

An essay on the diseases of the head and neck. To which is added, a dissertation on the gout and rheumatism / [J.N. Stevens].

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A N

E S S A Y

O N T H E

Diseases of the HEAD and NECK.

To which is added, a

DISSERTATION

O N T H E

GOUT and RHEUMATISM.

By J. N. STEVENS, M. D. and Fellow of
the Royal Academy of Sciences.

(Of B A T H.)

BATH: Printed for J. LEAKE. And sold by C. HITCH,
and L. HAWES, Bookfellers, in LONDON.

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ESSAYS

Diseases of the Head and Neck

DISSERTATION

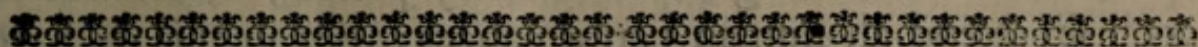


GOUT and RHEUMATISM

By J. N. Stevens, M.D. and Fellow of the Royal Academy of Sciences.

(OF B. N. T. W.)

BATH: Printed for J. LANE. And sold by G. HARRISON and J. HARRISON, Booksellers, in London.



P R E F A C E.

I Have flattered myself, that I should perform a work, neither entirely void of use, nor foreign to the duties of my profession, if I made the public partakers of the principal helps against the diseases I have treated of, which I had either learned by experience, or deduced from rational principles.

As the following little treatise is the result of my own notions, in regard to the nature and causes of the disorders therein treated of; so, what I have mentioned with regard to their method of cure, proceeds from my own observations, and experience in practice.

I am persuaded, that I shall not be condemn'd, by any unprejudic'd reader; though I have a little deviated from the common practice of physic; especially as I have endeavoured to assign natural reasons for whatever I have said contrary to the common received notion of things. How far I have been defective in that point, I freely submit to the examination of the learned gentlemen of the profession, who certainly are the best judges in cases of this kind.

As there is nothing on earth really perfect, errors will of course attend all human performances: But in this I have the satisfaction of not being guilty of any wilful error, and therefore may reasonably conclude I shall not be censured by the generous part of mankind, and men of learning: And as for others, I neither regard their approbation, nor frowns; since the good of mankind in general has been my only view; which, I hope, will in some measure atone for the imperfections of this work, and guard it against the weak assaults of the malicious critic.

Information is always acceptable to a generous mind, who judges impartially of the real properties, and essential nature of things, according to the best light of unprejudiced reason. And if any person, of superior judgment, would be so kind and generous as to convince me of my errors, I shall esteem that person as my friend, and immediately make a public acknowledgment of it; as I am well assured, that it is more honourable to submit to conviction, when drawn from the genuine laws of nature, than to persist upon a baseless foundation, in opposition thereto.

When God at first created man, and placed in him that small portion of his spirit; he did not design him to penetrate into the most minute recesses of his works, nor to be perfectly acquainted with the original causes and immutable effects of sublunary beings: No, the Almighty created that mass of matter call'd man, as a recepticle for that portion of his spirit placed therein; to prove him, try whether he
would

would be obedient to his commands, or follow the example of him that first rebelled. And so long as man remained in a state of innocence, and obeyed his maker's will, all things were perfect; man was free from diseases, and sorrow, and had the purity of an angel. But as soon as man rebell'd, all earthly things became imperfect, man became subject to sorrow and diseases, and soon perceived that that portion of spirit which his body enveloped, was not sufficient (unassisted by his maker) to penetrate into the secrets of nature, nor to be perfectly acquainted with the most simple of her works, but must be content to drudge on in this vale of imperfection, and be ignorant; every days observations furnishing him with new discoveries of his insufficiency to judge of the nature or cause of the most simple of his maker's works. But, however, that man might employ that portion of spirit allotted him to proper uses, and not fall into a state of despair, by seeing his insufficiency; the Almighty (if I may use the expression) open'd his eyes gradually, and let him see his wonderful works, and assisted him to make some discoveries therein; but not so as to make him perfectly acquainted therewith, lest he should pride himself in having fathom'd the mysteries of his maker, but that he might see the greatness and goodness of his creator, and obey and adore him; that after he had finish'd his work on earth, he might return to his pristine purity.

But to come to those days of ours; many there are which think they can unfold all nature's laws, and fathom the mysteries of their creator, because they are assisted with the imperfect

fect notions of their forefathers, and vainly esteem themselves fully acquainted with the works of their creator; nay some will even dare to say there is no such being, but attribute all things to chance. All those abandon'd wretches, and they which will believe no more than their weak misguided minds can comprehend, we'll leave to drudge on in their obscure mistaken notions, and pursue our knowledge in sciences gradually, and thank our creator for the few rays of light with which he has enlighten'd us; or, as the poet says, look thro' nature up to nature's God.

The science of physick is superior to all other sciences in the world, theology only excepted: It has been practis'd by the greatest, wisest, and best of men. And to confer as great an honour as possible on the profession, and render it truly sacred and glorious, most of the miracles of the Son of God were shewn by curing the various maladies of men. But there are in our days a set of vain-glorious and selfish men, which little regard the dignity of their profession, or the welfare of their fellow creatures, but to gratify their ambitious and selfish views, will even sacrifice the dignity of their profession, and the lives of their fellow creatures. Such I think should be looked on as so many murderers, and be cast out of all human society.

The study and practice of the science of physick is without dispute one of the most extensive studies in the circle of human knowledge: And any person who would shine therein, like a poet, should be endowed with a natural genius, fortified

fied with the different kinds of school literature, and a peculiar aptitude to study the art through all its branches; must be a diligent and faithful observer of nature, and must well observe the different effects of medicines administered under such or such peculiar circumstances.

A legitimate son of *Æsculapius* always proceeds cautiously and deliberately to work; he builds his structure upon a true and sound basis; he informs himself of the nature and cause of the disease, and examines into the nature and quality of his medicines, before he presumes to order them to his patient. If the violence of the disease baffles the force of his medicines, he is not like the ignorant quack at his *ne plus ultra*, but knows how to increase the efficacy of his medicines, by adding of other articles, and altering them as symptoms occur, and circumstances shall require.

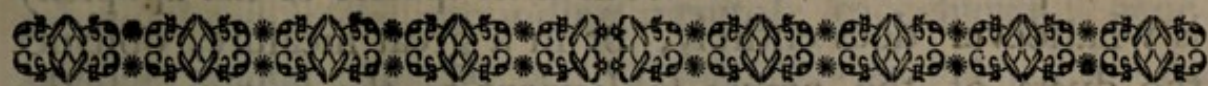
All through the following sheets I have deviated from the sentiments of some great men, which deny the existence of a nervous fluid, or animal spirits; and 'till those great men can give sufficient reasons for what they assert, I shall always contradict their assertions, as I am well assured they are vague and baseless.

In prosecuting the cure of the various species of the diseases treated of in the following sheets; the forms of medicines I have observed in the prescribing part, are calculated for a person of a middle age and of a good constitution,

tion, which may be varied according to the age and strength of the patient, or according as the laws of nature dictate.

I am sensible that there are some errors in the following sheets, but hope they are of such a nature as will carry with them an excuse from men of generosity and candour; but there are some malicious men in the world which employ their time in nothing else but to criticise on, and ridicule other mens works, although ever so well writ: But such I must desire to suspend their indignation, 'till they shall vouchsafe to oblige the world with a more perfect work on the same subject.

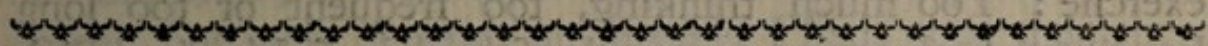




A N
E S S A Y

O N T H E

Diseases of the HEAD and NECK.



CHAPTER I.

Of the APOPLEXY.

AN Apoplexy is said to be present, when of a sudden there is a total deprivation of all the senses internal and external, together with all the voluntary motions, and there remains only the pulse and breathing; the former is for the most part very strong, and the latter performed with great difficulty and a snoring, together with all the appearances of a profound sleep. There are two sorts of apoplexies; the one called the sanguineous apoplexy, and the other the pituitose.

The proximate cause of both these species of the apoplexy is whatsoever does entirely, or in a great measure, obstruct the ducts of the nerves subservient to the motions of the body, and hinders the animal spirits from flowing into the organs of the senses, and voluntary motions, and also their return from the said organs into the sensorium commune; whilst there remains a free ingress and regress of this fluid into the heart and organs of respiration, which enables them to perform their functions.

The sanguineous apoplexy generally attacks plethoric people, and those of a hot constitution, that drink large quantities of spirituous or vinous liquids, or use hard exercise: Too much thinking, too frequent or too long bending of the mind; or whatsoever causeth a too quick motion of the blood towards the head, while that fluid doth not circulate so freely in the lower arteries; which may proceed from various causes; for when this fluid is perpetually urged forward by the force of the heart into the tender arteries which pass thro' the brain, faster than the veins can receive it, it accumulates, and presses the tender vessels of that organ, which causes a partial apoplexy; and if not timely relieved bursts its vessels; and lodging on the brain, and compressing the nerves subservient to the motions of the body, produces that apoplexy to which *Hippocrates* gives the epithet of strong and incurable.

The pituitose kind generally attacks people from the fortieth to the sixtieth year of their age, especially such as have

a large head and short neck, very big and fat body, and where there is an abounding pituitose cacochymy; generally caused without any considerable rapture, but by a distention of the vessels of the brain, and by the sharp serum of the blood ouzing out of the circumjacent glands, which loads and (by its saline spiculæ) wounds the tender vessels of the brain, fills its ventricles, and stops the course of the nervous fluid; this is the species that the great father of physic pronounces curable, and yet says that even this is very difficult to be cured.

There is another species of the apoplexy, which is the effect of external causes, such as blows, falls, or fractures of the skull; but because they indicate no peculiar treatment, but what depends on surgery, I shall omit them here.

A sanguineous apoplexy is always mortal where there is a rapture of any of the vessels of the brain; which may be known, by an entire destruction of all the senses and voluntary motions; the strength of breathing, by loud and interrupted snoaring, a thin cold sweat gathering in drops, and much froth about the mouth; the pulse for the most part strong and intermitting; and when these symptoms appear, we may conclude death is at hand.

But if there is only a distention of the vessels of the brain, and where the whole sensorium commune is not affected, and where all the foregoing symptoms are absent, there is a possibility of its being cured, altho' with great difficulty.

Slight fits of the apoplexy generally go off with a copious diarrhæa, and a high fever; with bleeding from the piles for a long time; with the coming on of profuse sweats; with a large quantity of turbid urine; with the flux of the menstrua being restored, and that copiously.

The pituitose kind, when the cause is overcome, very often changes into a palsy of one entire side of the body, which is called an hemiplegia; sometimes on all the parts below the neck, which is called a paraplegia, which is the crisis of the disease, and is seldom cured; if ever it is cured, it for the most part leaves behind a decay in all the senses and motions, and leaves the miserable creature a mere idiot.

As no certain rule can be laid down for the cure of this dreadful disease, we must vary our method of cure according to the cause; and whatever medicines we give, or method we take, it should be done at the very beginning of the disease, before the evil is confirm'd and increased by time.

If therefore it is foreseen that the sanguineous kind of apoplexy is at hand, we must have recourse immediately to frequent and large bleedings, both from the arm and jugular veins; which, if there be occasion, repeat. Opening the occipital veins is of great service in this and all kinds of apoplexies.

If

If after the use of this method you see that the patient has any relief, you may conclude the case curable, and order immediately such as the following cooling cathartic; which repeat so often, 'till you raise a continual diarrhæa.

Take of infusion of fenna two ounces; Glauber's purging salt an ounce; salt nitre a drachm; mix, and add tincture of hellebore one drachm; syrup of buckthorn an ounce; mix.

But if this should not work soon enough, promote and forward the operation with some sharp clyster.

During the use of these medicines, it will likewise be necessary for us to order some cooling diuretics to promote the discharge by urine, and allay the rarefaction of the mass of fluids; for which I have seen the following used with success.

Take of simple mint water, and baum water, of each four ounces; spirituous alexiterial water with vinegar an ounce; salt nitre two drachms; syrup of lemon juice one ounce and half; mix. Take four spoonfuls every three hours.

The diet should be very thin and light. Be sure to avoid all aliments or medicines which stimulate and cause heat; all external fires or heats of any kind; neither should the patient be suffered to lie down on a bed, or otherwise in a much leaning posture.

But

But if we foresee that the apoplexy is of the pituitose kind, *i. e.* to proceed from a too great vicidity of the crassamentum, and too great an acrimony of the serum of the fluids, we must proceed in a different manner; for large bleedings in this species are as bad as large doses of opium; although some blood drawn from the occipital veins is of singular service in this kind of apoplexy, as is also cupping with deep scarrifications, in the nape and sides of the neck; for either of these takes off some of the blood which would be conveyed into both the lateral sinus's of the brain, and consequently must abate the pressure of those vessels, by giving the vicid fluids more room to circulate.

After we have by this means drawn off so much blood as we think will relieve the vessels of the brain, and prevent any rapture, we must next endeavour to draw off so much as possible of the vicid matter from the head, and at the same time the vicidity and acrimony of the remaining mass of fluids must be attenuated and corrected. The first of these is performed by blistering the limbs; by applying acrid cataplasms to the feet; by applying a large blister over the whole head; by applying ligatures over the larger veins of the legs, arms, and thighs; by blowing strong sternutories up the nostrils; by issues and setons; by administering a strong vomit of the vinum antimoniale, tartar emetic, or oxymel scilliticum, and at the same time giving a strong stimulating cathartic by the way of clyster; but it must be very acrid and stimulating, for the nervous fibres are become very torpid.

The

The vicidity and acrimony of the mass of fluids may be attenuated and corrected with a strict regimen of white meats, milk, and vegetables, join'd with the use of the following medicines.

Take of gum ammoniac, opoponax, of each two drachms; arum root fresh powder'd three drachms; venice soap and myrrh, of each one drachm; balsam peru, quantity sufficient; mix, for pills. Out of every drachm of the mass make ten pills. Take five pills three times a day, drinking after them four spoonfuls of the following mixture.

Take salt of wormwood a drachm and a half; juice of lemons two ounces; mix, and add baum and penny-royal waters, of each four ounces; antimonial wine an ounce and half; syrurp of orange peels an ounce; mix.

These medicines will likewise be found very beneficial for the head-ach, lethargy, and carus, especially when preceded by emetics and aloetic purges.

CHAPTER II.

Of the P A L S Y.

A PALSY is said to be present, when the muscles of the part or parts affected are in a relax'd unmoveable state; and are not superable by any endeavours of the will or vital powers; sometimes the sense of feeling is entirely lost, and sometimes there remains a small degree of sensation, with a pricking like numbness.

This disease has for its proximate cause whatsoever hinders the influx and reflux of the nervous fluid from the brain, or of the arterial, into and from the muscles of the part or parts affected: Which may be caused by apoplexies, the epilepsy, convulsions, the suppression of any of the usual evacuations; translocation of any morbid matter in acute or chronical diseases. Whatever offends the nerves, by obstructing, pressing, or binding them; all viscid humours, wounds, imposthumes, inflammatory or schirrhous tumours, luxations, fractures, very straight ligatures, very astringent medicines; too great a coldness, or cold moistness; too frequent use of warm water, or whatever causes too great a relaxation of the muscles; the steams of lead,
anti-

antimony, mercury, quick lime, and all other poisonous vapours, very often cause palsies and tremors.

This disease is known to be more or less mortal, curable or incurable, according to its causes and effects, and according to what degree it rests on the part or parts affected; and likewise according as the part or parts affected are more or less necessary to life or motion.

A palsy of any of the vital parts, as of the heart, lungs, or any of the organs of respiration, is attended with immediate death; that of the viscera from internal causes dangerous, and often mortal; that which is accompanied with a coldness and wasting, and where there is a deprivation of all sense of feeling in the part, is bad, and very seldom curable: When it attacks with a strong convulsion of the opposite part, and a great heat therein, it is dangerous, as it denotes a great translocation of morbid matter on the parts affected. A hemiplegia is very dangerous, and very seldom cured, as it is for the most part the imperfect crisis of an apoplexy. A paraplegia is very dangerous, and often the forerunner of an apoplexy, and cause of a sudden inevitable unforeseen death. Palsies of the extreme parts, arising from cold causes, are very often cured by high fevers, or convulsions; whereby the impacted matter is loosened, and carried off with a long continued looseness.

The cure of this disease is to be attempted first with such medicines as will remove the cause which hindereth the

free influx and reflux of the nervous, and arterial fluids, into and from the muscles of the parts affected. Secondly, by such as will strengthen the muscles, and brace up the relaxed fibres. Therefore, if the palsy arises from an external cause, such as fractures, luxations, tumours, imposthumes, wounds, &c. we must endeavour to remove the cause, by such methods as the nature of the disease and parts affected will admit of; and afterwards to strengthen the relaxed muscles, and promote a free circulation in the parts. But when it proceeds from internal causes, from a vicidity of the fluids, or from the imperfect crisis of disorders, which obstructs or presses the nerves; I propose the following method, as I have in several cases seen it answer when all other things have failed.

If the patient is plethoric, and full of gross humours, it will be necessary to draw off some blood, which should be done from the foot; but except there is a superabundant quantity of juices, omit bleeding, and begin with the following medicines.

Take of antimonial wine an ounce; oxymel of squils, and elder-flower-water, of each half an ounce; mix, for a vomiting draught. To be taken at five o'clock in the afternoon.

Take simple mint, and piper-mint waters, of each an ounce; compound piony water half an ounce; sublimed salt armoniac one scruple; volatile tincture of valerian one drachm;

drachm; fyryp of ginger three drachms; mix, for a draught. To be taken at nine o'clock in the evening, after the vomit.

Take of simple mint water six ounces; sublimed salt armoniac one drachm; arum root fresh powder'd two scruples; compound horse-radish water an ounce and half; fyryp of balsam one ounce; mix. Take four spoonfuls three or four times a day.

The patient should be kept on this mixture for six or seven days, or more or less, as the cause requires, *i. e.* till the cohetions and vicidity of the blood is somewhat broke and dissolved; afterwards to enter on the use of the following.

Take of calomel prepar'd twelve grains; camphire six grains; hiera picra half a scruple; conserve of hips quantity sufficient; mix, for a bolus. To be taken at night going to bed; and next morning early take the following draught.

Take of infusion of fenna an ounce and half; tincture of hiera picra, fyryp of buckthorn, of each half an ounce; mix.

Repeat this bolus and draught once every seven days; and on the intermediate days, take the following medicines.

Take of the aromatic pill two drachms ; arum root fresh powder'd, venice soap, of each one drachm ; balsum peru quantity sufficient ; mix for a mass of pills ; make ten pills out of every drachm. Take five pills three times a day, drinking after them six spoonfuls of the following medicated wine.

Take of the roots of gentian, calamus aromaticus, zedoary, galangal, of each one ounce ; valerian root two ounces ; ruffia castor six drachms ; winter's bark three drachms ; rhenish wine four pound ; mix, and digest four days ; afterwards strain off the wine ; and to every pint add salt diureticus half an ounce ; antimonial wine two ounces.

Take of the best musk, and native cinnabar, of each twelve grains ; cinnabar of antimony, and volatile salt of amber, of each eight grains ; mithridate quantity sufficient ; mix, for a bolus. To be taken every night going to bed ; drinking after it a draught of warm baum tea.

During the use of these internal medicines, it will be necessary to use some proper externals ; such as frictions, fomentations, liniments, ointments, or other nervous medicines. I have in this case order'd the following with very good success ; which is, first to foment the part or parts affected with a fomentation made of aromatic roots, herbs, and flowers ; and immediately after to be well rubb'd with rough warm cloths, for at least twenty minutes ; then the following liniment, when the pores are all open, is to be
rubb'd

rubb'd in over all the parts affected, and spina dorſa ; this I order to be done three times a day.

Take of ointment of marſh-mallows three ounces ; ſpirit of falt armoniac one ounce ; baſſam of peru one ounce and half ; the ſoap liniment four ounces ; mix.

Blifters is ſometimes of great ſervice in this diſeaſe, as is whipping with nettles, or any thing that will create a pain and ſlight inflammation in the parts affected. But above all the natural means that have ever been uſed for the cure of this diſeaſe, is the uſing internally and externally the waters of the ſalutary ſprings at Bath ; and where the body is properly prepared they can have no ill effects, notwithstanding what has been aſſerted by ſeveral eminent phyſicians to the contrary.

And here I think it will not be unneceſſary to point out the method of preparing the body for the reception of theſe waters, in this diſeaſe, and likewise the method of uſing the waters internally and externally in its various ſpecies.

And firſt we will begin with preparing the bodies of thoſe that labour under that ſpecies of this diſeaſe call'd the hemiplegia, as this is one of the moſt dangerous ſpecies of this diſeaſe, is for the moſt part preceded by a greater or leſſer fit of the apoplexy, and without great care and precaution is taken in the adminiſtration of theſe waters, how you rouſe this ſleeping lion, you'll find this ſymptomatic diſeaſe will terminate in its priſtine malady. There-

Therefore when we undertake to administer the waters to a patient labouring under this ail, we should first consider the strength of his fibres, and the nature and quantity of his fluids; if therefore he is a person of a gross robust constitution, and has a redundancy of fluids, it will be necessary to bleed him, once every four days, for three or four times, taking off about six or eight ounces of blood each time; he should be kept on a low diet as his constitution will bear, during this time; and on the intermediate days of bleeding he should take some cathartics, at least four or five, (rhubarb I think is the best purging medicine that can be used here, as it purges without weakening the constitution) and in the evening after the operation of the cathartic, a diuretic draught should be administer'd, to cleanse the urinary passages.

We should confine him to this course for at least three weeks; if he is of a very gross constitution, longer: But if he is of a thin, pale, enervated, or cold constitution, bleeding must be omitted, and after a cathartic or two to cleanse the primæ viæ, he should be kept on a course of diuretic and attenuating medicines, with a regular diet, for the time already mentioned.

The use of these preparations is to unload the body of all gross superfluous juices, and to break and dissolve the viscosity of the fluids as much as possible, before we enter on the use of these waters; for by this means the vessels will be emptied, and enabled to bear the rarefaction of the juices, which

which being attenuated by the hot waters, will pass into the minutest series of vessels, thro' which they may be driven by the increased velocity of the circulation. Being thus prepar'd, and not labouring under any other ail, he may venture to begin the use of these waters; first by drinking them of the king's-bath for ten or twelve days, about half a pint at a draught, which repeat four times a day at the usual times of drinking these waters, *i. e.* in the morning three, and the evening one, still continuing on a low diet.

After having gone through this course for the time limited, he may venture to bathe in the cross-bath three times a week. By keeping in the moderate heat of this bath for twenty or thirty minutes at each time; it softens the vessels, which very often in these cases are contracted and rigid, and makes them capable of yielding to the force of the circulation, the velocity of which being increased by the heat of the bath, forces open the obstructions, and very often lays the foundation for the cure of this disease. After he has been in the bath about a quarter of an hour, or 'till his fibres are somewhat softened, his guide should with a flesh brush gently rub the parts affected, to clear the milliary glands, and promote a free perspiration, by which the recrements of the third stage of digestion may be copiously carried off. The other particular forms used in bathing are too well known, and need not be inserted here.

After

After he has bathed in this bath for three weeks or a month, he may venture to bathe in the king's-bath ; at first but twice a week, and about fifteen minutes each time ; which increase gradually to three or four times a week, and three quarters of an hour, or an hour, each time.

Now, to prevent any ill accidents which may happen after bathing, to those labouring under this ail, which very often is the case, and generally arises from the morbid matter which was loosen'd by the last bathing not being discharg'd off the body, before more is dissolved by the next bathing, and so on, 'till the quantity of the matter is sufficient to bring on those fatal symptoms which very often terminate this and many other diseases ; and deters many from the use of those waters, where they may be very beneficial if used discretely. But to prevent this, and to carry off the matter which is dissolv'd in the body by each time of bathing, it will be necessary for the patient to take a gentle cathartic the morning following after each time of his bathing ; for which I would recommend such as the following.

Take of the best manna six drachms ; water gruel two ounces ; mix, and add powder of rhubarb, and salt diureticus, of each one scruple ; mix.

Any person labouring under a paraplegia, which is another species of this disease, may be prepar'd after the manner I have laid down for this, according to the nature of his

con-

constitution, and afterwards drink the king's bath waters, and bathe in the cross bath, beginning with twice a week, and twenty minutes each time, and increasing gradually to four or five times every week, and an hour each time, and not forgetting the liberal use of the flesh brush. Bathing in the king's bath in this case would certainly terminate this ail in death, notwithstanding our greatest precaution. But when this disease only affects one particular limb, which is commonly call'd a partial palsy; after having been prepar'd as aforesaid, he may bathe in the king's bath, beginning with ten or fifteen minutes at first, which increase to three quarters of an hour; but persons in this case should never bathe above once or twice a week, and on the intermediate days should have that operation commonly call'd dry-pumping perform'd on them, beginning with two hundred strokes, and increasing gradually to a thousand.

Thus having pointed out the method of using these waters in this disease, I shall, before I conclude this chapter, beg leave to insert the following extraordinary case, which I think was the severest that ever any person suffered under, who survived the disease; and the rather as I shall specify the method of his cure.

A country gentleman being on a short journey, was thrown off his horse, and received a violent blow on the hinder part of his head and neck, especially between the third and fourth vertebræ of the neck; by which he lay deprived of all his senses and voluntary motions, and was

D. taken.

taken up for dead (by some of his neighbours which passed by in the interim) and carried to his house. A surgeon was sent for, who bled him, got him put in a warm bed, and ordered him some volatiles, by which after two days his senses return'd as perfect as ever; but all his voluntary motions were entirely lost, those of his head excepted, which still remained, altho' imperfectly. In this dreadful condition he remained near three months without any perceivable amendment, notwithstanding he had all the advice the country afforded, and had various kinds of medicines order'd for his relief. At the end of which time his limbs began to wither, and one evening he was attacked with a violent pricking pain all along the medulla spinalis, which held him about an hour, and continued to return every evening at the same hour for some time; then it alter'd its period, and attacked him sometimes in the morning and sometimes in the evening, the strength of the pain continually increasing, so that at last his tortures were as much as human nature could possibly bear.

He continued in this agony for near ten months, his limbs wasting and contracted, and his pains as much as ever any mortal did suffer.

When I was travelling through that country, I accidentally heard his case stated, and my curiosity led me to see him, as he had some time been given over as incurable by his physicians; and having made known my intentions, I was introduced to him, and found he was one of the most miserable objects I had ever seen. After

After I had carefully enquired into the state of his disorder, I found that the proximate cause of it must be some extravasated matter which obstructed or pressed the medulla oblongata or the beginning of the medulla spinalis, which hindered the animal spirits from circulating freely thro' the nerves appropriated for voluntary motions; occasioned by a contusion of the neck, and occiput from the fall.

I offered to do all that lay in my power to ease his pains, and relieve him: My offer was soon accepted, and I ordered him the following method of cure; which I leave to the learned to judge, whether or not it was agreeable to the laws of the animal oeconomy, and nature of his disease.

I immediately sent for a surgeon to draw off three or four ounces of blood from his arm; not that I held bleeding proper for his disease, but that I might the better judge of the state of his fluids. His blood was very black and vici'd, and the crassamentum much superior in quantity to the serum; which made me immediately order the following medicines.

Take of ipecacuana wine one ounce; antimonial wine half an ounce; oxymel squils three drachms; mix. For a vomiting draught.

This was given in the evening, with which he brought up near two pints of phlegm; and after the operation of

the vomit he had a large blistering plaister applied to the hinder part of his head and neck, and the following aperitive draught administer'd, and repeated three times a day for five days.

Take of simple mint water two ounces; compound horse radish water three drachms; salt armoniac one scruple; volatile tincture of valerian two drachms; syrup of the five opening roots three drachms; mix. For a draught.

His blister was kept open for some time, and discharged very well; and during the use of these, his whole body was rubb'd three times a day, for half an hour each time, with rough warm cloths, and afterwards the following liniment was rubbed over all his body, his head and belly excepted.

Take of the soldier's ointment three ounces; oil of amber, spirit of salt armoniac, balsam of peru, of each an ounce; soap liniment two ounces; mix.

When he had used these medicines about five days, his pains left him, and he perceived a twitching (as he termed it) in his legs and thighs: I then added arum root fresh powder'd two scruples, to his draughts, and expos'd his body to the steam of aromatic roots, herbs, and flowers, boiled in water, and afterwards he was well rubbed, and the liniment used as before; the blister to his neck and head was made perpetual, and two more blisters applied to his arms.

When

When three weeks were elapsed with the use of these medicines, he could move his head pretty freely, and with the help of crutches could walk twenty paces, and found himself gaining strength every day.

I then order'd he should omit the foregoing internal medicines, and pursue a course of the following.

Take of conserve of roman wormwood two ounces; arum root fresh powder'd, cinnabar of antimony, of each six drachms; gum guajacum powder'd, cinnabar native, of each three drachms; of the aromatic species one drachm; syrup of orange peels quantity sufficient; mix. For an electuary. Take the quantity of a large nutmeg three times a day; drinking after it four spoonfuls of the following mixture.

Take of the simple bitter infusion half a pound; compound horse radish water, antimonial wine, of each two ounces; volatile tincture of valerian one ounce; syrup of balsam one ounce; mix.

Take of musk ten grains; volatile salt of amber, native cinnabar, bezoar mineral, of each twelve grains; mithridate quantity sufficient; mix. For a bolus. To be taken every night going to bed; drinking after it of warm baum tea six ounces.

He

He continued on the use of these medicines for three weeks, with the externals mentioned as aforesaid; and continued increasing in strength every day, so that at the end of six weeks he could walk a quarter of a mile without any crutch or stick; and discontinued the use of the above medicines, as I thought all the obstructions were entirely removed, the vicidity and cohetions of the fluids broke and dissolved, the animal spirits had a free influx and reflux through the nerves, and nothing remained more to be done than to carry off any remains of the viciid humours which might be cast on the intestines, and to brace up the whole nervous system; for which I ordered the following medicines, which completed the cure.

Take of hiera picra one scruple; conserve of hips quantity sufficient; mix. For a bolus. To be taken at night going to bed; next morning early taking the following draught.

Take of infusion of senna an ounce and half; tincture of hiera picra, and syrup of buckthorn, of each three drachms; mix.

Repeat this bolus and draught once every seven days, for two or three times; on the intermediate days take the following medicines.

Take of the decoction of the peruvian bark two ounces; volatile salt of amber ten grains; extract of gentian root half a drachm;

drachm; volatile tincture of valerian one drachm; syrup of orange peels three drachms; mix. For a draught. To be taken three times a day.

He continued under this course of medicine for four weeks; and when I saw him last, he declared he was as well as ever he was in his life, except his neck, which was a little stiff at times; and has remained well for these four years, to the great joy of all his family.



drachm; volatile tincture of valerian one drachm; Symp
 of orange peel three drachms; mix for a drachm

CHAPTER III.
Of the EPILEPSY.

AN epileptic paroxysm is said to be present, when of a sudden the body is attacked, and thrown down with convulsions, and reciprocal involuntary motions of all or some of the muscles; together with a loss of all the internal and external senses. The sick at the attack of the paroxysm casts up the contents of the stomach, and froths very much at the mouth; and very often there is an involuntary evacuation of stools, feed, and urine; he bites his lips and tongue, gnashes with his teeth, &c. which growing milder and remitting, the patient lies as if a sleep, and when he comes to himself he knows nothing of this, but complains of a numbness and weariness of his limbs, a heaviness of his head, and is very stupid.

The proximate cause of this disease is thought to be too great an action of the brain upon the nerves which are appropriated to the organs of motion, and the privation of that in the nerves appropriated to sensation; by which there is an unequal distribution of the animal spirits.

The causes which produce this inordinate motion of the brain and spirits, are too many to be inserted here all, some of the principal I shall give an historical account of.

First. It is caused by the brain's being ill affected in its substance, ventricles, or integuments, either by pus, sharp ichor, blood, lymphæ, bony excrescences of the inside of the cranium, imposthumes, bruises, or wounds, which presses the brain or any of its integuments. The brain's being ill disposed by inflammation, corruption, or corrosion of any of its meninges, from corrupt humours, and venereal ulcers. And the ill qualities of all these are increased by whatsoever does increase the quantity or velocity of the fluids in the cranium; such as drunkenness, immoderate venereal pleasures, gluttony, heat, violent motion, profound meditation, (and that long continued,) great passions, and strong imaginations; but nothing so often gives rise to this disease as frights and terrors.

Secondly. Whatsoever produces violent affections of the nerves, as all hysteric passions, great periodical pains; or in children, teeth, sharp humours, or worms, which irritate the primæ viæ; sharp aliments, medicines, or poisons.

Thirdly. An obstruction of any of the usual evacuations, as the menses in women, and the piles, or other periodical hæmorrhages, in men, which generally cause a vicidity, and corruption of the fluids. Schirrhous tumours and ganglions in the remote parts, sometimes give rise to this disease, by their

their irritation or pressure of the nerves of the part; and by the natural sympathy which is between the parts of the body, the whole nervous system is brought into convulsions and inordinate motions.

Fourthly. An hereditary taint from the parents or ancestors; for this disease very often jumps over a whole generation, and fixes on the grand-children.

Sixthly. The strong impresson the mother has received by looking on a person in a fit of the epilepsy, when the child is in the womb, and be born with the patient.

Epilepsies which arise from the brain's being ill affected, are seldom curable, very often mortal. An hereditary epilepsy, and that which is received by the impresson made on the mother when the child is in the womb, is never to be entirely eradicated, because there is a wrong construction of the solids; although it may be palliated by carrying off the immediate cause of the paroxysms. If frights or terrors give rise to this disease, and the patient is not past the meridian of life, it is for the most part curable; as is likewise that which arises from a sympathy of the parts.

A physician can never be too careful in enquiring into the causes of this disease, for it is evident that medicines which will relieve one species of it will hurt another; hence, I think, may be sufficiently exposed the vanity of all celebrated specifics, and particular methods, for curing every species of this or any other disorder.

When this disorder proceeds from the brain's being ill affected from any of the foregoing causes, which is known by the following symptoms, in the intervals of time between the paroxysms, viz. a heaviness, and dull pain of the head, a vertigo, a general trembling, a sparkling or fixing of the eyes, a received injury on the head, as by wounds, bruises, tumours, &c. The cause of this species is very rarely removable, therefore we must endeavour to allay the paroxysms, and procure a temporary relief. Here all revulsions, and such medicines as correct the grossness or impurity of the fluids, are useful; hence bleeding in the foot should always be the primary means of relieving this species of the epilepsy, which should be followed with blistering the legs and arms, and putting a seton in the neck; or if the patient has received any injury on the head by external means, the skull should be immediately trepanned.

During the use of the foregoing external means (trepanning excepted) the following internals should be used, to clear and depurate the passages, and to dissolve the viscosity, and correct the texture of the mass of fluids.

Take of calomel prepar'd, hiera picta, of each ten grains; volatile salt of amber six grains; conserve of red roses quantity sufficient; mix. For a bolus. To be taken at night going to bed. Next morning take the following draught.

E 2

Take

Take of Infusion of fenna an ounce and half ; tincture of hiera picra one ounce ; mix.

Repeat this bolus and draught once every seven days, for three or four times ; and on the intermediate days take the following medicines.

Take of the aromatic pill one drachm and half ; venice soap, and valerian root powder'd, of each one drachm ; ruffia castor powder'd half a drachm ; balsam of peru quantity sufficient ; mix. For forty-six pills. Take five pills three times a day ; drinking after them four spoonfuls of the following mixture.

Take of small cinnamon water, and simple mint water, of each four ounces ; of the antimonial wine two ounces ; volatile tincture of valerian half an ounce ; syrup of orange peels one ounce ; mix.

The foregoing medicines, join'd with a milk diet, carry off the noxious humours which bring on those violent paroxysms, which for the most part gives a temporary, sometimes a lasting relief.

The epilepsy which proceeds from frights, great terrors, &c. must be treated somewhat different from the former species, as it arises from a different cause : For which, after a large bleeding from the foot, I generally order the following medicines.

Take

Take of the antimonial wine six drachms ; ipecacuanha wine, and oxymel of squils, of each half an ounce ; mix. For an emetic draught. To be taken about five o'clock in the afternoon.

Take of simple mint water one ounce and half ; tincture of russia castor, and volatile tincture of valerian, of each one drachm ; volatile salt of amber ten grains ; liquid laudanum seventeen drops ; compound piony water, and syrup of balsam, of each two drachms ; mix. For a draught. To be taken about eight o'clock in the evening, after the vomit.

Afterwards,

Take calomel prepared, and hiera picra, of each eight grains ; camphire six grains ; conserve of hips quantity sufficient ; mix. For a bolus. To be taken at night going to bed ; next morning taking two ounces of tincture of hiera picra.

Repeat this purge once every seven days to four or five times ; and on the intermediate days take the following medicines.

Take of the best peruvian bark powder'd one ounce ; valerian root powder'd, cinnabar native, of each two drachms ; syrup of orange peels quantity sufficient ; mix. For an electuary. Take the quantity of a nutmeg three times a day ; drinking after it the following draught.

Take

Take of almond soap half a drachm; the whey of cows milk four ounces; boil, and add antimonial wine one drachm and half; mix.

I generally continue the electuary and draught for two months together; and then repeat it three days before the new and full moon (always premising a cathartic of pill ex colocynth c aloe to cleanse the primæ viæ) for four or five months, or according as the cause required; which, with a diet of milk and vegetables, and a course of sea bathing, will relieve the most obstinate of this species of epilepsies; and if the patient is not past the meridian of life, will entirely eradicate it.

When this disease proceeds from violent affections of the nerves, it ought to be treated differently, according to the different nature of its cause. Hence in hysterical affections, after proper evacuations, antihysterics, anodynes, and pargorics, should be used. When from bilious humours in the stomach or intestines, we must evacuate those humours by the common evacuations, and afterwards the aromatic and gum pills, with a stomatic bitter wine, will become anti-epileptics.

When children are attacked with this disease, from worms, or sharp humours, which irritate the primæ viæ; after a proper course of antihelminthics, the child should be purged with pul cathartic pro puer (quincy) or magnesia alb: I think the last is excellent where sharp humours are the cause;

cause; and after the use of cathartics, such as the following mixture seldom fails to remove the disease.

Take of simple mint water, and baum water, of each three ounces; tincture of valerian three drachms; red coral prepar'd two scruples; syrup of balsam one ounce; mix. For a Mixture. Take one spoonful every three hours.

When an obstruction of any of the natural evacuations gives rise to this disease, we must first promote the evacuation obstructed, then dissolve the viscosity, and correct the textures of the blood and juices, by attenuating and stomatic medicines. If ganglions, or schirrhous tumours, by their pressure or irritation of the nerves, give rise to this disease, we must endeavour to free the affected nerve or nerves by chirurgical operations, then the disease will soon vanish by the use of a few nervous medicines, stomatic bitters, &c. But when this disease is hereditary, or is born with the patient, all we can do is to carry off the immediate cause of the paroxysms by proper evacuations, as by purging and blistering; and afterwards to strengthen the solids by sea-bathing, stomatic bitters, and a milk and vegetable diet; which may be of great service to some labouring under this species of the epilepsy, and afford them a good temporary relief.

But before I close this chapter, must beg leave to insert the history and method of cure of an epileptic person who

laboured under this disease sixteen years, and was happily restored to her former health and vigour.

A country farmer's daughter, aged 14 years, soon after the first eruption of the menses, and immediately after a great fright, was attacked with a violent pain in her head, and a slight vertigo, which increased to that degree that it threw her down, with violent convulsions of the limbs, foaming at the mouth, and all the other symptoms of a regular epileptic paroxysm, which lasted about fifteen minutes. When she recovered from the fit, her head-ach and vertigo was gone, but she continued insensible and sleepy all the day.

Three days after, near about the same hour of the day, she was attacked suddenly with all the symptoms of a regular epileptic fit, which lasted near a half hour; and when the fit left her she was quite insensible, and remain'd so for two days; after this they disappear'd for fourteen days, and then return'd again so violent as the last fit she had, but continued only twenty minutes, and returned the next day at the same hour: She continued to have one fit every day for three months, notwithstanding various methods had been tried for her relief.

After this Interval she had generally twelve fits every twenty-eight days, which was from the new to the full moon; and in the intervals of time between the fits, she was much disordered in her senses, oftentimes mad; (which I generally observed was when the atmosphere was very light.)

She

She continued in this state, and her fits continued to observe the lunar periods as above described for ten years; her appetite was not impair'd in the least, but her body was much weaker than might be expected for a girl of her years. She had a small discharge of the catamenia, sometimes three sometimes four times a year, which was very black and vici'd.

At the end of the time above-mention'd a quack pretended to cure her; and her friends consenting to his proposal, he gave her some violent cathartics; which increased the number of her fits to twenty every lunation, and her senses became much impaired.

In this condition she continued for six years; when the state of her case was sent me by her apothecary, and I went to visit her, and found that from the time of the new to the full moon, she was very much disorder'd in her senses, and had in that time about twenty fits; and from the full to the new moon, she was very well and chearful, and did eat her victuals with a good appetite; I thereupon ordered her the following method of cure.

Bleed in the foot, and take off twelve ounces of blood.

Afterwards,

Take of antimonial wine half an ounce; ipecacuanha wine, and oxymel of squils, of each six drachms; mix. For a vomiting draught. To be taken about five o'clock in the afternoon.

F

Take

Take of simple mint water an ounce and half; volatile salt of amber twelve grains; tincture of valerian two drachms; tincture of russia castor one drachm and half; of the soap pill ten grains; syrup of balsam three drachms; mix. For an anodine draught. To be taken about eight o'clock in the evening, after the vomit.

Take of calomel prepared eight grains; hiera picra ten grains; camphire three grains; conserve of hips quantity sufficient; mix. For a bolus. To be taken at night going to bed; next morning early taking the following draught.

Take of infusion of fenna one ounce and half; tincture of hiera picra one ounce; mix.

Repeat this bolus and draught once every seven days, for five or six times; and on the intermediate days take the following medicines.

Take of the best peruvian bark, powdered, one ounce; salt of steel, valerian root powdered, native cinnabar, of each three drachms; myrrh, powdered, one drachm; syrup of orange peels quantity sufficient; mix. For an electuary. Take the quantity of a nutmeg three times a day, drinking after it the following draught.

Take of almond soap half a drachm; cow-milk whey four ounces; boil, and add antimonial wine one drachm; mix.

Take

Take of the best musk, cinnabar of antimony, and volatile salt of amber, of each ten grains; conserve of red roses quantity sufficient; mix. For a bolus. To be taken every night going to bed; drinking after it about four ounces of baum tea.

She continued on the use of the electuary, soap draught, and musk bolus, for four months; at the end of which time she had a regular discharge of the catamenia, and during the increase of the last moon she had but one fit; her body increased in strength, and the disorder of her senses disappeared. I then thought proper to alter the former method, and to proceed in the cure as follows:

The fourth day before every new moon I order'd a purge of pil. ex. colocynth. c. aloe, and the seven following days she continued on the use of the electuary and soap draught as before directed, for eight months more; notwithstanding her fits entirely disappeared, and she seem'd perfectly well at the end of six months, from her first beginning the medicines order'd by me.

During the last eight months she bathed in the sea every day, and used moderate exercise as her strength of body would bear; which, with a regular diet of milk and light meats, restor'd her to her health and vigour; and she has remained very well ever since, which is about four years.

CHAPTER IV.

Of M A D N E S S.

PHYSICIANS generally distinguish two kinds of madness, and describe them both as a violent disorder of the mind, or as a delirium without a fever; but with this difference, that the one is attended with an anxiety and uneasiness of mind, sorrowfulness with silence, and an aversion towards the persons they live with; with a suspicion of designed snares laid for them. Some think themselves haunted with hobgoblins, others think themselves dead, and refuse their meat; sometimes they think themselves kings and prophets, and pretend to foretell things to come; some will sing and laugh, and talk ridiculous things, and are very peaceable; others will wander about in the night, and spend their time among the tombs and dormitories of the dead; and some think themselves cocks and hens, and various other ridiculous things: This species they call melancholy.

The other kind is attended with fury and boldness, all reason being laid aside; they rave, and have generally a great strength of muscles, an incredible wakefulness, a bearing of cold and hunger to a wonder; they sometimes endeavour to lay violent hands on themselves, and on others that
are

are around them; and when these violent symptoms abate, they are very sad, fearful, and cowardly: And this is the species they call mania.

But these two species differ only in degree, or according to the constitution of the patient; for melancholy very often changes into maniacal madness, especially when violent passions of the mind, as love, joy, fear, or superstitious religion, give rise to the disease; and when the fury is abated, the anxiety and sadness return with double vigour.

The proximate cause of this dreadful disease, is either a very pleasing or very disagreeable image or idea raised in the soul, which destroys the due equilibrium, and raises a tumultuous motion of the animal spirits, which soon overpowers the action of the sensorium commune, so that the nervous fluid cannot be equally distributed into the organs of sensation, but accumulates on the meninges of the brain, by which they are at first obstructed, and at last indurated; which must much alter and disturb its free oscillations, and the distribution of the spirits must be very irregular and disorder'd.

That this is the cause of this disease, is very plain from anatomical inspection; for on opening the bodies of those which died of this disease, nothing is found different from the bodies of sound persons, except an induration of the meninges of the brain, and a dryness and yellowness of its cortical substance. Thus

Thus joy, immoderate grief, hope, fear, desire, anger, love, and superstitious religion, very often give rise to this disease; as does a constant wakefulness, hard study long continued, or where there is an excessive intention of the mind, and the thoughts long fixed on any one object, even though it be of the pleasing kind: For such fixed thought, such intention of the mind, do very often pervert the rational faculties, especially when joined to some of the violent passions before described; for then the disorder rises to its greatest height.

But what is infinitely more surprizing is, that people labouring under this disease, do sometimes take it into their heads to torment and pain their bodies; some retain their urine till they are ready to burst; others cut or at least bite themselves, and refuse their food for several days, altho' ready to perish with hunger; others again think that this disease is an affliction from heaven on them, in punishment for their sins; and some there are who believe they are bewitched, and will even name the person they think has bewitched them; with many other such empty notions.

This disease sometimes goes off unexpectedly by a large flux of the menses, hæmorrhoids, or by the voiding of black viscid bile upwards or downwards, dysenteries, or with a violent cutaneous disease resembling a leprosy; tertian and quartan agues have sometimes cured this disease.

In

In the cure of this disease, we must first endeavour to bring into good order the nervous fluid ; which may be performed by withdrawing the mind from the image or idea which gave rise to the disease, and fixing it to others quite opposite to the same. Sometimes siding with them for some time in their foolish fancies, and gradually diverting their mind from them ; at other times opposing the same with all our force ; the former in the melancholy, and the latter in the maniacal species. Secondly, by administering such medicines as, in the melancholy species, will break and dissolve the viscosity and cohesions of the fluids ; especially the bile, which in this disease is at first acrid, but afterward becomes very viscid, and as black as pitch. And to promote the glandular secretions, which are very languid in this disease, as the attention the mind should have upon them is taken off with other kinds of objects and foolish imaginations. If a regular flux of the menses can be procured in this species, it generally proves a cure.

But when the disease is of the maniacal species, and bred in young strong people of a hot constitution, the fury of their blood must be allayed by proper evacuations, and cooling medicines ; afterwards proceed in both species alike, to brace up the fibres of the body, and give a due texture to the fluids.

Before we begin to give medicines in this disease, the patient's strength should be considered, and if his strength will not allow evacuations, which is the first step to be taken towards

wards the removal of this malady : We must first strengthen the body by a proper diet and medicines, before we can proceed to evacuations ; for when the humours are too much drained, a madness for the most part is succeeded by an incurable dejection of mind and foolishness.

When the patient has sufficient strength, proceed in the melancholy species as follows.

Apply on some cups with deep scarrifications to the neck and occiput, which repeat as you see occasion ; and the same evening exhibit the following emetic.

Take of the antimonial wine, and oxymel of squils, of each one ounce ; ipecacuanha wine half an ounce ; mix. For a vomit. To be taken about five o'clock in the afternoon.

Take of elder-flower water two ounces ; salt armoniac one scruple ; volatile salt of amber half a scruple ; tincture of black hellebore, and valerian volatile, of each one drachm and half ; sweet spirit of nitre fifty drops ; syrup of garlic half an ounce ; mix. For a draught. To be taken in the evening, after the vomit.

Afterwards,

Take of calomel prepar'd one scruple ; camphire half a scruple ; conserve of hips quantity sufficient ; mix. For a bolus. To be taken at night going to bed ; next morning early taking the following purging draught.

Take of infusion of fenna two ounces; tincture of black hellebore two drachms; tincture of hiera picra, and syrup of buckthorn, of each half an ounce; mix.

Repeat this bolus and purging draught once every seven days; and on the intermediate days take the following medicines.

Take of the simple bitter infusion one pound; antimonial wine four ounces; salt diuretic one ounce; mix. Take four spoonfuls three times a day.

Take of camphire (in spirit of wine dissolved) half a drachm; volatile salt of amber fifteen grains; musk (powder'd with white sugar) ten grains; juice of lemons six drachms; simple mint water two ounces; syrup of balsam half an ounce; mix. For a draught. To be taken at night, going to bed; drinking after it four ounces of warm water-gruel.

During the use of these medicines, the head should be shaved, and every night washed with vinegar; a seton should be put in the nape of the neck, and be dressed every day with a digestive ointment; the feet and legs should be well fomented with an aromatic fomentation, every evening and morning; and, if the case is very desperate, blisters should be applied to the arms or shoulders, and be kept running for some time. The diet should be very nourishing,

and easy of digestion ; for the body must be nourished properly to bear the necessary evacuations.

But when this disease is of the maniacal kind, and bred in strong youthful plethoric people, we must omit the foregoing internals, and proceed as follows.

Bleed immediately, either from the arms or jugulars, and repeat it so often as the case requires.

Take of calomel prepared one scruple ; conserve of red roses quantity sufficient ; mix. For a bolus. To be taken at night going to bed ; and next morning early take the following draught.

Take of infusion of fenna two ounces ; Glauber's purging salt one ounce ; mix ; and add tincture of hiera picra, syrup of buckthorn, of each half an ounce ; tincture of black hellebore two drachms ; mix.

Repeat this bolus and draught twice every seven days ; and on the intermediate days take the following medicines.

Take of the simple bitter infusion one pound ; salt nitre three drachms ; tincture of amber three ounces ; syrup of wild poppies one ounce and half ; mix. For a mixture. Take six spoonfuls, three or four times a day.

Continue

Continue on the use of these medicines, with the foregoing externals used as aforesaid, till his fury is allayed, and he is brought to his senses; afterwards order him the following opiates and alteratives.

Take of the simple bitter infusion one pound; extract of gentian half an ounce; antimonial wine three ounces; salt diuretic six drachms; syrup of orange peels one ounce and half; mix. Take six spoonfuls three times a day.

Take of camphire (in spirit of wine dissolved) fifteen grains; juice of lemons three drachms; mix, and add sweet spirit of nitre sixty drops, volatile salt of amber twelve grains; liquid laudanum twenty drops; simple mint water two ounces; syrup of wild poppies half an ounce; mix. For an anodine draught. To be taken every night, going to bed.

The medicines ordered in both species of this disease, should be continued for some time after all the symptoms of the disease have disappeared; afterwards a course of cold-bathing, and some stomatic bitters, will be very convenient, by bracing up the relax'd fibres, and giving a due texture to the blood and juices.

Bodily exercise of all kinds is of great service towards the cure of this disease, especially riding, and that long journeys; for by these the fabric of the body is strengthened, and the mind diverted by a change of objects.

Music, in the melancholy species, very often cures without any other means, especially if the patient had a musical genius, and the music is such as he formerly took delight in: But in both kinds it is of great advantage, as hath been often experienced.

Opiates do not procure rest in this disease, 'till the violent symptoms are abated, except given in a large dose, and then they are very pernicious; for if they should procure sleep, the patient very often starts out of it, with his head full of more terrifying ideas than before; and even in the decline they have been found to be pernicious, except join'd with some nervous medicines, or camphire, which in this disease is of singular service, by bringing on a perspiration, and causing rest when all other medicines have failed.

I shall close this chapter, with giving the history of a young gentleman, who unfortunately fell into this disorder, and was by my advice happily restored, and continues in a good state of health to this time, to the great satisfaction of all his friends and acquaintance.

A young gentleman, aged 23 years, of a swarthy complexion, and a very thin habit of body, who spent his time in close study and inactivity, was in the month of September, 1750, after some trouble of mind, seized with the melancholy species of this disease; which was attended with the

the most dreadful symptoms I ever heard that any poor mortal labour'd under.

He continued in this condition for ten months, notwithstanding many methods and medicines were tried for his relief; which, instead of relieving him, brought on the maniacal species at intervals, which was attended with a violent fury and blasphemy.

He often attempted to destroy both himself and others that attended him; and when the violence of his fury was abated, the melancholy symptoms returned with double vigour.

He sometimes fancied himself a pillar of clay, and would not move for fear of falling to pieces; at other times he fancied himself in hell amongst the damned spirits, and then his agonies were as much as any human being could bear.

He was in this deplorable condition, when I was called to visit him, and order'd him the following method of cure.

Cupping glasses with scarrifications were applied on immediately to his neck and occiput, and repeated three times, at proper intervals. The evening after the glasses were applied the first time, the following emetic was exhibited.

Take

Take of antimonial wine one ounce ; oxymel of squills, and ipecacuanha wine, of each half an ounce ; mix. For a vomiting draught. To be taken about five o'clock in the afternoon.

Take of elder-flower water two ounces and half ; salt armoniac one scruple ; volatile salt of amber half a scruple ; tincture of valerian three drachms ; sweet spirit of nitre sixty drops ; syrup of garlic three drachms ; mix. For a draught. To be taken at eight o'clock in the evening, after the vomit.

Afterwards,

Take of calomel prepar'd eighteen grains ; volatile salt of amber and camphire, of each seven grains ; conserve of red roses quantity sufficient ; mix. For a bolus. To be taken at night going to bed ; early next morning taking the following draught.

Take of infusion of fenna two ounces ; tincture of hiera picra, syrup of buckthorn, of each half an ounce ; mix.

Repeat this draught and bolus once every seven days, and on the intermediate days take the following medicines.

Take of simple mint water seven ounces ; tincture of valerian one ounce ; salt nitre two drachms ; antimonial
wine

wine two ounces ; fyrup of orange peels one ounce ; mix. Take fix spoonfuls, three times a day.

Take of camphire (in spirit of wine dissolved) half a drachm ; juice of lemons six drachms ; mix, and add musk, (powdered with white sugar) and salt volatile of amber, of each twelve grains ; simple mint water two ounces ; white sugar three drachms ; mix. For a draught. To be taken every night going to bed, drinking after it six ounces of warm baum tea.

During the use of these medicines, his head was shaved, and washed with vinegar, every night ; he had an issue cut in each arm, which were kept running all the time he was under this course ; his legs and thighs were fomented with an aromatic fomentation three times a day, and afterwards well rubbed with coarse rough cloths for half an hour. He had a proper person to chide him in his fury, and to comfort him in his melancholy, by diverting him with some amusements that he formerly took delight in, and ride out with him in a chaise on different roads, so that his mind might be fill'd with the ideas of the pleasing objects he had seen, and withdrawn from those horrid images which caused his disorder ; which, with the use of the foregoing medicines, in two months deliver'd him from those dreadful symptoms, and brought him to his senses.

After-

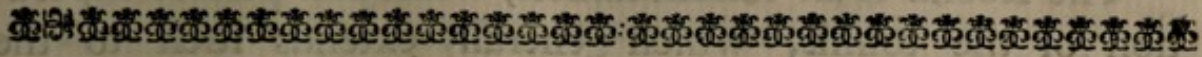
Afterwards a course of bathing in the salt water, join'd with the use of Dr. Huxham's quintessence of antimony, finished the cure.

The young gentleman has been very well ever since, but has not applied himself so close to his studies as before his illness.

I have used the quintessence of antimony, as described by Dr. Huxham, in this and various other disorders, and have proved it to be an exceeding good medicine, and worthy of the man that recommended it.



PORTICO



CHAPTER V.

Of the QUINCY.

A Patient is said to labour under this disease, when from an accumulation or acrimony of the fluids on the glands of the neck or fauces, the faculty of breathing and swallowing are very much hindered, and attended with great pain. Physicians have treated of various sorts of quincies; but there are four sorts which I shall take notice of, by pointing out the nature and method of cure of each sort. The first of these may be call'd the pituitose or watry quincy; the second the gangrenous quincy; the third the putrid quincy; and the fourth the convulsive quincy, or strangulation of the fauces.

In the first sort there is a swelling and distention of the glands of the mouth, palate, and neighbouring parts, occasion'd by whatever hinders the free egress of the lymphæ; as a weak circulation of the humours in general; any cold body applied to the extremities of those excretory ducts; or obstructed perspiration, (which is most frequently the cause,) and this in cold leucophlegmatic constitutions.

The second is an inflammation, without a perfect supuration of the tonsils, which generally extends itself to the larynx, pharynx, or hyoides, and its muscles, and to the superior parts of the windpipe, which swell and grow hard; and if not immediately relieved, a gangrene ensues, which is very often fatal. Whatever directs the cause of an inflammation to those parts, gives rise to this disease; as an obstruction of the perspiration of those parts in young plethoric constitutions, a frequent and strong exercise of those parts by oratory, singing, hallooing, hard riding in cold windy weather, the dryness of the jaws, from the reception and protrusion of the air in sultry weather, or inflammatory fevers.

The third is an inflammation and ulceration of the fauces, the uvula, tonsils, velum palatinum, and pharynx, attended with a putrid fever, delirium, a scarlet efflorescence, and sometimes petechiæ and purple spots all over the surface of the body. As the description of this putrid quincy is not frequently met with in physical authors, I shall here give a particular account of it, as it has raged in the southern and eastern parts of this kingdom, and the method of cure that have been found most successful for the same.

The attack of this disease was very different, according to the different textures of the body attacked. Sometimes the first symptoms complain'd of were a very painful stiffness of the neck, soreness of the throat, and difficulty of swallowing; at other times the sick was seized with a head-ach,
vertigo,

vertigo, alternate chills and heats, with some feverish symptoms. Others of a more plethoric constitution were attacked with a violent head-ach, great pain in the back and limbs, a great heat, vast oppression on the breast, and a perpetual sighing, with the eyes full of tears: Thus various was the attack of this disease.

Children and persons of a weak constitution, were generally seized with a purging and vomiting, sickness at stomach, pain and heaviness of the head, a hoarseness, and difficulty of swallowing; which were soon followed by a sudden weakness, oppression of the breast, and faintness. The pulse in plethoric persons, in the beginning, was strong and quick, but afterwards became small and fluttering. In children and persons of weak fibres, it was from the beginning small and quick, and sometimes intermitting. The urine in adults was high colour'd, and discharged in small quantities; in children it was pale and crude.

Six or eight hours after the attack of the disease, sometimes sooner, sometimes not before the second or third day, a violent eruption broke out on the surface of the body, which was sometimes of the erysipelalous kind, at other times more pustular, and generally of a deep fiery colour; and I observed for the most part, that in persons subject to scorbutic disorders, this was very often attended with purple spots. This eruption seldom failed of giving some relief to the patient, as to the oppression of the breast and faintness, vomiting, purging, pain in the limbs, and sickness at

stomach; yet it seldom relieved the load and pain of the head, fullness and soreness of the throat, which were rather increased with a swelling and inflammation. The fauces appear of a red, or rather a crimson colour; and several ulcers appear on the uvula, tonsils, velum palatinum, and pharynx, which are cover'd over with yellowish or ash colour'd sloughs.

The breath now begins to be very offensive, which increases daily, and at length becomes intolerable to all that are around them, and sometimes even to the patients themselves. The tongue is for the most part cover'd with a yellowish or ash-colour'd coat, although in the beginning it is white and moist.

At the approach of night all the symptoms become greatly aggravated; the skin of the sick becomes hot, dry, and rough; and there is rarely any disposition to sweat. The sick grows very restless; and in adults of a plethoric habit of body, a delirium comes on the very first or second night of the disease; and this aggravation of the symptoms and delirium constantly returns every evening through the whole course of the disorder.

The second or third day all the symptoms become much more aggravated; all the feverish symptoms, the difficulty of swallowing, the anxiety and oppression of the breast, are greatly increased; the head becomes very giddy and loaded; there is generally either a delirium, or a pervigilium
and

and a phrensy; although sometimes when the fever has not run very high, they lay very stupid and silent. There is a great heat and dryness in the surface of the body, but no disposition to sweat. The urine is now pale and crude, very often the colour of cow-milk whey. The ulcers are now much enlarged, and the surrounding parts begin to look livid; the quantity of the sloughs are very much increased, and of a dark colour. The voice of the patient becomes exceeding hoarse, and the breathing much more difficult.

About the fourth or fifth day they spit off a great quantity of purulent mucus, which is often tinged with blood; sometimes the matter is livid and very foetid. In some the nostrils are much inflamed and ulcerated, and discharge a very acrid matter.

About the sixth or seventh day, in young persons of a good constitution, the disease was at the height; in the more aged and weakly persons, the crisis was not 'till the tenth or eleventh day, and then very imperfect. When the crisis is perfect the sick generally falls into a gentle sweat, which continues some time, and in adults is very foetid. They have a plentiful expectoration, and discharge a large quantity of turbid, subsiding, farinaceous urine; and sometimes a large desquamation of the cuticle. But when the crisis is imperfect, the disease either falls on the lungs, and brings on a peripneumony, a troublesome cough, and purulent expectoration, which ends in a hectic; or on the bowels, and brings on an obstinate dysentery, or diarrhæa.

Whatsoever causes a dissolution and acrimony of the blood and humours, gives rise to this disease; as breathing the air that is replete with the vapours which arises from putrid bodies, using too great a quantity of alkalious salts, bad food, or foul liquors, or (which is for the most part the cause) a moist relaxed atmosphere, which not only relaxes the fibres of the body, but obstructs the perspirable matter; this matter, being the recrements of the fluids of the third stage of digestion, when suppress'd and not having a proper motion, grows very acrid, and corrupts the fluids in those minute vessels, and by degrees is absorbed into the blood vessels, where it acts on the blood as yeast does on beer, *i. e.* very soon brings on a fermentation, which must soon end in a dissolution and putrefaction of the whole mass of blood; and is certainly the cause of this disease.

The fourth is a convulsive motion of the nerves, which do move the organs and instruments of swallowing, or breathing, whereby the patient very often drops down dead suddenly. This disease is very often caused by the epilepsy, by hysterical and hypochondriacal diseases, or by a translocation of the morbid matter in acute diseases; and attacks such as are troubled with the cramp often, or such who from any accident have a luxation of the vertebræ of the neck.

The pituitose, or watry quincy, is seldom dangerous, when proper means are taken to remove it, and they timely applied. In the inflammatory quincy, when the windpipe only

only is affected, or its internal muscular membrane, (which is known by a tumour, heat, and pulsation on the part, and an acute fever) the voice grows shrill, hollow, hissing, and on breathing occasions acute pain; the pulse often intermitting, with great anguish, and a panting for breath. In this state the sick is in imminent danger, and if not speedily relieved, death soon closes the scene.

When the pharynx is solely affected in this disease (which may be known by an easy breathing, the swallowing difficult and very painful, the sick often throwing back thro' his nostrils whatever is offered to be swallowed down, or some of the same forced down into the windpipe, which causes a violent cough) the fever does not run high, but there is an exasperation and drying up of all the humours in the body for want of nourishment. This disease often ends in death, altho' it is for the most part of long continuance, even to the eighth or tenth day.

But if the tonsils, the uvula, its membranous depending cover, or its muscles are much inflamed, (which may be known by inspecting into the mouth) and is attended with a difficult breathing, which cannot be drawn through the nostrils, and whatever is attempted to be swallowed is turned back again to the mouth, because of the violent pain and streightness of the parts, a continual hauking and dropping of phlegm towards the cavities of the tonsils, an acute pain on the inside of the ear, with a crackling noise therein when the patient endeavours to swallow, this state is not so dangerous

dangerous as the former; altho' if speedy revulsion is not made, it often ends in a gangrene and death.

In the putrid quincy I generally observed an early and florid eruption, which was succeeded by a very large desquamation of the cuticle, and a gentle breathing sweat, to be very salutary. When on the third or fourth day the pulse became more calm and firm, the sloughs of the ulcers cast off in a kindly manner, and they appeared florid and clean, the eyes of the sick appeared more quick and lively, the breathing became more soft and free, and the sick fell into gentle easy sweats, all things went on in a prosperous way; and the crisis, which happened generally about the sixth or seventh day, was salutary, and attended with a large discharge of turbid farinaceous urine, a plentiful expectoration and a continual sweat, and the sick recovered very speedily. But when purple or black spots appeared, or the eruptions turned of a dark or livid colour, the urine grew pale and limpid, the face and neck became bloated, shining, and of a cadaverous look, with a singultus and choaking in the throat, and convulsions, death soon put an end to the tragical scene.

If at any time of the disease a rigor comes on, and the eruptions disappear, the skin becomes hot and dry, the breathing more difficult, the eyes heavy and dull, the pulse small, quick, and intermitting, the urine pale and limpid, with cold clammy sweats on the extremities, and a delirium, the patient is in great danger; and if not speedily relieved, must soon submit to death. The

The convulsive quincy, or strangulation of the fauces, is for the most part attended with sudden death; if ever they are curable it is when the disease is caused by a translocation of morbid matter on the parts, from acute diseases, then timely revulsion may sometimes be attended with success.

Every different species of this disease requires a different method of cure. In the pituitose or watry quincy, the cure is performable, first, by such things as resolve the obstructing causes, and evacuate the increased quantity of the lymph. —Secondly, by a warming and dry diet, abstinence from liquids as much as possible, and by such medicines as strengthen the texture of the blood.

If the constitution is plethoric, or an inflammation fear'd, bleed in the arm or foot; otherwise bleeding should be omitted, and the following cathartic exhibited.

Take of the best manna one ounce; infusion of fenna two ounces; mix, and add tincture of fenna half an ounce; mix. For a purging draught. To be taken in the morning.

Or if this is not practicable, empty the first passages by a clyster, and immediately apply on a large blister to the nape of the neck. During the use of these medicines, let the hot steam of a boiling mixture of vinegar and honey, be received into the throat thro' a funnel inverted, and the

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following;

following gargarism be thrown in on the parts affected with a syringe, four or five times a day.

Take of the common pectoral decoction eight ounces; tincture of myrrh half an ounce; white wine vinegar one ounce and half; mix. For a gargarism.

If this course does not succeed, apply on a large vesicatory under the chin, which shall extend from ear to ear, and let the sick take the following internals.

Take of salt of wormwood half a drachm; juice of lemons six drachms; mix, and add simple mint water one ounce and half; compound powder of contrayerva root half a drachm; syrup of balsam three drachms; mix. For a draught. To be taken every six hours.

The belly should be kept open with clysters, which should be exhibited every day of the disease, if the symptoms are violent: But if the disease still gains ground, notwithstanding the use of the foregoing medicines, we must scarrify the palate and parts affected pretty deep, that the matter of the disease may discharge itself that way; and these scarrifications are to be dress'd with honey of roses, mix'd with a small quantity of ægyptian honey, which, with the use of the foregoing medicines, seldom fails to cure this kind of quincy. After the disorder is removed, the sick should use a warm drying diet, and avoid as much as possible drinking any cold watry liquids, or any thing which
will

will cause a redundancy of cold watry humours in the body. When the symptoms do shew the inflammatory quincy to be present, we must instantly endeavour to cause a revulsion, by the most powerful remedies; therefore the patient should be immediately let blood in the arm and sublingual veins, which should be repeated so often 'till the strength of the remaining mass is not able to increase a-new the tumour, and stiffness of the vessels. A large blister should be applied to the nape of the neck, and the belly loosen'd immediately with a purging clyster, which must be repeated every day 'till the symptoms are abated. The vapour of water and vinegar, and honey of roses, should be received into the mouth very often in the day, thro' a funnel; and the following gargle used frequently.

Take of wood sorrel, agrimony, St. John's wort, and elder flowers, of each half a handful; fountain water two pounds; boil, and to eight ounces of the strain'd decoction add of honey of roses one ounce; oxymel of squils three drachms; mix.

The neck and jaws should be fomented with a fomentation made of emollient herbs and roots, three or four times a day, and afterwards anointed with the following liniment.

Take of the soap, and volatile liniment, of each one ounce; ointment of marsh-mallows six drachms; mix.

I 2 During

During the use of these external medicines, it will be necessary to use some internals, to allay the rarefaction and heat of the fluids; for which I have used the following with success, more especially if the patient is of a hot robust constitution.

Take of spermaceti (in a proper quantity of the yolk of an egg dissolved) one scruple; simple mint water two ounces; salt nitre twenty-five grains; syrup of lemon juice three drachms; mix. For a draught. To be taken every fourth hour.

The diet must be ordered of thin nourishing liquids, and rest indulged as much as possible. But when all these medicines have been omitted, or attempted in vain, the choaking from a cause situated higher than what will admit of cutting, the symptoms violent, but not yet turned into a gangrene of the parts, bronchotomy is to be immediately perform'd, as the only means left to save the life of the patient: The manner of performing this operation may be seen in most writers on physic and surgery, so that I think it needless to insert it here.

But in the putrid quincy we must pursue a different method of cure from those already mention'd, as all evacuations which weaken the patient are extremely dangerous.—In the beginning of this disease, if a sickness at stomach, nausea, or vomiting, are urgent, a gentle vomit of ipecacuanha should be given, (the quantity being varied according
to

to the age or strength of the patient) especially to adults; and this will seldom fail to be of great service, as it not only relieves the stomach, and carries off a great quantity of putrid humours, without weakening the patient, but it greatly relieves the pain of the throat; nay, it is serviceable even to children, as it discharges a great quantity of tenacious humours, which otherwise would go near to choak them; they should be puked with oxymel scillit, or some very gentle emetic.

When a diarrhæa attends the attack of this disease, we must immediately have recourse to the decoct. alb. with a few grains of rhubarb or the like, to check the flux, which otherwise would be extremely dangerous; or if the flux is very violent, give immediately decoctum fracastorii fullerii very frequently. But when the patient at the attack is very costive, and the intestines loaded, (as is frequently the cause in adults of a strong habit of body) a clyster of milk, sugar, and salt, should be injected, to unload the intestines, which otherwise in the course of the disease increases the fever, and brings on a delirium. Immediately after the use of these medicines, the sick should be put on the following course.

Take of bezoar mineral and mithridate, of each half a drachm; syrup of balsam quantity sufficient; mix. For a bolus. To be taken once every six hours, drinking after it the following draught.

Take

Take of salt of wormwood half a drachm ; juice of lemons six drachms ; mix, and add simple alexiterial water two ounces ; syrurp of quinces three drachms ; mix.

During the use of these medicines, the patient should drink freely of wine whey, barley water, water gruel, or the like, at proper intervals, to encourage the gentle sweating, which those medicines very rarely fail to promote. On the third day of the disease it will be necessary to add to the draught, tincture of the peruvian bark two drachms, and cochineal five grains ; for now it will be found highly necessary to give the bark, to strengthen the crasis of the blood, which will now be perceived to be dissolving, and tending to a state of putrefaction ; and as the bark, join'd with these diaphoretics, does not hinder the coming on of the sweats, which are salutary, if gentle and universal, at all times of the disorder, and seems rather to promote eruption of the exanthemata. On the sixth day, when the crisis was salutary, the urine grew more concocted, and forthwith deposited a large quantity of sediment, I then continued on the use of the aforesaid medicines 'till the crisis was performed. But if no signs of concoction appear'd, and all the symptoms increased, with the signs of the blood being dissolved, and become a putrid mass, the foregoing medicines should be omitted ; and immediately pursue the following course.

Take of simple mint water two ounces ; extract of the peruvian bark one drachm ; elixir of vitriol sixty drops ;
bezoar

bezoar mineral half a drachm; tincture of the peruvian bark two drachms; fyrup of orange peels three drachms; mix. For a draught. To be taken every four hours, drinking after it a glafs of red port wine.

I found this to be a very good diaphoretic in this cafe, especially when followed with a plentiful delution of wine whey, or the like, as it frequently greatly allayed the fymptoms, and brought on a gentle diaphoresis, and a violent itching, which lessen'd the fever; and shortly after the figns of concoction appear'd.

For the ulcers of the mouth it will be neceffary to order the hot steam of a boiling mixture of red rofe leaves, myrrh, camphire, and honey, boil'd in white wine vinegar, to be received into the throat thro' a funnel inverted, at least ten or fifteen times a day; and the following gargle to be injected into the ulcerated parts with a fyringe, very frequently.

Take of raifons of the fun, and flowers of red rofes, of each fix drachms; gum myrrh two drachms; honey two ounces; fountain water two pounds; boil, and to twenty ounces of the ftrain'd decoction, add of mucilage of quince feeds two ounces; oxymel of squils one ounce; mix.

Sometimes the fwelling of the neck, parotid glands, &c. will be very great and violent, fo as to endanger a fuffocation; in this cafe the parts fhould be fomented with an emollient

emollient fomentation, three or four times a day, and afterwards anointed with the volatile liniment; and if these do not remove the symptoms, apply on a large blister to the throat, which shall extend from ear to ear, and this will seldom fail of giving relief.

If at any time of the disease there is a great costiveness, with a tension and tumour of the belly, occasion'd by the wind and excrements being obstructed, the patient should immediately have a carminative clyster exhibited, to promote the discharge of stool and wind, and ease the bowels of their load. Very soon after the signs of concoction, or a beginning desquamation of the cuticle, appear, it will be necessary to order an easy cathartic, such as the following, to carry off the putrid humours which may be deposited on the primæ viæ, otherwise they may occasion feverish heats, want of appetite, great weakness, and obstructions of the glands.

Take of the best manna one ounce; water gruel two ounces; mix, and add of the powder of rhubarb and salt diuretic, of each one scruple; mix. For a purging draught. To be taken in the morning.

This purging draught should be repeated two or three times; afterwards a course of asses milk, and the following stomatic wine, will be necessary to strengthen the texture of the blood, and brace up the relax'd fibres.

Take

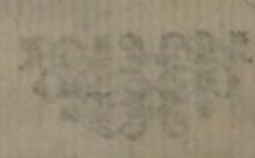
Take of the powder of peruvian bark one ounce and half; gentian root three drachms; zedoary and flowers of camomile of each two drachms; red port wine two pounds; infuse for four days, and strain off the wine: To every pound add of the powder of Rhubarb one drachm and half; of salt diuretic half an ounce; mix. Take four spoonfuls at eleven o'clock in the morning, and at four in the afternoon.

The convulsive quincy or strangulation of the fauces, when it is a symptom to other inflammatory disorders, or occasioned by a translocation of morbid matter on the parts, is sometimes curable; therefore we should immediately endeavour to make a revulsion of the matter, by bleeding, purging, blistering, diuretics, &c. But there is nothing can possibly give so immediate Relief in this disease, as cupping glasses applied to the hinder part of the neck, and a large blister plaister applied to the throat, which should extend from ear to ear; purging, bleeding, &c. being premised.

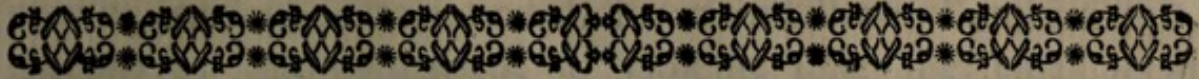


Take of the powder of peruvian bark one ounce and half,
gamboge root three drachms; xebony and flowers of cam-
brile of each two drachms; red rose wine two pounds; in-
fuse for four days, and strain off the wine: To every pound
add of the powder of Rhubarb one drachm and half; of
the diuretic half an ounce; mix. Take four spoonfuls at
eleven o'clock in the morning, and at four in the afternoon.

This corrective purgative or fluxion of the bowels,
when it is a symptom to other inflammatory disorders, is
occasioned by a translation of morbid matter on the parts
is sometimes curable; therefore we should immediately endeav-
our to make a revulsion of the matter, by bleeding, purging,
 blistering, diuretic, &c. But there is nothing can better give
the immediate Relief in this disease, as cupping glasses applied
to the hinder part of the neck, and a large blister ap-
plied to the throat, which should extend from ear to ear;
purging, bleeding, &c. being provided.



The nature of the disease is such, that it is necessary
to be treated in a particular manner, and the
remedy should be such, as to remove the
cause, and to restore the patient to health.



A DISSERTATION


ON THE

GOUT and RHEUMATISM.



CHAPTER I.

Of the G O U T.


THE gout is a painful illness, chiefly seated in and about the ligaments of the joints, the tendons of the muscles subservient to their motions, and the membranes surrounding the bones. It is an effort of nature to throw off a fiery acrid humour out of the body upon the joints, and is rather to be deemed a crisis of the disease than the disease itself; and when the acrimonious humour has fallen on these parts it irritates and frets them, which gives rise to an inflammation; and a painful tumour is formed

by the ouzing out of the thinnest part of the juices, out of the minutest ramifications of the arteries and nerves.

Pain is nature's instrument, and the more violent the pain is, the more speedily and safely she finishes her work; but when she performs her work more slowly, and protracts the tortures a long time, part of the extravasated humour, which could not perspire thro' the pores of the skin, is absorbed into the veins and lymphatics, while the most gross viscid part of it sticks to the membranes; and fresh quantities of it being lodged there every fit of the gout, it for the most part forms concretions, commonly called chalk-stones; which gradually stuffs the joints, and destroys their actions.

The gout generally attacks in the winter season, when the solids of the body are most rigid, and the perspiration least; and shews itself first by a crudity and indigestion at stomach for some days, and sometimes a week or two, attended with a windy pain, and uneasiness or lassitude all over the body. A few days before the fit appears in its true shape, the flatulency at stomach, and uneasiness upward, seems to move downward; and a heavy dull pain will be felt in the loins and thighs, with shiverings, and sometimes twitchings like the cramp. The day before the fit the appetite is greedier, but yet not natural. When the fit actually begins, it is for the most part two or three hours after falling asleep, when a sharp pain is felt about the great toe, the ankle, or instep; and the part seems as if water was pouring upon it; and soon after a shivering with feverish symptoms

symptoms comes on. The pain as the shivering goes off increases, and in a few hours it spreads itself among the tarsus, metatarsus, and ligaments, so violent, that the parts seem as if they were gnawn of dogs, or torn with pincers; and the patient feels a forceable constriction upon the parts. Thus, with the utmost torture, he is confined until the morbid matter is deposited upon the part, and it begins to swell; first with a redness, but afterwards with a whiteness; when the patient composes to rest, and the fit for that time ceases.

If the fibres of the part are very strong, and does not give way soon enough by swelling, and the gouty matter that is forced on the part, does not wholly settle or perspire, the patient endures the same torments the next night; and so on till the part is quite relaxed, and puffed up with gouty matter. As soon as the pain ceases and the patient falls to sleep, he commonly sweats, as at the close of an intermittent; the veins upon, and leading from the parts affected, seem very turgid, and so continues till the pain abates. A few days after the same shall be acted over-again in the opposite foot, for it very rarely comes on in two places at once; and then to the hands and the other joints, till the gouty matter is quite spent.

Of a series of these little fits, commonly called paroxysmi, is the one great fit or paroxysmus made; which includes the whole space of time from the patient's first seizure, to his entire recovery for that time.

Of

From a train of these little fits is the great fit continued ; in strong hale constitutions for about a month, or little more or less ; but in persons of an advanced age, or of a weak constitution, sometimes two or three months. The decline of the fit is not so violent as the beginning ; and now the parts that have been affected and most swelled, begin to itch grievously, and the cuticle peels off. The ligaments of the joints will be stiff and painful to move for some time, and seem if the bones grated one against another. For the first ten or fourteen days the urine is high coloured, which after separation lays down a red sandy sediment ; but the patient does not discharge by urine above one-third part of what he drinks. The belly for the most part is bound.

Thus far concerns the most regular course of this disease, which, in proportion to its complication with others, the difference of constitutions, the different ways of living, or its being disturbed with improper medicines, deviates more or less into irregularities, and all those different shapes which the learned Doctor Musgrave, and some other nice observers, have traced it through, but which would be too long to be inserted here ; and the best way to know this, or any other disease under irregular shapes, is to understand it in its regular and natural appearances.

The remote cause of this disease seems to be an indigestion of the mass of fluids, and a too great rigidity and toughness of the solids ; and that these are the cause of this disease, I think may be very plainly proved from the following reasons.

First,

First, Because those who are afflicted with it, are such as are advanced in years, or by living too free have strained their constitutions, and impaired their due stock of animal spirits by immoderate venereal pleasures, and a libidinous luxurious life.

Or, Secondly, They are such as have either through age, or idleness, abated of those due exercises which is requisite to maintain such warmth in the blood as is requisite to promote the glandular secretions, whereby the constitution is clogged with such humours as ought to have been excreted, and thrown out by some of the natural discharges.

Thirdly, It seizes such as are given to hard study and meditation, as nothing more wastes that stock of spirits, which is necessary to promote a true digestion and the glandular secretions, than study and meditation.

Fourthly, Because people which are subject to this disease are not only, when the fit is off, of a more greedy appetite than others, but are also subject to be costive; whereby both more is taken in than can be well digested, and of that which is not sufficiently digested, a greater quantity is carried into the blood, and most remote stages of circulation.

Fifthly, The gout seldom fails to attack those who have drank large quantities of spirituous or vinous liquids; which too strongly stimulating the coats of the stomach and intestines,

tines, at length renders them callous, and incapable of action; whereby the digestion is almost destroyed, and the body filled with hot acrid undigested juices. And as the fibres of the body are rendered more rigid and tough, by a long continued stimulus and old age, and the glandular secretions almost destroyed, they retain those acrid particles so long in the blood as to contract new qualities, so that they cannot pass the natural and ordinary strainers, but are lodged upon the joints, and there by their asperities and acrimony, prick and lacerate the fine membranes and ligaments, with the most exquisite sense of pain: And this determination of the indigested matter upon the joints, is sooner or later, oftener or seldomer, the remote cause of this disease.

Therefore, from what has been said, I think we may reasonably conclude, that the gout is a disease which proceeds from a weakness of the secretory ducts, and from the retention of some matter that ought to be excreted. But that we may be more fully instructed in this affair, I shall take a short survey of the whole course of circulation and digestion; and point out the several secretions nature has provided for the discharge of those particles which are not suited to the animal oeconomy, and the many hindrances those secretions are liable to, with the most immediate consequences resulting therefrom.

The whole scene of digestion and alteration of the fluids is divided into three parts; the first part is performed by
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the stomach and intestines, the second by the heart and arteries, and the third by the fibres.

And, first, the office of the stomach and intestines, commonly call'd the primæ viæ, are to break and dissolve the materials for nourishment, into a smallness sufficient to admit them to pass thro' the lacteal glands into the blood; and what is too gross to pass those fine vessels, after they are sent out of the stomach, is discharged quite out of the body by stool. Therefore the quantity which is finely dissolved and sent forward into the blood, is in proportion to the strength of this faculty, as is likewise the quantity to be discharged by stool; and of consequence, persons who have a strong robust constitution, discharge the least by this first evacuation; and those of a tender weak habit of body, most. A too astringent diet, and all the causes of a præternatural retention of the guts, will forward a great quantity of gross juices into the lacteal glands, which otherwise would escape them; and whatever keeps the body open, will lessen the quantity to be sent through these vessels, and not suffer any but the finest particles of the aliments to be sent that way.

Secondly, The office of the heart and arteries is to break and dissolve yet finer the particles of the fluids, to sanguify the whole mass, and render it fit for further secretions; and what cannot by them be broke fine enough to enter the lymphatic vessels, is strain'd off by the kidneys, and discharged by the urinary passages. And here we may

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repeat the same general rule as in the first digestion, that the stronger the contractions of the heart and arteries are, the more is sent forward into the lymphatic vessels; and the weaker they are, the greater is the quantity discharged through the urinary passages. Therefore this faculty is most strong in persons of a strong constitution, and most languid in those of a weak one; and of consequence, strong people make less urine than weak ones, and send forward a greater quantity of juices into the lymphatic vessels. Præternatural causes may herein likewise occasion deviations from the common standard, and a too great contraction of the urinary passages, send forward a gross stock of fluids into the lymphatic vessels; whereas a too great relaxation of them, will much decrease the quantity of this supply, and by discharging off all the grosser particles, make what passes into the lymphatic vessels much more finer than otherwise it would be. But here we must observe, that when the first passages are faulty from too great restriction, they are naturally amended by the urinary passages, because the too gross particles of the aliments, which by that means are drove into the blood, find a passage out at the kidneys, otherwise they are thrown on the viscera and glands; whereby they give rise to various diseases, as obstructions, indurations, and tumours of various kinds and consequences; and hence arises the various diseases of the liver, kidneys, and all glandular diseases; sometimes they are of one kind, sometimes of another, according to the nature of the parts this gross humour is thrown on.

Thirdly,

Thirdly, The office of the fibres, which indeed gives the more complicated organs their due force and power, is to keep the whole mass of fluids, which is beyond the arteries, or what is call'd blood, in a proper degree of motion; and by their vibrations, undulations, and concussions, to digest it farther into the most minute particles, 'till it is even past all other purposes of the animal œconomy, and is evacuated thro' the pores of the skin, by sweat, or insensible perspiration, for the recrements of this last digestion have no other excretion. And in proportion to the elasticity of the fibres, and the motions which they are assisted with by animal action, is the quantity which transpires thro' the pores of the skin in insensible steam, increased or diminished: Therefore what cannot get thro' this way, and is not added to the substance of the parts as nourishment, must be either re-absorbed by the refluent blood, and thrown off by the larger outlets of the body, or it will load the fibres of the body with viscid or rigid particles: And according to the nature of this matter, and the parts it lodge upon, there will be occasion'd obstructions, tumours, and pains, with the whole tribe of those diseases commonly call'd nervous. Therefore through these three different stages of digestion and alteration, does every thing which is taken into the body pass, before it is discharged out of it again, excepting what runs off by the first and second emunctories. And as we are fully convinced that what gets into the third stage of digestion and alteration, is by much the greater quantity of what is taken in, as is evident from the quantities which are expended by each of those emunctories; so that it is a matter

of the utmost moment for us to know how the affairs of the animal œconomy are conducted therein.

The diseases of the first go not beyond the primæ viæ, and lie so near the reach of medicines, that there is but few diseases in these passages, but what is curable if taken in time: Nay, even the diseases of the second may be cured with some certainty, if timely application be made, altho' they require somewhat more of art, and application to be come at, because they are more remote; and besides the assistances of medicine, admit of great influences from motion, concussion, and such like means. But the diseases of the third and last stage of digestion, are very difficult of cure, and require the utmost skill to send a medicine to touch them, with any tolerable certainty of effect, considering the many minute passages it is to pass thro' before it can get so far. External medicines and exercises seem most proper for the removing this tribe of diseases. Whatever medicines are given internally in the diseases of the third stage of digestion or concoction, they should be such as are very fine and volatile, and their particles of matter very easy to be separated.

I have drawn up this short view of the animal œconomy, as I thought it might be very proper for the illustration of this dissertation on the gout, to point out the seat of this disorder, and the nature of the offending humour.

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Therefore, that the gout proceeds from a gross undigested humour, which gets into the last stage of digestion and alteration, I think has been plainly shewn.

Next we should proceed to enquire into the nature and quality of this humour; and I think we may, without any hesitation, conclude it to be such as approach near to saline, of the nature of tartar, and not much unlike that which forms itself into concretions in the urinary passages; this being by the force of the circulation thrown into the lymphatic vessels, or minute canals of the body, where meeting with a great resistance, it is collected in quantity, and coalesces into more gross corpuscles: Therefore whatsoever the gouty matter is supplied with in meats and drinks, the greatest quantity of it will necessarily be carried into the third or last stage of digestion or circulation, in those persons of a strong constitution, as hath been shewn before; and therein it will be more or less detain'd, in proportion to the strength of the digestive faculties; which very clearly points out to us the reasons, both why persons of the strongest fibres are most subject to this disease, and why in them it comes not 'till their fibres begin to grow rigid and inactive, by the decline of life; for 'till then their fibres are strong enough to digest this matter into a fineness sufficient for perspiration. But as soon as this strength abates, and perspiration is hindered by any means, presently they are attacked with this disorder. Persons of a more weak and lax constitution, have not strength enough to throw this

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gross undigested matter into the last stage of digestion, but lets it pass off by stool or the urinary passages.

And as I intend to prove this to be the cause of the gout in the clearest manner possible, I think it will be convenient to observe, that those decays of nature, which take their rise only from natural causes, and those circumstances which from the conditions of its existence subjects it to wear out, are soonest manifest in the last degree of circulation, where we find the seat of this disease; for the very same reasons, and in the same manner, as the branches and extreme parts of all kinds of vegetables, by age first dry and wither.

Those parts of the human body which are by nature most fine and thin, must first decay, and a gross undigested matter, by the strength of the circulation, will be forced on those parts, which are not by nature designed for its reception. But when any person by a debauched course of life, great intemperance, &c. greatly weakens, or almost destroys the offices of the first digestion, there will be made an accumulation of gross undigested matter in the first passages, because nature is rendered unable to carry it further in the body; whence the scene is changed; and, instead of the gout, and the diseases of the third stage of digestion, comes on the jaundice, obstructions of the liver, a dropfy, consumption, cachexy, asthma, and the like. But having gone thus far to point out the causes of the gout, let us follow the description of a fit of the gout thro' all its stages; and

and see what affinity there is between the causes here assigned, and the effects.

The gout for the most part attacks people in the winter season, because by the cold weather the solids of the body are rendered more rigid, and the perspirable matter greatly decreased, as may be demonstrated very plainly by statical experiments.

The exact time of the gout's attack cannot be ascertained; but this rule seems to be good in general, that the stronger the constitutions, the longer they resist the disease in these seasons; which to me seems to be owing to the strength of their digestive powers, which will not suffer the gouty matter to stop and accumulate in quantity sufficient to make a fit, as soon as those whose digestive powers are weaker. Why the fit begins in the middle of the night, and after some sleep, is, because the solids of the body are in their natural relaxed state, and the progressive motion of those juices with which the gouty matter is joined, is most forwarded at that time, and there is the least interruption to its natural tendency and inclination, whereby it attracts and shoots into more gross corpuscles, and accumulates in quantities upon the fine tender vessels, and ligaments of the joints, as those minute vessels stop its progress, and become the seat of the disease. And the like accerbatation of all diseases, which owe their rise to a fault of the third stage of digestion, we experience at those times, and I verily believe for the same reasons; because let the peccant matter be of
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what kind it will, and the disorders occasioned by it never so various, yet, as long as it flows with this fluid, it cannot but be most accumulated when this is most separated. The accerbations of the pain, and all the attendants of the fit itself, are also easily reconciled with this theory.

The exquisite sense of pain cannot be a wonder to any person who considers the tenderness of those minute vessels, and the sharpness and acrimony of this humour. The restriction of the parts must also arise from the rarefaction and extension of the contained humours, and the resistance of the containing parts; all which symptoms continue, 'till at length the fibres of the part relax, and stretch enough to hold the accumulated matter without any uneasiness; when the fit ceases, and the tumour continues; at first red and fiery, but as the acrimony of the humours and irritation of the parts decreases, growing paler and receiving an impression made upon it.

But, if before things be brought to this issue, sleep procures a truce, the continuance of the shivering, and a little fever, will at length break and dissolve a great deal of this gross matter, so as to enable it to pass thro' the pores of the skin, and the patient will fall into rest and a breathing sweat, as is natural at the close of every fit of this disease.

But if the fibres of the part are not sufficiently relaxed and stretched, and this gross matter continues yet in quantity
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upon it, after some interval of time the same will happen over again; and so on, 'till the parts are so much relaxed and distended, and the matter so far digested, that what cannot transpire quite thro' the skin, is again reabsorbed by the refluent blood, and either evacuated through the urinary passages, or deposited with some more of the same kind, upon some other part, where the same scene will be acted over again; and so on, 'till the peccant matter is wholly discharged from the body.

Towards the decline of the great fit, these little fits grow milder and shorter, because every one lessens the quantity of the gouty matter, by one or the other of the already mentioned outlets; and the more severe these fits are, the sooner they are over; because in proportion to the degree of pain is the gouty matter reacted upon by the contractile force of the fibres of the containing parts, and thereby is more of this gross matter broke fine enough to pass through the pores of the skin. Whereas, when the fit is slow and languid, most of this matter is reabsorbed by the refluent blood, and brought back again to circulate with the mass of fluids, where it will soon renew again the former symptoms, and greatly lengthen out the time of decumbiture.

At the beginning of the fit the urine is very high coloured, by its being replete with this matter, which, in its grossest combinations, very much resembles the red sediment the urine often deposites; and such a sediment does it discover

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in the decline of the fit, by the quantities the blood brings back from the afflicted parts.

The most volatile and subtle parts of this matter perspiring thro' the skin, in the breathings at the close of every little fit, leaves the remaining mass more gross, and at length rendered incapable of expulsion by any other outlet than the urinary passages; therefore from thence we may see that there must be more or less of this found in the urine, 'till the whole of it is quite washed off.

Why persons which have had a severe fit of the gout, continue the longest free of it, is very plain; because the more the body has been cleared of this gross matter, the longer it will require to be overcharged with it again; besides they are most commonly the attendants of persons of the strongest fibres; and from what we have already observed, it will plainly appear how such will always have the most severe fits, and the longest intervals.

That a fit of the gout removes a great many other complaints the body has been subject to, is, because this seems to clear and depurate the nervous fluid, and all the fluids that lie in the third stage of digestion or alteration, as a fever does the blood, and all the fluids of the second stage. It is the gross undigested matter which makes the gout, (before it is formed into regular fits) that is the cause of all the diseases of the third or last stage of digestion; but when it is formed into regular fits, these fits occasion such concussion

cussion and motion, in the whole nervous system, as, with the gouty matter, to occasion also the expulsion of a great deal that is the parent of other mischiefs, and which cannot well be got any otherwise rid of, but by the means here described of the gout, which alter and fit them for expulsion.

But as this is of the utmost importance to a clear understanding of this disease, and particularly with relation to its cure, I shall endeavour as much as possible to point out the changes that the fluids of the third stage are liable to, and draw inferences therefrom. And I shall first observe, that all which gets beyond the blood's circulation, and is not assimilated into nourishment, or converted into perspirable matter, must lay a load upon the fibres, and greatly weaken their contractions and vibrations; and, according to the properties of this retained matter, and the parts it is accumulated upon, will the disease, by this means occasioned, be distinguished.

This retained matter will be for the most part of that gross saline kind, which I have here assigned as the cause of the gout, because the more oily and specifically lighter particles are so fitted for adhesion and assimilation, to those fine vessels through which they pass, that they cannot but be for the most part taken up into nourishment; and these more rigid and saline particles seem to me to have no other use, but to act as so many spurs to these tender vessels, and to preserve the capacities of their tubes, which otherwise would be very apt to close. When therefore these parti-

cles of matter are too much in quantity, or too hastily supplied, or when the digestive powers are so weak that they cannot break them fine enough for perspiration, the fibres of the solids are loaded with an over proportion; whereby, instead of enabling them to keep on their natural vibrations and undulations, they are strongly stimulated, convulsed, and stretched.

Hence arises head-achs, vertigos, palsies, apoplexies, and all the diseases accidental to the third stage of digestion and alteration, commonly called nervous. And as there is no getting rid of these diseases, but by increasing the strength of the digestive powers, to break and dissolve this matter fine enough to pass thro' the skin, or by sheathing the points of its acrid particles, by an over-proportioned supply of oily or lubricating juices, or by reabsorbing it back again into the mass of blood, or drawing it upon some particular parts to facilitate the former intentions.

Therefore, whatever most conduces to answer these ends, must effectually remove all the forementioned class of disorders; and any person who is well acquainted with the animal œconomy, will plainly see how much more agreeable, and suitable to the course of nature, is the accumulation of this gross acrid matter upon particular parts, than any other way that can be thought of for its discharge. This way being the most ready to hasten its discharge through the skin, or its re-assumption by the blood; therefore, as a legitimate gout is this accumulation of gross acrid matter upon

upon particular parts, it is certainly the best removal of all those diseases of the third stage of digestion; and I think may be more properly called a crisis of a disease, than a disease itself. And that there should pass into the third or last stage of digestion, or alteration, such a large quantity of acrid undigested matter, to be the cause of all these diseases, as is by this theory supposed, will not be thought unlikely by any person who considers the great quantities of our aliments that are carried into the third stage of digestion.

The learned *Sanctorious* has very plainly proved, from statical experiments, that five parts in eight of all our aliments go this way; and as all that passes off through the pores of the skin must more or less take its course through the last stage of digestion, so is such a proportion of acrid matter more likely to be deposited in these parts than in any of the former.

But I shall likewise here take notice, that not only all the symptoms of the diseases which take their rise from the third stage of digestion, are relieved and disappear after a fit of the gout, because it has been their crisis; but also the reason why arthritic and nephritic symptoms are so near akin, and frequently happen together, is because the matter which gives rise to them both is of the same kind; the same which forms concretions in the urinary passages, by a greater force of digestion in stronger constitutions, is sometimes subtilized into more minute and volatile particles, as I have proved

proved before, and accumulated in the fine minute vessels in the course of the gout; and this same matter, when lodged upon the joints, is very often reassumed by the reflux blood, and wash'd off thro' the urinary passages.

That persons of a very strong constitution very often change the gravel into the gout, and that a fit of the gout makes fresh matter for the gravel, (but in less quantities, because a great part of it passes off thro' the pores of the skin) I think has been plainly proved: And as the causes are, which promote or retard digestion and forward this matter into the remote parts, so is this interchange or concurrence of arthritic and nephritic symptoms more or less frequent, and their aggravations or remissions determined.

The rich and most wealthy people are generally most troubled with this disease, because their manner of living most subjects them to it on many accounts. They, by their laziness and inactivity, greatly weaken the springs of the solids, and the powers of digestion, so far in a good constitution, as to cause an accumulation of undigested matter in the capillary vessels, as hath been proved before; and when they continue in such indulgencies for some time, it so relaxes and destroys the constitution, that it cannot carry this redundant load so far, but fills all the first stages of digestion with an overload; and at last they are obliged to cease from all vital action.

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But the neglect of the natural exercises which are required to brace the solids of the body, and strengthen the digestive powers, is not more mischievous than the exercises with which those people are delighted, viz. immoderate venereal pleasures, intense study, and drinking large quantities of spirituous and vinous liquids; for as the natural exercises, as riding, walking, and the like, give a due firmness and strength to all the solids, so those, their delightful exercises, which partially affect the nervous system, and chiefly in their origin, do by that means overstrain and weaken their springs, and make the digestive powers particularly weak in the last stages of it.

And it is in every one's experience how much luxurious living incites to venereal pleasures, and all the other intense exertions of the chief springs of life. And as the healthy exercises already mentioned, shake the whole mass of fluids, and greatly promote all the glandular secretions, so this ties the fibres in such a state of tension, that the fluids, which are kept in due motion by their vibrations, are not only retarded and ill digested, but the fibres themselves will be greatly weakened and relaxed.

Drinking too great a quantity of spirituous or vinous liquors, not only too strongly stimulates, and greatly overstrains the nervous system, but sends into the body such quantities of a fluid that is replete with acrid particles, that much sooner accumulates the material cause of this disease, in quantity sufficient to bring on a fit.

Likewise

Likewise the qualities of the aliments with which the rich is nourished, are very little less mischievous than the last mentioned; for their high sauces and pickles are full of these acrid and saline particles here complained of; and their favourite French wines are particularly loaded with it; for the tartarous particles of these wines so nearly resemble it, as any one thing in the world can possibly do; and every one knows what a quantity of tartar is in those small rough wines.

Persons who have large heads, or were subject when young to that disease commonly call'd the rickets, are very subject to this disease; for the rickets arise from an over quantity of such particles separated with the nutritive juices, as are hard and rigid, which therefore either indurate upon the glands of the joints, and harden and knot them, or thrust into the bones themselves, with such an inequality of distribution, as to make them crooked and deformed. It may likewise be observed, that children subject to the rickets are remarkable for liveliness of mind, and capacity of thinking much beyond others of their age, as may be observed in adults that have the gout; which shews us that there is something common in the cause of both these diseases. And that large heads have a great share in promoting and adding to the cause of both these diseases, is natural to think; because the larger the brain is, not only the quantity of juices separated by it is likely to be greater, but is probably also much more grosser in quality, and have in it much more of those particles that are assigned to be the cause of both these disorders.

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Why a great strength of fibres is necessary for the formation of this disease, as I have so often asserted, is a reason also why the female sex are seldom troubled with it, as their fibres are much more weak and lax than the men's, and thereby unable to break and dissolve this matter fine enough to enter the third stage of digestion; and likewise their manner of living is very different, and does not so subject them to it. And that this is the true reason is most certain, because those few of that sex which happen to be of a strong masculine constitution, and are addicted to an excess in living, and particularly in the use of those liquors which are known to conduce to its cause, are as certainly subject to it as the men are, and are sometimes severely handled by it.

Why the gout in the female sex is frequently ushered in by the rheumatism and hysterical affections, is because those disorders arise from the same matter as the gout, which is very much confirmed by a fit of the gout entirely removing them.

The languidness and irregularity of this disease when it attacks people of a weak constitution, or comes not 'till old age, is from the weakness of the fibres and digestions, which then are not able to throw off the matter on the extreme parts to form more stated and sharp fits. Its irregularities also at the first seizure of young persons, must be from the strength of their fibres, which give a very great resistance to the gouty matter, and hinder it from settling upon particular parts.

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Those persons that it visits in their younger years, have it generally very sharp and severe ; because that their digestive powers in the third stage of digestion are very much decayed by irregularities in the non-naturals, while those of the first stages of digestion are yet strong enough to throw off all this acrid matter upon them ; and if those persons are accustomed to drink large quantities of those wines which abound much with tartarous particles, or acrid spirituous liquors, they cannot but be frequently afflicted with this disease, because the matter will always be carried into the third stage of digestion ; and by the defect of the powers of digestion therein, will be continually adding to the immediate cause of the gout.

From what has been already said, any person may plainly perceive, that what has been already advanced is the true cause of the gout ; and likewise how particular accidents and interruptions will occasion deviations therefrom, and cause this same acrid matter which I have asserted to be the cause of the gout, to fix on other parts, and to produce very different symptoms, and require a very different method for their relief.

For instance, whatsoever can occasion a derivation of this matter upon the brain, the chief organ of life will immediately be affected, and a disorder will ensue, which will be greater or lesser in all those faculties to which that momentous organ contributes. In the breast or any of its parts it causes a contraction of the vessels, and produces all the
 symptoms

symptoms of a nervous asthma. In the stomach and bowels it occasions cholics, and various other diseases, according to the particular part it affects. In the liver it occasions schirrhosities, and glandular obstructions; and in the other viscera such diseases as arise from the depravation, and perversion of their natural functions.

But while this acrid matter hangs upon the fibres in general, it occasions wandering pains, cramps, convulsions, hypochondriacal and hysterical affections, and various other diseases, as may be seen in that excellent treatise upon this subject, written by the learned Dr. Musgrave. And that these diseases arise from the same acrid undigested matter as the gout does is very obvious, for a smart fit of the gout entirely removes them all, as every gouty person can testify. Nay, there are some people which are under an absolute necessity of having this disease; for whenever there is a weakness of the constitution, and a great quantity of this acrid matter accumulated upon the fibres of the third stage of digestion, there will arise a train of very bad diseases, except this matter can be formed into a fit of the gout, which very seldom fails of entirely removing those stubborn diseases, when medicines have been used in vain.

Having gone thus far in pointing out the cause of the gout, we shall in the next place consider this disease with relation to its cure; and herein the foregoing theory directs us to be very cautious in what is to be done with regard to the cure of this disease. For if we consider it as a critical

discharge of an undigested matter upon the extreme parts, and the only means nature has found to get rid of her burthen, we should not endeavour to hinder these salutary operations, but endeavour to promote them as much as possible.

Every gouty person, before a fit of this disease, finds himself much disordered; and if the fibres of the body are very much weakened, or, thro' ill management, this acrid matter is not thrown off on the extreme parts, certainly it must be followed with much more dangerous and stubborn diseases.

In the foregoing theory, I have considered the gout not as a disease which we should be very sollicitous to cure, but as a salutary crisis which we should endeavour to promote, as it is the only means nature has found to relieve herself of much greater evils. Whenever there is an accumulation of this saline acrid matter in the body, and nature is not able to carry it beyond the first stage of digestion, it must be evacuated by stool; and when carried to the second stage, it must be evacuated by the urinary passages; but when there is strength enough to throw it off on the capillary vessels, there is then no way to discharge it but by perspiration; and if that fails, it will soon destroy the vessels of this stage of digestion, and gather upon the chief organs, so as to hinder their operations, and shortly close the scene with death; unless there is strength enough to throw off this matter upon the extreme parts, in the form of a fit of the gout.

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Therefore, when we consider how salutary this critical discharge must be, we should endeavour by medicine to forward and procure this salutary altho' painful crisis, rather than to prevent or retard it. When therefore a fit of the gout is forming, as may be known by preceding symptoms, or is already formed, to pretend to cure it is shewing a great deal of ignorance and villany, as it is quite destroying the salutary operations of nature; and except the patient has a very great strength of fibres, this pretended cure must end in death. Therefore I would advise all persons, subject to this disease, never to credit those villains which pretend to cure it by their nostrums and panaceas; but treat them as so many wretches and robbers, without the reach of our laws.

All that can be done in this disease, is, first, to promote ease, and the expulsion of the matter in the present fit; secondly, to shorten the approaching fit; and, thirdly, to prevent the reaccumulation of this acrid undigested matter, in the body, as much as possible. Therefore, when there is a fit present, we must endeavour to enable the great organs of life to throw this matter off on some of the extreme parts, to encourage its settlement there, and to ease their pain as much as possible can be done with safety; to draw off by perspiration as much as can be of the matter, and to dilute and get the remainder back with the reflux blood, and thence discharge it off by stool, or the urinary passages, quite out of the body.

For to strengthen the stomach and bowels, and all the great organs of digestion ; to forward the matter upon the extreme parts ; and to help the expulsion of it by perspiration, when there ; I know of no better method than the following.

Take of camphire five grains ; bezoar mineral half a drachm ; cordial confection two scruples ; conserve of roman wormwood quantity sufficient ; mix. For a bolus. To be taken every six hours, drinking after it four spoonfuls of the following mixture.

Take of simple mint and piper mint waters, of each three ounces ; tincture stomatic half an ounce ; volatile salt of amber two scruples ; syrup of orange peels one ounce ; mix.

In the intervals of time between each dose of these medicines, if the patient finds a pain or sickness at stomach, or in the bowels, or about the breast, and a pricking pain in his head, or any other symptoms which threaten danger to those parts, I would advise a glass of genuine madera wine to be taken every hour, or half hour. But if the reachings to vomit and pain at stomach are very frequent, as is very often the cause, great care must be taken not to encourage any vomiting, for fear of causing a revulsion of the gouty matter from the extreme parts, and bringing it into the stomach, or on any of the great organs of life : Neither should any cathartic medicine be exhibited while the matter is in
fusion,

fusion, nor any other means used that may possibly retard its natural progress towards the extreme parts, lest the matter be brought back again upon the nobler parts, to the great detriment of the patient; but the foregoing stomatics and diaphoretics should be given every third or fourth hour, instead of every sixth hour; neither should the madera be forgotten, which in these cases will be found of very great service.

If the patient be young and plethoric, and the forming tumour be attended with excessive sharp pain, fever, and delirium, it will be necessary to bleed, and that in the foot; for bleeding will not only lessen the pain, but likewise happily promote the issue of the humour; but except there is urgent necessity, bleeding is to be omitted, as this pain is highly necessary for tumefying the part, and therefore ought to be borne with patience.

To forward the settlement of the gouty matter on the extreme parts, it will be necessary, besides the use of the forementioned medicines, to order topical medicines to the parts where the matter is gathering, or most desired to be had; these topicks should be such as gently warm, relax, and soften these parts, as ungt. dialthæa, martiatum, or the like. But when matter is accumulating upon any of the extreme parts, and from the strength and rigidity of the fibres is attended with vehement pain, warm emollients thereupon will be of great service, by abating the tension and straitness of the parts, and hastening the accumulation of the
gouty

gouty matter ; for which nothing answers better than to bathe the parts in warm water, or to expose them to the steam of hot liquids, and afterwards well anointing the parts with *axungia viperinæ* ; let this be repeated three or four times a day, and the parts be wrapt up in warm flannels. Perhaps some will object to this medicine, and think it absurd, because it is not in common practice ; but if those people will but give themselves the trouble to use it, they will soon find it is one of the best medicines in nature in this case ; its great service in the bite of the animal from which it is taken, should, I think, plainly shew us its subtilty and power in sheathing volatile saline particles, and is thereby enabled to follow those minute instruments, where grosser substances would not touch them : Therefore, in the case before us, when the tender vessels of the joints are crowded with a subtle volatile kind of salt, which wounds and irritates the fibres, no medicine in the world is more proper to sheath their asperities, and to help them out by perspiration.

When the fit appears to be at the height, and the matter duly accumulated upon the extreme parts, the danger of making a revulsion of the gouty matter will not be so great ; therefore, if the pain is violent, we may venture to give an opiate, if well guarded with cardiacs, diaphoretics, and diuretics ; and if these be duly proportioned, and given at proper intervals of time, they will not stagnate, nor cause a revulsion of the offending matter, as some have thought, but will better secure its settlement where it began to lodge ;
for

for exquisite pain, and all stimulus, for the most part, raise so much of a fever, and quicken the motion of the fluids, that morbid humours do not separate so readily; therefore in all these cases, a small composition will greatly assist nature in her operations, and likewise sustain the patient in those extreme torments, which, without this aid, human nature could not bear. But if, by our endeavours to procure some ease and quicken the termination of the fit, there be any mischief approaching, (which may be known by a straitness, pain at stomach, and a head-ach) we must immediately give off taking any kind of opiates, and proceed to the use of cardiacs, and nervous medicines, which will keep the gouty matter in the extreme parts. But when the intenseness of the pain puts the patient beyond all further patience, and there is no danger of the translation of the gouty matter from the extreme parts of the stomach, I think it the duty of every practitioner to procure ease to the miserable patient as much as possible. I generally order the opiate as follows.

Take of mithridate one drachm; bezoar mineral half a drachm; philon. lond. one scruple; cochineal and camphire, of each six grains; syrup of balsam quantity sufficient; mix. For a bolus. To be taken after every severe fit of pain; drinking after it the following draught.

Take of simple mint water two ounces; volatile salt of amber fifteen grains; tincture of the aromatic species thirty
 O drops;

drops ; spirituous water of orange peels half an ounce ; syrup of balsam three drachms ; mix.

After the gouty matter is got into the extreme parts, and its acrid stimulating particles in some measure sheath'd, great care must be taken to assist nature to breath out this morbid matter thro' the pores of the skin ; and what cannot be discharged that way, to discharge it thro' the urinary passages, as hath been before observed. Therefore, if the fibres of the parts are very tense and firm, and the patient young, emollients should be applied to the parts, to take off their tensity and hardness ; otherwise, instead of breathing out this morbid matter, the tension of the fibres will be the only means of keeping it in ; in these cases I have often order'd the following cataplasm, with very good success.

Take of raifons of the sun ston'd six drachms ; lilly roots, boil'd to a pulp, half an ounce ; powder of fœnugreek seed one ounce ; ointment of marshmallows one ounce and half ; oil of camomile half an ounce ; mix. For a cataplasm. To be applied to the affected part.

But when the fibres are much relax'd, and the constitution inclines to corpulency and vicidity, a gentle stimulus may be used to better advantage, as the following.

Take of figs, boil'd to a pulp, one ounce and half ; black soap six drachms ; honey two ounces and half ; powder

der of fœnugreek seed and aniseed, of each half an ounce; of the soldier's ointment one ounce; mix. For a cataplasm. To be applied as before.

Or the following fomentation may sometimes be used to advantage, by fomenting the parts with it three or four times a day, and afterwards applying the ingredients of the fomentation to the parts.

Take of St. John's wort, camomile flowers, elder leaves, of each one handful; bay-berries and juniper-berries, bruised, of each one ounce; boil, in a sufficient quantity of water, to three pounds; strain, and add of camphorated spirit of wine two ounces; mix. For a fomentation. To be used as before predicted.

If the constitution be very gross and phlegmatic, and the critical discharge of the gouty humour is very imperfect, and mixed with phlegmatic humours of quite a different nature, which rather stuff and distend the vessels, than stimulate them by its acrimony; in this case gentle friction may be likewise used, to encourage the dislodgement and extirpation of the morbid humours.

After the pain abates, and the parts cease to swell, we may conclude that the short fit is in its decline, and now requires the greatest skill and attention; for, if, by our too free use of medicines, we disturb the gouty humour in its natural tendencies, it may be diverted to parts of conse-

quence where it would not otherwise settle; and if we neglect to take advantage of this interval, a greater quantity of morbid humours will remain in the mass of fluids to be deposited in the subsequent fit, than very often need be suffered.

Towards the conclusion of the greater paroxysm, or fit of the gout, the urine grows very turbid, and deposits a great quantity of red gritty sediment; so, likewise, at the declension of every lesser fit, there may some of the same gritty sediment be perceived; therefore we should endeavour, in this interval of time, when the gouty matter is in perfect fusion with the mass of fluids, to assist nature to discharge as much as possible of it by the common outlets, which will be gaining upon the following fits; and as nature has pointed out to us a way for her relief, I think it our duty to second her endeavours, by exhibiting freely of such liquors, as common experience teaches us will gently promote the discharge by urine, as the following.

Take of marshmallow roots two ounces; marshmallow leaves two handfuls; aniseed and sweet fennel seed bruised, of each half an ounce; barley water three pounds; boil to one pound and half; strain, and to the strain'd liquor add of volatile salt of amber one drachm and half; syrup of marshmallows four ounces; mix. Take four spoonfuls every hour.

But as soon as the matter begins again to settle, and form another fit, we must avoid all kinds of medicine but what helps

helps that forward, as before directed. Purging medicines, used in this interval, do very often more hurt than good, therefore I think they should be avoided, except the gouty humour has a natural tendency this way, as may sometimes be observed; and this is known by easy rumblings in the bowels, and dispositions to stool, without any manner of gripings or uneasiness, tho' the stools should be very often intolerably fœtid, and in a very unusual manner; and the more these are encouraged by lenient cathartics the better. But when the inclination this way is attended with violent pains and spasms, we must carefully avoid all kinds of cathartic medicines, and immediately have recourse to warm cardiacs and astringents, to keep the acid matter off in the extreme parts, altho' never so painful there, until its acid particles are more blunted and dissolved, and it has obtained dispositions more suitable to bring it thro' the bowels.

The salutary tendencies of nature are carefully to be watched, and made the only method to act by, in this and all the other evacuations; therefore great care must be taken to avoid all astringents, cardiacs, and opiates, when the tendencies of the gouty humour is towards the bowels, and would readily pass off by stool, without any gripings or spasmodic pains, which, towards the latter end of a fit, is very often the case, and is of great benefit to the patient; for then opiates, cardiacs, &c. will again force back this matter on the extreme parts, and greatly prolong and aggravate the fit.

Having

Having described the general rules of management in a fit of the gout, we must next proceed to the third thing proposed, which was to endeavour to prevent the reaccumulation of this acrid undigested matter in the body as much as possible, without laying a foundation for other mischiefs. And to this purpose it very naturally arises from the foregoing theory, that the saline matter, which gives rise to the gout, likewise, by its stimulus, greatly increases the elasticity of the fibres, and greatly adds to the strength and vigour of the body; and subtracting from this cause by a contrary management, so that the person shall not have the gout, must greatly weaken the constitution, and endanger worse inconveniencies; therefore we must, in this case, endeavour to order a way of living that may, as little as possible, add to the gouty humour, and yet preserve the natural strength of the constitution; and this may be done by observing a regular diet, a constant gentle exercise, and a small course of medicine.

Various are the constitutions in which this tormenting disease happen, and, certainly, various must be the courses of regimen to keep off this disorder without endangering the strength of the constitution. Therefore, if the constitution be good, and the patient young in years, and has not been accustomed to violent debauches, a diet of milk and vegetables may be pursued without any detriment; the vegetables should be of the soft, juicy, mild kind; such as turnips, parsnips, potatoes, young seeds and plants, and all much dressed garden things; his dinner should be those with puddings,

dings, &c. his breakfast and supper should be of milk and bread; carefully avoiding all kinds of flesh meats, high-season'd sauces, or any liquor stronger than small beer, milk, or water. And I am well assured from repeated experience, that this course of regimen, join'd with the exercises I shall point out hereafter, will not only keep the constitution free from any attack of the gout, but also make the constitution more vigorous, and the spirits much more calm and free.

Such as are somewhat more advanced in years, and have been accustomed to live free, I think should not enter on this course of regimen; for their fibres, which have always been accustomed to a strong stimulus, will not be able to throw off the gouty matter, and digest their aliments, except a degree of stimulation is still kept on, to keep up their contractions; therefore, for such, I would advise a diet of white meats, and a small quantity of genuine madera, to be drank after them, for his dinner; and for supper and breakfast, sometimes milk and bread; sometimes water gruel, with a little wine and sugar; or coffee; which, in this case, is an excellent drink, especially when joined with milk or cream.

I have known persons, by observing this regimen, with the exercises and medicines which I shall propose hereafter, live comfortably to a good old age, without the least attack of the gout: Therefore, if we would but follow the dictates of nature, that is, to live temperate, and avoid all debauches,

bauches, and those meats and drinks that the God of Nature never ordain'd for our sustenance, how much we should increase our happiness in this world, and how much reason our descendants would have to bless us; as I think they will have reason to do the contrary, if we continue in the debauched course we are in at present.

But old persons, which are afflicted with this disease, are too much decayed to bear any regimen that will root it out; as their limbs are much weakened, and their vessels grown hard and schirrhous; yet in such persons this evil may be greatly palliated, without injuring in the least their constitution. To such I would advise a regimen of white meats and vegetables, with genuine madera, to be drank in small quantities; or the strong mellow wines of Greece and Turkey, diluted with the softest waters. As these wines rather abound with sulphurous than tartarous particles, and therefore will not increase the gouty matter so much as the rough tartarous wines of France, &c.

Arthritics should likewise be very careful of what kind of water they use, and always chuse the softest waters, and such as arise thro' a chalky or alkalious soil, because such a soil gives softness to them, and fits them greatly to sweeten and absorb the juices that before abounded with asperities; and of this kind none exceeds the Bristol springs. But when these salutary waters cannot be procured, an ordinary chalk stone may be kept in the vessel where water is preserved for drinking, and shifted often; for this will be found of singular

gular service, by absorbing the hard mineral particles with which many springs abound; and for want of regard only to this small circumstance, arthritics may suffer much more than they imagine: For, in many spring waters, there abounds a great quantity of hard mineral particles, which certainly must contribute much to the ills here complained of.

The Bath waters will be found of infinite service in this disease, especially in phlegmatic or enervated constitutions, where the gouty matter is very viscid, and the powers of nature are not sufficient to throw it off, in a regular fit, on the extreme parts; or when thrown off on the extreme parts, the powers of nature are not strong enough to break and dissolve it so fine as to be evacuated thro' the pores of the skin, or reabsorbed by the refluent blood, and evacuated by the urinary passages, but lets it remain on the tender vessels of the joints; where, by repeated fits, it is accumulated, and at last renders the joints incapable of motion. In the first of these, drinking the waters of these salutary springs answers the intention; but in the last, bathing and dry pumping, should be joined to the internal use of them.

As to the exercises which should be used by persons subject to this disease, they should be such as most conduce to give and preserve strength and firmness to the constitution, and all kinds of exercises which have the contrary effect, should be carefully avoided.

But before we proceed any farther on this head, we should observe, that persons subject to this disease in general, will bear, and require, much more exercise than other people; for they are for the most part hearty feeders, and of course want more exercise to digest and dissolve the quantities of food fit for the purposes of the animal oeconomy, and for the evacuation of its excrements. The more they exercise also, so that it be not in such excess as to weaken the elasticity of the solids, the more will those rigid saline particles, that give rise to this disease, be dissolved and expelled the constitution, before their accumulation in quantity sufficient to form a fit.

The exercises I would recommend, in this case, to persons whose constitutions are not broke, and are not past the meridian of life, are, riding on horseback, playing at bowls, tennis, ringing of bells, &c. but to those who are old, or their constitutions much broken, as they cannot bear any strong exercise, I would recommend riding on horseback, or in a chaise, with the use of the flesh brush; because the first shakes off the more grosser particles thro' the urinary passages, and the latter sollicit the finer matter thro' the pores of the skin.

I would likewise advise all gouty persons to go to bed before ten o'clock, and rise early; for there is not any thing in nature more prejudicial to this disease, than sitting up late at nights; as this is the time nature hath set apart for forwarding the progressive motion of the juices, particularly those

those of the third stage of digestion; therefore if the pores of the skin, which should at this time be relaxed and open, to let pass the perspirable matter, be still braced, and at the same time, very likely, the fibres are strongly stimulated with a hot acrid liquid, which the person swallows down in large quantities to cheer him, this volatile saline matter, which passes off thro' the pores of the skin, will be accumulated upon the capillary vessels, and, at the same time, the larger vessels greatly distended with a hot acrid fluid; which, if not timely relieved, must immediately bring on a fit of the gout, as a critical discharge, or nature must sink under the burthen.

Having sufficiently shewn what regimen and exercises should be used to prevent an accumulation of the gouty matter in the body, I proceed now to shew what medicines should be used to assist, lest those exercises and regimen should not be sufficient.

To persons whose constitutions are not very much broke, and are not past the meridian of life, I would advise the following cathartic bolus, once every week, during the use of the aforesaid regimen.

Take of lenitive electuary one drachm and half; powder of the best rhubarb and salt diuretic, of each one scruple; oil of nutmegs two drops; syrup of buckthorn quantity sufficient; mix. For a bolus. To be taken early in the morning.

But where the person is more aged, and the constitution more broken, the following will be found to be of great service; taking four or five spoonfuls at night, for a dose, two or three times a week, with the regimen as aforesaid.

Take of the powder of peruvian bark one ounce; powder of the best rhubarb two ounces; calamus aromaticus and cochineal, of each one drachm; mountain wine two pounds; infuse for four days, and strain off the wine.

This gently evacuates, and yet keeps the solids tight and firm, and should be continued during the whole intervals.

Having gone thus far to describe the nature and method of cure of a regular gout, it now remains for me to point out some methods of relieving it when irregular. The part affected with an irregular gout should be eased as soon as possible, and with safety; and therefore the nature of the disease being accurately considered, according to the part it seizes, and necessary evacuations being made, the cure may be performed very happily, by a translation of the matter into the limbs; for this is the genuine intention of nature.

The internal medicines which answer the intention called expelling, are, alexipharmics, cardiacs, or diaphoretics; and the topical medicines which draw the gouty matter into the extreme parts, are such as are warm and stimulating.

If

If the gout seizes the stomach, and makes any continuance there, a gentle emetic should be immediately exhibited; such as the following.

Take of ipecacuanha wine two ounces; volatile tincture of valerian one drachm; mix. For a vomiting draught. To be taken about five o'clock in the afternoon.

When this emetic begins to operate, I order three quarts of thin water gruel or camomile tea, to be mixed with a pint and half of good madera wine, and this to be given to work off the vomit; for with the use of these they vomit easily, and the stomach is afterwards left warm and comfortable; nor have they any occasion of an opiate, or stomatic, but for the most part are very much relieved by the next morning, when I order the following medicine.

Take of salt of wormwood one drachm; juice of lemons one ounce and half; mix; and add of simple mint and piper mint waters, of each three ounces; cordial confection one drachm; stomatic tincture half an ounce; syrup of balsam one ounce; mix. Take four spoonfuls every three hours.

But when the pains are violent, with spasms and anxieties, and without any signs of a load of humours in the stomach, vomiting must be carefully avoided, as it may be attended with great danger; and immediately antispasmodic and stomatic medicines should be administered: To
answer

answer which intention I know none better than the following.

Take of the best musk twelve grains; cinnabar native and cinnabar of antimony, of each ten grains; volatile salt of amber seven grains; conserve of hips quantity sufficient; mix. For a bolus. To be taken every six hours, drinking after it four spoonfuls of the following mixture.

Take of simple mint and piper mint waters, of each three ounces; cordial confection one drachm; tincture of Russia castor, and compound spirit of lavender, of each two drachms; tincture stomatic half an ounce; syrup of balsam one ounce; mix.

During the use of these internal medicines, the following cataplasm applied to the feet, or where the gout used to attack, will be found of great service.

Take of old or stale leaven two parts; mustard-seed and horse-radish root, bruised, of each an equal quantity, one part; white wine vinegar quantity sufficient; mix. For a cataplasm.

When the gout seizes the intestines in the form of a cholic, a gentle cathartic should be immediately exhibited, such as the following.

Take

Take of infusion of fenna one ounce and half ; tincture of hiera picra one ounce ; tincture of fenna three drachms ; mix. For a purging draught. To be taken in the morning.

Take of mithridate one drachm ; philon. lond. one scruple ; saffron powder'd eight grains ; syrup of balsam quantity sufficient ; mix. For a bolus. To be taken at night going to bed, after the purge.

It should be well observed and remembered, that all the hopes of exciting a regular gout in the limbs are in vain, and to no purpose, so long as the intestines are foul and loaded with excrements.

When the gouty matter falls on the intestines, and brings on a violent diarrhæa or dysentery, the acrid matter is to be carried off by repeated doses of rhubarb, with an anodyne after every dose ; and when the intestines are cleared of this acrid matter thrown on them, we may venture to proceed with the use of the following, or the like medicines, to strengthen those parts, and to keep the gouty matter at a distance.

Take of mithridate one drachm ; powder of Ruffia castor ten grains ; syrup of orange peels quantity sufficient ; mix. For a bolus. To be taken every six hours ; drinking after it four spoonfuls of the following mixture.

Take

Take of small cinnamon, and piper mint waters, of each three ounces ; tincture stomatic half an ounce ; volatile salt of amber half a drachm ; syrurp of orange peels one ounce ; mix.

When the gouty matter affects the head, it produces vertigos, convulsions, palsies, and sometimes the apoplexy.

These diseases are to be relieved by evacuations and revulsions, and sending it into the limbs. In these cases I know of no better remedy than for the patient to put his feet into a vessel of warm water, and let them be held there for some time ; afterwards let them be well rubbed with warm dry cloths, and immediately apply on the foregoing cataplasm ; and, during this interval, let the patient be supported with cordials and nervous medicines.



CHAPTER II.

Of the SCIATICA.

WE give the name of Sciatica to this disease, because it seizes the hips; and its cure is rendered more difficult, because it is most commonly the consequence of chronical diseases; as by great colds taken, or by exposing those parts too much to the cold air, by a fall or sudden blow, by a luxation, immoderate venery, or any thing which weakens the fibres of the parts, so that they cannot give a proper resistance to the fluids thrown on them by the force of the circulation. There is first a heaviness and difficult motion of the part affected, with a slight numbness and creeping-like motion. In some a violent, pungent, and hot pain; and, to the feeling of the patient, a serpentine-like motion.

Sometimes also a fever attends it, so that the sick cannot contain themselves in bed; a pain is found in the vertebræ, from thence penetrating into the articulations of the neighbouring parts, reaching down to the knee, and from thence to the ankle and the top of the foot; in time the whole leg is extenuated with weakness, and becomes shorter, with

a great lameness; some walk stepping upon their toes ends, some forwards, some outwards, &c.

As to the cure of this stubborn disease, physicians have ordered various methods and medicines, the efficacy of which I cannot pretend to determine, as I have not made sufficient trial of them.

The following is the method I have always used, and that with success, where there was a possibility of giving relief in the case.

Take of calomel prepared one scruple; gum guajacum, powder'd, half a scruple; camphire seven grains; conserve of hips quantity sufficient; mix. For a bolus. To be taken at night going to bed, early the next morning drinking the following lenitive draught.

Take of infusion of fenna one ounce and half; tincture of rhubarb and syrup of buckthorn, of each six drachms; mix. Repeat this bolus and draught, once every seven days, four or five times; and on the intermediate days take the following medicines.

Take of the volatile tincture of gum guajacum sixty drops; white sugar half an ounce; mix, and add volatile salt of amber fifteen grains; simple mint water one ounce and half; mix. For a draught. To be taken three times a day, drinking after it four ounces of sage tea.

Take

Take of camphire one scruple ; salt nitre sixteen grains ; philon. lond. one scruple ; balsam of gilead twelve drops ; conserve of red roses quantity sufficient ; mix. For a bolus. To be taken every night going to bed, drinking after it a draught of baum tea.

During the use of those internal medicines, I order an issue to be cut in the inside of the pained thigh, a little above the gartering place, or in both, if they are both affected ; and, at the same time, the part or parts affected, is to be well rubbed with the flesh brush three or four times a day, and the patient is to use the regimen proposed in the gout according to his age and constitution.

A course of warm bathing, joined with the foregoing medicines, will be of great service ; and there are few cases that will resist the use of these, except it be where the elasticity of the fibres of the parts is entirely destroyed, and will give no resistance to the spumation of the fluids thrown thereon.

CHAPTER III.

Of the RHEUMATISM.

A Rheumatism is a beginning vicidity of the juices, where the size and viscosity is uniform, and almost equally disposed over the whole mass, and is constantly fleeting, and not fixed to particular parts.

It begins at any time of the year, especially in the spring and autumn, with a shivering, which is succeeded by heats, and all the other symptoms of a fever. In a day or two (sometimes sooner) there is a violent pain, sometimes in one limb, other times in another, in the wrists, shoulders, and knees especially; affecting by turns the various parts of the body one after another, with a violent tearing pain, which is increased upon the least motion, frequently with redness and tumours. The fever gradually vanishes, the pain remaining for some time, often for some months or a year, not continually, but by fits. There is often a great pain fixed upon the region of the loins, counterfeiting nephritic pains, only that the patient has no sickness at stomach, nor vomiting. It generally attacks persons of a sanguine constitution, about the meridian of life; as likewise such as have lived too free, or such as too suddenly cooled their heated bodies.

bodies. This disease often arises from an obstructed perspiration, especially in persons of an inflammatory disposition.

The proximate cause of this disease seems to be an inflammatory lentor or viscosity of the fluids in the capillary arteries of the membranes which are about the ligaments of the joints, but not great enough to change it into an impostumation; and it is very probable that this lentor or viscosity of the fluids proceeds from a sharp alkalious salt which has abounded in them, and is by the force of the circulation thrown off on the capillary arteries, where it is ensnared and involved in phlegm and its oily particles, and chiefly contributes to occasion this lentor of the fluids in these vessels, which is known to be the occasion of a rheumatism.

That this alkalious salt is the chief cause of a rheumatism, I think may be proved by the following experiments.

First, The urine of rheumatic people being distilled, yields no more than one twenty-fifth, or thirtieth part of that alkaline salt, which may be drawn from the same quantity of urine of the same persons when in health.

Secondly, The blood of rheumatic people is considerably heavier than the blood of persons in health; or the blood of the same person, when ill of the rheumatism, is much heavier than when he is in health.

Thirdly,

Thirdly, The serum of the blood of those who are ill of a rheumatism, mix'd with syrup of violets, turns it green; and with sublimate mercury, lays down a very white concretion: From whence we may plainly demonstrate, that there is a greater quantity of alkaline salt mix'd with the blood of rheumatic people, than with the blood of persons in health, which must certainly be the cause of this disease. When this saline matter is strongly enveloped in its oily particles, it creates a great lentor in the fluids, and gives rise to that species commonly called the inflammatory rheumatism; but when this saline matter is in quantity superior to its oily particles, it dissolves the globules of the blood, and gives rise to that species commonly call'd scurbutic rheumatism.

As the cure of this disease is very various, according to the various constitutions in which it happens, I shall not lay down any particular method for curing it; I shall only lay down the method I have used successfully in curing this disease in those patients which have fell under my care: And as it differs somewhat from the common practice, I commit it to the examination of the curious to discover, whether or not it is agreeable to reason, and the laws of the animal oeconomy.

And first, when I am called to a patient, if he is plethoric, and the disease recent, I immediately order bleeding, and three hours after the following draught.

Take

Take of simple alexiterial water one ounce and half; salt nitre one scruple; of the soap pill ten grains; tincture of Ruffia castor one drachm; spirituous alexiterial water with vinegar, half an ounce; syrup of balsam three drachms; mix.

Next day I order the following cathartic, and repeat it every third or fourth day, 'till the disease disappears.

Take of manna six drachms; water gruel two ounces; mix, and add powder of rhubarb and salt diuretic, of each half a drachm; mix. For a purging draught. To be taken early in the morning.

Take of camphire and salt nitre of each half a scruple; bezoar mineral sixteen grains; philon. lond. one scruple; syrup of balsam quantity sufficient; mix. For a bolus. To be taken at night, going to bed, after the purge; drinking after it a draught of water gruel, or baum tea.

On the intermediate days I order the following medicines.

Take of camphire (in s. v. dissolved) twelve grains; juice of lemons half an ounce; mix, and add simple alexiterial water two ounces; volatile salt of amber eight grains; spirit of nitre dulcified fifty drops; white sugar three drachms; mix. For a draught. To be taken three times a day; drinking after it four ounces of baum tea.

If the pains continue violent I order the following bolus every night, and to be washed down with baum tea.

Take of bezoar mineral one scruple; philon lond. eighteen grains; volatile salt of amber six grains; mix.

During the use of these internal medicines, I order the pained part, or parts, to be well fomented with an emollient fomentation, three or four times in a day; and immediately after, if there is no external inflammation or tumour appearing, the parts are to be gently rubbed with warm dry cloths; and if the pain is very violent, dip a cloth in bals. anodin. (bat.) and apply it all over the pained part, or parts.

But when the disease has been of long continuance, and the patient very much weakened, I omit bleeding, and in its place order a vomit; then proceed with the former medicines as before directed, except the patient is so weak that he cannot bear purging so often; if so, I order the purge to be repeated every sixth or seventh day.

When I find the inflammatory lenter of the blood is broke and dissolved, and the morbid matter discharged out of the body by perspiration, stool, or urine, I afterward order the following medicine, to strengthen the crasis of the fluids, and to promote a regular glandular secretion.

Take

Take of decoction of the peruvian bark two ounces; salt diuretic one scruple; antimonial wine (of Huxham) one drachm; extract of gentian half a drachm; fyrup of orange peels half an ounce; mix. For a draught. To be taken three times a day, drinking after it a draught of sage tea.

The diet in this disease should always be cooling, soft, and low; as milk, vegetables, and white meats; carefully avoiding all spirituous or vinous liquors, which is very prejudicial, and often attended with bad consequences when made use of by persons labouring under this disease.

Buckbean tea is an excellent drink in this disease, as is likewise a tea made of ground-ivy; but when the disease is stubborn and becomes habitual, in weak and emaciated bodies, occasioned by its long continuance, and in constitutions broke and wore out by the use of too many medicines, I have known the following method do surprising things.

Take of powder of rhubarb and diuretic, of each one scruple; oil of cloves three drops; fyrup of balsam quantity sufficient; mix. For a purging bolus. To be taken once every six days. On the intermediate days take the following medicines.

Take of millepedes wine four ounces; antimonial wine (of Huxham) two ounces; mix. Take one spoonful three times a day, in a draught of buckbean tea.

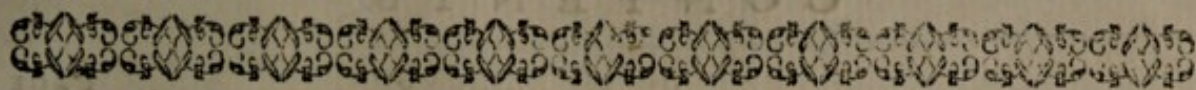
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During

During the use of these the patient should use a course of asses milk, or at least a milk diet; and if any person afflicted with this disease, as we term it, in its last stage, pursues this method of cure for some time, he will have reason to thank me for this advice.

F I N I S.





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E R R A T A.

PAGE 3, Line 7, for venticles, read *ventricles*.—p. 6, l. 1, for apoplexy, read *apoplexy*.—p. 11, l. 10, for cohentions, read *cohesions*.—p. 12, l. 3, read *mix*.—p. 15, l. 23, for milliary, read *miliary*.—p. 16, l. 8, for arises, read *arise*.—p. 19, l. 21, for ipecacuana, read *ipecacuanba*; and l. 22, for oxymel squils, read *oxymel of squils*.—p. 22, l. 7, for cohentions, read *cohesions*.—p. 30, l. 25, read *pul. cathartic. pro puer. and magnesia alb.*—p. 39, l. 11, for cohentions, read *cohesions*.—p. 49, l. 3, for faculty, read *faculties*.—p. 50, l. 3, for or, read *os*.—p. 54, l. 3, for arises, read *arise*.—p. 59, l. 23, for liniment, read *liniments*.—p. 70, l. 9, read *and seem as if the bones grated one against another*.—p. 80, l. 16, for decreasees, read *decrease*.—p. 95, l. 16, for borne, read *born*.—p. 97, l. 16, for the extreme parts of the stomach, read *the extreme parts to the stomach*.—p. 117, l. 2, for especielly, read *especially*.—p. 120, l. 19, for lenter, read *lentor*.—p. 120, l. 18, for rhubarb and diuretic, read *rhubarb and salt diuretic*.

E R R A T A

PAGE 3. Line 7. for ventiles, read ventiles. — p. 6. l. 1. for apolexy,
read apoplexy. — p. 11. l. 10. for coherions, read coherens. — p. 12. l. 3.
read wife. — p. 12. l. 23. for millim, read millim. — p. 12. l. 8. for anics,
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diminut, read and the other rhumbus.

