# Observations on a new remedy for consumption; suggested by Dr. Ulric Palmedo of Berlin / [James Richard Hancorn].

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## **OBSERVATIONS**

ON A

NEW REMEDY FOR

# CONSUMPTION;

SUGGESTED BY DR. ULRIC PALMEDO OF BERLIN.

BY

## J. R. HANCORN,

MEMBER OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, LICENTIATE OF APOTHECARIES' HALL, ACCOUCHEUR, &c. &c.

Author of "Medical Guide for Mothers;" of Papers on the Physiology of the Liver; on a new mode of treating the Asiatic Cholera; on Rupture of the Uterus, &c. &c.

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### PREFACE.

The Author deems it necessary to make the fullest apology to the public for offering these Observations under their present form; in truth, they were originally intended to appear as an appendix to another work published by him; and it was not until they were printed that he found the subject confessedly inappropriate to that work; he therefore considers it necessary to issue them as a separate pamphlet, and crave the indulgence of a generous, though sensitive public, for the anomalous circumstance of having attached to them the word "Appendix," and for the (but for this explanation) unintelligible numbering of the pages.

The reader, on attentively perusing the case of the lady in Cornhill, page 205, will observe that very slight hope of her ultimate recovery was anticipated, in consequence of the magnitude of the cavity in her lungs, before the remedy was suggested to our minds; the result too painfully verified our conjecture, for our common enemy put an end to her earthly pilgrimage, but not until five months after we had daily and hourly expected her dissolution; in fact it was perfectly evident that the disease had advanced too far before we com-

menced this mode of treatment.

Asthma appears to be the antidote of consumption, and is of two kinds, either idiopathic, that is, an affection independent of any other disease, or symptomatic, which means, being excited by some other agent; and it is the latter kind which is induced by the oleum animale fætidum.

The asthmatic condition of the lungs appears to act in the same manner as a bandage upon a wound, by bringing the sides of the cavities into contact, and thus to enable adhesion to take place, this adhesion appearing to be induced by inflammation; hence the question,

note, page 206.

Of the feasibility of the new remedy herein proposed in less advanced stages of tubercular phthisis, the author still maintains his conviction. But as, in his opinion, the object of the proposed treatment is the excitement of asthma, he conceives that to attain that object the application of friction may be dispensed with, and that the process of inhalation, only, judiciously applied, should be persevered in until the symptoms described in the case given by him, and in those of Dr. Palmedo, are fully developed in the patient. The subsequent treatment will be the same as after friction. It must have appeared obvious that the inhalation of the impregnated vapour was the exciting cause of the inflammatory state, though the friction might not in some cases have had other than beneficial effects. Dr. Palmedo himself has, at the suggestion of Dr. Brann, persevered, it is said with considerable success, in the treatment by inhalation alone. He volatilised small quantities of pyrogenous animal oil in the apartment occupied by the patient, and repeated the fumigation several times a-day, according to the effects produced, in such a manner as to be able to increase or diminish the dose. He advises the renovation of the air of the apartment after requisite fumigation has been administered. The author, however, considers it to be equally, and perhaps more, efficacious, if the fumes of the oil be drawn into the lungs by means of a proper inhaler, which has also the advantage of being a neater and more cleanly mode of application.

It is perhaps needless to observe that the remedy is the less likely to be successful, the longer its trial is put off; success being the more probable, in proportion to the strength of the patient for the endurance of its

efficient application.

J. R. H.

## APPENDIX.

### ON A NEW MODE OF TREATMENT

OF

#### CONSUMPTION.

Consumption is a disease so fearful and dangerous in its ravages, that we receive with delight, and as the greatest boon, any new mode of treatment which offers even the most remote prospect of success. Such is the enormous amount of this truly awful complaint, that statistical accounts ascribe to it more than one-sixth (according to the bills of mortality for the metropolis,) of the whole number of deaths from all causes and this large proportion is not confined to England, but the ratio is also great on the Continent,-indeed, the Medical reports of the hospitals at Montpellier give the number as one-third. This being the case, we hail with extreme gratification, such new suggestions as will throw light upon this hitherto unconquerable malady. It is for this reason, that, before issuing my little volume, I conceived the idea of inserting as an Appendix, a few observations on a recently adopted mode of treating consumption, proposed by Dr. Ulric Palmedo, of Berlin.

This treatment consists in the application of oleum animale fætidum on the chest, by means of friction with the hand.

Dr. Palmedo's cases, which possess all the appearances of success, combined with a very plausible theory, induced me to try the effect, with the full sanction of a patient under my care, and the concurrence of her husband.

This disease may take place in the liver, and other parts of the body, as well as in the lung, but the latter organ is the only one to which these remarks will apply.

PULMONARY CONSUMPTION is divided into three stages, viz., the first, second, and third. In the first, a deposit of tubercles takes place, very small, and which appears to be a secretion from the blood; thus shewing, that an abnormal condition of the vital fluid is the predisposing cause, and, therefore, a mode of treatment capable of remedying its ill condition, is of importance, and indeed absolutely requisite, in conjunction with any local application. In this stage of the disease, medical men are seldom consulted; indeed, the parties themselves are scarcely aware that they are harbouring so destructive an enemy; they experience little inconvenience, scarcely feeling more than a few slight and transient pains shooting through the region of the chest, with a tickling sensation in the throat, and perhaps a teasing cough, to which they pay little or no attention, ascribing it to cold; and it is not until the insidious nature of the disease makes itself more evident by running into the second stage, that the patient is awakened from her security to contemplate the real access of this deadly enemy to the human race.

In the second stage, the tubercles which had been previously deposited, assume a larger size, and begin to soften; it is now that she first takes notice of the importance of the cough; she fancies herself somewhat thinner; a rosy blush of a hectic character occasionally paints the cheeks; her sleep becomes more restless; she is more easily fatigued; there is perspiration at night, though not much more profuse than heretofore; rigors take place generally twice in twenty-four hours; and, at length, alarmed at these symptoms, she sends for her professional adviser. There is little doubt but many, very many, may be saved by an earlier application; not that I am here censuring this tardy recourse to proper advice, for in truth, the patient is herself unconscious of the critical aspect of her condition.

The third stage speedily follows the second; and now we find an aggravation of all the signs already pointed out. The breathing becomes every day more difficult and shorter; the rigors more marked, perspiration profuse; the tubercles suppurate, and expectoration of purulent matter daily increases; the cough is more frequent; a mucous rattle or crackling sound is noticed in the chest, principally confined to the upper

region; the pulse is quick and small; restless, sleepless nights are passed and often an uncontrollable diarrhæa occurs, which speedily puts an end to her earthly pilgrimage.

So clearly defined are the cases published by Dr. Palmedo, that I need not apologize for allowing him to speak for himself.

In shewing how this new remedy first suggested itself to his mind, he says, "A case came under my observation, where the cutaneous eruption of a female required the use of oleum animale fætidum. It struck me that this person, who never previously laboured under any sort of inconvenience in the respiratory organs, now began to complain greatly of difficulty of breathing, and imputed this troublesome sensation to the extreme penetrative smell of this medicine, which. to use her own words, took away her breath. Her inspirations, indeed, were deeper, but less frequent, and an increased exertion was requisite to effect them. This observation, however important, and likely to lead to the discovery of the qualities of this substance, and to the comparison of the peculiar effects of various vapours on the organs of respiration, did not immediately bring me to any further conclusion or application, to which I was afterwards urged by the almost simultaneous occurrence of the following two cases.

### "CASE I.

"C. U., sixty years old, by profession a lace-maker, whose mother is said to have died of consumption, is a

married man, and father of several children, still living. He states that he has been often attacked, for successive years, during the winter season by coughs, straitness and tightness in the chest, and shooting pains in the left chest. Three years ago, during the winter also, he states that he had an attack of a pulmonary inflammation, with cough and spitting of blood, for which venesection had been prescribed. Since that time cough and expectoration have continued. A similar inflammatory attack had taken place in the month of December, 1837, for which he was again bled. For a short time he grew a little better, but the cough soon became more frequent, obstinate, and violent, and the expectoration more copious; he lost strength, and rapidly grew thinner.

"When I was called in, which was on the 15th of April, 1838, I found him confined to his bed, which he had kept for nearly six months. Such was his emaciation, that he resembled a skeleton; hectic fever prevailed to an extreme degree; his pulse before noon rose to 108 in a minute; colliquative sweats during night; total absence of appetite; but no appearance, as yet, of diarrhea. A frequent, continuous, and indomitable cough, attended by copious expectoration, was exceedingly troublesome; the daily-ejected matter filled a large water-glass, and presented all the qualities of phthisical sputa; these mostly sunk in the water, and, where connected in their inferior surface, they formed an homogeneous and greyish sediment, but otherwise appeared like conglobate cloudy masses. The respiration, not much accelerated, was superficial, and took place without exertion, but without pain, except when he was lying on the left side. The chest was excessively lean, flat, sunken, almost concave, and, as it were, ossified. Percussion offered a dead sound

on the superior part of the right chest; below the third rib of the same side, on the contrary, the sound was regular; but a much worse one proceeded from the left, where percussion was painful to a degree, as it also was, though less so, in the superior part of the right side of the lungs. On examination by auscultation, the respiratory murmur was heard distinctly, and regularly, in the entire lower part of the right chest, but very indistinctly in the greater part of the anterior aspect of the left chest; on the contrary, in the posterior and lateral parts of this same left side the murmur was very clear, whilst it was totally absent in the subclavicular regions of both sides; and in its stead there prevailed at these places an extensive mucous râle or rattle; and even a distinct cavernous rattle was audible in the right superior lobe, whilst the other portions of the lungs were altogether free from it, except some deeper situated parts of the left lung, where some phlegmy crackling rustle could be distinguished. A hollow breathing, and a cavernous rattle in the anterior region of the right chest bore testimony of a cavity, the existence of which was still more strongly confirmed by the pectoriloguy which was heard there, in a most distinct and striking manner.

"Diagnosis.—A spacious and old excavation in the superior part of the right lung; mollified tubercles, and probably some small excavations commencing in the left lung; a more extensive condensation on this side, but the greater portion of the lungs free from it; expansion beginning to come on in the air-cells; phthisis in the commencement of the third stage.

"It happened that the patient's wife was affected with a psoriasis which had lasted many years, and had spread over her whole body. She inhabited the same

small room, luckily exposed to the southern aspect. Remembering the peculiar effects of the fætid animal oil on the respiration of the female previously mentioned in the introduction, and likewise calling to mind the assertion of Dr. Ramadge, that asthmatic persons are exempt from pulmonary consumption, and that an asthmatic state of the lungs is produced as well in the cases where nature cures the phthisical disease, as also in those where his method of inhalations is resorted to, I immediately resolved to make trial of this oil, which I had always found peculiarly efficient, for the cure of the above-named form of eruption; and, in consequence, I proposed to the woman to submit to a treatment of this nature, with a view of removing her tedious suffering, whilst I, at the same time, wished to observe the effects of this remedy on her consumptive husband. My proposal being accepted, after a previous scarification, I immediately prepared for the cure of the psoriasis, which, in fact, completely succeeded, but late, after a repeated application of this oily remedy, and with the additional aid of frequent blistering. At the commencement, however, and long before I made progress in this cure, I was obliged to discontinue this treatment, because the phthisical husband, bed-ridden in the same confined apartment, could no longer bear the extremely penetrating odour. The clothing, as also the bedding, being strongly impregnated with this oil and its evaporations, the opening of the windows could scarcely correct the infected air of the room. The smell was, in fact, so offensive, that not only the house of the patient but likewise the opposite one was infected; in short, the patient could not respire without the greatest effort, and, with his mouth wide open, he appeared continually gasping for

breath. He endeavoured to reinforce his inspirations by exerting all his muscles in every possible way; the sterno-cleido-mastoidei were in perpetual and convulsive movement; he found some slight alleviations only by an upright posture in bed, with his neck stretched out, and both hands taking hold of the bedstead; nor could he bear any thing that impeded the expansion of the chest; the lightest covering there oppressed him, and even his shirt was scarcely suffered to hang loosely on his shoulders. To my great astonishment, however, I found, after a few weeks, not only an amelioration of his wife's psoriasis, but, beyond my expectation, a complete cure of his consumption.

"At first, I had almost begun to repent of my experiment. But that which caused so many torments, and appeared to be accelerating death, led, in fact, to the preservation of his life: for already, on the second day after the first appearance of his asthmatic state, there was a diminution in the frequency, as well as the intensity, of his cough, and consequently in the quantity of the expectorations; and this decrease improved, in proportion to the increase of the asthma. Within the first week his pulse grew slower and fuller; the hectic fever, together with the colliquative sweats and the ædema pedum, entirely disappeared; strength gradually returned, and the patient was enabled to leave his bed in three weeks. At the end of five weeks there remained only an occasional cough, which was of short duration, and by starts, and generally accompanied by no expectoration whatever, or now and then by some ejection of ordinary phlegm. Of the many later cases corroborative of the surprising effects of this remedy, I found none which equalled this in regard to the quickness of the cure, which, in this instance, could be

looked upon as having been completed within the short space of six weeks. This, possibly, may have been owing to some peculiarity in the state of disease of this patient, to his age, his constitution, as well as to the favourable combination of several external circumstances.

"About seven weeks after the first friction with the oil, his wife, in the hope of curing her own malady, submitted to a repetition of the same treatment, which was conjointly to confirm the cure of her husband. On this occasion he undertook the operation of frictions of those places, at least, which she could not conveniently reach; and, to guard against too strong an effect of the medicine on his lungs, and to avoid the consequences which had before caused his extreme suffering, but also his recovery long despaired of, he took the precaution to cover the lower part of his face with an apron. Nevertheless, during the three weeks of this second treatment, his breathing again became difficult, but not so much as to prevent him from continuing the operation of frictions.

"The patient has now been eighteen months under my inspection; his asthmatic state has gradually yielded to a proper internal treatment, and has diminished to an extraordinary degree; he has become so accustomed to what still remains of it, that it does not greatly inconvenience him. Cough and expectoration have altogether disappeared. Although he is still much reduced, being naturally of a spare habit, he, nevertheless, has comparatively increased in flesh, and has recovered his strength, which is now proportionate to his age and natural constitution. He is thereby enabled to take long daily walks, and to attend to his calling and employment, which he had been compelled to neglect for

so long a time. I should here mention the remarkable changes that have since taken place with regard to his respiratory organs. The thorax, before so flat and sunken, is now evidently heightened and fairly vaulted. I am sorry that I omitted to measure the dimensions that relate to it, both before and after the treatment. The chest, moreover, has not only improved in extent, but to a still more striking degree in mobility; hence the hypertrophical muscles of his neck. Percussion, it is true, still presents a somewhat deadened sound in the superior parts of the anterior and posterior regions of the lungs; but the difference between this sound and that of the healthy regions of the lungs is far less than it was before the treatment, although the sonorousness has also in these latter parts become somewhat greater. I, likewise, think I have observed a decrease as to the superficial extent of this still somewhat dead sound in the upper parts of the chest; but the proportions of extension are not so distinct in my memory as those of its intensity. Still greater are the changes which auscultation offers. The respiratory murmur which formerly was nearly extinct in the two upper regions of the lungs, and had suffered an irregular diminution within a wide extent of the anterior part of the left chest, is now distinctly heard in all these regions; whilst it is remarkable that it is become more feeble in those parts which formerly were healthy, and where now the sonorousness on percussion has been somewhat increasing. In both infra-spinal and infra-clavicular regions, a strong blowing, tracheal respiration can be distinguished. The mucous rattle, formerly so audible, and the cavernous one in the sub-clavicular regions, have disappeared, and only a feeble, phlegmy crackling rustle is still heard there in some detached parts; that

pectoriloquy also had vanished, which presented itself so distinctly before the treatment. I have to add a supplementary remark, that the patient, during the autumn and winter subsequent to this cure, has been affected with various hepatic complaints, and with cardialgia: both, however, yielded to a persevering use of dissolving remedies; and nothing remains but an increase of the liver, which is somewhat hard to the touch.

"Some time after, I learnt that the brother of the woman, whom I had never met with, dwelt in the same room with this couple, and had complained greatly of the insupportable and suffocating stench of the oil, although neither she nor her two sons had been much affected by it, and that he also had, on that occasion, been cured of a troublesome and violent cough and considerable expectoration. I mention this assertion of the woman merely by the way, and without attaching much importance to it, as I have had no opportunity of examining, either at the time or afterwards, the state of this person and the nature of his cough.

Remarks.—My former experiments, which had been undertaken according to the method of inhalation recommended, with a well-founded prospect of success, but had nevertheless failed, having now been so happily and unexpectedly rewarded by this remarkable cure with the fœtid animal oil, I forthwith, and with a redoubled zeal, sought for every opportunity which could afford further trials, perhaps confirmatory of the efficacy of this remedy; for one sole observation not only cannot satisfy experience, but this particular instance was, besides, of so extraordinary a nature, that I might almost consider myself under some illusion in respect to it. I also felt the necessity of procuring

more accurate indications, and a more definite knowledge of the mode in which this remedy developes itself, and especially of the most proper method of its application.

"To avoid prolixity, I shall communicate at once some few of the more interesting and important of these later experiments, and then proceed to note the general results of all my observations.

### " CASE II.

"F. B., twenty-nine years of age, whose parents are still living, is a widow, and mother of two children. She shows no very marked phthisical habit; traces, however, of an earlier scrofulous diathesis cannot be mistaken. She does not remember to have ever been affected by any serious disease, either in the chest or of any other kind, and has always regularly menstruated: but since the autumn of 1837, she had felt a straitness and tightness in the chest, particularly on ascending steps, or on walking quick; and this sensation had been attended by a frequent and dry cough, and a slight straining pain across the chest. At the commencement of the following March, she was attacked by a more severe and febrile pneumonic affection, the unquestionable inflammatory character of which required immediate bleeding. The violence of the greater part of these attacks subsided, indeed, in consequence of this venesection; but the advantage thus obtained was only temporary. Week after week her health became worse; a respiration, somewhat accelerated but superficial; a frequent, protracted, and violent cough, which was brought on whenever she fetched a deep breath; erratic

shooting pains; an undetermined expectoration; a pulsation somewhat irritable and quick (100 per minute); small exacerbations of fever, which appeared regularly towards evening, and want of appetite, were, each and all, of such a nature, that they would not yield either to a consistent use of remedies, resorted to under similar circumstances, or to time.

"She gradually wasted away, and general debility became daily more visible. Expectoration increased to an alarming degree, and acquired the indubitable symptoms of a phthisical one. Numberless grains of tuberculous matter, dispersed upon the bottom of the glass, no longer permitted a doubt of the reality and malignity of the disease, of which I had a complete confirmation in the month of May, by my repeated physical investigation of the thorax, the formation of which, more than her general habit, bore strong evidence of a tendency to this malady and its effects. The chest is not merely narrow, but also sunken flat, and greatly impeded in its play and moveableness. On percussion, which particularly pained her, in the left infra-clavicular region, a very flat, dull, and dead sound was heard on both sides of these regions, and extended itself on the left below the third rib; but percussion on the infra-spinal region produced no very irregular sound. In all inferior places of the thorax the sound was perfectly natural. In these latter places, also, the respiratory murmur was distinct, regular, and free from phlegmy or other rattling; but it was very feeble in the superior part of the right lung, where, at a particular place, it was not audible at all, being possibly deadened by other noises that prevailed there. This respiratory murmur was totally absent in the anterior part of the left lung, where, in its stead, a widely-extended mucous

rattle was distinguishable, and a loud and strong bubbling sound under the collar-bone. Here, it appeared to me, I discovered a pectoriloquy, however, indistinct. In the corresponding region on the right, no pectoriloquy was observable, but only a phlegmy rattle, which lower down changed into a mucous crackling.

"Diagnosis.—An incipient excavation in the left lung; crude tubercles and pulmonary condensation in the superior part of the right lung; the other portions of both lungs in a healthy state; consumption at the end of the second stage; the pulsations of the heart presented no deviation with regard to extent, vigour, and quality.

"In the beginning of June I prepared this patient for a regular and methodical cure with the oleum animale fætidum, which soon gave prospects of the same favourable results as have been related in the preceding observations; for on the fourth day the patient complained that this medicine rendered her breathing so extremely difficult, that she could no longer cough, although she felt a constant incentive to do so: of the truth of which I became convinced during a visit of half an hour, and every successive day came to confirm it. A remarkable change was meanwhile taking place; the cough, which formerly made its appearance at least every fifth minute, and often lasted for one or two, now became so rare, that I seldom heard it during my rather prolonged visits; nor was the patient longer troubled by it during the nights, which she had hitherto passed almost without getting sleep or rest. Her expectorations became more easy, and a few and slight fits of cough sufficed to promote them; their quantity on the fourteenth day was five times less, but the quality had as yet not much changed. The sputa were still the

same masses, mostly sinking in the water, globose, furnished with a long and vertical continuous streak, and forming a dusty sediment on the bottom of the glass; her appetite also was restored in a short time. These progressive symptoms of recovery were attended by an asthmatical dyspnœa, which had taken a distinct character, and disturbed the patient so greatly, that I had some difficulty in persuading her to continue the cure. Her efforts at every inspiration were clearly visible on the muscles of the neck and the face. In the forenoon the changes of the pulse were less striking than the other alterations, but the exacerbations of the fever in the evening had diminished in the very first days, and

soon became nearly imperceptible.

"On the eighteenth day of the treatment the pulse grew somewhat more irritable and quick, the afternoonfever more distinct, the respiration more accelerated, and the oppression of the chest stronger. The patient complained of stretching and shooting-pains across the chest; the cough attacked her more frequently, and became abrupt and dry; expectoration was at the same time almost entirely suppressed, so that all she ejected consisted in a mere frothy phlegm. I therefore suspended for some days the use of the oil, whilst leeches were applied, and antiphlogistic and calming medicines were resorted to: by these means, in fact, this little attack was soon repelled, and expectoration again grew more easy and dense, but it also threatened soon to reach its former dangerous extent: I, in consequence, lost no time in resuming the principal cure that had been broken off, and ordered her to continue the frictions with the most persevering accuracy during four other weeks. It was now chiefly that the favourable effects of this oil became completely evident: in the very first

days the cough again became rarer, shorter, and less vehement; there was likewise not only a diminution in the quantity of the expectoration, but the sputa also lost their purulent quality, and offered the aspect of a simple catarrhal phlegm. The patient could likewise bear the fœtidness of the oil much easier than before: for, although an asthmatic state had again been brought on, and though she drew breath with increased effort and deeper inspiration, yet the oppression and the want of breath, and the feeling of tightness and straitness across the chest were much less troublesome. A vesicular eruption, of a most itching and molesting nature, which had made its appearance on the chest within the first three weeks, which had preceded the suspension of the oily frictions, now disappeared. Fever and sweats totally vanished: her restored appetite not only put a stop to emaciation, but, in conjunction with the moral influence which such daily progresses and the prospect of a speedy and complete cure must necessarily have on the patient, it had operated so favourably, that four weeks after the second application of this treatment the patient regained her former strength and cheerfulness, and, in short, could be pronounced effectually cured. In order, however, to guard against a relapse, or an impairing depravation of the disease, the use of the fætid animal oil was left off gradually, and this main treatment ceased only when no further chances of relapse were to be apprehended. To confirm the cure, and to strengthen her lungs, the patient was for a considerable time instructed to expose in her room a small board slightly rubbed over with this oil.

"At this moment, after the lapse of about a twelvemonth, no other changes have been observable but such as manifest her radical and permanent cure.

Cough and expectoration no longer exists; the voice, before rough and hoarse, is now clear and sonorous; the sole remaining traces of former complaints are, at times, and after strong bodily exertion, observable in a tightness of the chest, attended by some pain, and a slight difficulty of respiration, which, however, is of quite another description from that which she had felt before the cure, and which is peculiar to consumptive persons, because the respiration is neither accelerated nor superficial, but, on the contrary, more rare, slower, and stronger than in the ordinary state of the human frame. Each inspiration is deeper, fuller, and made with greater exertion; and to effect it, not only those muscles are brought into play which are commonly employed for that purpose, but activity is also required of the auxiliary respiratory muscles, so that the larynx lowers during the inspiration with a sort of convulsive spasm, and the shoulders incline rather forwards. This is most observed when she speaks; for then every occasional protracted period is interrupted by an involuntary and spasmodical inspiration. The physical investigation of the chest by percussion and auscultation presents such changes as fully correspond with her actual state of health.

### CASE III.

"S. M. is twenty-nine years old, tall, and of a slender shape, but in other respects the phthisical habitus is not particularly defined: she has given birth to three children, to the last on the 1st of March, 1838. She states that she has been subject to frequent bleeding at the nose in her earlier years; till three years ago she

was affected by a cough and spitting of blood, after having previously suffered for some time from pains in the chest. Her convalescence having taken place, she was again attacked by a pulmonary inflammation in the month of May, 1837, and consequently previous to her last pregnancy. Her youngest child died about the middle of May, 1838; a violent cough appeared immediately afterwards, and from this time she fixes the commencement of the disease I am now describing, which with a speedy progress reached that high degree wherein I found it. On more accurate inquiry, however, I learnt that immediately after the birth of the last child she had been affected with a difficulty of respiration, with pains in the chest, and a short and dry cough. I shall give an adumbration of the state of this person, when she came under my inspection on the 14th of June. The patient had fallen away to a great degree; still the projection of several muscles showed that they must not long ago have possessed a tolerable development and force. She complained of extraordinary weakness, faintness, and languor: for a fortnight she had been unable to leave the house, and could scarcely stand on her legs. The colour of her face was of a dirty-greyish cast, except at stated periods, when a hectic flush appeared on her cheeks. There was also a frequent, violent, and hollow cough, accompanied by difficult but copious expectoration, which had all the pneumo-phthisical characters, and in which, at the bottom of the vase, I frequently discovered detached particles similar to grains of rice, and sometimes streaks of blood. The voice was rather hoarse; the respiration not much troubled, except that any deep inspiration occasioned a coughing fit. The chest was miserably wasted, and almost flat; the left half considerably

smaller in circumference than the right, showed also less movement during respiration. Percussion presented everywhere a fair sound, except in both superior anterior regions of the chest, where it differed but little from the sound of the heart. This sound on this region of the right side was still more dull than on the corresponding one on the left. The respiratory murmur was likewise distinct and clear, except in the said two regions, where it was totally wanting. A loud boiling noise, and a distinct cavernous rattle were perceivable under the left collar-bone, as low as the third rib; and pectoriloquy could be distinguished there to such a degree of extent and force as I have seldom met with: I discovered a strong mucous rattle in several places of the corresponding regions on the right. It struck me that percussion produced a clearer sound on that side where auscultation manifested the greater destruction; and I am inclined to explain this phenomenon by the size of the excavation on that place, and by the thinness of the parietes of this cavity. The patient likewise complained of stretching, shooting, and pricking pains in the upper parts of the chest, which were particularly dolorous on percussion. I constantly found the pulse quick, small, and rather hard. She was attacked invariably twice a-day by a chilliness succeeded by heat, on which occasions the cough became more frequent, the expectoration more scarce and difficult, and the pulse still more quick and hard. Profuse sweats in the night, and a too copious expectoration in the morning, procured a transient alleviation. She had scarcely any appetite. The other functions were as yet undisturbed, except her menstruation, which had not taken place during a period of two years.

"Diagnosis.—Tuberculous infiltration, with a commencing formation of an excavation or excavations in the upper lobe of the right lung; an enormous excavation on the top of the left lung; the other pulmonary parts sound; phthisis in the commencement of the third stage.

"After a previous small venesection, and a short but energetic internal antiphlogistic treatment, the patient submitted, on the 20th of June, to the operations of the animal fœtid oil. Forty-eight hours afterwards, this remedy had developed its salutary powers with such striking results, as scarcely could be effected by any other medicine in any other disease. The cough, which formerly tormented the patient every five minutes, was so diminished, that frequently it was not heard for half an hour. It had, besides, changed its former character; it was no longer that hollow shaking cough which lasted many minutes, but merely consisted in one or two slight momentary fits, occasioning an easy expectoration, as happens in the stage of resolution after a pneumonia. The consequence of this abatement in the cough was a decrease in the discharged matter. It was not, however, with a corresponding celerity, but only gradually, that this expectoration changed its former purulent nature; yet it lost, by degrees, its greyish colour, remained suspended in the water, and assumed the aspect of catarrhal sputa. These favourable changes soon had the most beneficial influence on the general health of the patient: for the shooting pains in the chest having considerably diminished after a few days, the pulse became slower and less excited: the exacerbations of the fever in the forenoon ceased entirely; those only in the afternoon could still be observed by an accelerated pulsation;

the profuse and debilitating sweats disappeared; the patient was enabled to sleep during the whole night, undisturbed by coughs; and the appetite returned, so much so, that a more strengthening food was to be provided for.

"The treatment, of which the above is merely a faint sketch, was continued with perseverance for the space of three weeks, when a suspension became necessary, for the following two reasons. In the first place, an eruption, which on the tenth day had broken out in the form of small vesicles on the breast, now caused an intolerable itching; and secondly, and rather chiefly, the discontinuance was commanded by an intense inflammatory affection of the lungs which had arisen, and was now added to the asthmatic difficulty of respiration. This latter had been produced under appearances entirely similar to those described in the preceding two observations. But, now, this asthma changed into dyspnœa; the respiration was frequent, quick, and superficial. Shooting pains, and a stretching across the chest, a short and frequent cough, an increased expectoration, an accelerated pulse, &c.; all these appearances having lasted for two days, there ensued an ominous cough and spitting of blood. A small venesection was immediately resorted to, the use of the oil was suspended, the sick chamber aired, and an antiphlogistic treatment adopted. The inflammatory symptoms having thus subsided, the former treatment was resumed, and continued with unremitting attention for three more weeks. Nor was there any cause to repent this severity, the progress during this time being almost more favourable than during the first period of the cure: for there came on not only a decrease, but a cessation of the expectoration and the

pains in the chest; and the entire constitution soon improved to such a degree, that the patient was enabled to rise and to take daily walks. On the 20th of July menstruation reappeared for the first time after two years, and has since continued with regularity. I imputed the reappearance of the menses to the ammonium muriaticum, which is highly spoken of by some physicians as an emmenagogue, and in this case had been made use of almost continually during six weeks. An investigation of the chest, which was repeated about this time, presented the same results which have been stated to have taken place in observations I and As early as the 15th of August, the patient entered without my knowledge and against my wish into a laborious service. The consequence was, that a fortnight later, she came again under my care. But her disease now consisted merely in an acute bronchitis, to cure which, and in consideration of her anterior state, I immediately applied a venesection and an antiphlogistic treatment. She recovered after the lapse of eight days, so as to enable her to re-enter the service; and the remains of the catarrhal cough and the expectoration entirely disappeared. I have repeatedly seen her since, and had the satisfaction of being convinced of the continually improving state of her health, and of the radical cure of her consumptive disease.

### " CASE IV.

"A. F. is twenty-nine years old, unmarried, and the daughter of parents who both died of pulmonary consumption; though weakly, she had been tolerably well in her early youth, and, about 8 years ago, had an illegitimate child. Menstruation, which had commenced in

her sixteenth year, had ceased two years and a half ago. She affirms that, four years ago, being very warm after a walk, she had suddenly caught a violent cold, which was immediately followed by a dry cough that lasted three months: she was subsequently affected for the first time by a cough and spitting of blood, accompanied with shooting pains in the upper region of the left lung, oppression in breathing, and a sense of tightness in the chest. Six months later, on the reappearance of the cough and spitting of blood, the expectorated discharges became gradually of greater consistency, more purulent and copious; they had frequently an offensive smell, and hæmoptysis came on repeatedly. In the month of July, 1837, the pectoral disease, and emaciation and debility had so increased, that the patient was obliged to enter one of the medical institutions of this metropolis, where, with the exception of letting blood at the foot and of several foot-baths, nothing was prescribed but linseed-tea. Dissatisfied with so simple a treatment, as well as with its results, she, at her own discretion and expense, made use of the lard-cure during five weeks, and with rather a favourable effect; for the cough sensibly diminished, as also the quantity of discharged matter. The other consequences, however, which the patient ascribes to this cure, are remarkable: for, as the expectoration diminished, the chest became contracted, and there arose an oppression, a sense of internal soreness, and sharp pains in the chest: she therefore thought it necessary to desist, and left the institution about Christmas in a somewhat improved state. But the severe and protracted cold of that winter impaired her health to such an extent, that she remained bed-ridden for more than four months, and her physician gave up all hopes of saving her life.

"It was in the commencement of August, 1838, when I, for the first time, examined the state of health of this person. A disease of so many years' standing had caused so great a degree of decline and desiccation, that I scarcely ever recollect any similar instance to have fallen under my observation. The face alone appeared to be in some state of preservation; for, although pale and thin, it was not fallen in, and had a juvenile aspect, without any great expression of suffering. The general frame of the patient displays no very marked tendency to consumption, except the thorax, which is of too narrow and compressed a structure. A supine posture was the most convenient for her, and when lying on the right side she suffered most. On examination, I found a frequent and strong, but not very continual nor tormenting cough, accompanied by an easy and extremely copious discharge of matter, evidently purulent; no remarkable dyspnœa, except after any particular effort; each deeper inspiration occasioning painful coughs; the voice clear, but low; a very small, feeble, and quick pulse (112, p. min.); regular exacerbations of the hectic fever towards evening; extremely profuse night-sweats; attacks of diarrhœa since several days, which, however, may have been independent of her consumptive state, as this distemper was at that time epidemic in the city; a great loss of appetite; the feet sometimes swollen, particularly after sitting for a long time; the nights sleepless, being disturbed by the cough.

"On my local examination of the chest, I observed the left side of a somewhat less circumference and mobility than the right one. On percussion of the left side above the nipple, a dead sound was emitted, whilst that on the corresponding regions of the right

side was not so dull, but irregular in a wider circumference. Here, also, percussion was very painful. In all the lower regions the sound was regular, or even clearer than usual; and these places also offered an ordinary and rather distinct respiratory murmur to auscultation. But this murmur could not be distinguished above the third rib on both sides, being either wanting or covered by other sounds that were clearly heard there. The phlegmy and boiling rustle, which on the left side rather resembled a continual rattle, could not be perceived in any of the inferior regions of the lungs. The patient herself could distinctly hear and feel where impediments obstructed the entrance of air, and where they gradually ceased to exist during the course of the treatment: her statements, in fact, tolerably corresponded with the results of stethoscopy. Pectoriloquy in the upper regions of the left lung was also more distinct, and existed in more places there than on the right side; in neither side, however, was it particularly characteristic. The pulsation of the heart was regular, except as to quickness.

"Diagnosis. — Many and old excavations in the superior lobe of the left lung; later and less spacious caverns in the superior regions of the right one; on the contrary, in this lung a more extensive condensation of the pulmonic parenchyma; a very chronic form of consumption in its last stage, with an hereditary, but not strongly-developed, tendency towards it.

"Encouraged by earlier experience, of which I have related three instances, I had acquired a much greater confidence in the oleum animale fætidum. The present case offering no contra-indications, every circumstance, excepting only the very ominous one of the extraordinary length and high degree of the disease, affording

hope of a favourable issue, and there being no time to be lost, I commenced the next day to apply my method, the propitious effects of which were perceptible within the first forty-eight hours; as cough and expectoration diminished, the evening-fever became lower, and the night-sweats almost ceased. But here progress stopped, although the treatment was continued during three weeks. The cough remained frequent and strong, the expectoration copious, the pulse quick, the appetite low, and her strength did not increase. The patient, long since given up by the physicians, despaired of a possibility of convalescence by this or any method of curing, and refused any longer to submit to a treatment so offensive to the smell and so distressing by the increased difficulty of breathing. I myself began to abandon hope, and almost to admit doubts as to the efficacy of the remedy in general: but from the very first week I had suspected that the patient did not punctually observe the prescriptions. I reproached her for this negligence, and insisted on more strict attention to my directions. She invariably excused herself by contending that she could no longer bear the torments which this remedy inflicted, by increasing instead of alleviating her sufferings; and, one day when I was prevented visiting her, she suspended the cure altogether. The cough then immediately re-appeared with increased violence, the patient was scarcely exempt from it during three minutes, and a speedy dissolution must infallibly have taken place, if this state had lasted a few days longer. By acting on her fears, and encouraging her by hazardous promises, as also by recalling to her recollection the success which had attended the commencement of this treatment, I induced her to submit to a repetition, as well as to

observe punctually every measure that might be hereafter prescribed.

" She suffered extremely during the first five days of the recommenced and reinforced application of the oil. Under the tortures of anguish, oppression, and a great internal heat, her breath was taken away to such a degree, that she constantly believed herself to be in danger of suffocation. Her only relief was in sitting upright in the bed, whilst supporting herself by both hands on the bedstead; and, even then, she often entreated to be allowed one sole draught of free air. But very soon it was not necessary to urge her to obedience. On the fifth day there appeared such favourable changes as disposed her to an attentive use of the remedy, and amply rewarded her for her former torments. The cough had diminished into an unfrequent fit; the expectorations, although of bad quality still, filled at the utmost three spoonsful within twentyfour hours; pulsation lowered to 100 in a minute; and the colliquative sweats disappeared entirely. On the eighth day I observed many streaks and some detached small lumps of blood in the expectorated matter, several masses also had a sanguineous colour; but as the difficulty of breathing and the cough were rather diminishing than increasing, and no token, either general or local, could be perceived of an inflammatory irritation, I ascribed this bloody secretion to some laceration of an air-vessel, or to a venous congestion in the lungs, and did not suspend the treatment. The patient now not only could lie down, but was able to sleep the whole night quietly, and without being disturbed by the cough: she no longer heard the former rattling in the left chest, and affirmed that she felt the air again penetrating through this whole lung;

she merely perceived a slight rattle in the right one, as also an impediment there on drawing in the breath, and a sensation, diminished, however, of the former pain: but she was now capable of taking uncommonly deep inspirations, which had not been the case within the last four years.

" On visiting her on the tenth day after the renewed treatment, I was alarmed at a sudden change in her look; she had become quite dark grey, of an earthy colour, as happens after a continued use of nitrate of silver: however, she felt perfectly well, was lively, and spoke for half an hour, narrating the progress of her disease without interruption or cough. The few expectorations had also lost their unfavourable appearances, and gained a catarrhous form. On the fourteenth day menstruation returned for the first time after a lapse of two years and a-half: it was certainly very insignificant, but strengthened the confidence of the patient as to a speedy and complete convalescence. I had witnessed a similar fact in the case stated in the "third observation," and I then had imputed it to the use of sal ammoniac: but as, in the present instance, the patient had not taken this medicine during the last four weeks, and only three drachms in the first, this effect must solely be ascribed to the oleum animale fætidum, as is also easily explainable, and in full accordance with physiological principles.

"Nothing was now required to effect a complete cure, but the removal of the extreme emaciation and debility. On the reappearance of appetite this desideratum was likewise attained, if not so quick and so complete as could be wished, yet gradually, and by means of nourishing diet; whilst proper medicines, at the same time, were resorted to, and the principal treatment, the frictions with the animal fœtid oil, were continued for a considerable time without interruption."

Impressed with the importance of these cases, I shall venture to add a few further remarks on the treatment of consumptive patients.

In the first stage of consumption, some great advantages may be gained, by a systematic mode of hygiene treatment, in combination with a course of medicinal counter-irritation; by which the morbid action, if not totally suspended, is at least alleviated, and its fatal termination postponed. In the second stage, even, much benefit has resulted from the above; but, in the third, alas! hitherto, we have been able to do little more than combat incidental casualties, and so obtain a respite. The first case in which I tried the application of the oleum animale fætidum, was that of a lady in Cornhill; she had been pronounced incurable by two physicians, as well as by myself. The first few days of trial shewed a marked improvement; at the commencement of this new mode of treatment she was so feeble that she was carried from the bed to the sofa, being totally unable to walk; the night perspirations were profuse, with rigors and complete loss of appetite; these entirely subsided in an incredibly short period; the appetite improved, and she was soon capable of getting out of bed and walking the room without assistance; in about a fortnight from the commencement of my exertions, symptoms of inflammation of the lung ensued,\* which necessitated a suspension of the use of the oil, and compelled recourse to other remedies. She recovered from this little interruption, and has willingly resumed the frictions with the animal oil, from a conviction of the great relief afforded by it.

The treatment indicated by Dr. P. was strictly followed, and the results were remarkably similar. It was commenced on the 10th of October. On the 13th, expectoration purulent; rigors none: appetite better; general improvement; slept well. 14th. Pulse 120; tongue clean; breathing becoming difficult; irritation in the throat from the odour causing more cough; perspiration increased; rigors none; appetite better; expectoration increased; slept pretty well. 15th. Pulse 128; expectoration decreased: slept well; perspiration little, in the morning; bowels open; breathing short; tongue clean; cough better; appetite better. 18th.

\* Inflammation appearing to take place, generally, after a few weeks' rubbing, this question arises—Does this constitute the process of reparation?—Since writing this question my attention has been directed to a philosophical essay, just published by Churchill. In Sect. IX. there are some interesting remarks on the subject, concluding with the following sentence:—"It thus appears that incipient inflammation is the instrument of the vis medicatrix nature."—See "Pathology founded on the Natural System of Anatomy and Physiology," &c.: by Alexander Walker, 1841.

Pulse 130; soreness on inspiration; breathing more difficult; appetite much improved; sleep not so good; expectoration much better; general improvement and increase of strength. 19th. Pulse 140; perspiration none; rigors none; bowels open; cough better; expectoration very small; sickness; appetite not so good. 20th. Pulse 120; perspiration none; rigors none; cough better; appetite failed; bowels not open; sleep good; difficulty of breathing, and sickness. 21st. Symptoms of pneumonia; pulse 134; pain in chest. 22d. Pulse 114; cough better; no sleep; no perspiration, nor rigors; bowels open; pain in the chest, breathing more difficult. (Blister-salin. haust.-anodyn.) 23d. Pulse 116; perspiration none; bowels not open; short breathing; better on the whole, and less pain.

The friction was continued with great relief—but it was now conjectured that the oil made in this country might not be so powerful as that used by Dr. P., and a delay ensued while awaiting the arrival of a supply from Berlin. The pulse, however, gradually improved, till, on Nov. 24 it was 100, and so continued, with very little expectoration; but much weakness, want of appetite; and the diarrhœa which prevailed had ceased.

A feeling of diffidence with which experience has taught us to distrust the efficacy of newly proposed remedies, renders me, generally, far from sanguine in my expectations; yet as respects this one, from my

close observation of its effects, I cannot help expressing my opinion, that the oleum animale fætidum is a successful remedy, in cases even in the last stage, provided there be sufficient lung left to carry on the function of respiration; but as regards this patient, though not without hope, I am fearful that the disease was too far advanced to warrant a prospect of ultimate success, which view is strengthened by the opinion of a physician communicated to me by letter, wherein he says: "Dr. S- has seen Mrs. ---, and examined her chest. There is an immense cavity beneath the left clavicle, and a smaller one beneath the right, which convinces Dr. S- that there is not the slightest chance of being able to save the patient.-It is obvious that we can do no more than relieve urgent symptoms, and with this the friends of Mrs. - will be quite satisfied."-The patient and her husband, however, were both desirous of a continuance of the oil, from a conviction that it not only administered comfort, but that she would have ceased to exist long since, had not the remedy been applied. Dr. S. gave it as his opinion that she would not outlive the past November; nevertheless, we are persevering in the treatment, and she is gaining rather than losing ground; but what may be the result time only can demonstrate.

Thus far, then, having a fair prospect of at least prolonging life, it is my intention steadily to persevere in this mode of treatment, and with the greater confidence, as, if no good shall result, it is equally certain that no greater inconvenience is likely to arise, than that of the unpleasant odour, which is not so bad as Dr. Palmedo describes it to be, unless, indeed, the oil used by him be of a more concentrated nature.

It does not appear that this remedy is a panacea for all kinds of consumption. Dr. P. says, "I had only one occasion to apply this remedy of the animal fætid oil in the genuine phthisis laryngea, (that is, where it commences in the larynx or wind-pipe,) and do not feel encouraged to repeat it; for the effect though not quite unfavorable, was of no real and eventual benefit. The frequency as well as the intensity of the cough, it is true, subsided at the beginning, and there was a slight alleviation of pain; but these advantages were of no long duration, for the old symptoms gradually resumed their former violence, even during the continuance of this treatment." It fortunately happens, however, that phthisis laryngea is of very rare occurrence; but I must refer my readers to his papers,\* which will afford them ample reward for the time consumed in their perusal.

The climate best adapted to the consumptive state, has much occupied the attention of medical men; hence various places have been recommended. But, to speak generally, low, marshy, but cultivated plains, are con-

<sup>\*</sup> Now publishing in "The Lancet," Vol. I. 1841-2.

sidered good situations. "An air not too light nor too pure, but mild, rarefied by heat, and impregnated with aqueous and other non-irritating vapours," is recommended.

In England, Cornwall, and Devonshire are resorted to.

Madeira has been much spoken of, but the people of
England are little acquainted with the numerous
miseries of that place. I shall endeavour to draw a
picture of it, from the observations and opinions of two
of my friends, (one a surgeon,) who went there with a
view of improving their health, (both being considered
phthisical).

It is stated that the climate of Madeira has materially changed,—and why not? We well know that the seasons of our own country have altered, for we seldom have winter, in its severe form, until after Christmas: whereas, some twenty years ago, it was common to see snow and ice at the latter end of October, or beginning of November. But whether the climate of Madeira has changed or not, it is quite clear that the public opinion of the present day respecting it, widely differs from that prevailing some few years since.

Few people entertain the slightest idea of the sacrifice of comfort and general quietude of mind (so essential in any disease,) endured by those who leave a happy and domestic home, with every indulgence at hand, for an abode where the repulsive aspect arising from want of even suitable household requisites and

furniture, is enough alone to damp the most sanguine aspirant after health. The habits of the poorer natives of Madeira are extremely filthy, and disgusting; and the sensitive invalid is annoyed at the scenes which he continually encounters; -children crawling about the streets in a state of nudity; human excrement in the public thoroughfares in every direction, and pigs and rats devouring it; women in rows assisting each other to kill the vermin about their persons, or rather to keep them under, for they consider it wholesome to have some!-hideous faces arising from leprosy, a disease very prevalent there, in which the similarity of countenance forms a striking point in their appearance, being of a character quite different from what is seen in our hospitals, and, when they are affected badly, deemed incurable. It is very common to see them miserably covered with scales of a thick crust. The disease is occasioned, no doubt, by their watery nutriment, which very generally consists, amongst the poorest, of soup made of pumpkins with a little rice or Indian corn. Someone of the will be been

There is no wish to exaggerate in this recital, and my friends insist that it is but an act of kindness to intending emigrant invalids to expose to their view the real features of the place which they are about to visit, for the restoration of a shattered constitution. It cannot but have a depressing effect, to read the number of inscriptions on the tomb-stones, running thus,—"Sa-

cred to the memory of W—, from England, who departed this life after a few weeks' (and even days') residence." It is not uncommon to hear the boatmen exclaim, on the landing of the passengers, "La vai hum outro estrangeiro para o cemeterio Ingleza,"—" there goes another stranger to the English cemetery."

All this is so contrary to our notions, -so disgusting to Englishmen, particularly to persons of an excitable temperament and those peculiarly sensitive about this want of domestic comfort, that the disappointment they feel has been known to accelerate the development of the disease, and promote the crisis. My medical friend, in a letter to me, says, "I am sorry I cannot speak very favourably of the adaptation of the climate of Madeira for consumptive people. Having resided there for six months, I can form a pretty correct idea of its effects, generally, upon invalids visiting the island, on their arrival. They are usually a little advanced in the disease, perhaps not materially reduced in flesh, and able to walk with apparent comfort about the city of Funchal; nevertheless such persons generally get thin and sickly in a very few weeks, and I have been surprised at the rapid breaking up of constitution which occurs. They take to their beds, perhaps for a week or a fortnight, and die."-He thinks that many reputed cases of consumption, which are materially relieved, are not in reality phthisis, but some bronchial affection, which, if allowed to go on without relief, reduces the patient as much as the disease of which we are treating.

Snow is common on the mountains nearly all the year, and the cold therefrom is sometimes sensibly felt in the town. From November to February the prevailing winds, or rather gales, are south-east, and south-west: and the little relief which the invalid may obtain is experienced at those periods of the year, when the east winds bring to the island the hot air from the African desert—when the natives suspend business, shutting themselves up in their houses—when even the cattle suffer the greatest prostration of strength, stretching themselves on the earth—when indeed all nature seems enervated.

The climate is very mild, the mean temperature being about 68°, the thermometer seldom sinking below 60° or rising above 74°; but the dense fogs and dews are very distressing, and it appears to be either very hot and dry, or cold and damp.

Sea-voyages have been deservedly much recommended, but the good effects are to be ascribed in a great measure to the sea-sickness, the humid exhalations from the water,—to the peculiar atmosphere of the ship, it being impregnated with the vapours of tar, pitch, &c. My medical friend attributes the benefit which he obtained more to the voyage than to his residence in Madeira. He says that a residence in the

Azores would be far preferable to one in Madeira: the climate is much more bracing and congenial to the feelings; the temperature varies very little from the latter place. He came home that way, and remained at St. Michael's a fortnight; there were six invalids with him, and one and all expressed themselves surprised at the different feeling of the climate, although not more than 300 miles distant; but there is no accommodation for invalids; the living is very cheap, but the habits of the people are equally filthy with those of Madeira.

Nice has been much spoken of. It is situated in the Mediterranean, four miles beyond the river Var, which divides France from the Sardinian territory. Domestic comfort is there of a higher order than in Madeira, and it is well supplied with provisions. The climate is dry, (which is not so good,) and the atmosphere very clear. Though protected from the northerly winds, and especially the mistral or north-west, it is nevertheless exposed to the north-east wind, -and Sir James Clark says, "Nice is protected from the dreaded mistral, but is still subject to some winds, chiefly the north-east, east, and south-east, which, though they do not blow with the violence of those of Provence, nevertheless are sharp and cold. They are particularly frequent during the spring months, and form a strong objection, in my opinion, to the climate as a spring residence for the consumptive."

In a conversation which Sir James Clark had with

Dr. Foderé, who lived six years at Nice, and who was an acute observer, he says, "There is one thing certain, Sir, you may safely assure your countrymen, that it is a very bad practice to send their consumptive patients to die at Nice."—Vide Sir James Clark on the Climate and Diseases of the South of France, Italy, &c.

I cannot consider London a bad air for cases of this sort, for it combines a more moderate temperature,\* with an atmosphere sufficiently pure, and yet not so much so, as to cause all the effects arising from a clear, bright, and pure atmosphere, which is acknowledged to be detrimental in phthisical cases; and as to the smoke caused by the burning of coals, the ordinary fuel, it is notorious that Galen used to send such patients to the neighbourhood of Vesuvius, in order that they might inhale sulphureous vapours.

\* This in the summer is about 3° cooler, and in the winter 3° warmer than the country.

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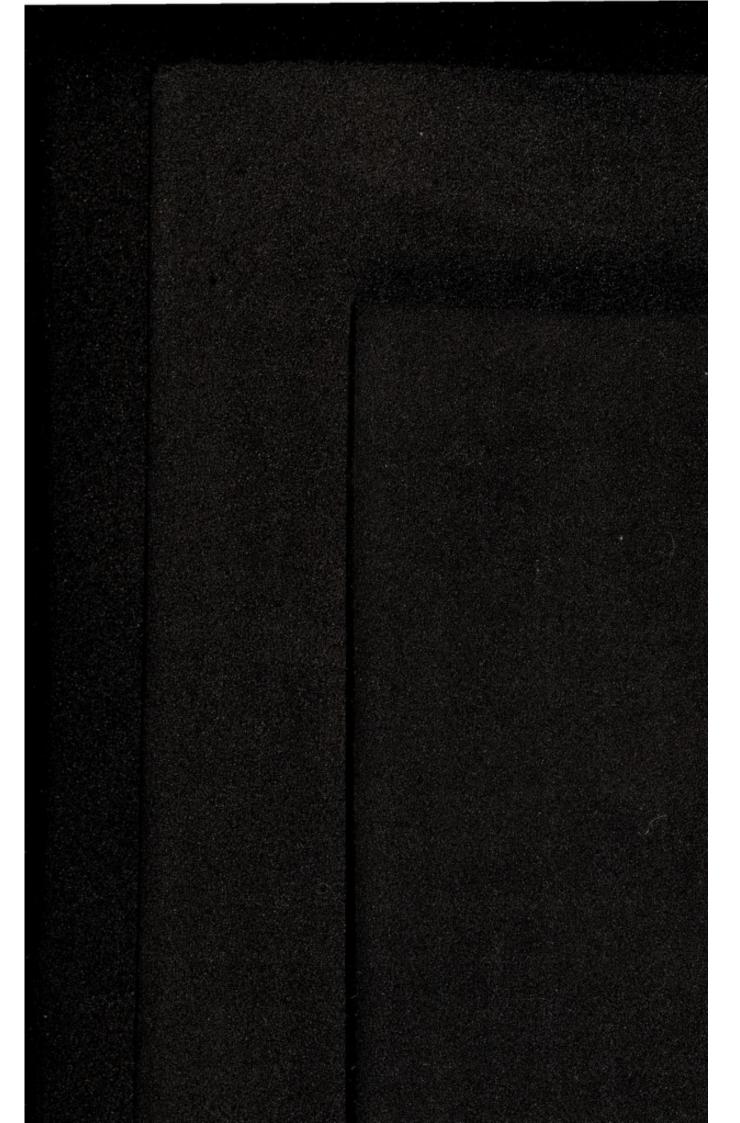
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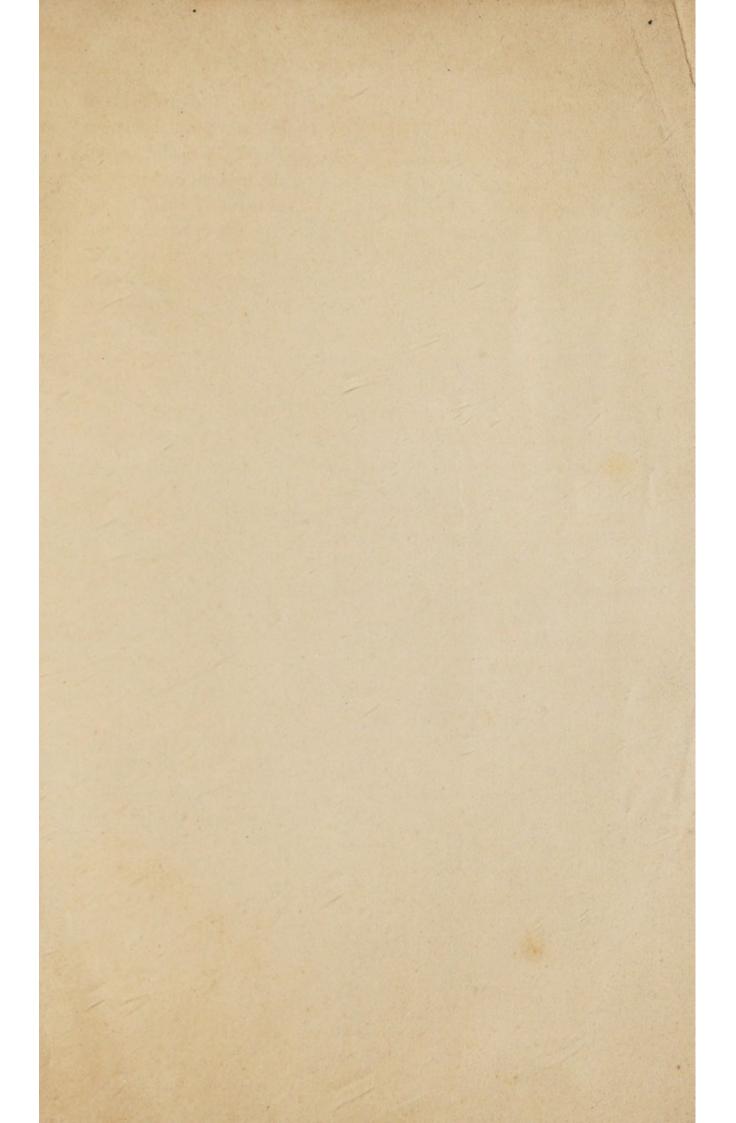
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