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Contributors

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ON
HYDROPHOBIA,

ITS

PREVENTION,

AND

CURE.

WITH A

DISSERTATION

ON

CANINE MADNESS:

ILLUSTRATED WITH CASES.

By *BENJAMIN MOSELEY, M. D.*

PHYSICIAN TO HIS MAJESTY'S ROYAL MILITARY
HOSPITAL AT CHELSEA, &c. &c.

THE THIRD EDITION,

WITH CONSIDERABLE ADDITIONS, AND AN APPENDIX
CONTAINING MANY NEW CASES.

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1808.

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L O N D O N

ON HYDROPHOBIA.

THE Epidemical rage of Canine Madness in England for three years past;—its present prevalence,—and fatal effects experienced of late by the human race, induced me to give as much publicity as possible, to the three following Essays. The *Morning Herald* was the vehicle I selected for the purpose; and they appeared in that Paper on the 14th of November, and 15th of December 1807; and on the 25th of January 1808.

The demand for that popular Daily Newspaper, containing these Essays, was great; and the numbers printed, though great, were inadequate to the demand. Many hundreds of people, who wished to obtain an impression of one, or more of them, were disappointed.

On this account I have been solicited to reprint these detached Essays; and to publish another Edition of them, all together.

This must be my apology for the method in which they make their appearance.—But the exigency of circumstances may also plead in

my favour. Acts devoted to public good, in times of danger, rise above all forms; and are paramount to all personal considerations.

The two Cases of Hydrophobia will, in many minds, occasion the deepest reflection.

It may seem incredible to some people, that there has never been an accurate description of Hydrophobia, and a succession of the symptoms of Canine Madness, before given to the world.

It does not appear satisfactorily, to the learned, that any writer on this malady ever saw its whole train of evils. The ancients, like the moderns, describe, and prescribe, in their way; but not one among them even pretends to have seen Hydrophobia, with Rabies in all its stages.

Some of the moderns assert, they have witnessed the dreadful scene; but their own evidence is against them. BOERHAAVE is bad; MEAD worse; and the rest, with very few exceptions, are contemptible.

It has been a theme for theoretic Physicians; a metaphor for Poets; and a fable for Historians.

There can be no doubt that many people have seen the disease; because many have perished by it. But it may be asked, what are these Spectators' descriptions, and their details of practice?

Hydrophobia, from the bite of a Mad Dog, has ever been deemed incurable.

OVID remarks, that Hydrophobia and Gout, are not within the reach of medicine*.

CELSUS considers Hydrophobia as an hopeless misery†. The only remedy, he says, is plunging the patient unawares, into a cold bath; and there half drowning him. I believe CELSUS, who first mentions this process, never tried it. He knew, and mentions, the dangers of it. Yet this has given rise to all the erroneous notions, concerning cold bathing, as a *preventive* of Hydrophobia.

SCRIBONIUS LARGUS is of opinion, that no person was ever relieved from it ‡.

PLINY asserts, that (before his old woman's dream that her son was to be cured of the bite of a Mad Dog, by the root of the *Dog Rose*) no person was ever cured of Hydrophobia§.

ORIBASIIUS|| and PAUL ÆGINETA ¶ maintain that it is a mortal disease.

* Tollere nodosam nescit medicina podagram,
Nec formidatis auxiliatur aquis.

Ep. ex Ponto, lib. i. ep. iii. 23, 24.

† Miserrimum genus morbi; in quo simul æger et siti et aquæ metu cruciatur. Quo oppressis, in angusto spes est. Lib. v. c. 27.

‡ Nemo adhuc, correptum hoc malo expeditus est. *De Comp. Med.* lib. c. xlv.

§ Insanabilis ad hosce annos fuit Rabidi Canis morsus, pavorem aquæ, potûsque omnis afferens odium. *Nat. Hist.* lib. xxv. c. 2.

|| Ex iis verò qui à Cane Rabioso morsi fuissent, servatum esse neminem. *Synop.* lib. viii. c. 13.

¶ Cæterùm eorum qui in hanc affectionem inciderunt, nullum sanatum esse. *De Re Med.* lib. v. c. 3.

ORIBASIIUS (from APPOLLONIUS PERGAMENUS,) PAUL ÆGINETA, and many others, mention Hydrophobia, or an horror at the sight of water, from other causes; but as a curable, and simply nervous affection:—which we all know it is. Some modern authors speak of its appearance in fevers that have been fatal. CÆLIUS AURELIANUS makes mention of spontaneous Hydrophobia*. This also is an old story in physick.

Some writers fancy they can retrace Canine Madness to HIPPOCRATES; and some even to HOMER. CÆLIUS AURELIANUS, who complains that the ancients knew no cure for Hydrophobia, among others, was of this opinion†. But not one word either in HOMER, or in HIPPOCRATES, I am certain, will be found to justify them.

The epithets given to Hector, in HOMER, which have puzzled, and misled conjecturers, mean nothing more than that his violence resembled insanity ‡; and his fury rendered him like an enraged Dog§. As to HIPPOCRATES, he only says that phrenetic patients, drink-

* Est præterea possibile, sine manifestâ causâ, hanc passionem corporibus innasci. *Acut. Morb.* lib. iii. c. ix.

† *Acut. Morb.* lib. iii. c. 15. & c. 16.

‡ Κρατερη δε ε λυσσα δεδυκεν. *Il.* ix. 239. 'Ο λυσσωδης, *Il.* xiii. 53. Λυσσα δε οι κηρ. *Il.* xxi. 542.

§ Κυνα λυσσητηρα. *Il.* viii. 299.

ing but little, are affected by any small noise, and are subject to tremors, — or convulsions*.

ARISTOTLE, who lived near a century after HIPPOCRATES, and more than six centuries after HOMER, is the first who mentions the Rabies in Dogs. But in such a way, as to prove, that the disease was not understood in his time; or that it was a different kind of Rabies, from that in our days,—if there have been no corruption in the text. For he remarks, that the human race was not affected by it †.

He says—“Dogs are subject to three diseases;—the Rabies; the Angina; and the Podagra. The Rabies causes madness in Dogs; and all animals they then bite have the Rabies, excepting Man. This disease kills Dogs, and all that are bitten, excepting Man ‡.”

The cause of this surprising disease in the Canine species, is not better understood, after a lapse of more than two thousand years, than its Nature and treatment are, when commu-

* Οι φρενιτικοί βραχυποταί ψοφου καθαπτομενοί, τρομωδεις, — ἢ σπασμωδεις. *Predict. lib. i. 16. & Coac. Prænot. 98.*

† Πλην ανθρωπου.

‡ Οι δε κυνες, καμνουσι νοσημασι τρισιν. ονομαζεται δε ταυτα, λυτλια, κυναλχη, ποδαγρα. Τουτων ἡ λυτλια, εμποιει μανιαν και οταν δακη, λυτλιωσιν απαντα τα δηχθεντα, πλην ανθρωπου. αναιρει δε το νοσημα τουτο τας τε κυνας και ο, τι αν δηχθη υπο λυτλιωσης, πλην ανθρωπου. *Hist. Animal. lib. viii. c. 22.*

nicated from the original source, to the human frame.

Almost all writers consider madness in Dogs, to arise from thirst; or from the heat in Summer, particularly during the Dog Days. Ignorant people suppose it never happens without infection, from one animal to another; by bite, or otherwise.

ÆTIUS is of opinion, that Dogs are most subject to it, in those countries, where there are the greatest changes and inequalities of the atmosphere; where the cold in winter is extreme; and the heat in summer excessive*.

VIRGIL, though not a Physician, speaks more like a philosopher, and comes nearer the mark, than any Physician who has hitherto written expressly on the subject. He classes Canine Madness among the distempers of sheep, and cattle; brought on by a pestilential state of the air†. VIRGIL'S instance indeed is stated from a particular plague; which, during the raging heat in Autumn, contaminated the waters, poisoned the pastures, and almost exterminated every kind of animal.

A general history of Canine Madness does not come within my present view. Such an history is much wanted; as improvement in the

* *Tetr. ii. Serm. 2. c. 24.*

† *Hinc Canibus blandis Rabies venit. Georg. lib. iii. 496.*

treatment of this greatest of all human miseries, can never take place, until the medical superstition and ignorance, with which it is involved, shall be properly exposed; some hope established; and all reliance on nostrums and pretended cures totally destroyed*.

The wretched in this disease,—are wretched indeed. Consigned, by custom, to a refuge where they are deceived, robbed and murdered.

Another misfortune to humanity is, that since the separation of physick and surgery into distinct professions, every Physician, and every Surgeon, are not qualified to undertake complicated Cases,—such as wounds from rabid, and venomous animals, with their consequent diseases.

* Ashes of burnt River Crabs was a great remedy with the Ancients for the bites of Mad Dogs. GALEN wonderfully extols their virtues. The following he says is infallible: Take—Frankincense † 1 part; Gentian Root 5 parts; and burnt River Crabs 10 parts; all made into a powder. The dose is a table spoonful; to be given once a day, for forty days. *De Simp. Med. Fac. lib. ii. Περι καρκινων κεκαυμένων.*

Another celebrated Antidote, was that of APULEUS CELSUS; prepared of Peppers, Aromatics, Gums, and Opium. It is described by SCRIBONIUS LARGUS, *De Comp. Med. Lib. cap. xliii.*

These two compositions, with different Boles or Earths, substituted for the calcined River Crabs, are the bases of all the formulæ, since the times of their respective authors.

† Διδανωτος.

A Surgeon now, is supposed to know as little of physick as possible; and a Physician is supposed to understand about as much surgery. What then must be the fate of a Patient, in the hands of either, who requires the utmost aid of both?

Hence it is, that the knowledge of Hydrophobia, and the treatment of the bites of Mad Dogs, in particular, have not advanced with other improvements in medicine. They are as ill understood, as they were in the time of CELSUS; nay worse; because CELSUS was as renowned in surgery, as in physick:—and his method is not without great design in both.

Many Physicians of long standing, and of great learning and experience, have never seen Hydrophobia; and many believe it never existed.

In the following pages will be found a faithful description of all the general symptoms of Canine Madness, in the human frame; with a new, plain, and correct statement of the different stages of the disease; and an instance of successful treatment of Hydrophobia. The two Cases, illustrating these facts, were seen by many people.

The subjects of these Cases, are not the only patients I have had under my care for the bites of Mad Dogs, within the last few months. I wish they were. It is well known I have had
many;

many; and have cured them. That is, the Hydrophobia has been prevented; and by the methods chiefly explained—circumstances and constitutions varying—in the following Papers.—I have now several under my care.

Here I observe, that every person, or animal, bitten by a Mad Dog, may not always be susceptible of the infection. It is the same in respect to Small Pox virus. The habit may be in a state not to receive it. I have known men, cats, dogs, hogs, and sheep, bitten by Mad Dogs, where no remedies whatever have been used, remain perfectly well; when persons and animals, bitten at the same time, by the same Dogs, have died mad.

This practical fact, denounces the dangerous opinion, that Dogs are often supposed to be mad, when they are not. This accounts also, for the credit, which the most absurd compositions have acquired for curing the infection of Canine Madness, where it never existed.

With these preliminary observations, and without comment, the following Essays are again offered to the Publick; the last with some important additions.

CASE I.

ON Monday afternoon, at three o'clock, the 9th of November, 1807, Mrs. METCALFE, No. 25, Compton-street, brought her son, Mr. FREDERICK MICHAEL METCALFE, to me for advice, at my house in Albany, Piccadilly.

He informed me, that he was attacked about four o'clock the preceding morning with a difficulty in swallowing any liquid, which he first perceived when he attempted to drink some porter, the remains of half a pint, which he had on Saturday evening.

He said, when he put the pot to his mouth, something rose in his throat, and choked him. He swallowed, as he thought, about a teaspoonful, and then was seized with a trembling, and cramp in his arms and legs, and a sensation of pricking, as if pins or needles were run into his flesh.

His appetite failed him on Saturday. On Sunday he ate a small piece of mutton, which made him sick at his stomach. He had eaten nothing on Monday, the day he came to me; though he said he could swallow any thing, except it were in a liquid form; but had no desire for food.

He

He said he was attacked on Thursday last with a violent pain in his right arm, from his shoulder to the ends of his fingers. This pain left him on Saturday night. He rubbed the arm with hartshorn and oil, and wrapped it up with flannel, on Saturday.

Mrs. METCALFE informed me, that on his seeing any liquid poured out for him to drink, even before he took hold of the pot, or cup, he began to tremble, and the choking seized him. She said, in attempting to drink, he became convulsed, his eyes looked glassy, and he stared in an unusual and frightful manner.

The CASE thus clearly demonstrated, I desired Mrs. METCALFE to go with me into another room. I did this that I might not alarm her son, by questions necessary for further information.

Neither Mrs METCALFE nor her son had the slightest suspicion of the cause, or the nature, of this dreadful calamity.

I asked Mrs. METCALFE whether her son had been lately bitten by any Dog? The very question so much alarmed her, that she was for a few minutes in a state of distraction. When she was able to speak, she exclaimed, with a loud shriek, that he had been bitten in the hand by a Dog in the summer. As soon as she became calm and composed, we returned to her son.

On

On interrogating him, he informed me, that in the beginning of July last, there were two Dogs fighting desperately in the street opposite his mother's house; and he observing one of them had one of his eyes torn out, and the other dog likely to kill him, endeavoured to part them; but on taking hold of the Dog he wished to rescue from the fury of the other, he received a bite from him on his right hand.

Two of the Dog's teeth penetrated the outside of the hand, but the palm of the hand was considerably wounded. This wound was dressed with Friar's balsam, and poulticed, and was cured in a week or ten days.

I examined his hand.—There was a small degree of redness remaining, but no heat, or pain, where the wound had been in the palm of his hand; and no vestige whatever on the outside where the teeth had been.

There was nothing observable in his throat, differing from its natural state; nor any increase of saliva.

Pulse 88, rather feeble, and not quite regular. He had no thirst.

He told me his choking seemed to him as arising from wind; and that he always discharged a great deal from his throat, whenever he attempted to swallow.

He said he took some Dill-seed water the
night

night before he came to me, and thought it relieved him; but never could get down more than a tea-spoonful at a time, and that with great difficulty. In one attempt to swallow some of this water, he was so choked and convulsed, that he would have fallen into the fire, his mother told me, if she had not saved him.

I gave him some water in a pint-pot twice; each time he swallowed about a tea-spoonful, and both times was choked, and convulsed, with a wild staring in his eyes, and a trembling all over him; and immediately after the effort of swallowing, he made an hideous noise.

The second time I gave him the water, I was much alarmed; I thought it would have occasioned a fatal convulsion.

It is impossible to describe a sound; and I can compare the noise he made, which was from repeated spasmodic contractions of the organs of respiration, to nothing but to that sort of stifled barking which Dogs sometimes make, when disturbed in their sleep; or to the hoarse, short barking of a Drovers Dog.

When he took the pot in his hand, he fell into a tremor, held down his head, and was in great distress; he kept it in his hand a few seconds before he could summon courage to lift it to his mouth; after which I took it from him, as from his agony he could not hold it.

He

He bore the sight of the water in the pot, while it was in my hand, when it was not offered him to drink; but when I brought a large basin filled with water, and put it before his eyes, he seemed frightened; and when I agitated the water near him, he was instantly attacked with what he called "*the wind rising in his throat,*" trembling, and that hoarse, faucial noise before-mentioned.

He entreated me not to order any medicine for him in a liquid form, as he said he could not take it; and the attempt, he was certain, would kill him.

He said he could swallow any solid substance. I put this to the proof; and, as he had been costive for several days, I gave him four aperient pills, which he swallowed one at a time, but with some difficulty.

He had now been with me three quarters of an hour, when he and Mrs. METCALFE left Albany, with the best advice I could give, and walked back to Compton-street.

From his appearance and conversation, no person would have thought there was any indisposition about him. His voice, and speech, had suffered no alteration. He was in the eighteenth year of his age; a very fine youth in mind, as well as in person.

His humanity here was his misfortune.

With what grief did I see him depart from
Albany

Albany with his poor mother, knowing, as I did, that he had but a few hours to live!

I visited him in the evening. Pulse 110, and very feeble. I gave him some barley water. In attempting to drink, the usual consequences,—choking, wildness in his eyes, and the noise in the throat, followed.

The pills operated about nine o'clock, several times.

About ten o'clock he became so violently convulsed, that four young men, his brothers, could scarcely keep him in his bed; but he made no attempt to bite any person. He began also to spit, and foam at the mouth, with white froth. The quantity of this froth was so great, as to require many towels and handkerchiefs, in wiping it from his mouth.

At this period he likewise became delirious at intervals, but at times was in his perfect senses; and complained, though in a very warm room, of being cold, and begged to be kept warm.

In this condition he continued until one o'clock on the following morning; when, from his violent convulsive exertions and struggling, he was entirely exhausted, and remained calm and quiet afterwards.

He expired at a quarter before two; eighteen weeks from the time of the accident; forty-six hours from the commencement of the HYDROPHOBIA; and ten hours after I first saw him.

CASE II.

SUCCESSFULLY TREATED.

Mrs. HANNAH LACASE, aged thirty years, No. 32, Rupert street, came to me at Albany, in the afternoon of the 15th of December 1807, for advice, having been bitten by a Mad Dog. She informed me that—

On Tuesday evening, the 1st of December, she saw a little Dog on opening the street-door, at the threshold, trembling, as if suffering from cold. She let him into the house, and put some bread and milk before him, of which, she thinks, he ate a little.

On Wednesday, the 2d, he took no notice of food, and seemed stupid; and slept all day under the tables and chairs.—One of his eyes appeared blind. He had a running at his nose, and was paralytic in his loins, and dragged his hind-legs after him. She carried him into her room, when she went to bed. About midnight she heard him tumbling on the floor; and he continued in that disturbed state until morning.

On Thursday, the 3d, she rose early; and while she was lighting the fire, the Dog ran at her, and snapped at her right leg, and tore the stocking. In putting him away with her right hand,

hand, he seized her little finger in his mouth, and made two small punctures near the end of it, with his teeth. He died an hour afterwards.

The punctures, though small, must have been deep, or the poison greatly virulent; as she said, the pain in the finger, for two hours, was excessive. When the severity of the pain abated, a sensation came on, like the pricking of pins; which continued for about a quarter of an hour, and then ceased.

On Friday, the 4th, the pain returned in the finger, and continued for about an hour. After an interval of three days, it returned again, and remained for a little time.

On Friday and Saturday, the 11th and 12th, she was attacked with a numbness in the finger and hand; with some pain, which advanced to the elbow. The numbness and pain went off in about ten minutes, each time.

In the course of her sufferings, she went to a very respectable Surgeon, who proposed to have the bitten part removed; but she objected to it.

On Tuesday, the 15th, being very ill, she came to me. The numbness and pain, which she experienced on Friday and Saturday, returned this morning. Her whole hand was suddenly affected, while she was blowing the fire, and the use of it almost entirely taken
c away.

away. The bitten finger became livid, but the lividness disappeared in an hour or two.

When she came to me, her hand was quite stiff; the finger was hot, and in much pain. She was in great perturbation of mind and body. Her eyes were glassy and inflamed. She sighed almost continually. Her whole nervous system was extremely affected. Pulse 120, weak, and irregular. No thirst. Nothing remarkable in the throat. She said her dreams, for several nights before, were shocking; that on the preceding night she could not remain in bed; but got up, put on her clothes, and went down stairs, fancying the house on fire: and that her head was distracted with a noise, which seemed to her like the rattling of coaches.

I offered her some water; but could not prevail on her to attempt to drink it. She said she could not; and was seized with a trembling. She had no difficulty in swallowing any liquid, notwithstanding, as was afterwards proved. I then brought a pewter basin filled with water, and slopped it about before her; but on much agitating the water, and pouring it out of the basin into a pewter pot, and from thence back to the basin a few times, she looked at it with horror, and was so distressed, without having any idea of my motives, that she begged I would take it away, or that she could not stay in the room.

When

When appeased by the removal of the water, after this experiment, she told me, that in the morning, as she was drawing some water from the cistern in the yard, she was seized with a trembling, giddiness of the head, and terror, at the sight and noise of the water running into the pail. She was ignorant of the cause.

I knew from woeful experience, what mischief was at hand. But knowledge without promptitude, like promptitude without knowledge, here, is of no avail.

I desired her to go immediately home, and to go to bed.

I should have had doubts of the utility of applying my usual caustic, the *Lapis Infernalis*, to the bitten parts, which were healed in three days after the accident, and had now no other visible remains, than two small indentations of the skin—but that the state of the finger and hand shewed the virus was still active in the parts adjacent to the original wounds. Therefore I removed the skin where the wounds had been; and instituted a drain, which was continued through the whole process of treatment.

At five o'clock in the afternoon, I had an ounce of *Unguentum Mercuriale fortius* well rubbed in by herself, about her neck, throat, thighs, and legs. I then gave her the following

draught, with directions to promote perspiration every way possible.

R. *Julep. è Camphora*, ℥ij.

Spt. Volat. Aromat. ℥i.

Rad. Valerian. recent. pulv. ℥ss.

Misce.

This draught was repeated every four hours.

I visited her in the evening, and found her in a great perspiration; pulse 112, small, and tremulous. She had some sleep after the Friction and draught. The sighing, terror, and dread of water, still remained. When the door was shut with some noise, she started up in bed much frightened. She could not bear the light of a candle in her chamber. I asked her why? She said it appeared to her like the light of twenty candles, and distracted her head. I ordered the Mercurial Friction to be repeated at five o'clock the next morning.

On the 16th I visited her in the forenoon. She had perspired profusely during the whole night, and slept at intervals. Her breath was already very offensive, and her gums sore from the two Frictions, within the space of nineteen hours. Pulse 96, but irregular; all symptoms abated. I ordered the draught to be continued, and a repetition of the Friction at five o'clock in the afternoon. I visited her again at nine o'clock in the evening. She had perspired considerably

considerably all the day. Her gums were much affected by the Mercury, and the saliva began to flow plentifully. I ordered the draught to be continued, and the Friction to be repeated at five o'clock the following morning.

On the 17th I visited her about noon. The Mercury had disordered her bowels in the night; and brought on tormina and bloody stools. Thus, the salivation was checked, and the draught necessarily discontinued.

The evils being removed, by Chalk Julep, Cinnamon Water, and Laudanum, the salivation returned in the most extensive manner, and continued until the 29th, when it began to abate, declined gradually, and ceased.

Four ounces of the Ointment, all that was used, were rubbed in, and completely so, at four Frictions, within 48 hours.

She is now in perfect health, and I am under no apprehension concerning her safety.

This is the only case of complete Hydrophobia, from the bite of a Mad Dog, successfully treated, on record.

But in this case, the Hydrophobia was recent, and timely discovered. The dyscataposis, or difficulty in swallowing, and the choking, had not begun their dreadful parts of the tragedy. A few hours more would inevitably have produced them. Then all hopes would have been cut off
from

from any advantage by internal remedies, which are now of the utmost auxiliary importance, in preventing, what can never be cured—these direful precursors of the fatal Rabies.

It is my practice, and I recommend it to others, when called to patients bitten by a Mad Dog, to try them immediately, and from time to time, with water, in the manner above related, in order to detect, as early as possible, the Hydrophobia; or first decided symptom produced by the poison of a Mad Dog.

Had I not done so in this case, the patient would have been lost. A few hours more elapsed, there would have been no possibility of exhibiting medicines internally; and the period between the second stage of the disease, and death, is so short, that there is no time for external applications to find their way, effectually, into the system.

I have known several instances, two of which lately occurred in the neighbourhood of Chelsea, of people dying from the bites of Mad Dogs, without its having ever been ascertained whether there was Hydrophobia.

This leaves room for doubts, and wrong conclusions, among those who are not acquainted with all the characteristics of the disease; especially, when the power of swallowing liquids, without much difficulty, returns,—as it did in one of these two cases, and also in that of young METCALFE.

The return of the power of swallowing has never been noticed before; but I must observe it is very common, after the cessation of the violence of the convulsive struggling, spitting, and foaming at the mouth, which usually happens a little before the patient dies.

ON CANINE MADNESS.

IN my work on *Tropical Diseases, Military Operations, and Climate of the West Indies*, I have shewn that the bites and stings of all venomous animals are cured,—the remedies being instantaneously used,—by the same local means; and that these local means are very simple, if they were always at hand*.

In the same work I observed,—

It has always been a matter of surprise to me, that HILLARY should say Canine Madness “is so frequently seen in most hot countries, and especially in the West Indies, that it may be said to be endemial†,” which is so far from being true, that if HILLARY, who treats of it, and relates several cases that were under his care in Barbadoes, had not been a man of good character, I should have doubted wheter he had ever seen a Mad Dog in the West Indies. I am aware that HUGHES, in his *Natural History of Barbadoes*, says, “This disease was there in or about

* Fourth Edition, p. 35.

† *On the Diseases of Barbadoes*, p. 245.

the year 1741; and that a Cow, in an Hydrophobia, was cured by pouring a pailful of cold water down her throat*.”

During my residence in the West Indies, I never heard of the disease; and from the Inquiries I have made, I am certain that there has been no Canine Madness in many of the islands, if in any of them, for fifty years, before the year 1783; and I am not satisfied with the authority which informs me it was ever there before that year. On the immense continent of South America, it has never been seen. ULLOA says, “The people there express their astonishment when an European relates the melancholy effects of it †;” and POUPE’ DESPORTES, who practised physick in Hispaniola from 1732 until 1748, says, “In that Island they are entirely ignorant of it ‡.”

It is certain that diseases undergo changes and revolutions. Some continue for a succession of years, and vanish when they have exhausted the temporary, but secret cause which produced them. Others have appeared and disappeared suddenly; and others have their periodical returns.

* Page 33.

† Liv. V. ch. vi.

‡ A Saint Domingue on a l’avantage de ne pas connoitre la Rage. *Histoire des Maladies de S. Domingue*, Vol. II. p. 157.

In the spring of 1783, Canine Madness broke out in Hispaniola; and in the month of June in Jamaica, where it raged until March, 1784. It was said at first, that it was brought to Jamaica from Hispaniola; but experience proved the fact to be otherwise.

The common notion that this disease among Dogs can only proceed from the poison of an external bite, or that it originates in some particular Dog, from internal disease, and from thence is disseminated, has excluded the idea of spontaneous madness, arising from some peculiar influence in the air. But this influence of the air generated the Canine Madness in the year 1783, in the West Indies; for it was general, and many Dogs were seized with it, that had no communication with others; and some Dogs which were brought from Europe and North America, and that were not on shore, went mad on their arrival in the harbours of the islands.

The same atmospheric cause produces this disease almost every year among foxes, wolves, and Dogs, in many parts of Europe; some instances of which I have seen in my travels.

In Venice I found the common opinion to be, that the disease is often occasioned by thirst; for which reason all barbers, shoemakers, and coffee-house-keepers, are obliged to have a small tub or pan of water before their doors, particularly in hot weather, that the Dogs running
about

about the streets may drink when they want, as there are no places in that city where they can otherwise supply themselves with fresh water.

In 1783 this disease was general in Jamaica. Many negroes were bitten, and died Hydrophobous.

A boy belonging to Mrs. Inglis, in Kingston, was bitten by a little Dog supposed to be mad, which was therefore killed. The bite, or rather scratch, was not larger than one made by a pin, being only a rasure of the skin by a tooth. It was thought too inconsiderable to be hurtful. Four months afterwards the boy was seized as if he had got a cold, and soon after symptoms of a Tetanus appeared. He died on the third day, but had no symptoms of Hydrophobia.

An attorney at law in Kingston was bitten by his own Dog. The bitten part, which was in the ball of the thumb, was removed. He was then salivated by Mercury, externally and internally used; and he had no symptoms of disease. One of his negroes was also bitten, and treated in the same manner, and with the same success.

Many hogs and goats were bitten, and died mad.

An horse belonging to Mr. Edward East, in Liguanea, was bitten, and being seized with madness, was shot. Another horse, belonging to

to Mr. Andrew Cathcart, a merchant in Kingston, was bitten. He broke out of the stable and ran about mad, until by beating his head against a wall he killed himself.

In the cure of the bite of a Mad Dog, the local treatment may alone be depended on, when recourse is had to proper means, immediately after the accident.

The injured part must be destroyed, or be cut out. Destroying it is the most safe and certain. It is the practice I have always relied on; and the best applications for that purpose are the *Lapis Infernalis*, and the *Butter of Antimony*. These are preferable to an hot iron, which the antients used; because an hot iron forms a crust, that acts as a defence to the under parts, instead of destroying them.

The *Lapis Infernalis* is much better than any other caustic, as it melts and penetrates during its application; by pressing it down on the part, and rubbing it until the desired effect is produced.

The bitten part must be destroyed to the bottom, by repeated applications of the *Lapis Infernalis*; and where there is any doubt that the bottom of the wound is not sufficiently reached, *Butter of Antimony* should be introduced, occasionally, as deep as possible. I formerly recommended incisions to be made, on some occasions, to lay open every part to the influence of the caustic;

caustic; and in desperate cases, that incisions should be made round the wound, to prevent the virus from spreading. But further experience has convinced me that incisions are always unnecessary; and often impracticable, without danger: and that the destruction of the part by Caustics, together with the internal, or external use of Mercury, hereafter related, will infallibly prevent all mischief.

The wound is to be dressed for some time, with poultices, to assuage the inflammation caused by the Caustics; and afterwards with acrid dressings, and hot digestives, to remove the eschar, and create a discharge, and drain the injured parts. The wound should thus be kept open for two or three weeks; or longer, where there has been any delay after the accident.

The most speedy, and effectual method of penetrating the flesh, where there is no wound, is, first to apply some *Butter of Antimony*; this must remain until it causes a vesication, or removal of the cuticle. Then the *Lapis Infernalis* will soon occasion the destruction of all organization within an extensive sphere of action; by which, insensibility to the operation of the poison is produced, and an incapacity of diffusing it.

But good *Lapis Infernalis*, and a little patience, will generally do all that is necessary without the previous application of *Butter of Antimony*; and care must be taken to wipe the part dry, after
the

the *Butter of Antimony*, as the muriatic acid in that preparation will otherwise counteract the lixivial corrosion of the *Lapis Infernalis*, when applied directly after it.—And so reciprocally.

Whether animal poison be distributed by the conveyance of the solids, or of the fluids, is a question with many; but not with me. For the poison of some serpents acts, in a few minutes, so as to dissolve the bond of union between these elements, which constitute the human frame, and extinguishes life. Whereas, the poison of a Mad Dog will remain inactive in the system, without any apparent or perceptible effect, even in the part where it has been inserted,—for many weeks, and often for many months.

The lymphatic movement is too slow for one of these operations, and too quick for the other. But I have discussed this subject elsewhere*.

When the abovementioned Caustics cannot be procured, Oil of Vitriol, Aqua Fortis, Spirit of Salt, Corrosive Sublimate, Arsenic, Common Caustic, Brine, a strong solution of Common Salt, or a plaster of Quick Lime and Soap, may be applied to the wound. Gunpowder laid on the part, and fired, has been used with success.

A person bitten, remote from medical assistance, will seldom be so circumstanced as not to

* *Treatise on Tropical Diseases*, &c. 4th Edit.

be able to obtain one or other of the preceding remedies. Should it so happen that he cannot, an hot iron, can always soon be procured. The wound should be seared with that; which will be a temporary arrest to the action of the virus.

Mercury, in the tardy manner it has always been employed, is of no use; nor have any of the vaunted compositions imposed on mankind, ever produced effects which could be depended on. People have taken them, and Hydrophobia has not appeared. So it is often when no medicine whatever has been taken.

Where there has been no remedy used, though the bitten part be healed, and the cicatrix shew no sign of breaking open, or festering, it should be removed by taking out the part all round, deeper than the wound originally was, with *Lapis Infernalis*, in the manner already described.

If pain, numbness, tingling, itching, redness, or blackness in or near the wound, or in the limb in which it is seated, have already taken place, the patient is in peril; Hydrophobia is not far off; and there is no time to be lost.

Mr. METCALFE had an excruciating pain in the arm of the bitten hand, extending from the ends of his fingers to his shoulder, which attacked him two days previous to the Hydrophobia. The pain left his arm when the Hydrophobia came on. This was the time to have saved his

his life. But he thought it was rheumatism, and had no idea of his situation.

What could have excited this long latent mischief into action? There are no grounds for believing the poison had ever travelled out of the limb, wherein it was deposited, before this time; for he was in perfect health. The flame burst forth in a moment; from embers which had been smothered, during a period of between four and five months.

Mrs. LACASE, on the contrary, was never entirely well from the time she was bitten; and became Hydrophobous in twelve days.

Who can reason on these data?

The method here advised of treating the bites of mad animals, accompanied, where there has been any delay, with Antispasmodics and Mercury properly, externally or internally, used, so as to tranquillise the nerves, and effect the salival glands and fauces judiciously, will prevent all evil consequences.

Samuel Haines, game-keeper to the Duke of Bedford, was bitten by a Mad Dog at Woburn Abbey, on the 21st of October 1788, in his right hand, by which two wounds were made; one of them was considerable. He was sent to me four days after the accident. I had both wounds deeply destroyed by the *Lapis Infernalis*; and well searched, afterwards, and dressed

occa-

occasionally with *Butter of Antimony*. He took Calomel until his mouth was properly affected. The wounds were kept open for a month, with *Red Precipitate* and digestives. He returned home, and continued perfectly well. The Dog died mad.

I have often mentioned this Case of late years, to shew, that my doctrine is not newly adopted. I had several other patients in the year 1788,—as Canine Madness then raged in England,—whom I treated in the same manner. I have likewise had many since; and many long before that period in different parts of the world; and from my own preventive practice, I never had the misfortune to see Hydrophobia.

All the genuine symptoms of Canine Madness presented themselves in the two preceding Cases. The subjects were young, strong, and healthy. But in such a perturbation of the animal spirits, as happens in this disease, other phænomena, the offspring of peculiar organization, must sometimes occur.

A boy of eight years old, who died of Canine Madness in November last, 1807, at Kensington, had an insupportable sense of suffocation, in walking with his face to the wind,—but not otherwise. This circumstance, with head-ache, constituted the first symptoms. They appeared on a Tuesday. Afterwards he went the whole round of misery, and died on the Saturday following. His

parents informed me (for I did not see him), that during his struggles he complained, when his mother fanned him, that he could not bear it; as the wind occasioned by the fan choked him. He was bitten between six and seven weeks before his death.

It has been customary to call this disease by the general name of *Hydrophobia*, but that is incorrect; therefore I divide the disease into three stages.

I. *Hydrophobia*, or the dread of water.

II. *Dyscataposis*, or difficulty in swallowing, with choking.

III. *Rabies*, or convulsion, generally attended with vehement spitting, and frothing at the mouth.

The symptoms arising in the system from the bite of a Mad Dog, antecedent to *Hydrophobia*, are of that description called—nervous; consequently various, in different constitutions.

Not apprized of this, writers have erroneously considered some peculiar symptoms, as universal characteristics of the disease. The same error has been committed in the convulsed state.

Canine Madness seems to be a mixture, or rather a succession, of *Hysterical* and *Tetanic* affections.—Hence the use of antispasmodics.

Apprehension, lowness of spirits, and fright, at first; in which state, the nervous influence only

only is concerned; and the voluntary, and involuntary functions remain undisturbed. To this condition succeeds spasm in the throat,—the region besieged by all passions combined with fear, or dread. Then universal muscular convulsion makes an horrid attack, and subverts the whole order of nature.

ON THE USE OF MERCURY.

MERCURY, as a preventive of Hydrophobia, has often, heretofore, been employed,—but never properly; nor with any defined object, or physiological principle, or discrimination.

Neither is there any instance whatever on record, of its use, as a principal agent, when Hydrophobia had already appeared; anterior to the first cure, which I happily performed by the assistance of this medicine, in that dreadful disease.

When any person, bitten by a rabid animal, applies to me for advice on the day of the accident, or on the following day, if young and with a good constitution, I generally rely on Calomel, given night and morning; to produce a soreness of the mouth, and a slight salivation. This soreness of the mouth, and increase of saliva, I keep up for a week, or fortnight, or longer, according

to the nature of the case. When four, or five days, or more, have elapsed from the time of the accident, I always have recourse to the application of the *Unguentum Mercuriale fortius*, by Friction; and that in proportion to the apprehension of danger.

In some habits, the external application of Mercury does not produce an affection of the salival glands without difficulty. Here I accompany the Friction, with Calomel internally.

If the bowels become affected by the Mercury, which is often the case in delicate habits, and when a great quantity either internally, or externally, is used in a little space of time, the Chalk Julep, Cinnamon Water, and Laudanum must be given; to compose the intestinal canal, and prevent the Mercury from going off that way, and thereby defeating our intention.

There are many people besides, of weak bowels, to whom it is improper to give Mercury internally. Here the Friction is our only dependance. And perhaps in all cases of this disease, and in my opinion of every other, where Mercury can with equal efficacy be used externally, it ought. The stomach should be reserved for other auxiliary medicines; and to be disposed of according to exigencies.—Nothing can be urged in favour of using Mercury internally, but that it is a cleaner, and, in common practice, a more convenient way of obtaining its effects, than by external application.

When

When symptoms of Hydrophobia have already taken place, I proceed with the utmost rapidity; and apply the Frictions to the neck, throat, and fauces, as well as to the arms, thighs, and legs; to bring on a full salivation as speedily as possible:—and, where the disease is not so far advanced as to impede the action of swallowing, I give the Camphorated Valerian Volatile Mixture.—I mention this Mixture, as a composition I have been accustomed to use. But every Physician knows, that there are many other medicines of similar efficacy; and perhaps at hand, when these are not.

The bitten part in all cases, though completely healed, and even where there is no appearance of a wound, should without loss of time be destroyed; and treated in the manner I have described.

In addition to what I have said at page 30, of applications for extinguishing the rabid virus in the wound itself, before it has time to do mischief, in defect of other remedies, either paper, linen, cotton, lint, or tow, should be burnt on the part; that no time may be lost, before proper assistance can be had.

When a patient has advice early, I believe, that destroying the part, and keeping the wound open, and freely discharging for some weeks, would, without internal medicines, prevent all mischief. But having mentioned this before, I here observe, that I never depended on the external
treat-

treatment only; and therefore dare not recommend the trusting to that alone.

Does Mercury operate by any specific property in subduing the poison of Rabies in the system, or by its local action on the throat and fauces?

REFLECTION.

IN order to perform the best services in my power, in the present alarming state of the disposition to Madness, among all descriptions of Dogs, I make no delay in presenting to the Publick, the following Appendix; containing some strong Cases of the bites of Mad Dogs, and Mad Cats, successfully treated by me. They are only a few of many which I have had under my care, since the last Edition of this Treatise made its appearance. I hope this Edition will add considerably to the utility already produced by the former; and that, while it teaches a method of succouring the distressed, it will have the salutary effect of putting people on their guard, and of warning them of the danger which every where, in the streets of London, at this time surrounds them.

These Cases being recent, and chiefly in London and its vicinity, their history is accessible to scrutiny; so that any person may satisfy himself

self as to the facts, and the fidelity with which they are related.

Many subjects have come to me from remote districts, under the terror of bites from Dogs; the madness of which, in some Cases, was not circumstantially ascertained. I have likewise been consulted by practitioners in the Country for patients under similar predicament. To whom I have recommended, what I constantly practise myself, the treating all of them, making such allowance as the occasion required, in the same manner;—preferring security to speculation. I considered, from the great extent of Canine Madness in almost every part of England, for three years past, that employing any means which extinguish doubt, and ensure safety from the most shocking calamity which afflicts human nature, could never be deemed by the good and wise, a work of supererogation. It is possible, that the existence of rabid infection in some of the Cases in the Appendix, may be thought doubtful. I solemnly declare, that I do not think there is one of them so; and for this reason selected them.

No person can doubt the rabid state of the Dog, which bit the subjects of the CASES xxiii. xxiv. and xxv.; because the same Dog bit Mrs. Sharp, who, as will be seen, died hydrophobous.

Moreover, some symptoms, usually forerunning Hydrophobia, appeared in one of those subjects, which were removed by the treatment; and some
symptoms

symptoms of a still more decided nature, further advanced, in CASES ii. iii. and xiii.

The difference of the attack of a Mad Dog, from that of a Mad Cat, which I am going to describe, will afford a subject for the consideration of philosophers.

A Mad Dog becomes outrageous when he is chained, or confined; but when he is under no restraint, he seldom goes much out of his way to attack any object. He sneaks about, and runs, and starts by fits, and bites and snaps, at every person, and every thing, animate and inanimate, that is in his way.—In Dog-lovers fables, his master is the last person he attempts to bite; and is the favoured Ulysses of the tragedy.

The gratitude of Dogs, so much talked of by Romance-writers, when not Mad, is experienced in their kennels; where they sometimes seize on the persons bringing them food, and devour them in a moment.

A Mad Cat, in a manner very different from that of a Mad Dog, seizes, and enters into a conflict with every object which it attacks; as it does on its prey when not mad. Here the feline race, never to be depended on, display their character. Like tigers, they spring with great violence, and fasten their teeth and claws on the object, which in their phrenzy they wish to destroy.

The Cat which bit Mr. Nicholls, CASE xviii.
in

in the night, after he got her out of his chamber, remained in the house until morning; and on seeing the first moving object, which was the shop-boy, who after opening the shop was putting away the shutters,—she jumped down at him from a considerable height. But missing her aim, she pitched against the shutter which he was carrying, and was stunned; and so the boy escaped.

The sight of motion, always kindles a sanguinary flame in the minds of lions and tigers, in a state of nature; and in almost all animals which live on the reeking blood of others.—In the deserts of countries infested by these terrible inhabitants, cunning travellers, they say, often save their lives, by pretending to be dead.

It is the commonly expressed opinion, that the bites only of rabid animals can convey the poison of infection. But this is erroneous. Wounds made by the claws of a Mad Cat, armed with saliva, from the habit of Cats licking their paws, are equally fatal.—This has never been noticed before.

Therefore HILDANUS has been unjustly reprehended by some commentators, for attributing the Hydrophobia, of which his patient *Daniel Perrin* died, to a slight scratch of a Mad Cat, on the thumb of his right hand.

The accident happened in the time of harvest;

vest; and the Hydrophobia did not come on until March following*.

CÆLIUS AURELIANUS also has been unfairly censured, for asserting that Hydrophobia has been caused by the nails of rabid animals; and for mentioning an instance likewise, of a person becoming rabid, from a slight wound received from a Cock that was fighting †.

The source of rabid poison, in all animals, is unquestionably in the mouth. I have no doubt but deadly inoculation might be performed in a way, which I do not think prudence would justify the mentioning.—There is mischief enough already in the world.

I believe that neither the bite, nor the saliva of an human being, in Canine Rabies, is infectious. But let no one trust, on such a subject as this, to what any man offers, merely as an hypothetical opinion.

Who can ascertain the cause, from which Canine Madness now rages in England?

There are only a few Physicians in London, who ever saw Hydrophobia until the present Epidemic; and now, there is scarcely one, who has not had an opportunity of seeing it often.

We know nothing of the origin of Epidemics. But it cannot fail to strike the Legislature, that some interference is necessary, to put a stop to the obvious medium, by which that of Canine

* *Observat. Chirurgic.* Cent. i. Obs. 86.

† *Acut. Morb.* Lib. iii. C. xi.

Madness, particularly in the Metropolis, is increased, and propagated.

The usual doctrine, of the external treatment of the bites of Mad Dogs, and the bites and stings of all venomous animals, the principle being the same,—which is to destroy the poison at the place of its insertion,—if that can be called a doctrine where no principle has ever been followed,—will experience much contradiction in the contents of these pages.—But practice must stand against theory; for, I have neither time nor inclination, to open a Chancery Suit against professional prejudices.—Nor am I prompted by views of extravagant reward, regardless of the consequences of my doctrine to the human race, in thus laying before the Publick the result of my experience.—I have not studied in an Utopian Academy, where false hopes are taught; nor have I learned to veil the sacred statue of Truth.

In favour of the practice I recommend,—it is not enough to say that I have never known it to fail;—but also to state that every other practice has failed; and that my mode of treating the bites of rabid animals, was not employed in any of the numerous Cases of fatal Hydrophobia, public or private, which have lately occurred in London, and in other parts of England.

Chelsea Hospital,
18th November, 1808.

B. M.

APPENDIX

TO

THE THIRD EDITION.

 CASE I.

Master George Cox, aged four years, son of Mrs. Cox, Archer Street, Great Windmill Street, was brought to me on the 4th of November 1807. He was bitten by a Mad Dog two days before, in the back part of his right leg. Two wounds had been made, which were scabbed over; but they were attended with much inflammation, hardness, and pain. I proceeded as usual. I had the injured part destroyed with *Lapis Infernalis*; and dressed occasionally with *Butter of Antimony*. Poultices were applied, to assuage the inflammation caused by the Caustics; and to forward the separation of the cauterised slough, and to promote a discharge. In a few days these objects were accom-

complished; and two good openings were made. These openings discharged abundantly, and were kept in that state for six weeks; then healed. I gave him Calomel, night and morning, until his mouth was sufficiently affected, which was kept sore for a fortnight. I gave him also the Camphorated Valerian Volatile Mixture, three times a day for a week; then twice a day for a week. Here, the accident being recent, I had time to obtain the effects of Mercury without violence; and the internal use of it only, was sufficient for my purpose. I knew all that was necessary could be done that way, before the approach of Hydrophobia.

CASE II.

Sarah Eves, aged twenty-eight years, No. 3, Fenchurch Buildings, was bitten by a Mad Lap-dog on the 11th of January 1808. The Dog, two days before he bit her, was observed to shake and tremble; and the day on which he bit her, the symptoms greatly increased, and the next day he went quite mad. His body was swelled, his eye (being blind in the other) was red and angry, and run with water; he hung his tail down between his legs, which before he carried

carried curled up on his back,—one of the strongest signs of madness in Dogs; and on the day he was killed, he foamed at the mouth, and tore about the kitchen, and made an horrid noise; and bit and snapped at the legs of the table, and at every thing that was in his way.

She applied to me on the 27th of January, sixteen days after the accident. She had terrible dreams, and was very restless on the three preceding nights. She complained of a pain about her heart, and trembling in her limbs. She said the pain always abated, as the trembling increased. In coming to me, she said the houses in the streets seemed moving. Her vision was imperfect from vertigo. She had been attacked with a stoppage in her throat; and could not swallow for some time, without difficulty. She had no dread of water; but was much agitated, when I tested her, by slopping some about in a basin before her. There was pain, with redness, and smarting in the bitten part, which was on the forefinger of her right hand. The wound was healed, and, but for the redness, scarcely discernible. The pain at times, went up her arm, with a blackness of the hand and itching. These symptoms came on at intervals, and remained about an hour; and were sometimes succeeded by a great pain in the hand and arm, and numbness; which were also of a short duration.

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I destroyed the wounded part and treated it in the usual way; salivated her slightly; gave her Asafœtida, and the Camphorated Valerian Volatile Mixture. All unfavourable symptoms disappeared. She was quite well in six weeks; and the dire Rabies prevented.

CASE III.

Henry Brown, aged twenty-two years, footman to Mr. Johnson, Hanover Square, applied to me on the 30th of January 1808. He had been bitten on the 28th, in two places on his right hand; by parting two Dogs, that were fighting in the stable-yard. The Dog that bit him, belonged to his master's coachman. In the evening, after the Dog had been fighting, he became completely mad; he was tied up, and was soon furious, and was therefore killed. This Dog had been bitten three weeks before, by a Dog known to be mad. The wounds were treated with *Lapis Infernalis*, &c. as usual; and he took Calomel night and morning.

But I was a little alarmed on the 4th of February; and thought it necessary to be more active in my process.

In the preceding night he was attacked with a numbness in the hand and fingers; this remained
about

about ten minutes, and returned in the morning before he came to me, and went off after the same duration. With the last attack, there was a great degree of redness; and smarting up the arm; which continued for about three hours.

I treated him in the usual way.

The wounds were made to discharge freely; and his mouth was sufficiently affected; and all mischief from Rabies prevented.

CASE IV.

Mr. Richard Mansell, aged forty-three years, second game keeper to the Most Noble the Marquis of Hertford, was sent to me by his humane Lord, on the 14th of February 1808.

He was bitten at Ragley, his Lordship's seat in Warwickshire, on the 30th of January, the preceding month, by one of the pack of hounds, which died mad on the 1st of February; two days after he had bitten Mr. Mansell. Before he came to me, he was treated with proper attention by Mr. Bloxam, Surgeon at Aulcester. The bitten part had been extirpated by the knife; the wound blistered, and washed with lotions; and the Ormskirk Medicine taken twice.

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The wound being sufficient for all the production of mischief, and the unquestionable fact of the Dog's madness being ascertained, induced me to treat the patient, as if nothing had been done. Therefore I put him under the full discipline of my practice, externally and internally. He went back to Ragley on the 12th of March without the smallest degree of apprehension, in my mind, of Hydrophobia.

CASES V. AND VI.

John Atkins, aged twenty-nine years, and John Eeles aged twenty-two years, both servants of Davis and Skey, Distillers in Old Street Road, came to me on the 1st of April 1808. They had been bitten by a Mad Dog in the House of their master, on Saturday the 26th of March, the preceding month; Atkins on the inside of the middle finger of his right hand, immediately at the middle joint; and Eeles on the upper part of the thumb of his left hand. The Dog died on Wednesday the 30th of March, with his head convulsed, making a noise between howling and barking. He had neither eaten, nor drunk for four days before he died. He bit and snapped, as all Mad Dogs do, at every thing in

his way. He bit the chairs, legs of the tables, &c.

Atkins applied to Mr. Spry, Surgeon, in Charter-house Square, on Thursday 31st March, who cut out the bitten part; but Eeles had no advice until he came to me.

I removed the part lacerated by the Dogs teeth, from Eeles's thumb, with *Lapis Infernalis*, &c. and dressed Atkins's finger with the *Butter of Antimony*; but this could be done only sparingly, for fear of endangering the joint, which was nearly exposed by the excision, and much inflamed, with great pain extending all up the hand and arm. In this Case, as in many others that I have seen, the most skilful Surgeon cannot always use the knife to advantage. Parts will not admit of it. Caustic, here, notwithstanding the operation was performed judiciously, would have been safer, and better; as indeed it is in all Cases.

These patients experienced the usual treatment; and Hydrophobia was prevented.

CASE VII.

Mr. Greening, aged thirty years, of Park Street Southwark, applied to me on the 9th of
April

April 1808. He had been bitten by a Mad Dog on the 4th of the month, on the thumb of his right hand; by which three wounds were made. He was treated in the usual way; and Hydrophobia was prevented.

CASE VIII.

Mrs. Hutton, aged thirty-four years, of Acton, came to me on the 13th of April 1808. She had been bitten on the 7th of the same month, on her right leg, near the ankle, by her own Cat; which was mad from the bite of a Mad Dog, that had bitten several Dogs in the Village.—Hydrophobia was prevented.

CASE IX.

Mr. Christopher Weatherby, aged thirty-five years, of Ealing, came to me on the 14th of April 1808. He had been bitten, and scratched on the 8th of the same month, in the calf of his left leg, by the Mad Cat belonging to the preceding Mrs. Hutton.—Hydrophobia was prevented.

CASE X.

Septimus Wellings, aged fifty years, of Shepherd's Bush, came to me on the 14th of April 1808. He had been bitten by a Mad Dog the day before, on the thumb of his right hand. The part was much lacerated, and the wound penetrated entirely through the thumb, near the nail. He was also bitten at the same time, on the thumb of his left hand, slightly. Six other people came to me on the following day, in great fright, whom the same Dog had attacked, and had torn their clothes only, and scattered his saliva on them; but they had received no wound from him.—Hydrophobia was prevented.

CASE XI.

Jonathan Jeffreys, aged forty years, a labouring man employed by Mr. Willan of Marylebone Park, was sent to me by his master, on the 16th of April 1808; having been bitten by a Mad Dog on the 13th of the same month, on the thumb and little finger of his left hand.—Hydrophobia was prevented.

CASE XII.

Mr. B——— jun. aged twenty-four years, of Kensington, applied to me on the 7th of May 1808; he had been bitten in the hand by a Mad Dog on the preceding evening.—Hydrophobia was prevented.

 CASE XIII.

John March, aged twenty-one years, of Old Ford, near Bow, Callico Print Cutter, applied to me on the 13th of May 1808. He had been bitten above the nail on the fore finger of his right hand by a Mad Dog on Friday 29th of April, the preceding month. The wound bled considerably. Two days after he had great pain in the bitten part, which lasted two or three days. The hand and fingers remained quite free from any particular sensation, until Monday the 8th of May. He was then attacked with great pain in the hand above the little finger, which extended up his arm to the elbow. This was sometimes accompanied by a burning sensation and twitching; and at other times with a numbness, as if his hand were asleep, as it is called. These attacks remained for a few minutes, then went off, and returned six or seven times

times a-day. His sleep was disturbed at nights; his appetite failed, and he was feverish. He drank water freely, but had a sensation in his throat after swallowing, like wind, and tightness. I tested him with slopping water about. It affected his throat, as if inflated with wind.

I treated him in the usual way; and Hydrophobia, which was near at hand, was stopped; and the Rabies prevented.

CASE XIV.

Mr. L——, aged thirty years, of Westminster, applied to me on the 29th of May 1808, having been bitten by a Mad Dog on the preceding morning in the Willow Walk. The palm of his left hand and ring finger, were much lacerated; besides several punctures of the Dog's teeth were made in his hand and fingers.—Hydrophobia was prevented.

CASE XV.

James Jaboult aged forty years, Whitesmith, No. 3, George Court, Cross Street, Carnaby Market, came to me on the 3d of June
1808.

1808. He had been bitten by a Mad Dog on the preceding day, in the shop of Mr. Callow, Bookseller, Crown Court. Mrs. Callow sent him to me.—Hydrophobia was prevented.

CASE XVI.

John Lowe, aged ten years, No. 21, Span's Buildings behind St. Pancras Church, was brought to me on the 10th of July 1808. He had been bitten by a Mad Dog on the 5th of the same month. There were four marks of teeth which had penetrated, and the wounds bled considerably. The same Dog attacked the father of the child, and the daughter of their next-door neighbour.—Hydrophobia was prevented.

CASE XVII.

Master ——— aged six years, of Fulham, was bitten by a Mad Dog on the 18th of July 1808. There were, when I saw him on the 20th, two impressions of the Dog's teeth; one had penetrated considerably through the skin; and both had bled a little. There was besides adjacent inflammation; with some extravasation.—Hydrophobia was prevented.

CASES XVIII. AND XIX.

Mr. William Nicholls, aged forty-five years, No. 17, Old Bond-street, Linen-draper to his Royal Highness the Duke of York, came to me on the 20th of July 1808. He had been dreadfully bitten on his left leg, in five places, and severely scratched and lacerated in many more, on the preceding night, by a Mad Cat.

The manner of the accident was this. Mr. Nicholls was alarmed in the middle of the night, by an unusual noise, and supposed that some thieves might be attempting to break into the house. In order to ascertain the fact, he got out of his bed, and was no sooner on the floor, than he was immediately seized by a Cat, that had by some means got into the house, unknown to any person. The weather being very hot, he had left his chamber-door open. The Cat fastened on his leg, and clung round it, like a snake, and bit and tore his flesh in the most savage manner; but still clinging to the limb.— He disengaged himself from her at length by kicking her with his other foot, and by the utmost force he could use. Not wishing to alarm the house, after having applied some Spirits of Wine to the wounds and wrapping a cloth about his leg, he went again to bed. In the morning at 7 o'clock, he called his Assistant Mr. William Jarritt, and desired him to bring him a
basin

basin of water; for which Mr. Jarritt went into the kitchen. On returning, the Cat, which was a tabby one, being at the foot of the stairs of the first floor, flew at him in a furious manner, seized his right leg, and clung to it, as she had done to the leg of Mr. Nicholls. But Mr. Jarritt having thick pantaloons on, the Cat made only one wound, with her teeth, on the small of his leg. He struggled a considerable time, endeavouring to get the Cat from his leg, but in vain. At last he dashed the basin with the water in it that he was carrying to Mr. Nicholls, on the Cat; which dislodged her from his leg. She then flew at the Shop-boy, and seized him by his trowsers; which being large and loose, she tore away her hold, without hurting him. She then turned about, and pursued Mr. Jarritt, who endeavouring to escape from her, ran out of the shop into the back room, with the Cat after him, and in shutting the door to screen himself from her, he had the good fortune to catch one of her paws in the close of the door. The Cat made a shocking noise, and dashed herself about, and was frantic. Thus fastened by the foot, as in a trap, he kept her so, until Mr. Nicholls came to his assistance, and by the means of a poker, killed her. In consequence of this horrible accident, in which Mr. Nicholls's valuable life was in great peril, he experienced the most humane attention from
that

that worthy Nobleman the Earl of Moira. Soon after the accident, he found out that the Cat, belonged to his near neighbour; and that, two or three days previous to her becoming mad, she moped about the house, and would not eat any food. She became furious suddenly; and flew at her mistress, and then ran away.

In the morning, before Mr. Nicholls came to me, he had applied to some person who thought the prevention of mischief would be effected, by extirpating with the knife *two* of the *five* bites of the Cat; without noticing the other wounds, or the lacerations from the scratches. I thought otherwise; and destroyed all the wounded parts by Caustic; and with the administration of Mercury,—Mr. Jarritt being treated in the same manner,—both Cases terminated happily.—Hydrophobia was prevented.

CASE XX.

Master Woodman, aged eight years, son of Mr. Woodman, No. 169, Piccadilly, was brought to me on the 21st of July 1808. He had been bitten, the preceding day, on one of the fingers of his left hand, by a Mad Dog, belonging to Mrs. Billington.—Hydrophobia was prevented.

CASE XXI.

Richard ———, aged forty years, servant to Mrs. Billington, came to me on the 23d of July 1808. He had been bitten two days before on two of the fingers of his right hand, by a Mad Dog belonging to his mistress; the same Dog that had bitten Master Woodman. The finger which was least wounded, gave him most pain.—Hydrophobia was prevented.

CASE XXII.

Mary Rogers, aged fifteen years, servant to Mr. Brooker, No. 11, Kennington Green, was sent to me by her master, on the 24th of August 1808; having been bitten by a Mad Dog on the thumb of her right hand.—Hydrophobia was prevented.

CASES XXIII. AND XXIV.

Joseph Warren, aged sixteen years, and his sister Charlotte Warren, aged seven years,
son

son and daughter of Mrs. Warren, No. 10, Greyhound Row, Kensington Gravel Pits, were bitten by a Lady's Lap-dog that was mad, on the 24th of July 1808. Joseph Warren was bitten on the thumb of his right hand, and Charlotte Warren on the right hand. Both their wounds were lacerated, and bled; but they were healed before my advice was requested.

I being at South End, received a Letter from the benevolent Mr. Vulliamy of Pall Mall, dated the 18th of August 1808, stating, that Mrs. Elizabeth Sharp, sister to Mrs. Warren, whose husband had been a servant in Mr. Vulliamy's family, had died that morning of Hydrophobia; and that the two Children, above mentioned, had been bitten by the same Dog which bit Mrs. Sharp. Mr. Vulliamy desired I would write immediately and give such directions for their treatment as I thought proper; and he would communicate the same to Mr. Yonge in Arlington Street, and to Mr. Thompson of Kensington: the latter gentleman attended the family.

In consequence of my advice, Mr. Thompson used the Caustic effectually, with the Mercurial Friction, to the children. On the 24th of August I saw them; and desired that the Mercurial Friction should be applied to the throat and fauces, to hasten its effects. The girl's mouth was not then affected;—the boy's was. He complained also of a pain in his head, and his eyes

eyes were glassy. The pain in the head was not caused by the Mercury; for it came on immediately when the Caustic was first applied to the bitten part. I ordered the Camphorated Volatile Valerian Mixture every six hours. The usual process was duly executed; and Hydrophobia prevented in both subjects.

CASE XXV.

Michael Brown, aged eleven years, being at Mrs. Warren's with the two preceding children, was bitten by the same Dog, on the same day. He was bitten on the elbow of his left arm, through his clothes. The wound was considerable; and it was not healed until nearly three weeks after the accident. On the death of Mrs. Sharp, his mother was greatly alarmed. Her son's misfortunes had reached the knowledge of some friends of humanity. The boy was sent to me, on the 24th of August, at Albany. I applied the *Lapis Infernalis* effectually; and directed what was further necessary to be done; which was carefully performed by Mr. Bishop, of George Street, Manchester Square.—He was kept in a slight state of salivation for three weeks.—Hydrophobia was prevented.

Mrs.

MRS. SHARP'S CASE.

Mrs. Warren, sister to Mrs. Sharp, informed me this day, the 24th August 1808, and her account was corroborated by the niece of the deceased, that Mrs. Elizabeth Sharp, aged fifty-eight years, went out, from Mrs. Warren's house, on Sunday the 24th of July; and that on her return, a Lady's Lap-dog followed her home. She supposed it was lost, and took it into the house, and offered it something to eat, which it refused; and moped about, hung his tail, and crept under the drawers, and tables, and chairs, and would neither eat nor drink. She took up the Dog to play with it, and he immediately bit her on the right hand. The wound soon healed, and gave her no pain nor uneasiness, until Sunday the 14th of August instant; three weeks from the time of the bite. The wound then became painful; but she thought she might have hurt her hand in breaking some sticks to put on the fire that morning. On examining the place, she perceived that it had festered, and discharged a little bloody matter. The pain increased, and at night it had risen up to her elbow; and was so severe that she fancied "the bones were out of joint," as she expressed it.

On Monday the 15th, the pain ascended, and fixed

fixed in her shoulder; she then thought it was Rheumatism.

On Tuesday the 16th, she went in the morning to Mr. Thompson, Surgeon and Apothecary at Kensington, for advice. The pain increased all this day; and about six o'clock in the evening, her throat was much affected, and she could not swallow more than half a tea-spoonful of any liquid, and that with the utmost exertion. She swallowed some pills which Mr. Thompson gave her,—one or two at a time—but with difficulty. She could not bear to have any person offer to put any thing to her mouth; as that occasioned an instantaneous sense of choking. The same sort of sensation, but in a less degree, was produced when she put her own hand up to her mouth with any thing to take; which was always effected by a convulsive effort.

On Wednesday the 17th, the pain left her.

On Thursday the 18th, at twenty minutes past seven o'clock in the morning she died. Twenty-five days from the time of the accident, and 37 hours from the commencement of Hydrophobia.

Remark. She could not lie down on her bed, from Tuesday morning, until just before her death, on Thursday; as a distressing suffocation constantly came on, when she attempted it. After she lay down on her bed, she expired in about five minutes.

Remark.

Remark. She had no convulsions so as to require coercion; nor spitting, nor frothing at the mouth;—a singular species of Rabies*. But she retched frequently, and brought up a great quantity of tough phlegm. She was perfectly sensible until her death. The Dog died mad, a few days after he bit her.

* See pages 15 and 34.

F I N I S.
