

An appeal to the medical profession, on the utility of the improved patent syringe, with directions for its several uses, shewing ... the validity of the ... claims of the patentee / [John Read].

Contributors

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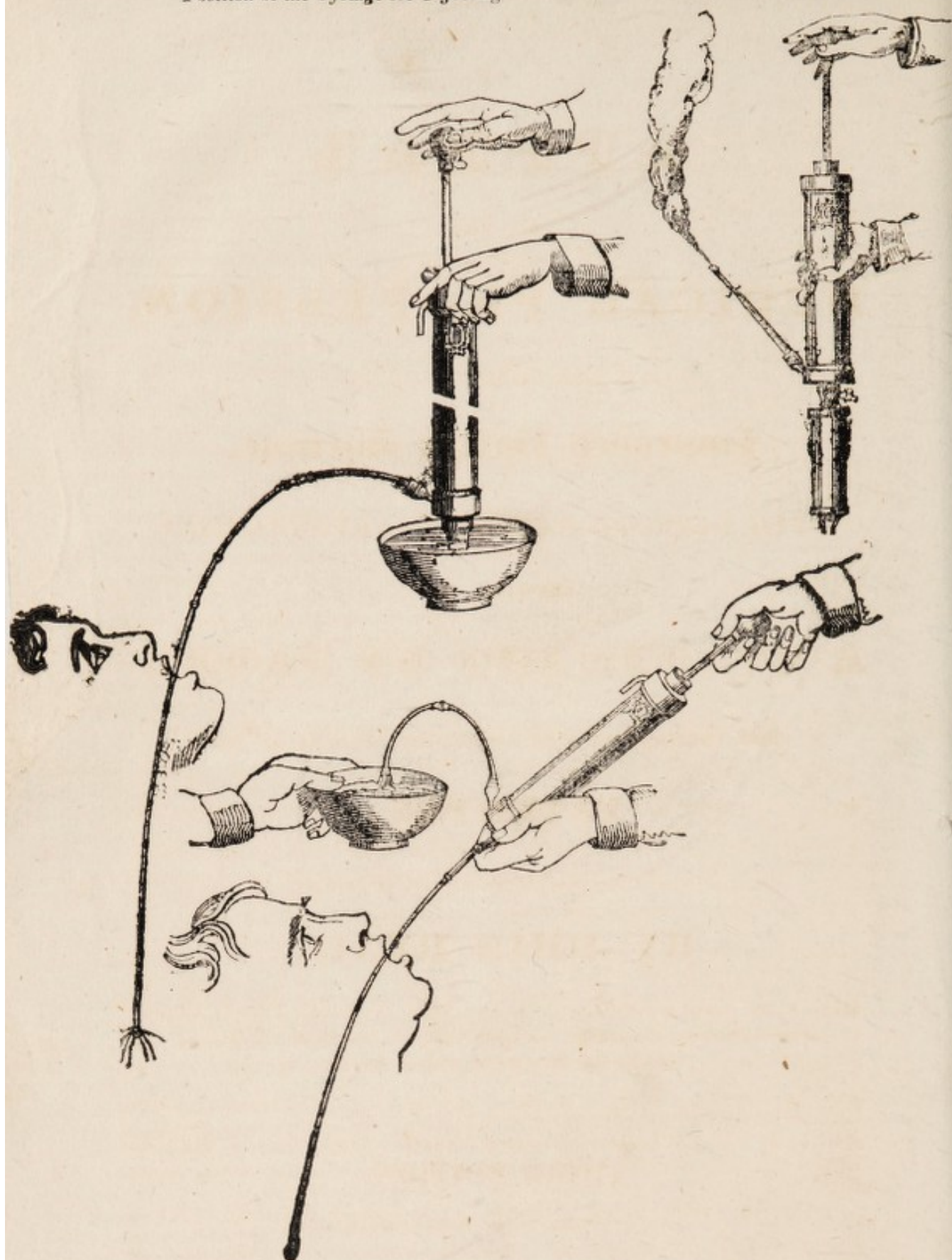
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The Position of the Syringe for extracting Poison from the Stomach.

MODE OF USING THE INSTRUMENT.

The Œsophagus tube is first passed into the Stomach; next, the two first lengths of the other tubes are fixed to the lateral branch of the Syringe, and the detached brass socket being screwed to the extremity, the armed end of the Œsophagus tube is inserted into it, and the fluid thrown into the Stomach. The Œsophagus tube is next separated from the socket, and inserted into the extremity of the Syringe, when a few strokes of the piston empties the Stomach.

AN
A P P E A L
TO THE
MEDICAL PROFESSION,
ON THE UTILITY OF THE
Improved Patent Syringe,
WITH DIRECTIONS FOR ITS SEVERAL USES,
SHEWING, BY
A STATEMENT OF FACTS,
THE VALIDITY OF THE RIGHTS AND CLAIMS OF THE
PATENTEE.

BY JOHN READ,

Maker to the Army, and the Honorable East India Company's Forces; Inventor
of the Veterinary Syringe for removing Intestinal Obstruction of Horses,
and for relieving Blown Cattle, &c. &c.

THIRD EDITION.

“ Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice.”

LONDON :

Printed by W. Glendinning, 25, Hatton Garden.

AN
APPENDIX
TO THE
MEDICAL PROFESSION,
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
RELATIVE TO THE
SYMPTOMS OF THE DISEASE

WITH DIRECTIONS FOR ITS SEVERAL CASES,
GIVEN BY
A MEMBER OF THE BOARD

THE TALENTS OF THE MIND AND CLINICAL OF THE
PATIENTS, AND THE
BY JOHN READ,
M.D., OF THE
THIRD VOLUME.



AN APPEAL

TO THE

MEDICAL PROFESSION,

&c. &c.

THERE are, probably, no instances in the progress of the arts connected with Medical Practice, in which so much unjust prejudice has been excited, so much bad faith displayed, so much duplicity resorted to, and so much fraud used, as have been opposed, by interested persons, to the success of an instrument, the use of which being attended with the most important results to suffering humanity, affects, of course, very materially the reputation of Surgery and the character of its professors. In this view alone, I should be perfectly justified in the attempt to remove any ambiguity that might render the value of my Instrument, in the least equivocal; and still more so, when it is seen that efforts are made, not only to deprive me of what little credit the merit of the improvement may deserve, but to depreciate its utility by invidious comparisons, and to substitute, nefariously, *imitative* but *inferior* Instruments, which are foisted upon the Profession *as mine*, much to my prejudice, and greatly to the injury of Medical Practice. With this apology I shall proceed at once to shew, how far

I am worthy the patronage of the Profession, and what are the just claims and merits of the Instrument, for which I humbly solicit their approbation, leaving them to decide whether the opposition I experience is grounded on public interest or *private emolument*.

My avocations in life have led me through all classes of society, and, amidst the variety of my duties, I have been honoured most particularly with the patronage (and I trust it will not be deemed presuming, if, in the gratitude and warmth of my feelings, I add, the *friendship* also) of the Medical Gentlemen of my district, in the counties of Kent and Sussex. During one of my occupations of this nature, with that respectable and amiable man, Mr. Newington, Surgeon, of Goudhurst, in the year 1819, I learned that himself, and Dr. Wilmot, of Hastings, had recently lost a patient (whom they had been conjointly attending) with obstruction of the bowels. I ventured to enquire of these gentlemen, if there was no apparatus by which mechanical distension might be effected in these cases; they replied, that surgeons possessed no instrument by which a sufficient accumulation of fluid with an efficient power, could be properly directed. Convinced, as I was, from hydraulic principles, that both these objects could be easily effected, I instantly turned my attention to the subject, and in the course of the following year, I perfected my Injecting Syringe, for which I obtained a Patent in the month of August, 1820. By order of Sir William Blizard, I submitted the Instrument to the inspection of the Court of Examiners, at the Royal College of Surgeons, who highly approved of it. Mr. Abernethy, in particular, was pleased to express his approbation of the principle upon which it was constructed. During the year 1821, most of the surgeons of this part of the country had possessed themselves of the Instrument, which having given them, in their practice, the most satis-

factory results, they very liberally and *unsolicited*, gave the following testimony of its utility :

(COPY.)

" We, the undersigned, Professional Men, strongly recommend the use of the PATENT INJECTING MACHINE, Invented by MR. JOHN READ, as being the most efficient Instrument for the purpose of removing Obstructions in the Bowels; and declare that we have had, by experience, proofs of the most decided advantage it has over every other Instrument within our knowledge, invented for the same purpose."

" Robert Montague Wilmot, M. D.	Hastings.
Robert Watts, M. D.	Cranbrook.
William Duke. Surgeon,	Hastings.
Thomas B. Satterley, Do.	Do.
George Taylor, Do.	Do.
James Duttan, Do.	Do.
Robert Ranking, Do.	Do.
Charles Stephen Crouch, Do.	Do.
Robert Watts, Do.	Battle.
James Watts, Do.	Do.
Stephen Monkton, Do.	Brenchley.
Jonathan Monkton, Do.	Do.
Samuel Newington, Do.	Goudhurst.
Charles Newington, Do.	Ticehurst.
Edward Morris, Do.	Tunbridge.
Richard Thompson, Do.	Rochester.
Avery Roberts, Do.	Lewes.
Henry Verral, Do.	Do.
John Vine, Do.	East Peckham."

In the *following* year, (1822) Mr. Scott and Mr. Jukes, two Surgeons of London, instituted their experiments for emptying the stomach in cases of poisoning, with an apparatus furnished by Mr. Gill, a Surgical Instrument Maker of Warwick-place. This apparatus consisted of a flexible tube attached to an *elastic bottle*, the latter of which was

suggested by Mr. Scott, which, though it succeeded most satisfactorily, and practically demonstrated the success of the operation, did not completely fulfil these gentlemen's wishes. They therefore applied to Mr. Gill for a Syringe, in lieu of the bottle, and he shortly afterwards supplied them with one, similar to mine, except that it had stop-cocks instead of valves. That Mr. Gill modelled this Instrument from my invention, is evident to every one who compares the two, and his piracy admits of no doubt when it is known that he was in close connexion with a certain firm in Salisbury-square, that I had, unfortunately, appointed my agents, but whom I subsequently found were warmly engaged in Mr. Gill's interest, to the injury of mine. Notwithstanding my Instrument had been made, sold, and the Patent obtained, *two* years before Mr. Gill manufactured the Syringe which he circulated under the name of "Jukes' Syringe." he (Gill) has the effrontery to assert the priority of his *imitation*, a claim that he could only make by his ignorance of the date of my Patent! If he had had the prudence to look for this date at the Patent Office, he would have found it was necessary to carry his *invention* back *three* years farther than he has now done; in this case, a blustering assertion might have given some colour to the fraud, but the hint now comes too late, and will not avail him.

To shew at once the absurdity of Mr. Gill's claim to originality in One Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty TWO, I beg the readers attention to the following Letter from a Surgical Instrument Maker in One Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty ONE!!!

SIR,

(1)

I have this day seen one of your Patent Syringes in a window in the City, but as I could not have an opportunity of examining it, I could form no opinion of its merits. I am

in a business principally amongst Professional men and Druggists, and if the Syringe has merit, could sell a great many, I therefore request you will favor me with a full explanation, with the price retail, and the price you charge with the greatest discount for money, on delivery, and in the event of my approving of the instrument, I will send you an order. Waiting your answer,

I remain, Sir,

Your humble Servant,

55, Aldermanbury,

G. MAW.

Oct. 18, 1821.

Sir Astley Cooper having seen my Instrument, which I had fitted up with the addition of an œsophagus tube, and being desirous of repeating Mr. Scott's experiment of removing the contents of the stomach, directed me to attend with it at Guy's Hospital, for that purpose. I accordingly waited on him at that place on Friday, Nov. 21, 1823, and the following report from the *Lancet*, describes the result of that attendance.

"At half-past one o'clock the operating theatre was crowded to excess, in consequence of its having been stated on the preceding Tuesday that some experiments were to be tried on a dog this day, for the purpose of ascertaining whether liquids could be put into the stomach, and removed from it by means of an instrument, which had been lately invented by Mr. Read, of Horsmonden, Kent.

"Prior, however, to the making of the experiment, a middle-sized steatomatous tumour was removed from a female, just below the inferior angle of the left scapula.

"At two o'clock precisely, a dog was placed on the table. Its legs and body being secured by two or three of the pu-

pils, an iron pestle was put into its mouth, to keep the jaws separated; and then a dram of opium, dissolved in four ounces of water, was poured into the stomach. After this, the pestle was removed, and the dog left free on the table.

“ In the space of twenty minutes the dog manifested a disposition to vomit, which was immediately checked by pressing the finger against the œsophagus. The opium, however, had no very sensible effect on the dog till the expiration of thirty minutes, when the dog was unable to stand upright.

“ When the opium was administered, the dog's pulse was 120. In seven minutes after, it became 110, and gradually sunk to 90, which was the lowest point.

“ At the expiration of *thirty-three minutes* from the time the opium was given, the stomach was evacuated of its contents and washed by means of the instrument.

“ The instrument succeeded very well in the dog, which appeared to be little worse for the experiment. Mr. Read was in the theatre during the whole of the time, and superintended the use of the instrument; on quitting, he received the unanimous applause of those present.

“ Sir Astley Cooper, just after the experiment had been tried, looking at what had been removed from the stomach, smiled, and said that the instrument would do well for an alderman after a city feast.—(*A laugh.*)” LANCET, Vol. I. No. 8.

“ Sir Astley shook hands with Mr. Read, and complimented him on his ingenuity; observing, that had he lived in Greece, during the time of its splendour, instead of in

England, he would undoubtedly have been crowned with laurels. It might be made applicable, (observed Sir Astley) to more purposes than one. It might be appended to the catheter, it might be used in the rectum. Addressing himself to the students, Sir Astley alluded to the success of the machine, by observing, that there was evidently to be found in the use of it a plausible and a very practicable method of dislodging the contents of the stomach; which, he conceived, it would be advisable to do by this means, where poison had been swallowed, previous to giving any medicine as an antidote. Thus far, alone, it was of most valuable importance to the profession, as well as to humanity at large."—*LANCET*, Vol. I. No. 11.

After the successful experiment of emptying the stomach performed by Mr. Scott upon Mr. Jukes, before Sir Astley Cooper and his class, at the Theatre of St. Thomas's Hospital in December last, no doubt can be entertained of the importance of this operation in cases of poisoning; Sir Astley Cooper, in his Lecture on this subject, after advising the use of emetics in cases of poisoning by laudanum, remarks as follows:

"I certainly think, however, after the experiment which you had an opportunity of witnessing in this theatre, and that of the dog in the other hospital, that the instrument for evacuating the stomach affords the best means of saving persons, who would otherwise perish under the influence of opium. I mentioned to you on a former occasion the case of the young lady who had taken opium, in which every means which I could employ for the purpose of producing vomiting proved completely unavailing. When the œsophagus has lost its functions, which it soon does from the influence of opium, no stimulating substances will produce the least effect upon it. I sat hour after hour, by the side of this young lady, watching her progress to dissolution,

without being in the least able to prevent it. If, however, I had been acquainted with the instrument which has been since invented, I should have used it with the probability of success. This instrument enables us not merely to remove the poison from the stomach, but to throw in water in considerable quantities, and to introduce stimulating remedies after the opium is removed, for the purpose of restoring the functions of the Nervous system; and this in cases where emetics cannot be even swallowed. I certainly do expect the happiest results in such cases from the invention of this instrument. The man who first suggested such an idea deserves well of his country, and they who oppose it until the instrument has been fairly tried and found useless, must be destitute of understanding. Persons who object to a proposition merely because it is new, or who endeavour to detract from the merit of the man who first gives efficacy to a new idea by demonstrating its usefulness and applicability, are foolish, unmanly, envious, and illiberal objectors; they are unworthy of the designation either of professional men, or of gentlemen."—*LANCET*, Vol. III No. 6, page 174.

In speaking of the treatment of poisoning by the oxymuriate of quicksilver, Sir Astley remarks :

"It may appear that I am disposed to think too well of the instrument to which I before adverted, when I state that I believe the Syringe may also be successfully employed for the purpose of removing the oxymuriate of mercury from the stomach. I should certainly prefer it to any other means; but instead of using simple water, I should throw in a quantity of soap and water, then withdraw it; I should repeat this operation until the stomach was entirely cleansed. It has been suggested that although this instrument may be used with success for the purpose of removing the vegetable poisons from the stomach, yet it would not

succeed in cases of poison by arsenic or corrosive sublimate. *This I do not believe.** With respect to arsenic, I am aware that if it were taken in a solid form, and a considerable portion had fallen on the stomach it would be impossible to remove it; but as it is usually taken, in powder, I think the instrument is very capable of removing it, because it will be for a considerable time at least kept in solution by the mucus which is thrown from the surface of the stomach, and in this state it may be removed.† At all events this deserves a trial.”—LANCET, Vol. III. No. 6, page 177.

* This opinion has been confirmed by a case which lately fell under the care of Mr. Jukes. A female, swallowed, by mistake, a quantity of corrosive sublimate, but instantly discovering the error, sent for Mr. J. who, having first administered a quantity of the white of egg to decompose the oxymuriate, passed the tube into the stomach, extracted its contents, and saved the patient from the severe and destructive effects of the poison. The quantity of the oxymuriate taken was twenty grains. A report of the case, by Mr. Campbell, a Surgeon, who assisted at the operation, may be seen in the Morning Chronicle Newspaper, of Friday, September 17, 1824.

† That metallic poison may be dislodged from the stomach, (by the Instrument,) even in a *solid* form, is now beyond a doubt. A case of this nature occurred a few days ago, in which a female had swallowed an ounce of sugar of lead. Copious vomiting had been produced by very powerful emetics, but the pain of the stomach remained extremely severe. Under these circumstances, Mr. Scott, assisted by Mr. Iliff, of the West London Dispensary, and Mr. Mason, Surgeon, of Newington, injected the stomach with warm water by the Patent Syringe, the force of which dislodged the poison adhering to the inner coat of this organ, and effectually removed the pain as soon as the fluid was withdrawn. In this case also the Syringe, as an enema apparatus, proved most essentially serviceable; for a portion of the lead having passed into the bowels, constipation and colic succeeded, which were removed by an injection of a solution of Epsom salts in warm water; *six* pints of which were thrown up.—Note to the Second Edition.

To put the utility of this instrument still further to the test of Professional opinion, Mr. Scott and Mr. Jukes in the month of February last, made a visit to the metropolis of France, and being furnished with letters from Sir Astley Cooper to the Physicians and Surgeons of the greatest rank and eminence in Paris, they had an opportunity of ascertaining the sentiments of the first professional characters in that city upon this subject. The operation was performed with the Patent Syringe in the house of Dr. Regnault, Physician to the King, and met with the perfect approbation of all present.

Notwithstanding that the successful application of the instrument had been fully demonstrated by reiterated experiments, and its practical utility attested by the highest medical authorities in Europe, efforts were made to disparage its character by setting up, as its opponent, the Syringe which had been first used by Mr. Scott and Mr. Jukes, but which they had *themselves abandoned!* The motive for this was that the manufacture and sale of my instrument being protected by a patent, no other person could make, or vend it contrary to my permission, without incurring the just penalties which the law inflicts upon infringements of Patent rights, and a substitute therefore, which might be made and sold generally without risque,* was set up, to preclude as far as possible, the circulation of my instrument (merely because it was not in the hands of the trade,) although I had from the first outset, allowed to Surgical instrument makers, a commission so liberal as to leave myself but a scanty remuneration for the great expences I had incurred. This *spurious* instrument (which in some instances has been palmed upon the profession as *mine*), is no other than the Syringe first manufactured by Mr. Gill. It resembles mine

* I shall shortly try in a British Court of Justice, whether the instrument in question is of this kind or not.

with the exception of being furnished with stop-cocks instead of valves ; this alteration it was considered, would evade the violation of my patent ; this is yet to be proved !* As it would appear to be a prejudiced opinion if I were to give my own judgment upon this Syringe, I requested Mr. Scott, who has operated repeatedly with both instruments, to favor me with his opinion of its merits, and the following is an extract from his reply.

“ In using this Syringe, it is necessary that the Surgeon should have previously rendered himself well acquainted with the peculiarities of each stop-cock, to prevent an embarrassment in the operation, which happens upon the slightest inadvertence in managing them. The awkward trouble of repeatedly turning these stop-cocks during the different steps of this operation, is in itself a sufficient objection to the instrument, to say nothing of the confusion occasioned by mistaking the one for the other, which is extremely likely to happen in the moment of alarm, when even the Surgeon himself, perhaps, is not sufficiently cool and collected.”

To enable the professional reader to distinguish my Syringe from any other, and thus to prevent the fraud that has been long practised in substituting imitations, I shall here take leave to give a description of the “ Patent Syringe,” which is clearly elucidated by the Plate which accompanies the Pamphlet.

The Cylinder of the Pump or Syringe, (made in brass and in Silver,) is about seven inches in length, and one inch in diameter, contracted at its apex into a small opening for receiving the extremity of an elastic tube, which is passed in-

* Since the first edition of this Pamphlet passed the press, I have been given to understand that some persons in the trade have ventured to make a Syringe with valves, but I have not yet been able to procure one so as to be enabled to bring the offenders to justice.

to the stomach. Within this opening is a chamber containing a spherical valve, which, by rising into the upper part of the chamber, where a vacuum is formed by elevating the piston, admits the atmosphere (or whatever it may be desirable to operate upon) to pass freely into the Syringe, but as soon as the piston is depressed, the contents of the Syringe presses the valve close upon the aperture, and prevents its escape through the opening by which it was received.

To give exit to the contents of the Syringe, a side branch is constructed, furnished with a valved chamber, similar to the one above described, but so placed as to act in direct opposition to it, so that when the Syringe has been filled from the extremity, and pressure is made by depressing the piston, the fluid closes the lower valve, and opens the lateral one, and consequently escapes through the latter aperture. To facilitate the operation of the instrument, a small pipe communicates with the upper extremity of the Syringe, which gives free ingress and egress to the atmosphere during the action of the piston, a circumstance essentially necessary in causing the instrument to work easily and perfectly.*

With this description every one will readily identify the instrument and prevent imposition being practised.

I cannot more clearly represent the motive with which the stop-cock Syringe is opposed to mine, under the name and apparent sanction of Mr. Jukes, than by inserting the following letter from this gentleman; by which I shall at once strip off the cloak that covers these transactions and show them in their true colours.

* The Royal Arms and the Patentee's name are engraved on the Syringe, without which none are genuine.

Pimlico, Nov. 1, 1824.

SIR,

The improvement you have lately made in giving more space around the valves of your Syringe meets with my unqualified approbation, and obviates all objections as to its capability of removing *metallic poison* from the stomach. In the experiments I have made with your improved Syringe, I find that every *solid* substance which can enter the tube, will readily pass the valves and be discharged, so that no failure is likely to happen in the operation from the Syringe becoming choked.

I am much annoyed that my name should be made the vehicle for circulating the Stop-cock Syringe, for I never proposed this nor any other Syringe for the purpose of emptying the stomach, the apparatus which I originally employed (as appears in the publication of my Experiments,) being simply an elastic *bottle* and tube only. I am so satisfied of the superior efficacy of your instrument, that I should not only be wanting in justice to your ingenuity, but I should be guilty of suffering my professional brethren to be misled by improper pretensions, if I did not publicly declare that there is *no* instrument sold under my sanction; and I hereby give you unlimited authority to publish it as my opinion, that your Patent Syringe is the instrument best adapted for the operation of emptying the stomach, that has hitherto been invented. As an enema apparatus, I consider your excellent invention above all praise, for in contributing to individual health and comfort, it should be in the possession of every private family; and for the sake of suffering humanity, and the credit of the medical profession, it ought ever to find a place in the instrument case of every Surgeon.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient humble servant,

TO MR. JOHN READ.

EDWARD JUKES.

I must here take the opportunity of returning my sincere

thanks to Mr. Jukes for the candid and liberal manner in which he has thus publicly disavowed any part in the hostility manifested against me, while, at the same time, I trust that the statement with which he has been kind enough to favour me, will satisfy the reader that the opposition I have met with, neither originates with him, nor with the profession; mine is not a combat with *science*, but with *trading* interest.

The hostility evinced by certain instrument makers to the success of my Syringe, has been shown in the most malignant manner; they have even, when obliged to furnish my instrument by peremptory order, basely mutilated and injured it previous to its being sent off, that it might be unfit for use, and get a bad character. To shew that this has been done, I beg the readers attention to the following letters.

(3)

SIR,

Tenterden, 28th July 1824.

I write to say that a friend of mine sent to London, by my recommendation, for one of your Injecting Instruments, but when it came, it was different *and had not the Arms on it*, consequently was returned, and then one of your's, I believe, was sent in a wooden case, charged three* guineas, but so imperfect, that it was also returned, being much larger and heavier than mine, and the tubes of different circumference, united so badly, that thread was bound round the brass to make them hold together, but the tubes came off abundantly. *If these tricks* are to be played with you I much fear you will not be paid for your Patent. I wish you to send one immediately to the Rev. Mr. * * * * *, at * * * * *, to be left at the River Head, by the Rye Coach.

Your humble Servant,

To Mr. READ.

JOHN MACE, Sen.

The following letter is from a highly esteemed medical practitioner in the county of Kent.

SIR,

Hawkhurst, 1824.

In the very early part of September, having been from home some weeks on the score of ill health, I called at a Gentleman's in Tavistock Place, to enquire after some of my old neighbours, and to my great regret, I found one of them (Mr. Gregson, whom you knew very well,) in the House suffering under severe inflammation of Bowels, with obstruction. He had come out of Leicestershire the morning before I called, and was attacked with his complaint in about an hour after his arrival. Medical advice was immediately had, and every thing had been done that skill could devise, but injections had been only thrown up by a Pipe and Bladder. I immediately recommended your Injection Apparatus most strongly, having in my own practice more than once considered that a patient's life had been saved by its use. I sent a messenger after one to Mr. * * * *, in * * * * from the urgency of the case I thought it a long time before he returned, and when he did, I had the mortification to find the instrument could not be used, the Screws and Receivers none of them fitted each other; another was sent for, and after a long delay, a very different one from your's was sent with a Pipe not large enough for a Child. All chance from any good being effected by the means contemplated was now going very fast, and, indeed, Mr. G. died in about 48 hours afterwards. I called on Mr. * * * *, and told him how cruelly I had been disappointed, and that unpardonable blame attached to those that suffered the Apparatus to be sent out in so inefficient a state. * * * *

* * * *
* * * *

I am, Sir,

Your very humble Servant,

To Mr. READ.

EDWARD YOUNG.

In reference to the above Letters, I must remark, that all the Instruments furnished by me to the person who sold them, were in the most perfect state when delivered to him; how and why they came otherwise, he can very well explain.

It is also a common practice with certain instrument makers when asked for my Syringe, to reply that they do not sell it on account of its inefficiency, but that they can furnish one of *their own* making, quite unobjectionable !!

I cannot avoid here taking the liberty to urge the necessity of every Surgeon being provided with this double apparatus, and particularly the part for removing poisons, as cases may occur to a practitioner at a time when he has no means of saving the life of the patient. Such a lamentable circumstance actually occurred lately even in this very city. A professional Gentleman residing at the West-end of the Town was called to a patient who had taken poison, but not having an apparatus by him, so much delay was occasioned in procuring one, that before it arrived the unfortunate person expired.

I shall now proceed to describe the action of the Syringe in removing poisons from the stomach.

The Apparatus consists of the pump; œsophagus tube; three leathern tubes; three ivory pipes (these last, with the third leathern tube, are used only for Enemas); and a detached brass socket. The upper left hand figure in the plate, represents the operation of injecting fluids into the stomach, to dilute the poison, previous to its extraction; this is effected in the following manner. Screw the two first lengths of the leathern tubing, to the *lateral* branch of the Syringe, and next the detached socket, to the extremity of the former. The œsophagus tube is now to be passed into the stomach, which being done, insert the brass joint at its extremity, into the socket at the end of the leathern tubes; the fluid to be injected being put into a basin or other shallow vessel, the end of the Syringe is immersed in it, and the piston being put into action, any quantity may be thrown into the stomach that may be desired.

To evacuate the stomach, separate the œsophagus tube from the socket (leaving the latter attached to the leathern

tubes) without withdrawing it from the throat, and insert it into the extremity of the Syringe; let an assistant now hold a vessel to the end of the leathern tube, and by working the piston, the contents of the stomach may speedily be pumped into it, as is shewn in the under figure of the drawing. By thus transferring the end of the œsophagus tube from one situation to the other, the two processes of washing and emptying the stomach may be repeated as often as is judged necessary by the operator. Thus it is seen that the Syringe is furnished with two valvular apertures, through *one of which* the contents of the stomach passes into the cylinder, and are then immediately forced through *the other*, into the receiving vessel. This double operation is effected by repeated strokes of the piston, which slides so easily, that an infant may use it. The manner in which the Syringe is held in the two separate operations, is very important. In the first, as is seen in the plate, a perpendicular position is the most eligible; but in the second, the Syringe must be held in an *inclined* position, at about an angle of 45° , with the lateral tube *upwards*. These positions preserve the valves upon their proper bearings, without which, the instrument cannot act perfectly.*

In cases of retention of urine, it frequently happens that in consequence of hæmorrhage and other causes, the catheter becomes so obstructed that the bladder cannot be emptied: It was suggested to Mr. Scott by Dr. Cloquet, a celebrated Surgeon of Paris, to effect this purpose by fixing a pump to the catheter. The Patent Syringe performs this operation with extreme facility, and has been honoured with the entire approbation of Dr. Cloquet. For injecting the bladder, which is an operation every day becoming more frequent, it is of course equally eligible. For these purposes I have constructed elastic gum catheters to be fixed to the Syringe.

* If the Surgeon does not strictly comply with this direction, he will fail in the operation.

As an Apparatus for conveying nourishment into the stomach of Persons afflicted with Stricture of the Œsophagus, the Patent Syringe is found to possess obvious advantages.*

This Pump is also capable of being adjusted to cupping-glasses, by which any degree of exhaustion can be made that the operator desires; and in the same manner it may be rendered a very effectual Instrument for drawing the breasts of puerperal females. I have had glasses made for these uses, which may be obtained with the rest of the Apparatus.

The upper right-hand figure in the plate, represents the Syringe with a Canister, for the purpose of injecting Tobacco smoke into the intestines. It is used in the following manner: Unscrew the cap of the canister, and take out the perforated plunger; put in the tobacco (half an ounce or an ounce) and replace the plunger lightly upon it; then put on the cap and screw it to the end of the Syringe; hold a lighted candle close under the bottom of the canister, and a stroke or two of the piston of the Syringe will light the tobacco. The enema tubes being now fixed to the side branch, and the pipe introduced into the rectum, the tobacco smoke is forced into the intestines as long as the Syringe is worked in the usual manner.

I have lastly to speak of my Syringe, as an instrument for administering Enemas, which was the original intention for which it was constructed, and in this point of view, it is of the highest importance. On this subject I have been favored with the following remarks from the pen of Mr. Scott, and I gladly avail myself of his permission to insert them.

“ The objects of administering Enemas, are considered to be of three kinds. 1st. For softening and diluting retained

* Stimulating liquids ought also to be carefully thrown into the stomach of persons under suspended animation from drowning, &c.

fæces. 2ndly. For stimulating the bowels and thus provoking evacuations; and 3dly. For producing mechanical distension.

“ It must be obvious to every medical practitioner, how very inadequate the old Apparatus of the pipe and bladder is, to the completion of these objects, and thence it is, that various instruments have been at different times devised to remedy the deficiency; but ingenuity had been exercised in vain, and the profession were still in need of an instrument to effect these valuable ends, until the “ Patent Syringe” supplied the desired means. It had, hitherto, been the custom of Surgeons, in administering enemas, to throw up, three quarters of a pint or a pint of fluid, and a clyster, even in the severest cases, rarely exceeded the latter quantity. Now, by an attention to the anatomical structure of the lower intestines, it must be apparent, that such a quantity would be incapable of effecting more than a mere solution of the fœculent matter contained in the *rectum*, and of stimulating this bowel *only*; for the calibre of the rectum is so great, that under ordinary circumstances, it can of itself contain a pint of fluid. Most commonly, the cause of constipation exists in the colon; how then can the disease be relieved or removed by a clyster that is expended before it reaches this part of the canal? It will be urged, perhaps, that the superior bowels will be affected sympathetically, when the lower bowel is stimulated; but, granting this to be fact, how desirable is it to *ensure* the good effects of an enema by administering a quantity sufficient to reach the offending part of the intestinal tube! But this could not be done by any of the existing instruments, as not one of them was of a size to contain a sufficient quantity of fluid; and, if they had been, it would have required a greater degree of power to force it into the bowels, than could have been conveniently or safely directed. I may, perhaps, be asked, why a large quantity could not be applied by recharging the instrument, or by discharging other instruments ready filled, and placed at hand for that purpose? I need not point out the fallacy of this argument to medical men practically acquainted with

the operation; for they are well aware of the difficulties which suspending the operation would present to the introduction of *separate* portions of fluid, as the *conatus ejiciendi* is, generally, so quickly excited, as to leave but a short interval between the injection and expulsion."

An instrument was therefore wanted, that was capable of throwing up any quantity desired, in one continuous operation, and the Patent Syringe most completely effects this. Again, mechanical distension can only be effected by an instrument affording power with volume; an attention to hydraulic principles shows how both these are yielded by the Syringe I have constructed. The bulk of the fluid contained in the instrument is so small, that the force necessary to propel it, scarcely requires the efforts of an infant; but the effects of these efforts, multiplied by repetition, increase to an almost infinite ratio, and at length present an overwhelming force, capable of bearing down all opposition, and overcoming all natural restraints. To try the power of the syringe, I fixed the injecting pipe firmly into the rectum of an Animal that had been recently killed, and proceeded to pump into the bowels a large quantity of water, and I continued the operation with the same ease and freedom, until the intestinal canal, stretched beyond its tone, burst with the distending force.

In corroboration of the good effects of this instrument in obstructions of the bowels, I shall take leave to extract the following remarks from some of the most respectable medical publications of the present time.

"Dr. Chisholm has related a case of obstinate constipation of the bowels, relieved by *Read's Injecting Machine*, after various other means had failed. The obstruction had existed three or four days before Dr. Chisholm saw the patient with Mr. Beet, Surgeon, of Ashford. When seen by Dr. Chisholm, the patient's extremities were cold, and stercoraceous vomiting had come on. A tepid solution of

yellow soap was prepared, and more than a wash-hand basin full was gradually but perseveringly thrown up by means of the instrument above mentioned, and prevented from returning by napkins pressed to the anus. *The patient's belly now resembled a drum.* When the injection was allowed to come away, the spectators had the gratification to find it mixed with fæces. Shortly after this, the patient passed flatus and stools, and all the bad symptoms quickly vanished. I have had many other cases" says Dr. Chisholm, "where Read's Machine was of infinite service, and I think every medical practitioner should have one in his possession."— (*Med. Repos. No. 1, New Series, Page 944.*)

The Author of "*The Village Doctor*," under the article costiveness, (page 104,) makes the following remark: But the use of clysters is in every way preferable to purgative medicines, and those who are costive should provide themselves with "*Read's Patent Syringe*," and administer a pint of the domestic enema every day at a certain hour, until the bowels act without."

The following remarks are to be seen in Dr. Johnson's Quarterly Review.

"For many months past we have been in the habit of employing Mr. Read's Patent Injecting Apparatus, which is so small as to be carried in the waistcoat pocket, and so powerful as to throw fluids to a great distance. The object of our present notice, however, is to inform our readers that Mr. Read has adapted to the Instrument, a flexible elastic tube, most admirably calculated for throwing fluids into the stomach, and then extracting them, in cases of poisoning. We have attentively examined the instrument, and we know it is approved of by Sir A. Cooper, and some of the first Surgeons of the Metropolis; we think it of so much importance, that we seriously recommend it to every private practitioner." Vol. 4, No. 15, page 742, of the *Medico-Chirurgical Review*.

In treating upon Iliac Passion, an author before mention-

ed, says " a copious injection of six or eight quarts of warm water, or gruel, will be the most likely means of removing the obstruction, restoring the bowels to their proper situation, and of softening and bringing away those hardened motions, which accumulate in the bowels and occasion the complaint. For this purpose (as well as for the injection of tobacco smoke,) *Read's Patent Syringe* is preferable to all other instruments, and should be in the possession of every family." Scott's " Village Doctor," page 166.

I am informed by some Medical Gentlemen who have used it, that in violent cases of *Menorrhagia*, they have been able to check the disease more effectually by an alum injection, thrown by the force which the Patent Syringe affords, than by any other means.

I cannot pass over the following letter without presenting it to the readers attention, coming as it does from a practitioner respected for his talents and observation.

(5)

"MR. READ,

I am desirous of informing you, that I have had frequent opportunities of using your valuable Instrument in cases of violent inflammation and obstruction of the bowels, and it has succeeded beyond all expectation in affording relief to my patients. So fully convinced am I, of the superiority of your Injecting Syringe over any other instrument made for the same purpose, that I have no hesitation in asserting that it is invaluable to medical men, and it is my opinion, that almost every private family should be in possession of it.

" You are at liberty to make what use you please of this Letter.

I am, your's, &c. &c.

Goudhurst, Jan. 20, 1822.

SAML. P. NEWINGTON."

Whilst correcting the proofs of these pages, I unexpectedly received the following letter, for which, and for the handsome manner in which it was communicated, I am de-

sirous of thus publicly expressing my humble but sincere thanks. The nature of the case, and the success that resulted from the judicious management of it, by Mr. Witt, both contribute to render it a subject of interest to the medical profession, and remove, therefore, any necessity of an apology for my introducing it.

(6)

General Infirmary, Northampton, Dec. 4, 1824.

SIR,

I am directed by the Committee of Governors of this Infirmary, to convey to you their approbation of your Instrument for extracting poisons from the stomach, and to give you the details of a case in which it was used with complete success.

A boy, nine years of age, was discovered at eight o'clock in the morning of the 12th ult. in nearly a lifeless state. On investigation it was ascertained that he had taken, by mistake, a solution of opium, three hours before. He was lying in a deep stupor, his respiration very slow, and accompanied with a convulsive catching; his feet, hands, and face livid, and no pulse to be felt at the wrist. He was immediately roused up, and violently shaken, when he uttered a few incoherent cries. A quart of warm water was instantly injected into the stomach by means of your Syringe, and then withdrawn; the fluid was brown, and the smell of opium plainly perceptible. Another quantity of water was then thrown in, and withdrawn; it returned colorless and without any smell.

The boy was now moved continually about for some time, and his senses gradually returned. As soon as he could swallow, he was made to drink two ounces of Ipecacuanha Wine, with a drachm of Sulphate of Zinc, dissolved in half a pint of warm water. This not operating, in twenty minutes a second dose was given as strong as the first, and in ten minutes afterwards the boy showed a disposition to vomit; this was effectually excited by injecting a hand-basin full of warm water, by

which I made sure that his stomach should be completely washed of any remains of the poison. After the vomiting was over, he was kept in motion for three or four hours, taking at intervals a strong decoction of coffee : by the afternoon of the same day I had the pleasure of finding him perfectly well.

It is almost unnecessary to observe, that as the opium had been swallowed three hours, (and that too upon an empty stomach,) no emetic medicine would have operated until the poison was withdrawn ; the fibres of the stomach being rendered perfectly inert by the stupefactive effect of the drug ; indeed he had totally lost the power of swallowing ; it is therefore pretty evident, that the boy's life would not have been saved, but for the very useful Instrument of which you have the merit of being the inventor.

I am, Sir,

With much respect,

Your obedient Servant,

Approved,

C. BOUVERIE,

Chairman of the Committee. }

CHARLES WITT,

House Surgeon,

TO MR. READ.

I shall close my subject by the following explanation of the manner of using the Enema Apparatus. Fix the leathern tubes to the lateral branch of the Syringe (either two or three, as may be most convenient to the position chosen for the operation), and put the fluid to be injected, into a wash-hand basin or other convenient vessel ; the ivory pipe being inserted into the rectum, and the extremity of the Syringe into the fluid, the pump may be worked, either by the patient or some other person ; but the facility with which it can be accomplished by the former, renders it truly valuable for domestic use.

30, *Bridge House Place,*

Newington Causeway, London.

December 28, 1824.

READ'S

NEW IMPROVED PATENT SYRINGE,

FOR DOMESTIC & HORTICULTURAL PURPOSES.

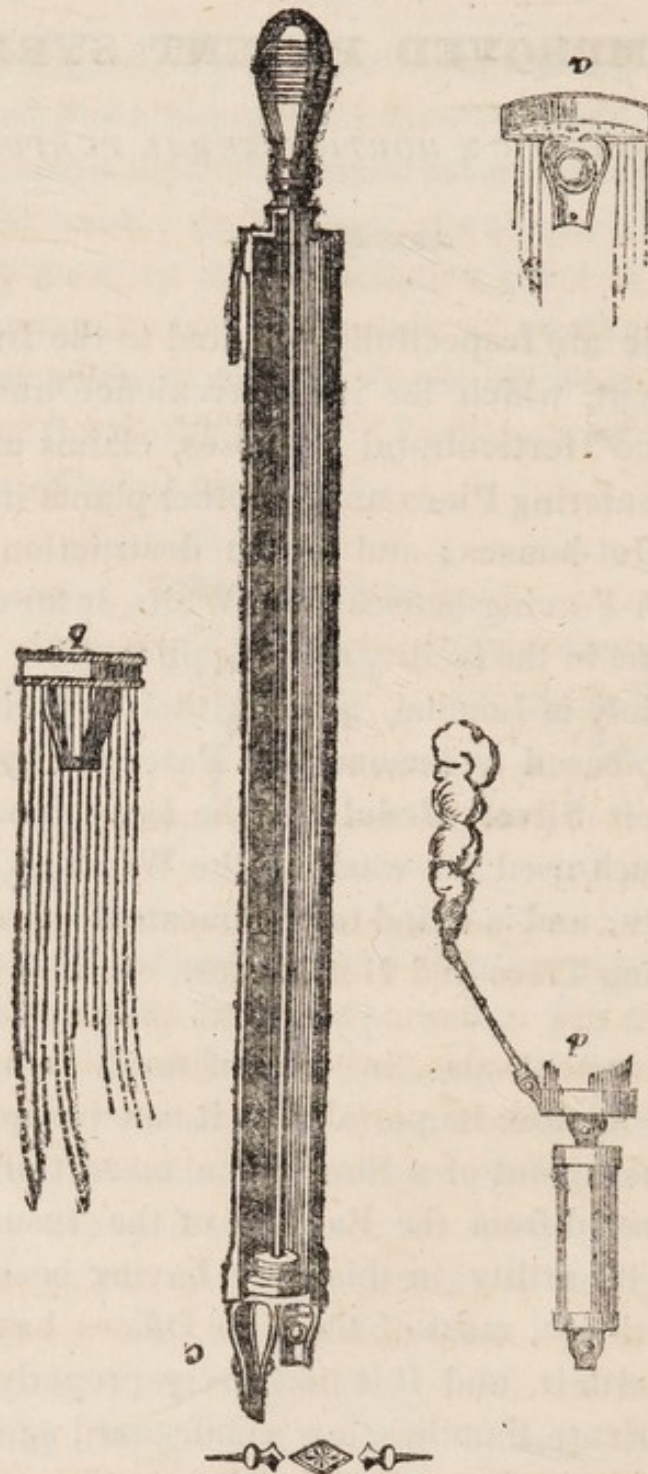


THE Public are respectfully solicited to the Inspection of this Instrument, which for its convenience and utility in Domestic and Horticultural Purposes, claims universal regard. For watering Pines and all other plants in Conservatories and Hot-houses; and for the destruction of Insects upon trees in Forcing-houses or on Walls, it far exceeds the Barrow-engine in the facility of its application. The Horticultural Society of London, to mark their approbation of it, have been pleased to honour the Patentee by conferring upon him their Silver Medal for the Invention. It has of late been much used for washing the Windows of Houses and Carriages, and is found to be a most effective apparatus for Fumigating Trees and Hot-houses.

This Instrument also, in case of need, is an excellent Fire-engine, as from its portability it can be applied, upon the first breaking out of a Fire, when no sort of assistance could be derived from the Engines of the Insurance Companies, and its utility in this way having been proved by actual experience, most of the Fire Offices have prepared themselves with it, and it is now, very properly finding its way into Private Families, as a safeguard against the destructive and hazardous effects of Fire.

Section of the Horticultural Syringe.

- a.*—Cap for destroying Insects on Wall-trees and Plants.
b.—Cap for Watering Forcing-houses and trees in Blossom.
c.—Cap for Extinguishing Fires.
d.—Cap for the Tobacco Fumigation.



EXPLANATION OF ITS USE.

THE Cap *a* is to be screwed on when the Syringe is used for washing away Insects from Peach, Nectarine, and Apricot Trees. Set a pot

of water near the stem of the tree, and having charged the Syringe, throw the shower between the tree and the wall, directing it against the *back* surface of the leaves, where the insects are placed, by which mode, the fluid effectually and speedily sweeps off both the insects and their eggs and larvæ, and thus prevents a succession of these injurious animalculæ. The Barrow Engine can only be brought to play upon the *front* of fruit trees, and dislodges, therefore, the insects but very imperfectly, without removing, in the least, their eggs, that stick upon the under surface of the leaf. This Cap is also used for watering Pines.

The Cap *b*, has smaller perforations than the above, and as it throws the fluid in a light and gentle moisture, almost like a dew-fall, is particularly eligible for sprinkling Forcing Houses of all descriptions, and Trees in bloom, and not only clears the latter of insects, but deposits the water in such a gentle manner upon the leaves, that, if it be applied at night, preserves the plant moist until the next morning, materially tends to its nourishment and health, and prevents the formation of animalculæ, which breed rapidly in the *dry* but perish by moisture. The Practical Gardener is aware of this, and takes care, during warm weather, to supply his trees with moisture while their buds are forming and before the blossom expands. This Cap is used also for washing the leaves of trees, plants, and vegetables when frost-nipped in the cold nights that often prevail during the spring; it should of course be done before sun-rise.

The Cap *c* is used for extinguishing fire and for washing the coarser sorts of trees, as Pears, Plumbs, Cherries, &c. against walls, and for general watering in lieu of the Barrow Engine, and in this way can be applied more efficaciously than the latter, as it may be brought into immediate contact with the plant, or applied in any direction that may be desirable, which the Barrow Engine cannot, on account of the impracticability of bringing it over the beds.

By the application of the Syringe there is no useless expenditure of water, and it is generally found that two, or at most three charges is sufficient for a large tree.

The Fumigating canister *d*, is used in the following manner. Having fitted the brass tube to the side opening, unscrew the top, take

out the perforated plunger, and put about an ounce (or as much as is desired) of tobacco (or tobacco paper, as it is called) into the canister, replace the plunger and allow it to sink upon the tobacco with its own weight only, and having put on the top, screw it to the Syringe, and next apply a piece of lighted paper to the nozzle of the canister, when one or two strokes of the piston sufficiently lights the tobacco, the fumes of which instantly pass in a copious dense stream from the extremity of the side tube, and may thus be readily conveyed to any plant, or even to any part of a plant. When applied to beds of roses or to plants under walls, the operation is greatly facilitated by throwing a piece of canvas over the bed, or hanging it against the wall so as to cover the trees. The canister is not liable to become choked as the Fumigating Bellows are, but continues to act freely until the tobacco is entirely consumed.

The Patentee, after an active and extensive experience of Forty Years in Practical Gardening, humbly offers the above explanation of the uses of his Garden Syringe to the attention of young Horticulturists, who may not despise a few simple but useful hints.

The above Instrument, as well as the Surgical Syringe, is sold by PEPYS, Poultry; STODART, Strand; MILLIKIN, Strand; THOMPSON, Great Windmill-street; EVANS, Old Change; Messrs. MANLEY and STONE, Paternoster Row; SIMPSON and SMITH, Strand; NEWINGTON and TOMPSETT, 24, Whitechapel; WHITTAKER, Blackman Street, Borough; BUTLER, St. Paul's Church Yard; GLAZIER and KEMP, Brighton; BULL, Lewes; MOORE, Maidstone; FRY, Tunbridge Wells; NYE, Tunbridge; ELLIOTT, Ashford; ABLITT, Ipswich; BEDFORD, Leeds; SEARLE, Leeds; PAUL, Bury; TUCK, Bath; MANDER and WEAVER, Wolverhampton; by most Nurserymen and Furnishing Ironmongers, and by J. READ, the Patentee, No. 30, Bridge House-place, Newington Causeway, Southwark.

Neither of the above Instruments are genuine except Stamped with the Royal Arms and Patentee's Name.

