with facts, and strengthen them by reflection and observations, so that they may secrete *ideas* instead of high sounding words; we find he continues to verbify and scribble for the edification of that class of practitioners which is very properly termed, the technical or jargonic. The peculiar cerebral fever, denominated *encoëthes scribendi*, has been kept in such a state of excitement by Dr. Armstrong's full doses of flattery, that we begin to despair of teaching him the difference between words

which convey nothing but sound and those which convey ideas. The fact is, the *doctor* entertains too high an opinion of his own talents to be persuaded even by a friend, and experience has taught us that,

He who at fifty is a fool,

Is far too stubborn grown for school.

The *doctor*, in his last book of words, has made a most formidable attack on domestic medicine. The authors, poor fellows, are by a kind of general consent to be considered out of the pale of the regular profession, for the very good reason, because a medical man cannot degrade himself more than by publishing a work to enlighten the public on medical subjects!! This certainly comes with great propriety from a man who, a few years since, made a *grand entré* in domestic medicine, and has even lately published a medical work for popular perusal!! To convict this miserable scribbler of inconsistency, if not hypocrisy, we need only give copies of title-pages of his works, and leave our readers to judge for themselves whether they are intended for the perusal of the public in general: or, for the members of the medical profession.

1. A treatise on derangements of the liver, internal organs, and nervous system, by James Johnson, M. D.

2. The influence of tropical climates on European constitutions, being a treatise on the principal diseases, incidental to Europeans in the East and West Indies, &c. by James Johnson, M. D.

3. Practical researches on the nature, cure, and prevention of gout, in all its *open* and *concealed* forms, by James Johnson, Esq.

If any of his subscribers will say that these titles are *professional* as well as *popular*, we refer them to the prefaces, where he states, that the objects of the works, are to acquaint *patients*, as well as their medical attendants, with what has been published on the different subjects!!! As a further proof that the *learned* doctor intended to make a dash at domestic medicine, we shall notice his advertisement of lectures on *popular* medicine, and we presume no *medical* man, after reading it, will have the effrontery to deny that it is not addressed to the public.

“Early in February, 1819, Mr. James Johnson will commence a comprehensive course of those lectures, on functional and structural derangements of the *organic* system, comprehending the heart, lungs, liver, and digestive organs, resulting from influence of climate, irregularity of living, anxiety of mind, or, the insalutary habits of *polished* society. N. B. In these will be incorporated, the practical results of *twenty-one* years’ observation and *personal* sufferings in various climates.”

If the learned *Doctor and Esquire*, intended his books and lectures for the instruction of members of the profession, he would have made use of a professional language, with which he is so pre-eminently acquainted. Neither the works nor the lectures met with encouragement from the public. The diffusion of medical knowledge has enabled the bulk of mankind to distinguish mere words from matter. The fact of his domestic works having experienced a very limited sale, notwithstanding their attractive titles, is highly *creditable* to the *public*, and if the work he publishes quarterly, for the *edification* of the profession, meets with encouragement, the fact is *disgraceful* to the *profession*. If after a complete failure in domestic medicine, his quarterly work has

had such a degree of circulation as to encourage perseverance, what is the inference? Does it not clearly prove, that the public are more competent to judge of the real merits of a medical work, than the members of the profession, and that domestic medicine is really in advance of regular medicine? If any reader should suppose that this fact reflects disgrace on the medical profession of the country, the conclusion will not be correct, for the fact is, the disgrace falls *only* on those members who cannot distinguish between science and technicalities. The properly educated members of the profession treat the scribblings of Dr. James Johnson, with just contempt, and we suspect our exposure of his hypocrisy in decrying domestic medicine, after having failed in it himself, will not raise him in the estimation of those members of his own technical tribe, who have *gentlemanly* feelings.

Hippocrates asserts that it behoves every man to be acquainted with medicine, and if a knowledge of it was in his time necessary to every man, how much more is it at the present, when so far from a general principle being established, on which medical men agree, a variety of systems exists, some of which are in direct opposition, and when regular and irregular quacks are licensed by government. What, indeed, with the different doctrines, the trade of quackery, and the alteration in the names of drugs, medicine, is more to be dreaded than disease itself. A knowledge of medicine is become absolutely necessary, to enable the public to distinguish the man of merit from the impostor; and it is this effect that has induced so many to decry all attempts to diffuse it among the bulk of mankind. The pretender shrinks from the eye of intelligence, whilst the man of scientific acquirements has pleasure in attending the intelligent.

If a rational system of medicine were established, and no man allowed to practise who is not acquainted with all its branches, and the trade of quackery suppressed, we should be the last of the profession that would advocate domestic medicine, and from our acquaintance with the liberality of the public, we have no hesitation in saying that if invalids could place implicit confidence in the profession, and were certain that they would not be made to swallow medicine for the benefit of the apothecary, domestic medicine would not meet with the smallest encouragement. It is the trade of fees, draughts, and the mean artifices of some of the classes of the profession, that drive patients to the shops of venders of nostrums, and induce them to read medical works.

But to revert to the bookmaking trade of inconsistent, not to say *hypocritical*, Dr. James Johnson. His book on liver complaints, &c. and that on tropical climates we have already noticed. The other we will do *him* the honour to analyse in our next number. In a subsequent number we shall do his *subscribers* the honour to notice his quarterly *Professional Book*, merely to shew them that he has no idea beyond a certain set of cant phrases, which he repeats out of compassion no doubt to his *scientific* subscribers, that he may not puzzle them by the smallest glimpse of meaning. We will not insult them so far as to publish their names.—Dr. Eady, Dr. Jordan, and Surgeon Lynch, having become subscribers, the learned editor may with great propriety, conclude his list with the chorus of a new medical song—"Tanta-ra-rarum, Quacks all, Quacks all! tanta-ra-rarum Quacks all!"

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