

Apologia chyrurgica. A vindication of the noble art of chyrurgery, from the gross abuses offer'd thereunto by mountebanks, quacks, barbers, pretending bone-setters, etc. ... / [Daniel Turner].

Contributors

Turner, Daniel, 1667-1741

Publication/Creation

London : J. Whitlock, 1695.

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/etp9my62>

License and attribution

This work has been identified as being free of known restrictions under copyright law, including all related and neighbouring rights and is being made available under the Creative Commons, Public Domain Mark.

You can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, without asking permission.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>









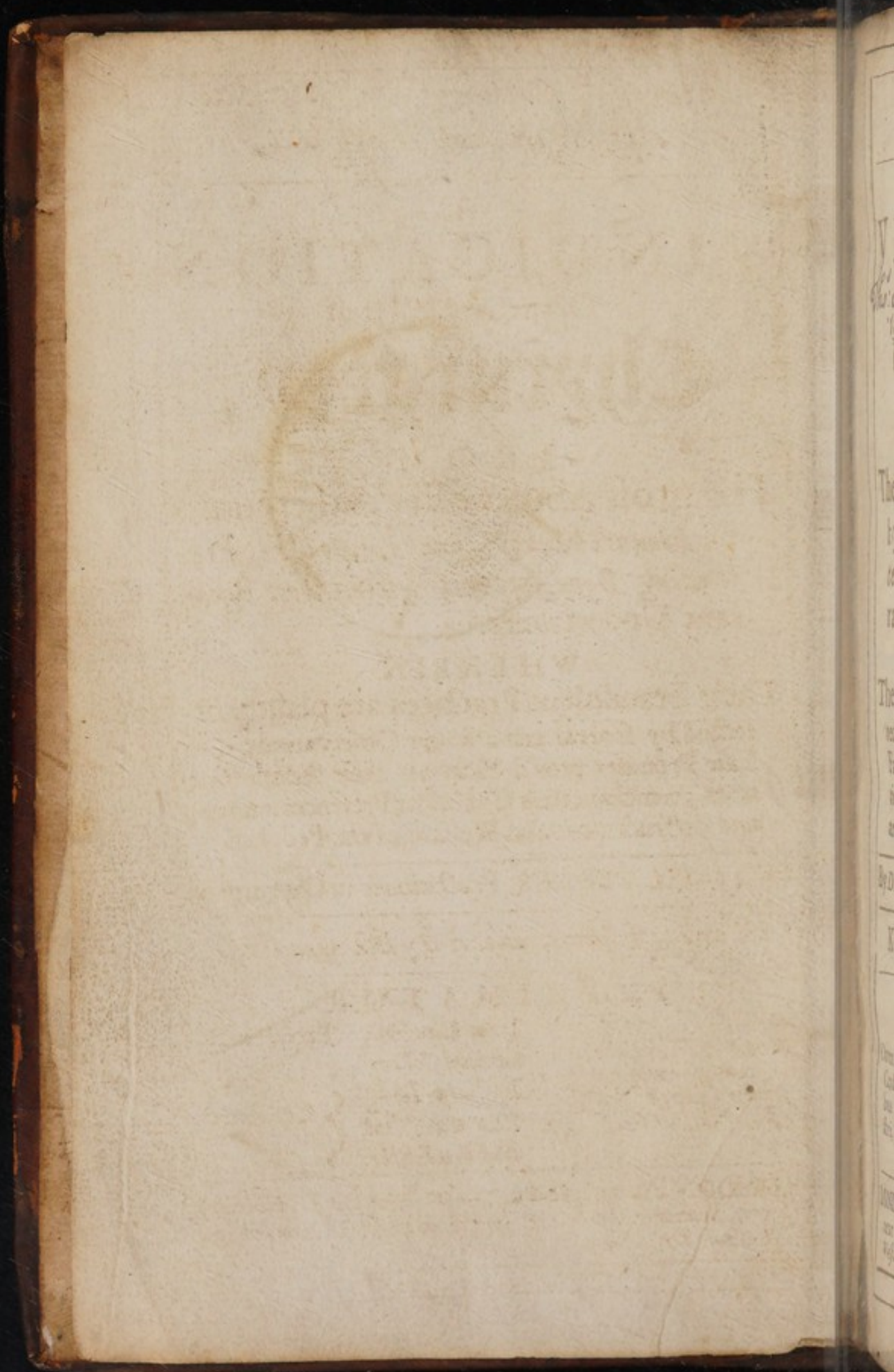


B. 2 1800 ad

52210/A

H. L. 12





42341
Apologia Chyrurgica.

A
VINDICATION
Tho: Howell Of the Noble Art of
1528
Chyrurgery,

FROM
The gross Abuses offer'd thereunto
by *Mountebanks, Quacks, Barbers, Pre-*
tending Bone-setters, with other Igno-
rant Undertakers.

WHEREIN
Their Fraudulent Practices are plainly de-
tected by several remarkable Observations, their
Fair Promises prov'd Fictions, their Administra-
tions pernicious, their Confident Pretences injurious
and destructive to the Welfare of the People.

By DANIEL TURNER, Practitioner in Chyrurgery.

Kαὶὼς ποιεῖται αἰ τὶ ἀγαθὲ μὲνεται.

IMPRIMATUR.

Datum in Comitibus
Censoriis ex Aedi-
bus Collegii no-
stri, Jan. 11. 1694.

John Lawson, President.

Samuel Collins,

Richard Torles,

Edward Tyson,

Martin Lister,

Censores.

LONDON Printed, and are to be Sold by *J. Whitlock*
near Stationers-hall, and the Booksellers of London and
Westminster. 1695.

ALLOA

WELCOME

HISTORICAL
MEDICAL

LIBRARY

TO THE
Most Ingenious and Truly Learned
Dr. EDWARD TYSON,
One of the present Censors of the
*College of Physicians, Fellow of the Royal
Society, and Physician to the Hospital of
Bethlehem.*

S I R,

TIS the common Fate of Learned Men,
that they are more than ordinarily
expos'd to the importunity of such as
are in want of their assistance; and
tho' it be Presumption in their Petitioners, 'tis
in them however a generous Condescension,
that they encline to gratifie the Requests of their
needy Supplicants.

I am ready to acknowledge my self little short
of the same Arrogance, in that I am become
troublesome so soon as honour'd with your ac-
quaintance.

The Great and Eminent seem indeed to be
placed in a sublimer Sphere, not so much that
they might pity the Ignorant as to protect the
Indigent.

The Epistle Dedicatory.

Being conscious of my own insufficiency to withstand the Test of Critical Censure, it was reasonable I should endeavour to find a Patron that might (in some measure) secure me from the Obloquy of my Adversaries.

When I had consider'd upon whose friendship I might most happily rely, it was the effect of my Ambition to single out Your Self, for one of the greatest and most learned amongst others, whom I had thought on: to make which choice (Sir) I was the rather encourag'd, since you had so lately oblig'd me with a very kind acceptance of some loose Papers I had by me, which upon your communicating were by the *Royal Society* esteem'd not unworthy, to be printed with their Philosophical Transactions. After the experience of so much Civility on a first or second conference, I had the less reason to dispute your Goodness upon the occasion I have had of a farther correspondence.

The ensuing Discourse, which I am endeavouring to shelter under the Umbrage of your Favour, was compiled about four years since, in which time it was mostly in the custody of some particular Friends, who were not a little earnest with me for its publication; tho' on other accounts I might have rely'd upon their Judgments, yet with this I could not so readily comply, because as I had never appear'd in Print, I was the less capable to imagine the Difficulties and Disadvantages I had to encounter: I did already foresee some, which put me

upon

The Epistle Dedicatory.

upon thinking, and was afraid to meet with others that should (when past recovery) be attended with Repentance.

'Tis true, I valued not the Resentments of malicious and deceitful Men, since I doubted not but the more honest and judicious would espouse my Cause: But when I reflected on the extream Nicety of the Town, many wherein are fonder to expose what they call Wit, by their Comments upon an Author's Language, prying for *Errata's*, and searching out his Lapses, rather than regarding the Usefulness of the Subject, or heeding whether it answers the End for which 'twas enterpriz'd. Of these men I had reason to be fearful, especially perceiving that more learn'd Discourses were frequently attended with an apologetick Entrance that might obviate their Censure.

Amongst other worthy Authors, I could do no less than take notice of the almost too great Modesty of the late incomparable Mr. Boyle, who when he had written never so elaborately upon what he undertook, is notwithstanding excusing himself, as if guilty of some Blemish or Imperfection. It should seem by this his singular Humility he was as worthy of, as he could be willing to procure a general Esteem and Admiration: And yet, according to the conclusion of a *Panegyrick* on the Curious *De Graaf*,

The Epistle Dedicatory.

Being conscious of my own insufficiency to withstand the Test of Critical Censure, it was reasonable I should endeavour to find a Patron that might (in some measure) secure me from the Obloquy of my Adversaries.

When I had consider'd upon whose friendship I might most happily rely, it was the effect of my Ambition to single out Your Self, for one of the greatest and most learned amongst others, whom I had thought on: to make which choice (Sir) I was the rather encourag'd, since you had so lately oblig'd me with a very kind acceptance of some loose Papers I had by me, which upon your communicating were by the *Royal Society* esteem'd not unworthy, to be printed with their Philosophical Transactions. After the experience of so much Civility on a first or second conference, I had the less reason to dispute your Goodness upon the occasion I have had of a farther correspondence.

The ensuing Discourse, which I am endeavouring to shelter under the Umbrage of your Favour, was compiled about four years since, in which time it was mostly in the custody of some particular Friends, who were not a little earnest with me for its publication; tho' on other accounts I might have rely'd upon their Judgments, yet with this I could not so readily comply, because as I had never appear'd in Print, I was the less capable to imagine the Difficulties and Disadvantages I had to encounter: I did already foresee some, which put me

upon

The Epistle Dedicatory.

upon thinking, and was afraid to meet with others that should (when past recovery) be attended with Repentance.

'Tis true, I valued not the Resentments of malicious and deceitful Men, since I doubted not but the more honest and judicious would espouse my Cause: But when I reflected on the extream Nicety of the Town, many wherein are fonder to expose what they call Wit, by their Comments upon an Author's Language, prying for *Errata's*, and searching out his Lapses, rather than regarding the Usefulness of the Subject, or heeding whether it answers the End for which 'twas enterpriz'd. Of these men I had reason to be fearful, especially perceiving that more learn'd Discourses were frequently attended with an apologetick Entrance that might obviate their Censure.

Amongst other worthy Authors, I could do no less than take notice of the almost too great Modesty of the late incomparable Mr. Boyle, who when he had written never so elaborately upon what he undertook, is notwithstanding excusing himself, as if guilty of some Blemish or Imperfection. It should seem by this his singular Humility he was as worthy of, as he could be willing to procure a general Esteem and Admiration: And yet, according to the conclusion of a *Panegyrick* on the Curious *De Graaf*,

The Epistle Dedicatory.

*Quis Fove, major erat, magno quis major Homero,
Ille tamen Momum : Zoilon Alter habet.*

However, if so great and famous Men have every where thought it Prudence to arm themselves against the *Zoilists* of the Age, what abundant cause had I to remain silent, and keep out of their reach ?

A farther motive to induce me for some time to retard the impression, was, That as I hop'd there would not be wanting those, who would judge aright of my Undertaking, so I as little question'd to find others ready enough to think me more desirous to be reputed an Author, than by being so to serve the Publick Interest.

These (Sir) were the more material Impediments to my Consent, till on the other hand I bethought my self how serviceable such a Discovery as this might be at a time that seem'd extraordinarily to require it ; and finding those who were perhaps better capacitated wholly negligent therein, I was the rather prevail'd with to lend my mean assistance towards the redressing so universally-prejudicial an Aggrievance ; so that in whatever I have expos'd my own Weakness, I shall think my self enough fortunate if the same be imputed to my Zeal for the General Good, by using my utmost diligence to suppress all base Pretenders to our most Noble Art, and vindicating the same from their Ignominy and Reproach.

I have

The Epistle Dedicatory.

I have no reason to doubt but your self, at some times, in the variety of your Practice, have remark'd how easily many reputable People have been impos'd on by a Pretence to Physick, and how fatally deluded with a Promise of Recovery; from whence, if I mistake not, there will be little room for a Surmise, whether a Discourse of this tendency may be advantageous. However I may happen to be aspers'd, or whatever may be thought of the Discourse it self, I fear not to be discommended for my choice of so fit a Person, by the benefit of whose countenance both may be defended from the too rigid Censure of those who will still be condemning all but their own Offspring, if it be but to show the Parts which a more refined Education hath conferr'd upon them above the rest of Mankind.

I have here a fair opportunity (since I can say little for my self) to make a modish Harangue upon your Accomplishments; but rather than trespass on your Modesty, I shall omit to say any thing of that nature.

I am, I must confess, very much of opinion with the Noble *Mackenzey*, (in an Epistle to Esquire *Boyle*) with respect to Dedications, and do believe an Author much more concern'd to procure for his Patron him who hath conspicuously render'd himself truly worthy, than one so made by Flattery or Adulation.

The Epistle Dedicatory.

Were I minded to speak to so large a Theme as your Merit would afford, I might say much, I'm certain, before the greatest of your Opponents would accuse me as a *Sycophant*. To prevent Reflection, I shall only take the liberty to give the World my Wish, That we had been longer happy in your access to, or possession of our *Anatomical Chair*. And, that your indefatigable Industry therein may be imitated by your Successors, is the Desire of

S I R,

Your much Obliged

Servant,

D. T.

TO

TO THE
READER.

THE Custom of Apologizing is grown so fashionable, and become so very common, that we meet with it at some times in those Pieces where the Critick himself hath thought it superfluous. I must own, it seems to me not only savouring of a becoming Modesty, but highly reasonable that an Author excuse himself, where he foresees Objections will be rais'd against him.

He is now superlatively happy, who can either write or speak without a Penitence, or at least a Pudet; and yet if no one would bestir himself on the account of Censure, we must be ever liable to a much greater Mischiefe, occasion'd by our Silence.

I shall only mention, that the almost continual Avocations by Business, when this Discourse was penn'd, gave me at some times so great interruption, as may have render'd the same the more incoherent, and will, I hope, prevent an Expectation of any thing studied or accurately curious, which was, as I may say, stol'n from the spare minutes of another's Service.

The Practise of Chyrurgery, in which I have been educated, gave me many opportunities to inspect its Abuses; and though it was long before I could resolve to publish my Remarks, yet knowing them to be exactly consentaneous to the Truth, which some few can attest,

TO THE READER.

attest, I believ'd they might conduce to the conviction at least of some of those who have too long suffer'd themselves to be deluded by Fiction and fair Stories.

As I have endeavour'd to shun a useles redundancy of words, by abbreviating what seem'd to run too far upon Speculation, so I have likewise labour'd to avoid Contention, which was not enforced. However bold it may appear, I can satisfy the Reader, that if he comes not prepossess'd with some unreasonable Prejudice, but will candidly and impartially suspend his Opinion, till he hath considerately weigh'd the whole, he will find little wanting towards the making good my Assertions, of the necessity of a Reformation.

Amongst the particular Causes of the Contempt of Chyrurgeons, and that Art which they profess, I have first of all expos'd the Empirical Practitioner, whom we call a Mountebank; you have here a view of the Origin of his Skill, by which may be the better guess'd how far he hath contributed both to the discredit of Chyrurgery, and the Peoples ruine.

Indeed the very sence of this man's Practice being built upon Tradition only, and his so rashly experimenting his detestable Conclusions on Humane Bodies, should methinks afford us the most plenary Intelligence, that his Claim to this Privilege is altogether illegal, and that for this we ought to hold him as the general Object of our Scorn and Aversion; to be much more fearful of him than the supposed Poyson he swallows down, that his more poysonous Antidote may be thought salubrious.

TO the READER.

You may find, after him, a plain description of the Libelling Quack, or Practising Pamphleteer, detecting some of the Frauds he makes use of to delude the Unwary; how meanly he is qualified for the practice of Physick and Surgery, as also with what detriment both to Purse and Person he is rely'd on.

Farther, you have an account of the Chyrurgick Barber, his great Injustice to assume what he has no right to, his Presumption for intruding on the same, contrary to those Laws that are in force against him, and lastly, his most shameful Ignorance, notwithstanding which he will be tampering out of the reach of his Reason, to the scandal of every legal Artist, and to the present disesteem of the Art it self.

There is from hence a digression to give you a prospect of the Practice of a Pretending Bonesetter, as well investigating his juggling contrivance to amuse the People, and draw them into a great Opinion of him, as laying open the falsity of his Predictions in point of Practice.

I have endeavour'd to inform you by some observable Instances, how extreamly ignorant this person shews himself, and how absurdly ridiculous, when the real Practice of Bonesetting falls under his care, by which you may learn, that his pretence to the same is but a knavish Contrivance to cheat men of their Money, and (as it often happens) to spoyle them of their Limbs.

Finally,

TO THE READER.

Finally, amongst those who have scandaliz'd the Practice both of Physick and Chyrurgery, I have most truly characteriz'd our City Doctress, exposing her in all her Qualifications and Endowments, how forward she is to promise, and how capable to perform. By the method of her proceedings, you may gain a foresight how serviceable she hath been to rid her Country of some thousands of its Inhabitants, and to bring the most contemptible Reflections on our Art, by the burthensome encroachment she hath made thereon.

These, with some more general Annotations on the Practices of others, are the Contents of the ensuing Discourse, which if the Reader take the pains to peruse, he will find neither deliver'd on a meer Report, nor represented from a malicious Suggestion, but the Cases truly stated, as they happen'd in reality to fall under my observation.

I have been so far from imposing any Misconstruction, as to endeavour with the utmost caution, that no one Reflection or Remark of Consequence should escape upon a bare Surmise or Supposition.

Now, considering the great and almost unspeakable Comforts we are blest with, in the most eminent Restorers of our Health, and Preservers of our Limbs and Lives, I believe there is scarce any Nation so unfortunately miserable as ours in their Bodily Distasters, and all upon the account of our most intolerable sufferance of base Impositions on those honourable Professions; which adds to our Affliction, How is it likely we should be secur'd from the fraudulent and knavish practices of deceitful men, at a time when
they

To the READER.

they are so much countenanc'd, and even tempted by the small care taken to suppress their disingenious and dangerous proceedings; or what other can we expect, than a perpetual decay of Learning, from our great neglect to encourage and promote the same; a want of able Practitioners, from the discouragements they are subjected to, and the consequence hereof, viz. a Universal Damage accrewing to the People, till Care be taken to inspect these matters, and remove out of the way the Authors of our Calamities?

The painful Mr. Tho. Gale thought he had abundant reason for his Complaint, That there were no less than Sixty Women who intermeddled in the Art of Surgery; I doubt not but we have at this time as many score, who in one respect or other will presume hereon, as well to the discredit of the Art, as to the destruction of the Unwary; there are not many Streets in London without three or four, nay, it is a Chance (and that a great one too) if the good Gentlewoman of almost every House doth not assume the liberty to tamper from C——r's Directions.

Such indeed is the frail Judgment of many in Chyrurgick Affairs, that they believe those men to have the least Knowledge therein, whose sole Right and Propriety it is to practise in this worthy Art: The more eminent the Chyrurgeon is, he must be attended (in their Opinion) with a Consequence of the greater Tyrannizer; or, The more learned the Artist, the more fraudulent Oppressor. If you consult any one of these, you are told, He will make a Cure, or, That you must expect the Work of a Chyrurgeon.

To the READER.

surgeon. But if you advise with any Runnagade Intruder, some practising Old Wife, or strowling Empirick, some boasting Quack, Barber, or Ignorant Undertaking Bonesetter, with the rest of this pernicious Tribe, you are to look for honest dealing, fine promises, and fair stories. After all, when you recover, which you are not to doubt under their management, you purchase Health at a much easier rate, than when you expose your selves to the Extortion of a bloody-minded Surgeon.

These are the frightful Bugbears that amuse the People to such a strange degree of Folly and Indiscretion, that from a Relation of this nature, by some infamous person, they will fly a mile or two, oftentimes a score, from a Faithful Practitioner, to enter themselves under the most ordinary handling of an Ignorant Undertaker. So that our present Case, as I conceive, will reasonably bear a Prognostick of this nature, that we may easily see how matters tend, when the most illiterate are advanc'd to a prebeminence above the Learned.

————— Didicisse fideliter artes, was heretofore accounted the most serviceable Expence of Time in the whole course of Life, as well in respect of the profundity of Knowledge, for which Men were formerly so highly reputed, as also for that (on this account) they were look'd on much better capacitated, and more eminently qualified to counsel such as were in Affliction, and to succour those in Distress; but it is now far otherwise, since not so much the solidity of a Man's Understanding (which is his most worthy and honourable Endowment, nay, his true and intrinsic

To the READER.

trinsick Worth) renders him Taking with the Common People, as his unjustly-assumed Confidence to declare himself what he is not, on the most unwarrantable and unreasonable grounds imaginable. To be, and to pretend to be, are much at one with them, till they experience the great difference at the cost of their Limbs, and oftentimes at the hazard of Life it self.

Since therefore I have taken this opportunity to give a small Insight into their dishonest Actions, I hope there will not be wanting some generous Spirit, who may consummate the Design of our Good Intention, at least so far as to put a Check to the extravagant Presumption of base men, and to put us (with all Well-wishers to the Publick) upon taking some such course as may secure us from being endanger'd by them for the time to come.

There remains to my self however this Satisfaction, that I have us'd my Endeavours to convince the most incredulous, and on that account have all-along taken care, that the Verity of my own Sentiments and Opinions, with respect to the Abuses put in practise by every of these persons, might be confirm'd by the most demonstrative Evidence taken from Observation of their own Proceedings.

I have been the less solicitous to embellish or adorn my Discourse after the manner of Rhetoricians, since I intend it not so much for the perusal of any practical Author, neither to raise a Theorical Disputation on some novel Hypothesis, as for the conviction of the People, who have and do still suffer themselves to be impos'd on.

Let

TO the READER.

Let me give the Reader this farther assurance, that I have in no wise been perswaded, over-rul'd, or guided by the Bait of a particular Interest, or other sinister Advantage to myself; neither have the Sweets of a Revenge, thrust forward by some inbred Malice for a suppos'd Wrong receiv'd, induced me to this publication; but the deep sense I had upon me (for want of some such information) how wable we are to suffer under the worst and most miserable circumstances, from the Practice of Injudicious Men, and withal (which I must needs say was a considerable motive) I was the more willing to appear in publick, out of the sincere Respect I am oblig'd to pay that truly worthy and noble Art we call Chyrurgery, and no less to the Professors thereof; I mean such of them as are qualified by a Legal Education to administer herein, whom I was extreemly troubled to see so ignominiously us'd by the Opprobrious Reflections of many Ignorant yet Malevolent Detractors.

Proceed now in charity with a favourable Censure, and if thou meet'st with those Errors which have escap'd mine, or the examination of the Press, be pleas'd to alter and amend the same; if they prove such as are not worthy Correction, in kindness pass them by, and let them (with many other trivial Corrigenda) be look'd on as unavoidable Oversights, through the Weakness of the Author's Judgment.

THE

T H E
INTRODUCTION.

IT is one of the grand Axioms, or Epithets, given by Philosophers to (their almost Deify'd) Nature, that She is *Sui Conservatrix*; and as generally believ'd by others, that there is a natural Propensity in Humane Kind, to attempt the speediest means of Self-preservation: But truly considering the degeneracy of Humane Reason in some, from what it was of old, and their contradictory Practice in the more eminent concerns of Life, we have just reason to dispute, whether there be such an inherent Principle or not, that directs infallibly to the Means of Restauration, when we are subjected to Bodily Infirmities.

Did not *Ignorance*, with her Darling *Impudence*, cast a mist before our Eyes, and darken the Understanding, we might have hopes to see this Philosophical Tenet indubitably verified: But whilst the ingenious Artist is exploded, and the *Artless Pretender* mean while advanc'd; whilst the Rational and Methodical Remedies of the former, are

B held

held contemptible, and the Empirical Preparations of the latter, (tho' with the greatest detriment to those that use them) highly extoll'd and embrac'd : I say, till Men can make a more clear distinction betwixt one and the other, we may the less unreasonably suspect the Truth of this applauded Notion ; and as we have just cause to compassionate the hard fate of the Vulgar, who are daily impos'd on and deluded by the specious Pretences of the most Unskilful, too often to the hazard and forfeiture of their Lives ; so, I think, it may be accounted the most necessary piece of service we can do them, to undermine the Foundation of these Infamous Impostors, to dissect their pernicious Principles, and lay open the treachery and impiety of their Dealings.

Hereby the unprejudic'd Reader may obtain a Prospect of the greatest Benefit that can accrue from the best Performances of such a scandalous sort of People.

I conceive it no unpardonable Deviation, if we look back upon Antiquity, and take a view of that sublime Respect which was formerly paid to the true and faithful Practitioner of this noble Art.

Since it will be needless to spend our time in searching for its Original, I shall only intimate by the way what is recorded by the Ancients, who are differently opinion'd in the point of Invention.

Apollo

The Introduction.

Apollo is very early taken notice of for his profound Wisdom, particularly in the divine Mystery of Healing, on which account there was a noble and rich Sepulchre built after his decease, nam'd by the Founders *The Temple of Apollo*. *Æsculapius* is thought by some to be descended of *Apollo*, though *Virgil* seems to think him first happy in the Discovery, and that he was for the same dignified by the *Epidauri* with the Title of a God: as were also his two Sons *Podalirius* and *Machaon*, whom *Celsus* does particularly mention as very eminent for Chyrurgery, being carried from *Crete* to the *Trojan Wars*. But if what is reported of the renowned *Chiron* be true, that he was Master to *Æsculapius*, I think with more reason the precedence will be his. The same *Celsus* does farther suppose *Hippocrates* to be the Parent of all Medicine, and delivers the Chyrurgick Practice rather from him than any before him. *Soranus* says, 'twas *Apollo* first invented Medicine, that *Æsculapius* enlarg'd, and that *Hippocrates* finish'd the same, after whose death the *Grecians* erected in perpetual remembrance of his honourable deeds, a most stately and fair Tomb, at *Delphi*, near *Parnassus*, where they solemniz'd his Obsequies, and superscrib'd this Epitaph:

Hippocrates of Thessalia, and by kind of the Country of Coos, lies buried in this place: He was begotten of the Seed of the immortal god Phebus, and hath left in the World many Books of Medicine,

to put away Sickneſſ, and to preſerve Health : what ſhall we need to ſay more of this worthy Man? there is no man's cunning that can give him his condign Praise.

In the ſucceſſion after theſe, there is mention made of Galen, *Ætius*, *Paulus Aegineta*, *Avicen*, *Albucaſis*, *Guido Cauliacus*, *Joannes Tagaltius*, *De Vigo*, *Lanfranc*, with many others.

Farther, in the more ancient times, it is intimated by *Dr. Willis*, (in one of his Prefatory Epistles) that before the Medicinal Art was methodically digeſted, when Phyſick was given at random, as 'tis now-adays by Empiricks and old Women, they held their experimental *Receptes* (which had been try'd, and prov'd ſalutary) in ſo great eſteem, that they were look'd on as ſacred Monuments of Mercy, and diligently reſerv'd in their conſecrated Temples : but in after-Ages, when their Underſtandings were more refin'd, and a more general ſucceſs attended the rational adminiſtrations of ingenious Artiſts, it is recorded, that the ſuperſtitious Greeks were blinded with ſuch a fervent zeal, as to Deifie their more eminent profeſs'd Chyrurgions, and adore them in the number of their Gods.

The wiſeſt of Men, from the beginning of the World to this latter Age, in conſideration that our Art hath for its exerciſe the moſt noble of Subjects, which is no other than the Divine Image of the Creator, conſidering like

wife the many Casualties that were still waiting, to subvert the Oeconomy of Man's corporal state, have, for these Reasons as well as others, reputed and accounted Us the Hands of the Almighty.

But if we enquire what particular Persons they were that had this Homage render'd them, we shall find them such as were legally constituted, for the discharge of so great a Duty as lay incumbent on them. There were no such Swarms of *Pseudo-Medici & Chyrurgi*, as now disturb the Town, and poyson its Inhabitants, admitted into their Reverend Societies. They paid not this Respect to any, unless those who had been educated (*ab incunabulis*) by the most diligent service under the greatest Masters; for they look'd on Humane Life of too high a concern to be tamper'd with by the barbarous Hands of a rude and ignorant sort of People. They found no reason in those days to prize and overvalue the famous *Italian* or *High-German* Doctor, thereby to degrade and despise the more worthy Physicians their fellow-Citizens; neither would they confide in the most ridiculous absurd Predictions of the calculating *Piss-prophets* that now molest us. For why? There was a communicative Knowledge to each other, that the superstructure of these mens *Astrologick* Judgments, was founded on their insatiable desire of Gain, which they procure to themselves out of the Spoils of the People.

We read not, till of late, of any inferiour *Mechanic* so speedily advancing as to commence: presently Doctor of Physick, profess'd *Chyurgick* Operator, yet still a *Mountebank*. No, *Petticoat Practitioners* were formerly accounted *Oracles*, or their Skill esteem'd valuable in competition with the legal Surgeons: They were endow'd with greater Prudence than to run a mile or two after an ignorant Butcher, to enquire whether the ingenious Artift had perform'd his Duty:: but in all times of their Calamities, and on all emergent occasions, could safely ask Counsel, and confide in the true and genuine Sons of *Hippocrates* and *Æsculapius*, expecting from their Endeavours of these men (under God) the Restoration and Preservation of their Limbs and Lives.

If we would reflect now on the great and mighty illustration the Medicinal Science hath receiv'd in the present Age by many rare and admirable Inventions of some modern and ingenious Spirits, we might suppose they have had great reason to expect rather an augmentation than diminution of that Honour which was given to their Predecessors; not only for the considerable Advantages they have made by their Discoveries, in order to compleat and perfect both Study and Practice of Physick, but also for their great Industry, and the pains that it hath cost them to erect another Fabrick on the Basis of solid Reason, whereby they have adapted the most intricate, obscure, and con-

jecturall

jectural *Phænomena* of the Ancients to plain, easie and practical Demonstrations.

We have had indeed such considerable and magnificent Contributions towards the compleating of this worthy Science, that the most voluminous of the Ancients, nay, (if it may be pardonable to say so) the whole Body of Physick, as then confusedly and darkly compil'd, is a rude and indigested *Chaos*, comparatively to one singular Invention of the *Neotericks*, whose sublime Speculations and proficuous Experiments are elegantly descanted on by Dr. *Charlton*, in the account he gives a Friend in *France*, of the considerable improvement of Learning here in *England*, where he thus accosts him in some parts of his Discourse.

“ In the College of Physicians in London, which
 “ (without offence to any thing but their own Modesty)
 “ I may pronounce to be the most eminent Society of
 “ Men for Learning, Judgment, and Industry that
 “ is now, or at any time hath been in the whole
 “ World. Here you may behold the House of *Solomon*;
 “ some there are who constantly employ
 “ themselves in dissecting Animals of all kinds, as
 “ well living as dead; and faithfully recording all
 “ Singularities that occur to their observations, both
 “ in the several Species and Individuals; that so
 “ they may come to know what is perfectly natural,
 “ what preternatural, what rare and monstrous
 “ amongst the Parts of them, and also what resemblance
 “ there is betwixt the conformation of the
 “ Parts in the Body of Man, and those in the Bodies
 “ of

“ of other *Animals*, ordain’d by Nature to the same
 “ or like and equivalent uses. Others there are who
 “ daily investigate Arguments to confirm and ad-
 “ vance that incomparable Invention of the Immor-
 “ tal Harvey, in his Circulation of the Blood, and
 “ have already brought the Doctrine thereof to so
 “ high a degree of perfection, that it is not only ad-
 “ mitted and admired by all the Schools of Europe,
 “ but the advancers of it also are able to solve most
 “ of the difficult Phenomena in Pathology, only
 “ by this Hypothesis; and frequently effect such Cures
 “ by having respect thereunto, in their Intentions and
 “ Prescripts, as well in chronick as acute Diseases,
 “ as would not be hoped from any other Ground-work
 “ formerly laid.

Indeed this singular transcendent Discovery
 hath given more light to the *Materia Medica* than
 all the laborious Tryals, Inventions, and Expe-
 riments that had been practis’d in former Ages;
 I may say, that the whole System of Anatomy,
 Physick, and Chyrurgery have hereby receiv’d
 such great amendments and alterations, that the
 quondam Clouds of Ignorance seem wholly to
 be dispers’d. Here is no flying to occult causes
 for an explanation of seeming Difficulties,
 (which was the Refuge of the Ancients) nor
 any other *Asylum* left for the Unlearned; but
 the progress of each Distemper incident to Man-
 kind, with its various appearances in the begin-
 ning, augment, state, and declension, are peripi-
 cuously laid open and unfolded from an *Etymo-*
logy built upon Inferences gather’d from this sub-
 stantiall

stantial and lasting Foundation. But to prosecute a little farther the aforesaid Author, where he proceeds ;

‘ There are moreover amongst the Members of this
 ‘ Venerable Society, who pursuing the hint given them
 ‘ some few years since, by Jacobus Mullerus, in an
 ‘ academical exercise of the Nature of Animal and
 ‘ Voluntary Motion, have gone far towards the ex-
 ‘ plication of the Reasons and Manners of the motion
 ‘ of the Muscles, by the Principles of Mechanicks ;
 ‘ an Enterprize of great difficulty, and long desidera-
 ‘ ted, as leading us to understand the Geometry ob-
 ‘ serv’d by the Creator in the Fabrick of the Micro-
 ‘ cosm, and the verification of Anatomical Asserti-
 ‘ ons, by Demonstrations Mathematical. There are
 ‘ others who have found out a more commodious use
 ‘ of the Glands than all antecedent Anatomists ascri-
 ‘ bed to them ; with other considerable Discoveries
 ‘ that have been made, such as the Motion of the
 ‘ Chylous Juice from the Stomach to the Receptacu-
 ‘ lum Chyli ; the falsity of that Opinion, that the
 ‘ Liver was the immediate instrument of Sanguifica-
 ‘ tion, which is now found inservient to no other use
 ‘ than the sequestration of the bilious Particles of the
 ‘ Blood, conveying the same into the Gall, to be thence
 ‘ excluded into the Guts, the discovery of the Lympha-
 ‘ tick Vessels, with many others.

Moreover, were we desirous to take a view of the considerable Improvements that have been made by some learned Men of our own Country and Profession, we need but take the trouble of perusing those elaborate Lectures of Dr. Reed,

Mr.

Mr. *Woodall*, with many more, not forgetting to make particular mention of those methodical and practical Observations of Mr. *Serjeant Wiseman*.

These, amongst others, are the Helps we have receiv'd from the unwearied Labours of Men eminent in our Art, so that if the College of Physicians is allow'd metaphorically to be esteem'd *Solomon's House*, I think we may pronounce our *Anatomick Theatre* in Surgeons Hall, to be a very splendid and glorious apartment thereof; not so much for the curiosity of Structure, as for the Streams of Eloquence and good Literature, flowing from those Fountains of True Wisdom Dr. *Brown* and Dr. *Tyson*, whose candid and impartial Discoveries for the support of what we all desire, *viz.* Health and its continuance, will never sufficiently be compensated by this purblind Age.

Have we not then a just cause to stand amazed at the predominant Folly of some, who will rather chuse to trust their Bodies in the hands of *Quacks* and other fraudulent Professors, than in those of the most judicious and skilful Practitioners: and truly, if the learned Dr. *Featly* thought he had such great reason to inveigh against the Sufferance of *Laymen's* imposing on the Ministerial Function, who took on them (the most unlearned *Mechanicks*) to expound the Sacred Scriptures, to the disgrace and contempt of *Divinity* and *Episcopal Authority*: Have not we, I say, as great occasion to dissent from,

from, and admire at the present toleration of those great Abuses, which by the most illegal and ignorant Intruders are offer'd to the noble and divine Mystery of Healing. I may truly justify the word *Mystery*, since it is so undeniably, to those who by their most impure and noxious conceptions thereof, their evil Practices and oftentimes fatal Performances therein, have brought a general Scandal on the most noble of all Arts, an Art which was deliver'd unto fallen Man by the Almighty himself, and hath been accounted the most excellent of all others, by the wise and supreme Donor, as well as in the sight of Princes; which made King *Solomon* advise us to give Honour to the Physician, since the Highest Lord hath created him for our Help and Health. The most wise *Hebreion* gives this Encomium of Medicine, That it proceeds from the Most High, and that the ancient and most wise men of the Land have brought it forth; he that is wise will not despise it.

What pity is it, and how justly do we complain, that this our honourable Art, which in former times the most renowned Kings and Princes did not disdain to dignifie, not only by their Contributions to render its Fame immortal, but also by diligently practising themselves therein, that it should now unworthily be entrench'd on, and degraded by the unjust Pretences of the very Scum of the Earth? This the vaunting *Emperick*, and couzening *Quack*,
the

the confident *Barber*, the fraudulent *Bone-setter*, and ignorant *Old Woman* ; This all people, of whatever Condition or Occupation, take on them to administer and intermeddle withal ; Nay, these men tell us so many Stories of their grand Atchievements, of the safe, certain, speedy, and infallible Remedies they have purchas'd by their multiply'd Experience, that it shall escape them hard if they possess us not with a Belief, that we run the greatest hazard in the trusting our Distempers to the management of any other (though infinitely more skilful) than themselves ; the meanest of their Medicines outvys all other Compositions for their Vertues ; and the most inferiour of their Administrations must be reputed a *Panacea*.

The great and only support of these mens Credit is built on such lying and romantick Stories ; and though the person that hath once try'd the best of their Performances most commonly carries about him (perhaps to his Life's end) a sufficient Remembrancer of their abominable Practice, yet for a more publick conviction, and that I may deter others from falling into their hands, I shall use my weak Endeavours to display these notorious Cheats in their true and proper colours, to divulge their wheedling Insinuations, and expose to the naked Eye as well the weakness of their Judgments as their Miscarriages in most, if not all, their insolent Undertakings, that so the World may see we are as willing to preserve them
from

from, as to recover them out of Danger.

I am sensible, that for want of such a distinguishing Mark between Art and Ignorance, there have been many well-meaning and deserving Persons, who have shipwrack'd both their Health and Fortunes by their most dangerous encounters with such, who as they value not their Reputation in the forfeit of their Credit, so are they the less concern'd at the loss of (what they never had) a Good Name, if thereby they can accumulate their unjustly-acquir'd Gain; the discharge of Conscience is to them of no concern, for if they heeded that, the bare sense of their Guilt in a most gross Simplicity would fly in their Faces, and debar them of those Priviledges they now endeavour to engross unto themselves.

If the confident declaration of a Man's own Skill to the World be of sufficient force to engage the People to employ him, without an impartial consideration whether there be any thing of Merit to render him acceptable; or if his own positive Assertions of those great and mighty things he has perform'd, without any thing of disquisition, be capable to constrain their applause, we have the less reason so profoundly to admire how some Men have gain'd such considerable ground amongst Rational Creatures.

With respect to the most welcome and easie admittance to the Trust and Confidence reposed by incautelous People, in the extravagant boast-

boasting of *Emperical Quacksalvers*; and in consideration that their Breach of Promise, together with their unsuccessful Practice, have been but little available to forewarn others how they rush into the same Mischiefs; these Reflections should, in my opinion, encourage every man who respects the Miserable, to take care that they be not deluded by the specious Pretences of those who have presum'd to stile themselves *Metropolitan Physicians*, the most *infallible Health-Restorers of the People*, having gain'd their Knowledge by *ten, twenty, sometimes thirty years Industrious Study*; when 'tis a Chance at the same time if they ever look'd on any other piece than *Queen Elizabeth's Closet, Culpepper's English Physician*, and his *Midwifry, Aristotle's Problems*, or his *Masterpiece*, with some other choice Cabinet of *Physical Receipts*. And on this small stock of Knowledge, with a much greater provision of undaunted Impudence, they account themselves deserving such sounding Titles, whereby they insinuate themselves into the Peoples favour, and by degrees draw them into a persuasion, that they are the only Men fitted for the cure of all Distempers, as well by Internal Remedies as Topical Applications.

It is unlikely I should frame a more suitable description of these wonderful *Operators*, than we have given us by an ancient Author, in his Office of a Chyrurgeon, on which account I shall take the liberty to transcribe what is most for our present purpose, in his own words.

'It is requisite (saith he) that this Artist be not only learned in the Theory, but also that he be brought up under some cunning Man, which hath good Knowledge in the same Art; for otherwise it is not possible to come to the exact and perfect knowledge thereof. If I should tell you of the ungracious Witchcrafts, and of the mischievous Abuses and Misuses that have been in times past, and yet in our days continually used, ye would a little marvel thereat: But forasmuch as it hath not only turned to the dishonour of God, but also to the state of the Common-wealth, I have thought good to declare unto you part of their wicked doings, that it may be unto you who profess this Art an Example, to avoid the like wretched Deeds. These things I do not speak to you of Hear-say, but of my own Knowledge.

'In the Year One thousand Five hundred Sixty two, I did see in the two Hospitals in London, St. Thomas's and St. Bartholomew's, to the number of Three hundred and odd poor people, that were diseased of sore Legs, sore Arms, Feet, and Hands, with other parts of the Body, so grievously infected, that One hundred and twenty of them could never be recover'd without loss of Leg or Arm, a Foot or Hand, Fingers or Toes, or else their Limbs crooked, so that they were either maimed or undone for ever. All these were brought to this Mischief by Witches, by Women, and by Counterfeit favils, that take upon them to use the Art, not only robbing them of their Money, but of their Limbs and perpetual Health. And I (saith our Author) with some others, diligently Examining these poor people how they came by
'their

'their grievous Hurts, and who were their Chyrurgions
 'ons that look'd unto them; they confess'd that they
 'were either Witches, which did promise by Charms to
 'makethem whole, or else some Women that were to
 'cure them with Herbs, and such-like things, or some
 'Vagabond favil, that runneth from one Country to
 'another, promising unto them Health, and deceiving
 'them of their Money.

'This Fault and Crime of the undoing of this People,
 'ple, were laid unto the Chyrurgions, I will not say the
 'part of those who were at that time Masters of the
 'same Hospitals; but it was said, that Carpenters,
 'Women, Weavers, Coblers, and Tinkers did cure
 'more People than the Chyrurgions themselves; but
 'what manner of Cures they did, I have already told
 'you, such Cures as all the World may wonder at; yea
 'I say, such Cures as makes the Devil in Hell to dance
 'for joy, to see the poor Members of Jesus Christ
 'miserably tormented. What shall I say hereunto, but
 'lament and pray unto our Lord Jesus, for his precious
 'Blood sake that was shed upon the Cross, to illuminate
 'the Hearts of the Magistrates, for amendment hereof
 'and that this Rabblement of Runnagates, witches,
 'Witches, Bawds, and the Devil's Southsayers, witches,
 'Tinkers, Coblers, and Sowgelders, and all other the
 'wicked Coherents of these same Devilish Sects, which
 'do thus abuse the Noble Art of Medicine, may be re-
 'formed and amended; and every one to get their L-
 'ving with Truth in the same Arts that they have been
 'brought up in; else to be grievously punish'd, as they
 'be in other Countries, and as they have been here
 'times past.

'I think

‘ I think the Prince is bound in Conscience to punish
‘ those false and wicked pernicious Deceivers, who do
‘ not only destroy the Limbs of Man, but his Life also.
‘ Of this sort London is as well stor’d as the
‘ Country, for I believe there be not so few therein as
‘ Threescore Women, who practise in the Art of Phy-
‘ sick and Surgery : Of these (some are called wise
‘ Women, or holy and good Women) there are many
‘ sorts and sects, as some for sore Breasts, some for the
‘ Stone and Strangury, some for Pain in the Teeth,
‘ others for Scald Heads, some famous for sore Throats,
‘ others for sore Legs, with a Thousand more ; Galen
‘ in his Book of Sects never made mention of half so
‘ many. I think, if this worshipful Rabblement were
‘ gather’d together, they would make a much greater
‘ procession than ever did the Monks, Fryars, and
‘ Nuns, when they swarmed most in London.

‘ This unprofitable Company have so encreas’d in
‘ this City, that all the Countries in England have
‘ taken notice thereof ; yea, and at this day all the
‘ Countries in Christendom may wonder at our
‘ Laws, in suffering and maintaining of them.

‘ Well, I say, we will let these pass with Tinkers,
‘ Carpenters, Old Women, &c. and a great many of
‘ other Occupations, whereof some come out of France,
‘ some out of Germany, and so of other Countries,
‘ some for Religion, and some to pick Pockets. And
‘ all these are now become great Physicians, and
‘ Chyrurgions, to the no small advancement of this
‘ noble Art of Medicine ; for their worthy Cures do
‘ bear such witness thereof, and give such a Report
‘ unto them, that at this day the learned Physicians
‘ and

' and Chyrurgions may not a little rejoice. I say
 ' no more, but God amend all, and unless these things
 ' are quickly amended, I think the diseased people with
 ' Wounds, Ulcers, &c. are like to have small help;
 ' and if it shall chance the Prince to have Wars, then
 ' are this Company that I have spoken of like to serve.
 ' And I doubt nothing, but that the Souldiers shall
 ' have great courage to fight, forasmuch as they shall
 ' have such a goodly company of Chyrurgions to cure
 ' them when they are wounded: As for others, there
 ' will be but few left, unless better order be taken, and
 ' that with speed.

Thus we see that in those days the unwearied
 Endeavours of illiterate and base People were
 not wanting in their Knavish Practices to over-
 throw the Medicinal Art; but lest I tire my
 Reader with a preliminary Discourse, I shall
 hasten to expose (which was the drift of my
 Undertaking) the Principal Intruders on and
 Pretenders to the same, by whose disingenuous
 Practice it hath receiv'd so great a diminution
 in the estimate of some responsible, but mostly
 the common People; each of which you will
 find the Subject of a particular Section.

Apolo-

Apologia Chyrurgica.

S E C T. I.

UPON enquiry into the Causes of the Contempt both of *Physicians* and *Chyrurgions*, we shall find in the first place (as one great Promoter hereof) the perfidious Practices of a Fellow whom the Vulgar entitle *Mountebank*.

He is one whose true and fixed Character, with respect to his unsettled state and condition, cannot properly be render'd, and therefore we will content our selves with a description of his Employment.

An *Emperick* or *Mountebank* (after Dr. *Blancard's* concise and pithy remark on him) is one who vends his irrational and immethodical Medicines to the Rabble that surround him; for being mounted on the publick Stage of his Ambition, he blows so loud the Trumpet of his (otherwise insupportable) Fame, that the Passen-

gers who pass by him run as great hazard of being infected from his Discourse, as did the Company of *Ulysses*, when they stop'd their Ears, to prevent being captivated by the charming *Syrens*.

'Tis true, the musical concord of his Notes; cannot be suppos'd so tempting as was theirs; yet by reason of those fatal Events which do attend the Unwary, that by this Bait are hauled into his Net, he may be look'd on as more perilous than those fictitious Musicians.

Having sent his Fool before him, with his other antick Attendants, by some pleasing, tho' ridiculous Gestures, to allure the People; when his Auditory is somewhat numerous, Sir *Fop* himself (upon notice given) immediately mounts the Stage, and after a very reverend Congee to his ignorant Admirers, addresseth himself to this purpose.

Gentlemen,

The deep sence of your subjection to Bodily Infirmities, and your want of the most true and necessary means for your recovery: I say, weighing in my Mind the multitude of Distempers which my fellow Creatures are liable to undergo, if not redressed by the hands of Art; and withal well knowing your want of able Physicians, I thought in this great exigency there was an absolute necessity for me to force my self from that private and contemplative life I lead in the free enjoyment of a plentiful Estate, to make known to you my Abilities in the practise of Physick as well as Surgery.

I will

I will assure you, Gentlemen, I have obtain'd such stupendious specifick Remedies, for the cure of most, if not all your Distempers, as no Mortal besides my self can reasonably pretend to.

Now having his Man ready that attends his motions with his Dish of Trumpery for the entertainment of his Guests, he first pulls out his little Box of Electuary, and proceeds.

Here is first of all, Gentlemen, my true and only famous Orvietan, a Medicine of such admirable property, that it expels all manner of Poyson, which is incident to the whole Race of Adam's Posterity.

Gentlemen, this only administration strikes at the very Root of Distempers, and perfectly eradicates the worst of their Concomitants. The Orvietan of it self, Gentlemen, is very well worth your Money, but 'tis the consideration of your Wants, and the real necessity that there is to keep such things by you, that occasions me out of a cordial love and respect to your welfare, to let you have some other things, almost gratis, into the bargain.

Here are next of all, Gentlemen, my Pilulæ Excellentissimæ, a most incomparable Purge I will assure you, Gentlemen, which answer all Intentions of purging Physick, and are the most friendly to Nature of any thing yet known: They sweep the Stomach, cleanse it of all Impurities whatsoever, and carry them forth of doors with the greatest ease imaginable.

You have next, Gentlemen, my Pulvis contra Vermes, or Pouder which kills all Worms: This Pouder, Gentlemen, not only expels those Crudities, and the Corruption which engenders those troublesome Insects, but also procures a good Appetite, makes a light Heart, and recreates all the Spirits, as well the natural, vital, and animal. And now, Gentlemen, that you may see I am as willing to take care of those outward Accidents you are prone to, as your inward Distempers,

I give you, Fourthly, my Emplastrum divinum, which for its wonderful Vertues may truly be so call'd. It cures all Aches proceeding from Heat or Cold, Pains of what kind soever in any part of the Body; it resolves Tumors of all sorts, tho' never so obdurate and hard to be dealt withal by other Remedies. In short, Gentlemen, you need no other Plaister to keep by you on any account whatsoever.

You have lastly, Gentlemen, my Balsamum Multarum Virtutum, which cures all Wounds, Ulcers, Fistula's, and what not? for indeed it is of sufficient force to withstand all putrefied Humours lodged in any part of the Body. So that you see, Gentlemen, I am as willing to save you the unreasonable Fees of other Physicians, as the extraordinary Sums of Money which a Chyrurgeon requires for a small and inconsiderable Cure.

Having made this learned Harangue to the People, and rehears'd the same two or three times over, he leaves them to pause a while, and then diverts them with an Interlude of his fan-

tastick

tastick Drollery ; which being over, and Monsieur the Doctor majestically withdrawn, his Confederate Fuggler (almost as good an Oratour as himself) begins to this effect.

Gentlemen, I would earnestly entreat you, for your own safety, to embrace this fit Opportunity of purchasing these most infallible Medicines, whilst you may have the great benefit to find the Doctor in Town, which will be but a week at farthest. (At the same time he designs to stay till he is forc'd to fly the Town.) But, continues he,

I'll assure you, Gentlemen, you will never meet with the like Opportunity as long as you live.

The Doctor, First of all, presents you, Gentlemen, with his most famous Orvietan, which is the greatest Wonder in Nature, to procrastinate your Health and Lives.

Secondly, He almost gives you his *Pilulæ Excellentissimus*, in English, The most excellent of Pills.

Thirdly, Here is the Dr's *Pulvere Vermibus*, or his Pouder to kill all manner of Worms in Men, Women, and Children.

Fourthly, You may have his *Emplastrum divinum*, or a Plaister to cure all manner of Aches, Pains, Swellings, or Tumors whatsoever.

Fifthly, and lastly, Gentlemen, here is the Dr's *Balsamum multutum vertarum*, which heals all Wounds, Ulcers, and other Accidents proceeding from what Cause soever.

You have all the whole Pacquet, Gentlemen, for the inconsiderable price of one Shilling.

Gentlemen, 'tis not the small Gain which is gotten hereby that maintains the Doctor's charge of his Coach and Horses; no, Gentlemen, he does it purely for the benefit of poor People, as well as others, who are willing to be rul'd by his Directions.

Now Gentlemen, those that are willing to be Masters of these serviceable Remedies, let them throw up their Mony in Glove or Handkerchief, and the whole Pacquet shall be return'd them therein. If you make not use of the present time, you must not blame the Doctor, when it shall please him deservedly to debar you of this great privilege, by his speedy absence.

I have been the rather willing to impose the trouble of perusing these great Impertinencies, in regard that from this exact Copy of the Original, the whole Design may be more commodiously guess'd at; for, first of all, his elevating the Minds of the conceited *Vulgar* with the title of *Gentlemen*, (without which he scarce repeats a sentence) argues his Endeavour from bringing them into a high opinion of themselves, that they may harbour the same of him, and that he the more unsuspectedly may carry on his Cheats.

Secondly, His frivolous Circumlocution and repetition of the same Discourse, implies as well his Ignorance, as his incessant appetite of Lucre.

Thirdly,

Thirdly, His thus openly publishing himself to the World doth clearly indicate his want of Merit to be sought after, and the shift he is put to for to purchase a Living, by making this abominable fabulous proclamation.

Fourthly, His vain Ostentation by the antick Fooleries of his *Tumblers* and *Ropedancers* bespeaks him to be the greatest Spend-time of the People, who are the rather willing to tarry, when the thought of their Business is diverted by the Conceits of *Merry Andrew*, and the Mountebank in the Interval, finds the Sweets of an opportunity to put off and vend his Empirical Compositions.

Truly, this Fellow may most justly be accounted the Common Enemy of the People, not only for the Time he cheats them of, which should be otherwise employ'd, but also for their Money, which (if they want not for their own or their Family's subsistence, and know not to employ it more advantageously) is better thrown to Swine, who will not evilly reward them, than given to these deceitful *Quack-pretenders*, who prey both on their Purse and Persons.

Fifthly, and lastly, (which is the number of his Medicines) His inconsiderately ascribing so many and different Vertues to each single and improper Remedy, without reflecting on the various Intentions and Alterations that are especially made in *Surgery*, before we can accomplish the cure of any compound Indisposition, doth absolutely demonstrate him to be ignorant
and

and knavish, and as great a Novice in *Surgery* as his *Hireling Jack-pudding*.

Having given you this cursory view of the *Mountebank* upon his Stage, we will now conduct you to his Lodging, which is commonly near thereto, in some publick Victualling-house or Inn, where his Host (perhaps for botching up some former Clap, or out of an expectation of Custom to his House) suffers him to live Rent-free.

His Chamber is commonly set off with Skeletons of *Puggs*, *Doggs*, *Rabbits*, and other Animals, which he has got some Butcher's Boy to anatomize and set together for him. There are likewise the stuff'd Skins of *Crocodiles*, *Panthers*, and *Sea-Lyons*, and these, he tells the People, are such as have been presented him, for former remarkable Cures in his dangerous Travels through the remotest parts of the World.

In his Window it's possible you may find half a peck of Teeth, some of which (as he tells you) he threw out on the Stage with the Point of his Sword, others with an imperceptible touch of the fore-finger of his right hand.

In other parts of his Chamber you may see Humane Bones, being such (he would insinuate) as he hath amputated or dismember'd on necessitous occasions, yet by a more particular Enquiry we shall find he procur'd them after the same manner as his *Cæmiterean* Teeth, or those from the Church-yard.

I shall

I shall conclude these Remarks with the recital of an Account I had given me some time since, of a certain famous *Empirick*, who upon a Visit made him by a Gentlewoman for his Advice, about a Pain in her Breast, she chanc'd to espy under a Glass in his Closet a very black and deform'd piece of Flesh, which (out of curiosity) enquiring after, the Mountebank very impudently told her, that it was a Cancer'd Breast which he had taken from the Body of a certain *Indian* Queen, whom he had recover'd in three weeks afterwards. The Gentlewoman, surpriz'd at the Skill of this famous Operator, when she came home, imparted it to some of her Neighbours, upon which the whole Imposture was detected, and the Breast prov'd no other than that of a poor Womans, by which Excision he had sent her into the other World, and kept her Breast as a Pledge for payment of the Mony, till she should come back again to redeem it; which when he had boyld, as *Ketch* does his quarter'd Members, (to preserve them from being tainted by the Air) he kept as a Monument of his admirable Dexterity.

It would be too tedious to enumerate all the Cheats such Persons practise, to render themselves famous; and therefore waving their particular Enarration, I shall give you as short an account of his Education or Initiation in the Practise of Physick, by which you may perceive the utmost of his accomplishments in that sublime Science.

By

By an *Enquiry* of this nature you will find that the whole of his Judgment proceeds from a Twelvemonths cohabitation with some Country Practitioner, who after covenanting that he should not molest him when he practiseth for himself, (for a small Stipend) permits this Intruder to inspect his Business, till the expiration of such a term of time; when the little Bagful of Conceit, thinking himself sufficiently flegg'd in Knowledge, having thrown aside his Leading-strings, begins to soar aloft on the Pinnions of his unbounded Pride, and scorning those mean Retirements of an obscure Practitioner, who permits himself to be sought to, he thinks he hath already a sufficient Call to publish himself to the World; and thereupon immediately erects a Stage in some City or Market-Town, where he perpetrates the most enormous Mischiefs, under the notion of a most undoubted Preserver of the People's Lives.

If this does not exactly quadrate with his original, but that he descends from a better Progeny than the former, having spent his Patrimony through his extravagant living, and disdain-
ing to labour otherwise for his Bread; in this exigency he can find out no better method for an idle and easie life, than that of turning Mountebank; in order whereto, considering likewise that it was absolutely necessary he should be skill'd in some Terms of Art, the Vertues of a few Simples, and the making up some vulgar Remedies (which he can easily disguise)

to amuse the People. On such like Reflections he betakes himself to the turning over some plain and intelligible Author, from a short converse with whom, together with the advantage of indifferent Natural Parts, he sets up for the most experienc'd *Physick* and *Chyrurgick Professor* about Town: yet at the same time, if he were brought to the Test, 'tis most certain, that he (nay, the ablest of them all) knows not rightly to deliver either *Diagnostick* or *Prognostick* in the most usual of disastrous occurrences to Humane Life, and so much a Stranger to *Chyrurgery*, that you will find him unable to give a discerning Querist a satisfactory definition of either *Wound* or *Ulcer*.

Now these are the fit *Idols* of the Peoples Applause, whose quacking and dishonest dealings meet with less Calumny and Opposition than the just and artificial proceedings of the *Licentiate Practitioner*.

One great Bait wherewith this Pretender ensnares his *Auditory*, is his fair Carriage and splendid Equipage: and indeed (what is mostly to be lamented) when by the influence of a Friend at Court he can skrew himself into the Prince's favour, he then bears all before him, with his assumed Title of a *Regius-Professor ordinarius*, or (as *Medicaster Medicatus* in his Banter upon *J. B.*) *One of the King's most Ordinary Practitioners*.

The

The two notorious *Empiricks*, that have for some years past infested *England*, when they had by the like means procur'd, as they call it, the Signal Testimony of a Prince's Favour, they were no sooner mounted on the Stage, but it was expos'd to the Peoples view, who were from a prospect of this Royal Gratuity to respect them as it were by consequence for very eminent *Physicians*. But did not the many fatal Errors committed by them in most parts of the Town declare their Arrogance, as well as Ignorance: yet I am well satisfy'd, that a considerate Person can value no man so much on a gaudy appearance, as on that of a sound and rational Judgment, which is not only furnish'd by *Autopsy*, in a continued series of Practical Experiments, but adorn'd with the Theory of the choicest Authors.

It may not be from our purpose, if I inform you, that notwithstanding the Titles of *Physicians* and *Chyrurgions in Ordinary*, that very Prince himself we were just now speaking of, neither before nor at the time of his unhappy dissolution, did think it reasonable to confide, or trust his Life in the hands of such his spurious *Regii Professores*.

After my endeavours to prove this Upstart as dangerous a Person as the People can converse with, I shall lay down such a faithful account of his Practice, as will, I doubt not, render his Name so ignominious and detestable in the Peoples Ears, that in consideration of those

many

many Outrages he commits on their Bodies, they may as well venture their Persons amongst ravenous Beasts, as trust their Health, Limbs, and Lives to the management of such *Intruders* on the Physician's and Chyrurgeon's Duty.

I have already acquainted you with his Education, which if not positively the same, I have intimated, yet circumstantially you will find it correspond.

I am satisfy'd it was never known of any *Empirick*, that he acquir'd the Skill he boasts of by a diligent Service under a legal or rightly-qualify'd *Chyrurgeon*, or commenc'd gradually *Physick-professor* at a University, but all from such sinister clandestine methods, as renders their Pretensions as unjust as their Practice destructive.

It's but a few months from the writing hereof, that a late *Mountebank* or *Stage-player* in *M——F——* was consulted by a Gentlewoman then labouring under the severe Symptoms of an ulcerated Cancer, seated on her Breast. She had been tampering some time before with a noted Doctorefs about C——, famous for such Cures, who labour'd all she could to put it upon suppurating (for you must know she had been concern'd before it ulcerated) she took much pains to perswade the Patient there was no other way for cure, but (as she express'd it) by letting out that corrupt Humour which was continually gnawing of her, and fed her Cancer.

She

She said she had cur'd several by this new way, which the ablest Chyrurgeons durst not meddle with : hereupon, by the incessant application of hot Topicks, and powerfully attractive (to use the ancient expression) Pultissess she in a little time accomplish'd her desire, but ——— *Quis talia fando*, with so evil a tendency of all things for the worse, that from this (as was to be expected) the before occult and quiescent Cancer now manifested its rage and cruel fierceness more than ever ; there was soon after this discharge a pertinacious *Fungus* thrust forth in several parts of the Abscess, and the virulent Humour by erosion, having open'd the mouth of the Vessels, finding a clear passage, gave free egress to the vital Spirits with the Blood upon any the least provocation.

By this the Patient was debilitated, and her Spirits much exhausted, so that of necessity being compell'd to dismiss her Female Undertaker, and to add more Fuel to her inextinguishable Flame, upon the rumor of a noted *Empiric* (one of the before-mention'd) she refers her case to him, who finding the Breast movable (sure he thought it should not long continue so) most ignorantly orders a Bottle of strong Spirits, for to bath the part affected, and half a dozen Papers of purging Pouder, to be taken every other day, which when she had roundly paid for, she took home with her to her House near M——.

Upon

Upon the very first application, the most diffusive Particles of the subtile Spirit, fermenting with the bilious adust Humour, lodged in the Glandules of the Breast, soon hasten'd an Inflammation, by an encrease of fluxion; which when by circulation the morbid taint was communicated to the rest of the bloody mass, there was presently excited so great an effervescence, and such a continued Feaverish Ebullition, that notwithstanding the too late assistance of an eminent Chyrurgeon, the vital Flame was suddenly extinguish'd, and this miserable Gentlewoman untimely hurried to her Grave.

I think we shall have no occasion to produce a more evident demonstration of *Empirical Ignorance*, than this of the foregoing, where we find the application of a burning Spirit to an inflam'd ulcerated Cancer, which was as likely to effect a Cure, as 'tis that the Fire should be put out by a combustible Sulphur.

I was the rather free to insert this Passage, for that being an eye-witness, and enquiring what had been done, they shew'd me the Mountebank's Bottle of Spirits, which (as I could imagine) were no other than an inflammable Spirit of Turpentine, impregnated with *Galbanum*, *Ammoniacum*, and other Gumms; and his Pouder that of *Jalap Root*; a very likely thing to prove beneficial, where the most lenitive Purgation oftentimes puts the Humours into an over-eager ferment, to the disturbance of the part.

A Case likely to have been as fatal as the former, you may understand by this, that when (a little while since) a Chyrurgeon had been sent for to take a view of a weakly Child, he found one of our present Mountebanks there before him, who had already made a demand for his intended Cure, and was preparing for his Work: He told the Practitioner, that this Child had so large a *Carnosity*, or fleshy Excrecence, by the Fundament, that it hinder'd him from going to Stool; but he did not question he should soon cure him, by cutting of it away. The Chyrurgeon being curious to see it, desir'd a view of this strange case, which being granted, he found nothing more than a bearing down of the Fundament, or Prolaps of the Intestine, by cutting off which (if not providentially prevented) this bold Undertaker had most certainly kill'd the Child.

Did not the fear of being burthensome to your Patience take me off from such a design? I could relate some scores of my own observations on these mens Practises, where the Success hath been much at one with the former, more especially in their Pretensions to the performance of Chyrurgick Operations, such as couching Catarrhs, extirpation of *Wenns*, and other preternatural Excrecences; their cutting Men for the Stone, and extracting the same from the Female Sex *per dilatationem*, where their prodigiously expanding and lacerating the *Urinarius Ductus*, if no worse Symptom intervene, yet

by this violent usage they so far weaken the Muscular Fibres, that the Patient from thence labours of a *Paralysis* in that part, and is attended with an involuntary Miction all her Life after.

Surely if such absurd Practices and daily Miscarriages as these, are not sufficiently conducing nor enough prevalent, there can be nothing more coercive to rectifie Mens Judgments, or to caution them from their application to a *Pretending Mountebank*, who not only acts out of the reach of his capacity, by surreptitiously entrenching upon Medicine and its Professors, but also (which is of much worse consequence) by so doing he too frequently brings the overcredulous into danger of their Lives.

It was no rash Opinion of him who deliver'd his Thoughts to this effect; That if Justice had taken place, a great number of these *Vagabonds* had long since suffer'd by the hands of the common Executioner, as just *Memento's* to forewarn others how they tempt their Stars beyond their Light. And the Comparison made by another is as little disagreeable, That there is no farther disproportion between the *Mountebank* and *murdering Robber* than this, that the former, by a pretence of Service, having bereav'd the unwary Passenger of both Mony and Life, passeth undiscover'd; whilst the latter, to accomplish the same ends, more certainly suffers condign Punishment, on the account of open Violence. There is also this disparity between the Cases of

such who fall into the hands of either, that the one ignorantly as it were consents (tho' upon a different expectation) to be depriv'd of his Life, whilst the other is compel'd to resign the same, when overpower'd by his Adversary. In short, they are both sacrific'd to the Interests of base Men, and if either be the more eligible 'tis he who gives us time enough to fly from him, or defend our Lives.

That I may take off what may seem to some a too rigid Censure on the Failings of these men I shall give you the concurring Testimony of one of Galen's Commentators.

Whosoever (saith he) doth take upon him to administer in the Medicinal Profession, for the safety of Man's Life, and being ignorant in the Principles thereof, he administering therein, and the Man perishing in his Hands, or under his administration; I say that this is Murther, and the practising Pretender answerable for the same, as well to humane as divine Justice.

Truly 'tis great pity that such Trespasses as these come not under the Verdict of a skilful and inquisitive Jury, that the Treachery being hereby detected, the Tragick Actor might receive his *Præmium*.

SECT

S E C T. II.

AS a farther occasion that those honourable Professions of *Physick* and *Chyrurgery* have been so meanly reputed, and so much undervalued, I shall give you an account of the abusive Practices of other *Quack Pretenders*.

A *Quack* is by a certain facetious Author describ'd as a kind of bastardly Breed, engender'd by the Congres of a *Mountebank* and a *City Doctor*, from whence is said to result this deformed lump of Impudence.

He is by others said to have been *Jack of all Trades*, yet could never live by any ; and therefore having well acquainted himself with the extravagant Humour of such who can't distinguish Truth from what is otherwise ; without farther deliberation he presently turns *Doctor* : but considering that his sudden pretence to the cure of all Distempers would raise suspicion of his being no more than a Pretender, he therefore (encourag'd by the predominant Vice of the Age) professeth at first, that he is only Master of some pleasant, private, and speedy method for the cure of the *Lues* or *French Pox*, and according as this takes, if there be Mony in the case, there's nothing comes amiss to him.

D ;

These

These *Quack Practitioners* were never so numerous as they are at present, there being scarce an corner in either City or Suburbs, where one or other of these *Intruders* have not shamefully crept in.

'Tis true, I can't suppose him full out so dangerous as the former, on account that his meaner and more private station, doth not admit him (if otherwise willing) to make such heavy slaughter among the People.

There is also this farther inequality, That the former having summons'd a concourse of People, is the cryer of his own Abilities, by those fabulous Stories he delivers to them; whilst this Person (for want of so much confidence) contented himself by employing some Hackney Scribe, who sends abroad for him a *Noverint* *Universi*, or Advertisement where to find the Habitation of such an eminent Professor both of Physick and Chyrurgery, as will undertake to cure them when left off by others.

We are so pester'd now of late with these ridiculous Libels, that you cannot walk from *Temple-bar* to *Charing-cross* without being imposed on to inspect three or four of them. Indeed the divertisement they afford an ingenious Reader, may in some measure requite him for his expence of time in the perusal, it being certainly as pleasant to supervise some such as are especially intermix'd with a few doggerel Rhimes, as to be Spectator at a Farce. *Risum teneatis?* may very well be queried, there bein

success

Such of them dispers'd about the Town, as would constrain a smile from the most mortify'd *Ancho-rite* or reclus'd *Hermit*.

There is scarce a Corner-house in Town, or Entrance to a publick Thorowfare, where you may not find a *Quack-pretender's* Bill.

The one presents you with his *Aqua Tetrachymaggon*, a word as far above his Comprehension to etymologize, as the *Zenith* from the *Nadir*.

A second offers a most specious and grave Title of *Read, Try, Judge, and speak as you find*; which when they do, it is commonly utter'd with a shower of heavy Oaths and Execrations on the Author, for his trying Conclusions, and leading them on from an inconsiderable Mischance, (*viz.* a recent Venereal *Gonorrhœa*, *Dysury*, *Bubo*, &c.) into the most lamentable, excruciating, nocturnal Dolors, and often many more irreparable Disasters.

A third gives you to understand, that at such a place lives the only, true, and approved Physician of Twenty odd years Experience: But to solve this *Enigma*, we may make it out thus: The first seven years, perhaps, were served in an Apprenticeship to some Country *Apothecary*, or practising *Barber*, where he had the liberty to see his Master oftentimes let Blood, and cut holes up and down the Body, which he calls his Issues. After the Foundation was thus laid, we may imagine that a second seven (being youthful days) were spent in rambling foreign parts, where there might be as much Knowledge

gain'd in Physick or Chyrurgery as amounts to a Cypher. The last seven were not improbably spun out in working Journey-work, when coveting the Title of a *pater familias*, (he sets up for himself, and spends the remainder of his day in diligently conning over his Grandmother's Receipt-book.

Here he finds such admirable Titles to all his several Medicines, that he can suppose he hath already purchas'd a greater Talent of Knowledge than his Brother who sends out the *Three Infallible Remedies*.

Here is first of all an incomparable Direction to make *Lucatellus Balsam*, which the good old Woman would never impart to any one before her death. In another place he finds a Receipt for *Diackylon* and *Melilot Emplaster*, for the cure of Cuts, Bruises, Splinters, and such-like. In a third place there is a never-failing Mercurial Water, subscrib'd, *This is that Wonderful Water with which my Lady ——— cured Thousands of poor people, and was bequeath'd as her Legacy to her Nurse Mrs. ———*.

With this Solution of sublimate Mercury in fair Water the Dr. dresseth all Tumors, I should say Swellings, Wounds, Ulcers, and the several species of them, under any appellation whatsoever. And amongst the rest, he hath found out a cheaper way (that he might be absolutely compleat) than any as yet discover'd, to make *Pil. Cochiae*, with another famous Purger in all cases, made of *Aloes, Rhubarb, Coloquintida, and Jalap*,

Salap, brought into a *maß*, (or in the old Gentlewomans Phraſe a *conſiſtence*) with the Syrup of *Buckthorn-berries*.

You have here a proſpect of the *Baſis* whereon is built the wonderful Skill of the Rabble's many years Practitioner, from whence it will be no hard matter to judge of his Accompliſhments in Phyſick and Chyrurgery. And now if (your Spring being drained) you are not obliged to withdraw, you may behold upon another piece *Cure without Poyſon*, and that in Capitals.

This Gentleman ſpeaks as truly as the reſt, but only under the notion of *No Poyſon* he would poſſeſs the People with a Belief, that from the Legal Artiſt they muſt expect *Poyſon* in their *Cures*, when at the ſame time ſome of theſe Pretenders ſhall not ſcruple to vend the worſt of Poyſons in their dangerous Compoſitions

Indeed, if our ſweet ſublim'd Mercury muſt deſerve no other name than Poyſon (though one of the moſt noble Medicaments yet known) I dare be confident there never was any conſiderable Venereal Cure (pretend they what they pleaſe) effected ſecurely without its exhibition. And of the ſame opinion we ſhall find the moſt reputable Authors who have written upon its Uſe and Vertues: I think the ingenious *Harvey*, and the late Mr. *Richard Wiſeman*, have ſaid enough to evince the great truth of this Aſſertion. However, to clear farther the treacherous proceedings of one of theſe bitterly

terly inveighers against *Mercury*, I shall impart what was communicated to me from a person of good credit, who himself pretending an occasion for a Box of Pills, bought about two drams of a *Quack*, who had wonderfully decry'd the Use of a *Mercurial* Preparation in Physick, when by a Chymical *Analysis* of the Composition he found therein contain'd half a dram and fifteen grains of crude *Mercury* or *Quicksilver*.

After all, to bring up the Reer, another tickles you with the pleasing invitation of *No Cure No Money*. This honest man may, not unlikely, tell you, That 'tis customary however for his Patients to give him a small Fee of a Piece or two for encouragement, which he calls your *Admittance*; and when he thinks he hath done enough for this, he knows how to accost you, upon your next appearance, with a Complement of this nature.

Sir, or Madam,

Finding the dangerous state of your Distemper to encrease upon you, and that altogether through your own neglect, in not conforming to my Directions, I am wholly taken off the thoughts of farther proceeding with you; nay, I am as well satisfied, by your inordinate living, and by the appearance of new Symptoms, that you have stray'd and got a fresh Mischance, as if I my self had been the person you have so lately been concern'd with: Now, you know, it was by no Covenant or Bargain of mine promis'd, that

that I would cure one Clap upon another, without being satisfied for the first.

Here you find there is no Remedy left (especially if you would be genteel) but to throw down a couple of *Guineas* more before you are discharg'd, and then you have the liberty to seek out a second *Quack-salving Physician*, in a much worse plight than you came to the first.

Whatever may be the Practice of particular Undertakers, who send abroad these Papers, I know it hath been a course taken with some, who have insinuated to the Patient, they would have nothing till they perform'd their Cure; indeed, such are usually the Hypocritical Shams and Evasions of selfish Ignorants, who are forward enough to lay their own Miscarriages upon the Errors of their Patients, when it's possible at the same time they were never otherwise guilty, than being overforward to swallow down their preposterous and improper *Drenches*.

I would therefore seriously advise the Unfortunate Sons of *Venus*, who have been paid the Wages for their Works of Leachery, that they as safely hazard a fresh encounter with their darling *Curtezans*, in hopes (and with as much likelihood) to find an *Antidote* where they receiv'd their *Infection*, as to rely for Relief upon the Counsel of a *Quack Pretender*; for by a repetition of their amorous Delights, they can but propel the malign *Seminaries* a little farther into

into the Body, and by the inconsiderate and rash adhibition of these mens Medicines, the said Infection is carried as far inwards, and being mix'd with the (now thorowly polluted) mass of Blood, produceth as dangerous and inveterate effects.

That which principally incites the People to make use of this *Intruder*, is, his retail vending of his Medicines; for being inform'd, that on such a famous Physician they may have an *Infallible Box of Pills*, of another an *Incomparable Pleasant Liquor*, of a third a *Never-failing Tincture, Lozenge, or Elixir*, and all these undoubtedly preservative, as well as curative, in the *Pox*, with its Attendants: Being allur'd, I say, with so plausible an Invitation, they scruple not to send their Mony by some trusty Friend, to purchase these Medicaments, wherewith (as they are told) they may cure themselves, without hindrance of Business, or knowledge of Relations.

Hereby accrews this great advantage to the *Quack*, that he's not oblig'd to credit; for were not the Mony paid upon the receipt of what he sells them, there are few People (upon a too late repentance of their Bargain) would come to return their Thanks.

It is the pleasing hopes to keep their Mischances secret, with the promise that they meet with of so easie and cheap a Remedy to restore their Health, makes them look upon these Bills as so many *Oracles*, and what they deliver to be
purely

purely *orthodox* ; but alas, the Event renders them the greatest Objects of our pity, who by splitting upon these Rocks of Diffimulation, have shipwrack'd their Lives and Fortunes.

I can do no less than admire that any Man should be so inconsiderate, not to say ignorant, as to take for granted, that an Eighteen-penny Box of Pills, an Halfcrown Bottle of Tincture, &c. should be of sufficient energy to withstand or profligate a radicated Pox, in all its several shapes and diversity of appearance, when at the same time it is not often known that any the most recently contracted Virulency was ever thoroughly expel'd by these frequently mischievous and prejudicial administrations.

I have heard of a certain *Quack* in *London*, who (upon a bare Recommendation from as wise a person as himself) undertook, and boldly exhibited the Pouder of *Cantharides*, or *Spanish Flies*, in order to carry off the Flux of a *Gonorrhœa*, but with so fatal a consequence, that hereupon the miserably afflicted Patient dy'd suddenly convulsive.

We have an account of two Cases of some affinity with the former, related by *Meekrin*, in his *Chyrurgick Observations*, which for the extraordinary circumstances attending, I shall copy from the aforesaid Author, in page 141.

Bartho-

Bartholomeus Cabrolus, *Anatomicus* Mo-
 speliensis, *Observationem singularem* (huius-
 facientem) adfert his verbis.

A Venionem evocatus, ut quendam majori
 femore Sclopeto ictum, curarem, una cum
 Joberto Guilimeo & aliis; è diverticulo, ad Hile-
 minem, enormi laborantem Satyriasi visendum acce-
 cessimus. Res ita habet, laborat quartana Aegre-
 in qua profliganda strigæ auxilium petierat, quæ
 illi poculum ex ℥j. seminis urticarum, Cantharidum unci-
 dum ℥ij. sesqui drachma cæparum aliisque concinnis
 narat: hinc ita exarsit in venerem, ut Uxor ejus
 per omnia sacra dejerarat, se ab vino octuagies
 septies initam, interea sæpius in lectum semen effundisse
 disse: imo nobis adstantibus, brevi momento ter
 polluit, pedem lecti pro fæmina subagitans: hinc in
 stuporem versi, quidquid fieri potuit remediorum
 adhibuimus, sed ipse paulo post libitinariis pollinctori-
 ribusq; cessit.

Huic affine, retulit Dominus Chauvet Avenio-
 nensis Doctor, aiebat ille, annis abhinc 32, Evoca-
 catum se Gaderousam ad hominem eadem Satyriasi
 correptum, & limine domus obvia fit Uxor, de
 præpostera libidine (rarum in mulieribus querelæ
 genus) mariti expostulans; quadragies illam una
 nocte hortum suum fodisse; simul laceratam nimiam
 affricu ostendebat vulvam, remediumque doloris
 juxta ac colori quærebat. Simili potione malum

Aegre

Ager contraxerat, quam præbuerat Mulier Xenodochio ancillans tertianæ arcendæ, qua hic in tantam amentiam versus fuerat, ut catenis obsessi instar ligandus erat. Aderat cum Domino Chaveto Sacerdos, qui cum verbis solari Hominem vellet: rogabat uti se deliciis istis immori sineret: Fœminæ cum linteo oxycrato immerso cinxere. Mane mortuus, hiantiore membroq; gangræna correpto, inventus, ridenti similis est rictu quem Sardonium vocant.

I have the rather made this Digression, that the World may see what intolerable Mischiefs an unskilful Person may be guilty of, when countenanc'd the most illegally to practise in our Art.

If it be reply'd, That many who have received the Venereal Infection have been cur'd by Quack Practitioners; I must needs say, that I am so far diffident, as to question their Security from the danger of Relapse. I very well know they have obtain'd a Truce, or short *Requies*, with their Distemper, in which Interval the Undertaker sues for satisfaction; but after some little time (*remanente causa*) there has been found to the Patient's sorrow, a Pejoration of all Circumstances, such as from the patching up a Venereal Ulcer, the retroceding of a malign Bubo, by refrigerant and repelling Topicks, or the untimely stopping of a Gonorrhœa with restraining Injections, or otherwise, have imperceptibly transmigrated into the most inveterate

Ce-

Cephalalgia's, extream Laffitudes, the most punitive nocturnal Dolors, with other univerſal excruciating Pains in all parts of the Body. Indeed from ſuch *Ignorants* you muſt expect nothing other, than to be carried from a ſimple ſlight Infection, and that moſt inevitably into the ſtrongeſt Contagion; when if you ſeek Redreſs of your Phyſician, you are told, That he hath already commanded the *Pox* out of your Quarters, and theſe are no other than Symptoms of a predominant *Scurvy*, contracted by the uſe drinking of Wines and other ſtrong Liquors, with your liberal feeding upon Salt and Spiced Meats.

Theſe are the Pretences of ſuch illiterate and Empirical Pretenders; ſcarce any one of which ever freed a Patient of any Venereal Concern without the ſevere Relicks of a Pocky *Scorbute*, which when arriv'd at their Extream, are ſufficient to emaciate the moſt corpulent Body, and unleſs reliev'd by Medicine, will unavoidably induce a lingring *Chronick* Sickneſs, oftentimes terminating in Death itſelf.

I hope now, from the already recited Inſtances and Remarks, there will need the fewer Arguments to diſſwade Venereal Patients from their application to a *Quack*, and in his room to introduce the true practical Chyrurgeon, where, upon diſcovery of their Miſfortune, and an enquiry into the progreſs of their Diſtempers, they may with as much Secreſie, and far greater

greater Safety (from a rational and well ground-
ed method of Proceeding, without which
the slightest Symptoms are no more than
balliated) expect Recovery without the fu-
ture access or danger of a Relapse; for let
Men boast never so much of their *Specificks*,
or infallible *Nostrums*, as an Eighteen penny
Box of *Pills*, a small Vial of their *Antivene-
real Elixir*, with the rest of their Empirick
Remedies, they are all, I say, the fantastick
Notions and Chymera's of self-interested and
deceitful Intruders on the Medicinal Art, who
have invented these fabulous Stories to amuse
and fool the People, defraud them of their Mony,
and run them not seldom into the hazard of
their Lives.

There is the less reason to exemplifie by
more particular Remarks the Cheats by
these Men practis'd to beguile the Unwa-
ry, since the same begin now to be so
publick and notorious, that you shall scarce
light into the company of a clapp'd *Mon-
neur*, who is not presently reviling of his Phy-
sician, and lamentably condoling his Misfor-
tune, for rashly confiding in the Judgment of a
Quack Professor.

I sincerely and heartily wish, that the di-
stressed *Gallican* may be hereby warn'd, how-
ever I have discharg'd my Duty, with respect
to the *Præmonition*; and if the Proffer of an
E un-

undoubted Salutory *Antidote* be oppos'd wilfully rejected by an infected Patient, w^h have the less reason to be concern'd, when the Poyson he hath receiv'd shall prove fatal.

SECTION

S E C T. III.

ANother great cause for the Scandal and Male-reflection upon *Chyrurgery* and its true Professors, is, the base and burthenfom Intrusion made thereon by the Practise of a *Barber*, who by his Title seems to cry Halfe with the *Chyrurgeon*, and bears as great a sway in the good Opinion of ignorant People as the Legal Artist.

Indeed the very Notion of a *Barber-Surgeon* seems in some measure to countenance the Arrogance of these men, and hath so far impos'd on such as are unacquainted with the Truth, that they have never imagin'd the great difference between the *Chyrurgeon* and this bold *Undertaker*, neither will they be perswaded that the latter incurs a Penalty, by his assumed Confidence to intermeddle in the Duty of the former.

Now have we not just reason to stand amazed at the Presumption of these men, who are so numerous in all the out-parts of the Town, that it's almost a Rarity to find one of their *Poles* without a Frame of *Porringers*, or some other Signal of their Pretensions to *Chyrurgick* Practise: Nay, some of them have of late years presum'd so far upon our negligence to suppress

them, as to hang out for their Sign the *Arms* of our Profession ; so that, as far as I perceive it may in time be no easie matter to know the rightly qualified Professor of our Art, from the person of whom we are now giving you a description.

However, that I may render my design the more compleat, and shew my willingness to rectifie those mens Judgments who have been hitherto misguided, I shall give you a true account of his Original, that you may see with how great Injustice he takes upon him to advertise in our Art.

If we look back on his Descent, we shall find his Rise from some honest contented *Barber* with whom having liv'd a little time in perfect abhorrence of so strict a confinement, he waits for an opportunity and steals off to Sea, where he passes indifferently for a Barber's Boy, till his Master dying ; after a first or second Voyage, he steps into his Place ; and now being acquainted with the custom of the Seas, on his next setting out he is, after some slight *Examination* introduc'd as the *Surgeon's Mate* ; in which station having purchas'd much Experience, and tir'd with rambling, full fraught with Knowledge, he comes on shore, where settling in some obscure part of the Town, he goes by the name of an able *Barber* or *Sea-Chyrurgeon*, and acquaints the People with such wonderful Stories of his extraordinary Atchievements in our Art, that they are ready to repute him for as worthy

Pra

Practitioner as either *Galen* or *Hippocrates* were in former times. You may be sure to find him talking (where he fears not to betray his Ignorance) of nothing less than *Fractures*, *Dislocations*, *Angreens*, *Mortifications*, and *Amputations*, with other scraps which he hath pick'd from some ancient Author, and launching out into a farther liberty of romancing, is continually boasting how many scores of Limbs he hath taken off, on which his ignorant Auditory shall ground supposition, that without a sufficient knowledge in the Practice of the Seas, it must be impossible for the Land Professor to be truly accomplish'd, or well qualify'd for administration in the Medicinal Art.

To remove this Scandal, I must ingeniously confess, that were I to deliver my own Sentiments, I see very little reason to make distinction in point of Knowledge between the common *Sea Professor* and the Town pretending *Barber*. I know they are not seldom a Result one from 'tother; and I shall farther remark for our advantage, that in consideration of the most rovenly and uncouth Practice, together with the absurd (that I may not say ignorant) Proceedings too commonly attending a great number of these *Sea Practitioners*, I am sensible there will be found as great difference between such a person and the City Chyrurgeon, as betwixt a deceitful *Artless Pretender* and a Master in the said Art.

I would not be thought herein by any means to reflect on those legal and ingenious *Practitioners* employ'd in His Majesty's Naval Service, but what I have spoken hereto, is on account of the great Abuses committed by those shameful Intruders on the Practise, who by making Friends to the Supervisers, have clandestinely procur'd the Title of *Chyrurgeons Mates*, to the no small detriment and personal damage of the King's good Subjects, whose Health and Lives in the *Chyrurgeon's* absence, are in the hands of these so lately *Barbers* and Apothecaries Seevants.

'Tis not many years since a meer *Novice* in Surgery, humbly requesting a Grant for the Office of a *Mate*, upon a tryal if he was fitt for the discharge of such a Trust, when he was ask'd, what he thought was the first intention in the treating of a penetrating Puncture in the *Thorax*, he reply'd, He had never seen such a thing in his life. Being farther question'd, he knew where the said part, *viz.* the *Thorax* was situate in a Humane Body, he as ignorantly pointed to the Hypogastrick Region of the *Abdomen*, and might (according to his Judgment) as well have shewn the Palm of his Hand: yet this Person, as I am credibly inform'd, quickly after obtain'd his desire, and got off to Sea.

The small converse I have had with these men, and the inspection I have made into their Business, hath afforded me many opportunities

f beholding as indifferent Practice as might
e expected from a tampering *Old Woman*.

A certain noted *Sea Practitioner* had some
me since a Patient here on Shore, who was
afflicted with a malign *Paronichia* on his Finger,
which he treated so long with Suppuratives that
the Ligaments were corrupt, and the Bone ca-
rious ; at length there happening a spontane-
ous discharge of Pus, the sinuosity was dilated,
and the Bone denudated for exfoliation. Now
to recover his former negligence, in suffering
the malignity to lye so long conceal'd, he as
prejudicially dress'd the Patient with *Basilicon* and
Oyl of Hypericon, laid immediately on the Bone,
whereby the Putrefaction and *Caries* encreas'd,
a large *Fungus* thrust out, and after all there was
a necessity for an *Amputation*, which was speed-
ily perform'd.

I could recite many other instances where
the Success hath been much the same, with the
foregoing, but whosoever will take the pains to
look over the Observations of Mr. *Richard Wise-*
man, will, I doubt not, be confirm'd in my
Opinion, with reference to the common *Sea*
Professor, and his Brother the *Barber-Chyrurgion*.

There is another sort of the last mention'd
presuming Undertakers, by whose Abuses the
Chyrurgick Profession hath suffer'd a diminu-
tion of her *quondam* Credit and Repute : He is
one who not daring to run the hazard of the
Seas for his Experience, and finding that the
Trimming Trade does not answer expectation,

enters himself as a *Cubb* under an *Hospital Professor*, or thrusts himself into the acquaintance of a Chyrurgeon's Servant, who in his minority is perhaps induced, by the gratuity of a Present, to suffer this *Intruder* to take a Prospect of his Master's Practise, and to give him an opportunity of phlebotomizing Poor People.

This is too commonly the Foundation of a Barber's Knowledge, who after some few hazardous tryals courageously turns *Adventurer*, and punctures all who come unto him.

I believe it will not be altogether foreign to our present task, if I spend some little time in making a discovery of their pernicious Practise in their pretence to that part of Chyrurgery which we term *Phlebotomy* or *Venæsection*, so mightily now-adays in request, that there is rarely an indisposition which seems not in the Peoples opinion to indicate a necessity of emptying the Store-house of the Vital Spirits, by the drawing forth of Blood.

This frequent Custom were the less to be condemn'd, did not the Patient so rashly trust the performance hereof to the management of a Barber, who is generally unknowing in the many times prejudicial consequences attending this Operation.

'It will be impossible (saith the famous Dr. Willis) to prescribe general Rules according to the particular cases of every individual person, whereby the quantity in letting of Blood may be exact-

exactly proportion'd according to the Disease or the strength of the Patient ; but let this be left to the Judgment of the prudent Physician, let his Commands be ever exactly observ'd ; and let not, as it every where is, such leave be given to Quacks, Empiricks, and Barbers, to play with Humane Life, who every where rashly and wickedly use Phlebotomy ; and if the Blood spring more freely, and appear discolour'd, therefore bragging of the Vessel's being well pierced, they say it must be let out more plentifully, because it appears bad, when oftentimes on the contrary it ought to be spar'd.

I would not be thought so much affected with the Chymist's Principles, as absolutely to condemn Phlebotomy, for such a Remedy as will prove at all times of worse consequence than the Disease ; neither can I cordially promote the too frequently unnecessary administration thereof ; and therefore, as I am well satisfied that it is beyond dispute preservative in many affects, after other Preparatives, as in an *Apoplexy*, *Lethargy*, *Carus*, *Megrim*, *Mania*, on the occasion of Inflammations, as in the several species of an *Angina* or *Quinsy*, *Peripneumony*, *Pleurisie*, with other Feaverish Ebullitions of the Blood ; so I would not advise such as are about to undergo its extraction to confide in the mean Judgment of a Barber ; but rather let them take Counsel of the worthy and able Physician, and if he approve thereof, let them rely on the performance of an expert Chyrurgeon ; for
did

did not the ill success attending them in their puncturing of *Tendons*, and Arteries for Veins, with other almost as prejudicial, their intemperate and superfluous *Venæsections*: Did not this, I say, give us a demonstration of their Ignorance, yet notwithstanding there may be those among them, who know indifferently to penetrate those azure meandrous *Channels* of the *Microcosm*, yet are they little knowing the damage or disadvantages ensuing thereon. This was the ill fortune of a young Gentlewoman at St. J——, who being already enclining to a *Chachexy*, at the instant of labouring under a periodical Evacuation of the *Menses*, was seized (as is usual to some at those times) with a great Pain in her Head, Back, and Hypochondria. Her impatience till the Uterine *Ferment* should have secreted those monthly Superfluities, put her upon asking Advice of a Physician, who order'd forthwith, that she should be bled in the Foot; and for this purpose there was sent for a noted Barber near at hand, who not daring to venture on the *Saphena*, or any of its Branches, notwithstanding she had inform'd him on what account it was so order'd: He confidently told her, it would be equally beneficial if she were bled in the Arm; and thereupon overperswading the unhappy Maiden, he drew from her to the quantity of 12 ounces of Blood, but with so mischievous a consequence, that hereupon there follow'd a total suppression of the Flux, and the noxious Particles which were then

then critically to have been discharg'd by the Womb, regurgitating into the mass of Blood, brought on several *hysterick Paroxysms*, with *Syncope's* and continued faintings; from which (being almost wearied of her Life) she was in three weeks time rescued by the Prescriptions of the Physician she had before consulted.

Thus you see the Practice of such a one, who right or wrong, rather than hazard the loss of his Fee, will perpetrate the greatest Wickedness, and seldom fail of bringing those who are concern'd with him into jeopardy of their Lives.

I remember, some years since, I breathed a Vein for a poor Woman just then come from a Barber in S——, who had been attempting it in the following manner.

The Woman was very corpulent, her Limbs of the largest size, and withal so very fat, that her Veins were neither visible, nor indeed (by what I perceiv'd) at all perceptible to the Touch in her right Arm, where he had been trying; and telling her it was never customary to bleed in the left, he was the more eager to make a tryal of his Skill; whereupon once more laying his Fingers on her Arm, and finding no other part that was so tense, and perhaps to his apprehension turgid, as the Tendon of the *Biceps*, after some little pause, gave his opinion, That this was certainly the Vein, but it lay so very deep, as made him fearful he should not pierce it. The Woman being herewith dissatisfied, was about to leave him; and he, unwilling

that

that another should go away with the Prize, overperswades her, with some difficulty, to admit a tryal of his Abilities: Upon this he boldly plunges in his Weapon, and had not a miraculous Providence interven'd, had undoubtedly made such a breach in the *Tendon* of the said *Muscle*, as had been most certainly past his Skill (not improbably that of any other) to have repair'd, without hazarding the loss of her Limb, if not her Life.

Surely the most ignorant person could not have been guilty of greater Simplicity, with respect to the Office of a Chyrurgeon, than this arrogant Intruder on the foresaid Duty, who with the rest of his Brethren *Quacks*, *Empiricks*, &c. ought no farther to be trusted with a Lancet, than a *Lunatick* with any Weapon whereby he may either mischief himself or others.

I do imagine, that this Woman's fortunate deliverance was effected by her own fearfulness, she (not unlikely) withdrawing, or some how altering the position of her Arm, in the time of his incision, whereby the 'foresaid Tendon slipping from him, most happily missed the Point of his *Piercer*.

Indeed, such-like commissions, or the sufferance of so odious and abominable actions, must not altogether be imputed to the free choice or delight of the People, who are daily injur'd thereby, because not knowing the danger of a wounded Tendon, neither what a Tendon is, or the difference between an Artery and

and a Vein, they are easily induc'd to make use of the next Barber they come to, and are content so long as he can any ways fetch the Blood out of their Bodies, that he also ease them of the weight of their Purfes. But I think we have juſt reaſon ſeverely to reprehend and censure the Preſumption of ſuch men as are ſo wonderful ambitious to be reputed for Chyrurgeons, when they neither are ſo, nor ought to praſtiſe in that worthy Art; and who, notwithstanding they know themſelves to be *Intruders*, that the beſt of them is incapacitated to perform the part of an *Artiſt*, will nevertheless dare to intermeddle for the hope of Gain, making their Shops ſo many Slaughter-houſes, and deteſtably expoſing Humane Blood on their Windows and Benches, to invite the unwary Paſſenger to partake of their bloody Banquets.

It is not often known, that the loſs of Blood is not advis'd in almoſt every Diſtemper of the Body by theſe Men, out of the ſordid deſire of *Gain per fas neſaſque.*

This truly, with his undertaking to make an Iſſue, are the chief and main points of Surgery that this pretending Barber could ever arrive at; not but that there are ſome of them too forward to encounter with more difficult caſes.

Having however ſhewn you his dexterity in *Venaſection*, or opening a Vein, I will here take the opportunity of diverting you with a ſhort view of his Performance in cutting of an Iſſue, which

which is likewise a Practice so frequently now-
adays in use, that rarely Man, Woman, or
Child, nay, Infants themselves, but what (as
the 'fore-mention'd Doctor saith) must have
their Skins prick'd full of Ilet-holes: and did
not the advantageous event attending this Ope-
ration sufficiently countenance the continuance
thereof, we might have grounds to censure
what is amongst all at present in so great re-
quest.

I would be understood, that a *Fontanel* or *Issue*
made upon good advice, by the hand of a know-
ing Artift, is a very preservative, and oftentimes
curative, Remedy in a multitude of Infirmitiess
that are wont to infest us; otherwise I have and
do daily find, that they are most commonly
painful, perverse, and attended with many In-
conveniencies as well as Prejudice to the Health.
Such generally are those which are attempted
by a Barber, who not knowing how or in what
part they are most commodiously instituted,
thinks it sufficient that he can make a *Solution*
of Continuity, or a hole in the Skin which will
hold a Pea, not heeding the appropinquating
Result, which is very commonly the sending
for a Surgeon, to afford the Patient a little ease
in the extremity of his pain, arising from the
inartificial making this little Ulcer upon the
body of some Muscular part, where it would
have been continued with the most intolerable
vexation, and no small danger to the welfare of
the Limb.

Thus

Thus I have known some Pounds deservedly bestow'd on an eminent Chyrurgeon, for his trouble in resisting the severe Accidents of an Issue, which hath been a product of the Proceedings of this bold Undertaker.

Both Reason and Experience dictate, that if an Issue be not made as near as it is possible in the Interstice of the Muscles, or the space between two fleshy parts, it is generally kept open with so great trouble and perplexity to the Patient, that the inconsiderable benefit of its discharge is in no measure equivalent to the great Mischief and Misery that accrews therefrom.

Now the People, as I hinted before, not knowing this distinction between Art and its Opposite, or the legal Chyrurgeon and the Person we are speaking of, are as ready to comply with the one as 'tother, to be blooded, or to have an Issue made, not minding the sometimes-fatal Prejudice by the hazard of the former, and as little imagining that there is any peculiar distinct part of the Body, whereof these men are ignorant as themselves, and wherein only the Operation is to be perform'd.

The ridiculous Practice of this nature, which I have seen such as have assum'd the Title of Chyrurgeons guilty of, would make one really stand amaz'd at their profound Ignorance, and admire by what means they keep up their Reputation and Credit with such as are more stupid than themselves, and will not take warning by the

the Fate of others, till a Self-tryal, conjoyn'd with a too late Experience and Repentance make them sensible of their Error.

It is truly a difficult matter to find one Issue in One and twenty in a convenient or proper place, or that can be long continued without manifest detriment to the Safety of such a person as hath employ'd therein a *Barber*, or a *Pet-ticoat Practitioner*. Some I have seen come from them with an Issue made on the body of the *Bicep's* Muscle in the Arm; others on the *Brachialis Externus*; some on the outside of the *Deltoides*; and one that I was advis'd about with the most intolerable pain threatening a *Gangreen*, made not a Finger's breadth from the *Tendon* of the *Biceps*, in the bent of the *Cubitus*. In the Thigh I have found them directly on the musculous part of the *Vastus Internus*; others on the same in the *Rectus*. In the Leg they have been made on the middle of the *Gastrocnemius*, where every extension thereof, besides other Accidents, was subject to throw out the Pea.

There is, I am certain, no occasion to enlarge farther hereon, since the Truth is so obvious to every judicious person, that I dare assure my self there are not many of the same Profession, who have not made such-like Remarks in the Variety of their Chyrurgick Occurrences; so that in these two Particulars, and indeed in the general practice of Chyrurgery.

gery, we have abundant cause to account this Person an unallowable Undertaker, considering that some of the most noted amongst them have all-along, and do still discover to us as much ignorance as is taken notice of in any other the most insufferable Intruder.

What gross and most ridiculous Actions do we find committed in the Examples of such bold Encroachers on our Art, which are deliver'd to us by a multitude of worthy Authors, particularly in the Observations of Mr. Wiseman, who hath in several places given us very necessary hints of the extream injury the People receive from the toleration of Barbers in the Practice of Chyrurgery.

I shall here transcribe one more remarkable than some others, from his Observations upon Wounds of the Head, where he tells us, that

'A young fellow, who was Servant to a Horse-courser, was thrown off his Horse against some of the Barrs in Smithfield, whereby the Calvaria or hairy Scalp was torn up from the Coronal Suture to the Temporal Muscle on the left side; the Skull was bared about two or three inches in breadth: He was led to the next Barber, who cut the piece off, and banded it up in his Shop. The day after the Patient was brought to me; I caus'd the Hair to be shav'd off from about the Wound, and dress'd the Bone and Lips with Linimentum Arcei warm, and embrocated the parts about cum Ol. Rosarum and Chamomeli, and apply'd Emplastrum Ebolo

F

over.

' over the Wound, with Compres and Bāndages
 ' rowling up his Head. He had been let Blood the
 ' the day before, without consideration of the great
 ' quantity he had lost from his Wound: I continued
 ' the former way of dressing, &c. Thus (saith he)
 ' it was cured as Wounds with loss of substance,
 ' troublesome and vexatious work to the Patient and
 ' Chyrurgeon, which might at first have been cured by
 ' Agglutination, with a less Cicatrix, and thereby he
 ' might have enjoy'd the natural tegument of his Hair
 ' whereas that part remained bald and unseemly.

Were it absolutely requisite for a fuller satisfaction, I could from my own Remarks on these mens Practice, acquaint you with diverse cases tending to evince the weakness of their Judgments. 'Tis but a very little while from the writing hereof, that one of them happened ing to puncture a Tendon in the Foot of a Maid-servant, would have solv'd the business by upbraiding the Artist, who was afterwards employ'd, for that he, by his improper applications, had hasten'd those dangerous and importunate Symptoms.

I remember Mr. Young of Plimouth gives us an account of a business of the like nature, though more troublesome, occasion'd from such a person's puncturing of the Bicep's Tendon in the Arm of a Woman, an Inhabitant thereabouts. That fellow (having no better Subterfuge) went about to justify his Proceeding, strenuously affirming and assuring the Patient, that these Accidents

were

were no other than usual Symptoms frequently attending a disorder'd Body, abounding with evil Humours.

If the Reader think it worth his while to peruse the said Author's Treatise of *Ol. Terebintb.* he may be farther inform'd with how great trouble, the pertinacious Symptoms of this Puncture were overcome, and at length an indifferent use of the Arm restor'd.

Surely if these Events were no more than usual Consequences of *Venaesection*, (as the Pretender intimates) I am apt to think we should not find such great numbers of People thus willing to be blooded on every slight occasion.

I may truly say, it is the much to be lamented sufferance or toleration of such Knaveries hath been one great cause that we meet with so many obstinate and oftentimes incurable Distempers. Indeed, the first *Surgeon* sought for amongst the meaner sort of People, when an Accident befalls them, is commonly no other than a *Barber*, who when he hath shown his Skill by the most contrary administrations, and marr'd instead of mended the business, they are then at liberty to refer themselves to the true practical Chyrurgeon, whose demands of a reasonable Gratuity for his officious care and diligence in performing the Cure, is not seldom requited with the opprobrious Language of *Unconscionable*; because, forsooth, that such a *Barber* (who to gain Experience at the cost of their

Lives, will run a mile or two to purchase Porter's Hire) would have dress'd them so long for little or nothing.

What great pity is it, that the Sons of Art should be vilified and disesteem'd for their not complying with the base and sordid Principles of such men, who have already so far disgrac'd and undervalued this most noble Art, that in time it may (not unlikely) be forced to stand in competition with the meanest and most contemptible mechanick Occupation.

Were not the Art it self as far above the reach of his Capacity, as it is from being a legal appertenance to his Calling, we could expect no other, but that it would be held the meanest and most despicable of all others, not only for the multitude of such Pretenders thereunto, but also for that the successless Events of their Chyrurgick Undertakings, are by too many, undeservedly imputed to some Knavery in the Art it self; they hence inferring, that the Profession, at best, is no more than Pretence or Contrivance to delude the People, and deceive them of their Mony: And indeed, how can we expect less, than that the best of Arts should partake of such a distressed Fate, when so great a liberty is allow'd the most Ignominious to practise without molestation.

When we consider the great and most perplexing difficulties that we are oftentimes obliged to encounter, the many intricate and hazardous

zardous Undertakings that we meet with, where the Lives of our fellow-Christians lye at stake; did we seriously and impartially reflect on this, we should imagine it to be no such easie Task for the most diligent in our Art to attain Perfection; much less might we expect an Artificial Performance from any Ignorant Professor. Did we farther consider all Circumstances attending some People's Complaints against us, I as little question but we should find Chyrurgeons are not the men some ignorant and malicious Spirits have endeavour'd to represent them. How rash a Censure is that of their being *unconcionable* (one of the great Objections) because they endeavour to set a small value on that most noble Art, which can never be too highly esteem'd.

Is it not Ingratitude, that the worthy *Artist* should be requited with Revilings for his care in the performance of a Cure, the reasonably demanded Recompence for which is thought a Crime, because it hath already cost the Patient so much Mony under the hands of several false Practitioners? If such a tatt'ling *Doctress* hath filch'd so much, such a *Practising Barber* as much more, and such a *pretending Bonesetter* as much as both, yet still the Patient is left in a condition much worse than before; is it not unjust, that the Chyrurgeon, who is last consulted, when he hath diligently recover'd and restor'd them to their Health, should be so meanly look'd on, or so evilly rewarded?

I remember where a late *Upstart Pretender* was entertain'd by a Gentlewoman, in order to treat a *Scrophulous Tumor* on her Son's Knee, when for Two Years attendance he demanded but Forty shillings, he was thereupon thought a very honest and able Artist, till it was made apparent to the Patient's Friends, that they had better have given him as many Pounds never to have undertaken it.

When the good Gentlewoman perceiv'd no likelihood of her Son's recovery, she thought fit to dismiss the *Undertaker*, who, as a Mark of his Judgment, left behind him this *Prognostick*, That if they waited till Time or some casual application should put the Swelling on Apostemating, there would then be no question of a probability for cure.

In some months afterwards the Wish of their presaging Chyrurgeon was accomplish'd, but so fatally to the Patient, that soon after the discharge of an indigested wheyish matter, and sometimes a slimy viscous *Pus*, there ensued an inveterate *Synovia*, accompanied with a most foetid Stench, proceeding from the parts affected, and undoubtedly arguing a *Cariosity*; the Ligaments were corrupt, and the Joynt so loose, that the *Apophyses* or Extremities of the Bones at length shew'd themselves in the *Absces*, as perfectly separated as in a dislocation.

This Gentleman was truly the most miserable Spectacle under such-like Circumstances that I have seen, and so far from hopes or a possibility

of

of cure, (without Amputation, which he would not admit) that when he had languish'd many months, he painfully resign'd his Breath.

I was the rather guilty of this prolixity, since the Example seems to afford us as pregnant a demonstration as we need desire, of the Abuses committed by unskilful People in their Chyrurgick Administrations: for, first of all, when the Patient had got an Accident of a contus'd Wound, he was committed to the care of one who went by the name of a *Barber-Surgeon*, wherewhen he had suffer'd considerably through Ignorance, to rectifie the Mistake, he referr'd himself to a most incomparable *Doctress*, who was Mistress of a famous Pultis, to work Miracles: Under her hands the Tumor was render'd schirrous, and the Joynt immovable. When there was an unlikelihood of recovery perceiv'd here, being still misguided and flatter'd by fair Promises, he unhappily submitted himself to the management of another Pretender, and finally dy'd under the too late care of an eminent and approv'd Chyrurgeon, whose Advice, or that of any judicious Practitioner, if he had first been govern'd by, I think it is not to be imagin'd that so slight a Contusion, in the worst habit of Body, should ever have arriv'd to so incurable a Malady.

Whilst I was writing these Observations, I was diverted for some little time, being call'd upon to let one Blood, who took occasion in Discourse to tell me, That he had never
F 4 been

been blooded more than once before, and that was by reason of a Wound he had receiv'd into his Body, which, he said, had like to have cost him his Life; hereupon his Mother, being by, immediately slip'd back his Shirt, and shew'd it me: I ask'd him who had been his Surgeon; he reply'd, *One Mr. ———, a very able man in C———street*: I told him, 'twas like the Workmanship of such an Intruder on our Art; Truly, answer'd the good Woman, *we have great cause to respect him, since he sav'd my Son's Life; for he told us when we came to him first, that the Wound was but an Hairs breadth from his Heart; and that had it been a little larger, his Bowels would have fallen out: yet notwithstanding this imminent danger, her Son had been recover'd in about three weeks time.*

Thus the Case had been represented, the most notoriously false that could be, and therefore to solve the Doubts of the surmising Reader, I shall impart the Truth in all its Circumstances, that we may see how easily the People are impos'd on, and take all for granted that is put upon them by deceitful Men.

The Wound was a Puncture, occasion'd by a Fall against an Iron Spike, superficially entring the *Cutis* and Carnous Membrane, and stopping, without hurt to the *Sternum*, a hand's breadth or more above the *Ensiform Cartilage*. This insignificant business, which would (not unlikely) have admitted of a Cure by the first intention, and perfectly healed in two or three

three days time by the application of Agglutina-
tives, was tented so long, and afterwards ig-
norantly dressed up with some flabby *Sarcotick*
Inguent, till an *Hypersarcosis* thrust forth as large
as a Small Nut, which the Operator not know-
ing what to do with, or what it was, however
thought it necessary to alter his Medicine, and
by chance, most probably dressing it with some
powerful *Epulotick*, at length produc'd a Cica-
trix thereon, leaving the same deform'd, as if
there had been a *Ganglion* or Wenny Sub-
stance.

Could any man have plaid the Knave and
Ignorant in a greater measure than this *Pseudo-
Chyrurgus*? First, his keeping open a not pene-
trating Puncture; secondly, his suffering a
Fungus to thrust forth; and thirdly, his not cor-
recting the same, but cicatrising on the Excre-
scence, doth as evidently declare the weakness
of his Judgment as his unbecoming Arrogance;
the former, in so irrationally treating an incon-
siderable Puncture; and the latter, for his ascri-
bing so much of Art and Industry, where there
was nothing more visible than the greatest want
of Honesty and Discretion.

I cannot chuse but reflect moreover on the
Patient's Weakness, who could so easily believe
that a Protuberance on the Breast-bone, was
occasion'd from some of his Bowels pressing for-
wards to get out.

We

We have really (considering the over-crowdedness of the People in Chyrurgick matters) a great cause to bewail the neglect of the Civil Magistrate and all other Powers therein concerned, who are so little careful to suppress Pretenders, and to take notice after what manner Men are qualified for the publick profession of the Art of Surgery. I am satisfied that the enterprizing such a Task as this would be extremely commodious, and the Reasons for such an Undertaking are, I think, as extraordinary weighty, if it were but on consideration of those evil and dangerous consequences continually resulting from the toleration of illegal Practitioners; a fatal Instance whereof you may find from the subsequent account.

A Youth aged about Fifteen years, labouring of a malignant Feaver, when by a *Metastasis* or critical translation, the peccant matter was thrown forth of the bloody mass it produced an *Erysipelas*, spreading it self on the right Arm from the *Cubitus* or Elbow to the top of the *Humeri*, upon which the Patient began his complaint of a violent and intense heat affecting his whole Arm; in order to the removal whereof it was thought necessary by his Friends to send for a *Barber-Surgeon* of their acquaintance, who coming to take a view of the case, told the young man, that he had got a *St. Anthony's Fire* but he would send him something that should kill it before the next morning. Whereupon without making any manner of Revulsion, or other

therways preparing of his Body, he immediately orders an expressed Juice (supposed to be that of *House-leek*) in which the Patient was to dip a folded Linnen Cloth, and bind the same upon his Arm. After some few repetitions of this Remedy, the heat was indeed abated, and the Inflammation (before highly red) gradually enclin'd towards a livid complexion. But now the Youth's Complaint was, of an extraordinary Stupor or Numbness possessing the whole Arm, as if somewhat had been strictly ty'd about the same. He was moreover hence disturb'd with a *Subsultus Tendinum*, or light Convulsive twitches, now and then infesting, and plainly arguing the danger which ensued; upon which the Barber was again consulted, who thinking it time to lay aside his first application, instead thereof, prescribes an *Embrocation* of *Unguentum de Althæa*, by the use whereof the Patient receiving nothing of advantage, but finding himself much worse, and wholly depriv'd the use of his Arm, for farther satisfaction, a more eminent Practitioner was call'd in, who found a confirm'd *Necrosis*, or Mortification, which had already seized the whole Arm, spreading it self forwards over the *Clavicle* and *Pectoral Muscle*, and reaching backwards the whole compass of the *Scapula*. The sphacelated Member was however immediately taken off, but to little purpose, the mortification still encreasing and opposing the most powerful Endeavours, soon

ob.

oblig'd the Patient to a surrender, and accept of
a *Quietus*.

I hope this may Warn a practising Barber, how he intermeddles in Chyrurgery (quite out of his Element) to the loss of his Credit and Reputation, and oftentimes to the irreparable danger of the Patient; as in the foregoing case.

We may, I think, imagine it one of the worst of Sins, thus shamefully to trifle with the concerns of Humane Life; and doubtless, according to the impartial method of Divine Justice, the Miscarriages of those poor Creatures, who have thus miserably suffer'd through wilful Ignorance, calls aloud for vengeance on the Heads of such as have in the manner here described, been accessory thereto. What a burthen must there lye upon his Conscience, who by an unjust pretence of a Call to the Practice, will intermeddle in another's business (notwithstanding the knowledge of his inability to perform what is requir'd) till by such his unwarrantable actions he hath brought the Patient into the most miserable state imaginable?

I think I shall not need (though I am farther furnish'd) to make other Reflections, since those already mention'd may abundantly satisfy an inquisitive Person, with how little Reason the Barber boasts himself a Surgeon, and with how great detriment to the People his Chyrurgick Undertakings are countenanc'd without interruption.

S E C T. IV.

THAT the *Chyrurgick Art* hath been yet farther misrepresented, and its legal Professors by many People render'd ignominious, we are not a little oblig'd to the sordid and base Practices of those men, who affect to be known by the peculiar name of *Bonesetters*; as if because they particularly apply themselves to that only art of *Chyrurgery*, they would be the more esteem'd, or for such their Pretences thought more famous and successful than other Men.

The Fame of an *Experienc'd Bonesetter* sounds so great in the Ears of a Vulgar Apprehension, that thinking the reduction of a fractur'd or broken Limb, or the reposition of a Bone dislocated, to its place, more properly his Employment, they wholly neglect consulting with the more eminent *Chyrurgeon* herein, as believing it no appurtenance to his Profession.

Why the Legal Practitioner should be excluded from this so considerable a part of his Duty, is somewhat strange, and much more so (in my opinion) that the particular Undertakers hereof should be more than ordinarily confided in, or so wonderfully sought unto.

If we make a scrutinous enquiry into the Practice of these men, I am satisfied we shall find, that they have not been wanting by their unworthy proceedings to bring as great Contempt upon us as any of the rest : And that in a great measure, hath been brought to pass by their detestable as well as impious Principles of constantly asserting for an undeniable Truth That almost all Accidents that happen where they are requir'd to lend their assistance, are no less than *Fractures*, or undoubted *Dislocations*.

If your Arm be so weaken'd, as that you have not the compleat and perfect motions, by a Contusion, overlifting or reaching, by which the Ligaments and Tendons of the Muscles may be extended beyond their *natural tone* ; if you seek Redress herein of one who calls himself a *Bonesetter*, you are presently inform'd with these sorrowful tydings, That your Limb is out of Joynt. If by slipping of your Foot aside, or treading the same awry, you are disabled from the present to walk without some pain, you will (if you refer your self to him) be sure to find a broken Legg, or an Ankle out of its proper place.

It is no difficult matter for any confident Undertaker, to perswade Men (of a large capacity in other respects) that when they come under the restraint of a Cubicular Confinement by any outward Mischance, it is for no smaller matter than a broken or disjoynted Member.

out of which seeming considerable Misfortune, when (by the most immethodical course taken) they have the good hap to be recover'd, the operating *Bonesetter* is then applauded for a Skillful Person, and certainly very Honest, because he try'd no Practice with them, neither kept them so long in hand as is usual with Chyrurgeons.

This is too commonly a Practice made use of by these *Bonesetters*, to deceive the Ignorant; and we have the less reason to admire that the Knavery is not detected, when we consider how little difficult it is for him who can thus justify the Dictates of his Conscience, to delude the Unwary, and impose upon their Judgments.

I have oftentimes found, when call'd to such as by the occasion of a Blow or Fall have been incapacitated for the wonted motion of their Limbs, they have been ready enough to imagine them either fractur'd or out of Joynt. Nay, I have farther met with some of so peevishly indiscreet a Temper, that when they had litt on a Disaster proving troublesome, beyond their own imagination of the Cause, would tax the Artist of want of Judgment, if unwilling to treat them (though meerly fictitious) as really broken or dislocated Members.

This was the case of a Victualler not far from *B ——— Street*, who by a fall down Stairs had receiv'd a Contusion on his Ribs, forwards to the Breast-bone, for which he was let Blood, and

and rationally treated by an expert Practitioner, with hopes of speedy recovery. The night ensuing, from the abortive tattle of some ignorant Old Woman, he was importun'd, and at length prevail'd on to send again for his Chyrurgeon; who hastening, found him lamenting his Misfortune, being redoubled from his Wive's Complaint, and pitifully condoling his case, in being neglected, for so much as he was now fully assur'd, that his Ribbs were broken.

Hereupon, for his farther satisfaction, he was again strictly research'd, and his indisposition more diligently enquir'd into; although nothing could give conjecture or suspicion of a Fracture: yet however, the discontented Patient would by no means rest satisfied till the Surgeon (contrary to his own honest intentions) had favour'd him in his opinion, that there might be a broken Rib, and by *Compress* and *Bandage* dress'd him up again: for his farther Security *Venæsection* was repeated, and a *Transmatick* decoction, with a *Pectoral Linctus* were prescrib'd; but from the second day that he was bound up, he grew well of his Conceipt, and soon after went about his Affairs.

By this we may be acquainted where a Man is minded to act a Knavish Part, how courtteously his Abuses are entertain'd by ignorant People; and indeed, if such a Practice as this be at all tolerable, it must be allow'd in such a case, where the Patient proves obstinate to the

Add

Advice of his Chyrurgeon, being resolv'd to pay for his own Folly, in augmenting the value of an inconsiderable Cure.

Indeed, it is abundant pity that a free and entire submission or condescension in the Patient to his Chyrurgeon's Honesty, should be so evilly requited as it is by too many of these only *Titular Bone-setters*, who are certainly some of the vilest, for their treacherous Practices on the People, of all other the spurious Pretenders to this worthy Art.

It's not unlikely to be objected, That I am too severe in my Censure of these men, who without question, in the diversity of Casualties happening in their way, must certainly at some times meet with real Fractures and Dislocations, and if then they were deficient in Judgment to manage one as well as the other, doubtless they would be decry'd for the most notorious Cheats, and wholly unable to keep up their Repute.

To this I reply, That as I doubt not but there are many Mischances of this nature, which in reality sometimes present with other Business to their Care, so I shall require no other (neither desire any better) Proof of their Indiscretion or want of Knowledge artificially to administer Relief; than to supervise their Proceedings with any Patient under such an Affliction.

Were I to give my Opinion, I must acknowledge, that I look upon that person's case to be very dangerous, if not desperate, who in order to his Cure hath apply'd himself to such an one as we are at present discoursing of; and my Reasons that he hath been still enabled in some measure to preserve his Credit with the World, are these: first of all, his slight and careless looking after a simple Strain or Contusion, after a pull and hawl or two, affirming, That it was a Fracture or Dislocation, and is now set to rights. The speedy Success, I say, attending such-like Operations, is one great cause that he hath been so wonderfully esteem'd by the beguiled, who can well enough wink at some few Failings now and then intervening. Furthermore, his Disappointments of this nature, if they are not more numerous than his successful Enterprizes, are look'd on by the Deluded to proceed from Causes extraordinary: or, where the case hath been so full of danger (though no more than a simple Fracture) that the Patient, in all likelihood, must have miscarried under any other the most able hand.

That the matter in debate will bear a Reflection of this nature, I shall now endeavour to demonstrate; and I think we may prove from Experience, that upon the reduction of a Bone, which hath been displac'd through a considerable force, whereby a defluxion is excited, and the part (till such Accidents which ensue, re-

mov'd)

mov'd) render'd unapt for motion. I say, that notwithstanding the said Bone hath been safely reduc'd, it is a very unlikely thing that the late suffering Member should so suddenly recover its wonted strength, or that it ought to be permitted so speedily to exercise its usual functions. I am very well assur'd, that if the business were positively so, as it is too often represented, notwithstanding the Patient's Endeavour to exert the utmost of his Strength, he would find to his sorrow, an inability, and that he was, for very great cause, debar'd the privilege of so hasty a Recovery.

I know it is a usual thing with many of these men, when they have perswaded the Patient that his Limb was luxated, but is now certainly, by their diligence and care, replac'd, to permit him presently to go about his business, without binding, keeping up, or any ways to favour the Limb so lately out of Joint; neither is he to regard the wearing of more than one Cerecloth (as they call it) and the use of a Five-shilling Pot of their infallible Oyntment, to finish the work.

There are many persons have thought much to be rationally treated and kept under a necessary confinement for such-like Accidents, because they have receiv'd information from their Neighbours, that far greater matters have been made light of under the care of a skilful Bone-setter.

When I was visiting a poor man in S——, for whom I had reduc'd a fractur'd Clavicle, it was thought a very dishonest Principle in me, because I forewarn'd him of using his lame Arm, or putting it on its wonted actions in almost three weeks time. I was much censur'd by his Sister, who stood by, and took upon her, from her own knowledge, to assure me, that *Bonesetters* were not so strict, yet much more successful: To confirm this, she told me a Story (I think it may be so thought) of her Husband, who had been some time before cured by Mr. T—— in a very little time; but what was most admirable, this man, on the same Limb, had his Coller-bone broken in three places, his Shoulder put out of Joynt, the two Bones below the Cubit, *viz.* the *Radius* and *Ulna*, were also fractur'd, and several of his Fingers wonderfully bruised by a violent force; yet notwithstanding all this, by the application of a sovereign Pultis, her Husband was compleatly well in little more than a fortnights time, although he could then, with much ease, raise an hundred weight a great height from the Ground with his broken Arm.

Where is there such an execrable piece of Impudence to be parallel'd, that dare thus impiously condemn the divine Mandates, and prophane even the Authority of Heaven itself?

It

It is the injurious Practice of these knavish Undertakers makes many Persons so unwilling to submit to a just and reasonable government of themselves under such-like Calamities; and it has been, I am certain, the ruine of some Thousands, who have been so impos'd on, still running from one to another, without redress of their Grievances, till at length (having undergone the greatest Misery) they have render'd themselves unpitied, and their Infirmities irrecoverable.

I question not but you have heard the Fame of some Country *Plow-jobbers*, who are so dextrous at the knack of Bone-setting, that where a poor man hath been brought to them ten or twenty miles, with his Knee or Ankle out of place, it hath been presently set for Two shillings or Half a crown, when dressing him up with a famous Plaster of *Paracelsus* or *Barbadoes-Tarr*, he is presently order'd to put forth his strength, and (if he can) to walk home, whereby, he is told, he may disperse and scatter those naughty Humours which would fall hereon.

'Tis such a like Rumor as this, that hath deceiv'd many, and some of them of good repute, who being blinded in their Judgments, have forsaken the most eminent Professors here in Town, and convey'd themselves twenty or thirty miles, to some noted *Bonesetter*, where when their Self-experience prompts them to a Repentance of their Folly in suffering them-

selves to be deluded, they have return'd in a much worse condition than they went : and I think it is the less severe, that incredulous men learn by their own Misfortunes to beware for the time to come. It is an ancient Saying,, *Exemplo alterius, &c.* — but truly, for the most part, another's Miseries will not caution us, that we fall not on the same, who are seldom so thoroughly satisfied, unless we taste of them ourselves.

Is it not a very great Argument of a frail Capacity, for us to think, that a Limb, by a very considerable force displac'd, and oftentimes as great a one us'd to restore it, whereby an unavoidable fluxion is stirr'd up, which produceth Pain, Tumor, and sometimes Inflammation,, attended with an *Ecchymosis*, or Sugillation of the Blood, oftentimes stagnating in the capillary Vessels and Interstices of the Muscles, if nothing worse occur? How unlikely, I say, is it that such a suffering Member as this should (till such Accidents are overcome) be safely permitted the liberty of its accustomed Use?

I would not be thought hereby to lay down such a Rule as should admit of no exception, for that I know where a light and trivial Accident hath concurr'd to the production of a Dislocation, in a Member predispos'd thereto by a relaxation of the Ligaments or otherwayss the danger is not so great, and the Patient (iminded to hazard a Relaxation) sooner capacitated for its use, upon a restitution: but where

the case happens otherwise, I am well satisfied, that the reposition of such a Dislocation, and removing its sometimes severe Attendants, is a work of much greater moment and concern, than we are tempted by the Stories of unlearned men to imagine.

Hence we would infer this kind of Bonesetter to be a deceitful person, as abusive as dangerous, and a very mischievous Intruder on the Profession of our Art.

That he is such as represented in this present Section, will want no other Proof than his constant Endeavours to possess People with a Belief of his Abilities for the Practice; and when they get the least mischance (whereby for the present they are in some measure disabled) his pretending by a feigned extension, and other juggling contrivances, to reduce what before he (falsly) affirm'd to be a Dislocation.

Thus I have heard of one of them, who when he came to a Patient, and had busied himself some time in an Extension of the Limb, at length cunningly turning off his Head near the part supposed for reduction, would make such an artificial noise by the grating of his Teeth, that the by-standers, and the Patient himself, were forward enough almost to swear they heard the disjoynted Bone (which was never out) knap into its place.

Let us take but a Survey of those Accidents which prove Luxations, and have been managed by the most famous Bonesetter, I am certain we shall find him more ignorant and dangerously robustick, more irrational, immethodical, unsafe, and far more tedious than a Chyrurgeon's Servant of but two years experience.

How many stiff and curved Members, what numbers of useless emaciated Legs and Arms proceeding from Dislocations, which have been affirmed (but were never) set, may we find at this day in *London*, being Fruits of the Undertakings of some presumptuous Bonesetter. And shall we still be so misguided in our Opinion, as to slight the Labours of the faithful Artift, whilst we confide in the Promise of one whom we account more worthy, only because he takes upon him no other business than the reducing of broken or disjoynted Members.

Having thus far hinted to you his Dealings, with reference to what he calls a Dislocation, I shall trouble you with a short account of his Behaviour where he meets with a Fractur'd Limb, at least where he takes upon him, right or wrong, so to affirm it; and these two, viz. a division or disjunction in the continuity of a Bone, call'd a Fracture, and a distortion of the Head thereof from its *Acetabulum*, nam'd commonly a Bone out of joint, are the principal or sole parts of his Employment.

His treating the former of these, is but little different, or varies not much from the method which he takes in looking after the other. 'Tis true, for the most part he reap more Profit and Repute from the one, inasmuch as a broken Limb is generally look'd on of greater moment, and the cure thereof more valuable than that of a Dislocation: so that where a Contusion on the Muscles, or a sudden wrench of their Tendons, passes under the denomination of a Fracture, and the Patient in a short time (as well he may) recover, you must conceive his Skill is then more highly extoll'd, and his Pay advanc'd.

But after all, if to discover the real Truth, we may be so inquisitive as to trace him where he hath been concern'd indeed, either with a broken or displac'd Member, and make our observations on the course of his Proceedings, we shall find him, I doubt not, so far short of the Knowledge requir'd in that difficult part of our Art, that it will be the least of Crimes to account him unworthy of his assumed Title, in comparison with the more able and experienc'd Chyrurgeon.

His Anatomical Judgment, that absolutely necessary Basis for this administration, is so very inconsiderable, that I have known some of them justly reprehended for their ridiculous Talk, by an indifferently well read *Mechanick*.

Com-

Comparing Man with other Animals, he presently concludes, that he also hath Bones in his Body; and therefore when the People get any hurt, there must forsooth presently happen a Fracture or Dislocation in one or other of them, which is nearest to the part complain'd on by the Patient: But if you raise an Argument (although no Critick) you find him no man for Discourse, unless you can bear the Burden of his Nonsense.

Ask him how differently Bones are conjoyned, which of them by *Articulation*, and which by *Symphisis*; the distinction between *Diarthro-sis* and *Synarthrosis*; the several ways of their connexion under these two Heads; ask him which he calls *Enarthrosis*, *Arthro-dia*, and what *Ginglymus*; enquire by how many several manners Bones are joyn'd by *Symphisis*; what he means by *Sutura*, *Harmonia*, *Gomphosis*; or what he understands by *Synchondrosis*, *Synneurosis*, *Syffarcosis*, or *Syntenosis*; I say, query but these things of this wonderful Operator, and (notwithstanding we must own them to be requisite appurtenances to the Study of the Art, in which no one can be unskill'd, if compleat in the Practice of Bone-setting) you shall gain as satisfactory Answers, as if to an Infant you were discoursing in some unknown Language.

How can it be suppos'd now that any one who is ignorant or unknowing after what manner, and by what means the several Bones of
Hu-

Humane Bodies are conjoyn'd, should be in a capacity the easiest way, the safest and most commodious, or indeed by any way to repose them, when by a Misfortune they are slipt from their proper places; is it not farthermore improbable, that such a person as perfectly knows not where the breach is made, whether any or not; if any, whether *transverse*, *oblique*, &c. or how to resist the Accidents which will ensue, and afterwards kindly to assist Nature in the generation of a *Callus*, or, in short, what a *Callus* means; is it not, I say, a Presumption to imagine, that a desir'd Success should attend such an abusiful Intruder's Undertakings?

We find it, I am sure, a very rare Case, to see either Leg, or Arm which have been fractur'd, and the reduction thereof attempted by a pretending Bonesetter, (if they have escap'd the tyranny of a *Gangreen* or *Sphacelus*, occasioned frequently from their immoderate bandage intercepting the Spirits, and retarding the circulation) without some or other indubitable mark of their Ignorance and Indiscretion, as a crooked Member from a common and simple Fracture, an ill-favour'd if not painful Protuberance, which might often have been prevented by Art, but will now, to their no small prejudice, shew they had a broken Limb all their life after.

This

This was the ill hap of a poor man, at that time of *L— W—*, who in the morning, having fractur'd both *Focils* of his Leg, was carried to a famous Bonesetter at the other end of the Town, who ignorantly girt him up with half a dozen pieces of a Hoopstick laid over a single Cloth, which had been spread with a sort of Paste, next to the bare Leg, and fasten'd with many circumvolutions of a narrow Filleting; afterwards ordering the poor wretch to be carried home a mile and half, where he was as negligently laid into his Bed, without *Pillow, Funks, Cradle*, or other defence from the incumbent Bed-cloaths.

Having lain thus whilst the Evening, in extremity of Pain, his Friends out of pity requested a speedy Visit from a neighbouring Chyrurgeon, who, with my self, coming to him, we found the Patient roaring after an hideous manner, and taking a view of the fractur'd Limb, could plainly perceive, above and below the Bandage, it was already vesicated, and tending to mortifie from the Foot upwards.

Having cut away, and otherways with much difficulty separated the Cloaths, which had been daub'd over with some very Emplastick Composition, we found the Splints, by a strict compression, had even buried themselves in the Flesh, and with abundance of pain and trouble could not be drawn away without excoriating the parts they lay upon.

When

When we had thus clear'd our way, (not having an *Elixivium* in readines) we order'd some common Spirit of Wine to be set over the Fire, whilst we snipp'd off the *Vesications*, impleet with a livid *Serum*, and laid down the Leg upon a soft and easie Pillow, where it was fomented with a sufficient number of warm *Stuphes*, and at length with a suitable Rowler dress'd him up, leaving the Limb in as easie a position as we could contrive. We contented our selves for this time with what had been done, not so much regarding the Fracture, till the more important danger of a mortification was taken off, which was in a few days afterwards, with all its threatening Symptoms remov'd, when taking a greater liberty in searching for the broken Bones, we perceiv'd a part of the *Tibia* almost ready to protrude it self, lying prominent a little above the *Maleolus Internus*. But finding that every little motion was extreemly painful, from the uneven surface of the fractur'd Bones molesting and irritating the Nervous Fibres; and being terribly perplex'd with the thoughts of a Reduction, he declar'd positively his dissent therefrom, begging for God's sake that we would desist from troubling him, but lay down his Leg without Plaister or Bandage, where it lay easie to him; for since the danger of its being mortified was over, he was certain in himself that the former Undertaker had placed the Bones right,

right, and that in a little time they would grow together.

Hereupon (finding him so very wise) we left him to his own management, having first given him to understand what he must trust to, if he persisted to believe that his Bone was set: Thus we parted. Whether or no the Bonesetter was afterwards sent for, to be inform'd of his Work, I know not, but have lately seen the Patient a meer emaciated Cripple, scarcely able to walk by the help of Crutches.

I could give you an account of many more Examples of this Nature, where the Practitioner hath been of near affinity with this so lately mention'd, and the practising Pretender some famous Bonesetter.

Indeed, a man shall rarely at this time peaceably and quietly discharge his Office without interruption; either we must be accounted unknowing in our Applications, because the Patient finds not presently his wonted Ease; or negligent, because we will not, neither can with safety open their Limbs every day or two; or, last of all, dishonest, intending to make a Prize of them, by keeping them so long in hand. All this befalls us from their consideration that so many People so speedily recover under the care of Bonesetters: whereas I have told you, every simple Contusion being by these men represented as a Fracture or Dislocation, the Patient may as safely be permitted

mitted to follow his business at a week or ten days end, as we can suffer one, who hath in reality receiv'd such a Mischance, in a month or six weeks time : and I think all such may be thankful to GOD and their Surgeon, that they escape so, especially if they consider how far worse it happens to some under such-like circumstances, when taken in hand by these unjust Practitioners in our Art, as in the preceding History.

Amidst the multitude of such as have most unworthily assum'd the Character of Bonesetting, it were almost an inexcusable omission, should we forget to number the deceased T——, but since it would be a petty kind of Impiety to trample on the Ashes of the Dead, I shall forbear all Reflections of my own, yet cannot pass by a remarkable Case given us by a late Author, where this person had been concern'd.

A Youth (saith he) of about Twelve years of age was seiz'd with a Pain in his right Hip, it encreasing with Tumefaction and great Lameness; the Parents suspecting it might be out of joynt, sent for T—— the Bonesetter, he declar'd it luxated, and pretended to set it, and dress'd it up his way : The Child continuing lame, they sent for him again; he assur'd them that he had set it, and that in time the Child would recover strength in it, and be well : But the Child growing daily more

' more pained, Chyrurgeons were consulted, and at
 ' last my self; I saw the head of the Os Fœmoris
 ' shot upwards, and a large Tumor possessing the
 ' Hip and parts about, under which there seem'd
 ' to be lodg'd Matter; there was also a long whitish
 ' Swelling stretching down the forepart of the Thigh;
 ' from the Groyn towards the Knee, within four
 ' Fingers breadth of it: the Tumor seem'd to be full
 ' of Matter, and to derive it self from the Hip, and
 ' that the Luxation had been made by Fluxion,
 ' and encreas'd by Extension. But however it was;
 ' the Bone was not capable of reduction, nor could I
 ' promise my self any Credit by my Endeavourss
 ' there; yet I comply'd with his Parents, resolving to
 ' serve them as well as I could, but desir'd that their
 ' Bonesetter might be first fetch'd to see his Work,
 ' I not thinking it safe to meddle in the Cure whilst
 ' he insisted, that the Bone was reduced: They sent
 ' often for him, but he did not come, till I acci-
 ' dentally met him at a Person of Honour's Lodgings,
 ' and by Threatnings brought him with me to the
 ' Child, where he acknowledg'd his Fault, and de-
 ' clar'd the Bone incapable of reduction; yet this fel-
 ' low went directly back to that Person of Honour,
 ' and upon demand where he had been, declar'd,
 ' That he had been with me to set my Patient's Hip,
 ' and that he had reduced it. This fellow's scurvy
 ' using me almost discourag'd me in the Undertaking,
 ' but after making a Presentation of it, I attempted
 ' the Cure, &c.

By

By this account you may perceive the base shifts and evasions these men are put upon oftentimes to raise their Credit.

I have seen great numbers of People, where I have been conversant, in reducing of Fractures and Dislocations, who when an opportunity hath presented, would very commonly affirm, That after a fortnights time, when their Limbs as (they were told) were broken, and had been set together by the said T——, they were as fit for the most weighty and stirring business as before in their whole life-time: A matter as unlikely as impossible; for if we consider that the division of these solid parts is not conjoyn'd by *Agglutination*, or immediate union, as in Wounds upon a fleshy part, but by interposition of the nutritious Particles, falling off from the little mouths of the ruptur'd Vessels, and other the Pores in the divided medullary parts of the Bone it self, which at the space of so short a time will be no more confirm'd than, like a Jelly or soft Wax, receiving any accidental impression, and for want of care, by a disorderly or irregular position, is the occasion of many crooked and deformed Members. This weighty Consideration doth infallibly and experimentally indicate, that where so early a liberty is given to move their Limbs, and no prejudice ensues from such a liberty, there was no Fracture or *Solution of Continuity* in the Bone.

I have strictly examin'd and searched some few, who have been deluded by these Pretences, but could never find (nor was it likely that I should) any bearing out of a fractur'd Bone, or other perceptible demonstration of a *Callus*, which must of necessity intervene, and is the most certain and permanent indication thereof.

I hope, by what has been said, there are sufficient Arguments given of the Ignorance of a *Bonesetter*: Indeed, the Name is a meer Bubble, or empty Title, wherewith unwary and imprudent People are ensnar'd, and oftentimes too dearly pay for their Experience.

One would imagine, if this worthy Art were so easily attain'd as might be conjectur'd from the Presumption of these men, there would be little occasion for us to put our selves to the charge of purchasing our Experience, under some eminent Practitioner, by a sedulous Study, and a tedious Service therein: nay, it might be not unreasonably thought, that we are fond of a Confinement, when we consider, that if a man have but confidence sufficient to avouch for himself, whether or no he be otherwise qualified, if he please hereupon, to take the Profession of a Surgeon upon him, he shall meet with the same welcome, and by many who have not try'd his Abilities be accounted as worthy as the best of us all. For confirmation

hereoff

hereof I will deliver to you on my own knowledge a remarkable instance.

A Weaver in *B—— street* coming home in the Evening much in drink, there arose a difference between him and his Wife, which grew to such a heighth, that he could bethink himself of no other Revenge, at least no better method, to avoid the Storm which was coming on him, than by hastening back again to his company, where he hoped to be at quiet. Hereupon going to the Door (which the good Woman had beforehand lock'd, resolving to keep him in) and finding himself unable to force his passage there, he fearlessly makes to the Window, and (although a Story high) leaps out thereat, but was receiv'd by the Ground with so unkind and rugged an embrace, as made him forcibly content to be carried up again a farther way than he came down, where by the help of his Neighbours, in great misery he was laid upon his Bed.

Being immediately call'd in to officiate for my Master; upon enquiry, I found, that by his Fall he had fractur'd the *Fibula* or *minor Focil* of his Leg; there was already a large Tumor and Extravasation; the Fracture was made obliquely, and the lower end of the Bone protuberating a little above the *Maleolus Externus*; however, with a little assistance I reduc'd it, and with a small Compress and Defensative dress'd him up, as usually in such cases, laying him in

as easie a position as I could, and ordering his Wife in looking after him to keep him still and quiet.

Thus I left him for that time, and return'd the next morning, when I found my Patient very sensible of his condition, and heartily sorry for his Indiscretion; there were all things safe, and not the least Symptom attending more than commonly intervenes. He promis'd to be rul'd, upon which I told him I did not question but when we came to open it, we should find all in good forwardness; and accordingly, on our first taking off the Dressings, the Leg was streight, without inequality or bearing out of the fractur'd Bone. He rested well from the first night, and so continued.

At the end of One and twenty days I took him out of Bed, and at the expiration of a month he set his Foot to the ground, from that time walking by the help of a Crutch, till a short time after that it was laid aside. And now the Tumor which fell upon his lame Leg, upon his first uprising seem'd wholly to be discuss'd, whereupon taking the liberty to walk abroad, and falling to his wonted course of drinking Brandy and strong Beer, he contracted so ill an habit of Body, that the Humours now abounding, for want of his accustomed labour, occasion'd a new defluxion on the broken Leg, with a small inflammation, and a very troublesome *Pruritus*, which was certainly caus'd from his ha-

having been for some time kept up to a spare and moderate Dyet, and now coming of a sudden to make use of a more strong and plentiful nourishment ; upon this he made his Complaint to us ; I told him the reason of it, and to prevent farther mischief, advis'd him to bleed and purge : he desir'd time to consider farther of it, and promis'd to return in two or three days ; but however it happen'd, we heard no more of him till about five or six weeks afterwards, when going by his House, I took the opportunity of calling on him, and was presently welcom'd by his Wife with the opprobrious Language of a dishonest and unskilful person ; she told me, that I had ruin'd her Husband, and that his Leg was very near to have been cut off since I had seen him ; that it was broken out all over ; and farther, that she had taken the Advice of three several Chyrurgeons, one of them being the King's general Surgeon, who told her, That these severe Symptoms were brought upon him by his broken Leg, which had never been well set.

I was very attentive to the Woman's Discourse, and did at first imagine it to be a Fiction or plausible Story, invented with a design to keep off the Demand of Satisfaction for his Cure, till being better inform'd of the business by others, I began to admire extremely, that any Artist (especially the King's Surgeon) should be so void of Knowledge.

well as Honesty, to impute this defluxion of sharp Humour upon the Leg to an ill reduction of the Fracture, which had been set and united by a confirm'd *Callus*, above a month before. I thought it very strange, that three such Practitioners as they were represented should be so far short of the Truth, and upon that account endeavour'd all I could to inform my self who they were; the first of these, I came soon after to understand, was a Barber in the Neighbourhood, whose Frame of Blood-Porringers, and his Cloth sew'd round with Teeth, were all that render'd him so eminent a Professor: the second who had been consulted was a practising Ap—— in S—— F——; this Person had forewarn'd the Patient, that he should not bleed, because the Weather was not warm enough; and for the same cause Purgation was interdicted. The last that had been advis'd with, I found to be an illegal, skulking, Sea Practitioner, who had wheedled himself into their good opinion, and by assuming the Epithet of a *Regius-Professor*, was look'd upon as an Oracle, and his Promises already little short of Performance. They thought they could do no less than give this sworded Gentleman his Fee in hand for his Visit; after which the Doctor took an occasion to withdraw and show them his backside, for they could never after hear what became of him.

These

These were the three famously qualified Operators, who had concurr'd in their Opinions, That the Bone was not rightly set, and that if they had not been consulted, the Leg must have been cut off.

I have been the larger in a rehearsal of all circumstances relating to this case, that I might more clearly investigate the whole truth of the matter, and give the plainer demonstration of the fraudulent Practises of such abusive Intruders on this noble Art.

I think the Case was here so evident, that nothing unless a Barber's Ignorance could have made, upon an excoriation, the most irrational prediction of an *Amputation*: what other Sur-venient might indeed have been expected, than that from the Patient's acquir'd *Chacochymy* he should be infested with so troublesome an Ulceration, which was no other than the effect of an acrid or sharp *Serum* in the Blood, more readily redounding on the weak Member than another part.

Who, unless such an imprudent practising Ap——, would have forbidden in this case *Phlebotomy*, with the repetition of appropriate *Catharticks*? or, what Novice other than an unexperienc'd Sea Practitioner would have advis'd the application of Digestives, to encrease the pain and fluxion, where when the acidity of the Blood had been corrected, there had needed nothing more than an anodyne *Epu-*

lotick to have perfected this mighty cure?

We may hereby inform our selves how inconsiderable a distinction the Commonalty make between a legal Artist and a spurious or false Pretender. They imagine (as we may reasonably think) that there is no other difference between a Barber's Pole, when his Window is beset with Porringers, and the Surgeon's Arms, than in some few degrees of a larger purchas'd Knowledge and acquir'd Experience; and therefore whilst the former calls himself a Barber-Surgeon, and will practise underhand, it may be for little or nothing, they are content to save themselves a present Penny, altho' it cost them a Pound hereafter; or to let this Person try Experiments upon their Bodies, in order for the future Employment of the Chyrurgeon. They can easily enough believe, for that the Ap—— sells them out his Balsams, Unguents, and Emplasters, he must certainly be acquainted with their true and proper Uses; and therefore, if he take upon him the Practise, they scruple not his Fidelity, his Judgment, nor his Honesty. But, above all, they seem the most willing to be impos'd on by the Pretence of a Sea Professor: if he be not altogether so arrogant as to take upon him the Title of the King's Surgeon in general, yet his large Experience on the Seas, his having been present in so many hundred Engagements, where he hath taken off mens Limbs by the dozen,

dozen, seldom eating a morsel till he hath whipp'd off a score Members; where the Bullets werewont to rattle like Hail about his Ears, some taking off his Wig, some piercing his Hat, and others (if you'll believe him) have almost touched his Heart, yet still, by his unbounded Knowledge in the Art of Healing, he remains alive: he hath sailed so many times into *Asia*, so many to *Arabia*, and as many to the farthest parts of *America*; or, if he please, to the outmost Borders of the Earth; has gone through so many several Hardships, and met with such miraculous Deliverances, as would make you shake and tremble at the recital: 'Tis this, I say, that renders him a man of great repute, and you must certainly admire to hear him tell what he underwent to purchase Experience in the Medicinal Art, or to render himself the more compleatly qualified for the Chyrurgick Practice.

SECT.

SECT. V.

AFTER all, as if this so worthy Profession had not suffer'd by these means a sufficient diminution in its Repute, or its honourable Professors had not been hereby enough degraded, we are not wanting of the utmost Endeavours of a *Petticoat Pretender*, to farther our present Ignominy and Contempt.

Were I speaking to any one of a discerning Judgment, I would argue nothing more against the Sufferance of a practising old Gentlewoman, than the single consideration of the divine Mystery of Healing, in the contemplative or theoretical part thereof, together with the great and intricate difficulty of its *Practice*, being wholly above the comprehension of a Woman's *Genius*, and vastly distant from the reach of a Feminine Capacity.

But since I expect to meet with opposition from some conceited pusillanimous Spirits, I shall, for a more general satisfaction, take the same course I have in the preceding Sections, and lay their too common Abuses open to the naked Eye, that so all may see (unless here and there one will remain blind, and think it a piece

piece of Modesty to blush at the reproach of their Grandams Skill in Surgery) with how great and scandalous Reflection on good Literature, I had almost said, on the Sence and Reason of all Englishmen, the Magistracy suffer such continual Delusions, practis'd by ignorant Women, in the Heart of their *Metropolis*, the City of *London*, where there are such prodigious numbers, who take upon them to practise both in Physick and Chyrurgery, that scarce a Street, Lane, Court, Alley, or other Building therein, which remains unfurnish'd.

If you get a Fall, you are no sooner up again, but advis'd to send for the *Cerecloth* of some infallible old Wife. If by accident you are wounded, and cannot manage it your self, you are presently recommended to a skilful Gentlewoman. Nay, if by ill Company you are drawn aside, and by an infected *Curtesan* happen to be clapp'd, you shall not walk far before you meet with some bawdy Doctress ready to entertain you, and administer to your Infirmities, be they never so obscene. Lastly, let your Business be as it will, unless very ghastly or ill-favour'd to look on, you need not question the Confidence of some Female Enterpriser thereof. So that it is very rare if a Chyrurgeon be now-adays consulted upon any business which comes not to him out of the wearied or tired hands, or which hath
not

not been nearly spoyl'd by the workmanship of a Woman.

(If you are minded to take a view of her Closet or Surgery, you may find the same set off with a multitude of confus'd Preparations with as many Glasses, Gallypots, Boxes, and Plasters: in the former she keeps *Blackcherry Bawm*, *Carduus*, *Mint*, and other Waters of her own distilling, which when mix'd up with a little Syrup of *Gilliflowers*, makes a Cordial to answer all Intentions. In her Gallypot she keeps her Oyntments and Balsams, the chief of which is that of *Lucatellus*, and her Oyntment of *Marshmallows*. In her Boxes are Pills and Spanish Flyes to draw Blisters, and by the help of a Pepper-corn, to make an Issue also. Her Plasters in common use are *Diachylon*, and *Melilot*, and upon extraordinary occasions *Papracelsus* and *Oxycroceum*, for those that will go to the price.

From the Furniture of her Closet we will conduct you to her Library, or the Fountain of her Knowledge; and first of all, (as deserving the chiefest place) we must not forget to mention N——s C——r, as well his *Midwifry* as his *English Physician*, which Book alone is the chief part of her Treasury; the rest, such as the *Good Wife made Doctress*, the *Woman's Counsellor*, and the *Plain Rules for Health*, with some other Receipt books, being more for the ornament of her Study than for real use. I had

al-

Almost forgot to tell you of those famous *Baths* and *Pultisses* (for you must conceive she neither approves of *Cataplasms* nor *Fomentations*) she is likewise Mistress of upon occasion.

Being thus accomplish'd, like an honest, grave, and discreet Matron, she sets about her Work, which is, first of all, if she meets with a green Wound, let it be where or in what part it will, to strow in her *Bole Armeny*, that the *Hæmorrhage* (if there be any) may be restrain'd. Now, if the forefaid flux proceed from some divided Capillary, it may chance to take effect, if not, the Patient must seek out for other help. Her next or second Intention is, to cram the Wound full of *Lucatellus Balsam*, and to apply a Cloth with some of the same daubed over it, and cover'd with a Woollen Clout, for you know it must be kept warm: and to talk to her of *Dossils*, *Pledgits*, *Compress*, and *Bandage*, you are told, they are the cramp words of *Conjurers* and *Chyrurgeons*, wherewith they amuse the People, intending to make a Cure of every Trifle, whilst she, good Woman, (meaning honestly) can do without.

This is the exact method of her Proceedings hitherto, being confirm'd to me by many (I may say) hundred Observations, where the Event hath been frequently the same, viz. the employing a Chyrurgeon to rectifie the mistake, and finish after a different manner

ner the desir'd Cure. What other indeed can be expected from such a treatment, where Wound hath been plaister'd up with the improper application of *Lucatellus's* fam'd *Balsam*, so mightily cry'd up by the People, for the principal Salve necessary in a Woman's Salvatory?

I will by the way take the liberty to inform you, that I see very little reason to admire the vulgar Use of this Composition neither did I ever find any other effect from its external application, than a *Slough* induced, which covers the bottom as well as lips of the Wound, whereby Digestion is retarded and by consequence a fluxion of Humour excited, begetting Pain, Tumor and Inflammation on the Parts about. How then is it likely that Union in a recent Wound by Conglutination, otherwise term'd the *first Intention*, should ever be procur'd, where the sides of the Solution are kept distended by this clogging Medicament; and there must at length be a necessity (protracting time) to heal it, as an Wound or Ulcer with loss of Substance, when by Sutures and Bandage, to retain them close; the same might have been attain'd in a third part of the time, with far less trouble and much more content to the Female Patient, by avoiding of a Scarr, which upon the Neck, Face, Breasts, or Arms of the fair Sex looks very unseemly.

It

It may here be query'd by some, how it should come to pass, that so many and (in their weak Opinion) such considerable Wounds, are often Cured by the alone application of this Wonderful Balsam.

I reply hereto, That were it convenient my single Judgment should take place, such an Effect is not so much to be imputed to a Vertue latent in the said Medicine, as to the *homogenous* or true and genuine *Crafts* of the Blood, by whose Balsamick quality I have heard of many large and seemingly dangerous Wounds (where no part of exquisite Sence hath been divided) which have been heal'd without any topick or outward administration, more than a slight covering bound about, to defend them from the Particles of the circumambient Air. And of this nature (unless I mistake) are many of those which by some fanciful men are suppos'd to be wrought by *Sympathy*.

I shall be wholly silent as to the good or bad effects of this Balsam, when exhibited internally, since by speaking thereto I might seem to impose on the Duty of a Physician; but I am well satisfied, that should we go about to debar our Female Practiser of this her most admirable Salve, she must wholly desist from further intermeddling in Chyrurgick Practice, there being a great number of them who have

no-

nothing more to support their ridiculous Pretences than a Gallypot or Box of *Lucatellus's* Balsam, and a Roll or two of *Paracelsus's* Plaister.

It should seem reasonable that I beg excuse if in the present Section I lay too great an imposition on the Patience of any judicious Person, more particularly on that of my Brother the Chyrurgick Reader. Although it be altogether unlikely to advantage him, who already knows the truth of what I shall deliver, yet it seem'd highly convenient for the benefit of many in this incredulous Age we live, for illuminating their Understandings, and removing of that Veil of Ignorance which hath beguil'd them, with a false prospect of our just and honest Intentions.

I should have had the less concern upon me, had I perceiv'd their Frauds to have taken place, and pass'd undiscover'd by no other than the inferiour Rabble-Profelites like themselves; but when I found that the Minds of a more understanding People, such of far greater Worth, Reputation, Credit, and sometimes Quality, were not exempt or freed from the same Mist of Ignorance, this Consideration gave me Grounds for the most profound amazement, as well as pity, and was indeed a great incitement to induce me to lay this Injection (not yet, that I know of, so fully perform'd by others) upon my self.

I shall

I shall not trouble the Reader with a rehearsal of many particulars; nor do I see occasion, where the general Rule of Practice is altogether preposterous.

Thus, against that Maxim of *Contraria contrariis*, in a recent Contusion, where a repellent Topick (as a Defensative) should take place, we find her tampering with hot Cerecloths or Pultisses, whereby a ready way is made for the Influx, and when the Tumor happens to be considerable, or the Extravasation large, there often succeeds an incommodious Suppuration or Inflammation, at best, a vexatious itching (the old Gentlewoman's sign of healing) heat and excoriation, accompanied with a very troublesome sence on the part so grieved.

It is not without cause that I am ready to think this to be a great occasion of our meeting with so many obstinate and perverse Humours attending an inconsiderable Wound, Ulcer, or Contusion, whose Descent hath been first invited by the improper application of hot Pultisses, Unguents, or Emplasters; so that we find that (which if then rationally treated) would have been little troublesome, now impossible to admit of healing, till the intemperies brought upon the part be carefully removed.

You will scarcely believe that a simple Herpes, exasperated by a Woman's improper application, should make such an inveterate improvement in its erosion, as not to admit a
I check

check under a fortnight's time: and it may seem as strange to you, that a bare solution of continuity on the superficial parts of the Body, where, 'tis probable, there hath been nothing more than the *Cuticle* and *Cutis* divided by the efficient cause, or that a meer Excoriation by the scratch of a Pin or Nail, should by improper Medicines (especially where there is a *salino-sulphureous* Dyscrasy of the Blood predominant) occasion three or four months trouble to overcome.

I was some years since desir'd to look upon a Woman, who from a trivial Accident suffer'd at that time under the formidable Symptoms of a putrid phagedenick Ulcer upon her Leg, so extremely corrosive, that in a little time it had spread it self to the compass of a hands breadth, and when the Sordes or Slough was thrown off, it expos'd the fore part of the *Tibia* denuded and carious.

I will not affirm, this arriv'd at first from an famous Doctress, her dressing the said Leg with an Ointment of Tobacco and Marshmallows, enwrapping the same about with a stiptick Plaister of *Paracelsus*; but I dare appeal to any discriminating Artist, whether any thing much better could be expected from such a treatment.

As I shall by no means seek to ingratiate myself into the favour of any anti prejudic'd Person, or such an one as may unreasonably bear

am

an aversion to the honourable Professors of our Art : so neither shall I require the admission of his Faith to any thing I have said, farther than the prevalency of right Reason will constrain, or beyond a confirmation of the Truth he may receive from those remarkable Instances which continually emerge.

Let him take but a serious view of the weekly Presentations made to those two sacred Sanctuaries for the Sick, I mean the Hospitals of *St. Thomas* and *St. Bartholomew*, or supervise those great numbers which are daily offer'd to the Undertakings of the more private Practitioners in our Art ; and after a free enquiry into their Distempers, with the former management thereof, he will, I doubt not, receive information, that the greater number of their Maladies (some of them by delay now grown incurable) had their foundation laid in, or took their original from the hands of some confidently-pretending Baggage, or other fair promising Female Undertaker.

Is it not a very usual thing for People to consult us about any troublesome Accident, being dissatisfied in their Doctress ; and we oftentimes find, where they have been deluded under the notion of a Sprain, that their Limbs have been obscurely broken, and a *Callus* (although deform'd for want of Art,) thrust forth, attended with the disadvantage of an ill-shap'd, crooked, and sometimes almost use-

less Member. The like may be said of Dislocations, which are by base unlearned Women treated for no other than simple Contusions, and so long neglected, that there is no hope of Remedy; which might at first, with as much facility as success, have been administred.

Indeed, it is much the same comparatively in all other cases where there has been admitted a Feminine Chyrurgick Operator, who if one undertaking succeed, although a score miscarry, that one proves a sufficient Basis for the light Fabrick of her Reputation. Nay, she being most commonly the proclaimer of her own Fame, you shall not want to hear the flying Stories of her Fortunes, whilst those of her unbounded Ignorance are buried in as deep a silence, and revive not otherwise than through the Courtesie of some sorrowful Mother, who is beholden to this famous Doctress for making of her Child a Martyr.

She is one, who if she finds you wavering in your Opinion of her Skill, or dissatisfied at her Proceedings, knows how to terrifie you from falling into the Chyrurgeon's hands, where you are to expect nothing less than the unspeakable Tyranny of *Probation*, *Incision*, and *Scarrification*; whereas she, like a tender-hearted Woman, makes use of no such Cruelty; she has none of those frightful Instruments to perplex and disquiet you, but is willing to cure you

you with her soveraign Balsam or Plaister, which she will admit you to take off and put on your self.

This is the pleasing Subterfuge of Ignorance, and a Bait very easily swallow'd down by inconsiderate People, not seldom to their destruction. 'Tis truly the main Objection, why many Persons are so fearful of the Chyrurgick Artist, *viz.* his severe and cruel usage to his Patients. Now therefore, that I may unriddle this great Mystery, and expose the whole Truth without reserve, thereby to see if the matter in debate be such as represented, we will thus argue: If thou shouldst at any time labour of an Infirmary, either Tumor, Wound, Ulcer, &c. whether may it be thought more reasonable to confide in him who is thoroughly experienc'd in the progress and event of each Distemper, which thy self and fellow-Creatures are all prone to, has had his abundant Knowledge therein confirm'd to him by his Education under some learned and ingenious Practitioner, and is himself continually conversant in such-like practical Observations? Hadst thou rather trust thy self in the hands of such, or in those of some senceless Petticoat Pretender, who hath no more Judgment in thy Distemper than thy self, neither more Authority to take upon her the Profession, than what she basely and most unjustly assumes? I can easily enough foresee what may be answer'd hereto, that you

the rather prefer a Woman, because she will not cut or make Incisions upon your Flesh; she hates those inhumane Cauteries or Searing Irons wherewith Chyrurgeons (who are sworn to make a Cure) perplex and disturb you, but will carefully endeavour, by her Ointments and precious Salves, without any Severity, to remove your Disorders.

To this I could reply, if there were occasion, that of the Poet,

————— *immedicabile vulnus,*
Ense recidendum —————

or, That a desperate Case requires as severe a Remedy: And whether or no the Disease be arriv'd at such a state, I think the able and knowing Artift the more competent Judge: so that it is not to be disputed, but where necessity calls for it, so rough and rigorous an administration is undeniably to be justified.

I do not go about to perswade, that this must be the result of every one's particular condition, since I would have all to understand that it is much beneath the Principle of any Christian Professor of our Art to exercise such seeming Cruelties upon his Patient, if he could otherways discharge the Duty of his Calling, or perform what is requir'd of him.

It

It seems most strange to me, and I think this may supply the place of a conclusive Argument, that an ignorant unlearned Woman's Judgment should surpass that of the most eminent Artist, or that she should in any probability be capable to relieve us, without such handling as we are frightened with, whilst he whose proper business it is, knows not to perform the same.

What an extream Folly carries some People into a resolute Belief (which they will not alter till they have render'd themselves Sufferers) that such an one as is unknowing in the cause of a Distemper, or what the same Distemper truly is, can make neither *Prognostick* nor *Diagnostick* thereof, neither can tell by what appropriate Remedies the same Distemper should be profligated, but hazardously prescribes her fortuitous Medicines, which for all her knowledge, may do more injury than good. That she (I say) should notwithstanding have found out a more easie and salubrious *Methodus Medendi*, than the more judicious and skilful Practitioner in the said Art.

I would sincerely advise those who are so wonderfully afraid of having their Flesh cut, (as the only Preservative therefrom) that they shun a pretending Doctress, one, who by her Ignorance gives too commonly the first occasion of such unavoidable proceedings, and indeed many times for that which is of higher

consequence than a small Incision (*viz.*) *Amputation*, or (to save their Lives) dismembering of a Limb.

If they would repair in time to the Fountain of true Knowledge and Understanding, they might find from their own experience, there would be no reason to apprehend such danger, or thus dismally to affright themselves, being secure under the industrious care of a tender and compassionate Artist: Or let the case be what it will, when you have been misguided and so long neglected your self, and at length repair to him, you may assure your self you will find no Surgeon so indiscreet as to undertake (without your free consent) any thing of a dubious consideration or event; if he finds your condition perilous, or full of danger, he proposeth the method he intends to proceed by, and which is absolutely necessary he should observe, if to your full satisfaction he discharge the Duty incumbent on him. If you dislike such his Proposal, you can but reflect upon his Caution, and blame your self for an unwillingness to submit thereto. Farther, if you cannot comply with such his intended course, yet will still put your self under his care, I am certain you will not find wanting (when he has forewarn'd you of the danger) the utmost of his Endeavours (which should, as I conceive, be much more prevalent than a Woman's)

man's) to restore and cure you without this painful and severe usage.

I could wish that every Patient would make choice of such an honest and able Professor of this Art as they might reasonably confide in, and then wholly, under the Supreme Power, to submit themselves (without dictating their own erroneous Sentiments) to his management, I would have them banish all those childish and fearful Apprehensions of his supposed Cruelty, and remain stedfast, in a firm belief, that he will act no otherwise by them than himself, if under such-like circumstances; or, that what he does is purely design'd for their recovery and well being.

It is but little short of a Miracle to me, that any one should imagine we can be so much delighted in (what they call) the persecution of our Neighbours, when we take upon us those troublesome operations of Incising, Cauterising, Amputating, &c. as to account the same for Pleasure or Diversion, which is no more than what we are prompted to from the urgent necessity of such miserable States and Accidents as require such performance.

Can they think, I wonder, that the clamorous Shrieks and Outcries of poor suffering Creatures are such grateful Concord or harmonious Melody, to make us fond thereof, if we knew to avoid it? Rather let me inform such who have been too subject to censure us in this
man-

manner, that every faithful Practitioner is at these times of distress an almost equal Sufferer with his Patient, as well by a deep concern for his Affliction, as on the account of that burthensome Care which then lies upon him, arising through the disturb'd Thoughts and Fears of a Miscarriage under his hands: Which are, I think, sufficient grounds for our Belief, that no man in his Senses would take upon him some very troublesome Operations in our Art, did not an indispensable necessity, with the conscientious discharge of his Duty, compel him to the same.

I doubt not in the least but many have suffer'd, and that in an extraordinary measure, through the Ignorance of some unlawful Practitioners in our Art, but I cannot think that any one, unless some stupid Atheist, who believes neither the Divine *Omniscience* nor *Omnipresence*, would dare the Divine Vengeance, by trying Conclusions and Experiments upon his fellow-Creature, whereby he might be endanger'd of either Limb or Life, or after any other manner wittingly torment his distressed Patient, farther than the urgency of his Case commands: and he who hath thus far follow'd the Rules of Art with a good and just intent, is undoubtedly to be justified, his Actions also to be accounted warrantable before GOD and Man.

I must

I must needs say I have so high an opinion of all that are known to my self, as to believe them in no wise guilty of such impiously degenerate and fordid Practice; and I am so far from censuring all others of this faculty, that I as little question but that every of them who are legally qualified for the Practice would scorn to act the same. Let me therefore advise all malevolent, mean spirited, and ill-principled Persons, who have unreasonably contributed to the disheartening and discouraging their Friends from being concern'd with the Chyrurgick Artist, (in his room preferring an Old Woman) that they desist from such their dangerous Perswasions, till they can bring a justifiable Accusation, to countenance what they endeavour to insinuate against us.

I might here, according to a more orderly proceeding, lay before you a *Scheme* of every individual Woman's Ignorance, and recite to you their Names and Places of residence, but truly considering the present state of affairs, where a feminine preheminance in Chyrurgery is made a kind of Disputation, and that the whole Nation sounds of their wonderful Atchievements; the former would be as troublesome as the latter without number. Since then it were no News to tell you of an Old Wife's Failings in her Pretences to the Practice, and as little strange to be inform'd where

where there lives such a famous Gentlewoman, who is turned *Doctress*, or other *Petticoat Undertaker*. Waving (I say) a rehearsal of such-like Fooleries, I shall come towards a conclusion of this my last Section, not forgetting first to acquaint you with the Transactions of a wonderful She Professor beyond L ——— B ——— who seldom intermeddles in any thing short of such difficult business, as hath been declar'd incurable by the most eminent of our City-Chyrurgeons, *viz.* *Cancers* and *Scrophulous Tumors*, which she seldom keeps under hand by any long delay, but for the most part makes a quick (though painful) dispatch, giving them a speedy deliverance out of all their Afflictions. 'Tis not the expiation of a publick Whipping, or any thing less than a capital Punishment, that can so far satisfy as to make compleat atonement, or restitution to the hands of Justice, for this bold Pretender's multiply'd Offences.

You will scarce believe those unheard of Rarities, found out by the Industry of this Person, such as the cure of a confirm'd Cancer upon the Tongue, by a Plaister of Earthworms, whereby the Patient (though before sick and weak) was with a little of her help enabled to take a Journey into the other World. Nor is it likely that you have heard who it was that the deceased Mr. W ——— courted as an *Assistant*, let me tell you then (as

(as it came from her)'twas the lately mention'd Gentlewoman who blaz'd it abroad for the encrease of her Fame, That this ingenious Artist proffer'd her One Hundred Pounds to take the Charge of his most difficult Practice. A very likely matter! that such a person as a *Serjeant-Surgeon*, who had accumulated the greatest Honours of his Profession, should at length make suit to a presumptuously-intruding Gossip, and proffer her a Stipend to be his *Coadjutrix*.

What will not Impudence leave unattempted, to purchase the empty Nothing of Popular Applause?

It was by such-like Insinuations that the 'foresaid Person wheedi'd her self into the good Opinion of a Gentleman who had been for some time afflicted with an Ulcerated Cancer, spreading it self from the *Coronal Suture* on one side, reaching over that part of the *Bregma* and *Os Temporis* to the *Mandible*. The Patient, not content with a palliation of this raging Malady, was induced (by a confident promise of Cure) to submit himself to her management, under whose hands he languish'd for some time, till he died a miserable Object, to forewarn the Unwary how they embrace the Poyson of a Woman's Speech, whilst they neglect and condemn the Counsel of the Legal Artist.

It would be too burthensome a Task to give a succinct or compleat Narrative of those gross Cheats and Abuses offer'd to the Inhabitantes of the City of *London*, by Women pretending to the Art of Surgery. The one professeth the Cure of sore apostemated Breasts, another for sore Eyes, a third for the *King's Evil*, a fourth for sore Legs, a fifth for Scalded Heads, a sixth for Cancers, and so of the rest; when at the same time making no manner of distinction in the Temperaments or Constitutions of Humane Bodies, but having purchas'd one particular Medicine, as a *Mercuriall* or *Vitriolick Water*, a famous Oyntment, Balsam, or Plaister; and either of these having casually prov'd successful, they confusedly ever after use the same upon all occasions, extolling them as the most soveraign Remedies yet known.

It is not long since I was discharg'd by a Gentlewoman, in order for the entertainment of a Woman, who undertook to cure the most inveterate Abscess, with no other application than a Cloth spread with equal parts of *Basilicon*, and an Oyntment of Marshmallows; But what was the consequence? When the Tumor suppurated, the discharge was left to Nature (for, you must know, it would have been a piece of Cruelty to have open'd it either

either by Caustick or Incision;) and the more fluid part of the Matter vented it self at a small Orifice, whence the residue subsiding, her Pain afresh encreas'd, and I was at length admitted to open it in the more depending part, by which means the same in a short time was perfectly healed.

'Tis most certain, where the *Pus* or *Quitture* has no commodious vent, it frequently falls down lower, and begets *Sinus's* or *Caverns*, which, for want of timely opening, especially where the Humour is corrosive, and the Bone near the same becomes carious, the hollownes in time growing Callous. And truly, for the most part, such kind of Work as this gives us the opportunity of meeting with so many incurable *Fistula's*, which oftentimes take their rise from an inconsiderable *Abscess*, whose Cavity was never open'd, or otherwise deterged, than by that base pernicious Practice of Injections.

I shall divert you (before I sum up all) with an account of somewhat of the like tendency with the last recited Case, out of Mr. *W*——'s Observations.

“ *Whilst*

“ Whilst I was dressing a Patient (saith the:
“ said Author) in a Citizen's House, I was
“ desir'd to look upon the Breast of the Gen-
“ tlewoman of the House: She had lately lain
“ in, and from abundance of Milk and ill
“ handling, her right Breast had been Aposte-
“ mated, and broken out in many holes. A
“ Woman famous in the City for dressing sore
“ Breasts was her Chyrurgeon. I had observ'd,
“ that the Breast had at first broke in the up-
“ per part, in a small Pin-hole, and the Matter
“ not having had sufficient discharge, had subsi-
“ ded, and so made the other Openings, and af-
“ terwards passed an inch lower than any of the
“ Openings, and could not be discharg'd other-
“ wise than as it filled up the Sinus, and ran
“ over, or was press'd from below upwards with
“ her Hand: By this means the Breast continued
“ inflam'd and apostemated, insomuch that it was
“ impossible to cure it by that method, till it had
“ apostemated the whole Breast.

“ I pitied the Patient, and wonder'd that
“ a Woman (so fam'd for such Cures) could
“ be so ignorant, and yet preserve her Credit
“ with that Sex. I shew'd the Patient the
“ Cause of her Pain, and the unlikelihood to
“ be suddenly cured by such a Chyrurgeon, and
“ prevailed with her to permit me to lay a
“ Caustick

“ *Caustick on the Depending Part ; and ha-*
“ *ving made an Eschar the compass of a*
“ *Threepence, open'd it, and gave vent to the*
“ *Matter, and left her a little Unguentum*
“ *Basilicon, by which she was Cured in few*
“ *Days.*

THE CONCLUSION.

I Have now discharg'd my self of what I thought an Obligation, by endeavouring to evidence the notorious Abuses arising from a sufferance of unallowable Practitioners in the Chyrurgick Art, which is so dark and obscure, so unintelligible in the Practick as well as Theorical part thereof, to the Judgment of every one, unless that of its Professors, that he who is minded to act a dishonest part, or play the Knave therein, shall carry on the most fraudulent Designs imperceptibly to the People, and so far, it's possible, from meeting with interruption, that it is no wonder if he be nobly rewarded, very honestly accounted, and as charitably thought of for so doing. Indeed, whilst this liberty is granted to every impertinent Intruder, who hath Con-
K fidence

fidence enough to carry on his Pretensions ; whilst their frequent Failings are so little heeded, their male Practice no ways minded, nor themselves in the least question'd, how qualified for the same ; whilst these, I say, are buried in silence, we must expect no other than a perpetual decay of Knowledge, a discouragement of Learned Men, and (let our Care otherways be never so great) must be incident to the greatest Calamities, occasion'd from so prejudicial and shameful a toleration.

Were either *Galen* or *Hippocrates* now living, to see this spurious Issue made so much of, their Pretences unquestion'd, their Abuses even countenanc'd, and they advanc'd, whilst their legitimate Offspring are degraded and disesteem'd ; were they inform'd of this worthy Rabble, who basely take upon them the exercise of our Art ; or did they know how every Water-flinging *Piss-prophet* boasts himself as great a Doctor as the most gradually-commenc'd Physician ; how the most contemptible Mechanics, such as *Tinkers, Coblers, &c.* not only make it a point of Controversie, but endeavour with all their might to monopolize the Art, and exclude the worthy Artist ; were these Worthy men in a capacity of inspecting these matters, we may suppose they would not a little wonder at the Age we live in, and grieve to behold our miserable Neglect, who suffer the most honourable of Arts to be ren-

render'd the most despicable, that Art which they themselves were not more painful and laborious to new model and compleat, than we are careless to support and prevent its final overthrow.

There is truly at this time so little care taken to correct and punish the Presumption of any illiterate Person, that if a man have but an Inclination thereto, though the most injudicious or unknowing, if he have Wit enough to hang out a Bloodporringer, to call himself a Barber-Surgeon, to set forth a Urinal or Scheme of the Celestial Houses, with any other *Hieroglyphick* of his Skill, he shall pass in the Crowd for the most learned Professor of Physick as well as Surgery. What is worse, let his Ignorance be as manifest as the Injustice of his Claim, he goes on unmolested, without danger of opposition.

I believe there are at this time some Thousands of false Practitioners in the City of London, besides those whom we more peculiarly entitle *Quacks* and *Mountebanks*; at least such as undertake to bleed, cut Issues, set broken and disjoynted Members, or to administer Physick, and the one half of these no other than ignorant and foolish Women, whose enormous Practice hath been one great cause, as well to lessen the number of its Inhabitants, as to bring the most ridiculous Contempt and Scandal on the best of Arts.

If you take a Prospect of the outparts of the Town, you would imagine there were a plenary Indulgence granted to all *Empiricks, Quacks, Barbers, Old Women*, and others, whom it shall please to take upon them the Profession of Chyrurgery; you will either think this Art the most easily attainable of all others, since a meer Pretence to the same will carry a man very far into the good Opinion of the People: or, last of all, you will find just reason to imagine this (formerly sublime) Profession is now become a kind of Sanctuary or Refuge for decay'd Tradesmen, who know not to live longer upon their own Employments.

' I remember, (saith an ancient Author)
' when I was at the Wars of Mutterell, in the
' time of the most famous King Henry the Eighth,
' there was a great Rabblement, that took upon
' them the Practice of Chyrurgery, such as Tin-
' kers, Sowgelders, Shoemenders, and the like ;
' this noble Sect perform'd such wondrous Cures,
' that they got to themselves a perpetual Name ;
' in two or three dressings they most commonly cu-
' red their Patients, making them whole and sound
' for ever.

When

‘ When the Duke of Norfolk, who was then
 ‘ General, understood how the People dy’d of in-
 ‘ considerable Wounds, he sent for me, and certain
 ‘ other Chyrurgeons, requiring us to make search
 ‘ how these men came by their Death, whether
 ‘ it were by the grievousness of their Wounds, or
 ‘ through want of Knowledge in the Undertakers.
 ‘ According to his Command, we made search
 ‘ throughout the Camp, and found many of these
 ‘ Good fellows, who took upon them the Titles of
 ‘ Chyrurgeons; not only so, but the Salary also:
 ‘ We enquir’d with whom they had been brought
 ‘ up; and they shamelessly would answer, With
 ‘ some Skilful Person or other, who was dead
 ‘ some time ago. We farther demanded to see
 ‘ what Medicines they had to Cure the Wounded;
 ‘ and they would readily shew us a Pot or Box
 ‘ which they had in a Budget, wherein was such
 ‘ Trumpery as was only fit to grease Horse-
 ‘ heels withal; others, who were Coblers and
 ‘ Tinkers, made use of Shoemakers-wax, and
 ‘ the Rust of old Pans, wherewith they compounded
 ‘ a Noble Salve, as they term’d it.

‘ In the end this worthy Rabble were commit-
 ‘ ted to the Marshalsea, and threatned by his
 ‘ Grace to be hang’d for their Wicked Deeds, ex-
 ‘ cept they would declare the Truth, what they
 ‘ were, and of what Occupations: They did finally
 ‘ confesse as I have declar’d to you before; upon
 K 3 which

*' which the Duke gave Commandment, That they
' should immediately avoid the Camp, upon pain
' of Death; and if after they appear'd there again,
' they should be hang'd as Murtherers.*

I could wish that the present Nobility of our Nation, with others the supreme Governours and Magistrates thereof, would imitate the Example of this eminent person, and take care to punish all such deceitful persons, who fall from their proper Employments, and most unjustly assume the Profession of Chyrurgery.

I am sure, if the publick Interest, or the Honour of the said Art were sought to be advanc'd, such a course would be taken, whereby insolent Pretenders might be silenc'd in their attempts, their Abuses prevented by their condign Punishment, and the People secur'd from suffering through Ignorance, in the management of their Distempers.

If we reflect on the Care and Industry of every private Tradesman, who is himself a Freeman, to discover any Stranger who hath unjustly encroach'd upon his Privilege, what a bustle and stir he makes to keep out Foreigners, never leaving nor desisting till for his own and his Company's good he hath routed and put them down. If (I say) we consider the Care taken about inferiour matters, where the
Con-

Contest is upon a small and frivolous occasion, what are we in the mean time to be accounted, who negligently dispense with those intolerable Impositions made by Strangers, Ignorants, and all others, upon the Practice of Chyrurgery, where the Debate is not upon a meer Livelihood, or the advancement of Trade, but here our Health, Limbs, and Lives are the Price of our Contention, and by permission hereof we are continually in danger of being Ruin'd in them all.

It was the Opinion of a Person very eminent in our Profession, that no one could be qualified for Practice, *Nisi in eadem educatus, exercitatusque fuit.* With how great Peril do we then (from his words) confide in these presumptuous Undertakers, who cannot subsist by the Income of their proper Occupations, and have nothing to set them off but their Impudence and a little Book-Knowledge, wherewith they amuse those who take them to be rightly accomplish'd Physicians and Chyrurgeons. They are so far from having been initiated under the Care of any Legal Practitioner, or so little exercised in the said Art, that their short Conference with some Confident Empirick or Quack (having thereby purchas'd one or two particular Medicines) is the whole Stock of their

Learning, as well as Grounds for such their pernicious Pretences.

I will however hope, that from the foregoing Observations the People may see what intolerable Mischiefs an unskilful Person may perpetrate, when countenanc'd the most illegally to practice in this Noble Art; and although I doubt not but many others have made the like Reflections upon the erroneous Actions of these Men, yet I may think, at least, that this publick manifestation of their Ignorance and Deceit, from the important urgency thereto, with the unavoidable necessity for the same, will the rather excite or spur on some generous Person (whose station will admit thereof) to perfect in some sence a regulation of these Abuses.

What indeed can we expect from the continuance of such a Sufferance, but that the Medicinal Profession (formerly held in so great repute and admiration) is not only likely to stand in competition with the most mercenary Employment, but that its genuine Professors, meeting with so great discouragement, may in time lay aside and neglect its farther improvement, to the no small diminution of all true and methodical Knowledge therein, and to the universal detriment thereby accrewing to the whole Nation.

If

If he who hath spent the greatest part of his Life hath been instructed by the ablest Master of the said Art, by a long and tedious Service therein, and constantly habituated to the study as well as practise thereof, all which he finds little enough to render himself capacitated. If, after all, such a Person as this shall be no better accounted than an *Upstart Empirick*, no farther rely'd on than a *Foreign Quack*, no more confided in than a *Practising Barber*, his Skill thought scarce equivalent to a *cheating* or *deluding Bonesetter's*, and himself in all respects, for his Art, little more esteem'd than a *Female Enterprizer*. If *Tinkers*, *Coblers*, *Heelmakers*, and *Butchers*, with the rest of this spurious and sordid Tribe, shall be as well rewarded as the most judicious and faithful Practitioner, what other Fate to attend can we imagine, unless that of the irreparable Confusion of this once famous Art?

How profitably a Regulation of these Disorders might be undertaken for the suppressing base Pretenders to Chyrurgick Practice, where the Concerns of Life it self are daily hazarded, would, I doubt not, soon appear with the Product of these great Advantages. First of all, the Unwary would be no longer misguided by the plausible Stories of the Ignorant, nor expos'd to the Miscarriages they
are

are now subjected to. Furthermore, the lawful Practitioner would not be molested or impeded in his Practice by these surreptitious *Quacksalvers*, whom we should quickly find dissolved into their pristine Employments: There would be no Toleration for any of them to enter themselves as *Cubbs* in an Hospital, hereupon to be accounted for rightly-constituted Chyrurgeons. No Tradesman would, with polluted Hands, intermeddle in the Medicinal Art, or any other of them presume upon this Privilege, if not only the Fear but the Effect of a just and reasonable Prosecution could be of sufficient force to reduce them into their proper Elements.

How might we rejoyce to see the presaging *Piss prophet* broke to pieces with his Urinal, and the Empirical, with the strouling *Bill-Doctor*, forced to take up some other Business, wherein it may be unlikely they should do that injury to the generality of Mankind?

Let those few, and some of them fatal, Instances I have given, caution all Persons how they confide in the Promises of any confident Undertaker: Let their frequent Failings be no longer wink'd at, but let every one who wishes well to the Publick use his utmost diligence, that these Abuses be as well reform'd as detected. It is not so trifling a
Con-

Concern as may be supposed, since the Lives of so many miserable Creatures are forfeited by our delay herein. And therefore, as we may read in Ancient Authors, what good and wholesome Laws were made to punish all such arrogant Persons, let us endeavour all we can that the same, or the like, may be in force, and put in execution against those who by their malevolent and slanderous Aspersions, together with their most detested Practises, have procur'd as much Mischief to the People as Contempt to Surgery, and its honourable Professors; the well-wishing to whose Prosperity will be but little available, till there be an Attempt made for the removal of those grand Impediments of their Lustre and Renown.

I think I cannot more pertinently finish what I have to say upon this Subject, than in the Words of one of our own Authors to this purpose.

*“ As you would that this Noble Art
“ should flourish, you must not be wanting
“ in your Endeavours to take away the Oc-
“ casions of its Prejudice and Disrepute;
“ neither yet to acknowledge your depen-
“ dance upon the Supreme Being, who hath
“ as*

“ as well created and appointed the Means
“ thou shalt think fit to use, as ordained
“ thee to be the Instrument of such his
“ Favour. Furthermore, be thou never wan-
“ ting to petition Heaven for Success upon
“ thy Chyrurgick Enterprizes, whereby the
“ Sick may be advantag’d, and an Eternity
“ of Comfort and Satisfaction procur’d to thy
“ self.

F I N I S.

as well created and appointed the Means
 thou shalt think fit to use, as ordained
 thee to be the Instrument of such his
 Favours. Furthermore, be thou never wan-
 ting to petition Heaven for Success upon
 thy Chyrurgick Enterprises, whereby the
 Sick may be advantag'd, and an Eternity
 of Comfort and Satisfaction present'd to thy
 self.

F I N I S.

