

**A short view of the frauds, and abuses committed by apothecaries; as well in relation to patients, as physicians: and of the only remedy thereof by physicians making their own medicines ... / [Christopher Merret].**

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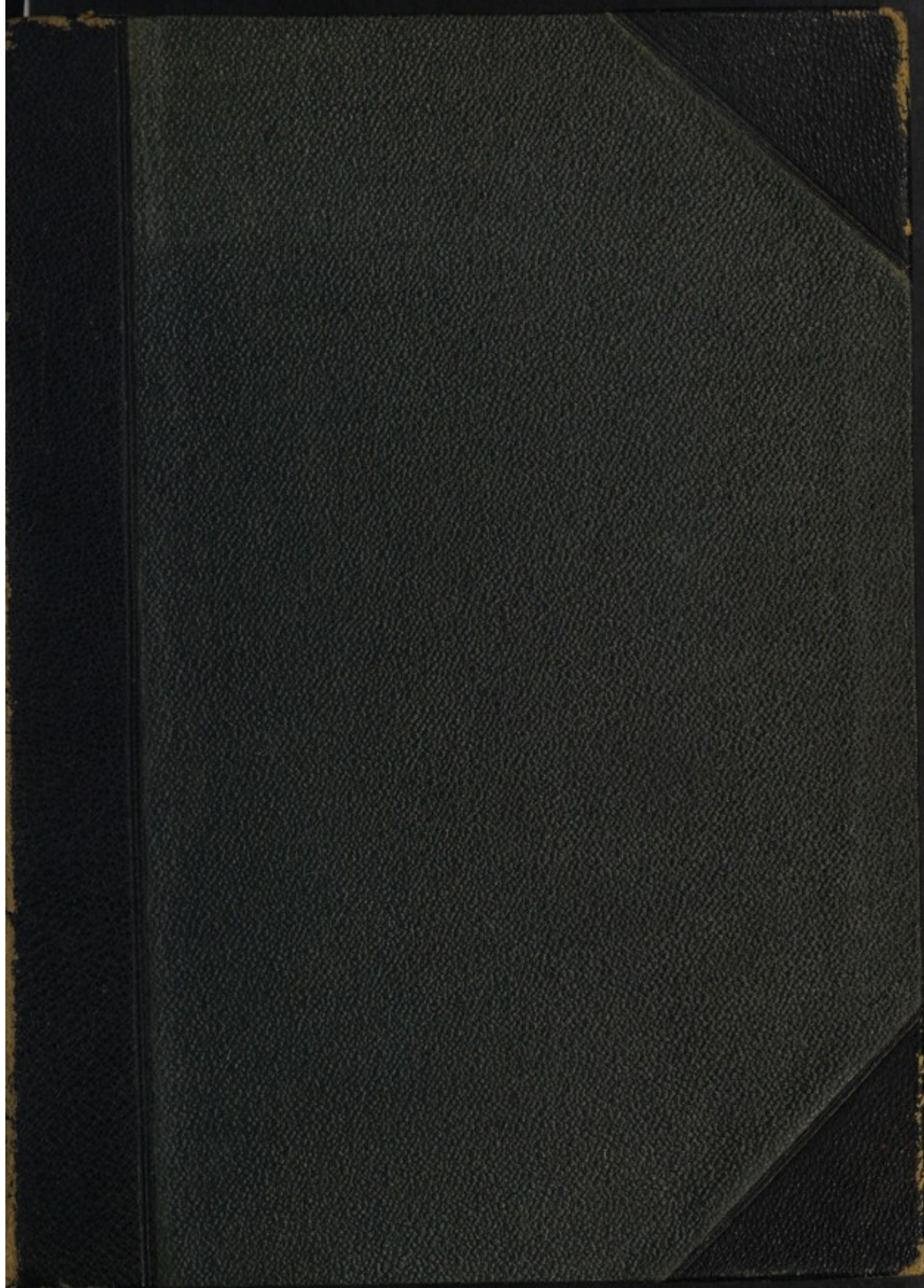
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APOTHECARIES. MERRETT. 1670.









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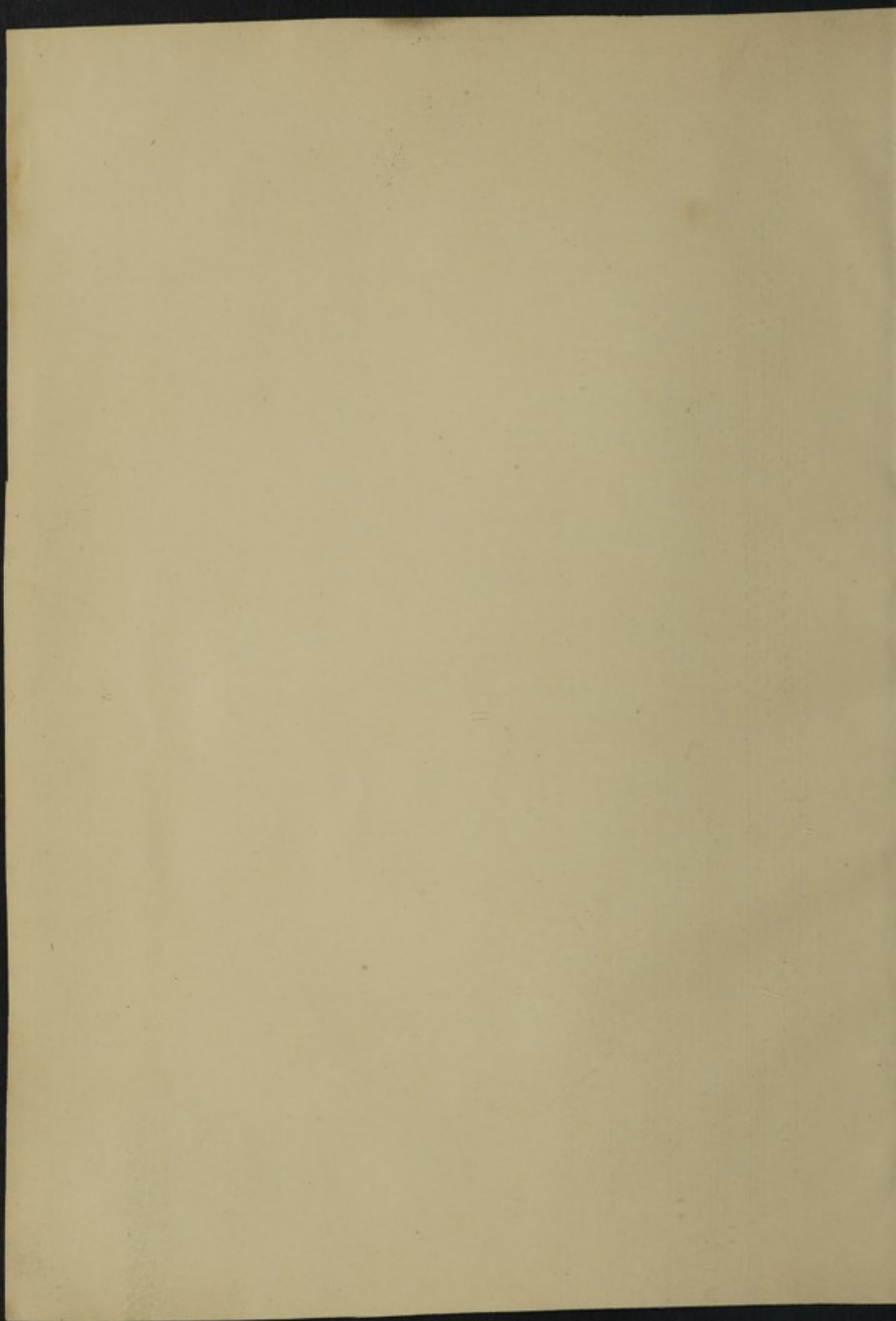
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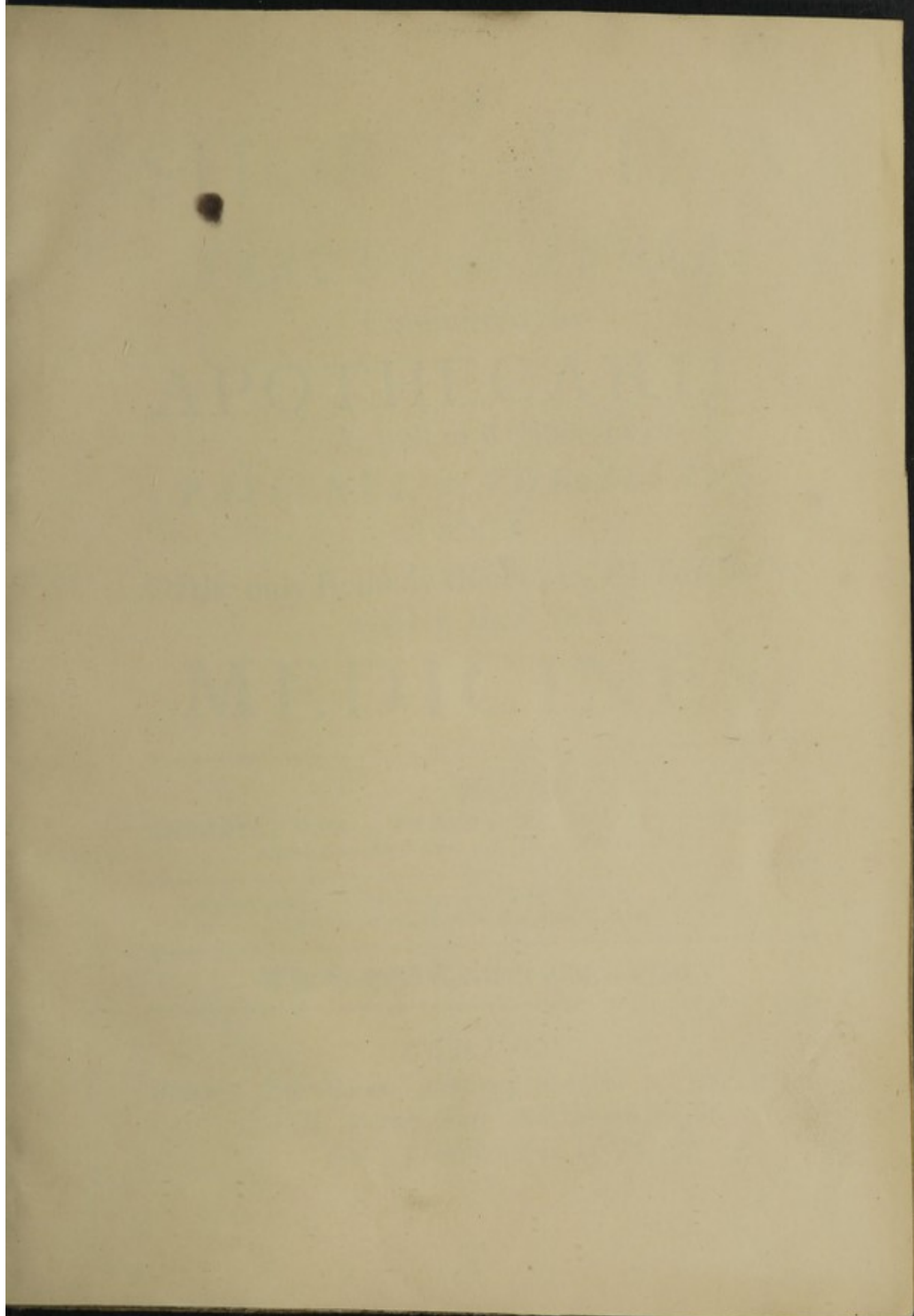
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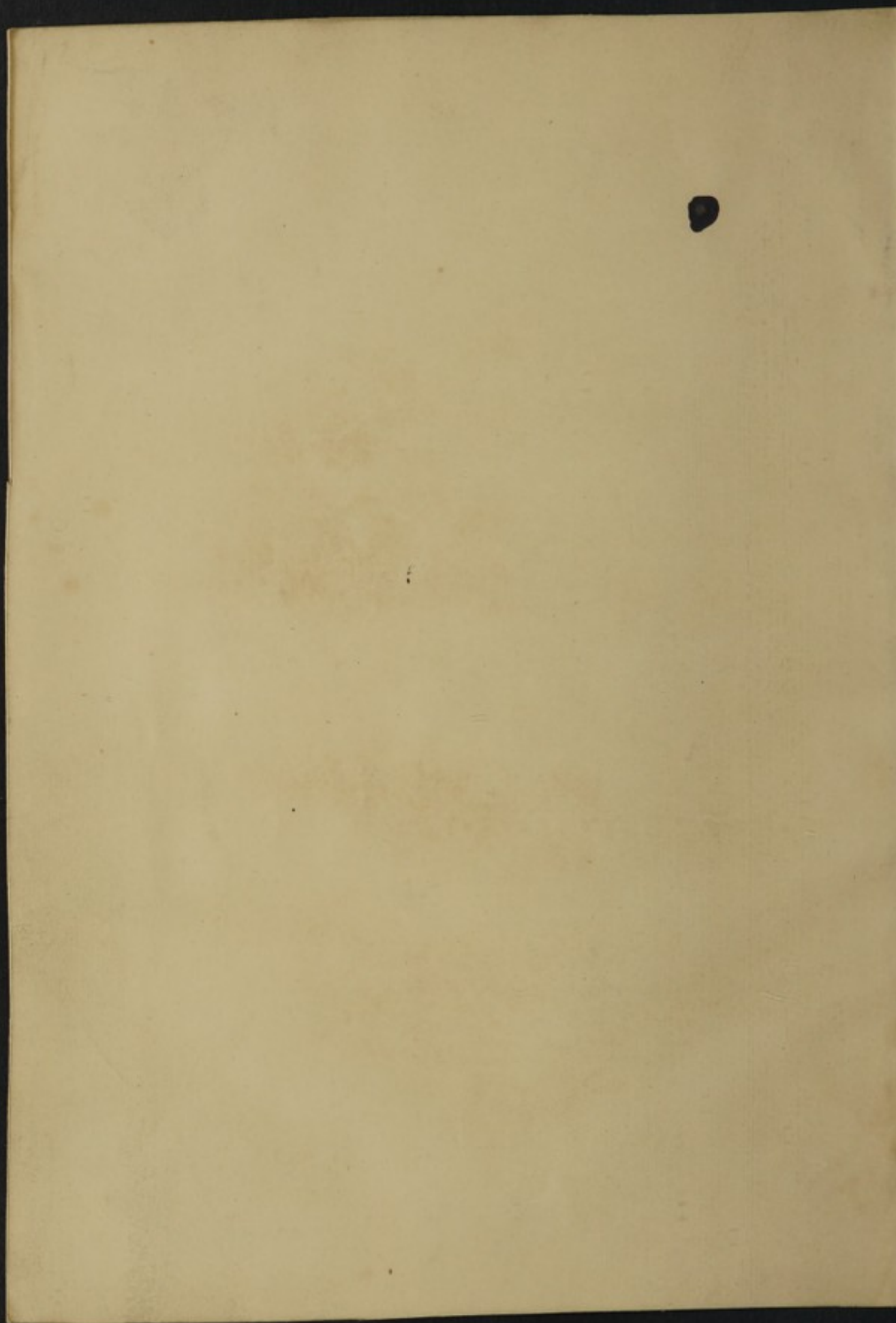
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A  
SHORT VIEW  
OF THE  
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Committed by  
APOTHECARIES;  
As well in Relation to  
PATIENTS, as PHYSICIANS:  
AND

Of the only Remedy thereof by PHYSICIANS  
making their own

MEDICINES.

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BY  
CHRISTOPHER MERRETT Dr. in Physic, Fellow of the  
College of Physicians, and of the Royal Society.

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— Fingunt se Medicos omnes, Idiota, Sacerdos,  
Nutrix, & Tensor, Pharmacopæus, Anus.

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The Second Edition more correct.

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LONDON,  
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Paul's Church-Yard, 1670.









*A Short View of the Frauds and Abuses committed by Apothecaries, as well in Relation to Patients, as Physicians; and of the only remedy thereof by Physicians making their own Medicines.*

**D**oubtless it will seem strange to most men, that after 30 years not unsuccessful practice in this great City, I should now at last forbear sending my Bills to the *Apothecaries*, knowing that hereby a whole Company of men interess'd in the World (who by their number, noise, and tricks, may be able to decry any *Physician*) will become my implacable adversaries, and by their private whispers of untrue tales, will endeavour to their utmost, either to keep me from any new, or shuffle me out of my fixt imployment. But not fearing the utmost their malice can invent, or proclaim; I shall publicly assert what I privately practise, preferring the publick good, and the honour of my profession before my own private profit. And although I have had some experience what their groundless anger can do, when they some years since proclaimed me in their publick Hall their Enemy, for

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acting



acting the *College* Interest, and of late for saving my Patients lives and purses, by dispensing *gratis* my Medicines. Yet I hope no indifferent person, when he knows that I have thus long slighted their weak endeavours, will believe I can now at length have so poor an end as revenge; especially when they shall consider on the one hand, the universal and daily complaints of both *Patient* and *Physician*, the great cause they have to do so, and the little hope of a remedy, and on the other, besides that general obligation all men have of doing their Country-men good, and the particular necessity I have of justifying my actions, by leaving the World their judg upon the account I shall here deliver of them. And lastly, that which will leave my Enemies not any objection, I take upon me not only a great trouble, but charge, without any other design then doing mankind good, by endeavouring to restore my profession to its ancient and deserved honours. And had I none of these inducements, I am sure the vulgar excuse of friends importunities may be satisfactory to all persons for my publishing what I here do, when I must acknowledge that many of my Colleagues and other Practisers in several parts, upon reading these papers furnished me not only with some bad practices of their own experience, but thereupon enjoined the publishing of them. So that in these papers I do but speak the common language of all *Physicians*, and of very many *Patients*. Neither are all their frauds and abuses here inserted, the rest (perhaps more in number) being reserved to another opportunity. I shall only add by way of preface; that the last year a Book was printed on the same argument, by an inquisitive



sitive person, now *Dr.* in *Physic*, which might have spared me this labour, but that it was too large for every ones reading, and in some things short. It was his fate to be called by them *Fool*, *Afs*, and *Simple Fellow*, and much worse language, bragging that some of their *Boys* should answer him. But upon more serious thoughts, the whole Company have suffered it to find the credit it well deserves, without the least reply but that of revilings.

In these ensuing papers, I hope to prove, that these abuses complain'd of by all sorts of persons, arise from this only cause, that *Physicians* dispence not themselves such Medicines, they use for the relief of their *Patients*, but commit this work to the *Apothecaries*, or rather their Servants.

Now the *Apothecaries* abuses generally relate either to the *Medicines*, *Patients*, or *Physicians*; which three do comprehend all I shall say on this subject.

But the Reader is to take notice, that all here charged on the *Apothecaries*, is not meant of every single one, but of some, or more of them, and may in a short time in all probability be verified of them all, according as their number, cajoling the ignorant, and bold daring in *Physic* increase.

But before I descend to particulars, I shall first lay down this *Proposition*, their own confession, and in their own Language, viz. *That they may be the veriest Knaves in England*. Because they may put in bad ingredients, and more or less then the composition requires, they may substitute one thing for another; and all this without being detected, and consequently not be punished for such misdemeanors; but more especially in Medicines



cines for private mens uses, wherein they may do what they please without the least discovery of the *Patient*, and from this general confession of theirs, it clearly follows, that whatsoever deceit, covetous wits can invent, may at least be suspected to be used by them, and whatsoever is here alledged may find easier belief.

*And Secondly*, Most men wonder, that this *Corporation*, being but of few years standing, and to the setting up of whose Trade so small a Stock is necessary; should live so high, spend so freely, gain so great Estates, by their return of so little money yearly, which how 'tis done every man may conceive to be effected by the following Artifices.

More particularly, the Frauds by them committed relate either to their falsifying of *Medicines*, or secondly, to the number of their Bills, and prescriptions, or thirdly, to the prices of them.

*First*, They use *Medicines* quite contrary to the prescription, *Myrtle-leaves* shewed the *Censors* for *Sena*, a Binder for a Purger. *Mushrooms* of the Oak, &c. rub'd over with Chalk for *Agaric*, which Mr. *Evelyn* in his late publisht Book of *Forest Trees*, pag. 27. observes, to the great scandal of *Physic* as he adds; *Hemlock-Dropwort* Roots for *Paeony* Roots, Poysons for wholesome remedies; *Privet* by some, by others *Dog-berries*, for those of *Spina Cervina*, no Purgers for a strong one. *Sheeps Lungs* for *Fox Lungs*, the Bone of an Oxe Heart for that of a *Stags Heart*, *Damsons* for *Damasc Prunes*, Syrup of *Lemons*, for that of *Citrons*, *Bryony* Roots for *Mechoacan*, &c.

*Secondly*, They falsify the grand Compositions of the



the *London Dispensatory*. It being a common trade with them to buy unsound, and decayed Simples of some *Druggists*, and to return them back so much of the composition as will pay for the Simples. Secondly, whereas *Apothecaries* are bound to shew publickly to the *Censors* of the *College*, and the *Master* and *Wardens* of their Company, *Mithridate*, *Diascordium*, *Alkermes*, &c. Yet for all this some of them privately make a great deal more of the Composition than is shewed, of unsound Drugs, and some without any view at all; others put in the Scrapings that ought to be thrown away; and by these Arts they under-sell, and ruine one another, selling the Composition at a lower rate than good Ingredients cost them; and with these complaints they daily mutiny amongst themselves.

*Thirdly*, 'Tis very common for them to load Medicines with Honey, and other cheaper ingredients, and to leave out in whole or in part, those of greater value; viz. *Saffron* in *Ruffus* Pills, and in *Oxycroceum* Plaster, which latter, they colour of a *Saffron* colour with *Turmeric*, *Sanders*, &c. *Ambergrise* in *Alkermes*, *Diascordium* was found by the *Censors* in their search made only of *Honey*, and *Bole-Armeniac*. Which false composition was taken away by the then Master of the Company.

Such *Chymists* which sell preparations honestly made complain, that few *Apothecaries* will go to the prices of them. Whence it comes to pass, that most of the preparations found in the Shops are sophisticated, to the great abuse of City and Country. These abuses daily increase since the *Censors*, discouraged by the multitude of *Empirics* swarming in every Corner, have omitted their wonted searches, being to their loss of



time, and expences out of their own Purfes for the publick good only. Now ſince the *Chymical* Oyls, by reaſon of their great prices are moſt of them adulterated, and very few of them right good, and that nothing hath been publiſhed on this matter, and to leave the buyers of them unexcusable, I ſhall here add briefly, yet ſufficiently the ways to diſcover theſe Cheats. Firſt for ſweet-scented *Chymical* Oyls, viz. thoſe of *Cloves*, *Cinnamon*, and *Saffaphras*. Only drop a little of them into fair water, and that part which is true good will ſink under the water, but the adulterated part will ſwim on the top of it. Some others draw deep tinctures from the ſaid Spices with Spirit of Wine highly rectified, and ſell them for the Oyls; but theſe mix with the water throughout, neither ſwimming, nor ſinking. Others more craftily digeſt with the ſaid tinctures ſome of the true Oyls, which compound being put into water, will for a time render it white. Another way of ſophiſtivating is with Oyl of *Turpentine* mixed in great quantity with that which is adulterated; You may eaſily diſcover the Oyl of *Turpentine*, by ſetting it on fire, for it yields abundance of ill-scented ſmoak, with very little ſavour of the Herb, Flour, or Seed, &c. and ſoon takes fire. To correct the ill ſmell of the *Turpentine*, they digeſt it with, and diſtil it off with *Spirit of Wine*. Thoſe ſophiſticated with *Turpentine*, fired in a Silver Spoon colour it, and quickly diſſuſe themſelves upon a Knife, or Paper. The beſt way to try by firing, is to put a drop or two of theſe Oyls on the end of a broad pointed Knife, which being firſt heated, and then thruſt into a lighted Candle, preſently take fire, and break out into a flame  
with



with much dark smoak; but if you will try them in a Spoon, heat it first over a Candle, and then blow the flame of lighted paper, or of a Wax Candle on them. To try the scent, blow out the flame of the good Oyls, and your smell will soon discover the ill scent of the *Turpentine* from that of the good Oyl. But on the contrary, all Oyls drawn from Plants by distillation hardly flame, and the flame soon goes out, and the smoak gives a full flavour of the Plant itself, whereas those sophisticated as before, differ from the true in both. The same Oyls are also sophisticated with cheap ones drawn from decayed *Oringes*, and *Lemons*; Your smell on firing will soon discover these mixtures. A third way of sophisticating *Chymical* Oyls is, by mixing with them such Oyls as are made by expression, which are easily discovered by rubbing them on white paper, which being held and dried at the fire, the *Chymical* part soon flies away, and leaves the paper transparent, looking no otherwise then oyled paper; but pure *Chymical* Oyls totally fly away, leaving the paper white as 'twas before, and not transparent, and in this way Oyl of sweet Almonds and Spike have a great share. As for Oyls drawn by *Retort*, they all of them smell so strong of the fire, that neither smell nor tast can well discover any fraud in them. Now for the *fixed Salts*, most of them are made of the Ashes of *Tobacco-stalks*, &c. More might be said for the discovery of the Cheats of other *Chymical* preparations, which shall be reserved to another opportunity, and had *Physicians* just encouragement, they would spend both their time and moneys on the like discoveries for the publick Utility.



*Fifthly*, Add to the former (though perhaps 'tis an error of ignorance only) that if such Simples are prescribed they know not, they fetch from the Herb-women what they give them, true or false; for many of these Women give to very many Plants false names; Now if the *Apothecary* be so careful to consult an Herbal, which few have, and fewer know how to make use of, yet they too frequently mistake the thing by reason of several names given to the same thing, or of one name to several things, and many of them consult the common *Dictionaryes* only, which are most erroneous in the names of natural things; insomuch that in my first practice (being curious of these particulars) I have found two or three mistakes in one prescription, a Catalogue of which mistakes, and names ill given, I had collected, but the late fire consumed it, though many of them my memory hath reserved.

*Sixthly*, Many of the *London*, and most of the *Country-Apothecaries*, buy of the whole-sale men, who affirm of one another, especially of such who gain great Estates in short time, that they cannot sell their Medicines honestly made at so low a rate as they do.

*Seventhly*, I shall need to say little of such *distilled waters*, as discover themselves neither to smell, nor taste, but shall only recite a known Story of an *Apothecary*, who chid his man for sending away a Customer that came for *Plantain* water, telling him there was enough at the Pump.

*Eighthly*, As for *Ointments*, and *Plasters*, they are sold by some at so low a price, viz. 3 d. per l. for *Ointments*, as I have been informed, that 'tis not possible to make them.



them at, and yet such however falsified maintain a trade amongst Country, and low-priced City-*Apothecaries*, and the *Chirurgeons* profess they cannot effect their Cures with the Shop-Medicines, and that this is the reason why they make their own *Oyls*, *Oyntments*, &c. as the *Apothecaries* Charter allows them to do; and why may not *Physicians* think this to be the cause why they sometimes fail in their Cures, as well as *Chirurgeons*? and also make their own Medicines as well as they, especially since the *Apothecary* may as easily falsify, and to greater profit in the one, then in the other?

*Ninthly*, As to their use of bad or decayed *Drugs*, 'tis so common a practice that I shall need to give but one notorious instance of it, and 'tis this; I having occasion to use some Seeds, sent for them to a Seedsmen, the Messenger desiring to have those of the same Year. The Tradesman knowing him to live with me, asked, if they were for Physical use, he replied in the affirmative, whereat he presently shewed him others, which were of 6 or 7 years old (as he confessed) affirming them to be as good for that use as the newest, which he sold only for sowing, and that he kept the others, though never so old, for the *Apothecaries* only, who still asked for them; buying them though 20 years old, not regarding if they were decayed and wholly effete (for no Seed will preserve its vegetative faculty above 7 years much less its Physical) so they could but have them cheap. Besides their pretty knacks (as they call them) of making their Compounds fair to the eye, more vendible, but worse for use, by restoring them to their colour and consistence, that they



they may pass for good, which perhaps 'tis better to pass over in silence, lest by confuting I should teach the younger Fry, who may better be honestly ignorant of them. Now for their substituting one thing for another, and detracting where they please, I shall add but one Story of an *Apothecary*, who commanded his man (who told him they had no good *Rhubarb* in the house) that he should put in double quantity of what they had. Nay I have known one simple of a quite different nature used for a whole composition.

*Tenthly*, I shall conclude this ungrateful Discourse, with saying that by reason more frauds may be committed by the *Apothecaries*, then by any other Trade, and by supposition that gain will tempt most men to dishonest actions, especially where they may act undiscovered; I say, that this seems to be the cause why they have two Supervisors set over them more then any Company that I know of, *viz.* the *Censors* of the *College of Physicians*, and the *Master* and *Wardens* of their own Company.

The next thing is the enlarging and multiplying their Bills and Medicines.

*First*, When in Chronical Diseases a *Physician* is consulted, they go on of their own heads with the same prescription, frequently enough to the Patients great disadvantage, both of health and purse.

*Secondly*, By giving and intermixing Medicines of their own Phancy, with the *Physicians* prescriptions, *viz.* some pleasing Medicine, whereby too often the *Physicians* intention is quite crost, and the effect made uncertain, and hazardous.

*Thirdly*,



*Thirdly*, By giving Medicines themselves on small accounts, and such as require only a good ordering, and no more.

*Fourthly*, By repeating long courses of *Physic* unadvisedly, and needlessly, when either nothing, or very little is needful to be done.

*Fifthly*, By creating diseases in easie mens Phantries, and so decoying them into courses of *Physic*.

*Sixthly*, Some of them get private and worthless receipts, and sell them at what rate they please; Mr. *Delanne* by one Pill alone, though not a very safe one, got some thousands of pounds.

*Seventhly*, If one of them get a private receipt from a *Physician* called by the inventor his *Nosum*, if another *Apothecary* have occasion to use it, he shall be sure to pay lawce for it.

*Eighthly*, Another trick is when the *Patient* is cured, and the *Physician* therefore hath given over his Visits, then comes the *Apothecary* and insinuates by his words and passions, either some danger of relapse, or some other present distemper, and repairs to the *Physician* for a Bill to cure the imaginary disease.

*Ninthly*, But their principal Art of all is, to cry up, and bring in to *Patients* such *Physicians*, who through design must comply with the *Apothecaries* Interest, and such Practisers they extol and cry up for good *Physicians*, which some of them call more expressly good *Apothecaries Physicians*, and such without doubt, the whole Company will endeavour to raise unto a fame and practice. But such as write only for the good of the *Patient*, and not at all for the benefit of the *Apothecary* (as all honest men ought to do) they will endeavour



your to prevent their calling in, or to shuffe them out.

Now this good *Apothecaries Physician*, they describe by his frequent though needless visits, but especially by the multitude of his Bills, by his visiting twice a day, or oftner (a very careful and painful *Doctor*) and by still writing new Medicines, when half the former, or perhaps none of them have been taken, making an *Apothecaries Shop* in the *Patient's House*, planting the Cupboards and Windows with Glasses and Gally-Pots, and not a quarter of the whole made use of. He prescribes a Medicine for every slight complaint, and never goes away from the *Patient*, or the *Patient* from him, without a Bill, for fear of the *Apothecaries* grumbling.

And from this burdening the sick with multiplicity of Medicines, too often contrary to, and destructive one of another, it proceeds that in the *Small Pox*, and *Measles*, many are afraid to use *Physicians*, and commit the care of the sick to *Nurses*, and *Old Women*, and perhaps sometimes not without cause, for by continual multiplication of Medicines, the humours of the body may be made, or kept in too great a state of fluidity, whence the *Flox* followeth. Whereas a Medicine or two duly administred, may suffice to bring them well forth, and then there needs no more but good ordering, unless perhaps some accident arise, which may require further care. And here as well as in other Cases, the *Patient* is to be rectified, who requires the *Physicians* Visits, and yet dismisseth him without a reward, unless he writes a Bill, whereas it might have been better if nothing at all had been prescribed,



scribed, and the *Physician* left to his own judgment; and hence it is that many enlarge their Bills, that the Patient may think he hath enough for his money, whereby the *Apothecary* is gratified, who ought to commend the Medicines as necessary for the sick person, and singular in themselves, whereas in truth this great farcy proves ungrateful to the tast and stomach; inconvenient to health, by curing one disease, but creating more; and by this means keeping them continually in a way of *Physic*.

A third abuse of the *Apothecaries* relates to the prices of their Medicines; first they put what rates they please on their Simples, Compounds, and Receipts, and none are judges of them, but those of their own Trade; insomuch that they gain a 11 d. in the Shilling, if they say true of themselves. Whereas the *Colleges of Physicians* beyond Sea, yearly set a tax upon the *Simples*, and *Compounds* of the Shops. So that the Customer can tell the price of what he hath occasion to use, and not stand at the mercy of the *Apothecary* to rate them as he lists, and to this purpose they put in print the prices of them every year.

Secondly, Suppose a *Physician* hath prescribed a Pint of *Juleb*, &c. to be taken at four several times, some *Apothecaries* carry not the whole pint at once, but divide it into four parts, and carry but one at a time, and so of other Medicines, and then will charge their Bill for every single *Potion*, or Draught, as they ought the whole Pint; so that by this Art they gain four times as much for the whole Medicine as in Conscience they ought; and a *Juleb*, which cost them six  
C pence,



pence, will be rated at 10, 12, or more Shillings. But perhaps 'tis fit they should be paid for their created Visits; and for this unnecessary officiousness, persons of great estates may be contented to pay roundly, if they please.

*Thirdly*, When a *Physician* hath prescribed 20 Pills, some of the *Apothecaries* will make 30 of them, under pretence the *Patient* cannot swallow them else; now reckoning each Pill at a certain rate (as they usually do) they gain a third part more then they ought.

*Fourthly*, To advance the prices, you shall hardly ever see a Bill without *Bezoar*, or *Pearls* in it, to make people think them very chargeable; whereas sometimes there is not above a grain or two of these dear ingredients in the prescription, and a few grains of these or *Ambergrise* doubles or trebles the prices of the Medicines, and are sure never to be omitted in their Bills, besides the gilding of the Pills, and covering their *Bolusses*, and *Electuaries* with *Gold* (which have only an imaginary and no real use in Medicines so used) much inhanseth their prices, and a rich *Cordial* inserted exceedingly advanceth most of their Bills; or if *China* or any other dear ingredient be in the receipt 'tis not omitted.

*Fifthly*, Some *Apothecaries* offer, and perhaps some *Physicians* have taken presents to help them to Customers, which must necessarily be squeezed out of their higher-rated Medicines.

*Sixthly*, I have heard some prudent persons complain of their bringing in their Bills but once in a year, or two; supposing they made them pay *Lombards*  
Usury



Usury for their forbearance. And through this neglect they sometimes lose their money, and whether they raise other Mens Bills to make up these losses, I affirm not.

*Seventhly*, Another cause of raising their prices is a necessity of keeping in their Shops such Medicines as are seldom used, or such as must upon necessity decay, and grow useles. Now suppose they throw such away, this reason is good, but you will find a remedy for this hereafter.

To conclude this second Complaint. By reason of the dear Bills of the *Apothecaries*, many are deterred from going to the *Physician*, and run to common *Mountebanks*, and I think this to be the reason (as some disabused persons have confessed to me) why they have so much cryed up the abilities of *Apothecaries* for practice, because they would save their credit in taking *Physic* of them. *St. Augustine* candidly in his Book of Confessions declares, that through covetousness he repeated a course of *Physic*, without consulting the *Physician* (who had before cured him of the same disease) to his greater charge, danger of his life, and offence against God.

Having done with the *Apothecaries* abuses relating chiefly to the *Patients* Health and Purse, and such as are willfully committed (though all of them reflect on the *Physician*) I shall now touch on a few neglects, and mistakes proving often very mischievous.

*First*, They frequently mistake the *Physicians* directions, which of what dangerous consequence it is, every one cantell.



*Secondly*, They carry a Medicine appointed for one sick person to another.

*Thirdly*, They often neglect the sending of Medicines in due time, especially such as have no Servants, or but raw ones, when the Master is out of Town, or upon long visits.

Having now done with the *Apothecaries* as they relate principally to the sick, I shall in the next place speak of them, as they relate to *Physicians*, and that either to the profession in general, or to the particular practisers of it.

As to the *Physicians* in general, they endeavour to extirpate them, and some have been so bold to say, they hope in few years to see never a *Physician* in London, and to profess they will scramble with them for practice. And that this hath been and is their intention, the following particulars will clearly demonstrate.

*First*, They have always endeavoured and aimed at the depression and ruine of the *College of Physicians*, the only *Corporation* of that Art in England, considering rightly, that the depression of the *College* is their interest and rise, and that the total subversion of it will make them absolute Masters in *Physic*, and *Physicians* their Servants. In Order hereunto they have constantly, both publickly and privately opposed the *College* in whatsoever hath been offered to settle the liberty of practice on them, their only priviledg and subsistence, though they have been offered all they could desire for the security of their Trade, and legal employment, and far beyond whatsoever any *Corporation* of *Apothecaries* in all, or in any forreign part enjoy,



enjoy, yet nothing would ever content them, but an unlawful, unreasonable, dangerous, and destructive Usurpation of liberty to some pretended practice, that thereby they might gain the whole.

*Secondly*, They have continually traduced the *College*, and troubled them in *Parliaments*, at the *Council-Board*, &c. to their great charge and molestation. And for such their great demerits against the *College*, the *King* and his *Council*, Anno 1639. granted a *Quo Warranto* to the *Attorney General* (the *Judges* having first heard the whole matter) to take away their *Charter*, which doubtless had been effected, had not the troubles, and long civil War immediately ensued.

*Thirdly*, And in this present *Parliament*, how did they endeavour to prepossess the Members of the House of Commons with strange, and false prejudices and assertions drawn from irrational, and groundless suppositions, making us the greatest Tyrants in the World, inferring ridiculously that a *Lady*, or Charitable *Gentlewoman* (for in that believing Sex they have gain'd a great deal of ground by their falsities) might not give the Poor a *Cordial*, &c. without being questioned by the *College*; whereas they know in their Consciences, that the *College* hath power enough by their first *Charter* to act as much in this kind against themselves, and all other persons, as they desired of this present *Parliament*; And yet neither *Apothecary*, or any other who practised charitably, were ever troubled for so doing. They pretended also they were abridged wholly from their Trade, and might not sell a penny-worth of *Mithridate*, &c. without a *Doctors Bill*.



Bill. Whereas there's not a word in the Charter to that purpose; the sole intent whereof was to keep them as well as other *Mountebanks*, from prescribing (which they call selling) the *Physicians* only livelihood. And as to the Bill it self so much railed on by them in *Westminster-Hall*, *Coffee-Houses*, *Ale-Houses*, &c. 'tis easie to make it out, that this Charter as proposed gives the *Apothecaries* more liberty and freedom of exercising their lawful Trade, then is enjoyed in any other Nation, where both Corporations are erected; and that it doth in nothing infringe, or diminish their freedom as *Citizens*, or their Charter as *Apothecaries*; and that our Charter was compiled by some, and perused and approved by others the most eminent *Lawyers* in *England* for Worth and Place; and yet none of these could find any thing in it either Illegal, Tyrannical, or unfit to be desired of the *Parliament*. Nay many mis-informed Members being rightly instructed in the true state of the matter, have acknowledged the justice of it; And was no more then King *James* by his Letters Patents, dated the 18<sup>th</sup> of *October*, in the 15<sup>th</sup> year of his Reign, granted to the said *College*; near about the same time the *Apothecaries* Charter was granted; and being almost nothing else but a supply of what was short in their former Grants, *viz.* That whereas their Charter granted by King *Henry* the Eighth, gave power to punish offenders in the practice of Physic; and because there was no power given to summon, nor penalty imposed for the non-appearance of such offenders; therefore by their non-appearance, the said power of the *Censors* was eluded; for no such offenders would appear before



fore them, and consequently no punishment could be inflicted on them, according to the true meaning of the said Act. Now this Charter so much declaimed against, prayed only a supply of this defect, and also better and more necessary ways and means, without which, such and all other offenders against the lives and healths of his Majesties Subjects could not be discovered; and they had reason not to doubt a grant of the said power, since by the said Charter a power was granted them to imprison offenders, whom the Keepers of the Prisons would not receive, because no command, nor penalty was imposed on them, for not receiving such offenders sent by the *Censors* (a thing ridiculous to our present Lawyers) however this defect was supplied by an Act in the first of *Queen Mary*. Now whereas since the making of the said Acts and Powers, granted to the *College*, several other Trades, besides the *Apothecaries*, relating to Physic (being then all Members of the Grocers Company) *viz.* Druggists, Chymists, Sellers of Strong-waters and Oyls, have arose distinct from each others, and many abuses have been and are committed in each of them, as they all confess. The said Charter prays for the publick good only (there being the same reason of all) they might have the same power of Surveying them also, as they have of the *Apothecaries*, which most of the Judicious, and sober of the said Companies, as well in relation to their own private profit, and also the publick, by having all Medicines good, did not oppose, but liked well of. Nay there was nothing in the said Charter, but what was judged good by all or most of the Judges of *England*, several times convened



ned by Order of the King and his Council, to deliver their opinions concerning some Quæries, which comprised the main of what was desired and petitioned for by the *College*, of this present Parliament. But before the *Committee* could make report to the House, the *Parliament* was adjourned, whereupon *Apothecaries* falsly gave out, and made people believe our Charter was taken from us. And in this transaction before the *Committee*, one *Cocket* an *Apothecary* exhibited in the name of the *Chymists* such a Scandalous Libel, as the *Committee* would not suffer to be read; drawn as some conceive by the assistance, and countenance, if not contrivance of his Company.

*Lastly*, The Company of the *Apothecaries* are bound by their Charter to bring their Servants (before they make them Free) to be examined by the *Censors* of our *College*, and to have their approbation of their fitness to exercise their Art, and set up their Trade. Now that they have herein neglected their duty, and consequently may be dis-franchised and lose their Freedoms for this omission, 'tis manifest not only by the vapours of some of them to some members of our Body, that they never underwent this examination; but also by comparing of our Register (wherein are recorded the names of all such as have been examined) with theirs, if they keep any for this purpose. Sure I am, that in two years together, when I was *Censor*, very few, if any, did appear to their examination, whereas yearly a very great number set up their Trades. Nay since the firing of *London* not one *Apothecaries* Servant hath been examined by the *Censors*, for more then these three Years last past, in which time  
perhaps



perhaps no less then 100 have been made free by the Company.

Before our presenting this Charter to the *Parliament*, they would admit no Arbitrators betwixt our Corporation, and Theirs, not contenting themselves with their Charter lately granted in *King James's Reign*, and that by the procurement of some of our *College* for these unthankful persons. For they would not refer themselves (as the *Chirurgeons* without many words or dispute did) to the most upright, and most knowing Sir *Orlando Bridgeman* then *Lord Chief Justice*, and now *Lord Keeper*, for a clause to be by him drawn, in order to preserve their immunities and Charter; which they refused, fearing belike he would exclude them from the Practice of *Physic*, which the Law hath already done, and which is all they could doubt of; but the Corporation of *Chirurgeons* did acquiesce in the clause drawn by the said *Lord Chief Justice*, and never appeared before the Committee against the said Charter.

Their increasing dis-respect, and undervaluing the *College*, appears in this, that of late years they place our *Censors* invited to their new Masters Dinner, at their second Table; whereas always heretofore they were seated at the first Table, next to the Master of the Company.

And to hinder the building of a New *College*, and the Contribution of the Honorary Fellows thereunto, they tell them that we deceived them in their admission, and never intend the building of a New *College*, though a large contribution hath been made, and



ground purchased in order thereunto by the Members of their Corporation.

And their further design appears in their great triumphing, and rejoycing when any illiterate person hath gained any reputation for a Cure performed, especially where *Physicians* have been concerned, though the *Patients* neglect or obstinateness, have been the sole cause of this non-performance, and by their continued detraction from *Physicians*, and applauding themselves, hoping by the former, that people will think such *Mountebanks* able to do better Cures than learned *Physicians*, and then they can easily insinuate themselves superior to such *Mountebanks*, and consequently to *Physicians*. By the latter, they seek to depress, and level us to themselves, being conscious they can never rise to that worth and ability, required in a *Physician*.

Another manifest sign of their endeavour to usurp our Practice is, their absurd calling the sick their *Patients*, for 'tis most certain that in all reason and language the *Physician* and *Patient* only have relation to each other, but not to the *Apothecary*, who is but a Tradesman, and manual Operator. Now a Tradesman and his Customer, or Chapman, are Relatives each to other, but those *Apothecaries* who intrude themselves and usurp on our profession, may call their Customers *Patients*, and that in a true literal sense, when by their ignorance they make them really sufferers under them; and if they deny *Apothecary* and *Patient* to be non-sense, they shew themselves pitifully ignorant in the Laws, and Rules of Reason, or else profess



profess themselves *Physicians*. And the like non-sence they commonly utter by calling *Physicians* that make their own Medicines, *Mountebanks* and *Quacks*, whereas none can be such but those who practise without Lawful Authority, as the *Apothecaries*, &c. do; and they are not ignorant in this their malice, that the Law of *England* would punish them roundly for so saying; And were I troublesome or vindictive, I could make some of them examples, but I freely remit their slanders in this kind that are past.

Having done with the main part of the Disease, next follows the Remedy; and the only firm and proper one will appear to be, that *Physicians* make their own Medicines; the benefit whereof to the publick, the reasonableness of the thing it self, the necessity in relation to the *Physician*, will be manifest by that which follows.

And *First*, All that hath been said demonstrates this last proposition.

*Secondly*, The desire of most persons, and the censure of all wise men, who say we are wanting to our own interest, if we make not use of the remedy in our own hands, performing our Art in all its members, whereof making of Medicines is a chief one.

*Thirdly*, The common practice, and constant usage of all former and antient *Physicians* in all other Nations, and in *England* also (for 'tis easie to say when there was not one *Apothecary* in this Kingdom) the Laws of our Nation, nay even the *Apothecaries* Charter allow it, the Language of all *Physicians*, our *College* voting it honourable so to do, nay *Apothecaries* themselves com-



mending it in such *Physicians* as buy their Medicines of them.

*Fourthly*, The Kings *Physicians* have formerly made the Kings Medicines, as 'tis manifest by my Lord *Coke*, in his 4<sup>th</sup>. Book of the Institutes, *part* 4. *pag.* 251. where he comments on *Rot. Pat.* 32 H. 6. m. 17. He there first recites the Roll it self, where in are appointed (the King being then sick) 3 *Physicians* and 2 *Chirurgeons*, to freely minister and execute Phyfic about the Kings Person, and there are also recited in general, Medicines external, and internal. And on this Roll *Coke* among other things infers, that the *Physicians* may use the aid of those *Chirurgeons* named in the Warrant, but of no *Apothecary*, but to prepare and do all things themselves, &c. And the reason of all this is, the precious regard had of the health and safety of the King, who is the head of the Common-wealth. And I am told by one of his present Majesties *Physicians*, that the King himself affirmed heretofore we are unwise in neglecting our duty herein, and lately of these papers, that 'twas the publick interest so to do.

*Fifthly*, *Chirurgeons* (as before) will not trust them to make external Remedies; and the King, and *East-India* Company commit the making of their Chests for their Fleets to the *Chirurgeons*.

*Sixthly*, Have not Ladies and Charitable Gentlemen their Closets well furnished with various Medicines for the Poors use, and for their own also, when *Physicians* are called to their houses in the Country? Distillers of Strong-waters, Makers of Plaisters, Confectioners make Medicines bought by the *Apothecaries*,  
Ale-



Ale-Houses sell purging Drinks, and Book-sellers sell Chymical Medicines, and all this without much regret of the *Apothecaries*. But if a *Physician* intermix a Medicine with theirs, though the *Patients* life be saved thereby, what noise, and murmuring, and proclaiming of it the next Market-day to the rest of their Company? to what purpose any one may judg.

*Seventhly*, Why should not *Physicians*, being lawfully authorized thereunto, practise with their own Medicines, as well as the *Apothecaries* with theirs, though against Law, and incurring thereby the penalty of 5 *l.* per Month, which the *College* never troubled them for, or exacted of them?

*Eighthly*, *Physicians* will be necessitated to it for their subsistence and honour, and to preserve their Art from being prostituted to illiterate persons, the *Apothecaries* becoming now their Competitors.

*Ninthly*, By this means *Physicians* will avoid multitudes of inconveniencies, proceeding from writing of Bills, and the *Apothecaries* Visits.

*First*, The mistakes, and frauds in the Ingredients, especially committed by the great practising *Apothecaries*, who may, as appears by the following story, be suspected to send, instead of what was prescribed, the remains of his own practice, or else some cast-by Medicines; for else how could it be when a Medicine was prescribed to stand in Infusion or steep a whole night, that it should be brought two hours after the Bill was written, even the very same Evening? Which by accident the *Patient* confessed, wanting the expected success.

*Secondly*, By this course *Physicians* will avoid the many opprobrious terms cast upon them by *Apothecaries*:

As



As *First*, In saying that if he had not omitted or added something, the *Patient* might have miscarried; which he may say at pleasure without any contradiction, though doubtless many have been killed by this means.

*Secondly*, By saying the Bill could never have been made without some alteration of the *Apothecary*, thereby insinuating the *Doctors* ignorance in compounding.

*Thirdly*, In saying the *Doctor* is not versed in Medicines, because forsooth he varieth not at every Visit, and multiplieth not new Bills for the *Apothecaries* profit.

*Fourthly*, In saying they teach *Physicians*, and help them to, and in their practice. The first and last are vile and foolish Scandals; as to the Second, 'tis true indeed, that younger *Apothecaries* recommend *Physicians* to their acquaintance; but 'tis no longer then they have learned enough (as they think) to set up for themselves.

*Fifthly*, In saying, they knew before-hand what such a *Doctor* would prescribe, and hence it is they have nick-named some *Physicians* of no mean practice, by the Medicines they frequently use, which names in respect to the persons, I shall conceal; and of such *Physicians*, they brag they can prescribe as well as they. But if a *Physician* advise things unknown to them, or out of the common tract, then they say the *Doctor* intends to puzzle them.

*Sixthly*, He will avoid the censure of his Bills, which every pitiful fellow, nay their very Boys will absolve or condemn at pleasure, and that openly too, nay some-  
times



times to the *Patient* himself, and thereby call in his good *Apothecaries Physician*. Now what a shame is it, that a *Physicians* credit and livelihood, should stand at the mercy of such pitiful ignorant, and self-ended Souls? I have heard one of them say of the now most Eminent Practiser in *London*, that his Boy could write as good a Method as he, and that he understood the practice of *Physic* as well as any *Physician* in *London*, except 2, or 3, though the same person was soon made to confess, he neither knew the Disease, Cause, nor Cure of a *Pleurisy*, pretended to be thoroughly understood by him.

*Thirdly*, He will avoid the trouble put upon him after he hath writ his Bill, by the *Apothecaries* ignorance in not understanding it, who to be informed came to the *Doctor* heretofore, with their Hats off, but now send their Boys, who soon put theirs on. Such respect do they give *Physicians*, when they come to them as to their Masters to teach them.

*Fourthly*, He will avoid the impertinent Visits of the *Apothecaries*, and non-sensical, troublesome, and discouraging, frightful discourses to the *Patient*, of whom no man can expect more then the Common Proverb gives to Praters, and impertinent Speakers, *That they talk like Apothecaries*.

*Fifthly*, He will avoid the mischiefs from their Visits, who by their shrugs, signs, or words, may diminish the *Physicians* reputation, and good opinion, whether in his skill, or Medicines, whereby good Medicines are neglected, and the expectation of a good success upon the use of them taken away, or at least causing an  
averse-



averseness to them; which actions do exceedingly prejudice the *Patient*, in reference to his Cure.

*Sixthly*, He will avoid this inconvenience, that some *Apothecaries* have attributed the Cure to some of their intermixed Medicines, or alteration of the *Doctors* Bill.

*Seventhly*, He will avoid that incivility of such of them, who in the *Physicians* presence, will feel the Pulse, judge of the Urine, discourse the Cause, Nature, what the Disease is, and what will be the issue of it, propose Medicines, nay sometimes endeavour to advise with the *Physician*, to contradict and dispute with him, to compare and set himself above the *Physician*; and to say truth, these odious and intolerable Comparisons and intrusions daily complained of by my *Colleagues*, were a great cause of my departing from them.

*Eighthly*, He will avoid those Scandals they have opportunity to raise, that such a *Physician* is Covetous, Proud, Negligent, and minds not his practice, and the like without the least ground, and are frequently by such Artifices, the Cause of introducing another *Physician*, knowing that thereby more Bills will come to their File, and many times the former Medicines be layed aside, and in this shuffling in and out of *Physicians*, they have commonly a great share.

*Ninthly*, *Apothecaries* being now Competitors with *Physicians* for practice, and down-right Enemies to such as make their own Medicines; why should not we suspect them of this false Play, by telling the *Patient* the *Doctors* Medicine will not work (which  
he



he knows well enough how to effect) and then to tell him he will prepare him one of his own that will work, when perhaps that he calls his own preparation, was nothing but what the *Doctor* had prescribed before; and by this Artifice to advance himself above the *Physician*.

Another mischief in sending Bills to the *Apothecaries* is, that though the *Apothecaries* be honest (and who can tell which of them is so?) yet the Servants neglect, or ignorance (to whom they commit the whole care of dispensing, and are intruth the *Apothecaries* (and not their Masters) may mar all in their Masters absence, who is visiting abroad, or at his recreations.

And now I have done with the unpleasant task of raking into the faults of the *Apothecaries*, and with discoursing how *Physicians* may save themselves from their devices, I shall next shew the advantages that will come to the *Patient*, the *Physician*, and people, by this way of remedy proposed.

As for the *Patients*, they may hereby save most of the great charges of *Apothecaries* Bills, which in long Cases amount to very great sums in a year, although the *Physician* hath received very few Fees; the *Physician* may so order his business as to take his Fee for his Visit only, and at home such competent Fees for his advice alone, as are usually given, and in both Cases take nothing for his Medicines, and so save the *Patient* the whole charge of the *Apothecaries* Bill, which very seldom comes short, and for the most part manifoldly exceeds the *Physicians* Fees. And this he may very well do by making fewer, less chargable,



more effectual, and durable Medicines then the Shops afford, and suffer nothing in the non-use, or decay of his Medicines; because he need make no more then will serve his own practice: and I must here profess, that which I intended not to have published, that this is the course I have generally taken, for the four Months last past, since I made my own Medicines, but that some *Apothecaries* have given out most falsely, that I have sent in Bills to *Patients* for money; but to convince such of their wonted lying, I do hereby oblige my self to give 100 pound to any of them that shall produce such a Bill. *Secondly*, This way will not clog the *Patient* with more Medicines then are needful, nor will omit any thing may conduce to his recovery, for if he fails in either, 'tis to his prejudice, either in spending more Medicines which cost him money, or in not performing his Cure, which loseth his practice.

But I do not propose this course of mine as a general rule to all *Physicians*, but leave this to every mans private judgment; Neither do I hereby bind my self to the same practice, because some few Cases may fall out (though to an equal advantage to the *Patient*) may perswade me to the contrary. For I find some persons of that perswasion, as to think they have not given satisfaction, unless they have payed for the Medicines; but to such persons, I have always allowed them to give me what they pleased themselves, for the cure only, to the full satisfaction of both parties. Though I will not deny but some persons out of gratitude for their Cure, have rewarded me beyond this proposal. Some of my acquaintance have desired me to be more plain



plain in this last Paragraph, especially in that part of it where I say I do not bind my self to the said practice; and to declare more fully the Cases that may perswade me to the contrary; which are these and such as these. *First*, Where *Patients* of their own free offers will contract with the *Physicians*, or have formerly too meanly rewarded him for his Cure, in both which the Statutes of our *College* allow a contract to be made with *Patients*. Another case is, if a *Physician* be consulted once, and for his Fee hath given Medicines *gratis*, if the *Patient* frequently send for his Medicines without the least reward at all. Or if the *Patient* living far in the Country, having (as before) once consulted the *Physician*, as in the last case, and shall for weeks, nay months, send for the same Medicines. Or if the *Patients* friend shall recommend a Medicine to another friend of his unknown to the *Physician*; and where he gives no Counsel, if a *Physician* in the Country shall desire some of his Medicines, which are all the cases that occur at present; I say in some of these, the *Physician* must needs be payed for his Medicines; but in other, 'tis rational he should be payed for his advice, as he desireth new Medicines, which charge will be far short also of the *Apothecaries* Medicines, whether repeated or prescribed upon new advice.

Now the great charge of *Apothecaries* Bills, and nauseousness of their Medicines, appears to be the cause why long habitual diseases, as the Kings Evil, Falling-Sickness, Convulsions, Melancholies, and Winds in the Bowels, Gouts, &c. become seldom relieved, though they may with a constant, facile way, be perfectly cured, where neither the great charge,



nor unpleasantness of Medicines, deterr them from a continued necessary use of Remedies. And for the same reasons many will be kept from relapses, who being tired out with taking variety of Medicines, give over before the tone and strength of their parts is restored, which is necessary to be done in all long Diseases.

He may so contrive his Medicines, first, That they may be taken in small quantity, and be made more grateful to the tast, and stomach, and perform more then those of the *Apothecaries*, commonly slovenly made, and of themselves Fulsom, Nauseous, and Sluggish. Secondly, His Medicines made for particular persons, may last Weeks, Months, nay Years, whereas the *Apothecaries* Drinks, especially in the Summer time, must be renewed once, or twice every day, to the excessive charge of the *Patient*.

That his Medicines may be fewer, is evident in *Physicians* that practise in the Country, who ride far to *Patients*, and carry in their Mans Cloak-bag, Medicines enough, not only for the person he is sent to, but also for most other persons, and Cases he meets with in his Travels, and therefore his Closet needs contain but few, yet noble and generous Medicines, and such as may serve him upon all occasions, supplying what's defective from the Fields or Gardens. He may avoid all pompous, useless, chargable Medicines of the Shops, and substitute in their place, cheaper, and more conducive to health; He may very well lay aside the precious Stones, Saphir, Emeralds, &c. the high priced Magistral of Coral, and Pearl, made worse by their preparations, or rather destroyed thereby in their Virtue,



as also Unicorns Horn, and Bezoar, all which are now rarely used alone, but in the received Compositions; He may also spare the charges of leaf-gold, for gilding Pots, Glasses, Pills, Electuaries, Boles, &c. which serves only to raise the Bill.

He may teach the *Patients* facile and easie Remedies, as to make a Clyster, apply Blisters, or Medicines to the feet, where they are needful, &c. and in many Cases may cure by well ordering his *Patient* only, without any Remedies at all, or but very few, being free to act for the *Patients* Health, without the grumbling of the *Apothecary*; and many other ways he may daily meet with, very advantageous to the *Patient*.

He will have little use of Conserves, Syrups, Lohocks, &c. a greater part whereof Sugar makes up, which doth more hurt to most persons, then the other ingredients do good.

As for Infusions and Decoctions, he will find by experiment, how much liquor, or *Menstruum* will suffice to extract the full vertue of the ingredients, and what are helps, or hinderances thereunto, and thereby neither suffer loss in the quantity, or quality of them.

He will discover the inefficacy of many of the Syrups and other Medicines in the Shops, made of such ingredients, the qualities whereof, what with boiling, what with the great quantity of Sugar necessary to keep them, are either made useless, or opposite to the ends they are proposed for. Especially in such Plants, Seeds, and Flowers, which consist of fine volatile parts, and even in drying and pounding, or the  
least



least boiling exhale and evaporate, and therefore in the common way of ordering them, lose their whole vertue or most of their efficacy, and alter in their properties. From which by several methods known to some *Physicians*, very generous and singular Medicines may be produced.

He need not use so large Compositions consisting of such confused and contrary ingredients, and will find good reason to lay aside those unintelligible and unreasonable Compositions of Mithridate, and Treacle, and the so much magnified Treacle-water, and will substitute better in their places, of smaller charge, and less trouble; and this all *Physicians* I have conversed with, and the *College* it self, by their Book published for the common good, in the year before the Plague, and all those *Physicians* in this City, who make or intend to make their own Medicines, do confess.

But here *Apothecaries* open wide, and cry out that the *Physicians* are great Cheats, and envious persons, for continuing such flat Medicines, and not recommending to the World, or rather their Shops, our greater secrets. The answer is easie, that the Medicines in our *Pharmacopæa*, are the best of any other *Pharmacopæa* in the World, both for their goodness, and well preparing of them, whether they be Chymical, or Galenical; and therefore the same scandal will ly on all *Pharmacopæa's* whatsoever. *Secondly*, I say that within these few last experimental years, the practical part of Physic hath been much improved (as well as Anatomy) especially by such as have put their hands to work; and therefore till such improvement, this could  
not



not be well amended. Furthermore, in making new Dispensatories, a full consent must be had, and 'twere not fit to move where the motion were not like to take place, for though private men invent new ways of compounding and preparing, and using their own invented Medicines, yet 'twill require a long time to make them publickly known, and brought into common use, and till that be done 'tis not possible to have them brought into a common Dispensatory; besides, no man would make a motion for such a reformation, unless he were well furnished with specificks, and then 'twill be required of him to expose them to the whole World, which how incongruous it will be, every man may easily conceive; hereto add, that the *Apothecaries* think themselves able enough by this present Dispensatory, to out-beard *Physicians*, and do publickly profess (as hath been said) that they understand the practice of Physic as well as they; how much more would they have said so, if they had been made Masters of these secrets? And here I shall admonish those of my own Faculty, who have devoted their Studies, Labours, and Purses, for the improvement of their Art, to consider, that as natural things have their bounds and limits, and that there is no new Creation of them, and besides, that these things have their bounds also of improvement, beyond which 'tis impossible for man to go; and that by a good method and industry, that end may be attained; (though at present I must confess, no Art is more capable of enlargement than ours :) I say let all consider, and they will find, what a vast encouragement they have to improve their knowledg so far, that they shall not only be able



able to leave mankind destitute of no remedy Nature did ever produce; but also restore and settle those Honours ignorant men would usurp, upon the Learned Professors of this Science; and I see no reason why *Physicians* should communicate their secrets to such persons, who will make use of them, to the ruine of the Inventors, which is indeed a failure of trust, for when a *Physician* writes his Bill, he trusts the *Apothecary* only with making the Medicine for a particular occasion, and not to make use of it as his own when he pleaseth for his own profit, and the Inventor have no further benefit by it, then perhaps one single advantage.

*Lastly*, When Dispensatories were first made, the *Apothecaries* were really *Physicians* Servants, and wholly at their command, not in the least intrenching on their business, and the rates of Medicines were reasonable; which superiority over them still continues only in their prescriptions, the forms whereof are always commanding to take this and that, and to mix them, &c. but within these few last years they have set up for themselves, and advanced the rates beyond all reason; and to be sure, the more we teach them by our Books, the more they will transgress in both.

He may receive encouragement from what he discovers, that is more then ordinarily useful, whereas by writing Bills, he soon communicates to the ignorant and lazy, who will neither spend time nor money to advance the Art, but while the one is at work to his great charge, loss of time, much pains and trouble, the others seek by petty tricks and Arts to gain a name,  
and



and profit from the industrious. Nay some *Mountebanks* have been set up by purchasing receipts of the *Apothecary* or his Servants. And one of them told me, he set up a *Quack* by selling and commending to him a Medicine he had long kept in his Shop and could not otherwise put off, and that by degrees he made him a famous practiser among the ignorant and poor people. An Act quite contrary to the interest of the Company.

Hence also will arise an emulation amongst *Physicians*, who shall exceed each other in noble remedies, and from thence a full and happy improvement of whatsoever God hath created for the recovery of mans health impaired; for from the *Physician* alone the advancement of Physic is to be expected. How many simples of unknown properties have been brought into use, to the great comfort of the sick? and many more may be, as also many preparations, both simple and compound, both in the Galenical, and Chymical practice, and by this means the Art will be advanced to its just dignity, now much diminished, dishonoured, and near to be lost by the intrusion of ignorant persons.

Greater respect will be given to such *Physicians*, as being the immediate instruments of life and health, who will derive unto themselves that which is now given to the *Apothecaries*, which proceeds chiefly from fear lest they should do the *Patient* hurt; and so their honour will be doubled, which every *Physician* looks principally at; but the *Apothecary* being not so far concerned, looks chiefly at his own profit, and regards not the *Patients* charge. For the greater the Pa-



*tients* charge, the greater must needs be the *Apothecaries* gain; whereas on the contrary, 'tis the *Physicians* Interest to cure the *Patient* with the greatest ease.

He may proceed on safely and securely in his well experienced Medicines, having before him not only what he hath prescribed for the same *Patient*, but for all others in the like Case, and thereby keep in memory what he would have forgot, if his Bill had remained on the *Apothecaries* File; viz. the Medicines and their success. By means whereof *Physicians* do not advance their knowledg so far as they might; for how is it possible they should remember the particulars of their Bills writ some days before? and therefore know not how to proceed so well. But the *Apothecaries* having before them the whole series of Medicines, brag they can do more then the *Physicians*, and by this means insinuate the same opinion into people.

The *Physician* will be consulted in the beginning of Diseases, to the safety and little expence of the *Patient*, who will not go first to the *Apothecary*, who practiseth on him till the Case is desperate, and then calls in a *Physician* when 'tis too late; and if he dyes, the *Physician* must carry away the disgrace alone; but if he recover, the *Apothecary*, if he be so minded, by some trick will share with him in the honour: and by this resort of people to the *Apothecaries* in beginning of Diseases, we meet with few Cases of easie Cure, but are chiefly made use of in dangerous Diseases, or those of short period, or such as are accompanied with great pains and torments, to our great and continual anxiety.

The



The *Physicians* experience hereby as 'tis surer, so 'twill be greater.

He will make use of no Medicines but the choicest, and when they are in their full vigour, and such as are durable, and after once or twice Tryal of them, will seldom fail in his expected success; which cannot be certainly had without some tryal. For though a man buy the choicest ingredients, *viz. Sena*, which may appear to the Senses very good, yet he cannot positively say, how well, nor yet what quantity of it will work, till he hath made use of it. But afterwards he may confidently apply the whole parcel he hath bought to his purpose. The like may be instanced in a crop of Wheat or Barley, which the skillfullest Husband-man cannot tell how they will yield for Bread, or Malt, till he hath used them. Now how is it possible that a *Physician* can with any certainty make use of several Shops, since there is so great difference in the ingredients? and 'tis certain the same Medicine made by several *Apothecaries*, shall differ much in colour, smell, and taste, and consequently effect too; which cannot proceed from any other cause then the difference of the ingredients themselves, or by omitting some ingredients, or by substituting one thing for another; or by distinct ways of preparing them. The same also may be said of Compositions, much more of Chymical Medicines so much sophisticated, and of so much danger and hazard, if not well prepared, which he cannot discover till he hath seen the effect of them, unless it be such as he makes himself, nor those neither till he hath made some tryal of them.

He will much enlarge *Materia Medica*, Chymistry  
F 2 and



and Pharmacy, and discover the grounds of them, and wherein the efficacy of remedies lyes, and thereby lay open a whole Ocean for new discoveries, and by the by observe many useful products and Phænomena of Nature, to the great improvement of his Art, and sound Natural Philosophy, which are not taken notice of by *Apothecaries*, and their Servants; for all which they have neither will nor skill.

As to the improvement of Medicines, this may be added, by the experimenting *Physician*, that in distill'd waters he will consider and find which of them will afford any virtue, which only phlegm equivalent but to Conduit-water, which of them will keep long, and in perfection, which soon or in what time decay, and spend them accordingly, and in compound distill'd waters, will find cause to lay aside many simples as nothing conducing, or rather weakning the efficacy of the Medicine designed; whereby much charge and trouble will be spared, and better compositions be made.

He will gain and keep to himself *Patients*, who have diseases they are unwilling should be known by *Apothecaries* and their Boys, and all such as have a mind to turn over their File.

The *Patient* will have better opinion of the Medicines, and confidence in the use of them, and the *Physician* be more satisfied in his Conscience, and better assured of the success.

He will gain reputation to his Art, by restoring it to its first institution and practice, by the Founders and Heroes of Physic.

'Tis



'Tis convenient to adjoin here the old way of educating young men into the practice of Physic, and surely the safer for the Patients health; and I could wish 'twere restored to its former usage, which was this. The Senior *Physician* carried his Son, or such as he intended to succeed him in his practice, along with him when he visited his Patients, discovering, and discoursing with them the disease, cause, method of cure, and what remedies were fit to be applied to the present Case, and to try them what they would do in that or the like Case. And when his occasions would not permit him to visit himself, he then sent one of his Scholars to inform him of the condition of the sick person, and the effect of his Medicines; and also when the said Scholars had leisure, they were employ'd to help to gather, prepare, and make, or oversee the compounding of Medicines. And such Scholars they call'd *filiis Artis*, sons of Art. Some of the Professors in Foreign parts practise the most of this to this very day, with such Gentlemen as travel thither to study Physic, confirming their reading with experience.

By constantly practised Medicines he will find out a better method of Cure, and may hereby arrive at the true causes of diseases.

He will observe what Medicines by precipitation or other ways, alter, destroy, or weaken one another, whereby of good ingredients singly used, a bad Composition may be made, and therefore fail in the success expected. Many more things might be here added, which a skillful observer, and versed in the way to make experiments (no easie matter) will daily find, and at present I do not so much as give hints of them,  
but



but shall hereafter, as occasion and opportunity require.

He will have more scope to be charitable to the poor, and more civil and obliging to his friends, by curing them *gratis*, or at small charges.

He need not trouble himself with ways of concealing the use of his Medicines, by setting down no directions in his Bill, but giving them to the *Patient*, which the *Apothecary* soon learns; nor with giving some of his own Medicines at a pinch, which if they succeed not, to be sure the *Apothecaries* will cry down in all places, but will conceal all eminently good successes, as disadvantageous to themselves; nor by placing their *Arcana's* in the Shops of those *Apothecaries* they commonly make use of; nor by recommending their *Patients* to such *Apothecaries* they intrust their secrets with. For then great complaints are made that the *Physicians* carry away their Customers, and take away their livelihood, affirming they are willing to fetch them from the prescribing *Doctors Apothecaries*. To which I answer, that they do fetch them, but perhaps not always; since I have heard them often say, these secrets were but the Medicines of the *London Dispensatory* disguised under new names, to the discredit of the *Physicians* that prescribed them. And I well remember some of them have neglected to fetch from my house, not far from their own, some of my preparations, though they had them *gratis*, for the fetching; whereby the *Patients* have suffered, and thought I neglected them, 'till they were rectified by another Visit. Nay one of them told me, he had rather dy with his own Shop-Medicines, then be cured with



with my Magistrals: much more would he have said of *Patients*, manifestly preferring his own profit before their lives; a most Unchristian saying!

One singular advantage such a *Physician* will have, that the slanders of the *Apothecaries* will appear to be malicious, as being raised against such as act contrary to their profit.

By this means *Physicians* will unite against the common Enemy, will contribute mutual assistance, and communicate more freely to one another their practice and remedies; and also the frauds and unlawful practices of the *Apothecaries*, will conceal the counsels, and act whatsoever may tend to the advance of their Art; and *Patients* also will discover the *Apothecaries* censures, and practices against the *Physicians* and their prescriptions.

Hereby that great interest will decay *Apothecaries* have in Families for their petty officiousnesses (which *Physicians* not to displease them have put them upon) these will be taught Nurses, and the assistants, and which are by some of these as well, certainly more diligently performed then by the *Apothecaries*.

Hereby the *filiis Artis*, or younger *Physicians*, will sooner come into a better and more settled practice, and not be beholden to *Apothecaries* to bring them *Patients* wherewith they often upbraid them, and glory amongst themselves and to other persons, that they introduced such and such a *Physician*.

Hereby *Chirurgeons* will be restored to some of their employment now usurped by the *Apothecaries*, as letting of blood, applying Leeches, Plasters, Cupping-Glasses,



Glasses, Syringing and Salivation, wrapping up bodies in Cere-Cloaths, &c. which indeed do more properly belong to them then to the *Apothecaries*; hereby also haply many occasions of quarrel betwixt *Physicians* and the *Apothecaries* will cease, each party acting according to his own way.

By this means Pseudochymists, and other *Mountebanks* mouths and revilings will be stopped, only exclaiming for this, that *Physicians* make not their own Medicines. But since the publication of these papers I am informed that the said Pseudochymists and *Mountebanks* rail against me, this Book, and the way propounded, as much as the *Apothecaries*, though before equal Enemies each to others. So that they have fulfilled the Proverb, of *like to like*. And no wonder since hereby their Kingdom of darkness is brought to light, and they are obliged to oppose it, as the Copper-Smiths were to revile St. *Paul* for speaking against the Idol of *Diana* of the *Ephesians*, whereby their trade was lost.

And as for the reasonableness of it, that the *Physician* ought to support himself by all lawful ways and means, and to have præeminence above those ignorant persons that inroach upon his profession, 'tis confessed by all that have considered the great charge, study, and labour, before he can arrive at any benefit from it; for he must take the chargeable degrees of Batchellor, and Master of Arts, Batchellor of Physic, and after 14 years standing, the degree of *Doctor*; besides his bare expences for his maintenance in the University, Charges in Anatomies, knowledg of natural things; Travels abroad, Chymistry, and Experiments; his  
Library,



Library, Habit, his more free way of living in a suitable house, and Attendants, greater Taxes, &c. in-  
 somuch that a *Doct̃or* of Physic spends more before he  
 comes to practise, then will set up perhaps a dozen *Apo-  
 thecaries* in a way of livelihood; and besides, great  
 sums of money before he can put himself in a fitting  
 Equipage: whereas on the contrary, many young  
 men before their time of Apprenticeship is out, pro-  
 vide well for themselves by Quacking; and certainly  
 the Study of Physic, and consequently the knowledge  
 of Nature, must bid farewell to the Universities, if  
 Shops be permitted to make practisers, for such the peo-  
 ple will soon create *Doct̃ors*, which title the *Apotheca-  
 ry* takes upon him, though he understand not the reason  
 of the name, to the great shame of the Universities,  
 and Faculty, when ignorant people shall give, and they  
 challenge the same title for nothing, attained by the  
*Physician* at a great rate and long study, the vulgar ta-  
 king Practiser and *Doct̃or* to signifie the same thing.  
 And which no persons of knowledg and education do,  
 and perhaps most other persons give them in way of  
 Jeering.

From the handsom support of *Physicians* these bene-  
 fits will accrue to the publick, that thereby the honour  
 all Nations yield to the English *Physicians* will be kept  
 up, who in the late times, when the reputation of the  
 Nation was well neer forfeited abroad, the *Physicians*  
 then in being, most whereof are now living, and  
 Members of the *College*; maintained the credit, for  
 learning and value, of this Kingdom, and since his  
 Majesties happy return, some of them have kept up  
 the honour of the Faculty; which manifestly appears



by the great esteem Foreigners have of their Books, by often printing them, and translating into Latin what hath been published in English, though they are nowhere so depressed as in *England*.

A second benefit to the publick is, that men of competent Estates will breed up their Sons in the Art of Physic, giving them such education as is necessary, and will not vouchsafe to place them out to *Apothecaries*, though now adays want of learning and degrees are adjudged as needful a qualification for the exercise of Physic, as formerly 'twas for Preaching, and the Shops fit to supply both.

I will conclude this part of my discourse with this observation; that the Laws of *England* in all their Acts of Parliament, have granted the practice of Physic to *Physicians* and them alone, and in no clause thereof put in any restraint at all upon them, but every where, either new priviledges, or a confirmation of the old, have been granted, by the said powers. Whereas on the contrary, the Law supposeth cheats in the *Apothecaries* Shops, and therefore impowers our *Censors* to destroy and burn what they find bad and corrupt.

The next thing to be treated of, shall be the ways of *Apothecaries* creeping into practice, and their unfitness thereunto. As to the first, heretofore when they were Members of the Company of Grocers, and dispersed in place, as well as in counsel, they then were wholly subordinate to the *Physicians*, only keeping in their Shops, and faithfully making the prescriptions they received from the *Physician*, and when made, sending them to the *Patient* by their men (as they still continue to do in Foreign Countries) and not committing the  
prepa-



preparation to raw Boys, or Apprentices, which is the true interest of the *Patient* they should do here likewise. But in process of time, *Physicians* in acute diseases having taught them somewhat, sent them to visit their *Patients*, to give them the best account they could of the estate of their health, and effect of their Medicines. And of later years some *Physicians* took them along with them in their Visits, whereby they acquired a little smattering of diseases, by which means, and their continual officiousness, they insinuated themselves into Families, and by applying (right or wrong) the terms of Art they had learned from the *Physicians*, they made people believe they had acquired some skill in the Art, and afterwards began to venture a little at practice, and but until these 10 years last past kept themselves within some bounds and limits; but since that time have daily more and more incroached upon our Profession, being assisted by a greater familiarity of conversation with younger *Physicians*. And in the Plague time they took upon them the whole Practice of Physic, which ever since they have continued, being much helped also therein by the dispersing of *Physicians* into places unknown to their *Patients*, by the Fire, but above all by the burning of the *College*, by means whereof their Government and view of their Shops have been omitted, insomuch that now they are past all restraint, having insinuated and (as they think) rooted themselves by the aforesaid Artifices, so that there remains now no other real remedy but that proposed.

Now here I shall take occasion in a short digression, to discourse briefly the reason, why in all Ages there



have been so many pretenders to Physic, and why some of them have got reputation in the World. One hath been mentioned before, *viz.* the great charges sick men are put to, caused by the separation of the *Physician* from the *Apothecary*. But the principal reason is, the want of knowledge in most persons, both of the materials used, and the grounds for which they are applied. Insomuch that there are but few that can judg, and distinguish rightly of either, and no wonder therefore that in their reasonings they commit more absurd mistakes, or Paralogisms then in any other Art whatsoever, and censure *Physicians* by the success alone. Which my Lord *Verulam* accounts the great unhappiness both of the Statef-man and the *Physician*, both being alike censured by those that know not the bottom and rise of their Actions and Counsels. For how can any man in either make a sound Judgment without a full knowledge of the business it self, and of all the circumstances thereunto belonging; nor in Physic without the concurrent knowledg of the sick mans habit, disease, cause, remedies, and many other particulars necessary to make a clear judgment upon the success? Yet notwithstanding, many will censure and grumble at the actions of the Statef-men, though their proceedings have been never so wise, and prudent, and oft-times from muttering and whispering, fall to down-right distast, and mutiny against their Superiors. So that the good success, in State-affairs, of rash and imprudent undertakers, have been extolled and preferred before the wary, and prudent management, and guidance of the soberest and wisest Statef-men. The same likewise happens



happens between the bold *Empiric*, and learned *Physician*. But in this way of censuring, the Statef-man hath this advantage above the *Physician*, that 'tis possible he may meet with a series of Business so circumstantiated, as seldom or never to miscarry, especially having a greater power over subordinate persons then *Physicians* have. But the irreverfible statute of Heaven forbids us to expect a constant recovery of our *Patients*, for 'tis appointed, that all men must die. 'Tis fufficient therefore for us, to employ those remedies God hath given to the Sons of men, to the utmost vertue the Creator hath endowed them withal: fince his eternal decree hath limited their efficacy from making man immortal. Now fince (if men judg by the fuccefs alone) it cannot be otherwife, but that the moft learned *Physician*, and moft fottish *Empiric* must be thought equal in fkill, by those that are not able to make a right judgment and difference betwixt them on other principles. Hence it comes to pafs, that where fome ignorant person hath cured accidentally a flight difeafe, and a *Physician* hath a *Patient* dye of an irrecoverable Cafe, here the *Empiric* fhall be applauded, and the *Physician* decryed. Nay many will fay the difeafe is the fame in both, whereas we daily fee moft grofs mistakes in fuch opinions, when the Cafes differ totally in their Nature, agreeing in one fign only common to both the Cafes propofed, nay to many other alfo. Furthermore, if a *Patient* dy under an *Empirics* hand, the friends willingly conceal their Names, left fome difcredit fhould befall them for ufing fuch worthlefs practifers; but if under the hands of a known *Physician*, he fhall be fure to be named, and  
some-



Sometimes his attendance fallly fathered on him, when *Mountebanks* only have been employed : but to be sure if an *Empirie* hath first been made use of, and afterwards an able *Physician* called in (when all opportunity of doing good was past) and the *Patient* dy, the *Mountebank* hath never been mentioned, but the *Physician* perhaps condemned, though he hath done whatsoever could have been thought on, rational in that Case.

Add to the former reasons, the bold and confident brags, and promises of *Empirics*, that they have cured worse diseases, and will in few hours free them from their maladies, especially where sober *Physicians* have pronounced doubtfully of the event. No wonder that these pleasing promises to persons in danger and distress bring them into employment even with a rejection of the former sober *Physician*.

Besides, a foolish opinion prevails with some ignorant persons, that they will deal only with such as will undertake the Cure, (that is) contract with them for a sum of money, one half whereof to be payed in hand, and the other the Cure being done, and so are usually cheated of one half of their money ; and such people will have nothing to do with such *Physicians* as will not undertake them in this sence.

Another Stratagem is, to give strange and hard names to their Medicines, such as are *Pilule radiis Solis extractæ*, and in English is no more then Pills dried to that consistence by the Sun-Beams, which ignorant people have thought were made of the Sun Beams. Others commend their Extract of the Soul of the Heathen Gods. One sets up with a receipt received from *Van Helmonts* own hands ; Another hath  
received



received from a Jew the shining of *Moses Face*; nay I have heard a Pseudochymist blasphemously brag, he saw in the making of a grand *Elixir*, the Quintessence of the Trinity in Unity, and infinite other pitiful captivations of silly people, to be seen on every Gate and Post of this City; such as are the Spirit of the Salt of the World, *Panchymaggon*, and other ten-footed Greek names, and some other Mongrel non-sensical ones compounded of several Languages; promising certain, speedy, and concealed Cure of incurable Diseases.

And no less ridiculous and absurd to considering persons are, their cantings of themselves, wherewith they no less befool, amuse, and beguile the people; as that by long prayer, and seeking of God, they have had many secrets revealed to them from Heaven. Another by long Travels through *Hungary*, *Poland*, &c. hath attained great secrets from Kings and Emperours. Another a Gentleman lately come from *Oxford*, or *Cambridge*, Cures the Pox, Running of the Reins, &c. in Capital Letters, at all which what sober man cannot but laugh? Yet such as these are inducements to many to resort to them; moreover some of them are Astrologers, Physiognomers, Fortune-tellers, Professors of Palmistry and such other vain Arts, much applauded by the weaker sort of people.

Besides, the former they have their Emissaries, Scouts, and Setters up and down, to cry up the skill and feigned Cures done by them, Nurses, Good-fellows, Midwives, &c. to make up the cry and full noise.

Now it being natural to most people to admire what  
they



they understand not, and for Admiration to infer Love, and Love Praise, and Praise the use especially of such things as are set off with high and lofty expressions, it necessarily follows that such persons will cry up, and make use of, those that by these means captivate their understandings, especially their credits being engaged also; but above all, if they proceed from meaner persons, of whom they are most credulous, having in suspicion wiser men, believing the former are not able, and that the wiser are able; and therefore will deceive them. All which appears in some with us cryed up above any *Physician* that ever was in *England*, though for pitiful, dangerous, nay sometimes mortal Medicines, whereby great sums of money have been gained in a short time. I shall instance first in *Lockyers* Pills made of *Antimony*, discovered to be so by some of my *Collegues*, and my self, at the first selling of them. A Medicine as ill made as any of that Mineral, and no *Physician* though meanly versed in Chymistry, but could have excelled it. Yet so great a Vogue this Pill had for some time, that infinite people resorted to him, and purchased them for their lives, both for themselves, and Families, and (as I have heard) for their posterities too. Though a common Chimney in a little time would have made enough of it to have served the whole Nation for some years to come, and that at very small charges. But Experience, the Tutor of too many, hath in a short time brought these Pills into a dis-use, if not a total Oblivion, even amongst the vulgar.

A second cryed up Medicine was *Muthers's* Pills, made of *Opium* (to which the virtue of the whole  
Compo-



Composition must be attributed) of white *Hellebor* Roots, and Oyl of *Turpentine*, whereto some add Salt of *Tartar*, which will puzzle the most knowing Naturalist to declare why these should be thus jumbled together; unless to obscure the *Opium*. 'Tis indeed a very cunning Composition, for by giving rest and ease it may easily decoy people into the use of them, though by long taking of them, diseases become far more incurable then they are in their own Nature.

A third Universal Medicine was *Hughes's* Powder, sold by him at 10 s. the Grain, and 3 l. 10 s. the Dose, made doubtless of Gold and Quicksilver. The tast and weight of it manifestly discover the former to be an ingredient into it, and the effect, *viz.* Salivation proves the latter to be part of the compound. Besides I have made of these two dissolved, and digested in their peculiar Menstruums, in no long space of time, a Medicine that had the same effect with his, and in the same Dose; and having a View of his Cabinet left after his Death, containing a large quantity of the said Powder (being all he left behind him) there was found crude Gold, and Quicksilver in the same Cabinet. Now these three Notorious Universal Medicines were put to sale by most ignorant persons. Add hereunto the forementioned *Mr. De-laun's* Pill, whereof I shall say nothing, being mentioned under the Name of the *Pilula ex duobus*, in the *London Dispensatory*, though some make them of the Extract of *Coloquintida*. The last of any Fame with us, were *Dr. Goddard's* Drops, a good Medicine, but not so universal, and superlative as he would have made the World believe, and was nothing else but what some *Physicians* many years



since enjoyed. I well remember that in the late troubles, a Person then in great Authority, having cryed up this above all the Medicines in the World, a round wager was offered, that the *Doctor* should not distinguish his own from two others that should be brought him, both which were but Spirit of *Harts-horn*. But the wager would not be accepted of. Furthermore, that this Medicine of his was Spirit of *Harts-horn*, some relations plainly argue; One whereof was the following.

A certain person in *Norfolk* having sent for as much as came to a 11 *l.* and dying upon the 2<sup>d</sup>. dose of it, and by accident most part of the remainder being spilt; there comes in a friend to the House, of some skill, who supposing it to be Spirit of *Harts-horn*, told the Widow he would endeavour to gain back the money for her. And thereupon went to a Chymist, and bought as much of the said Spirit, as would make up the quantity purchased of *Dr. Goddard*, who after Tryal of it by smell, and tast, acknowledged it to be his, and honestly payed back the sum 'twas first sold for; which I think few of the *Mountebanks* do. Sure I am that a Quack sold 21 Pills for 20 *l.* whereof the Patient took 4 at two doses, to the great hazard of his life, who then repairing to me for my advice, I by Tryal of one of them found them to be Mercurial, and wished him to return them back, but the Quack would not give him 10 *s.* for the 16 remaining.

The inference and sum of what hath been said, is to shew briefly by what Artifices people are deceived in their Healths, and Purfes, and how easily the ignorant are couzened, and such practices used, that *Physicians*,  
men



men of honesty and repute, would be ashamed to own, and must by using them in a short time be ruined and discredited. And such Cheats as these, the *College of Physicians* are bound by the Laws of the Land to decry, and punish (though by so doing it hath often incurred the censure and clamor of the vulgar) Besides the Statute of the 14<sup>th</sup>. and 15<sup>th</sup>. of *Henry* the Eighth enjoyns us to it, declaring that 'tis good for the Commonwealth of this Realm, and therefore expedient, and necessary to provide that no person of the *College of Physicians* (for all practisers then were of the said body) be suffered to exercise, and practise Physic, but only those persons that be profound, sad, and discreet, groundly learned, and deeply studyed in Physic. Now certain it is, that none of the said body did or dare use any of the forementioned frauds and deceits, but will constantly indeavour (since 'tis impossible but there will be Cheatees; (according to the old Proverb, *Populus vult decipi*, *The People will be deceived*) to abridge the number of the Cheaters, who answer to the former part of the Proverb, *Decipiatnr*, *Let them be couzened*.

I shall end this discourse by returning from my digression to the *Apothecaries*, who may and do use some of the tricks before-mentioned, and shall here briefly recite some great advantages they have, and make use of above *Physicians*. One is, that they live in this City 7 or 8 yeárs as *Apprentices*, as also by their retail Trade, and by living in open Shops, by frequent converse with their fellow Citizens, whether in Commerce or Offices, by many friendly and Neighbourly mutual kindneses and actions, wherein they



spend their whole lives, and are never diverted by studies, and ingenuity from their proposed way of gain, by all which means they get into a fixed familiarity and good opinion with their Neighbours, and a large acquaintance in the World. Now for their skill, besides what hath been before-mentioned, and common to them with the *Mountebank*, viz. Vapouring and bragging of their skill, and decrying *Physicians*, by talking above the Capacity of those they converse with, who therefore take all they say to be authentick, though never so absurd, and trivial, and many times to set off themselves they will venture to speak Latine commonly as false as the matter, although some of them at *Coffee-Houses*, and in other mixt Companies, by venturing so boldly have been met with and baffled, and made to depart thence with shame and discredit enough, which their friends and acquaintance take little notice of. Add hereunto their exposing to view their Compositions of *Treacle*, *Mithridate*, *Diascordium* and *Alkermes*, which all their friends, and neighbours one time or another must see; (being set off by some very curiously) and seeing cannot but admire the great charge, art, and labour of the *Apothecary*, and perhaps hear his learned Lecture upon them, whereby they imply their great skill, knowledg in the virtues of these ingredients, and consequently an ability to practise with them; all which are below the dignity of a *Physician*; and therefore a long time is necessary for him to gain acquaintance, wanting the fore-mentioned opportunities the *Apothecaries* enjoy. Lastly, Their painted Pots and Glasses, with false  
Titles



Titles on them, more win the vulgar than a *Physicians* Library of far greater value.

Asto their incapacity for Practice, 'tis manifest by their education, and ignorance of all those things which are required in an able *Physician*, viz. the knowledge of Arts and Languages; by the former whereof men learn the way and rules of observing, and improvements to be made thereon; by the latter, what the learned searchers of Nature have in all Ages taken notice of, necessary, and little enough in an Art so difficult as that of Physic. They are wholly ignorant also of all Philosophy, and the very Elements of the Art, and therefore unskillful in knowing diseases; and more surely their causes, whereto respect is to be had, as well as to the diseases, to which, fit remedies are to be applyed. For want of Anatomy know neither the part affected, nor how 'tis affected; much less any thing of Chirurgical directions. And through their ignorance in Philosophy, and Arts, they have not skill enough to advise a diet suitable to diseases, a thing most necessary, as well in curing diseases as in preserving of health, and which requires a great insight into the nature of things; nor the true grounds and reasons of compounding, practising their way rather by rote than by rule; with better reason may a Brick-layer or Carpenter pretend to be a Mathematical, or a Common Fidler to be a Musick Reader in the Universities, or *Gresham-College*, since both these have the practical part of those Sciences, which *Apothecaries* have not in Physic, in the least measure.

And to conceal their mis-actings, they generally do  
all



all by word of mouth, and not enter their prescriptions into their Books, being haply ashamed any knowing men should discover their sins of omission, as dangerous many times in point of life and health, as those of their commission. Whereas *Physicians* Bills are on the File, or registred in Order in their own Books, which is their justification from all misrepresentations.

Again, they sufficiently confess their ignorance, by calling in *Physicians* when their own, or any of their relations healths are concerned, and the same all people acknowledge, when they are in distress and danger. And very few understanding persons, and none that are learned and knowing, will trust them at all. But I shall refer the Reader to the forementioned Writer against the *Apothecaries*, viz. Dr. Daniel Coxe, who permitted me to name him here; by whom this and many other things here but briefly touched, are judiciously handled, and more largely.

And as for their skill in practice, we daily see their gross errors and omissions, being called where they have given Medicines. I shall instance only in one that hapned at the writing hereof; viz. that an *Apothecary* gave strong Purging Pills on the Fit day of a gentle Quartan Ague, which turned it into a violent Fever, to the great hazard of the *Patient's* life.

And at how easie rates they practise, many of their Bills brought and complained of to our *College*, (in some whereof I have seen Fees set down for *Visits*) witness, wherein upon a slight disease 5 *l.* hath been demanded for four days practice. And I have  
heard



heard one of them brag, that he commonly had from 20 to 100 *l.* besides presents, for cure of a Clap (as they call it) which might have been more speedily and securely performed for a manifold lesser sum.

I now come to answer some slight objections; as first, that *Physicians* are unskillful in the Art of making Medicines; but sure those that thus object cannot deny them that ability which Ladies, and almost all ordinary women have; viz. of distilling of waters of all sorts, making of Syrups, Conserves, Preserves, Powders, Trochiscs, Electuaries (and what not) and as many think, more cleanly and neatly than the *Apothecaries*; and some of them Ointments, and Plasters, in which two lyes their main skill. Somewhereof, to those that understand not the way of dissolution of bodies, and the nature of their mixture may be difficult. Yet this defect they may supply by lessening the number of ingredients, and may perform more with 2, or 3 Simples, than with the larger Compositions, as 'tis manifest in the use of *Galbanum* alone, now used and found better than *Emplastrum Hystericum*, consisting of 21 ingredients.

And though as matters now stand, *Physicians* have not the honour to be counted superiour to *Apothecaries* in their Art, yet every one knows that they alone are the prescribers and directors of the *Apothecaries* in what they know, and are able to puzzle them in infinite things that concern their Trade, besides in Chymical preparations, whereof most of them are totally ignorant; and should *Physicians* withdraw themselves  
from



from their conversation, few pretenders to Physic would appear more unskillful then they, neither knowing how to deal with a new Simple, nor a new disease. And for all their pretences of skill in Drugs, 'tis most certain that the State makes *Physicians*, not *Apothecaries*, Judges of them; and the Statute of *Henry* the VIII. appoints the *College* Censors upon Oath, not the *Apothecaries*, to judg, and condemn false and sophisticated Medicines.

A second objection wherewith they flatter themselves, is, that the great expence of time in preparing Medicines will keep *Physicians* from this course. I answer, that the *Physician* needs not spend much more then half an hour in a day, one with another, on this work, and may faster dispense them then the *Apothecaries* to Hospitals, who in an afternoon can provide for 100, nay sometimes 200 sick men, and carry them to the Hospital, and dispose them to each single person, which takes up much time, which the *Physicians* Servants need not be put to.

A third objection is, that this course, which before 'twas put in practice they derided, now used is railed at, will undo them. I answer, that if needs, one or the other must be ruined, 'tis more reasonable that the *Apothecary* should suffer then the *Physician*, because the one acts but his duty, and for the publick good, but the other are transgressors of the Law, and act above the Sphere of their skill, and do many prejudices to the precious lives, and healths of men; and the rather because 'tis in their own power to prevent this mischief, by stinting the number of their Servants (as 'tis in foreign parts, and in *England* also, in very many if not



not most other Trades. Nay our State allows but a set number of Printers) for they acknowledg themselves, that the exceeding increase of their number must necessarily in a short time bring them all to shifting and beggery, and a greater want of skill then what they now pretend to. But to answer this Objection more fully, I affirm *Apothecaries* have made and do make use of several other ways of subsistence; besides their bare trades (none of which *Physicians* can use) viz. some of them in this City as well as in the Country, sell Grocery-wares, and by both together, gain Estates. *Secondly*, They barter in Drugs and other Commodities, selling them amongst themselves, and to other Tradesmen. Furthermore, they are now building a Laboratory to make all sorts of Chymical Medicines, intending to supply the whole Nation with them, which must necessarily undo all the Chymists in London; and whether in time they will not distil Strong-waters, &c. (an easie thing for them to undertake) and by this means to ruine the Corporation of Distillers of Strong-waters, I leave to the said Company to conceive as they please. However, this I have heard several of them say, that they resolve to buy all sorts of Drugs, and make a Magazine of them, as well as of the greater Compositions, at their own Hall; and to sell them to the Members of their Company, whereby the Trade of the Druggist, must be much lessened, if not totally over-thrown. So little regard have they of any other employment but of their own, yet all these things they may do without any offence against the Laws of the Land. Why then should they who have so many ways of subsistence, envy, and

I

usurp



usurp unlawfully over the single and lawful way granted *Physicians* for their livelihood? Or why should they repine, and revile them for advancing their Art, the publick health and profit, and for maintaining their profession by their Pens, and actings against themselves, who are the first aggressors in this division? Which I profess to be the sole end of these present papers, and heartily wish they may thrive and prosper as long as they conform themselves to the Laws of Honesty, Reason, and of the Land. Besides, why may not the Plaisterer more reasonably pretend the same to the Painter, and many other Trades against one another, as the Brick-layer to the Stone-Cutter, &c. that they understand the Trade, and that truly too, and that they cannot subsist without this incroachment? And why should not *Chirurgeons* keep open *Apothecaries* Shops? but that the same Law limits those Tradesmen, as well as prohibits the *Apothecary* from the practice of Physic. And surely the Law and State have no consideration of those persons subsistence, who conform not to them; and why should we have of those, subordinate to us, who against all good Conscience take away from us all that is our due, and continually traduce and slander us very untruly and designingly?

The last objection (and a strange one) is, that in this private way of giving Medicines, *Physicians* may poyson their *Patients*. But this is easily retorted upon the *Apothecaries*, who may themselves or their Servants do the like, as 'tis known in the poysoning of Sir *Thomas Overbury*; besides, since it cannot be otherwise, but that the *Patient* must trust somebody, 'tis better to trust one  
then



then many ; and if one, better him whose education will teach him better Morality, (and who hath given his Faith (equivalent to an Oath) twice to the Body of the *College* ; viz. once at his admission as Candidate, and a second time at his admission as Fellow ; whereby he promiseth in these words, That he shall give nothing to cause miscarriage, or to destroy, or hinder Conception, nor Poysons (for of such good Medicines may be made) to an evil purpose ; nay that he shall not even teach them where there is any suspicion of ill using of them. Which promise is nothing else but the Oath proposed by *Hippoc.* to *Physicians*, in the entrance to his Books ) then such as want these qualifications ; and this seems to be the reason why our Common Law makes it Felony, for any person to have any one dy under his hand, unless he were a lawful *Physician*. More noble and generous was the opinion of *Alexander* the Great, concerning his *Physician*, who confidently drank off that Medicine which cured him, though he was before informed by some friend that 'twas poysoned. Neither can History it self to my knowledg produce any example, that ever any such foolish Villany was acted ; Though doubtless many lives might have been saved if the *Apothecaries* would have complied with the *College*, in their proposed Orders for selling *Rats-bane*.

In the next place I shall recite some few of their devices against those *Physicians* in particular that make their own Medicines, as to tell the *Patient* that is averse to Chymical Medicines, that the *Doctor* is Chymical, and that because forsooth he makes his own Medicines ; but to those that affect Chymical, that the



*Doctor* is but a Galenist, and useth only dull and ineffectual remedies, as best suits to the sick mans Palat. A second is, that if this *Physician* be called into a *Patient*, the *Apothecary* will pretend present danger, and in his absence call in another, or pretend he is abroad when he is not, or else that the Case requires the counsel of two *Physicians*; and what other devices they use, I have not well learned.

Now briefly follow some small Scandals they cast upon the said *Physicians*, as first that they do it for want of practice; the falsity whereof is known by those few that do act this way already, and shortly 'twill be more apparent, when many more of good practice, singular parts and honesty will do the like, and certainly nothing but lazyness, ignorance, or want of will to do the utmost good they are able for the sick, can hinder them from so doing, except age, infirmity of body, or want of convenience. But suppose 'tis so as they alledg, doubtless every man may and ought to use all lawful means for his own subsistence; and do not our adversaries say they are inforced to it, affirming that unless they give Medicines of themselves, their acquaintance will go to another *Apothecary* who will do it, though one of their Company told me, they had power by their Charter to restrain practice? Whence (if true) it clearly follows that the whole Company allows it.

But those *Physicians*, that for the reasons above, cannot nor will not take this course, are to be admonished, to do here as the *Physicians* did in *France*, for the good of people, viz. to tell their *Patients* the prices of Medicines, and to write their Bills in English,



lish, that thereby the *Patients* may not pay too unreasonable for them.

I now conclude, having performed this ungrateful task with as much brevity, mildness of Spirit, and language, as the business would permit (and what the prudent Statutes of our *College* require of each of their members, that we shall by all honest and lawful ways and means prosecute all illiterate *Mountebanks* and Impostors, &c. and is no more then the Laws and Charters granted to us allow, and what we twice faithfully promise (as much an Oath as we can give) *viz.* at our admission as Candidate and as Fellow) being obliged to another work of greater difficulty, and concern, long since promised, having been too long diverted with fitting my self for my intended practice, and several other unavoidable Occasions.

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Postscript.



# Postscript.

**R** Eader, There intervening so small a space from the publication of the first Edition of these Papers to this second; I thought to have added nothing to it, but to have put it out only more correct, as the Title intimates; but since some Sheets were printed off, I have had the opportunity to be informed of some exceptions taken to them, which being but few, I shall give the Objectors full satisfaction in. Though one answer might serve for all; viz. that an *Apothecary* in the presence of two *Physicians*, said, that he had told me of all these Cheats, and indeed they are so common, that whosoever shall be conversant with them, may observe most of these to be a great part of their discourse. The First exception against *Myrtle-leafs*, that they were not shewed the *Censors* for *Sena*, a Binder for a Purger; the time I have forgot; the *Censors* then were, Sir George Ent, Dr. Goddard, Dr. King, and my Self; the places, *Tut-hill-street*, and some Shops in *King-street*; Mr. *Shellberry* being then Master of the Company. Secondly, As for *Mushrooms* rubbed over with Chalk for *Agaric*; this was found by the *Censors* in the *Old-Baily*, at the Shop of one now dead, and therefore I shall say no further of it, it being taken notice of by Mr. *Evelyn*, as is intimated before. p. 8. A Third is *Diascordium* made of *Honey* and *Bole-Armeniac*, this was discovered in a Shop



Shop at the end of *Drury-lane* near *Holborn*, concluded to be so by Sir *George Ent*, *My Self*, and Mr. *Richardson* then Master of the Company, and the rest of the *Censors* and *Wardens*, easily to be remembred, and was by them taken away to their Hall; a pound whereof I had, and by dissolution found it to be no otherwise; what the *Apothecaries* did with the large Pot of the remainder I know not. Besides these, I have heard no exception to the whole concerning frauds.

Now since the Cheaters with the Cheatees, most insist on the objection of Poyson; I add to what hath been formerly said, that Poysons are not necessarily to be given in Medicines alone, but may be given in Broaths, Beer, or any other thing taken into the Body, and that without the consultation or knowledg of any *Physician*, and surely if any one had a mind to Poyson his Relations (an Action abominable to the English Nation) he would rather Act privately himself, having many opportunities offered to him, rather then by communicating it to others, making himself obnoxious to their discovery. But if he should communicate to others, 'tis more probable he would communicate it to meaner, and more Mercenary persons, as *Apothecaries* and Nurses, at a smaller rate and with more security, then reveal such secrets to *Physicians*, Men of Honour, and Honesty. Furthermore, if any mans life be suspected to be taken away with Poyson, and by opening the body it should appear so (and without which it cannot well appear) the *Physician* is doubtless as lyable to the Law as any other person whatsoever. So that the *Patient* hath as much moral security



security from this mischief, as possibly can be had, or wished in humane affairs. Nay suppose the *Physician* might be so corrupted (as to take away his *Patients* life) he might effect it without the least suspicion; either by neglecting, or omitting what was necessary, or by giving him improper Medicines, for which he could be accused of ignorance or error only; besides, if he had a mind to poison, he as well as others, assistants of Visitors, might do it securely enough, by conveying into a singular Cordial, or any Medicine made by the Shops, and often taken by the *Patient* before with good success, a mortal dose without any knowledge or surmise of any such horrid practice. Add hereunto what an able *Chirurgion* suggested, that *Apothecaries* taking upon them the wrapping up, and Embalming of Bodies (whereby they gain more money then by several years practice upon them; for their embalming amounts to very great sums) may upon better reason be suspected of poisoning then any other persons whatsoever conversant among the sick; since both a particular interest and convenience of concealing may induce them to it. Lastly, did this Objection carry any weight in it, then neither *Physicians*, *Chirurgeons*, *Apothecaries*, *Nurses*, nor Friends, might administer to the sick; because all these, as well as *Physicians*, may clandestinely poison their Relations. And therefore that an Objection should be raised by such persons that have more opportunities and advantage (in a thing never proved to be done, because 'tis possible only) to hinder so manifest and publick a profit as hath been proved; appears to be very weak and absurd.

And



And having done with the Objections made to others, and to my self also by some of the Company, with whom I have conversed, who huff'd exceedingly at my first discourse with them, but departed (seemingly at least) well satisfied, I am sure fully and without reply answered, and with addition of many other Cheats besides, which I shall not here mention for the reasons above specified: I shall here transcribe one gratulatory Letter amongst many sent me by a Divine well known in Physic, being very comprehensive of most I have said, to the end the Universities and all learned men may see what is like to become of one of the three of their noble professions: The words of the Letter are these.

“ Your design all ingenious persons approve highly,  
 “ to whom I have communicated it. 'Tis frequent  
 “ with a Master *Apothecary* that hath served but 2, or  
 “ 3 years, nay some scarce one, to take Apprentices  
 “ for as little, or less time, with a little more money  
 “ then ordinarily; and presently they assume the  
 “ Title of *Doctors*, though they understand no more  
 “ then only to write to a whole-sale *Apothecary* in  
 “ your City. And truly their couzenages here in the  
 “ Country do exceed those in the City. For I have  
 “ known 2 s. 6 d. taken for a little Plaster of *Galba-*  
 “ *num*, and it is usual to make one pectoral Syrup serve  
 “ for all; as having occasion to enquire for Syrup of  
 “ Jujubs, one of them ingenuously confessed (not  
 “ knowing what Jujubs were) that he used one pecto-  
 “ ral Syrup for all, a little varying the colour some-  
 “ times, and this a peculiar receipt of his own, some-  
 “ thing differing from any in the Dispensatory.



As for their opposition also in the Country, take this one Example. An eminent *Physician* of *Gloucester* by reason of the *Apothecaries* Frauds, &c. betook himself to make his own Medicines, taking for his Servant one that was not a Freeman of the said City. Who in his Masters absence, and contrary to his command, sold to an *Apothecary* a Medicine not to be had, or at least pretended not to be had in the Town, for a most urgent and necessary use; whereupon the *Apothecaries* conspiring together, exhibited a complaint to the Mayor and Court of Aldermen, requiring of them, that the said *Physician* (who was a Freeman, and had lately born the Office of Mayor) might be dis-franchised. Which being not granted them, they set the whole City into such disorder, that they refused to attend the Mayor on a Solemn day (as their Custom is, and are bound to do) with their Flags from their Town-Hall to the Church, which the prudence of the Magistrates for the present qualified. This relation I had from the then Mayor my Kinsman, in the presence of a *London Apothecary*.

Next as to the Lyes and Scandals of my self, I shall take notice only of those that concern practice (the rest being but generally false and non-sensical revilings.) One is, that they most untruly entitle me to have been *Physician* to the Lady *Anderson*, and many others which I never saw or heard of; and that I soon dispatched them. Another wherewith they make great noise, is, of one Mr. *Staples* in *Covent-Garden*, whom they say also I dispatched in few days. The true relation whereof was this. An able  
*Physician*



*Physician* of the *College* had him in hand for the *Jaundice*, about two Months before I was called, whereupon we consulted and writ a note to the *Apothecary*; a week after the consultation I was sent for, and desired to take care of him alone; he was then, besides the *Jaundice*, troubled with continual Torments in his Bowels, which were as hard as a Board (as they say) his Stomach gone, his nights restless, a vehement Cough joyned with a Hectick Fever, having long before had an ill Habit of Body. In this Case I found him, and in a Months time or thereabouts, I cured his *Jaundice*, relieved his Torments, removed the hardness of his Bowels, mitigated his Cough, but the Hectick Fever continuing he declined; at length another *Physician* was called in, who can witness the truth of what was done, and upon the whole we had good reason to think his Liver to be Apostemated. After which consultation he had no more of me, telling me he would rely on Kitchen Physic, and after that I never saw him. Now this being the only relation I have heard in this kind, I have been the larger to recite it, that thereby the Reader may take an estimate of their dealing with me in the like reports. The like or worse, some of them have said of other *Physicians*, which perhaps hereafter shall be more fully related with all the Circumstances.

As for their malicious anger, and disadvantageous to themselves, take this one example; I having prescribed a Plaster for the Head, an *Apothecary* would not make it, because prescribed by me; and I have been informed that many of them agreed they would



make nothing for such *Physicians* as made their own Medicines; a poor and pitiful revenge, to their own loss and discredit.

Another Scandal is, the fewness of my Medicines. 'Tis true my Closet is not open to every bodies Eye, nor have I so many and large Pots and Glasses, or fill'd with as good as nothing, or the same Medicine, in several with different Titles, neither are any of mine guilded to make a shew with; yet I dare offer to view with the best of their Shops, for number of good and really useful Medicines fit to answer presently any *Physicians* intentions, for internal remedies. And this will be attested by some of my learned *Colleagues*, who have seen and perused them. Whereas the Shops contain only some general Medicines, whereof few single *Physicians* make use of one quarter in their practice, and upon most particular cases are compell'd to prescribe what is not readily dispensed in the Shops. Others insinuate my seldom change of Medicines. To which I answer, that where all circumstances are the same, and a good success follows; I neither do, nor will much vary, the easiest thing in the World to be done, both to colour and tast. For such changes (necessary to be used in Shop-practice) without manifest reason, clog a Patients Purse and Stomach, may not suit with the Patients Disease nor Constitution. And doubtless every *Physician* writes at first what he conceives most fit, and proper in the Case proposed; and if this agrees fully to his expectation, runs some hazard in the alteration, which he is necessitated to do in the Shop-way, for many reasons before-mentioned. Besides, who scruples to take the Medicinal Waters of



*Epsom, Barnet, and Tunbridge*, many weeks together? or who refuseth a constant unalter'd Diet-Drink for some Months, or Yearstogether? And do not *Apothecaries* in all Diseases of the Lungs, fly to their pectoral decoction for all persons, and for the same person at all times, unless perhaps with the addition of a little *China* to it?

Some Patients of the middle rank have by these and such like Artifices been drawn from me, but have soon returned, being undeceived by the fulsomness, charge, and the non-success of the Shops.

Now these things I have here published to this end alone, that both *Physician* and *Patient* may take notice of them; the former to neglect and slight such poor Calumnies, and the other to avoid the inconveniencies thence arising.

The care I had not to injure any particular person, by naming him in my first Edition, or this (although I had so many witnesses of credit, as appears by the Postscript, to justify any thing they can object against) makes me hope they will leave off their personal animosities, or redress their Crimes, their Vanity of threatening me with 20000*l.* Actions, and affrighting my publishing this, together with my further proceedings, by their intended assaults and batteries; which make them appear so ridiculous, that I smile at the first, and pardon the last, wishing them to consider seriously how the expectation some have of what they can say for themselves, together with the necessity that obliges them to it (if possible) were enough one would think, besides their many large brags of a speedy and full answer (which they have a long



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long time buzzed about the Town as a present remedy in this exigence) this I say were enough to make any man conclude them guilty, but 'tis hoped this Edition will either work in them an amendment, or bury their confident presumptions, leaving no man a belief of their innocence. If their promised answer be any thing else but Libelling, or a Ballad without rhyme or reason, stuf with falsities and revilings, such as was only given to Dr. Cox's Book; I shall return it a speedy and full answer, and with an addition of far greater Frauds and Abuses, if they therein desire it.

Feb. 20 <sup>20</sup>/<sub>70</sub>.  
Hatton-Garden.

P Ag. 35. l. 6. read *Physician*, pag. 67. l. 12. read then to trust.

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*FINIS.*

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