

A treatise of the nature and use of the bitter purging salt. Easily known from all counterfeits by its bitter taste / Written originally in Latin ... And now published in English, by Joseph Bridges. With animadversions of a late corrupt translation publish'd by Francis Moul.

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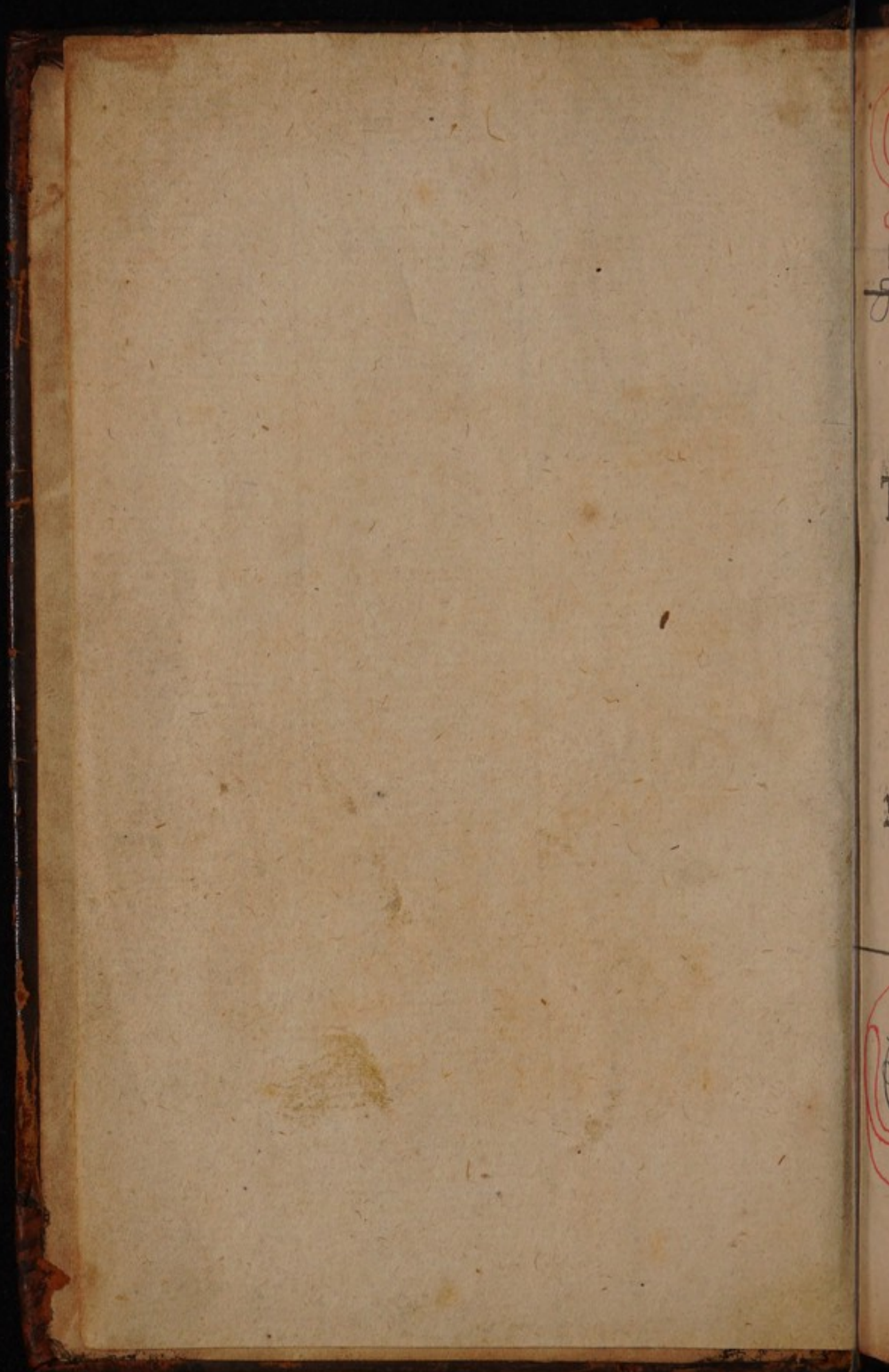


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John Arvon Thomas

December 24 1916

JOHN ARVON THOMAS,
LAANDDERFEL.

TREATISE

OF THE

Nature and Use

OF THE

Bitter Purgine Salt.

John Arvon Thomas

Liber hic cui Titulus,

*A Treatise of the Nature and Use of the
Bitter Purging Salt, &c. published in Eng-
lish, by Joseph Bridges, Doctor in Physick
With Animadversions, &c.*

Imprimatur,

Tho. Millington Præses.

Tho. Burwell

Rich. Torlesse

Will. Daves

Tho. Gill

}
}
}
}

Censores

Gloria in excelsis Deo

A
TREATISE
OF THE
NATURE and USE
OF THE
Bitter Purging Salt.

Easily known from all Counterfeits
by its Bitter Taste.

Written Originally in Latin,
By *Nehemiah Grew*, Dr. in Physick,
Fellow of the College of Physicians,
and of the Royal Society.

And now published in English,
By *Joseph Bridges*, Dr. in Physick.

With Animadversions on a late corrupt
Translation publish'd by *Francis Moul*,
Chymist.

L O N D O N,

Printed by *John Darby*, for *Walter Kettilby*, at the
Bishop's Head in *St. Paul's Church-yard*, 1697.

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TREATISE

NATURE and USE

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TO THE
READER.

THE Treatise here made English, gives us a numerous Consort of Experiments and Observations, in a small compass. And such as have answered the Author's end, by giving full Satisfaction in what he undertook to prove.

Those of the First Part we may see are his own entirely. Some of the Second himself recommends to the Reader, from the Practice of other Physicians as well as his own. But it's easy to observe his Property too, in many of these. And the Rules he hath given us for the Cure of some Diseases, may justly be looked upon as new to us.

And the good Use he knew might be made of these Observations, induced him to communicate them to the Publick: and not any Desire he had to make a noise (it is his own Expression) with a Chymical Knack. Tho all equal Judges own it, to be a happy Invention.

The Truth is, the Fineness and Cheapness to boot are such, that some, even Physicians, had believed, both to depend on some Material added to the Salt, did they not rely on the Author's Veracity, who assureth us to the contrary. And, to satisfy every one, he hath permitted me here to say, that he intends, e're long, to give an Account of the whole Process.

In the mean time, that the Publick might be supply'd, tho the Author could very well have trusted to the Skill and Honesty of some of our London-Chymists: yet doubting, whether they would take upon them the Care of so troublesome an Operation, he pitch'd upon another Person, a Citizen of London, well reputed, who being perfectly instructed herein, hath made it for some Years, in great Quantities, for the Shops, and for Physicians, for their private Use. There being no need at all,

all, that any should make or sell Counterfeits, for want of enough, as some have dishonestly, or ignorantly done, and no doubt continue to do.

Having said thus much of the Work it self; I must now acquaint the Reader with the Occasion of this Translation, viz. a most corrupt one, lately published by Francis Moul, Chymist: who hath been so hardy as to do this, the Author being now living, in the same City, and no Stranger to him; yet without having, or so much as desiring, either his Assistance or Consent. And whereas the Printer warily conceals his own Name; he the Publisher, the guiltier of the two, dareth to own the Libel, and to give notice of it in the London-Gazette. And in all this directly countervenes the Author's Intent, who, tho he hath given us all his other Works in English, yet composed this in Latin, to secure it to the Use of Experienced Physicians, and from the Hands of busy Quacks.

In doing this he were highly culpable, should we suppose his Translation to be exact. But what must we say, when he hath also presumed to publish one, so very corrupt and scandalous,

that, besides a multitude of lesser Faults, and frequent Nonsense, there is hardly a Page, excepting in the first Chapter, wherein there is not one or more egregious Falsifications?

The Reading of this scurvy Libel was that which first put me upon the Translation which I here present you withal; the Performance whereof was judged necessary upon sundry Accounts.

First, to vindicate the Honour, as of the Author, so of the College of Physicians, and of the Royal Society; both whose Approbations were given and prefixed to his Original. So that they are all equally liable to be misjudged, by the Readers of that Translation, as unfit to write or authorize a Book of this nature.

It was also necessary to disabuse the Readers of that Translation; who may either believe many things by him falsely affirmed, to be true; or finding them to be false, may suppose there is little Sincerity or solid Truth in any Books of this kind; but that Philosophy and Physick themselves are a mere Jingle.

And what is still of greater moment, that the Health and Lives of People should be secur'd,

The PREFACE. ix

cur'd, after he the said Translator hath exposed them unto so much Danger; both by misinterpreting of some Medicines and Rules prescribed by the Author, and omitting of those Cautions which ought to have been given to the English Reader.

The Cautions he knew not, or cared not to give, I have set down, where necessary, (chiefly in the Second Part) at the foot of the Page: Together with some few other Notes, wherewith, I suppose, the Reader will not be displeased.

I have also subjoined to the end of the Book, a Table of about an hundred of the late Translator's grosser Faults; that by these the Reader may see, he is but too truly accused.

I had also a further end, by rapping the Fingers of this Interloper, to teach others of the kind, to use, hereafter, a little more Justice and Manners.

The Approbations which were prefixed to the Author's Original, but by the late Translator suppress'd, I have inserted, as they were given, in the following Page.

Mart.

Mart. 27. 1695.

In Concilio Regiæ Societatis Londini, ad Scientiam Naturalem promovendam institutæ.

Liber, cui Titulus, *Tractatus de Salis Cathartici amari, in aquis Ebeshamen-
sibus, & hujusmodi aliis contenti, Naturâ &
Usu*; Authore *Nehemia Grew* Medicinæ
Doctore, Regiæ Societatis, & Regalis Col-
legii Medicorum *Londinensium* Socio: Im-
primatur à *S. Smith & B. Walford*, dictæ
Societatis Typographis.

Robertus Southwell, P. R. S.

Tractatum hunc, cui Titulus, *De Salis
Cathartici amari, in Aquis Ebeshamen-
sibus, & hujusmodi aliis contenti, Naturâ &
Usu*; Authore *Nehemia Grew, M. D.* Re-
galis Collegii Medicorum *Londinensium*, &
Regiæ Societatis Socio, dignum judicamus
qui imprimatur:

Datum ex Aedibus
Collegii nostri in
Comitiis Censo-
riis, Maii 3. 1695.

Johannes Lawson, Præses.
Samuel Collins,
Rich. Torless,
Edw. Tyson,
Mart. Lister, } Censores.

The

THE late Translator was not contented only to suppress the foregoing Approbations; but to make way for his own Epistle, he also feloniously conceals the Author's Address to the College of Physicians, and the Royal Society, both together; containing his Idea of the whole Treatise, and other Particulars, requisite to be made known to the Reader. It begins after the antient Form of Epistles in the Learned Languages, and is, in English, as follows.

To

To the Two Famous and Celebrated
SOCIETIES

OF

Royal Foundation,

As well that Instituted for the Advancement of
Natural Knowledg,

As the Other, especially for that of

Medicine,

NEHEMIAH GREW

Wisheth all Happiness.

I Present you, *most Excellent Sirs*, with the following *Treatise*, in two *Parts*. The *First* whereof, *Of the Nature of the Bitter Waters, and of their Salt*, I drew up long since, as a *short Paraphrase*

raphrase upon one *Title* of Nature, to be inserted into the *Pandeſts* of the *Materia Medica*, with your good liking.

The above-mention'd *Salt*, more than 15 Years paſt *, at a *Publick Meeting* of *Philosophers*, the Lord *Brouncker* being then *President*, was by me ſhewed to the *Board*.

Afterwards, ſome of You, my *Learned Brethren*, began to make it your ſelves, and alſo to preſcribe it in your *Practiſe*.

The latter Part, Of the *Uſe* of the *Waters* and of their *Salt*, required the Proof of many Years Experience; and my own, to be added unto Yours. Of what ſingular *Uſe* therefore, in many, and thoſe, great and dangerous *Difeaſes*, it is to be accounted; both You, my *Worthy Colleagues*, and my ſelf alſo, can give our united *Testimonies*. But whether I have promiſed any more than the *Medicine* will make good, I am content ſhould be referr'd to Your *Judgments* and unqueſtionable Experience herein. Its *Uſe* undoubtedly is of that large Extent, that as common *Salt* is the *Sauce* of moſt *Meats*, ſo this may not improperly be ſtiled, the *Seasoner* of *Medicine*.

In reckoning up the *Difeaſes* for which it is moſt effectual, I thought fit to mention ſome other Remedies, as apt *Aſſiſtants* herein. With
this

* Now near eighteen Years.

this Intent, that I might not seem, after the way of *Mountebanks*, to boast of some new-invented *All-heal*. Yet I have hardly any where set down an entire *Method of Cure*. Forasmuch as what I have here written is intended for the Use, not of young *Beginners*, but experienced *Physicians*, especially those who practise in *Places* remote from this *City*: Whom if I have shewed the *Virtues* of a *Medicine*, until now a Stranger to them; it will be believed, I have done a Work, as not to them unwelcome; so, not vainly intended for the *Publick Good*. And therefore also, as well as I could, what you your selves have wished should be done: Who envy not others your own Experience, nor aim at the *Monopoly*, but justly claim the *Custody* of *Natural Knowledg*, and of the *Health* of *Mankind*.

The

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PART the FIRST.
Of the NATURE of the Bitter
Purging SALT.

CHAP. I.

*Of the Means whereby the Bitter Purging
Waters came first to be commonly known.*

OF all the *Bitter Purging Waters*, those near to *Ebesham*, called *Epsom*, in the County of *Surrey*, were, about the year 1620, upon notice given of them by a Country Fellow, the first generally known.

For the first *Ten* years they were made use of only by some of the poor neighbouring People, externally, in washing their Old Sores.

Afterwards, the Lord *Dudley North*, Father to *Francis*, not long since Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of *England*, being of a Melancholick Constitution, and having formerly drank the *Spaw-Waters* in *Germany*; thence took the hint to try the virtue of these also near *Epsom*: hoping, I
B suppose,

suppose, that he had met with the like *Chalybeate* or *Iron * Waters*, here at Home.

But notwithstanding that, in this respect, they answer'd not his Wish and Expectation; yet he did not conclude he had tried them in vain, when he perceived they purg'd him, as a *Medicine* sent from *Heaven*, with much Relief.

By his *Example* many others were encouraged to try the Operation of these *Waters*. And among the first, the Illustrious Princess *Maria de Medices*, Mother to the Wife of King *Charles the First*; the Lord *George Goring* Earl of *Norwich*, and many other Persons of Quality.

These, and all others who drank of these *Wells*, frequented them not as yet for their *Pleasure*, but only for their *Health*; and therefore sent either for their *own*, or some other neighbouring *Physicians*, of whom they received *Directions* how to drink them.

Upon this, *Physicians* began to come to these *Wells* of their own accord; by whose Authority they became of so great account, that no less than *Two Thousand* People have met there in one day, to drink, or to divert themselves.

A

* *Chalybeate or Iron Waters*] The Author here complies with the Name in use, tho perhaps improper: for which I have heard him give this Reason, because we have no known way of making a volatile Vitriol, or Spirit of Iron; whereas the Spirit contained in these Waters is volatile in a high degree. So that we may rather suppose them to be impregnated with either a *Marchasite*, or some such Mineral as useth to be a Companion to Iron.

A while after, *viz.* about *Thirty* years past, many *Londoners*, not having *Time*, or *Money* enough, to spend at these *Wells*, procured the *Waters* to be sent them thence.

Which occasion some taking hold of, furnished themselves with great quantities, which they sold to *Apothecaries*, and those who were advis'd to drink them, as is also done to this day. The Reason why the *Wells* are less frequented by *Ailing* People now, than heretofore, not being because *Physicians* now a-days have a meaner Opinion of them, but because the number of those who drink the *Waters*, either at Home or at other *Wells*, daily encreaseth.

For not long after those near *Epsom* came to be generally known, divers others of the same nature being found out, either upon search or by chance, came into some Note and Use. The Names of the chief whereof I have hereunto subjoin'd.

At	{	<i>Barnet</i>	in	{	<i>Hartfordshire.</i>
		<i>North-Hall</i>			<i>Hartfordshire.</i>
		<i>Acton</i>			<i>Middlesex.</i>
		<i>Cobham</i>			<i>Surrey.</i>
		<i>Dulwich</i>			<i>Surrey.</i>
	{	<i>Stretham</i>		{	<i>Surrey.</i>

Besides these, the Curiosity of many being excited, may perhaps hereafter discover as many more yet unknown to us: especially with the help of this Indication, that *sweet Springs* commonly break forth about the *Tops* of Hills; but *These*, for the most part, at the *Bottom*.

C H A P. II.

Of the Nature of the Bitter Purging Waters.

THese *Waters* are indeed but moderately yet sensibly Bitter, but scarce of any other taste *.

Some, in the account they give us of their Travels, tell us of certain *bitter Springs* near *Syria* and *Egypt*. And *St. James* in his *General Epistle*, intimates as if *sweet* and *bitter Waters* were both equally known to People in the *Eastern Parts*. All which *bitter Waters* may possibly be of this kind.

These *Waters* are not all equally bitter or strong, but some of them work a little more than others: of the stronger sort are those of *Dulwich*, of the more gentle those of *Epsom*.

These *Waters* while in their own *Wells* are without Scent; but being kept cover'd in Vessels for some days, or weeks, especially in Summer, they will corrupt and stink; which sometimes happens to all others, even *Spring Waters* themselves, in Ships which sail near the Equator.

This *Water*, tho mixed with a small quantity of *Syrup of Violets*, yet no way alters its blew Colour; which thereupon remains the same as if it had been any other *Spring-Water*. But

* Scarce of any other Taste.] The Reader is to observe, that this is said of the *Waters*, not of the Salt hereafter described.

But a little *Water* impregnated with *unslackt Lime*, being added to this *Water*, it becomes, as if with a few drops of *Milk*, of a *blewish and semi-perspicuous gray*: and within about an hour, the coagulated parts, which cause that Colour, settle in the form of a *whitish Cloud*; produced by the union of the *Lixivial Salt of Lime* with that in the *Purging Waters*, which is *potentially Acid*.

All these *Purging Waters* will curdle *Milk*, if put to them when they boil, or are *boiling hot*; but not, if mixed *cold*.

Any of these *bitter Purging Waters* being evaporated, or steam'd away in a *Glass*, glazed, or other convenient *Vessel*, yieldeth both a certain *Cremor* at the top, and also a *Settling*; of both together about *six, eight or ten Drachms* out of every *Gallon* of *Water*.

This *Cremor* * is of an *Aspen Colour*, and in its whole substance *stony*, and seems to be of the nature of some sort of *Plaster*; but certainly not of the *Lime-stone*: For every one knows that *burnt Lime-stone*, upon pouring even cold *Water* upon it, grows very hot, and sends forth a great and thick steam; and being applied to any part of our *Body*, hath a burning Quality, and is there-

B 3

fore

* *This Cremor is —stony, and of the nature of some sort of Plaster.*] And I have seen *Stones* taken out of the *Ground*, where these *Purging Springs* arise, of this nature; some of them opacous, of the Colour of the *Lapis Judaicus*, and some of them transparent, but all of them glossy; and figured on one *Edg* with a sort of *Indenture*.

fore used by *Surgeons* as a *potential Caustick*. But the said *Cremor*, being in a Crucible equally burnt, neither produceth, upon the affusion of Water, any *steam*, nor grows *hot*, nor so much as in the least affecteth that most tender part, the *Tongue* it self.

Sometimes it consisteth (as that of *Atton-Water*) of most extream small and thin shining *Plates*, very friable or brittle, and altogether *tasteless*, tho burnt as aforesaid: yet upon the affusion of any *Acid Liquor*, and especially of *Spirit of Niter*, will cause an Ebullition with some seeming heat.

The lesser part of the *Sediment*, or *Settling*, is in substance the same with the *Cremor* now described; the rest is all *Salt*, but consisting of *two sorts*, the one a *Muriatick Salt*, the other that which is proper or peculiar to these *Waters*; the *Nature* and *Virtues* whereof I here intend to shew.

In *Epsom Water*, the *Muriatick Salt* is about a *twentieth part* of the *Saline Mixture*. In that of *Dulwich*, it is in a greater Proportion: and so in most of those above mentioned. 'Tis both in its *Acrimonious Taste*, and the *Figure* of its *Chrystals*, not unlike to *common Salt*: Whence it is that those *Waters* which have less of this *Salt* in them work off more gently.

The other *Salt* is that, as I have said, which is special or proper to the *Purging Waters*: 'Tis made

made in the same manner * as any *Lixivial Salt* viz. by *Evaporation*, *Filtration*, and *Crystallization*; *Calcination* only being omitted. In this *Preparation*, first the *Earthy* or *Plaistery* part is to be separated from the *Saline*, and then the *Muriatick Salt*, with the brown and dark *Liquor*, from that which is the proper *Salt* of the *Waters*.

C H A P. III.

Of the Nature of the Proper, that is, of the Bitter Salt of the Waters.

THis *Salt*, if perfectly prepared, is as beautifully *white* as the new fall'n *Snow*.

Undissolved, it hath the same *bitter Taste* as the *Waters* themselves, but in a much higher degree: and is also acuated with a certain *Pungency*, which is very penetrating, but without any *Acrimony*.

But if one *Drachm* of this *Salt*, or thereabout, be dissolved in a *Pint* of common *Water*, that is, in the same proportion as it hath to its own subterraneous *Water*; this *common Water*, as it hereby obtains the same property of curdling
B 4 Milk,

* *'Tis made in the same manner as any Lixivial Salt*] That is, in the same general way: and so I am well assured it is. But also that the particular way of *Evaporation*, *Filtration*, and *Crystallization* here used, is very different from that used in the making of any *Lixivial Salt*.

Milk, so is ennobled with the very same (almost simply) *bitter Taste* as the *Mineral Water* it self, and with the same *Purging Virtue*; and may therefore not unaptly be distinguished, both from that called *Sal mirabile*, made of *Oil of Vitriol* and *common Salt*, and from all other *Salts*, by the Name of the *Bitter Purging Salt*.

This *Bitter Purging Salt*, according as the Water wherein it resides is *more or less boiled*, and the *degree of Cold* whereto it is afterwards expos'd, and other *Circumstances*, shoots into *Chrystals* differently siz'd, but in *Figure*, whether small or great, much alike: For most of them, if they have room to shoot in, are so many small *Rectangular Prisms*, with *four Parallelogram Plains*; and, with two of them a little less and opposite, somewhat flattish. Sometimes they are *Sexangular*, with two more *Parallel Plains*; but those so very small as hardly to be discerned. About half an Inch in *length*, exceeding their *thickness* five, six, or seven times. Stand upon a crusty *Base* of the same *Salt*. Their *upper ends* much vary'd, with sometimes three, usually four *inclined or sloped Plains*, making *Obtuse Angles*, with the *Parallelograms* aforesaid, so as to be either *pointed*, or more often *edged*, like a *Chizel*: of which upper *Plains* there is a *Pentangular* or *Sexangular* one, commonly greater than all the other three put together: to this an opposite, which is *Quadrangular* or *Pentangular*; the other two *Triangular*, and very small, sometimes hardly discernable without a *Microscope*. These

These *Christsals*, in their being of a long *Figure*, come nearer to *Nitre* or Salt-Petre; and in being *Rectangular*, to common Salt, than to any other Species of Salt.

The same bitter *Purging Salt*, being dissolved in fair *Water*, and let to stand for some days in a Glass, it shoots round about the sides of the Glass into branched *Christsals*, in imitation of little *Shrubs*. For the producing of which *Figure*, the now described *Christsals* of this Salt, as also those of *Nitre*, (which ends sometimes with *Right Angles*, sometimes *Acute*) are made very fit, viz. by the application of the *sloped Plain* of one *Chrystal*, to the *parallel Plain* of another. In like manner as I have shewed

* the Generation of the *Leaves* of *Plants*, to be performed by their own *Salts*. Where, by the

* *Anat. of Plants*,
Book 4. Part 1.
Chap. the last.

way, it is to be noted, that in that *Discourse*, I have represented the *Figures* of *Nitre* and other *Salts*, not altogether as we see them shoot, but as it is probable, they exist in the *Plants* themselves.

Put five Drachms of the bitter *Purging Salt* into a Bottle, with half an ounce of fair *Water*, and shake them very well: with this Agitation alone, and the gentle Warmth of the Hand, even in Winter, the *Water* will quickly imbibe all the Salt, a few Grains excepted; this Salt being much more *dissoluble* than most other *Salts*.

'Tis also distinguish'd from all other *Salts* by its
specifick

specifick Gravity; that is, the *weight* hereof, compar'd with the *Bulk*. As it is heavier than *Alum*; so, much lighter than *common Salt*: and also than *Nitre*; as will appear hereafter in the 5th Chapter.

A Solution of this *Salt*, and another of *Salt* of *Tartar*, or of any other *Lixivial*, or *Urinous Salt* *, being mixed, produce a *white Coagulum*, or *Curd*; or a certain kind of *Neutral Salt*, tasted neither like the one, nor the other, but in some sort *Astringent*.

Oil of *Vitriol*, very strong, and newly made, being dropped upon this *Purging Salt*, causeth a moderate *Ebullition*. Whereby it appears to partake of an *Alcaline Principle* †, which is also capable of becoming in some sort *Lixivial*.

But no other *Liquor*, that I know of, whether *Alcaline* or *Acid*, being droped upon the said *Salt*, gives it any manner of *Motion* or *Heat*.

This *Salt* being put in a *Crucible*, into a pretty bright *Fire*, it melts or flows much after the manner of *Alum*, and huffs up into the form of a white, porous, and blubber'd *Calx*. Yet is this *Calx* almost wholly dissoluble in a sufficient quantity

* *Urinous Salt*] Such as the volatile *Salt* of *Harts-horn*, *Soot*, &c. † *An Alcaline Principle, capable of becoming in some sort Lixivial.*] Observe that these two are to be distinguished, viz. as the *Genus* is from the *Species*: For most *Lixivial Salts* are *Alcaline*; but there are many *Alcaline* (as *Testaceous Salts* actually existent in *Shells* unburnt) which are not *Lixivial*.

city of fair Water, excepting perhaps a *fortieth* part of the whole: But the *Lime-stone* is nothing so.

This same *Calx*, burnt in a Crucible, for an hour, in a good strong Fire, grows almost as hard as *Bastard Alabaster*. Neither doth it afterwards become softer, upon its being expos'd to the *Aer*: much less doth it crumble into Powder, after the manner of *burnt Lime-stone*.

By being thus burnt, although it loseth some part of its weight, yet not of its bitter Taste, which on the contrary, is hereby augmented *.

The same *Calx*, with *Spirit of Salt*, or other *Acid Liquor*, maketh an Ebullition more or less conspicuous, according to the Strength of the affused *Spirit*; and may therefore be accounted in some sort *Lixivial*.

A pound of this *Salt* being put into a *Coated Glass Retort*, and distill'd in a *Reverberating Furnace*, will afford in the *Receiver*, a little better than half a pound of a certain *Acid Spirit*, both in Scent and Taste somewhat like to the *Spirit of common Salt*.

Oil of Vitriol dropped upon *Spirit of common Salt*, causeth a kind of thick and fummy steam, which also happens from the same *Oil*, if very strong, when dropped upon the *Spirit* of the *Purging Salt*.

It

* *Its bitter Taste is hereby augmented*] Which shews the fixedness of its Principles, by the Union whereof the bitterness is produced.

It is very well known, that all Acidulated *Iron-Waters*, will turn *Purple* with the Infusion of a *Dyer's Gall*: As will also *White-wine Vinegar*, but of a duller Colour. But the same Infusion with the Spirit of the *Purging Salt*, though an *Acid*, yet makes no alteration: nor with Spirit of *Sulphur*, nor with Oil of *Vitriol*; whereby, as well as by fundry other ways, the different nature of these and other *Acids* is discover'd.

Having poured some *River-water* into eight Drinking-glasses, and given them all the same *blew* Colour with a few drops of *Syrup of Violets*, I let one of them stand without any thing else superadded. To another, I put a little *Nitre*. To a third, as much of the *bitter Purging Salt*. To a fourth, the Infusion of *Quick-lime* made with fair Water, commonly called *Lime-Water*. To a fifth, a *Solution* of the *Calx* of the *Purging Salt*. To a sixth, the Infusion of *white Tartar*. To a seventh, the *distill'd Spirit* of the *Purging Salt*. To the last, a little both of the *Calx* of the *Purging Salt*, and of *Lime-water*.

In the *three first*, the *blew* Colour remained without alteration, saving that it grew a little *paler*.

In the *fourth and fifth*, the said *Blew* was presently changed into a *Green*: but in the former, somewhat *muddy* and a little *paler*; in the latter, *deep and clear*, like that of an *Emerald*.

In the *sixth and seventh*, it turned *Purple*: but in the former, *dull*; in the other, like that of an *Amethyst*. The

The green Colour, which in the *fourth* and *fifth* vanished in the space of *three* hours ; in the *last*, as deeper and more permanent.

From this manifold *Experiment* we may observe, that *Nitre*, although upon deflagration, yields a *fixt*, and that a *Lixivial Salt* ; and by stillation an *Acid Spirit* : yet having neither a *lixivial* nor an *Acid Taste*, it gives the *Syrup* neither a green Colour nor a purple. And by parity of Reason, we may conclude the same of the bitter *Purging Salt* : that is to say, that it is compounded of some Parts *potentially Acid*, that, capable of becoming *Acid* ; and of others which are *Alcaline*, and also capable of becoming in some sort *Lixivial*.

And that it really consisteth of both the said principles, is evident from the *Acid Taste* of its spirit ; and the green Colour given to the *Syrup* by its *Calx*, in like manner as by *Lime-water* and other *Lixivial Liquors*.

And in the *last* Glass, the Colour is therefore deeper, and more permanent ; because it is produced by the joint efficacy (as Ink of two *Astringents*, so this) of two *Lixivial Salts*, both that of the *Cathartick*, and that of *Lime*.

And it is plain, that the *Being* of these *Salts*, and their *Force* in the changing of Colours, doth not wholly and altogether depend upon the Fire, because that the *Infusion* of white *Tartar*, gives the *Syrup* a purple Colour, as well as the *Spirit* of the *Purging Salt*.

Lastly,

Lastly, let it be noted, that I have called the *Alcaline Principle* of the *Purging Salt*, such an one as is capable of becoming, in some sort, *Lixivial* : For neither in the *Calx* it self of this *Salt* (as hath already been observed in this Chapter) is there any *Lixivial Taste*. Notwithstanding which, from the *Experiments* afore-related, the *Purging Salt* may be argu'd, before it hath felt the Fire, to be in part, *Alcaline* ; but when it is well *burnt*, to be in some sort *Lixivial* : albeit we may not so properly call it *Lixivial*, nor perhaps by any other *Name* which *Use* hath approved : For the Furniture of *Words* is in nothing more scanty *, than it is in *Philosophy* ; to wit, in that *Philosophy*, which, as the Handmaid of *Nature*, observeth her varieties every where admirable, with exactest Discrimination and Diligence.

* *The Furniture of words is in nothing more scanty, than it is in Philosophy.*] The occasion of many false Conceptions of things, entertained and defended by unthinking Men, who having no other Images of things, but such as answer to some word in use ; conclude the number of proper Words and of things to be the same.

C H A P. IV.

Of the Qualities whereby the Bitter Purging Salt differs from Alum, and from common Salt.

FROM the *Experiments* already brought, and next to be alleged, being thoroughly understood and compared *, it will appear that the *Bitter Purging Salt*, altho it hath some Qualities in common with other *Salts*, yet is truly, or specifically different from them all.

'Tis thought by most to be produced of some certain *Aluminous Mine*; but upon no good ground. For how can that be proved? Because it curdles Milk? 'Tis no proof at all. For by the same absurd Argument, *Vinegar, Wine, Ale*, and whatsoever else curdles Milk, would be proved to be *Aluminous*.

Nor yet because it huffs up and blubbers like *Alum* when it's melted. For as much as melted *Borax* huffs up in the same manner: but *Borax* doth not coagulate Milk, and so is not *Aluminous*; nei-

* From the *Experiments* — compared:] For tho some of them may seem to be of less moment, taken alone; yet none of them but is of necessary use, and to be jointly consider'd towards the Author's giving of full Satisfaction to the Reader in what he asserts; whom I have heard to say, That in Philosophy sometimes, a twopenny Experiment is of more value, than many of those pompous ones which glitter with Gold and Pearls.

neither therefore is the *bitter Purging Salt*.

Again, of an Ounce of *Alum* burnt in a Crucible for half an hour, there remains half an Ounce of *Calx*; to which *Calx* if you pour a sufficient quantity of fair *Water*, till it hath imbibed all the dissoluble parts, there will still lie at the bottom of the Vessel above *two and fifty Grains* of a simple and insipid *Earth*; which is more than *six* times as much as that which settles from the *Calx* of the *Purging Salt* dissolved in like manner.

Neither is the *Spirit* of *Alum*, distilled with a strong Fire, at all like the *Spirit* of the *Bitter Purging Salt*, as having a more *Acrimonious Taste*, and nothing so pleasant; besides that it strikes the Nose, which is specially to be observed, with a base *stinking Scent*, altogether like that of *true Spirit of Sulphur* *, which the *Germans* call *Gass Sulphuris*, or that of melted and flaming *Brimstone*.

Add hereto, that the *taste* of *Alum* is so different from that of the *Purging Salt*, that nothing can be more: For whereas that is not at all *bitter*, but plainly *rough* or *acerb*; this, without any *Acerbity*, is plainly *bitter*.

They are likewise distinguished by their very different *Figures*. For the *Chrystals* of *Alum*,
that

* *The True Spirit.*] Which cannot be made (as that commonly call'd the Spirit of Sulphur) by Distillation, but by placing flaming Brimstone and fair Water so together, that the Water may receive and imbibe the Steam of the Brimstone, which either is, or contains, the Gass or true Spirit.

that is the *factitious*, being in their *height* a little flat, are comprehended within eight Plains; two of which, that above and that below, are *Sexangular*, and *Parallel* one to another: the greater and lesser *Sides* of each of these Plains, being alternately composed, so as the *three greater* are opposite to the *three less*. About these stand six *Quadrangular Plains*, with their *Sides* and *Angles* both *unequal*; the greater and the less alternately sloped towards the Center of the *Crystal*. But how very unlike this *Figure* is to that of the *Crystals* of the *Purging Salt* before described, is visible enough by comparing them together.

Neither is there any better ground to account the *Purging Salt* a Species of *common Salt*; from which, being perfectly refin'd, it differs as much in *Taste*, as it doth from *Alum*.

As also in *Figure*; the *Crystals* of *common Salt* not shooting in *length*, but so as to come very near the *Figure*, yet a little below the *Altitude* of a *Cube* *.

Farther, the *Purging Salt* being put in a *Crucible*, into a strong Fire, it flies little more than half away, and that in an *invisible Steam*: but *common Salt* committed to the same Heat; as, when melted, it becomes much *more fluid*; so it evaporates in a *thick Steam* like to *Smoak*, hardly

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ly

* *A Cube.*] The *Crystals* of *Salt* produced by evaporating the *Water* of the *Salt-Sea* in *Judea*, are most of them exact *Cubes*.

ly an *eighteenth* part of the whole remaining * in the Crucible.

Neither (which may seem strange) doth the *Spirit of common Salt* curdle Milk, after the same manner, as doth the *Spirit of the Purging Salt*. I deny not indeed, but that the *Spirit of common Salt*, being poured, tho in a moderate quantity, upon Milk *unmixed* with any other Liquor, and when it *boils*, will make it curdle. Wherefore, not to conclude upon Uncertainties, I made the *Experiment* in the following manner.

To a *Pint* of boiling *River-Water* impregnated with a *Drachm* of the *Purging Salt*, I put *three or four Spoonfuls* of Milk, and so let the *Water* boil again; upon which the *Milk*, turn'd to a *Curd*, swam upon the top of the *Water*.

And so it did in like manner, upon mixing a *Drachm* of the *Spirit of the Purging Salt*, instead of the *Purging Salt*.

Lastly, Instead of the *Spirit of the Purging Salt*, I put the *Spirit of Common Salt* (rather stronger than the *Spirit* aforesaid) and then the *Milk* to the *Water*, both of them in the same *proportion* as before; and so let the *Water* boil again: which done, the *Milk* notwithstanding continu'd in its own natural *Fluidity*, without making any *Curd*.

C H A P.

* *Remaining.*] And that which doth remain is not Salt, but a true *Caput mortuum*, of a kind of Brick-colour, indissoluble in *Water*, and so without any Taste.

C H A P. V.

Of the Qualities whereby the Bitter Purging Salt differs from Nitre, and from the Salt of Lime.

N Or can we, for any better reason, look upon the *Bitter Purging Salt*, as a sort of *Nitre*; from which it were sufficiently distinguished, if only by its *bitter Taste*.

And no less by its *Figure*; the *Crystals* of *Nitre* being comprehended, not within *four Parallelogram Plains*, but always *six Plains*; not within *Right Angles*, but *Obtuse*. And because the *Tops* of these are terminated, scarce ever with *four*, commonly with *two*, often with *six sloped Plains*; and those more *equal* than in the *Purging Salt*.

Likewise, in that being cast into the Fire, it is no ways *inflammable*. Much less doth it spend it self in bright and sounding Flames, as *Nitre* doth, till it is almost consum'd. I say, *almost*; for I deny not, but in the *third Chapter* I have already intimated, that a very small part hereof (about a *twentieth*) after the Deflagration is ended, remaineth *Fixed*. Which yet is not at all *Nitrous*, but in *Taste*, and other *Qualities*, truly *Lixivial*; being that which they who make *Nitre*, mix with it out of *Wood-Ashes*.

Again, the *Purging Salt* being held in a Spoon

over the *flame of a Candle*, it melts within half the *Minute* of an Hour ; and huffs up with Blubbers in the same manner as if cast into the Fire. Whereas *Nitre*, with the same sort of heat, will hardly melt at all ; but requires at least an eight-fold space of Time, and a very bright Flame.

On the contrary, altho it is melted more difficultly, yet with much greater *Fluidity* ; for being placed, in a Crucible, in a good strong Fire, it doth not blubber as *Alum*, or as the *Purging Salt*, but like *Rosin*, or *Metal*, plainly flows.

Nitre also, melted in a Crucible, sends forth a thick and dark *Steam* : Whereof there is no appearance arising from the *Purging Salt*, tho with the most vehement heat.

They are moreover distinguished by the Property of curdling Milk. For half a Drachm of the *Purging Salt*, being put into half a Pint of boiling Milk, makes a considerable Curd, with a very thin *Whey* : But *Nitre* being added to Milk in the same manner, and in a much greater proportion, doth not curdle it at all.

The *Solubility* of *Nitre* is likewise less by three Degrees, than that I have before proved to belong to the *Purging Salt*. For half an Ounce of fair Water being well shaken, and assisted only with the Winter-warmth of the Hand, will dissolve no more than a Drachm and half of *Nitre*.

They are likewise different in weight, whereof I made the Experiment in manner following. I put Oil of Turpentine into a Cylandrick Glass, till it

it rose to the height of *three Inches* ; then putting into the same Glass, two Ounces of the *Purging Salt*, the *Oil* advanced to a *fourth Inch*. But the like quantity of pure *Nitre* being super-added, the *Oil* then ascended further, not more than *three quarters of an Inch*. Wherefore *Nitre* is heavier by one *fourth* * part, than the *Purging Salt*.

And yet *Water*, if impregnated with the *Purging Salt*, takes up less space (the *Bulk* of the *Salt* consider'd) than if with *Nitre*: That is, *Water*, being put into the Glass with these *Salts* instead of the *Oil* ; upon the dissolution of the former, it will subside or sink lower, than of the latter †.

Lastly, Let *Dantzick Vitriol*, *Sal Armoniac*, and instead of *Nitre*, the bitter *Purging Salt*, be mixed in the same proportion, and distill'd in the same manner as is done for the making of *Aqua Regia*. If then the *Purging Salt* were a sort of *Nitre*, the *Water* distill'd from the said Mixture would dissolve *Gold* as well as the *Aqua Regia*. But we find no such *Gold-dissolving Power* in this *Water*.

Much less is it the *Nitre* of the *Antients* : For neither is it that *Egyptian* kind, so often mentioned

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* By one fourth Part] That is, three times the bulk of *Nitre*, makes equal weight with four times the bulk of the *Purging Salt*. † The Reader cannot so well understand this Experiment, except he have recourse to that Lecture, which the Author read some years since before the Royal Society, of the Solution of Salts in Water.

tioned by *Hippocrates*; nor that, not unlike it, described both by *Dioscorides* and *Pliny*, to be purple, and of an *Acrimonious Taste*; nor yet that which *Aetius* prescribes, as if a *Bole*, to be burnt and quenched in Wine.

Neither in the last place, can it be properly entituled, a *Limy Salt*: For the *Purging Salt*, or the *Purging Water* it self, put to Milk, makes a much harder *Curd*, and more plentiful than *Lime-water*, that is, the *Infusion of burnt Lime*. And what if it were produced by both alike? How many *Liquors* aforementioned curdle Milk, which are no more *Limy*, than they are *Aluminous*?

Spirit of Nitre dropped upon the *Cremor* on the top of *Lime-Water*, or even upon *Lime-Stone* when unburnt, maketh a conspicuous *Ebullition*. But the *Purging Salt* is with this *Spirit*, not at all affected.

There is no where found two more differing *Tastes* than those of the *Purging Salt*, and of *Lime-Water*; this being *Lixivial* and Sweet, that in a manner Cold and Bitter.

Lime-Stone burnt and unslack'd, being sprinkled with a little *Water*, presently crumbles into Poudre. On the contrary, the pouderd *Calx* of the *Purging Salt*, immediately becomes a hardish Substance, and continues for some minutes almost like a Stone.

The *Spring-Water* near *London*, notify'd by the Image of the *Holy Lamb*, and commonly called

led *Lambs-Conduit-Water*; by pouring upon it a little *Lime-water*, presently grows whitish, with a kind of grey *Coagulum*, as doth the *Purging Water*. But *Water* impregnated with the *Calx* of the *Purging Salt*, maketh the said *Lambs-Conduit-Water* nothing muddy, nor colour'd, but it continues altogether as *clear*, as when it was unmixed.

Fair *Water* being impregnated with the bitter *Purging Salt*, and then evaporated, yields the same *Salt* again in Quantity and Quality, most entire. Contrariwise, the *Salt* of *Lime-Water*, evaporated in the same manner, is wholly turned into a *tasteless* and *stony* Substance †: The Cause whereof is, for that the *Salt* of the *Lime-Water* is so far agreeable, and throughly united to some

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other

† *The Salt of Lime is turned into a tasteless and stony Substance.*] From which Experiment may be made this Remark, That the reason why Mortar is so good a Cement, is because the Salt contained in the Lime, not being dissolved like other Salts, but hardned and really petrifi'd by the *Aer*, becomes the Cement of the other parts of the Lime, whereby the whole Mass is in time converted again into a Stone. And that probably the Mortar which the Romans us'd, was harder than that we commonly meet with now adays; either because they made it of such Lime as had a greater plenty of this Salt, or by burning it otherwise than is now usual, the Salt was laid more open to the *Aer*; or else by pouring upon unslack'd Lime, not common Water, as is now always done, but *Lime-Water*; whereby the Salt, bearing a greater proportion to the Earth, the whole Mass might acquire a greater Hardness, and in a less time. 'Twere easy to be tri'd.

other *Aerial Salt*, as therewith to constitute a *third* sort of Body different from them both. In like manner, as of the best *Oils* of *Vitriol*, and of *Anise-seeds*, mixed together, is produced a *Rosin*, properly so called, and if washed, altogether *tasteless*.

The Proof whereof we may also make by the following *Experiment*. Let some *Lime-Water* be kept a Week, or longer, both in a corked Bottle, and in an open Vessel: In the Bottle the top of the Water remains naked; but in the open Vessel, where the *Air* hath a free access to the *Water*, it is covered with a *Cremor* insipid, and stony, properly so called.

But *Water* in which the *Purging Salt* is dissolved, being committed to the *Aer* for many days in an open Vessel, affords not a Jot of the said stony *Cremor*; nor is that *Cremor* produced upon boiling the *Purging Waters*, at all of a *Limy* Nature, as is before proved.

Add hereto the extream difference in the *solubility* of these two *Salts*: For *half an Ounce* of the *Purging Salt*, without any Heat or much shaking, is easily and presently dissolved in *two Ounces* of fair Water: Whereas *half an Ounce* of the *Salt* contained in *Quick-Lime*, requires, to imbibe it all, no less than two Gallons and half of fair Water; that is, *three hundred and twenty Ounces*, or a hundred and sixty times as much Water as the former. For so much fair *Water* is necessary to the Edulcoration of an *Ounce* of
Quick-

Quick-Lime: which being done, there remains about *half an Ounce* of a most light and insipid *Calx* in the bottom of the Vessel.

To conclude, the *bitter Purging Salt*, were very eminently distinguished from all other *Salts*, if no other way than by its *Medicinal Virtue*; as in the *Second Part* of this *Treatise*, concerning its *Use*, will plainly appear.

In the mean time we will suppose that some small Portion both of *Nitre* and *common Salt*, and also of *Plaister*, may sometimes be mixed, not only with the *Purging Waters*, but with the *Purging Salt* it self. And what then? when it is probable, that in all Nature there is no where to be found a Body absolutely *simple*. Who knows not that *Silver* is mixed with *Lead*, or *Copper*, *Gold* with *Silver*, in the same *Mine*, *Vein*, or even *Lump* of *Ore*? Yet *Silver* and *Copper*, or *Silver* and *Gold*, do not therein constitute a *third Metal*; but are two or more, coexistent, yet separable *Metals*.

Nor moreover is the *Identity* of Bodies sufficiently defin'd, by their agreement in some *Qualities*: For so *Lead* and *Gold* do agree; both of them are Bodies *hard*, *opacous*, *malleable*, *meltable*, *heavy*, &c. and are both therefore *Metals*. But nothing is *Gold*, which hath not all the *Qualities* of *Gold*. Yet *Gold* differs not in more, or more eminent respects, from *Lead*, than doth the *bitter Purging Salt* from all the *Salts* aforementioned: And is therefore a very noble Salt of a distinct kind.

C H A P.

C H A P. VI.

Some further Observations of the Nature of the Bitter Purging Salt.

OF the specifying *Qualities* of this *Salt* afore-described, one of the principal is, its meanly and almost simply *bitter Taste*; with respect to which, the *Crystals* of *Silver*, of all other *Salts* that I know of, come the nearest. For these are indeed *bitter*; but also in a high degree: and the *bitter* is also joined with the greatest *Austerity*.

*In the Second Discourse of Mixture.

I have elsewhere * observed, That the *Lapis Calaminaris*, and *Silver*, have some *Qualities* common to them both. I dropped therefore upon this *Stone* a little *Spirit* of *Nitre*; and after the *Ebullition* thereupon arising was over, I diluted the *Mixture* with fair *Water*. This *Water*, like the *Crystals* of *Silver*, is not only rough in the highest degree †, but very *bitter*. The only *Mineral* that I know of, endued with a *bitter Taste*, except the *Salt* of *Silver*, and the *Purging Salt*.

But whether the *Purging Salt* is the product of any perfect or imperfect *Silver-Mine*, or any to

† *Rough in the highest degree*] As in all likelihood, it also becomes in the *Stomach* and *Bowels*; when it there meets with some fretting *Acid*: And thereby sometimes proves a potent *Astringent* in *Diarrhæas* thence arising.

to which the *Lapis Calaminaris* is of kin, or rather of some other ; not having as yet been able to get the *Mother-Mineral* hereof, I leave undetermined.

However, from the foresaid *Experiments*, thus much is evident, That the *Bitter Purging Salt* is compounded of such certain Parts as are *Potentially Acid*, that is, capable of becoming *Acid*, and of others which are *Alcaline* ; and that these are such as are also capable of becoming, in some sort, *Lixivial*.

Now in *Salts* compounded of divers *Principles*, the *Proportion*, *Nature* and *Union* of the *Principles* are to be consider'd. There seem to be some *Acid* Particles mixed even with *Lixivial Salts* ; but in a small Quantity. On the contrary, in *Tartar*, that is, the *Salt of Wine*, there is a less quantity of those parts which are *Potentially Salt* ; but of the *Acid* a far greater. And in much a like manner in the *Bitter Purging Salt*. With this difference, that in the former, such Parts as are *actually Acid*, are mixed with the *Alcaline* ; in the latter, such only as are *potentially Acid*.

Again, all *Salts* made of *Lees* are *Acrimonious*. But those commonly called *Testaceous*, are, not without ground, accounted more *mild* : As are also some *Acid* Liquors above others, as the Juice of *Wood-Sorrel*, an Infusion of *Cremor Tartari*, and the like. All which are excell'd, in Lenity, by the *Purging Salt*. Which, tho upon Distillation, it yields an *Acid Spirit* ; yet there is nothing of
Acri-

Acrimony, or *Acidity*, to be perceived in the *Salt* it self; but only in its *Principles*, when *sever'd* and defiled with a most vehement Fire.

Neither is this *Salt* of a *Flat Taste*; but extream subtil and *penetrating*; and upon that score, is the more effectual Remedy. And its admirable *Subtilty* hereby further appears, in that penetrating all manner of Earthen Vessels, if not very well Leaded or Glaz'd, it gathers all over their outsides in a sort of *Pile* like that of the *Amianthus* or *Thrum-Stone* *.

The *Principles* also of this *Salt*, are much more inseparably mixed, than in *Tartar*, and many other *Medicines*. Their Union being so close and inward, that the one, *viz.* that which is *Potentially Acid*, seems not, tho with a *Reverberating* Fire, by very much more than one half, to be parted from the other. Whence it is, that whereas all other gentle *Catharticks*, do many times deceive the *Physician*; this *Salt*, never fails to purge. For of all *Medicines*, those act upon the *Humours* of the *Body* with the greatest certainty, which by the force of the *Humours* are least alterable. Of which number, the said *Salt* and other *Minerals* are to be accounted.

Lastly, this *Salt*, altho compounded of divers *Principles*, yet is it, if duly prepared, very pure; so as not to be alloy'd with the thousandth part of

* In a sort of *Pile*, like that of the *Amianthus*.] As also many other *Salts* do, when they shoot not under Water, but in the *Aer*, and so under the Government of some Aerial Salt.

of any sort of Body which is a stranger to it. For if you evaporate some *distill'd Water* impregnated with an Ounce of this *Salt*; it will yield not one Grain of any Heterogeneous *Salt*, nor of the *stony Sediment*, nor of the like *Cremor*; but the same Ounce of a most pure *Purging Salt*.

PART the SECOND.
Of the USE of the Bitter
Purging SALT.

CHAP. I.

*The Use of the Bitter Purging Salt,
more generally consider'd.*

THe Use of the *Purging Waters* near *Epsom*, and others of the same kind, is so great and manifold, and so well known to our *London Physicians* of any standing and practice, that they who make a doubt of it, are hardly to be allow'd the hearing. They are experienced to be a very effectual *Remedy* in fundry great *Diseases*, without the
con-

conjunction of any untoward *Quality*, and whereof, if duly prescribed, the *Patient* is never surprized with any *ill Effect*.

One thing, and that with some shew of Reason, perhaps may be objected; That these *Waters* afford a *stony Cremor* upon boiling. Whence it may be doubted, whether they may not also afford some Matter apt for the breeding of a *Stone* in *Humane Bodies*.

But this *Objection* is contrary to all *Experience*; as well that whereof I have before given an account, as that we have in the daily Practice of *Physick*. For by what hath been said, it appears, That this kind of *stony Cremor* gathers at the top, neither of the *Purging Waters*, nor of *Lime-Water* it self, unless it be exposed, in an open Vessel, to the *Air*. And therefore also, that no *stony Matter* is bred of these *Waters* in a Man's Body.

But is not the *Aer* mixed with the *Humours* of a Man's Body? Be it so: and so it is likewise with all *Water*; as is certain from *Experiments* made in the *Aer-Pump*. Yet that which would never have any *Lapidifick* power, were it not assisted with a free Influx of the External *Aer*. Besides that, the *Aer* passes not into a Man's Body, without being strain'd.

And as to Practical *Experience*, there are some known not only to my self, but to other *Physicians*, who albeit they have drunk the said *Purging Waters* plentifully, and many days together,
for

ere- for *Twenty* or *Thirty* Years; yet have always
 fur- been free from the *Gout* and *Stone*, either in the
 Rea- *Kidneys* or *Bladder*; and are in perfect Health at
 Wa- his present Time. And the Lord *North* before
 nce- mention'd, who drank of those both at *Epsom*
 also and *Barnet*, lived free of the said *Diseases* to the
 of a Age of *Eighty five*.

I add further, That *Lime-water* it self, which
 upon the access of the *Aer* to it, presently breeds
 a *stony Cremor*, is yet frequently, and very safe-
 ly prescribed by *Physicians*.

And our *Londoners* constantly make use of
Lime-Water for the refining of *Sugar*. By means
 whereof, the *Malasses* are more easily separated
 from the *Crystallized* or *Candied* Part, which
 thereupon becomes perfectly pure and white.

But if the *Purging Water* it self is to be looked
 upon as an excellent *Medicine*, how much rather
 the *Salt* which is made of it? For that which
 is objected against the Use of the *Water*, should
 it for Argument sake be granted; yet is of no
 force against the Use of the *Salt*, as being depu-
 rated from all *Lapidifick* Matter.

The *Water* also, if fouled with overmuch of
 the *Muriatick Salt*, will sometimes work a little
 harshly. But the afore-commended *Salt*, being
 cleared of that *Dreg*, is one of the easiest of
Purging Medicines.

'Tis also perfectly free from that Malignant
Quality belonging to most *Purgers*. It never
 ferments the *Humours*; never causes Sicknefs, or
 Swooning,

Swooning, or any Gripes; never fails the *Physician* by meer Motions to Stool, nor afrights the *Patient* by over-purging.

Besides, the *Waters* are not always of equal Strength, but of more or less, both in *Winter* and *Summer*, as the Season is *wet* or *dry*. And some who sell these *Waters*, when they find their Store begins to fail, will venture to adulterate them with *common Water*; whereby the *Physician*, tho he prescribes the usual Quantity, yet is sometimes deceived in his expectation of the usual Success. But the Salt prepar'd of the *Waters*, if pure and perfect, is always alike, and of the like purging Virtue.

Physicians too in *London*, for the most part, prescribe the *Waters*, not to be drunk raw, but *boil'd*: For so the Quantity of the *Waters* being lessen'd, and yet the *Strength* encreased *, they work off the *Stomach* and *Bowels* more advantageously. In *Summer* they should be boil'd to *two thirds*; in *Winter* to *one half*, which requires *two or three Hours*: Whereas the *Purging Salt* of the *Waters* being dissolved in any convenient *Liquor*, perhaps a little boil'd, is a *Medicine* always ready, very convenient to the *Apothecary's* hand, and more to the *Patient's* Case; who in urgent *Diseases* lies in much pain, while

* *The Strength encreased.*] That is, proportionably to the quantity of the Water; the Virtue of these Waters not lying in a volatile Spirit, as in those of *Tunbridg* and the like, but in a fixed Salt.

he stays for a long and tedious boiling, and is thereby sometimes put in *danger*.

The last, though not the least thing we may here consider, is, That the *Waters*, if kept a little longer than ordinary, especially in a hot *Country* or *Season*, will be corrupted and *stink*: Whereas the *Salt* extracted from them, continues *every where*, and always *incorruptible*.

But I foresee that some may doubt of the wholesomeness even of the *Salt* it self, because that upon Distillation it yields an *Acid Spirit*.

But this *Objection* lies as much against the *Use* of the *Waters* themselves, for that in these the said *Salt* is contained.

And we may as well suspect the eating of *Sugar*, or *Honey*, or the *whitest Bread*: from each of which a *Spirit* may be distill'd, not only as *Acid* as the *Spirit* of the *Purging Salt*, but also very *Acrimonious*. *Wine* also, and the most wholesome *Food*, when as their *Principles* either by fermentation, or otherwise, are once depraved, do always partake of hurtful, and sometimes of poisonous *Qualities*. Even the *Food* of *Infants*, their Mothers Milk, if set so as to stand warm, will grow *sower* in a short time. But the *Purging Salt*, taken dissolved in any proper *Liquor*, doth not thereby suffer a Dissolution of its *Principles*, but retains its *Essence* or Nature unalter'd; as much as do any of the above-named sorts of *Food* when we eat them. For as the *Salt* it self, so any fair *Water* in which we drink

the *Salt* dissolved, gives the same moderately bitter Taste, without the least *Acidity* joined with it.

CHAP. II.

Of the Way of prescribing the Bitter Purging Salt.

IT may be taken in any *Liquor*, agreeable to the *Patient's* Constitution or Palate: as *Spring-Water*, *distill'd Water*, or any other very clear; a *Decoction* of *Pearl'd Barley*, thin *Water-Groel*, or very thin *Panada*; *Posset-drink*, *Whey* *, and the like. I often use fair *Water*, a little boil'd and season'd with *Mace*; whereof I prescribe a Quart or three Pints, or two Quarts impregnated with half an Ounce, or an Ounce, or more of the *Purging Salt* †; as for example: Take of *Spring-Water* two Quarts, *Mace* a Drachm: Boil them a little, and in the *Liquor* dissolve an Ounce or ten Drachms of the bitter
Purging

* *Whey*.] The English Reader may be minded, that the *Whey* is to be boil'd, lest the *Salt* should make it curdle, if not before it is drunk, yet in the *Stomach*. † *Impregnated with half an Ounce or an Ounce of Salt, &c.*] It is here requisite to admonish the English Reader, That in taking the *Purging Salt*, he is to be guided in the manner, time, and quantity, by his Constitution and Disease. And that in making a judgment of these, he is not to trust himself too far, but, as his safest Course, to be advised by a Physician.

Purging Salt, for an *Apozeme* to be drank in the morning, fasting, hot, warm, or sometimes cold, in the space of two hours, with a little Exercise.

This *Apozeme* may be taken either by it self, or in the working of other *Purging Physick*.

It is also convenient, upon occasion, to quicken the Operation of the *Salt*, by adding either *Sena*, or *Manna*, or both of them to the *Mace*: as in the following, or other like form.

Take two Quarts of *Spring-Water*, *Mace* a Drachm, *Alexandrian Sena* two Drachms, or three. Boil them a little; and then add an Ounce of the *Bitter Purging Salt*, of the best *Calabrian Manna* an Ounce and half, or two Ounces; and so run the *Liquor* through a Sive.

The Lord *Dudley North*, was the first who drank the *Purging Waters* with *Milk*. But they lay heavy upon his *Stomach*, because he mixed them cold. Afterwards *Physicians* alter'd the *Waters* with *Milk*, when they boil'd. Which way, those who have a mind, may very safely take the *Salt* it self; as thus:

Take three Pints and a half of *Spring-Water*, of the *Bitter Purging Salt* an Ounce, or Ten Drachms. Mix them, and when the *Water* boils, pour upon it half a Pint of new *Milk*, and strain the *Liquor* from the Curd.

In Summer, when the *Medicinal Waters* are every where frequented; this *Salt* cannot be taken in any thing better, than in *Tunbridg-Wa-*

ter, or any other *Chalybeate* kind, or in the *Purging Water* it self.

A Drachm, or a Drachm and half of this *Salt*, taken in the first *three* or *four* Draughts of *Tunbridg Water*, or any other of the same sort, and repeated for some mornings, prepares the *Humours*, and clears the way, for the intended Drinking Bout.

The *Chalybeate Waters* do sometimes bind. Which Inconvenience is remedied, by putting a little of this *Salt* into the first or last Glass.

It is also very usefully taken in the *Purging Waters* themselves. Whereof if every Draught be impregnated with a Drachm of the *Purging Salt*; they will work off much more certainly, and with half the number; and so be less burdensom to the *Stomach*.

Nor can any thing be more proper, than sometimes to sharpen *Glysters*, with three Drachms, or half an Ounce of the *Purging Salt*, instead of that which is commonly called *Sal Gemma*.

C H A P. III.

Of the Use of the Bitter Purging Salt, more particularly: and first, in Diseases of the Stomach.

WHAT I am about to say of the *Purging Waters*, and of their *Salt*, is not grounded upon meer *Conjecture*, but the long *Experience* of other very Learned *Physicians*, as well as my own. Who all of us, in the *Diseases* hereafter mentioned, have made use of both the aforesaid *Remedies*, with very good Success.

First then, the *Purging Waters*, or the *Salt* made of them, are a most Friendly *Medicine* to the *Stomach*, viz. in promoting both an *Appetite*, and a good *Digestion*. Partly, from one of its *Principles*, which is *Potentially Acid*; and partly, from the addition of the *Alcaline*, and thereby the *Bitterness* of the whole. And from the former so much the rather, because it affords a *Spirit* somewhat of kin to the *Spirit* of common *Salt*, the Seasoner of all Food: yet from the latter withal, seeing we experience the *Stomach* to be strengthened with most things which are *bitter*. And 'tis well known that they are *compounded Salts*, which whet the *Appetite* most of all. For *Pickles* are generally made not with *Brine* alone, but with the addition of *Vine-*

gar. And good *Claret*, as at Meals it is the most acceptable; so is it impregnated with a greater quantity of *Tartar* (a compounded Salt) than any other *Wine*. The Salt too of *Steel* (which is a compounded one) among other *Stomachick Medicines*, is none of the least note. And those two universal *Digestors*, *Bread* and *Spittle*, of which the one contains an *Acid Salt*, the other an *Alcaline*, being mixed together, perform the office of a compounded Salt. In a word, the Ferment or *Digestor* of the *Stomach* it self, is compounded both of *Alcaline* and *Acid* Parts; those derived from the *Arterial Blood*, these in part from the *Nerves*, or the *Dregs* of the *Animal Spirits*: in proof whereof there are sundry *Arguments*, which I shall not here insist upon. So long then as the *Stomach* is furnished with both these *Salts*, in a suitable measure, the business of *Concoction* is rightly perform'd: But if either of them be predominant, sometimes *Acid Salts*, and sometimes *Alcaline*, are necessary to restore them to a due proportion.

When by eating or drinking overmuch, or that which is unwholesom, *Concoction* is faulty; *Vomiting* often follows: For the staying whereof, the *Purging Water*, or the *Salt* made of it, is an excellent *Medicine*. For the same reason as that so celebrated Mixture, of *Salt* of *Wormwood* and the *Juice* of *Lemons*. And is herein superior to it, in that it both destroys and expels from the *Stomach* all kinds of *Peccant Salts*, as it were with one stroak. Where-

Wherefore also in the *Stomach-Ach*, and other like *Pains*, nothing is safer or more effectual than the aforesaid *Medicine*.

And so likewise in the *Hypocondriacal Affection with Heat*.

In these *Diseases*, I have sometimes prescribed the *Purging Waters*, or the *Salt* made of them, alone. But ordinarily, not without the assistance of *Bleeding*, *Vomiting*, and other like *Remedies*. It being the part of a prudent *Physician*, especially in great and dangerous *Diseases*, not to betrust his *Patient's Health*, and the Valuation of his own *Fame*, to any one *Remedy**, tho never so highly in vogue.

Now these *Remedies* are, according unto *Indications*, infinitely to be vary'd. Some *Forms* whereof, notwithstanding, the Learned Reader may be pleas'd to look over, as here they follow.

To quicken a decayed Appetite.

Take a Flask of *Spaw-water*, or a Quart or three Pints of any other *Chalybeate Water*; or

D 4 if

* *Not to betrust—to any one Remedy.*] The English Reader is here again admonish'd, for two Reasons, not to be over busy with this *Medicine*, so as to use it upon all occasions; as we say, Hand over Head. First, because he can very seldom be a competent Judge of his own Case; nor, therefore, whether the *Salt* be proper for it, or no. And, Secondly, because, tho it should be so, yet he skills not those other *Remedies* usually necessary to be joined with it; and so may be the Author of his own hurt, not so much in what he doth, as in omitting what he should have done.

if not to be had, of *Maced Water* ; of the *Bitter Purging Salt* half an Ounce, six Drachms, or an Ounce : Mix, and drink them fasting, and a little warmed.

And for the better drinking of all sorts of *Chalybeate Waters* *, if the *Physician* thinks fit, a little warm, without the loss of its most *subtile Spirit* : the Bottle in which they are kept being set in a Vessel of hot Water for some Minutes of an Hour, is then to be open'd, and after the pouring out of every Glass to be well stopp'd again.

While these are drinking, let the *Patient* take an hour before Dinner *twenty, thirty, or forty Drops* of *Elixir Proprietatis* †, in a spoonful of Sherry or *Purl-Royal* : And let him continue the Use

* And for the better drinking all sorts of *Chalybeate Waters*.] The Readers may ask, But how shall we come by these Waters at a distance from the Wells ? And it may be asked with a little Indignation, Why any part of *England* should want good *Tunbridg-Water*, when we have the *Spaw-Water* (the Spirit whereof is altogether as Volatile as that of *Tunbridg-Water*) at a far greater distance ? It is but putting it into the same kind of Flasks, with long and slender Necks, and stopping them with the same care, (with Corks dipped in melted Pitch, and thrust into the Flasks at the same instant in which they are fill'd, and then cover'd with some of the same Pitch, and over that with a piece of soft Leather) and the thing is done. And then the Trial, whether this Care hath been used, is easily made, by its turning Purple, upon mixing a little of it with the Pouder of a Dyer's Gall. † *Elixir Proprietatis*.] That made with Oil of Sulphur, is best in this case,

Use of these either every, or each other Day, repeating them four, five, or six times. Or,

Take two Ounces of the Conserve of *Roman Wormwood*, Conserve of *Garden Scurvey-grass* an Ounce, preserv'd *Ginger* half an Ounce, *Species Aromaticæ Garyophyllatæ* || a Drachm and half, *Winterane Barque*, and the true *Salt of Wormwood*, of each a Drachm, Syrup of *Clove-July-flowers* enough to make them into an *Electuary*. Let the *Patient* take as much as a large Nutmeg going to bed, and of a small Walnut an hour before Dinner, with a little of the aforesaid *Wine*, or without it, if it gives him the *Head-ach*. Or,

Take of the new and bright Filings of *Steel* three Ounces, of the tops of *Roman Wormwood* half a handful, the Root of *Roman Cyperus* and *Calamus Aromaticus*, of each a Drachm, the lesser *Galangale*, *Cinamon*, and *Saffron*, of each half a Drachm, and a Quart of *White-wine* or *Sherry*. Let them be digested with a gentle Heat, or stand in a warm room, in a Bottle well stopp'd, for three days, shaking them every day. Pour off the *Infusion*, and let the *Patient* take two, three, or four Spoonfuls every day, two hours before Dinner.

To stay Vomiting.

Take of any *Chalybeate Water*, or instead of that, three Pints or two Quarts of *Spring-water*

|| *Species Aromaticæ Garyophyllatæ*.] A Compounded Powder in the *London-Dispensatory*.

ter season'd with *Mace*, of the *Bitter Purging Salt* six Drachms, an Ounce, or ten Drachms. Mix, and drink them fasting, warm or cold, as you like them best, repeating them thrice, or oftner, if need be, either every, or each other day ; and join herewith the following *Pills*.

Take *red Roses* and strong *Cinamon*, of each a Drachm, *Cloves* and *Salt of Steel* of each a Scruple, *Saffron* half a Scruple, the Chymical *Oil of Mint* eight Drops, and as much *Syrup of Steel* as will make them up into twenty four *Pills*. Let the *Patient* take three of them every day, two hours before a Dinner of Spoon-meat and as many going to Bed.

A *Fomentation* made with a hot *Infusion* of *Mint* and *Red Roses*, and an Ounce of *Venic Treacle* in *Claret-Wine*, may sometimes be of great use.

In the Pain of the Stomach like the Colick.

Take of the best *Sena* two Drachms, *Mace* Drachm : Boil them in a sufficient quantity of *Spring-water*, to three Pints or two Quarts and to the strained Liquor add six Drachms, a Ounce, or ten Drachms of the *Bitter Purging Salt*, *Syrup of Steel* an Ounce and half ; for *Purging Apozeme*, to be drunk in the Mornin after the usual manner. Or it may be made without *Sena* *, and taken either by it self, or with the following *Pills*. Tak

* Or without *Sena*.] That is, when it gripes the Patient

Take of the *Stomach-Pill with Gums* † twenty five Grains, fine Filings of *Steel* ten Grains, Syrup of *Steel* a few Drops: Mix, and make them into four *Pills*, to be taken going to Bed. The next Morning take the *Apozeme* as aforesaid; and so for three days together, or longer.

Sometimes it may be convenient to mix with the *Pills* the *Extract* of *Gentian*, or some other bitter *Extract*:

As also half a Grain, or a Grain of *London Laudanum*, if the *Pain* be great.

In the Hypochondriacal Affection with Heat.

Take of any *Chalybeate Water* a Quart, three Pints, or two Quarts; dissolve in each Draught half a Drachm, or a Drachm of the *Bitter Purg- ing Salt*, to seven or eight Draughts, and drink them cold.

Or instead of *Chalybeate Waters*, it may be taken in simple *Milk-water*, or distill'd from the Leaves of *Borage* and *Burnet*.

In the Heart-Burning.

In which *Disease* the *Salt* may be successfully taken in like manner, as in the last aforementioned.

C H A P.

† *The Stomach Pill with Gums.*] A Pill in the *London-Dispensatory*.

C H A P. IV.

Of the Use of the Bitter Purging Salt, in Diseases of the Guts, and Parts adjacent : And first in the Colick,

IT is not necessary to premonish the Learned and Experienced *Physician*, that in this *Disease*, letting *Blood* is seldom or never to be omitted, and to be done in the first place.

Next, it is very advisable, that the following, or other like *Glyster*, be injected.

Take a Pint of the *common Decoction* for a *Glyster* *, adding to the other *Ingredients* to be boiled three Drachms, or half an Ounce, of the best *Sena*. In the strained *Liquor* dissolve half an Ounce, or five Drachms of the *Bitter Purging Salt*, of the *Species Hieræ Picræ* † a Drachm and half, or two Drachms ; Brown Sugar 2 Ounces. With this, or some such *Glyster*, the *Pains* are often dissipated, or at least the way is open'd for the Passage of internal *Medicines* through the Bowels.

A Scruple, or half a Drachm of *Pilula Rudi*,

* *The common Decoction for a Glyster.*] That is, a Decoction, prescribed under that Title in the *London-Dispensatory*.
 † *Species Hieræ Picræ.*] A Compounded Powder, so call'd in the *London-Dispensatory*.

dii ||, together with a Grain, or a Grain and half of *London Laudanum*, are oftentimes given with good Success.

And sometimes *Quick-silver*, if the *Patient* swallows enough of it, as four or six Ounces: and especially if it be taken in about two Ounces of the *Tinctura Sacra*; that is, the Tincture of the *Species Hieræ Picræ*, made with White-wine, or in some other convenient Purger.

But of all other *Medicines*, the *Purging Waters*, or the *Salt* made of them, is the noblest, being taken in the following, or other like manner.

Take of *Spring* or *River-water* season'd with *Mace* three Pints and half, *Chamemile-flower-water*, or *Mint-water* six Ounces; of the *Bitter Purging Salt* an Ounce or ten Drachms; and an Ounce and half, or two Ounces, of the best *Manna*: Mix them for an *Apozeme*. Let the *Patient* take about half a Wine Pint at a Draught hot, and all of it in an hour, or an hour and half; altho he should vomit some part of it.

This *Medicine* is sometimes more effectual, if assisted with the following.

Take of the *Tinctura Sacra* two, three, or four Ounces; and hereof a spoonful or two, before every Draught of the aforesaid *Apozeme*.

In the Worms.

The same *Salt*, if the *Nurse* mixes a Drachm,
or

|| *Pilula Rudii.*] A Pill in the *London Dispensatory*.

or a Drachm and half, with any *Food*, commonly made for *Children*, without *Milk*, will expel the *Worms*.

Especially, if the *Physician* shall premise the taking in some convenient manner, a Grain of *Mercurius dulcis*; or of the *Crystals* or *Salt* of *Silver*; or two or three Grains, according to the Age of the *Patient*.

Or if the *Purging Salt* be dissolved in *Bitter Glysters*.

In Nephritick Pains *.

In this *Disease*, as well as in the *Colick*, 'tis proper, for the most part, to begin with *Bleeding*; and oftentimes also to repeat it.

To which also a *Vomit* of *Vinum Benedictum*, or *Sal Vitrioli*, especially if the *Patient* be inclinable to vomit, is very aptly subjoined. For by virtue hereof, not only the *Stomach* it self (sometimes the first in fault) is unloaded; but all the *Nervous Parts* bordering on the *Kidneys*, and extreamly suffering in this *Disease*, are relieved.

After this, especially if the *Patient* hath no *Stool* with the *Vomit*, let the following *Glyster* be injected.

Take of *Chamemile-flowers* a handful, *Cumine Seeds*, *Sweet Fenil Seeds* and *Parsley Seeds*, all bruised, of each an Ounce, *Marsh-mallow Root* sliced

* *Nephritick Pains*.] That is, Pains in and about the *Kidneys* or *Reins*.

liced and bruised, two Ounces : Boil them in a sufficient quantity of fair *Water* to a Pint. To the strained *Liquor* add half an Ounce of *Tur-entine* dissolved in the *Yolk* of an *Egg*, half an Ounce of the *Bitter Purging Salt*, and *Syrup* of *Marsh-mallows* three Ounces. Mix them for a *Glyster*.

If the *Pains* are very great, add to the *Glyster* forty or fifty Drops of *Cydoniated Liquid Laud-ium*. Upon the working of this, or the like *Glyster*, the *Patient*, oftentimes, will make *Wa-ter* with, or without a *Stone* or *Gravel*, and the *Pains* go off.

But if they are so pertinaceous, as still to continue, we must have recourse to the following *Apozeme*, as the most promising *Remedy*.

Take of the *Decoction* of *Pearl-Barley* season'd with *Mace* three Pints, or two Quarts ; six Drachms, or an Ounce of the *Bitter Purging Salt* ; *Syrup* of *Marsh-mallows* three or four Ounces. Mix them for an *Apozeme*, to be taken hot, in an hour, an hour and half, or two hours, or thereabout, altho the *Patient* should vomit some part of it.

In Hot Urine.

In which *Disease* the same *Apozeme* is available, whether it proceedeth from the Sharpness of the *Blood*, or a *Venereal Gonorrhœa*.

In an Ischury.

And so likewise in an *Ischury*, or total *Sup-pression* of *Urine* ; whether it happens without a *Stone*,

Stone, or without one big enough to stop the Passages of the Urine.

Yet if the *Disease* hath been of some days continuance, the *Patient* must presently bleed, and plentifully. Next, inject a pretty sharp *Glyster*, with Syrup of *Spina Cervina*, the *Bitter Purging Salt*, &c. During the Operation whereof it will be very useful to drink the aforesaid *Apozeme*, or some Draughts of it. Especially, if a Spoonful of the following *Mixture* be taken before every Draught.

Take *Fenil* and *Saxifrage Water*, of each an Ounce and half; Salt of *Amber* a Drachm, *Tartarum Vitriolatum* a Scruple, prepared *Millepedes* two Drachms, Syrup of *Marsh-mallows* an Ounce. Mix them.

In a Diabetes.

In which most dangerous *Disease*, if there be need of some very gentle *Evacuation*, the said *Waters*, or *Salt*, in regard either of them moves very easily, and cools much, is of all others the safest, if not the only *Purge*. With the help whereof, in conjunction with the constant use of *Chalybeate Waters*, of any sort, and also of *Hypnoticks* *, I have restored some (but those indeed *Young*) when near dying, unto perfect Health.

* *And also of Hypnoticks.*] That is, sleeping Medicines very useful and necessary in this Disease, tho the Patient be faint and weak; because that Sleep stops all Evacuations but Sweat.

In the Jaundies.

Bleeding likewise in this *Disease* is seldom to be omitted. Yea, to be repeated, if the *Patient* be somewhat more feverish.

Neither are *Vomits* of less use: both as they rid the *Stomach* of its *Morbifick Load*, and also pump up the *Gall*, which stagnates in its own *Bladder*: and should therefore be repeated at convenient Intervals, if there be need. Especially, if these and other *Remedies*, proving less successful, shall give cause to suspect there are some *Stones*, which by their Number or Bulk stop the *Canale*, by which the *Gall* passes into the *Guts*: in which case we must persist with a prudent Resolution.

But in any sort of *Jaundies*, with *Stones* in the *Gall*, or without, the *Purging Water*, or its *Salt*, is very properly given in the following, or other like manner.

Take of *Pilula Ruffi* half a Drachm, *Rhubarb*, and *Volatile Salt* of *Urine*, of each half a Scruple, *Syrup* of *Wormwood* enough to make them into six *Pills*, to be taken going to bed. In the Morning following let the *Patient* drink this *Apozeme*.

Take two Ounces of the Shavings of *Hartsborn*; boil them in three Quarts of *Spring-water* to two: Then add *Mace* and *Turmerick*, of each a Drachm; and having boiled them a little, dissolve in the strained *Liquor* the *Bitter Purging*
E Salt

Salt and *Syrup of Steel*, of each an Ounce, for an *Apozeme*, to be drank as usually.

If the *Physician* sees it convenient, instead of the forementioned *Pills*, he may give the following *Draught*.

Take an Ounce and half or two Ounces of the *Tinctura Sacra*, an Ounce of *Syrup of Cycho-ry* made with *Rhubarb**, *Tartarum Vitriolatum* half a Scruple. Mix them for a *Draught* to be taken about six or seven a Clock in the Morning. And after two hours let the Patient drink the *Apozeme* before prescribed: And so repeat them every, or each other day.

If *Aloetick Medicines* heat the Patient, the *Infusion of Rhubarb*, &c. may do better.

C H A P. V.

Of the Use of the Bitter Purging Salt in Diseases of the Head. And first, in Madness.

IN *Madness*, besides *Bleeding* and repeated *Vomits*, it is likewise often necessary to use *Cephalick Ointments*, a *Seton* in the Neck, *Blistering Plaisters*, especially laid on the *Legs*, *Purges*, and other *Remedies*.

To further the Operation of *Purging Medicines*,

* *Syrup of Cichory made with Rhubarb.*] A Compounded *Syrup* in the *London-Dispensatory*.

cines, whether prepared with *Hellebore*, or others, nothing can be more proper than the *Purging Water*, or their *Salt*, given in this or other like manner.

Take the Leaves of *Bawm* and *Borage*, of each a handful: Infuse them in two Quarts or five Pints of boil'd *Spring-water* while 'tis hot, and let them stand in a Vessel well cover'd for half an hour. Add to the strained *Infusion* an Ounce or ten Drachms of the *Bitter Purging Salt*, Syrup of *Violets* three Ounces: Mix them for an *Apozeme* to be drunk by it self, or with any convenient *Purge* instead of *Posset-drink*. Or,

Take an Ounce of the *Bitter Purging Salt*: Dissolve a Drachm in a Draught of *Spaw-water*, or of any other *Chalybeate* kind; and let the Patient drink eight such Draughts.

The same *Water* or *Salt* may likewise be very usefully taken in the same manner, in the Intervals of other *Purgations*; especially in Summer. For it greatly allays the *Maniacal Turbulency* of the *Humours* and *Spirits*.

In the Headach.

In which *Disease*, and the rather if proceeding from a *hot Cause*, or joined with a *hot Constitution*, there is nothing in the Art of *Physick* which I have found more effectual than the following, or such a like Method.

First, let a sufficient Quantity of Blood be

taken away from the Arm, or elsewhere, as shall seem most convenient.

Next, let a *Vomit* be given, or omitted, as the Patient's Strength, and other Circumstances shall direct: And then the following *Medicines*.

Take prepared *Scammony*, pouder'd *Rhubarb*, and *Mercurius dulcis*, of each ten, twelve, or fourteen Grains, Syrup of *Spina Cervina* enough to make them into five Pills, to be taken at four or five a Clock in the Morning, and let the Patient sleep upon it. After three Hours let him drink this *Apozeme*.

Take of *Spring-water* season'd with *Mace* three Pints or two Quarts, six Drachms or an Ounce of the *Bitter Purging Salt*, and Syrup of *Violets* two Ounces: Mix and take them by convenient Draughts, and keep your self warm in the working.

Let the same *Apozeme* be repeated with the *Pills* now before prescribed, every third or fourth day; and on the days between by it self. And in like manner continu'd, if need be, for a Fortnight or three Weeks.

In the Megrim.

It is necessary also in this *case*, to begin with *Bleeding*; and the rather, if it proceeds from drinking over-much *Wine*: and first, by opening a *Vein* in the *Arm*.

Next, by *Cupping-Glasses* applied with *Scarification*,

fication †, not only to the *Shoulders*, but to the *hinder part of the Head* it self, being first shaved. To which *Part*, as well in this *Disease*, as in the *Head-ach*, and *Inflammations* of the *Eyes*, I commonly order them to be applied, rather than to any other, and with better Success. After *Bleeding* give the following *Medicines*.

Take of *Pilula Mastichina* || two Scruples, and five Drops of Chymical Oil of *Majorane* : Mix, and take them going to Bed. On the next Morning drink this *Apozeme*.

Take *Spring-water* season'd with *Mace*, a Quart or three Pints, four Ounces of the *Water of Sage of Virtue*, of sweet *Majorane Water* two Ounces, and six Drachms of the *Bitter Purging Salt* : Mix and take them in the usual manner.

Sometimes it may be useful to take a Spoonful of the following *Mixture* before every Draught.

Take the Leaves of sweet *Majorane* and *Sage of Virtue*, of each two Drachms, *Gentian Root*, and the *Species of Hiera Picra*, of each two Scruples, and four Ounces of *White-wine*. Digest them twelve hours in a Bottle well stopp'd,

E 3

and

† *Cupping-Glasses applied with Scarification.*] This Operation, as it is commonly performed in *England*, is both frightful and painful. But the Glasses being warmed with a Lamp, instead of being filled with flaming Tow; and a Phlebm used (by Filliping) instead of a Launce, after the German-way; it is altogether as easy as bleeding at the Arm.

|| *Pilula Mastichina.*] A Compounded Pill in the *London-Dispensatory*.

and then let the *Tincture* be strongly pressed out, and stand till, the muddy Parts being settled, it becomes clear.

C H A P. VI.

Of the Use of the Bitter Purging Salt in some other Diseases. And first, in Mother-Fits.

IN which case, after the more grievous Symptoms are allay'd by the use of *Opiates* *, ten or twelve Drachms, or two Ounces of the *Tinctura Sacra* (made with two parts of *White-wine*, and one part of *Hysterick Water* †) may be given, for the most part, with good Success.

But if the *Physician* sees it convenient to give a more temperate *Purge*; that so often commended, in regard it works so gently, may be safely drunk: and with the greater Benefit, if instead of *Maced Water* the *Purging Salt* be dissolved either in the *Spaw-water*, or that of *Bawm*.

In the Wandring Gout.

Which is commonly, but erroneously, called a *Rheumatism*. For that *this* falls upon the *Muscular*

* *By the use of Opiates.*] The English Reader is here admonished to be very wary in meddling with this sort of Medicines, whether liquid or solid. A Dose containing a Grain, or a Grain and half of *Opium*, not to be exceeded, without special Occasion and Direction. † *Hysterick Water.*] A Compounded Water in the *London-Dispensatory*.

cular Parts, that only on the Joints. 'Tis a stubborn Disease, and often requires a good Set of Remedies.

Begin with *Bleeding*, and repeat it every, or each other day, to the fourth, or if need be, to the fifth or sixth time.

After the first or second *Bleeding*, I find a *Vomit* to be, oftentimes, of very great use. For so long as the *Stomach* is foul, it sends new Matter every day to the *Blood* and *Joints* to feed the *Disease*.

But for *Purges*, and those of the stronger sort, albeit they are sometimes for a few days to be *deferr'd*: yet are hardly ever to be *omitted*. One good *Purge*, commonly more prevailing * against this *Disease* than three or four *Bleedings*.

Now the Operation of these *Purges*, in regard the *Patient* is seldom without some *Fever* †, is much more gently performed, and without putting the *Humours* into a Ferment, with the help of the *Purging Waters*, or their *Salt*; which may be taken with them in the following manner. E 4 Take

* One good *Purge* prevailing more than three or four *Bleedings*.] And besides the speeding of the Cure, the ill Effects which sometimes follow upon the taking away so great a Quantity of Blood, are avoided. † The *Patient* seldom without some *Fever*.] Which may give occasion to some, even Physicians, to suspect the use of strong *Purges* in this case. But this *Fever* is not a *Febris Synochus*, that is, the ordinary sort of continual *Fever*; much less with any malignant Properties, which should forbid the *Purgation* here prescribed.

Take of the Pouder of *Rosinous Jalap* half a Drachm, six Grains of prepared *Scammony*, *Calomel* half a Scruple, Syrup of *Spina Cervina* enough to make a *Bolus*, to be taken at five a Clock in the Morning, and let the *Patient* sleep upon it. And after three hours drink this *Apozeme*.

Take an Ounce and half of *Pearl-Barley*, three Ounces of *Corins*: Boil them in *Spring-water* enough, to a Quart and half a Pint, or three Pints and half; adding towards the end of the boiling half a Drachm of *Mace*. In the strained *Liquor* dissolve an Ounce of the bitter *Purging Salt*, and half an Ounce, an Ounce, or an Ounce and half of the best *Manna*, for an *Apozeme*.

If the *Patient* is not easily wrought upon, and other *Coindicants* also shall direct it; let him take six Drachms or an Ounce of Syrup of *Spina Cervina* in the first Draught: And let the *Bolus* be repeated with this or the like *Apozeme*, every other, or third, or fourth day, as shall seem best to the *Physician*, or with longer Intervals, till the *Patient* is perfectly recovered.

In the Beginning and Increase of the *Disease*, every, or at least each other Night, and constantly after *Purgation*, a convenient *Opiate* * is to be given: whereby to hinder the Effervescence of the *Humours*, and their renewed Influx upon the *Joints*.

When, either because the *Fever* is somewhat high,

* *A convenient Opiate.*] Here the English Reader is again admonished, as a little before, in this Chapter.

high, or the *Patient* weak, *Purgation* is, for some time, to be deferr'd; *Blistering Plaisters* being applied about four Inches above or below the diseased *Joints*, give great Relief. And sometimes the *serous* part of the *Blood* is so very hot and unbridled, as to baffle all the aforesaid *Remedies*, till by the help of *Blisters* it is in some measure separated from the *red*, which is the softer part of the *Blood*.

In this *Disease* those *Medicines* which provoke *Sweat*, altho plentifully, yet hardly do any good. But *Diureticks* are taken with Advantage: for which Reason also *Apozemes* impregnated, as aforesaid, with the *Purging Salt*, are the more convenient; as working both by *Stool* and *Urine* at the same time.

While the *Patient* is under *Cure*, let him abstain from *Wine* and *winy Liquors*, and all *Malt Drinks* unboiled. Fresh and clarify'd, that is, boiled *Whey* is of all other *Drinks* the most excellent * †.

In

* *Whey, of all other Drinks the most excellent.*] That is, in this case. For what can better subdue the Acrimony of the serous Blood, than to dilute it with so soft a Liquor of its own kind? † Whereas this *Disease* as usually managed, will hold and vex the *Patients* for six Weeks or two Months, and sometimes longer: The Author has assur'd me, that by the Method he hath here prescribed, he has commonly set them up in a Fortnight or three Weeks at the most; and that some of them have been perfectly recovered in a Week or ten Days: especially upon giving, after once or twice Bleeding, a good brisk Vomit, where there hath been great occasion for it.

In some sorts of Itch.

Not that which is *contagious* or *catching*, but bred of the *Scurvey*; spreading sometimes all over the *Body*, sometimes confined to the *Pudenda*, or some other certain *Parts*. In both which *Cases* I have often found the last prescribed *Apozeme*, repeated with or without other *Purgers*, to be effectual; and have blessed some with the Pleasure of *Ease*, after they have been tortur'd and tir'd out with perpetual scratching. Especially if they have been constantly kept to a good Quantity of the *Chalybeate Waters*, instead of all other *Drink*.

The same *Apozeme*, after the *Small Pox* are shell'd off, is very properly us'd.

And with most *Purges* in the room of *Posset-Drink*.

To conclude, those who upon a long *Journey*, and chiefly in *Summer*, are wont to be *costive*; by two or three Drachms of this *Salt* taken in a Draught or two of *Spring-water*, will hereby keep themselves *soluble*, and very *cool*.

C H A P. VII.

Of the Misuse of the Bitter Waters, and of their Salt.

IT behoves a *Physician*, not only to shew the *Use of Remedies*, but also to caution the *Reader*

der to beware of their *misuse* ; whereby is done a *threefold* Injury, to the *Patient*, the *Physician*, and the *Medicine* it self.

This therefore, the *Virtues* whereof I have now enumerated, is in some *Diseases* by no means to be prescribed : And in some others, regard is to be had to the *Causes*, and the *Symptoms*.

In all *Dropsies* whatsoever, it doth hurt : Because that here the *Native* Heat is very Languid, and that stock of *Spirits* which is seated in the *Grumous* part of the *Blood*, very poor. Where likewise the use, even of a *Liquid Diet*, hastens the float of the *Serum* of the *Blood*, upon the *Parts* which lie already, as it were, *under Water*.

As also in a *continual Fever*, even the ordinary kind. Wherein, tho the *Cause* is sometimes, by little and little, to be purged off : yet is this to be done, rather with such *Medicines* as are moderately *Hot*, as the *Decoctum amarum*, *Pilula Ruffi*, and the like * ; and by which, the *Concoction* of the *Humours* is promoted at the same time. And therefore, whatsoever may prove a hinder-

* *The Decoctum Amarum, Pilula Ruffi, and the like.*] Dispensatory Medicines ; which the Author allows to be sometimes given in a continual Fever : and he speaks to Physicians. But the English Reader is to take the same care, not to be over-busy with Purges in a Fever, as not with Opiates, in any Case. Because that in many Fevers, no sort of Purge can be safely given. And if given at the beginning of a Fever, (as is sometimes unwarily done, before the Fever apparently shews it self) it commonly proves fatal to the Patient.

hinderance herein, by over-cooling, we must beware of it.

Neither is it any way serviceable in an *Ague*.

Nor to *Girls* in the *Green-sickness*. Whose *Feverish Heats* are kindled from too much *Acidity*, some where or other, in their *Humours*, which are to be sweetned with more potent *Alcalies*.

'Tis also to be denied to those that *spit Blood*. Lest by its great and penetrating subtilty it should open the *mouths* of the *Arteries*.

And in the *Disease*, called, *Cholera Morbus*. Wherein those sudden *Evacuations* which are made, are follow'd with a great sinking of the *Spirits*. Which kind of *Motions*, made by *Nature*, while she trips with over-much haste, are rather to be quieted with *Cordials*, and *Opiates* *, given now and then. But after the force of the *Disease* is broken, if there be need of any farther *Evacuation*, and the *Patient* be of a *Bilious Constitution*, whether *Native* or *Adventitious*, he may then drink the said *Salt* to good purpose.

'Tis also to be forborn in a *Palsy*: Lest the *Muscles*, which are already destitute of their *Native Heat* and *Vigour*, should thereby be more weakned. Yet if the *Disease* is bred of a *Hot Cause*,

* *To be quieted with Cordials and Opiates.*] The English Reader is again admonished to use the same Caution, with respect to all sorts of *Opiates*, as in the foregoing Chapter: And the rather here, because in a *Disease* which often happens unto young Children.

Cause, as *Wine*, or any *Winy Liquor*; I have pre-
scrib'd it both safely, and with Effect.

'Tis not to be allowed to *Women with Child*,
but with Circumspection.

Nor in a *suppression of Urine*, before it appears,
all things being well weighed, that it depends
neither upon an *Ulcer* in the *Bladder*, nor a *Stone*
too big to pass; in either of which *Cases*, the
Patient is to abstain from all *Diureticks*. But
otherwise, I have often given this *Medicine* with
very good Success; that is to say, in bringing
away the *Urine*, and *Stones* with it, not of the
least size.

A

*A T A B L E, shewing some of the more
Egregious FALSIFICATIONS made in
the Translation, lately Published by
FRANCIS MOULT, Chymist.*

A Multitude of lesser Faults being here omitted.

O Riginal, Page 1. *Primæ omnium Catharticarum Amarescentium innotuere.* That is, were, of all the Bitter Purging Waters, the first generally known. Translation, Page 5. *The chief of all the Purging Waters.* A Blunder in the very first Paragraph. For by rendring, *Primæ*, the chief, instead of the first; and taking no notice of the word, *innotuere*; that is omitted, which the Author would have known, viz. that of all the Purging Waters, those near Epsom, were the first in use. And the Author too, is made to affirm a Falshood; that is, *That those near Epsom are of all the chief.* Whereas divers other like Waters, as those at North-Haw, &c. are of equal goodness.

Orig. p. 2. *Sperabat.* Transf. p. 6. *Flattering himself:* for *Hoping.* His Lordship, tho his Disease made him a little Satyrical upon Physicians; yet was a Person of very good Sense, and knew how to *hope*, without *flattering himself.*

Orig.

Orig. p. 5. *Fontes Stretthamenses in Comitatu Surriensi.* Which the Translator, p. 7. in spite of all our Maps, and Doomſday-Book, will have in Kent.

Orig. p. 6. The Author ſpeaks with Limitation, that the Purging Waters have ſcarce any other but a Bitter Taſte; *vix quenquam alium.* But the Translator ſaith, (p. 8.) *That they have no Taſte but that.* And whereas the Author ſaith only, that they are ſenſibly Bitter, *ſenſibilter:* The Translator ſaith, *the Bitterneſs is very ſenſible*; which is not exact Truth.

Orig. p. 7. *Aqua Calcis.* That is, Lime-Water. But the English Reader ſhould, at leaſt once for all, have been told the meaning, by ſaying Water impregnated with unſlackt Lime. The Juice of the ſmall Indian Limon being alſo commonly called *Lime-water.*

Orig. p. 7. *Colore quodam Glauco.* Tranſ. p. 8. Of a *Whitiſh* Colour. For, of a *Blewish Grey.*

Orig. p. 7. *Salis Calcarii Lixivialis.* That is, of the Lixivial Salt of Lime. Tranſ. p. 9. *Of the Chalky Lixivial Salt.* As if the Author did ſay any thing here of *Chalk.*

Orig. p. 8. *Salis Potentiâ Acidi.* That is, of that Salt which is Potentially Acid; or which is capable of becoming Acid. Tranſ. p. 9. *of the Acidity of the Purging Salt.* As if it were *Actual Acid:* Which to ſay, is contrary to Senſe, and to what the Author doth here and hereafter more than once affirm.

Orig.

Orig. p. 8. *Calcarius*. That is, Limy, or of the nature of the Lime-Stone. Transf. p. 9. *Lixivial*. The general Word ill put, for the *Special*. For there are many things *Lixivial*, which are not Limy.

Orig. p. 9. *Næque Linguam ipsam, tenerrimam Partem, quidquam afficit*. That is, Nor so much as in the least affecteth, that most tender part, the Tongue it self. Transf. p. 10. *Nor does it acquire any the least Pungency*. Whereas Bodies may be pungent upon the Tongue, when not upon other Parts; and may affect the Tongue otherwise, as well as by Pungency.

Orig. p. 13. *Planis quatuor Parallelogrammis*. That is, With four Parallelogram Plains. Transf. p. 12. *With four Parallel sides*. Wherein there is a double Error. For four Plains may be *Parallels*, which are not *Parallelograms*. And *Sides*, is ill put for *Plains*; every *Plain*, having its *sides* to boot.

Orig. p. 14. *Binis oppositis minoribus paulo compressa*. The Author saith, that the *Prisms* here described, having two of their *Plains* a little less and opposite, are somewhat flattish. The Translator, p. 12. *That the two opposite sides are something flatter than the other*. Which is false, and makes nonsense. For the Author describes the figure of the whole *Prism*, and not of its *Plains* or *sides*.

Orig. p. 14. *ScalPELLI more, acuata*. That is, Edged like a Chizel. Transf. p. 12. *Sharpned like a Pen.*

a *Penknife*. He might as well have compared a *Sithe* to a *Shovel*; as the word, *Mucronata*, just foregoing, being considered, would have taught him.

Orig. p. 15. *Plant. Anat. Lib. 4. p. 1. Cap. ult.* That is, Anatomy of Plants, Book 4. Part 1. Chap. the last. Trans. p. 13. *Plant. Ang. 9. lib. 4. p. 1. c. ult.* Were this the Printer's fault, yet should it not have been corrected?

Orig. p. 16. *Salibus plerisq; aliis longè magis Solubilem.* The Author saith, that the Bitter Purg- ing Salt, is much more dissoluble, than most other Salts. But the Translator, p. 14. *That it is more dissoluble, than any other Salt.* Which is very false. And if it were true, yet doth it not appear by the Experiment here made.

Orig. p. 17. *Principii Alcalini particeps est.* That is, it partaketh of an Alkaline Principle. Trans. p. 44. *It is of an Alkaline Principle.* Which is so exprest, as if the Salt here spoken of, consisted of no other.

Orig. p. 17. *Potentiâ, suo modo, Lixivialis.* That is, Capable of becoming, in some sort, Lixivial. Trans. p. 14. *It is in some manner, Lixivial.* Which is very false. The Purg- ing Salt, while unburnt, whereof the Author here speaks, being not at all *Lixivial*, but only capable of being made such.

Orig. p. 17. *Bullata Calx.* That is, a Bubbled or Blubber'd Calx. Trans. p. 14. *A Boiling Calx.* He might as well have said, a Boiling Brick-batt.

Orig. p. 18. *Alabastrites*. That is, Bastard Alabaſter. Trans. p. 15. Only ſays, *Alabaſter*. Between which, and the Baſtard, there is as much difference, with reſpect to Hardneſs, whereof the Author here ſpeaks, as between an Oak and an Apple-tree.

Orig. p. 19. The Author ſaith, that the Spirit diſtill'd from the Purging Salt, is in Scent and Taſt, ſomewhat like, (*ex aliquâ parte æmulus*) to the Spirit of Common Salt. Trans. p. 15. ſaith, *It is every way equal to it*. Which is falſly affirmed, in ſaying, *every way*, for, *in ſome part*. And nonſenſically, in ſaying, *Equal*, for, *alike*. Equality, being a word uſed to expreſs the *Quantities*, and not the *Qualities* of things here ſpoken of.

Orig. p. 20. *Pocula Vitrea*. Trans. p. 16. *Glaſs-Bottles*. For, Drinking Glaſſes.

Orig. p. 20. The Author, to prevent a miſtake thought it requiſite, here to ſpeak properly in explication of the Vulgar Term; *Calcis vivæ Infuſum Aquâ communi paratum*, vulgò, *Calcis Aqua*. That is, the Infuſion of Quick Lime made with fair Water; commonly called, Lime-Water. Trans. p. 16. *A little Lime-Water*. Which here may eaſily be miſtaken by the Engliſh Reader for the Juice of Limes; as before noted.

Orig. p. 22. Tis here affirmed of ſome Parts of the Bitter Purging Salt, that they are, *Solummodo potentiâ Acidæ*. The Tranſlator, p. 17. ſaith, *That they are not ſolely Acid*. Which falſly implies, that they are *actually Acid*, and alſo ſomething *more*: neither of which is true. Orig.

Orig. p. 22. *Potentiâ, aliquo modo, Lixivialibus.* Whereof the Translator makes the same false Interpretation as before, Orig. p. 17. *Transf.* p. 14.

Orig. p. 22. *Sal Lixivialis.* Which the Translator, p. 17. for *Lixivial*, falsly renders, *Alcalious*. There being many Salts, *Alcalious* or *Alcaline*, which are not *Lixivial*.

Orig. p. 23. The Author affirms, that the Existence or Being of the Salts whereof he here speaks, and their Force in the changing of Colours, doth not absolutely or altogether depend upon the Fire; *Non penitus & ex omni parte ab Igne pendere.* The Translator saith, p. 17. absolutely and without any limitation, *That they depend not on the Fire.* Which is falsly affirmed; because that some of them do, in some part, tho not wholly. The Purging Salt, as it is a Salt, and a Salt partly *Alcaline*, doth not at all depend upon the Fire: but as it is, in any sort, *Lixivial*, it doth.

Orig. p. 23. *Ex allatis Experimentis.* *Transf.* p. 18. *From the forecited Experiments.* Whereas the Author cites no Experiments made by others, but only relates his own.

Orig. p. 23. 'Tis here said, That the Furniture of Words is in nothing more scanty than in Philosophy: *In eâ scilicet, quæ velut Pedissequa Naturæ, mirandæ ejus ubique Varietati, scrupulosissimè advertit:* That is, to wit, in that Philosophy, which, as the Handmaid of Nature, ob-

serveth her Varieties every where admirable, with the most critical and exact Diligence. Which the Translator, p. 18. renders thus; *Such Philosophy as should lead us through the Foot-steps of Nature, and intelligibly express its admirable Varieties.* A mere Fiction.

Orig. p. 27. 'Tis here said, That the Spirit of Alum has a base stinking Scent; *Sulphuris Spiritui vero, Germanicè Gas dicto, seu Sulphuri liquefacto & flammanti simillimum*: that is, altogether like that of true Spirit of Sulphur, which the Germans call *Gas Sulphuris*, or that of melted and flaming Brimstone. But the Translator, p. 20. only saith, *It is very like to the Spirit or Gas of Sulphur.* Not distinguishing clearly between the true Spirit, and that commonly called the Spirit of Sulphur, and sold for it.

Orig. p. 28. *Majoribus (Planis scilicet) versus Crystalli centrum, minoribusque vicissim inclinatis*: that is, the greater and the lesser Plains being alternately sloped, towards the Centre of the Crystal. Which the Translator, p. 20. renders thus; *The greater Plains bending towards the Centre of the Crystal, and the less accordingly.* Absurdly, *Bending for Sloping.* For to talk of a *strait Line*, here spoken of, being bent, is Nonsense. But a *strait Line* may be *sloped* or *inclined*: and when a Mathematick Definition of a thing is given, as here it is, we must speak as Mathematicians do. And *Vicissim*, that is, *Alternately*, he renders, *Accordingly*; which is doubly

doubly false; to the Figure it self, and to what the Author affirms of it.

Orig. p. 28. 'Tis here said, That the Bitter Purging Salt differs in Taste from Common Salt, *æquè ac ab Alumine*, as much as it doth from Alum. Transf. p. 20. *Common Salt has a very different Taste from the Purging Salt, as also from Alum.* A mere Fiction.

Orig. p. 29. *Id equidem non est negandum, Spiritum Salis communis, Lac merum, dum ebullit, coagulare, etiam mediocri proportionè affusum*: that is, I deny not indeed, but that the Spirit of Common Salt being poured, tho in a moderate Quantity, upon Milk unmixed with any other Liquor, and when it boils, will make it curdle. The Translator, p. 21. saith only, *That the Spirit of Common Salt doth not curdle Milk, unless added to it when boiled.* A very expedite way of Translating. He has been often convicted of Coining; and now he falls to Clipping.

Orig. p. 31. *A Salibus nitro, & Calcario*: that is, from Nitre, and from the Salt of Lime. Transf. p. 22. *From Nitrous and Calcarious Salts.*

Orig. p. 31. *Nitri Crystalli, non Quaternis Planis Parallelogrammis contentæ*: that is, the Crystals of Nitre not being comprehended within four Parallelogram Plains. Transf. p. 22. *The Crystals of Nitre shoot not into four-corner'd Parallel Plains*: which is Nonsense.

Orig. p. 32. 'Tis here said, That to melt Nitre by holding it in a Spoon over the Flame

of a Candle, in like manner as the Purging Salt; *Spatium, Saltem octuplo majus exigit, flammamque splendidissimam*: that is, requires at least an eightfold space of time, and a very bright Flame. The Translator saith, p. 23. *That it takes up eight times the space, and emits a most resplendent Flame.* Which last Clause is most false, and contrary to the Experience of every ordinary Chymist, that Nitre will never flame, except Fire be put to it.

Orig. p. 33. *Salis Cathartici semidrachma, Lactis bullientis semilibrae injecta, Coagulum generat satis conspicuum*: that is, half a Drachm of the Purging Salt being put into a Pint of boiling Milk, makes a considerable Curd. Transl. p. 23. *Turns it very grey.* A Falsification, whereby the Force of the Comparison the Author makes between the Property of Nitre, and that of the Purging Salt, is quite lost.

Orig. p. 35. 'Tis directed, that *Dantzick Vitriol, Sal Armoniac*, and instead of Nitre the Bitter Purging Salt, be mixed in the same proportion as for making of *Aqua Regia*: *Eâdem proportione misceantur, ut fieri solet in Aquâ Regiâ conficiendâ.* Transl. p. 24. saith, *That Dantzick Vitriol, Sal Armoniac, and a like quantity of the Bitter Purging Salt, instead of Nitre, are to be distill'd.* Which is so express'd, that the Reader may suppose the Author ignorantly thought those Ingredients were to be distill'd in a like Quantity, for the making of *Aqua Regia*.

Orig.

Orig. p. 36. 'Tis said, That the powder'd Calx of the Purging Salt being sprinkled with a little Water, immediately becomes a hardish Substance; *Et in aliquot momenta quasi lapidescit*: that is, and continues for some moments almost like a Stone. The Translator, p. 25. saith, *That in a few moments it will be like a Stone*. Not only omitting the Author's Limitation, *quasi*, almost: but contradicting what he affirms, That the said Calx becomes hard immediately, and not in a few moments. And when he saith, *In aliquot momenta*, he doth not speak of the Time when the Hardness begins, as by the Translator he is misinterpreted; but, of how long it continues, that is, for some moments. Which the Translator leaving without limitation, the Reader may suppose the said Hardness always to continue, which it doth not.

Orig. p. 37. 'Tis affirmed, That Lime-water being evaporated, the Salt therein contain'd is wholly turn'd into a tasteless and stony Substance; *ex omni parte, in substantiam insulsam ac lapideam immutatur*. Trans. p. 26. Instead of wholly, saith, *for the most part*. Which falsely supposeth that some part of the said Salt remaineth unalter'd.

Orig. p. 37. *Sali alicui Aereo*. Trans. p. 26. *With any other Aerial Salt*. For, with some other.

Orig. p. 38. 'Tis said, That of Oil of Vitriol, and that of Anise-seeds, of both the best, mixed together, is produced a Rosin: *Ex Oleis op-*

timis Vitrioli & Anisi, confusis, resina generatur.
 The Translator, p. 26. scurvily saith, *That in Oil of Anise-seeds and Vitriol shaken together, you have a Rosin.* First, in omitting the Caution, that it be of the best Oils of Vitriol, and of Anise-seeds, without which the Experiment will not succeed. Next, instead of *Oil of Vitriol*, in saying, *Vitriol*; which, if the Reader mistakes for the Oil, he will again be deluded. And then, in saying, without Sense, *That in Oil of Anise-seeds and Vitriol shaken together, you have a Rosin.* Whereas the Rosin is in neither of them, but produced of them both. It may also be added, that *shaking* is feigned instead of *mixing*, which without shaking will produce the Rosin.

Orig. p. 39. 'Tis said, That half an Ounce of the Purging Salt, without any Heat, or much shaking, is easily and presently dissolved in two Ounces of fair Water; *In Aquæ communis sextanti.* The Translator, p. 27. not knowing the English of *Sextans*, no more than of many other Words before-going, saith, *In six times its Quantity of Water*; instead of *four times*, that is, *two Ounces*.

Orig. p. 39. *Calcis levissima.* Transl. p. 27. For, of a most light Calx; saith, *of pure white Calx.* Which is false to the Latin, and the thing it self.

Orig. p. 41. 'Tis concluded of the Purging Salt, *Ideoque est sui generis Sal nobilissimus*: that is, And is therefore a very noble Salt of a distinct

stinct kind. Trans. p. 28. *And therefore is in its own Nature the most noble.* Which sounds ridiculously to any one that knows the Genius of the Latin Tongue.

Orig. p. 42. *Nec sine summâ Austeritate.* Trans. p. 29. *Not without some Austerity.* For, not without the greatest Austerity. But the Translator thought *summa* signified *some*.

Orig. p. 43. *Misturam dilui.* Trans. p. 29. *I wash'd the Mixture:* for, I diluted the Mixture.

Orig. p. 43. *Perfecta vel Imperfecta.* Trans. p. 29. *Wholly, or in part:* for perfect or imperfect. A Mineral may be compounded, and both the Parts of the Compound may be perfect.

Orig. p. 43. *E quibusdam partibus potentiâ Acidis.* Trans. p. 30. *Of some Parts in their Nature Acid.* Which is false, as being in their Nature but potentially Acid. A Falsification before made, over and over, but here also noted, because of moment.

Orig. p. 43. *E quibusdam partibus, suo modo, Lixivialibus.* Trans. p. 30. *Of some Parts a little Lixivial.* For, Of such certain Parts, as are capable of becoming, in some sort, Lixivial. The same Falsification which hath also been several times mention'd already.

Orig. p. 45. *In Principiis solutis & inquinatis.* Trans. p. 31. *In its Principles intimately dissolved and divided:* for, In its Principles dissolved and defiled.

Orig. p. 45. 'Tis said, That the Purging Salt
grows

grows on the Outfides of Earthen Veffels, *In formâ quafi villosâ, Amianthi lapidis instar*: that is, in a sort of *Pile*, like that of the *Amianthus* or *Thrumstone*. *Transf. p. 31. In Colour like an Amethyst.* Whereas it is not the Colour, but the *Figure*, the Author here describes. And to say, like an *Amethyst*; for, like the *Amianthus*; is the same Mistake as if he should say, a pair of *Horns*, for, a *Peruque*.

Orig. p. 45. Hujus item salis principia, misturâ longè minus solubili, quàm in Tartaro, multisque aliis Medicamentis fruuntur: that is, the Principles also of this Salt are much more inseparably mixed than in *Tartar*, and many other Medicines. For which the Translator, *p. 31.* gives us this Nonsense. *The Principles of this Salt are also more closely united than in Tartar, and afford many other Remedies.* As if he had said, *Milk and Water mix better than Oil and Water, and afford many other Remedies.*

Orig. p. 46. Non valdè ultra dimidiam partem. *Transf. p. 31. Not above one half*: for, not very much above one half.

Orig. p. 50. Duplici Experimentiâ. *Transf. p. 34. By two Experiments*: for, by double Experience. An Experiment is one thing, Experience is another; being that which groweth of sundry Experiments duly compared together.

Orig. p. 54. Ubique sui similis est. *Transf. p. 36. Is every Particle alike*: for, every where, or always the same.

Orig.

Orig. p. 56. 'Tis said, That Sugar, Honey, or White-bread, will yield a Spirit, which is equally Acid with that of the Purgings Salt: *pari gradu acidus*. Transf. p. 37. *Violently Acid*. Which is false.

Orig. p. 56. *Minimè suis solutis Principiis, sed Essentiæ integritate*: that is, not at all with its dissolved Principles, but with its Essence unalter'd. Transf. p. 38. *In its compact Body, or united Essence*. Pure Nonsense.

Orig. p. 57. *In quovis Vehiculo Patientis temperamento conveniente, aut gustui grato*: that is, in any Liquor agreeable to the Patient's Constitution, or Palat. Transf. p. 38. *In any Vehicle agreeable to the Patient's Palat, or grateful to his Taste*. Like the old Woman's Pepper-Box, that was hot in Operation, but cold in Working.

Orig. p. 58. *Senæ 3 ii, vel iii*. Transf. p. 39. *Three Drachms*: for, *two Drachms, or three*. Two may as often be enough as three. You see he makes no bones.

Orig. p. 60. *Quin & utilissimè sumatur idem Sal, ex Aquis ipsis purgatoriis*: that is, the same Salt is likewise very usefully taken in the Purgings Waters themselves. Transf. p. 40. *But 'tis best of all taken in its own Waters*. Had the Author said *verum*, for *quin &*, *utilissimè* would have signified *best*, absolutely. But who, that knows Latin, sees not, that to say, *best of all*, is more than the Author saith? And sometimes to take it in the Chalybeate Waters, or otherwise, may be best.

Orig.

Orig. p. 62. *Ex Principio potentiâ Acido.*
 Transf. p. 41. By its *Acid Principle*: for, by
 that Principle which is potentially Acid. A Falsifi-
 cation often made, and remarked.

Orig. p. 62. *Partim, ex admisto Principio Al-*
calino: that is, partly, by the addition of its
 Alkaline Principle. Transf. p. 41. partly, by
 its *Alkaline Mixture*. Which is hardly Sense.

Orig. p. 62. 'Tis said of Claret-wine, *Tarta-*
reo repletur Sale, hoc est composito, omnium aliorum
maximè: that is, that 'tis impregnated with a
 greater Quantity of Tartar, a Compounded
 Salt, than any other Wine. Transf. p. 42. *Be-*
cause of its Tartareous Salt, of all others the most
compounded. Who sees not how falsely this is
 rendred? And it is as falsely affirmed, there be-
 ing other Salts as compounded as this is.

Orig. p. 65. *Aquæ autem quæcunque ferratæ,*
quo melius—tepidè, si visum fuerit, sumantur: that
 is, And for the better drinking of all sorts of
 Chalybeate Waters, if the Physician thinks fit,
 a little warm. Transf. p. 44. *And all sorts of*
Chalybeate Waters may be drunk warm, which is
better. Can any thing be more scurvily ren-
 der'd? For better, in the Original, is evidently
 referred to the Method of warming them, and not
 to the Usefulness of drinking them warm. Nor can
 it be indefinitely said, that they are better, if
 drunk warm: for that, sometimes, it may be
 better to drink them cold.

Orig. p. 66. *Species Aromaticæ Garyophyllatæ.*
 Transf.

Trans. p. 44. *Aromatick Pouder of Cloves*. Which many Readers may take to be nothing but *pouder'd Cloves*, which every Body knows to be *aromatick*. 'Twere more justly render'd, *Aromatick Pouder with Cloves*. But best set down in its own *Latin*, and so to be understood, a *Dispersatory Medicine*.

Orig. p. 66. The Patient is advised to take the Electuary here prescribed, without Worm-wood-wine, *si Caput gravaret*, if it gives him the Headach. Trans. p. 44. *If he be subject to the Head-ach*. Referring his, *if* to the *Indisposition of the Patient*, which the Author doth to the *Property of the Wine*: which will sometimes give one the Head-ach, whether he be subject to it, or no.

Orig. p. 66. *Radices Cyperi*. Trans. p. 45. *Cypress Roots*; for, *Cyperus Roots*. These a good Medicine, the former of no known Use.

Orig. p. 68. *Ante Sorbile Prandium*. Trans. p. 45. *Before Dinner*: for, *before a Dinner of Spoon-meat*. A Rule not to be omitted in the Cure here discoursed of.

Orig. p. 69. 'Tis directed, to add sometimes to the Pills here prescribed, *Laudani Londinensis gr. ss, vel gr. i.* that is, half a Grain, or a Grain of *London Laudanum*. The Translator, p. 46. only saith, *a little Laudanum*. Whereas the Author thought it requisite to express the Quantity, lest the Purgation intended by the Pills should be hindred. And what's *a little*?
Eight

Eight or ten Grains may seem *a little* to those Readers who know not its Quality ; but may be enough to cure them of all Diseases. So dangerous it is for any sort of Opiates to be left to the Discretion of any but Physicians.

Orig. p. 70. *Aqua Pimpinellæ* : that is Burnet-Water. Trans. p. 47. *Pimpernel-Water*. How falsely ? For *Pimpernel* is the common English Name, for *Anagallis Mas* : a Plant of a quite different Nature and Use from that of *Burnet*.

Orig. p. 72. 'Tis said, that by the use of a good Glyster in the Colick, the way is open'd, *Interius sumendis & per Intestina transeundis* : that is, for the Passage of internal Medicines through the Bowels. Trans. p. 48. *By the Passage of these Glysters up the Intestines*.

Orig. p. 73. *Bibat ægrotus, unâ vice, circa 3 vi.* that is, Let the Patient take about six Ounces at a Draught. Trans. p. 49. *Let the Patient take about 17 Ounces at a time* : Which is near three times as much as is, or ought to be prescribed.

Orig. p. 73. 'Tis said, that a Nurs'd-Child may take a Drachm, or a Drachm and half of the Purging Salt ; *Drachmam, vel sesquidrachmam*. Trans. p. 49. saith, *A Drachm and half, or two Drachms*. Whereby the Reader may see the Liberty the Translator takes.

Orig. p. 74. The Author mentions the giving of the Purging Salt, for the Worms, in Bitter Glysters. Next to which he subjoins another

Dis-

Disease, as a distinct Title, wherein the same Salt is very useful, viz. in *Dolore Nephritico*; that is, in Nephritick Pains, or Pains in and about the Kidneys. But the Translator, p. 50. or the Printer, makes a scurvy *Gallimaufrey* of both together, in this manner; *Or if the Purging Salt be given in Bitter Glysters in the Stone*. Whereby it is very plain, that if it was not the Translator's own Blunder, yet he took no care at all to correct this, or any other of the Press. Besides, that to say, *the Stone*, instead of *Nephritick Pains*, is licentious Ignorance: In that all that the Author saith under that Title, hath a particular respect to those *Nephritick Pains*, and not to the *Stone in general*, nor in the *Bladder*.

Orig. p. 74. *Ventriculus, Pars nonnunquam primo loco delinquens*: that is, the Stomach, sometimes the Part which is first in fault. Trans. p. 50. *The Stomach, generally the offending Part*. Is this to translate? In this Disease there are divers Parts which offend: but the Stomach is sometimes the first Offender.

Orig. p. 74. *Renibus conterminum*. Trans. p. 50. *Continuous with the Kidneys*: for, bordering on the Kidneys.

Orig. p. 74. *Terebinthinæ Venetæ Vitello Ovi solutæ ℥ss.* Trans. p. 50. *Venice Turpentine an Ounce*: for, half an Ounce; which is enough. And the dissolving of it in the Yolk of an Egg, as by the Author is directed; by the Translator is omitted. And yet without that it is impossible to

to mix the Turpentine, one principal Ingredient, with such a Glyster.

Orig. p. 75. *Laud. Liq. Cydon. gutt. XL, vel L.*
Transf. p. 51. *Forty or Fifty Drops of Laudanum.*
For *Cydoniated Laudanum*. An Omission dangerous to the English Reader; there being another *Liquid Laudanum* also in use, which is much stronger.

Orig. p. 76. The Apozeme here prescribed, is said to be proper in a total suppression of Urine, which happens, *sine lapide majori, quam ut vias urinarias transire possit*. That is, without a Stone big enough to stop the Urinary Passages. Transf. p. 51. saith just the contrary; or *with so great a Stone as to stop the Urinary Passage*. Were this the Printer's Error, yet ought not so great an Error to have been corrected?

Orig. p. 78. Among other Remedies for a *Diabetes*; *Hypnoticks*, that is, such as cause sleep, are here mentioned: *Aquarum ferratarum usu, & Hypnoticorum*. But by the Translator, p. 52. *Hypnoticks* are left out. And yet are so principal a help, that without these it would be always very difficult, and sometimes impossible, to cure this Disease.

Orig. p. 78. *Vesica* is translated *Vessels*.

Orig. p. 79. *Sequenti, vel simili modo*. That is, in the following, or other like manner. Transf. p. 53. *In this, or the following manner*. He might as well have said, *in this, or this manner*.

Orig.

Orig. p. 80. One Ingredient here prescribed in a Draught for the Jaundice, is an Ounce of Syrup of Cichory made with Rhubarb: *Syrupus à Cichoreo cum Rhabarbaro, ℥ i*; a Dispensatory-Medicine. Instead of which the Translator, p. 54. would have the Patient take, *Two Ounces of Syrup of Cychory, with an Ounce of Rhubarb*. Enough for three or four Lusty Men. Nor will it at all excuse the Translator, to say, there is no likelihood that any one will ever take so much at once, but will look upon it as a Mistake. For many English Readers take every thing they find in a *pretending Book*, to be *Gospel*; and will swallow any thing, tho it be a *Glyster*, if they are *bid*, or *think they are bid*, to do it.

Orig. p. 83. *Prout vires aliâque monuerint*. That is, As the Patient's Strength, and other Circumstances, shall direct. The Translator leaves out *aliâque*, and other *Circumstances*; which every prudent Physician will consider, as well as the Strength.

Orig. p. 83. Twelve or Fourteen Grains are prescribed, as sometimes necessary, and rather more than less; and that of each of the three Ingredients here mention'd. The Translator saith, only, Twelve. And to underdo, sometimes, is to do nothing.

Orig. p. 85. *Salvia odorata*. Transf. p. 58. *Sage*, for *Sage of Virtue*, as it is commonly call'd. Which differs as much from Common Sage, as the Sweet Majorane doth from the Ordinary fort.

Orig. p. 86. The *Tinctura sacra*, is here prescribed to be made with two parts of White-wine, and one part of Hysterick-Water: *Aqua Hysterica parte unâ*. But the Transf. p. 58. will have them of *equal quantity*; and so may be over-strong for the Patient.

Orig. p. 87. 'Tis said, that the *Arthritis vaga*, or wandering Gout, *Non raro plurium remediorum apparatus exigit*. That is, often requires a good Set of Remedies. Transf. p. 59. saith, *It frequently eludes the force of many Medicines*: which is to affirm another thing. For it may require the use of many Remedies, whose force it doth not elude.

Orig. p. 88. *Verùm Cathartica, eâque fortiora, etiâsi interdum dies aliquot deferenda sunt, vix tamen unquam omittenda*. That is, but Purges, and those of the strongest sort, albeit they are sometimes for a few days to be deferr'd, yet are hardly ever to be omitted. For which, Transf. p. 59. we have this Nonsense; *But Catharticks, and of the strongest, sometimes for several days together are never to be omitted*. Or if we should allow of any Sense, it is such as plainly contradicts the Author; who no where prescribes Purging, *diebus continuis*, in this Disease, much less for several Days together.

Orig. p. 88. *Horum autem operatio, &c.* That is, the Operation of those stronger Purges before spoken of. For which, says the Translator, p. 59. *The Operation of the Purging Waters, &c.* Utterly confounding the Author's Sense.

Orig.

Orig. p. 91. *Serum Lactis coctione decaseatum.* That is, Clarifi'd or Boil'd Whey. Which the Translator, p. 61. calls, *Posset-drink.* In the case here spoken of, not half so good.


Orig. p. 94. *In quibus Calorificæ Fermentationes excitantur.* That is, in whom Feverish Heats are kindled. Trans. p. 63. *Where warm Fermentations must be excited.* The Author tells the Reader, *how these undue Fermentations arise.* Instead of which the Translator tells him, *They must not be cur'd, but continu'd.*

Orig. p. 95. The Author, speaking of the use of *Opiates*, in the Disease called *Cholera Morbus*, doth not prescribe the just quantity to be given, because he speaks to the *Learned Reader.* Which the late Translator, speaking to *all in common*, should have done, and have taken direction of the *Author*, or of some other *Physician* herein: especially for a *Dose* that may be safe and allowable, in this Disease, unto *Children.*

Orig. p. 95. *Temperies adventitia.* Trans. p. 64. *Accidental, for Adventitious.*

Orig. p. 96. *Calculus inexterminalis.* That is, a Stone too big to pass. Trans. p. 64. a *Large Stone*; indefinitely, and therefore scurvily expressed: For a Stone may be *large*, as some may call or think it, and yet *not too big to pass.*

FINIS.



Gloria in excelsis

L. A. Thomas

