

A treatise of the acute diseases of infants. To which are added, medical observations on several grievous diseases [and 'Of the venereal disease'] / Written originally in Latin by the late learned Walter Harris ... Translated into English by John Martyn.

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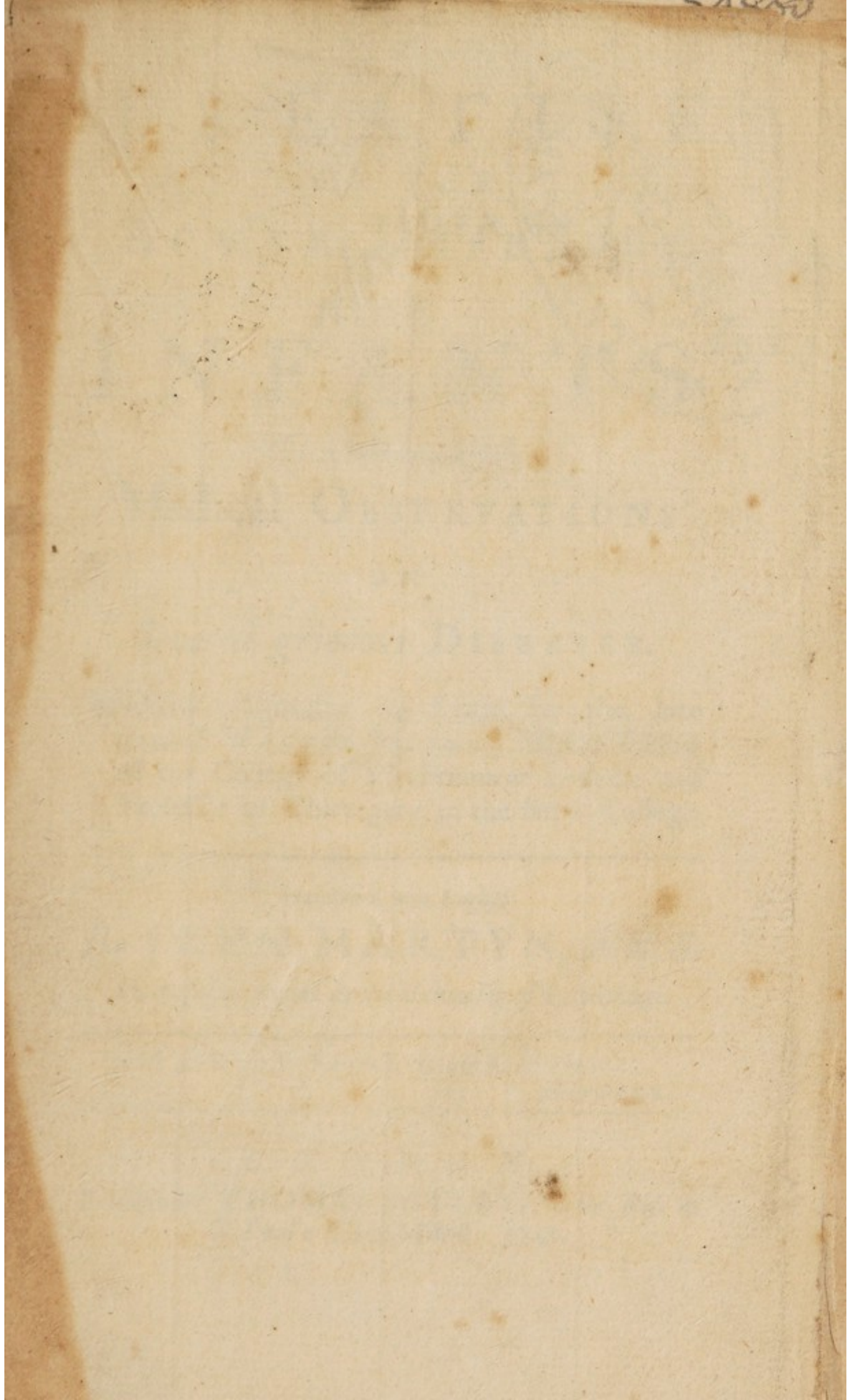
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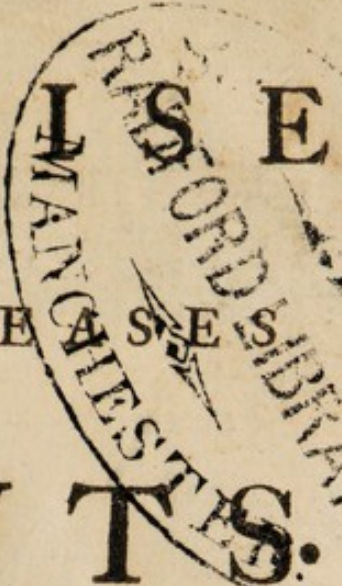


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A
TREATISE
OF THE
ACUTE DISEASES
OF
INFANTS.



To which are added,
Medical OBSERVATIONS
ON
Several grievous DISEASES.

Written originally in *Latin* by the late
learned WALTER HARRIS, M. D. Fellow
of the College of Physicians at *London*, and
Professor of Chirurgery in the same College.

Translated into *English*

By JOHN MARTYN, F. R. S.

Professor of Botany in the University of Cambridge.

"Ἦσιν γὰρ ἀρχὴ ἐν ἰατρικῇ, καὶ μέσα, καὶ τέλος.

HIPPOCR.

L O N D O N:

Printed for THOMAS ASTLEY, at the *Rose* in
St Paul's Church-Yard. 1742.

T. R. N. A. T. H. S. E.
OF THE
ACUTE DISORDERS
IN THE
LUNGS



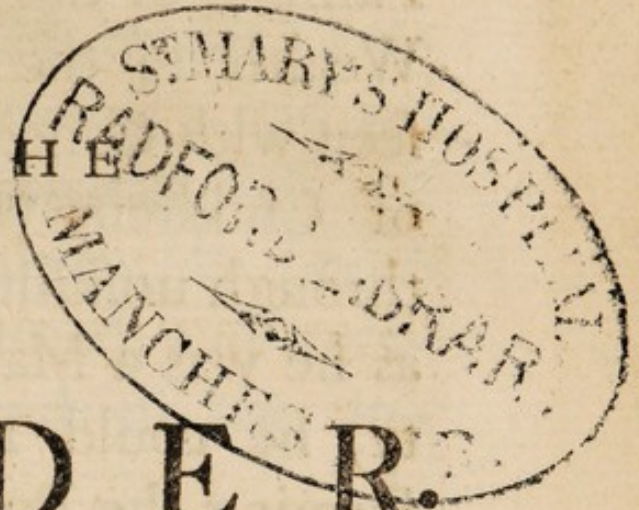
Written originally in Latin by the late
John Waller, M.D., Fellow
of the College of Physicians at London, and
Member of the Society in the same College.

By JOHN MARYTIN, F.R.S.
The first Edition is in the hands of the
Printer.

LONDON
Printed for THOMAS ASTLEY, in Pall Mall.
MDCCLXXII.



T O T H E



R E A D E R.



H E following Treatise has justly been esteemed the best that ever was written on the Acute Diseases of Infants. The learned Author, who had improved his Knowledge in Physick, by a long Experience, was one of the most eminent Physicians of his

Time. He had the Honour to attend the Persons of their late Majesties King *William* and Queen *Mary*, and was in great Repute with many Families of the greatest Quality and Wealth in the Kingdom. He had seen with Concern the great Number of Children, which daily perished through unskillful Management, and as he was a Man of much Humanity, he could not refrain from informing the Publick of the Method which he had used, through a long Course of Years, with wonderful Success. The Book was received with great Applause by the rest of the Faculty, and we find that the Method of treating Children, which Dr HARRIS here proposes, is almost constantly pursued by the most celebrated Physicians now in Practice,

THE

THE hot Regimen, which, under the mistaken Notion of driving out Malignity by Cordials, has proved so fatal to Infants, and tender Constitutions, is here exploded; and we now find the intemperate Use of them, on such Occasions, to be abandoned by the Learned, and to remain only in the Hands of the unskillful and ignorant.

OUR Author does not pretend to have discovered any Thing new, when he recommends the Use of testaceous Medicines. What we are obliged to him for on this Head, is the enlarging of the Dose: for before the Publication of this Treatise, they were given in such very small Quantities, that they seldom attained to the desired Effect.

THIS Work being published by the Author in *Latin*, was of Use only to the Learned: but, that it might be of more general Benefit, it was soon translated into *English*. The Translation, such as it was, being very injudiciously performed, and in a most uncouth Style, was however well received by the Publick: the Usefulness of the Matter causing the Manner of the Performance to be less observed. But the old Translation being now out of print, and being found upon Examination to be even incapable of Correction, the Proprietor was desirous to have another made entirely new, which is what we now to offer to the Publick.

THE present Translation is from the last Edition, very much corrected, improved, and enlarged by the Author. We have added also the
Translation

Translation of the Author's Observations on several grievous Diseases, which he had inserted himself in the later Editions, and which, we believe, will be no less acceptable than the former Treatise.

To conclude, it might, perhaps, be wished, that the learned Author had used rather less Prolivity in his Writings, and been more sparing in his Digressions. The Translator did not think himself at Liberty to retrench any of these; but chose rather to introduce Dr HARRIS to the Publick, in the Habit which he himself approved. The only Liberty of this Kind that has been taken, is the Omission of the long Enumeration of the Titles of the illustrious Parents of the Doctor's Infant Patients, which was thought to be of no Consequence at all to the Reader.



T H E
A U T H O R'S
P R E F A C E.

IF the first Editions of this little Book have been favourably received by some learned Men, and reprinted in foreign Countries; if I have received several learned Epistles, with great Compliments, from the most famous Physicians far and near; I impute it all to the accustomed Candour, and exceeding Goodness, of some excellent Men, whose Sweetness of Temper makes them blind to the Faults of others. For let a Piece be ever so well written, yet we ought by no Means to suffer our selves to be proud of it. For the highest
Wisdom

Wisdom and Knowledge of Men seems to be that which places our common Folly and Ignorance before our Eyes. And the more any one exceeds others in being conscious to himself of this common Ignorance of Things, and Deficiency of right Reason, the more I think him superior to others, and to obtain the first Place in Knowledge.

WHEREFORE let others be delighted, that they thoroughly understand, why this terrestrial Globe is regularly revolved in it's appointed Orbit, or naturally remains in a certain Place of the Universe, and never declines by it's own most heavy Weight to any Part of the fluid Air, which every Way furrounds it: and why the light Pressure of the Atmosphere equally sustains so immense a Weight: let others accurately describe, by their own profound Genius,

nius, those unknown Lands, hidden in the deep Recesses of the Earth, or other such like Things involved in Darkness, and pervious to no Telescopes: let others easily comprehend what agitates the Winds into such great Tempests, whence the Winds come, whither they fly so swiftly, and what at last subdues their Rage on a sudden. Let others delight themselves with other Disquisitions, and thereby acquire a great Admiration of their Capacities. But if true Philosophy has laid down any Postulate, if it has established any Axiom, which deserves the Notice of all Men, this is most certainly it, that *Tranquillity of Mind is of the greatest Value, and that Virtue and Innocence, however commonly despised, and and looked upon as childish, are preferable to the soothing Allurements of forbidden Things, as much as Light excels Darkness, or a good State of Health*

Health is to be desired above a bad one.

BUT if any Persons of great Genius, who are well versed in the Art of Physick, shall contend that my Endeavours, in this little Work, have produced nothing excellent, laudable, or worthy of Envy, I shall readily agree with them, being fully satisfied, that it is much easier to write great Volumes filled with Flowers of Rhetorick, various Arguments, learned Speculations, copious Citations of Authors, and Abundance of Delight, than any little Work that may be of great Use and universal Benefit to Mankind.

BUT if any Men of Learning and liberal Education shall, through a physical Malevolence, Incitements of Gain, or Perverseness of Temper, pick out any Thing from what I
have

have written, and falsely pervert it among the unlearned, in order to lessen my Character; I shall not by any Means retort their Injuries upon them, but rather wish them all Happiness and Prosperity, and all Advantages even to Satiety, but above all a Recovery of a *sound* and well-affected *Mind in a sound Body*.

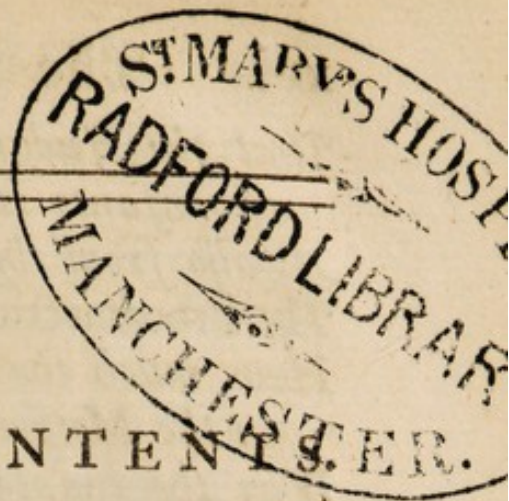
AND though but few Physicians, however excellent, skillful, and learned, are so happy as to be able to do much Good to Mankind; because of the Uncertainty of human Affairs; because of the Propensity of human Nature to Errors, and the common and natural Imperfections both of thinking and acting; because of so many different Manners and Imperfections in different Constitutions, occasioned by so many Things both internal and external, that disturb the most curious human Fabrick; because

cause of the usual Delay of sick Persons, and their foolish Procrastination, before they will consent to send for a skillful Physician; because of the great Abundance of Medicines, both simple and compound, and the avoiding too much of a candid Simplicity of prescribing, instead of which has succeeded a fine and glorious Method, but more fallacious in the *Variation of Remedies*, for fear the Learned should seem to others to be not sufficiently instructed in the Knowledge of the abundant Profusion of Medicines; and also because of the necessary Variation of the Method of Cure in different Countries and Climates, which is also to be changed in the same Country, according to the various Seasons of the Year; and because of the successive Change of Helps in almost every Age, according to the *Modes of Practice* that prevail; and, lastly, because
of

of the different Opinions and dissimilar Doctrines of learned Men, who eternally differ from each other. But however I have some hope, that this little Book, such as it is, has been already, and may be hereafter, of some Use to many Students, and may at least point out a proper Way, by which some Men of greater Sagacity and Genius, and more studious of the publick Good, may hereafter do much greater Service to the Faculty of Physick, and may, I hope, become more wise and useful in their Time.

I SHALL only add, that I have some Thoughts, if G O D will give me leave, of publishing some Medical and Chirurgical Lectures, which I have read before our most learned College; and, I hope, when they are printed, they will be of some Advantage to the Publick.

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When he had well considered of it, and examined it in his own Practice, he was so far from finding any Fault with my Method, that he declared, he thought it would be of Use to others, and finding it confirmed by his own Experience, persuaded me to make it publick. By the Advice therefore of so great a Man, I now endeavour, according to the best of my Ability, to consult the Health and Safety of tender Infants.

I might add, and positively affirm, that the same excellent Author, after he had vouchsafed to read the first Edition of this Book, was pleased, out of his great good Nature, to speak to me in the following Words: *I never flatter any Man, nor shall I flatter you, when I tell you, that I never before saw any Book that I had Reason to envy. For, in Truth, I think your little Book may be of more Service to the Publick, than all my own Writings.* I do not mention this from any Principle of Vanity, Self-Love, or ill Design, but as it were from the Impulse of some hidden Reason. For of what Use is Flattery, or vain popular Applause in an advanced Age? or what can an undeserved Commendation signify to a Man, who is just leaving the Vanities of this World?

I know

I know very well in how unbeaten and almost unknown a Path I am treading; for sick Children, and especially Infants, give no other Light into the Knowledge of their Diseases, than what we are able to discover from their uneasy Cries, and the uncertain Tokens of their Crossness; for which Reason, several Physicians of the first Rank have openly declared to me, that they go very unwillingly to take care of the Diseases of Children, especially of such as are newly born, as if they were to unravel some strange Mystery, or cure some incurable Distemper.

There can be no Doubt but that a perfect Cure of the Diseases of Children is as much to be desired by all, as any Thing else whatsoever in the whole Art of Physick. Nor is it of consequence only to the noble, the powerful, and the wealthy, who are desirous of having Heirs, and preserving them, but to all Parents of any Rank whatsoever; for Nature has instilled into all Men an almost invincible Love and Care of their own Offspring. Wherefore I shall think my self happy, if I can strike out a few Hints, which others of greater Abilities may improve, and bring to Perfection.

Whosoever therefore will diligently consider the manifest Symptoms of the most

tender Infants, and give Attention to the Tendernefs of their Frame, and the Simplicity of their Diet, will not find it to be fo hard and difficult a Task, as he might at firft falſly imagine. For I may venture to affirm, that the Diſeaſes of that Age are very few in Number, and differ only in Degree; nay, that it is more ſafe and eaſy to undertake the Cure of Children, than of Men and Women.

As old Age will hardly admit of any advantageous Alteration, becauſe of the Drynefs and Hardnefs of all the ſolid Parts, and their almoſt ſtony Conſiſtence; ſo the Softnefs and almoſt mucilaginous Tendernefs of Youth is, without doubt, fit to receive all Sorts of Alterations. For the old Man is dry in all thoſe Parts, in which the Infant abounds in Moiſture, namely, in the Bones, Membranes, Ligaments, Arteries, Veins, Nerves, and in the very Fleſh; whereas even the Bones of Infants rather deſerve the Name of Griſtles; and as they abound ſo much in Moiſture, both natural and acquired, and as their little Bodies are ſo ſoft and flexible, their Temperament muſt be allowed to be the moiſteſt of all.

And as the Conſtitution of Children is very moiſt, I ſhall not fear to pronounce, that all their Diſeaſes are of the ſame Kind, and are produced from one and the ſame
Cause;

Cause; and that according to the different Parts of the Body, whether upper or lower, their Diseases in like Manner use to differ; for instance, as the Stomach, Intestines, Lungs, Head, or Nerves, are most affected or disordered, so the Disease, which in reality is the same, acquires different Names.

In which Assertion, that I may not seem inconsiderately to maintain a Paradox, let us see what *Hippocrates* himself says, in his Book *de Flatibus*, when he is discoursing of one and the same universal Cause of Diseases. *Τῶν δὲ νόσων ἀπασέων, &c.* *There is one and the same Mode of all Diseases. But the Place itself makes the Difference of them. For which Reason Diseases seem to have no Similitude, because of the different Places, whereas there is but one Species of all Diseases, and their Cause is the same.*

Wherefore if we examine a little the Nature of the puerile Humidity, it will manifestly appear, that it is not apt to degenerate into any Putrefaction but the Acid. For whatsoever Disorder Infants fall into, by what Name so ever it is called, I have seldom, if ever, failed of observing, that their Stools have an acid Smell, and that they abound, especially at first, with acid Eructions. Again, almost all Liquors tending to Putrefaction are wont chiefly to contract an Acidity. Nay, even Milk, the

6 *Of the Acute Diseases*

proper Food of Infants, if kept a little too long, turns acid of it's own Accord, and is presently coagulated by the Fire without putting any acid into it. And all the Symptoms of Infants owe their Origin to an Acid, as their legitimate Parent.

To these may be added a weaker Tone of the Blood, and a more infirm *Crafsis*, so that the Spirits residing therein have not yet arrived to such a Power, as to be able justly to perform their Functions or Offices, or by their own Strength to compose any irregular Motions of the Humours excited either by external or internal Causes. For the vital Liquor, like Must, before it is exalted to it's due ἀκμῆ, easily degenerates into a præternatural Sharpness; and yet is not hard to be reduced into Order by the seasonable Assistance of Art.

And indeed the Use and Advantage of *timely* Help for the Sick of all Ages can never be sufficiently inculcated, because a skillful Physician can easily remove the Beginnings of Diseases, whether Chronical or Acute, just as the first Sparks of any Fire, how great soever, are the most easily extinguished; whereas the least Delay will give Room for incredible Devastations of a Conflagration, from a little Spark that at first was thought contemptible. And I can seriously affirm, that I have long observed, that

that all acute Diseases, to which I have been sent for in Time, have had a happy Event, and that the Cure has been performed in a few Days, provided the Patient and those about him would faithfully conform themselves to my Instructions, and the *Viscera* were in a tolerably sound State. And that even Continued Fevers may be easily rooted out, if they are rightly treated, I had frequent Opportunities of trying, when I had the Care of the Household of his late most serene Majesty King *William* the Third, for five Years, during the last War between the Confederate and *French* Forces. For I often exhorted the Domesticks of all Ranks whatsoever to send for me immediately, on the first Attack of any Fever. And Messengers do not use to be slow in coming, when the Patients can have the Advice of a Physician *gratis*; whereas it is quite otherwise in *London*, where the People have an unhappy Custom of loving to try the Skill of *ignorant Men* or Women for some Time, till they are in the utmost Danger, before they have Recourse to learned Physicians, being deterred perhaps by the Fear of an immoderate Expence. But the Event was, that out of so many who were visited with Fevers, one after another, in their military Expeditions, not so much as one died in the Course of so many Years.

By an *Infant* I mean not only with *Galen*, one of a Month, two Months, or at most three Months old, but in a more extended Sense, as it is commonly understood, a little Child something older, as far as to the fourth Year. Under the Name of a Child I comprehend all from that Age to the fourteenth Year. And the younger the Patient is, the more easy will be the Cure of any severe Disease, as I have found from the best Reasoning, confirmed by manifold Experience. For any Impression, either good or ill, is sooner made on the moist than on the dry, on the soft than on the hard, tho' in the dry and hard, when it is once made, it continues longer. Infants fall into Diseases the most easily, and unless they are unskillfully or too late taken care of, are most easily restored to Health.

The Diagnostick of the Disorders of Children is not to be formed from their own Account, or from the Consideration of their Pulse, or from a curious Examination of their Urine, so much as from the Answers of their Nurses, and of those who are about them. For the Women are able to tell whether they are sick and vomit, and how long they have done so; whether they throw up Milk or Food curdled; whether frequent Cries, Watchings, and Uneasiness, discover them to be griped; whether they
have

have four Eructations or Hickups; whether they have any Cough; whether their Stools are larger, smaller, or more frequent than usual; what Colour they are of, whether white, green, or of the full yellow Colour of the Bile. They can tell whether they have an unusual Thirst, and consequently a Fever; whether they have little Ulcers, called the Thrush, spreading in their Mouths, and interrupting their feeding. If you ask them, they can answer whether they have Convulsions, greater or less, of a longer or shorter Continuance, and whether they have frequent or seldom Returns; they can see whether any Part of the Gums grows white or swells, and therefore, whether it is their being about their Teeth that disorders them; lastly, whether there is any Thing else of Consequence, whether they have a Swelling of the *Abdomen*, or any other Part, whether they have any Eruptions or Pustules, and whether a yellow or red Colour appears externally. As for most other Enquiries, they seem to me to belong rather to subtile Speculation than Practice.

But the Complaint, which is very frequent, of the Uncertainty of the Diagnostick, seems to derive it's Original not so much from a Defect of the Symptoms, as from a preposterous and improper Method
of

of curing. For under this Pretext and Veil Physicians often endeavour to conceal their own Ignorance and Errors. For I cannot imagine how the Supreme Being, who governs and preserves all Things, who disposes every Thing whatsoever to the best Advantage, who has thought fit to communicate to the very Beasts and vilest Insects a certain natural and sufficient Sagacity for their own Preservation; how that Being, I say, should deny to Mankind a just and fit Method of Preservation, which he has granted to all Creatures.

As for what relates to the Pulses of Children, they are naturally, or from any slight Cause, very quick, so that they always seem to be in a Sort of a Fever. Besides, almost all Children are so perverse, that they will not hold their Wrist still, in the same Situation for a Moment, to let one feel their Pulse. Lastly, there are so many Things that accelerate or alter their Pulse, that any Opinion drawn from thence must be very fallacious.

The Urine of Children, in a good State of Health, is usually very thick, so that if any one examines it curiously, without being apprised of this, he will suspect some grievous Disorder, tho' at the same Time they are perfectly well. As for *Infants*, their Urine is constantly mixed with their
Stools

Stools in the Clouts, and serves rather to gall their Thighs, than to satisfy the Curiosity of any Inspectors of Urine.

That we may the better trace out their Diseases, the Knowledge of the procatartic Cause must not be totally omitted. This must chiefly be referred to the Disposition both of the Father and the Mother, in which the prolific Principles were at the very Point of Time when the Conception was first made; and then to that kind of Aliment, which in the *Uterus* of the Mother, at the Beginning of Life and Motion, was transmitted thro' the Navel, or even the Pores of the Flesh, not to mention those of the Skin, which at that Time are very open, for the due Nourishment of the *Fætus*.

There is no one who will deny, that there are hereditary Diseases, proceeding either from one or other of the Parents; or question but that the Gout, Epilepsy, Stone, Consumption, &c. sometimes flow from the Parents to the Children. Whole Families proceeding from the same Stock, often end their Lives by the same Kind of Disease. For the prolific Seed often so rivets the morbid Disposition into the *Fætus*, that it can never afterwards be removed by any Art or Industry whatsoever. But let those who prefer a strong, vigorous, and healthy
Offspring

Offspring before Money, take care to avoid epileptic, scrophulous, and leprous Mothers.

There is not, I believe, any Cause of an hereditary Taint more frequent, than that which is communicated by the Mother with Child. For Women in that Condition are subject to a thousand Errors in their Diet, exposed to a thousand Accidents, by which being affrighted or otherwise injured, they too often communicate irretrievable Injuries to their tender Offspring. For to how many absurd Desires are pregnant Women sometimes liable! One eats Coals, another is fond of Chalk, and another is fond of Cinders; one will be greedy of raw Flesh, and another of raw Fish; nay, there have been some, whose Appetites have been so enormously depraved, that no eatable could satisfy their longing, but what was taken from some fleshy or callous Part of the human Body. Besides, how far does the Force of Imagination prevail in Women with Child, what Monsters has it not produced! The Marks which have been so often given to Children are various, and every Day to be seen. And now if I had a Mind to collect all the wonderful Histories of Women with Child, that is, if under the Appearance of great Learning I would set my self off for a Man of prodigious Reading, I
might

might take this Opportunity of learnedly turning out of my Way, and expatiating into a large Field, how foreign soever to the Purpose. But I choose to pursue my Road directly, and aim at Brevity, rather than by long Windings, and idle Quotations of trite Authors, to make an Ostentation of Science falsely so called. For I have always thought that Man to be more learned, who can pronounce the Truth of two or three Things from himself, than he, who being versed in Indexes, can collect the Opinions of a thousand contending Authors.

Those Mothers, who are most subject to these Effects of a depraved Appetite, imprint on their Offspring a Stain which is not to be totally wiped off, but by a long Tract of Time. Poor Women, whose Minds are with-held from Melancholy by Labour, or some daily Employment, and whose Diet is slender and simple, are seldom subject to these Depravations. Above all hysterical Women, among whom we may reckon much the greater Part of those who live in Delicacy and Idleness, and whose Blood thro' Sluggishness soon curdles, as standing Waters are soon corrupted, these, I say, most easily communicate a morbid Disposition with the first Rudiments of Nature.

In other Animals the innate Goodness of the Kind is most easily transferred to the Offspring, partly because their Food is the most simple, and partly, perhaps chiefly, because the Male preserves the Laws of Nature unviolated; nor is he ever guilty of that Fault of mixing with the Female, after he has discovered by his Smell, or by his own sagacious, I had almost said rational, Instinct, that the Female is impregnated. But the human Kind, who are apt to think highly of themselves, and despise brute Beasts, being more salacious than any Goats, are so far from restraining their unbridled Lust, as to solicit the Females almost continually from the first Moment of Conception, to the last Delivery of their Burthen. Hence brawny vigorous Men often beget a puny Offspring. Hence feeble old Men, who by the Benefit of Nature are set free from headstrong Desires, often produce more healthy Children, than the strongest young Men, who burn with Lust.

After the procatartic Cause already mentioned, which is deduced from the Condition and State of the Principles of Generation, or depends very much on the pregnant Mother, the more immediate Causes of their Disorders may be referred to four Heads. 1. To the catching of Cold.
2. To

2. To the too great Thickness of the Nurse's Milk. 3. To the too early eating of Flesh. And 4. To the mad Indulgence of Mothers and Nurses, in frequently giving Wine or spirituous Liquors to their Infants.

In the first Place, Cold being easily catched by them, and that frequently from the Evening Air, paves a Way very often for febrile Disorders, which commonly attack Infants. For as they come out of their Mother's Womb, without any natural Cloathing, which is afforded to other Animals, therefore Reason, or rather Nature, dictates, that an Offspring so destitute of Help from itself, must necessarily require some foreign Aid, and be preserved by warm additional Coverings. Besides, the Mutability and Vicissitude of Heat and Cold in the Air, continually changing in our Climate, plainly dictate, that we ought to be very careful in warding off the Injuries of the Air. For the more tender the Constitution of any, either Infant or grown Person, is, the more subject he is to external Impressions of the Air. But the Constitution of Infants is above all the most tender and soft, and unless the greatest Care is taken in furnishing them with Cloaths, not splendid and sumptuous, but warm and suited to their Age, they cannot long escape
the

the Insults of Diseases which arise from the Evening Air. And a careful Provision of Cloaths, notwithstanding the Objections of some robust Persons, seems so necessary to every Age, that those who enjoy but a moderate State of Health, as far as I have been able to observe, commonly live longer, and attain a greater Age, than those who have a sanguine, jolly, and robust, which we call the best, Constitution. Which is generally to be ascribed to nothing more than the great Care about their Garments in the one, and to the Neglect of them in the other.

2. The too great Thickness of the Nurse's Milk. For if the Nurse is given to the drinking of Wine or spirituous Liquors, her Milk is presently inflamed, and the unhappy Infant sucks in Fires that are almost unquenchable; but if out of Lasciviousness she too soon admits the Embraces of her Husband, whilst she gives suck, the *Menses* are often brought down, and thereby the Milk is corrupted and coagulated, and the Substance of the Milk being derived another Way, it is gradually diminished, and the emaciated Infant being fed for some Time with an improper Nourishment often perishes. If in the last Place the Nurse is hysterical, that is, of a tender and delicate Constitution, let her be ever so chaste and
sober,

sober, yet her Milk degenerates, and often grows thick from the Fault of her own Constitution. In what Dangers therefore are all those that suck! From this and other Causes, which I shall soon mention, it is, that the Passing-Bells are so often heard to toll, for some innocent Infant that suffers for the Faults of his Nurse, and perishes from no other Cause, than that he has had the Misfortune to suck a Nurse, who is intemperate, nasty, ill-natured, or endued with some ill Quality or other.

To the same Causes was owing an Observation, which was made not long ago by a worthy Divine, Rector of a Parish 12 Miles from *London*, who with great Grief of Mind told me seriously, that his Parish, which was not small either in it's Bounds or Number of Inhabitants, and was situated in a very wholesome Air, was, when he first came to it, filled with sucking Infants, and yet in the Space of one Year, that he had buried them all except two, and one of his own, whom being weakly he had happily committed to my Care from his very Birth, and that the same Number of small Infants being soon twice supplied, according to the usual Custom of hireling Nurseries, from the very great and almost inexhaustible City, he had committed

ted them all to their Parent Earth, in the very same Year.

It is grievously to be lamented, that so many *Mothers*, not only of high Rank, but even of the common Sort, can with so much Inhumanity, and more than brutish Cruelty, desert their tender Offspring, and expose them to so many Dangers of mercenary Nurses, who are greedy only of the profuse Rewards bestowed on them at the Christening, and slight the small weekly Income that follows; and so being weary of the present Employment, perform it negligently, while they are looking out for a new Prey. But let us take a Survey of the Advantages that prompt Mothers so commonly to sacrifice their beloved Offspring. They are the more free Enjoyment of Diversions; the greater Niceness of adorning their Persons; the Opportunity of receiving impertinent Visits, and returning those insipid Favours; the more frequent Attendance on the Theatre, or the spending the greatest Part of the Night on their beloved Cards. These are the important Reasons, for which *Mothers* frequently banish their new-born *Infants* from their Sight, and rashly deliver them up into very doubtful Hands, whithersoever Fortune or Fate, either good or bad, happens to lead them. But these nice Ladies afterwards
suffer

suffer deserved Punishments; for the Love of their Children, if they happen to survive, is more cool towards them, but warm and affectionate towards the Nurse who took them up, and performed the Duties of a real Mother.

Besides, the Thickness of the Milk, from what Cause soever it arises, cannot but bring with it different Sorts of Inconveniencies, as the Bodies of Infants ought to be fluid above all others; as the fine Ducts, destined to transfer the Chyle, are to be kept free from Obstructions; and as the very Thickness of the Aliment is contrary to the most fluid Nature of Infants, and gives Room for all Sorts of Obstructions of the first Passages.

3. The too early eating, or rather swallowing, of Flesh by toothless Infants. It is very astonishing, that Mothers, who are so fond of their Children, as to be quite mad with the Love of them, are not afraid to murder them with so improper a Food. For who can possibly imagine, that the solid and tough Substance of Flesh is fit for tender Infants, who have yet no Teeth at all for chewing, or if, perhaps, they have any, they are not strong enough to perform the Work of Mastication? Who is so ignorant as to pronounce, that the Food which is proper for a manly and robust

Age, can in any wise agree with that which is the most tender, infirm, and weak?

There is no Age whatsoever, in which a careful Method of Diet may be neglected; but because the most tender Age is most liable to Injuries arising from that Quarter, and has least Strength to resist them, therefore they have the greatest Need of Caution to prevent those Errors. For the too early devouring of Flesh is very productive of Crudities, and almost inseparable from the over feeding of tender Infants. Crude and undigested Aliment necessarily produces a Putrefaction of Humours: from which Putrefaction not only Worms are generated, but various and grievous Symptoms, by which the poor Wretches are wasted, very often depend upon it.

Here we may observe by the Way, that the Crudities of Infants are continually accumulated from this Cause, that Nurses frequently permit them to sleep immediately after their taking in their Food, of what Sort so ever it may be.

4. The imprudent giving of Wine or spirituous Liquors. For this Cause, as well as the preceding, is to be referred to the fond Indulgence of Mothers. For they are apt to imagine, that such Things as are good and agreeable to them, and are used to exhilarate their own Hearts when oppressed

pressed with Care, can do no Harm to their Children. As if the same Shoe would fit all Feet; as if Rattles were fit for Men, and manly Exercises for Children. In Truth, these good Women do not sufficiently consider, how soft and tender the Stomachs of young Children are, nor do they remember the common Saying, that one's Meat is another's Poison; lastly, they quite forget, that their own delicate Stomachs cannot be satisfied sometimes without the strongest Food, when the faint and weak Stomachs of their Children are hardly able to digest such easy and simple Nourishment as Pap.

The nearer any one approaches to old Age, the more does Wine moderately taken usually agree with him. For the languid Heat of old Men evidently stands in need of spirituous Helps, which are plentifully supplied by Wine, both for the Preservation and Increase of their natural Heat. Wherefore the Nature of Infants, being the most remote from that of old Age, is greatly injured by Wine, for their Nerves being exceedingly weak are easily destroyed thereby, and their tender Bodies are gradually dissolved, or else rush hastily into feverish Flames, by the subtile Heat of Wine.

There are some wicked Nurses, reckoned more skillful than the rest, who com-

monly attend lying-in Women during the Month, and are not afraid to give Wine and Brandy, sweetened perhaps with Sugar, to new-born Infants, with great Secrecy, as often as they can conveniently, to still their crying, and procure Ease to themselves; whence dreadful Symptoms arise from hidden Causes. The same Crime is frequently committed by Nurses that suckle at their own Homes, who not only themselves guzzle down a great Quantity of strong Beer and burning Spirits, and thereby heat and spoil their own Milk, but also boldly give the same to the tender Infants committed to their Care, and especially in those Gripes which they have occasioned by their own improper Diet or Intemperance.

But tho' Wine is plainly injurious to this tender Age, and also Sack-Whey, which is so much in Favour with the good Women; yet I cannot recommend in these cold northern Countries, what *Galen*, who lived in the warm southern Countries, and there practised Physick with great Success and Honour, advised, that Children *should never taste Wine before the fourteenth Year of their Age*. For Wine, moderately taken, agrees with our Girls who draw near the Time of their *Menses*, and is good for them, comforts and strengthens their Stomachs which are liable to Crudities, and preserves them
from

from breeding Worms. Oranges, Lemons, and all Sorts of Acids, the too frequent Use of cold Meat, especially with Vinegar or Sallads, often produce obstinate Obstructions, and interrupt the first Periods of the *Menses*, and cause them to go on with great Pains, Faintings, Anxiety, Sicknes of the Stomach, and Vomiting, till at last that Discharge, so necessary for the Health of all Women, is entirely suppressed.

There are some who would indulge the Use of Wine to the smallest Children, because they eat Flesh so very soon. For they imagine, that Wine, even in this Age, very much promotes the Concoction of Crudities, to which Children that eat Flesh are without Doubt liable. But whether one Error is to be corrected by another, or whether they are both rather to be avoided, I shall not debate, but refer them to the Observation of those, who shall compare the Children of the poorer Sort of People, who necessarily live upon a plain and sober Diet, with those of the Rich, who riot in Luxury.

Wine of all Sorts taken too freely, as well as all Sorts of spirituous Liquors, destroys the natural Ferment of all Stomachs, especially of those of Children: they impair the Appetite, burn up the Coats of the Stomach, and wrinkle them like Parch-

ment that is scorched by the Fire; but they most of all injure the nervous Coat, which in this Case is of the greatest Moment, and by Means of this Coat, weaken all the Nerves of the Body, and most certainly drive the animal Spirits into all Sorts of Confusion. What does the least Injury to this tender Age is White Wine, which was accounted cold by the Ancients, but is not absolutely cold, but only comparatively with Regard to other Wines, whether red, tawney, or yellow. But *Galen*, as was said before, forbids Children to taste any Wine at all.

All the Causes of the Diseases of Infants, which have been already mentioned, and all that may be derived from them, center in one next and immediate Cause, namely, an *Acid* prevailing universally.

The *History* therefore of the more grievous Disorders, to which Children are for the most Part liable, is generally after the following Manner:

Their Stomachs, on what Cause soever it primarily depends, always degenerate into an acid Disorder, whence it comes to pass that no Aliment is bruised into the homogeneous Substance of Chyle, but is constantly changed into a Sort of Poffet. That unequal Condition of the Chyle or Nutri-
ment, constantly owing itself to a predo-
minating

minating Acidity, chiefly produces a Sickness, Vomiting, and sour Eructations. If the Affair is farther prolonged, they grow paler and paler by Degrees, and the discoloured Countenance discovers a Mixture of yellow or green. Then the Stomach swells with Inflations, and flatulent Eruptions are thrown upwards. In the mean Time a red Pimple or two, a sure Sign of an abounding Acid, appears on the Skin, in some upper Part of the Body, sometimes on each Cheek, sometimes on the Chin, sometimes on the Forehead, or Neck, or sometimes lower; and the Infant daily grows worse. He wheezes also, and draws his Breath so hard as to disturb the Ears of those who stand by; which Symptom is always found to affect him, especially if he is fat, whensoever the Disease is of the acute Kind. Besides, he is often affected with a light, dry, and sometimes suffocating Cough: a dry one, because the Acrimony of the Humours continually vellicates the Branches of the *aspera arteria*, which are very sensible; a suffocating one, because the *Bronchia* of the Lungs are grievously loaded with serous Humours distilling upon them, and not finding an Outlet. Moreover, because they have the greatest Weakness of their nervous System, and have the highest Degree of Softness and
Tendernefs

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Tendernefs in their Constitution, therefore they are not able to bear the moft troublefome Force of coughing, and are ready to fink under the violent Agitation of the Breaft, being in a Manner fuffocated, and black in the Face. But if the Coagulations already mentioned descend prefently, as they often do, from the Stomach into the Inteftines, they fometimes produce Gripings, fometimes greenifh Stools, and fometimes violent Loofeneffes. But whilft the Tragedy is acted in the lower Belly, either the great Pain of the Gripes lights up an acute Fever, which, if not rightly managed, ufually deprives the Infants of their Lives; or elfe the Pain being a little more moderate, and giving Way perhaps to fome unskillful Cure, often ends in a hard Tumour of the *Abdomen*, which in fome readily ferves to promote the Rickets or King's Evil. A Sort of quaking Gelly, a Substance ready to produce Worms, fometimes white, fometimes of a brown or yellowifh Colour, fometimes mixt with green, fometimes of it's own Accord, but oftener from a right Operation of Medicines, is difcharged together with the Stools. In the mean Time the Infants very often rub their Noftrels, which not only happens in the Cafe of real Worms, as the Women commonly think, but alfo in every Sort of Fever, which a-
rifes

rises from the Corruption of the Humours; for the Acrimony of the Humours being carried upwards, usually vellicates or pricks the sensible Membranes of the Nostrils, both in acute Disorders, and in most chro- nical ones, as well in grown Persons as in Children. The Gripings of the Belly, which have just been mentioned, usually produce Uneasinesses, Moanings, or Cry- ings, both Night and Day, which the Nurse endeavours to relieve by frequently giving the Breast to the Child, in order to gain a little Respite in her troublesome Employ- ment. But if the Nurse's Circumstances are strait, and compel her every now and then to leave the Infant crying to the deaf Air, or if, as is too often the Case, her Heart is set wholly on the Profit, without any Commiseration for the poor Infant's Cries, then it frequently gets a Rupture either of the Gut or Cawl, which often continues many Years. Besides, the Milk and all the Food fails of being digested rightly, during these Gripes, and grows still more acid, and is more curdled; a Fever comes on by Degrees, a Thirst seizes them, all their Limbs grow flaccid, the Neck is unable to support the Head, and the poor Creature grows weaker and weaker every Day. And to put an end at last to their Miseries, they are seized by Convulsions, or
Twitchings

Twitchings of their weakened Limbs. And when the Nerves have no more Power left to move the Muscles of the Heart, and to propel the Blood according to the Laws of Circulation ; the Whites of the Eyes are naturally turned up, and the poor Infant immaturely finishes it's short Life, before it has been able to learn from right Reason, how truly miserable it is to continue longer in this Life.

If it is the Time of their being about their Teeth, they are usually tormented with most of the above-mentioned Symptoms, and besides the Thrush, or Ulcers of the Mouth of an almost fiery Heat, like a whitish Crust, which generally appears between the Boning, as it is called, or first Formation, and the cutting of the Teeth, and sometimes later, but chiefly prevails about this Time, will sometimes so exulcerate the whole Mouth, that neither the Breast, let them be ever so fond of it, nor the Spoon filled with Pap, especially if it is warm, can be endured by their tender and exulcerated Mouths.

I shall add, that when the Infants Mouths are very sore with the Thrush, it often happens that they are not able for some Days either to cry, or to shed a single Tear, tho' they are most miserably tortured by the greatest Tenderness and intense Heat of their Mouths,

Mouths, and with other Evils that attend a Fever. And therefore I generally hope well of them, when they change their Silence into crying, and when, towards the End of the Disease, they make the whole House ring with their Squawling.

The bigger Children being attacked with febrile Symptoms, generally complain of their Heads, which Pain, in all Probability, is seldom idiopathical, but for the most Part sympathetical, depending on the Disorder of the Stomach and lower Parts.

That all these, and such like Symptoms, proceed immediately from the too great Coagulation or Incrassation of the Aliment, and that far greater than agrees in any Manner with the Nature of Infants, all whose Ducts must necessarily be fluid; and that such a Coagulation must be continually owing to some Degree of Acidity, or at least must thence proceed much oftener than from any other Cause, will manifestly appear, if any Trust can be had in the Senses themselves, or lastly in the Cure, which is best attempted by such Things as obtund the Acid, and dissolve the Coagulations.

Frequent Vomitings of a tenacious Gelly, or some viscid and coagulating Phlegm, which is sometimes green, when they are most violently Ill; and the Breath of Infants which

which often have an acid Smell, are Things very manifest to the Senses.

That the green Colour of the Stools is entirely owing to the Mixture of an *acid* Bile, will evidently appear to the sensible Observation of those, who love to try the Changes of Colours into green, by Vinegar and acid Spirits. Besides, the Smell of the green Stools, which is always called *Sour* by the Nurses, clearly demonstrates the same.

The cruel Pain of the Gripes in the lower Belly, and a remarkable Paleness of the Face at the same Time, plainly confirm the over-powering of the *acid* Humours. Besides, whensoever little Children are wracked with cruel Tortures, let them have been of ever so sanguine and florid a Complexion before, yet at that Time they grow exceedingly pale, only they are sometimes covered with a remarkable Redness over their Cheeks, which easily and quickly Changes to Paleness.

Here I shall note by the by, that I do not by any Means seek after the Honour, if there is any in it, of finding out a new Hypothesis, nor if I have found out, or in any Manner established an Hypothesis, do I think it my Business, to force all Sorts of Arguments, even in spite of Nature, as the Custom is, to strengthen and support
such

such an Hypothesis. For the principal Affair in the Medical Art, and which alone is of Service to the Health of Mankind, consists in such a Knowledge of Diseases, as is founded on Experience, and the Cure itself, and strengthened thereby. For all other Explanations of the *Phænomena* whatsoever, let them be esteemed ever so learned and subtile, may shew the acute Sophist, the Philosopher improperly so called, or a ready Genius; but can never discover the Physician truly skillful, and excellent in his Art. For all those fine Speculations, which, like poetical Flights, always appear admirable in wanton young Minds, often have their Existence no where but in the Imagination of the Inventor himself; and are frequently invented by those who have least Ability in the Practice of Physick. But solid and true Ideas of Diseases are never rightly learned, nor is the Truth of them distinguished and confirmed by any other Means than Practice.

I know well enough, that all the subtile Animadverters, will find fault with this Notion that I have started, of an *Acid* prevailing in all the more remarkable Disorders of Children. But yet I shall not enter into any Controversy, whether all the Notes of *Acidity*, that can be proposed by Men of Subtilty, Delighters in squabbling, or
such

such as have no Business on their Hands, will square exactly with that *Acid* which I affirm to prevail in the Stomachs of Children. It will abundantly satisfy my Desires, how imperfectly soever I may be able to polish this Notion of mine, if I shall be so happy, as to be able at length to trace out a more efficacious Method of *Cure*, and a more certain one, than that which has hitherto generally obtained, which I willingly leave to be determined by those, who shall be pleased to try the Truth of what I say.

However, I will not omit what the Prince of all Physicians *Hippocrates*, lays down at large concerning the Causes of Diseases, in his Book *De Veteri Medecina*. His Words are these: Οὐ γὰρ τὸ ξηρὸν, οὐδὲ τὸ ὑγρὸν, οὐδὲ τὸ θερμὸν, &c. “ The
 “ most famous of the ancient Physicians
 “ have been of Opinion, that Man is not
 “ injured either by dry or moist, or hot,
 “ or cold, or by any of these, and that
 “ he stands in no need of any of them.
 “ But they have thought that injurious,
 “ which was most powerful in every one,
 “ and above human Nature so as not to be
 “ subdued by it, and this is what they
 “ have endeavoured to remove. Now the
 “ most powerful among sweet Things is
 “ the sweetest, among bitter Things the
 “ most

“ most bitter, among acid the most acid,
 “ and so the highest Degree of every
 “ Thing. For they found these to be
 “ in Man, and to hurt him. For in Man
 “ there is both bitter, and salt, and sweet,
 “ and acid, and acerb, and insipid, and
 “ infinite others, which, according to their
 “ Quantity and Strength, have various Fa-
 “ culties. And these by Mixture, and mu-
 “ tual tempering, are neither perceived, nor
 “ give Trouble to any one. But when
 “ any one of these is separated, and stands
 “ by itself, then it becomes conspicuous
 “ and troublesome to the Man. Also
 “ of Meats, which least agree with us,
 “ and which being taken into the Body
 “ hurt the Man, every one of these is ei-
 “ ther bitter, and not at all tempered, or
 “ salt, or acid, or in some other Manner
 “ intemperate and vehement, and there-
 “ fore make a Perturbation in the Body.”

And afterwards, *Οὐ γὰρ τὸ θερμὸν ἐστὶ τὸ τὴν μεγάλην δύναμιν ἔχον, Ἔς.* “ For
 “ it is not the hot that has the great
 “ Power, but the Thing itself so far as
 “ it is insipid and acerb, and of other
 “ Quantities, which I mentioned before.”

Again, *Οὐ διὰ τὸ θερμὸν ἀπλῶς, Ἔς.*
 “ It is not merely because of Heat that
 “ Men are feverish, nor is that alone the
 “ Cause of the Disorder, but bitter and hot

“ is the same, as hot and acid, and salt
 “ and hot, and infinite others; and again,
 “ cold joined with other Faculties, &c.”

From these, and many other Things of the same Sort, which are laid down at large in the above-mentioned Book, it is plain, that our Divine old Man, who excels all others in Medical Knowledge, determined as a Certainty, that those secondary Qualities, namely, Acidity, Bitterness, Saltness, and such like, being joined with the Symptoms of Heat or Cold, are to be considered chiefly as Principal and efficient Causes of Diseases. And therefore I shall make no Doubt to add that it necessarily follows, that the Cure itself is to be directed in the first Place, not so much to the extinguishing of Heat by Cold, as to the blunting of an Acid, the altering of a Bitter, the attempering of a Salt, the cutting of thick Humours, and the rendering of such as are thin and too fluid more compact, the asswaging such as are rough, and, lastly, to the opening of the obstructed Ducts of the Body, and freeing them from their Infarctions.

But before I attempt the *Cure* itself, it may seem proper, according to usual Custom, to premise some *Prognosticks*.

But the *Prognostick*, in my Opinion, depends rather on the Method of Cure, whether

ther it be right or wrong, as also on the Behaviour or Compliance of the Nurse, as whether she is too fond of herself, and relies entirely on her *own Wisdom*, which alas! is a sad Consideration, or whether she is obedient to the Instructions that are given her; it depends, I say, on these more than on the Disorders of the Infants and Children themselves. For the Fevers of Children are in themselves light, nor does their febrile Heat so much flame or burn, but may rather be called an Increase of the natural Heat; unless an injudicious Art, very unhappily depending on fiery and spirituous Cordials, is called in to their Assistance.

Corpulent and fat Infants, abounding with Phlegm, who have the Top of the Head for a long Time soft, like a quaking Gelly, which we call *an open Mould*, very often running from the *Anterior Suture* of the Skull to the posterior one, are most obnoxious to the Rickets, convulsive or Hooping-Cough, dangerous Thrushes, and at last to the King's-Evil.

Those who are lean and scraggy are the most tender of all, they are burnt up, in Consideration of their tender Age, and are for the most Part liable to Fevers of the worst Sort, that is, such as with regard to them are inflammatory, and injurious to the Nerves,

Children that are born of hysterical, tender, sickly Mothers, who are continually eating Fruit or Sallads whilst they are with Child, or at that Time are fond of every Thing that is sharp and sour, or of those who are fond of indulging their Appetite, or, lastly, of those who are subject to a depraved Appetite, of any Kind whatsoever; such Children, I say, who are descended from such Parents, with much Difficulty recover from any great Diseases.

Those whose Bodies are loose, enjoy better Health than those who are bound.

The Spring and Summer Seasons are most favourable to the Expulsion of their Fevers, and the Autumn or Winter Season is least favourable.

From the Middle of *July* to about the Middle of *September*, the Epidemical Gripes of Children are so rife every Year, that more of them usually die in one Month, than in three or four at any other Time: For the Heat of that Season commonly weakens them at least, if it does not entirely exhaust their Strength.

Convulsions and Gripes, attended with continual and obstinate Watchings, abundantly discover them to be in extreme Danger.

When tender Infants have been for a long Time weakened by any Sort of Sickness,

ness, or inflamed by too hot a Regimen, they are usually brought to an End of those Miseries with which they have been tormented, by Convulsions, or at least Twitchings of their Joints.

As for the *Cure of the Diseases of Infants*, it does not appear to me, that any one of all the Authors, who have written whole Volumes expressly on this Subject, as well as on many others which relate to the Cure of Diseases, has made it so clear, or brought it into common Use so well as might be desired. Indeed, they have not neglected to describe a great Variety of Diseases accurately, to relate their Causes elegantly, and to deliver both the diagnostic and prognostick Symptoms according to Custom. They have diligently followed the beaten Track one after another; and for the most Part, the later Writers have easily embraced what they have received from their Predecessors, without being too severe in their Examination. There have been very few, who have ventured to establish any other than the common *Indications of Cure*, or have handed down Observations to us fairly deducible from the Nature of Infants, rather than common or wrought up with singular Artifice.

The best Treatise on the *Disorders of Children*, that I have happened to see, is

that of *Sylvius de le Boe*, who strenuously asserted, that an *Acid* is the true and general Cause of them; but partly through his vehement Passion for some Chymical Preparations, very volatile, and therefore too hot, partly through the almost continual Use of Opiates, even in the Management of the most tender Infants, so that he did not unjustly acquire the Name of the *Opiate Doctor*, he quite weakened at least, if he did not totally subvert in his Practice, what he had in a great Measure both learnedly and truly established in Theory.

If therefore we are desirous of laying any firm Foundation of the Cure of Infants, we must in the first Place have our Eyes on their natural Tenderness and Weakness. We must also make Choice of such Medicines as best agree with the most tender Frame. For the milder and safer the Remedies are which we apply, the more certainly will the Event succeed according to our Expectation. And in Truth, the Use of the more noble and generous Medicines, as they are commonly called, can never be better laid aside in the extensive Province of Physick, than in the Management of Infants. To what Purpose then serves the burning of most intense Fires Night and Day, to extract the Powers of Minerals,

Minerals, where any Alteration is easily effected? For Goodness Sake, what natural Harmony can there be found between the almost impenetrable Hardness of Metals, and the waxen Softness of the infantile Constitution? By what Means can a very weak Appetite, which often hardly digests the most light Food of Pap, and even of Milk, sustain the caustic Force of inflammable Medicines, that are quite incongruous to their tender Nature? As their Aliment is the most simple, so the Medicines that are commonly to be given them, ought to be simple, but little receding from their natural State, and for the most Part void of too laborious an Artifice.

As the Acidity of the Humours is the primary Cause of all the Disorders with which the tender Age is wont to be tormented, the whole Art of Cure turns entirely on subduing the Acid. Many Mists may be thrown over the Eyes of young Beginners, to hinder the Truth from being obvious to a diligent Enquirer. But if we may be allowed fairly to speak the Truth, and do not desire to lose all our Pains and Trouble, those Things which tend directly to subdue an *Acid*, are the only Things that promote the Cure; but whatsoever do not tend that Way, at least disturb the tender Bodies of Infants more or less.

The subduing of the *Acid* depends entirely on *two Intentions*. First, the *Preparation of the Acid*, and rendering it fitter for Expulsion out of the Body. Secondly, the *purging* out of the *Acid* being thus rightly prepared by proper Evacuations. One of these without the other will hardly attain the End; but the Force of both of them, helping each other, will remove their acute Disorders quickly and safely, provided it be timely applied; and will greatly relieve these Disorders of their's, which are called chronical.

The *purging* of those of a tender Age, even in their slighter Fevers, and before their Strength has been too much weakened, will appear at first Sight to be attended with some Danger. But the Certainty of the Advantage, arising from the Method which I am going to describe, will give the best Apology for making the Trial.

The purging even of *Adults*, who labour under any Sort of Continued Fevers, has had the same Appearance, both of Danger and Rashness, to the unexperienced. But yet the happy Event of it has been greatly confirmed by the late Experience of some of the most skillful Physicians. The first who published the Advantage of *purging even in some Fevers*, was that incomparable Subduer of all Sorts of Fevers, and most famous

famous Practitioner Dr *Sydenham*, who in his *Schedula Monitoria*, which was printed a few Years ago, expressly laid open his *Method* for subduing the Epidemical Fever which at that Time went about. And his Merit appears to me so great in this Affair, that I believe no Age will ever forget his Name, as long as the Art of Physick shall flourish. He has also reprehended often, in a severe Manner, in many Places of his Works, the too frequent Use of Diaphoreticks, both among our own People and Foreigners. Nor did this famous Man pass it over in his Works already published, in the Cure of the *Bastard Peripneumony*, a Disease not very rare among us; as he had before also inculcated the extraordinary Use of Catharticks in other Disorders; and in the Postscript lately added to all his Works, placed the Cure of that Fever which he called the *Winter Fever* solely in purging. So great an Ardour for the publick Good in a Man of almost seventy Years of Age, and labouring under a very ill State of Health, could not forbear, when he had one Foot in the Grave, rendering his Observations on this Subject quite perfect in that *truly golden Schedula*.

But that purging, tho' it is not reckoned among the *Arcana* of Physick, and owes hardly any Thing to the Wonders of Chymistry,

mistry, is indeed the Principal of all Helps, which the fruitful Invention of curious Men ever discovered, I am persuaded to believe chiefly for this Reason, that hardly any one has a firm State of Health, or can keep himself in good Order, unless his Body be moderately open every Day by a natural purging; which *natural purging* is almost as necessary to sustain Life, and preserve the Health of the Body, as our daily Meat and Drink is to the very Nourishment of it. Nor does the Method of Living more require, that the better and more juicy Part of the Food should be transmitted through the lacteal Veins, to afford due Nourishment to the Body, than that the thicker and worse Part of it, which being too long retained sends up noxious, and in a Manner venemous, Steams, should be expelled from the Body through the common Sink, either by Nature or Art. And, indeed, *purging* has justly acquired such Honour to itself, that common Custom has dignified that Operation alone with the Name of Physick.

Seven Years ago, before the first Edition of this Work, it was a Custom with me, especially in the milder Fevers of *Children*, and also of the smallest *Infants*, to give a gentle *Purge* according to the Method just laid down; tho' I neglected it in Adults:
and

and it is not easy to express how much it succeeded to my Wishes.

Wherefore when I first read that *Schedula* attentively, I received the same Joy, as if I had happened to receive some extraordinary Favour from the Divine Being. Therefore I was most easily induced to try that Method of purging in some Adults, which I had very often experienced to be attended with the greatest Success in the Fevers of younger Persons.

But it is to be observed, that the febrile Symptoms at that Time chiefly attacked the Head, and left the Stomach free and almost untouched, and that the Nature of that Epidemical Fever more favoured the purging of Adults, than happened in the succeeding Fever, in which the Sickness and Vomiting plainly shewed the Stomach to be vehemently disturbed, and vomits to be necessary instead of purging. And I gave that most excellent Physician notice of the manifest Alteration of the so long prevailing Constitution. But he confessed the Strength of his aged Body to be then so weakened and broken, that he was no longer able to form a Judgment of popular Diseases, or to go out of his House to visit the Sick.

I shall add, that the Epidemical Fever which raged the Year before, and seized so many Families both in Town and Country,
which

which attacked the Head above all other Parts of the Body ; and which, during it's Continuance, was often conspicuous by remarkable Intermiffions and Paroxyfms of the febrile Heat, without any manifelt cold or fhivering ; appeared to me to yield more furely, fafely, and quickly, to repeated Evacuations, than either to the Peruvian Bark, if Evacuations were defpifed and omitted before the Ufe of it, or to any other Methods, whether they confift of Cordial or Diaphoretick Medicines.

The *firft Indication* in curing the Fevers of *Infants* is, the due *Preparation* of the *Acid*, in order to the better Expulfion of it. And that *Acids* ought to be prepared, before they can juftly be purged, will eafily appear, if we confider a little the Nature of an *Acid* ; namely, the Power of increafing and coagulating, with which it is endued ; the general Cause of producing Obftructions, which moft commonly arifes from that Parent ; the natural Putrefaction of all Liquids, except the fpirituous, into an Acid ; the great Difficulty which Phyficians commonly find in curing thofe whofe Bodies much abound in *Acid* Humour ; and above all other Arguments, if we confider the Gripes which ufually accompany purges that are given without duly preparing the Body, in a Conftitution tending to *Acid*.

I know

I know that this Expression, the *Preparation of Humours*, may be found in very many Authors. And the End proposed was, that the following Purge might have the better Success. That is, they endeavoured to attenuate thick Humours, to moderate hot ones, to open the obstructed Passages, or to drive them by Diaphoreticks through the Pores of the Skin. But for the most Part they used I know not what *Syrups*, simple distilled Waters, and such like Trifles, in order to attain this End, which contributed nothing at all to the intended Preparation or Alteration. In the mean while the Time, which was highly necessary for subduing the acute Humour, was spent idly, nay to a bad Purpose.

This *Preparation*, such as it is, drew it's Origin from that trite, but not sufficiently understood, Aphorism of *Hippocrates*, §. 1. n. 22. *Concocted Humours, not crude ones are to be cured.* And I am of Opinion, that the frequent straining of this Rule is not the least Cause, why so many most famous Physicians many Ages ago did not dream of the Benefit of purging in Continued Fevers. For when the first Insults of Fevers, and especially after the Patients have been some time confined to a hot Bed, very often shew evident Signs of Crudity, the Physicians called in, however otherwise well versed

versed in Practice, generally fly immediately to Sudorificks as the only Refuge; but at the very mention of purging they are no less scared than the Nurses themselves.

Nor am I ignorant, that some Authors have made prolix Discourses about purging in Fevers, as well as about every Thing else; but if I may express the Thing itself in a few Words, they have heaped up a great deal, rather to fill the Page, engage the Mind of the Reader, and make a Boast of great Learning, than to illustrate or determine the Truth itself.

The usual Preparation of crude Humours in Fevers by Alexipharmicks and Sudorificks, tends rather to the making of Humours more crude, than to introduce a true *Concoction* of them. Nay, indeed, they prepare rather for an untimely Death, whilst by driving the Crudities from the lower Part of the Body up to the Head, they too surely bring on Phrensies, Convulsions, and other such like deplorable Symptoms.

In the Beginnings of Fevers, whether they are essential or symptomatical, if for the slow Expectation of Concoction we were to put off the necessary Evacuations, we should be in Danger of losing the best Opportunity, which is often irrevocable. That Time, in which the whole Foundation of the following Cure should have been
laid,

laid, whilst the Strength is entire, whilst Evacuations are able to be of any Service, by the ridiculous Administration of Cordials, or the fallacious Experiment of chymical Febrifuges, flies gradually away, and the Patient, who at first was robust, now becomes delirious, and miserably perishes. Moreover I affirm, notwithstanding the blind Prejudice of Men, that Evacuations made in due Time, sometimes bring the Urine to Concoction, which at first was crude, and the Patient to a nearer Prospect of Safety, sooner and more certainly, then any other Exertion of human Genius whatsoever.

The *Preparation* therefore of which we are now speaking, is not by any Means to be obtained by *Sudorificks* properly so called, that is, by Medicines that heat the Body, which are not in any Degree of Advantage to tender *Infants* or Children, but are found many Ways to hurt them. Whereas things that are quite temperate will securely absorb the prevailing Acidity, gradually assuage the Ebullition, and become powerful and safe Anodynes. Such are *Crab's Eyes* and *Crab's Claws*, *Oyster Shells*, *Egg Shells*, *Chalk*, *Coral*, *Coralline*, *Pearls*, *Mother of Pearl*, *oriental and occidental Bezoar*, *burnt Hart's-Horn*, *burnt Ivory*, *Bone of a Stag's Heart*, *Shavings of Hart's-Horn*, *Unicorn*, *Armenian Bole*,

Bole, sealed Earth, Blood Stone, &c. Of Compounds, Gascoign's Powder, Goa Stone, and Species of the Confection of Iacintb, will obtain the first Place.

But what testaceous Powders, or Absorbents of Acid, are to be brought into Use above the rest, or which of them are most efficacious in different Disorders, is not so easy to explain. For some learned and excellent Physicians, agreeing in Opinion with the fine Ladies, set a great Value on Pearls, and the whole Collection of precious Stones, and extol them to the Skies. For such Things as cost a great deal of Money, and are brought a great Way, are always the best in the Opinion of the Ladies. Others again, who are no less learned, but have perhaps a sounder Judgment, contend for the more vulgar and cheap Absorbents, and think those dear ones are prescribed more for the Profit of the Apothecaries, than for the Advantage of the Patients. But for my Part, as I strongly suspect that the Virtues and Uses of the different purging Mineral Waters, of which we have a great many Sorts, are hardly to be distinguished by Taste, or Distillation, or any other Criterion of the Curious; and as I am generally willing to humour the Sick in their harmless Prejudices, leaving the Thing quite at Liberty, whether they will use one purging Mineral

Mineral Water or another; so I have never yet been able to observe any remarkable and notable Difference between the Use of the most precious Stones, and of the most cheap ones, only I am very apt to believe, that the immense Goodness and Beneficence of the Divine Being commonly bestows more excellent Virtues on such Stones and Herbs as are best known, most cheap and common, than on such as are brought from a great Distance, very rare, and of a great Price. Nor could I ever persuade myself to believe, that Princes and great Nobles defend their Bodies better from the Inclemency of the Air, and from catching Cold, in these Climates so obnoxious to Varieties of Weather, by wearing silken Cloaths, of great Price, glittering with Gold and Purple, than the common People do, I mean such as are neither oppressed by Want, nor glory in too large an Abundance; such as do not choose to be covered with sumptuous Apparel, but with a Dress that is calculated for Use, and for the Temperature of the Air in which they dwell. Again, I never was of Opinion that Abundance of Wine, let it be ever so good, or the most costly Dainties, and the exquisite Inventions of fine Cooks, tend more to the Preservation of the Health, than the drinking of fair Water or small Beer, and the most com-

mon Eatables, if they are but wholesome and good in their Kind.

But yet if, among many testaceous Bodies of almost the same Nature, I would prefer one before the rest, I should commend common Oister-Shells, such as are found on the Sea-Shoar, and have endured a long Infolation, being ripened into Use by the benign Rays and vivific Heat of the Sun, and thereby far better prepared than by a Chymical Fire, and changed into a bluish or yellowish Colour. And if there ever was any Thing wonderful in that sympathetic Powder, of which so many Things have been boasted among the common People, of the Truth of which however I dare not affirm any Thing, it seems entirely to be ascribed to the long Infolation of Vitriol, and to the beneficial Rays of the Sun. But as for what is particularly delivered concerning the wonderful Virtues of that Powder by Sir *Kenelm Digby*, a polite and ingenious Man, but sometimes too credulous, I can no more be persuaded to believe it, than I can what is mentioned in the Wonders of *Cassandra*, *Cleopatra*, and the great *Cyrus*, and in the Relations of other Fictions of the same Sort. Such Writings as these, like Inchantments, are too apt to seduce the Minds of young People, and especially of
Women,

Women, from reading useful Doctrines, or true Histories.

But, however, tho' I ascribe a great deal to the more cheap and common Sweeteners, and often prefer them before others that are sumptuous, yet I do not mean that those learned and skillful Physicians, who set a great Value on Pearls and Bezoar, and esteem them at a high Rate, should be accused by a supercilious Censure as base and fraudulent Deceivers. It is most certainly a bold and difficult Thing to pass a dogmatical Judgment on Medicines, and other Physical Affairs; so that it may well seem more becoming to give reasonable Allowances on each Side, than to pass a Judgment, with too much Confidence, on doubtful Things, as if one was inspired by some *Pythian Apollo*. For others may take in pieces and blame my Opinion concerning the Force and Efficacy of Medicines, with the same Right and Authority, as I discuss the Opinions of others. For it is mighty easy for any self-conceited or humourfome Man, to take it into his Head to say, all the Herbs received into the *Materia Medica* are nothing but Weeds, and fitter to entertain the Fancies of an old Woman, than to engage the Attention of a learned Botanist. But great Modesty, and a Submission to ask Advice in doubtful Affairs, has always appeared to

me a clearer and more evident Sign of Learning and Knowledge, than the beholding of others Faults with Severity, whilst we are as blind as Moles to our own.

The *Magisteries* of precious Stones, which are celebrated by many with large *Encomiums*, could never obtain any Praises from me. Whatsoever natural Virtues they may have, they certainly change them for others. If they were formed to absorb an Acid powerfully, they are now rendered a Mixture of acid and sweet, and plainly owe to Art, that they are less fit for the Purpose intended.

I have designedly made no mention of *Volatile Salts*, whether they be *oily* or *spirituous*; none of *Mineral*, *Lunar* or *Solar Bezoar*; none of *Spirit of Sal Ammoniac*, none of that of *Hart's Horn*; of which Spirits the Use is however not to be entirely exploded with Regard to the most tender: because they excel in a Power of absorbing Acids; but I would observe, that they are to be used with the greatest Caution, because of the no small Heat that accompanies them. And therefore we have no Reason to extol *lixivial Salts*, or the *hotter Cordial Waters*, such as *compound Peony Water*, *Plague Water*, *Aqua Cælestis*, *Aqua Mirabilis*, *strong Cinnamon Water*, and such like, unless they are given in a very small
Quantity,

Quantity, and so diluted with other more temperate Waters, as to make their heating Power almost insensible to the Taste. For those Things which heat the Body, by what honourable Name soever they may be dignified, though they may bear an inestimable Price, or boldly promise an immortal Health, will easily dissolve the Bodies of Children, much more of Infants, and gradually destroy all their natural Heat, or at least turn it into a febrile one; lastly, they no more agree with their tender Age, than Milk and Pap are able to satisfy the craving Stomach of a Plowman. By which Reasons *Galen* was induced to forbid Children the Use of his *Treacle*, however rightly prepared, which yet he extolled with the greatest Praises up to the very Skies, as the only *Panacæa* in the World.

That the before-mentioned temperate Powders are wont to absorb an *Acid*, is a Thing so commonly known as to stand in need of no Proof. But that they are the safest of *Anodynes*, and also very often certain and indubitable in the *Gripes of Children*, will most abundantly appear, if we give them in a Dose much more liberal than the common, that is, in one sufficient for the End proposed. Nay, I will boldly affirm, that these Powders given in considerable Quantities will relieve their Gripes,

and all their Uneasinesses of any Kind whatsoever, unless some remarkable Fault of the principal Parts leaves no hope for any Relief by Medicine, with as much Certainty, as we can be sure that the Effect of Rhubarb will be to purge.

If in any violent Inflammation or Turgescency of the Humours, we should take away only six Ounces of Blood from a grown Person, when a Pound was necessary, we should have no Reason to blame Bleeding as being not proper for the Cure, but the too sparing Use of that most powerful Remedy would be alone in fault. In like manner, if one or two Ounces of these Powders shall be requisite to remove the Disorders with which Infants are afflicted, what great Matter can we expect from the scanty and imperfect Use of one or two Drams, instead of an Ounce. An exquisite Knowledge of Medicines is but a small, not to say the least, Part of a good and skillful Physician. The right Use of Medicines to the entire Satisfaction of the Medical Intentions, the adapting both of the Kind and Quantity of the Medicines to the particular Constitution of the Patient, and that from a perfect Knowledge of the Nature of the present Disease; an accurate Distinction of the Temperament, and especially in Adults, whether it is Sanguine or Melancholy ;

Melancholy; that is, whether a Fever has greatly agitated the Blood, or whether a Tumult has caused the Spirits to fail, and the Strength to be enervated, and, lastly, a right Institution of the Diet, are all of greater Moment towards constituting an excellent Physician, than the most numerous *Apparatus* of Medicinal Prescriptions, let them be ever so excellently collected. But if this is not true, then an Apothecary well skilled in Prescriptions will easily excel the most learned Doctor of Physick, and the prating Apprentice will soon equal the Apothecary himself; nay, every Nurse, and gossiping old Woman, that is furnished with a large Quantity of Receipt Books, will perhaps bear away the Palm both from the learned Physician, and from the Apothecary too, how skillful soever he may be in Medicinal Prescriptions.

But, to pursue my Design, *for an Infant of a Year old in a Fever, or, as it commonly happens, tormented with the Gripes,* we may prescribe as follows:

Of the simple and compound Powder of Crab's Claws, of each one Dram, divide them into six equal Parts.

E 4 Or,

Or,

Oriental Bezoar, Pearls prepared, and Crab's Eyes, of each half a Dram, Species for the Confection of Jacinth one Scruple, reduce them to Powder, and divide them in like Manner.

Or,

Oister-Shells prepared without Fire three Drams, Native Sulphur one Dram, Crystal Mineral two Scruples, reduce them to Powder, and divide them into twelve Papers.

Or,

Simple Powder of Crab's Claws one Dram, Crab's Eyes prepared two Scruples, Cochineal six Grains, reduce them to a very fine Powder, and divide them into six Papers.

The Infant may take one of these Doses immediately, and repeat it, if necessary, two Hours afterwards, and then once in four Hours, except when asleep, for the two first Days. The Powder may be taken in a Spoonful of the following Julap, drinking another Spoonful after it.

Milk-

Milk-Water four Ounces, Black-Cherry-Water two Ounces, compound Peiony-Water and Plague-Water, of each two Drams, fine Loaf Sugar half an Ounce,

Or,

Penny-Royal and Milk-Water, of each three Ounces, Syrup of Clove Gilliflowers one Ounce.

Or,

Ten sweet Almonds blanched: pound them in a Marble Mortar, adding by Degrees Barley-Water or Milk-Water half a Pint, strain off the Liquor, and add small Cinnamon-Water six Drams, fine Sugar half an Ounce. Mix them and make into an Emulsion.

Sometimes I make use of a Pearl Julap, without any thing else, giving Instructions to shake the Phial carefully, before it is poured out.

Black-Cherry-Water four Ounces, Baum-Water two Ounces, Plague-Water three Drams, Pearls prepared one Dram, fine Sugar three Drams. Mix them for a Pearl

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Pearl Julap, of which three Spoonfuls may be taken as before.

But if the Infant is troubled with a grievous Cough, let it take the above-mentioned Powders more sparingly, and drink now and then a middling Spoonful of the following Julap.

Penny-Royal-Water three Ounces, Syrup of Marsh-Mallows two Ounces, Syrup of the Balsam of Tolu one Ounce.

The *Armenian Bole* is often properly mixed with other things, as being a most powerful Stopper of Defluxions on the Lungs. Sugar-Candy dissolved in the warm Juice of *Penny-Royal*, is a Remedy to which few are equal. Oil of *sweet Almonds* sweetened with Sugar is also of the greatest Service. *Native Sulphur*, which is endued with a wonderful Faculty of drying, penetrating, and discussing coagulated Humours in any Part of the Body whatsoever, being added to Absorbers of Acid in a phlegmatick Habit, is of very great Use. For *Sulphur* has not any noxious or deleterious Faculty, as *Crato*, and some other very great Men have unjustly thought, but has rather a great Alexipharmick, and expulsive

pulsive Power, which is opposite to the Corruption of Humours.

The more or less frequent Repetition of the *Powders* is not to be exactly determined, except with Relation to the Symptoms, according as they are milder or severer. I shall only repeat, that all the Gripes, Inquietudes, and Watchings of Infants are as certainly relieved by testaceous Powders given in Time, as the Pains or Watchings of grown Persons are for a Time removed by Narcoticks.

But here any one who has but just entered into the Practice of Physick may object, that there is nothing new in the giving of such a Powder. To this I answer, that an idle, insipid, useless, or sparing Use of them, such as is by no Means fit to answer any Intention, has been a long while and too much known already: But that neither so large, nor so often repeated a Dose, nor the Necessity of purging after them, has ever yet been treated of. It is a well known Story, which any one, if he pleases, may apply to the Subject in Hand, of one who pleasantly challenged any Person in the Company to set an Egg upright upon one End. They all tried in vain, and were not able to discover the Mystery, till he, crushing one End of it, set it presently upright, to the great Surprize and Mirth of
the

the Company; who, when they had once seen it done, found it to be the easiest thing in the World.

On the third Day after I am called in, unless the *Small-Pox*, *Measles*, or *Scarlet-Fever* appear, or unless I am sent for too late, namely, after the Strength of the Patient is quite exhausted, I prescribe a Purge. Suppose the *Infant* to be *one Year old*, I order after the following Manner.

Syrup of Succory with Rhubarb two Drams,
Powder of Rhubarb fifteen Grains.

Or,

Choice Rhubarb, and the best Sena, of each half a Scruple, Milk-Water two Drams, small Cinnamon-Water thirty Drops.

Or,

Syrup of Violets two Drams, Powder of Sena fifteen.

Or if the Infant is very froward, and therefore seems to require as small a Quantity of Physick as possible, I order six or eight Grains of the *Pulvis Cornachini*, or *Countess of Warwick's Powder*, to be taken

in

in a Spoonful of Black-Cherry-Water, sweetened with a little Sugar.

Or,

Pound two sweet Almonds blanch'd in a Marble Mortar, adding by Degrees Barley-Water, or any simple Water, an Ounce and half. In the strained Liquor, dissolve three Drams or half an Ounce of the best Manna, and make a solutive Emulsion.

Or,

Lenitive Electuary two or three Drams, dissolve it in Milk-Water one Ounce.

Or,

The best Sena in Powder, ten or twelve Grains.

In troublesome Symptoms, that arise from the highest Putrefaction of the Humours, I frequently give the *Æthiops Mineral*, which I shall hereafter describe from six to fifteen Grains in a small Spoonful of Syrup of Balsam, Syrup of Maidenhair, or any other pleasant Syrup, the Night before the Purging.

It

It ought to be observed, that *Mercurius dulcis*, if sublimed but twice or thrice, after the common Way, can seldom be given to Infants without Danger; nay that it cannot be given to several Women with Safety the Evening before the taking of a Purge; for it often occasions such unexpected Tumults in the Night-Time, both upwards and downwards, that the Purge intended to be given the next Morning is of Necessity to be put off. Not to mention, that a Salivation sometimes arising from a single Dose of it, ought to deter a prudent Physician from the Use of it in tender Infants. But this very *Mercurius dulcis*, sublimed at least six Times, or as far as nine or twelve Times, may often be given both to tender Infants, and weakly Women, on many Occasions, without fear of any great Injury, though not altogether so safely or frequently as the *Æthiops Mineral*. But however this Mercury, being rendered so sweet, and so often sublimed, often purges the Body, by moving it gently, without any Trouble almost, without griping, and without vomiting. Concerning this repeated Sublimation or Dulcoration of Mercury, I had some Discourse last Summer, in Consultation with a certain Physician of great Experience, who practises with much Reputation and Success.

cefs. This Gentleman affirmed to me for a certain Truth, that he had a hundred Times faved Children in Fevers, attended with an unufual Stupidity, or even a Coma, which is a moft dangerous Symptom in a Fever, by giving them *Mercurius dulcis* fix Times fublimed. For he was of Opinion that the Comatous Fevers of Children ufually proceeded either from Worms, or from fome hidden verminous Matter, violently disturbing the Functions of the Mind. I thought it proper to mention this, becaufe the revealing of it may perhaps be of great Ufe to many.

If the fick Infant is about three or four Years old, or if the Breeding of Teeth is pretty well over, and efpecially if there is any great Suspicion of Worms, or much Putrefaction of the Humours already contracted, then a Bolus of fuch Preparations will be of the greateft Service, and may be made up with Gelly of Quinces, or candied Citron-Peel, fifted, and diffolved in a Spoonful of Julap.

Such Boluffes are of no fmall Service to them, who are coftive, and not eafy to be purged by Medicines, for they are fuch Preparatives, that the Purge, which is taken the next Morning, has an eafier and better Effect.

Sometimes

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Sometimes also I order the following or a like Plaster to be applied to the Region of the Navel.

Succotrine Aloes, or Species of *Hiera Picra* one Dram, Leaves of Savin, Tops of the lesser Centaury, and Rue in Powder, of each one Scruple, Venice Turpentine a sufficient Quantity to make into a Plaster. Put a Bit of Cotton in the middle, and put some sticking Plaster about the edge, that it may stick the better to the Part. Sometimes we may add one Scruple of *Coloquintida*.

Of all the purging Medicines, I know none more suitable to the puerile Age, or more innocent in itself, than *Rhubarb*, which is so well known, and so much in Use. It brings down the Matter of the Fevers of Infants both gently and safely: it mildly purges the Stomach, nay and the whole Body, of vicious Humours, and strengthens it also; and therefore is the fittest to be given to Infants, Children, Women with Child, old Men, and such as are already weak with any Disease. *Rhubarb* seems better to deserve the Name of *Hiera* or *sacred*, than *Aloë*, which was so wonderfully extolled by the Ancients, and has been not undeservedly celebrated by the
Moderns,

Moderns, and holds the first Place, and is the Basis of almost all Officinal Pills. Indeed, on Account of it's extraordinary Bitterness, it often deserves no small Praise in grown Persons; but because of it's Acrimony, corroding, and the Heat that it gives the Body, it is not very safe for Children.

After the Operation of any lenitive Purge, a Powder like the former is to be given in the Evening, and afterwards to be repeated three or four times in a Day at proper Hours, for two other Days and Nights, and the purging is again to be repeated on the third Day; the Quantity of which is then to be determined according to the former Operation.

These Things being rightly performed, all the more grievous Symptoms for the most part cease, or at least are much moderated; so that there is now some Hope of the Affair, which before was in extreme Danger.

For Children that are a little bigger the same Method, performed under any Form whatsoever, of first preparing the Humours, and then purging them out, may be the safest Practice, if it be applied soon enough, the Proportion of each Medicine being duly observed according to the Ages.

It is to be observed, that the first Purge, which we give to Children in Fevers, should not only be of the lenitive Sort, but also that the Dose should be much milder than at other Times; and that the Night before the first Purge, a very mild Clyster of four Ounces of Cow's Milk sweetened with Sugar, adding a little Salt if the Child is costive, should be first thrown up.

Moreover, to quicken the Power of that first Purge, and to supply any Deficiency that may happen of the Cathartic Medicine, a Scruple of *Cremor Tartari* dissolved in some Spoonfuls of thin Water-gruel, or such like, may be given with the greatest Safety and Efficacy.

But the greatest Care must be taken, that the *Cremor Tartari* is pure and rightly prepared, and not to use that adulterated Sort commonly sold, the Price of which is almost the same with that of crude Tartar.

If a plump, fat Infant, or one of a very moist Temperament, degenerating into an Acid, is seized by any dangerous Illness, especially in the Winter Season, so that the sour Putrefaction cannot be quite subdued by two Purges given after this Manner, then it is necessary to persist in the same Method once or twice more, till all the Sickness is quite gone; only the Space of one or two Days ought to be added over
and

and above to the before-mentioned Days, in which the Powders that alter the Acid were to be given.

Nor could I ever observe any Inconvenience from purging so many Times, repeated in the most obstinate Disorder, but on the contrary, the Strength which before was weakened has always seemed to be renewed.

This only is to be observed in the purging of little Children, that no Occasion whatsoever can require a Purge to be given them above their Strength.

I cannot therefore in this Place pass over what the greatest Master of Physick, *Hippocrates*, has said in his Book *De Medicamentis purgantibus*, with great Knowledge, but not commonly understood: “ When
 “ any are seized by Fevers, they must not
 “ take purging Medicines till there is a Re-
 “ mission of the Fever. But at least not
 “ within fourteen Days. For their Flesh
 “ and their Bellies being hot, they take the
 “ Medicine without being purged by it,
 “ and so the Fever increases, the Colour
 “ rises, and they look as if they had the
 “ Jaundice. For the Bile being stirred and
 “ not purged out, the Patient will neither
 “ eat nor drink, but nauseates every Thing,
 “ and generally perishes. But if he out-
 “ lives this Day, and the Fever remits

“ with a purging, then he is safe. There-
 “ fore it is not proper to give purging Me-
 “ dicines in violent Fevers. But if it is
 “ necessary to open the Body, you may
 “ throw up a Glyster: for that is not so
 “ dangerous.”

In these Words of our Master we ought to observe, 1. That he speaks of the *Fevers of Adults*, which commonly are *strong*, vehement, and very ardent; and that his Words are not to be understood to relate to the Fevers of *Infants* or *Children*, which are naturally *mild*, and not so apt to burn. 2. That the *purging Medicines* in his Time were violent, very strong, and in a Manner deleterious, as *Scammony*, *Elaterium*, *Coloquintida*, *Hellebore*, and such like; but that the greatest Part of our mild Lenitives, which are exceedingly temperate, and some even actually *cold*, were as much unknown to the Learned of that Age, as the *Antipodes*, the *new World*, and the *Art of Printing*. 3. That *Hippocrates* speaks of Fevers in their natural State, and let alone to take their own Course, as his Descriptions also of Epidemical Diseases are most true and accurate. 4. It is to be observed, that *Hippocrates* teaches in this Place, that if any one, who is in a Fever, takes a purging Medicine, and escapes the Danger of that Day, he will *on that very Day* become safe
 from

from the Distemper. Now that this is true, and that Children in Fevers have often shaken them off on that very Day, from the finishing of the Operation of the first Purge, and that especially in the Spring or Summer Season.

These Things therefore being premised, I say that *Hippocrates* judges rightly of the lamentable Effects of purging Medicines, as the *violent Medicines* of his Time were given too late to robust Men, in a confirmed Fever, even when *Bleeding* had not preceded. But yet if Blood be sometimes taken away in a pretty large Quantity from Adults in due Time, on the Day preceding a Purge, especially where the Constitution is sanguine or athletic; and if our lenitive Medicines are given the next Day, especially if no vomiting has rather indicated the giving of an Emetic; or if the Bodies of younger Persons, are prepared by testaceous and other Medicines that moderate such an Acid, that the primary Cause of the Fever may be the better pulled up by the Roots, there seems to be a shorter and securer Way made to Health, than can be procured by any Cordials or Diaphoreticks whatsoever.

But by the by this seems to me the true and principal Reason, why *purging* in Acute Diseases has hitherto been disesteemed

among very learned Physicians; namely, because they are apt, as we say, to *put the Cart before the Horse*, that is, to purge before they bleed, or at least to defer the Bleeding when it was in the highest Degree necessary, and rashly to give only a Purge, and that one of the strongest.

As to the *Bleeding of Children*, though an obvious Translation of the febrile Matter into the Lungs, and *Convulsive Coughs* sometimes require it in the smallest Infants; yet it is very manifest, that it is a Remedy not suitable to their Nature, nor any more fit for this most tender Age, than for decrepid old People. And therefore I do not think it at all necessary to require it's Aid in any Disorders of Infants, except in Convulsive Coughs, or where a Fever, beginning on a sudden, is accompanied by a troublesome Cough; unless also in grievous Contusions which sometimes happen; or, lastly, in the Intervals of Convulsions. For Infants, that are wont to be nourished with a thin, and by no Means rich, Diet, are seldom if ever to be thought to have a true Plethora, how florid so ever they may be. There is a Moisture in them, with which they all abound, and the preternatural and easy Conversion of this Moisture into an *Acid* is the Cause of almost all their Disorders. Nor is it easy to believe, that Blood drawn
out

out of the Veins can properly correct or amend a moist Temperament, especially if it is degenerating into an Acid.

There are some, who for the Sake of Contradiction, either blame or are afraid of all Bleeding in general. These are the obsequious Disciples of the enthusiastick *Helmont*, always fond of the old Method of healing; the happy Inheritors of such great Secrets, that neither the Art of Physick, nor the Common-wealth, has ever been thought worthy of the Knowledge of them. These are they that vaunt themselves to be *Philosophers by Fire*, and *Adepts* of some uncommon *Chymistry*, quite unknown to all skillful Physicians, which is wont to produce none but marvellous Effects. These again are they that disdain to tread in the common and beaten Paths, how good soever, but always love to wander in private, solitary, and unfrequented Ways. These, whilst they grope in obscure Darknes, despise the clear Light of Knowledge. They are fond of empty, airy, and sublime Speculations, and vainly seek after I know not what impossible Panacæas, and sedulously gape after the imaginary Treasures of Adepts, making all their Vows to Mercury; and at last having converted all their Substance to Smoak, either grow disordered in their Senses, and become Inhabitants of *Bedlam*,

or after having dreamt of being richer than *Cræsus*, perish for mere Want and Penury.

All *testaceous* Bodies are very drying, and therefore peculiarly agree with such Disorders as depend on too great Moisture, and likewise with those Persons who abound with them. Now the Temper of Children is very moist, because it is the most soft. They are also endued with a slight Astringency, which is lost by burning, though burning gives them a Heat, and even a considerable Acrimony, which manifestly appears in quick Lime, and in many Chymical Medicines. They also most powerfully blunt any Acidity, which follows the Putrefaction of an aqueous Moisture, as surely as Heat does Fire. Moreover, the *testaceous* Substances afford no Heat at all to tender Bodies, the Consideration of which has induced me to prefer the Use of them before all other Medicines in the Cure of Children.

But there is another Cause why I recommended these *testaceous* Bodies for the Diseases of Children. Their Stomachs are subject to a voracious and almost insatiable Ferment, for the restraining of which Liquids alone are not sufficient. For it either ought to be blunted by Butter that swims a long Time on the upper Orifice of the Stomach, or else it requires to be nourished by

Panadas

Panadas or Puddings, that are not easily expelled from the Stomach. And I have more than once observed Children to be sick from hardly any other Cause, than that their Nurfes were wont to feed them with too thin and liquid a Diet. Wherefore *testaceous* Bodies are on many Accounts fuitable to the Nature of Children, and do not lose the Impreffion or Alteration that they make in the Region of the Stomach fo soon as any liquid Medicines whatsoever.

I fay nothing of feveral Sorts of *Birds*, that are cured of a Loss of Appetite, by fprinkling Sand on their Food, a Method which the Feeders of fuch Animals constantly use with good Succes.

Under the Name of *testaceous* Bodies I mean not only fuch as are properly fo called, but alfo *Corals*, *Chalk*, *Coralline*, both the *Bezoars*, and fuch like, which are plainly endued with the fame Faculty of abforbing an Acid, and are like to them in Nature, though they are of a very different Origin.

Medicines of this Kind have indeed been long used in Phyfick; but the right Ufe of them, and that which is beft of all fuited to the Nature of Children, has been either wholly unknown, or has hitherto been of very little Service. For the too fmall Dofe of them has been the Occafion that moft Phyficians have long ago had Recourfe to

Opiates,

Opiate, in order to relieve them from their Watchings and Pains, though these Medicines are hurtful, and quite contrary to the Nature of Children.

And here I cannot help calling to Mind a Scoff that was formerly thrown at me, by a certain Physician of no mean Note, who was called in, at my Desire, to consult about a Child of a noble Family, and Heir to a very great Estate, then labouring under a most dangerous Fever. He immediately proposed the giving of a Narcotick, and when he found me greatly averse to it, *If this is your Opinion*, says he, *you seem to practise Physick after the old-fashioned Way, and not according to the new Method.* I answered, that I did not treat Children after the new Method, and that I believed I never should. For by the Use of these Medicines I am no less certain, nay, I am far more certain, unless I am grievously mistaken indeed, and at least more safe in the removing of Gripes, easing of Watchings, relieving of all Sorts of Pains, and, lastly, in the stopping of Diarrhœas, than any other, with his *Narcoticks*; which Sort of Medicines, let them be ever so highly in Esteem, can never be given to Children, without the greatest Hazard of their Lives.

I verily believe that none of the mad Admirers of *Opiates* can defend the Use of them

them in the *very weakest* Constitutions, tho' many have been too much addicted to the Use of them in such, as well as in robust Constitutions. For they remember the Proverb, that *dead Men tell no Tales*; and are not unmindful how agreeable Sleep is always to the Sick, and how acceptable a Remission of Care, and Diminution of Trouble, is to their Attendants and Nurses. For is not the Physician who is too indulgent in Narcoticks, though he may fix the Disease, or at least prolong the Cure of it, and empty the Purse of the Patient, full as acceptable to sick Persons tortured with continual Pains, as a smooth Flatterer is to rich and powerful Men? But however as the Pulse of younger People is very weak, their Constitution most tender by Nature, and their Strength very weak, it by no Means appears reasonable to me to endeavour to relieve a sick Child by uncertain and dangerous Medicines, when more safe ones, nay the most safe of all, are equally ready at Hand.

I will add this also, that since I have known the Use of *testaceous* Medicines, I have found the Effect of them to be not only *Anodyne*, but even *Soporifick* to *Infants*; so that, provided they are given in a Dose sufficient to obtain the desired End, and are duly repeated, there is scarce any Disorder of theirs, how painful soever, that requires
the

the least Use of narcotick Medicines properly so called.

But as the giving of *Opiates* is not to be allowed in any of the Disorders of Children, except in obstinate Vomiting, of which I shall treat by and by, so neither can I ever be persuaded to recommend the giving, especially in large Quantities, of *heating* Medicines, though they may be dignified with the Name of *salutiferous* or *cordial* Medicines. For the Name of *Cordial* was cunningly and artfully invented, to please the good Women, and deceive those charitable Ladies, who living in Country Places, at a great Distance from any good Physician, kindly practise Physick among their poor Neighbours, and give *Cordials* for all Sorts of Complaints, or to delight the ignorant with Medicines that seem agreeable to their Palates. For who can imagine that any Harm can happen to him after taking a *Cordial*? And yet it is a Matter of Doubt with some of the best Physicians, *whether* of those who have not died a violent Death, *more have perished by Diseases or by Cordials*. For whatsoever is wont to exasperate the Symptoms of a Disease, whatsoever increases Thirst, makes the Tongue dry, or in any Degree increases the febrile Flame, is by no Means proper for the most tender of all Constitutions, which have hardly any

Force

Force at all to oppose to the Injuries that are offered them. And indeed I have observed over and over again, various Injuries, not to call them mortal, happening to Children from a hot Regimen, whereas I never could perceive the least Inconvenience to arise from the Use of the abovementioned temperate Medicines, in the most severe Symptoms.

Here some one may object, that *Obstructions* must necessarily be produced from the hard and almost stony Substance of the abovementioned Medicines, and that things of that Sort must necessarily render the most tender Disposition of Children, and all their smallest Passages, on Account of their Minuteness, more liable to Obstructions.

In order to give the better Satisfaction to this Doubt, we must consider, that the usual and legitimate *Parent of Obstructions* in them is an *acid Disorder*, which *Infants* are wont to contract from the mere Coldness of the Air, and from the usual Tenderness of their Constitution, as they live on the most slender and thin Food. Therefore also whatsoever things correct, temper, or blunt the *acid Disorder*, and are apt to dissolve Coagulations, which these Sorts of things do above all, and that without the least Addition of Heat, are the most proper of all to remove Obstructions, and
quickly

quickly subdue the whole Train of Symptoms, depending on this Original.

And it must be confessed, that testaceous Powders, taken in large Quantities, may produce Obstructions both in them and in grown Persons, and offend or disturb their Stomachs, unless the Body is rendered a little soluble, sometimes by Glysters, and sometimes by lenitive Purges, which being prudently administered, that little Obstruction, Offence, or light Disturbance, easily gives place, and is soon removed.

There are some who teach, that an *alkaline* Disorder of the Body is the universal Cause of all Fevers, and that *Acids*, indiscriminately given in Fevers, have wonderful Success, whether they are robust Men, or delicate Women, or tender Children, that are seized by any Fever. But that Doctrine, if a Fiction, invented for the Sake of Gain, or popular Novity, rather than of Truth, may be called a Doctrine, is contrary both to common Experience, in small Children, old People, and Women especially, and to the Opinion of all the ancient Physicians, who all with one Consent pronounce, that *Acids* are very injurious to the Womb, and to all Affections of the Womb; who also unanimously agree, that *Acids* give a noxious Juice to the Body, and afford a proper Fund for the Production
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of Diseases, that they vellicate the *Parenchyma* of the Bowels, being able to dissolve not only Pearls but Metals too by their corrosive Power; also that they greatly injure the sensorial Nerves, raise Abundance of *Flatus's*, and cause Pains of the Head. Besides, the too great Use of *Acids* is so much the more to be dreaded among us, as *England* seems to be more infested than any other Country, with melancholic Disorders, which abound already with too great *Acidity*.

Others, perhaps, will be angry with me for neglecting all this while the abstruse Doctrine of *Crisis*, which has been so long celebrated in the Schools of the Physicians, and for quite forgetting the *Computation of the critical Days* which was so exactly settled by the Ancients, and is still cried up by those who most admire what is the least intelligible. I shall add therefore, that seeing a *Crisis* is a sudden Change made in a Disease, either for Recovery or Death, it entirely depends, as far as I have been able to observe with the greatest Diligence, on the very Method of Cure, and that chiefly in young Children, which is the Subject now in Hand, and is either hastened or produced by the Skillfulness or Unskillfulness of the Practitioner. For when the Cure relies principally on general Evacuations seasonably administered, the Crudities
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that cause the Fever are sooner concocted than otherwise, part of the morbifick Matter is presently drawn out, and the rest, being inferior in Strength to the Medicines afterwards administred, easily gives place to them. But when the Humours are stirred up by *Diaphoreticks* and *Cordials*, or the Spirits are daily turned into Confusion, and the Business is left wholly to *Glysters* from the very Beginning of the Fever, which with their whole Power can pass no farther than the great Guts, then truly the *Concoction*, and so also the *Crisis* is justly to be expected very late after so very learned and solemn a Pomp of many Medicines.

If there was any Thing certain in what was formerly determined by the Observations of the famous Physicians in *Greece*, concerning the Nature of *Crisis*, the very same will, I believe, be found uncertain in other Countries, lying farther either to the North or the South, that is, where the People are too much stiffened with Cold, or dissolved by Heat; and many Things will be found different or altered from those established Rules, according to the various Nature of different Countries, and of the Fevers that prevail in them. Nor does Nature receive the least Interruption in her regular Motion, on the critical Days, from the Medicines themselves, whether they disturb

disturb or alter, as the Pulse is wont to be changed by Meats and Drinks improperly taken in.

But to conclude, a *Crisis* seems nothing else than the last Effort of Nature, with all the Powers that remain to evacuate the morbid Matter at last by convenient Places. And this often happens among us by *Sweat*, because of the preposterous Use of a hot Regimen. It is often made also by a *Hæmorrhage*, by a *purging downwards*, by *Vomiting*, and sometimes by *Urine*. All which give us reason to conclude, that Nature herself, the very wisest and best of all Physicians, would have no other Method of treating Fevers pursued or taken in hand, but that which is performed by due *Evacuations*.

There are many things in these latter Times variously written and disputed about, concerning the great Use of *Precipitants* in Medicine, as if all the Disorders, with which Mankind is afflicted, could easily be driven away, if we had but an exact Knowledge of some *proper* and *specific* *Precipitant* well suited to every Disease. But it is to be observed, that we treat at present concerning the febrile and *acute Disorders of Children*, by which their Lives are quickly terminated: and not concerning the Chronical, which give a long Truce to the
G Physician,

Physician, and permit him, with more Safety, curiously to try new Powers of things. Again, *Precipitation* is a Separation of the thicker Particles, which were suspended imperceptible by the Power of the dissolving Acid, in some clear Liquor, but are driven to the Bottom by the Aid of some breaker of the Acid, being freed from their Chains. Moreover, Crudity, which is wont to appear in Fevers, seems indeed to us to be the genuine Effect of a predominating Acid; but *Coction* is a Sign of an Acid much broken, and of a conquering Nature. And therefore purging, procured by Art, drives the Crudities, which are first brought upwards, towards the Bottom of the Body, and seems above all other Medicines properly to *precipitate*, that the Crudities may at last be exonerated either by Stool or Urine. Moreover, whatsoever other Kind of Medicine has any Power of *precipitating*, it hardly ever produces that Effect by any other Cause, than so far as it is *Cathartick*. For *Precipitation*, in a Body of different Forms, and consisting of so many Juices and Humours, and of so many Windings and Turnings, cannot be understood to be produced with the same Quickness and Certainty, as a Chymical Operator can perform the various Mutations of Colour by Instillations of various Kinds into his Liquors,

quors, or bring about the Precipitations called *Magisteries*. For as much therefore as a *Fever* is wont chiefly to attack the vital and superior Parts, and leaves no Room for uncertain or dangerous Experiments, it will certainly be the part of a prudent Physician, to assuage the febrile Matter in the most efficacious Manner that is possible, not only by light and fictitious *Precipitants*, but to extirpate them as soon as possibly he can, by true and genuine ones, that is by *Evacuations*.

But seeing a Custom has long ago crept in, and still continues, among many Physicians of the greatest Note, of hastening the Conquests of almost all Sorts of Fevers by *Sudorificks*, it will not be amiss to add a few things relating to that Affair.

As soon as they find any one to be seized by an *Epidemick Fever*, they immediately dream of I know not what *Malignity*, and endeavour directly to drive away that *Malignity* by *Alexipharmicks* and *Diaphoreticks*, which are not a little hot. In the meantime the *Fever*, which very often is mild enough in it's own Nature, and not at all malignant, is often made *really malignant* by the very Method of treating it. For when the *Serum*, which is necessary to carry the Blood thro' the Veins and Arteries, is quite exhausted by unseasonable *Sudorificks*,

it is no wonder that the thicker Parts of the Blood are interrupted in their Motion, and in a manner stagnate; that the *Pulse* is thereby weakened, and rendered unequal, undulating, trembling, creeping or intermitting; that the *Urine* for the same Reason is in very small Quantity, or shews the greatest Signs of Crudity; and, lastly, that the principal Marks of *Malignity* shew themselves, such as *Petechiæ*, *purple Spots*, and sometimes *pestilential Stains*, the various Degrees of a beginning or already formed *Gangrene*. For the Habit of the Body being at first overspread with much Moisture, and having a kindly Warmth, presently grows dry under a warm Regimen, is scorched up and parched by the cruel Heat: so that there neither remains a sufficient quantity of the Lymph intended to irrigate the Parts, nor does the Blood now rendered too thick, and quite ready for Stagnation, flow any longer thro' the Vessels serving to the continual Circulation which is necessary for the Preservation of Life, nor can it move along with sufficient Regularity.

But to those, who being led away by the Notion of *Malignity*, as a Name that most safely conceals the deadly Effects of inflammable Medicines, are wont to use heating Diaphoreticks in the Cure of almost all Fevers, I propose the Consideration of the
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common Practice of the *Turks*, which has been communicated to me by Merchants of Credit, an unlearned Method indeed, but a very rational one, as being natural, in the Cure of the *Plague* itself, the Principal of all *malignant Fevers*, by the *Juice of Lemons* squeezed plentifully into all their Gruels, and by pieces of *Lemons* which they frequently chew with Sugar, and by *Sherbet*, which is a very common Liquor among them, and is made only of Water sweetened either with Honey or Sugar, and this is a very cold Regimen: for *Mithridate*, *Venice-Treacle*, and *Snake-Root*, and other very hot Medicines which we make use of, under the Name of *Alexipharmicks*, are happily unknown to them, or in no Esteem. And therefore it is no Wonder, that the *Plague*, the Terror of which invades us like a Clap of Thunder, sometimes makes less Havock among them, than a mild Fever does in those Countries where liberal Arts prevail.

But above all other Arguments let our People seriously consider, that our Fevers are easily turned inflammatory, and often peculiarly affect some one Part of the Body, as the *Pleura*, the *Fauces*, the Lungs, the Muscles, the Joints, the Skin, &c. and that the Origin of our Inflammations for the most part is founded in a *Plethora*, and too great a Repletion. For what Nation is there in

the World that greedily devours so many Flocks and Herds? what Nation more abounds in Plenty and Abundance of all Esculents, and who less deny their Appetites? Therefore, where Luxury and Repletion are the common Causes of Diseases, and so frequently excite a febrile Heat, such Medicines as add Fire to Flame, with whatsoever Notion or Hypothesis they may agree, ought to be given with the greatest Caution.

But that every Continued Fever, however mild and regular, and even the intermitting Fever, must always owe it's Origin to a *Venom* that poisons or corrupts the Spirits, tho' the famous *Morton* strenuously asserts it, and philosophically contends for it with many arguments, that a better Handle may be given for the free Application of the hottest *Alexipharmicks*, or the *Peruvian Antidote*; yet I can by no Means assent to this Opinion of a Man so learned and skilled in Medical Knowledge. For as it becomes a good Physician to have always before his Eyes, as well what Hurt and Mischief, as what Advantage and Benefit may happen from this or that Medicine; and as manifestly to injure a sick Person that implores our Aid, so that he shall receive more Injury from his Physician than from his Disease, is a more terrible and dreadful thing, than to act very cautiously in doubtful Cases, to prescribe
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only a Diet, and to seem to leave all to Fate; lastly, as it is much more safe and desirable for a Physician, *nil conscire sibi*, and to be defended by the Shield of Innocence, than to make Havock of Mankind, however undefignedly, and to throw his Darts about at random, by which some, perhaps, may be destroyed; certainly it will be prudent to avoid every dangerous Hypothesis, how well soever it may be established by learned Arguments. Nor indeed do I understand how the formal Cause of Diseases can be better explained by *Venoms* sometimes on a sudden invading the human Body, and then, like some Magical Incantation, as suddenly forsaking them, than by the *occult Qualities* of the Ancients which in this learned Age have been long turned to Ridicule.

It is a poor and childish Argument, which some Physicians are wont to use, to defend the Cause of *Malignity*, that the Nature of some Fevers is rightly accounted *malignant*, because they are often *contagious*: For if *Contagion* necessarily shewed or proved the Existence of *Malignity*, it would follow, that even the *Itch* must be reckoned in the Number of *malignant* Diseases. And yet in this Disease neither does the Strength fail, nor is the Appetite weakened, nor do the Pulse or Urine in any Degree differ from the best State of Health; but both the a-

nimal and natural Functions are rightly performed. Certainly these Diseases, which have some notable *Inflammation* in them, are not without some *Contagion*, such as the *Plague* itself, of which I have just spoken, the *Small-Pox*, the *Measles*, the *Hooping-Cough*, and other Diseases of that Kind, which owe their Origin to a most intense *Inflammation*.

As for the Use of *Sudorificks* in Fevers, I do not deny, that *Sweat* whether natural or procured by Art, will sometimes be of the greatest Service in the first Insults of Fevers, when the Pores of the Skin begin to be shut up, and when the sensible or insensible Perspiration of the Body is very much hindered. But the *Sudorificks* which are to be used ought to be temperate, not such as raise a Fire within. Nor should they be dry and pharmaceutical, much less spirituous, such as add Flame to Flame, but rather *liquid* and culinary, such as may supply a Plenty of Matter to carry on the Sweat, and such as promote it by external Warmth, not by a Heat raised within.

I must not pass over one thing not unworthy to be noted, and not very remote from the Affair in hand. That *Fever*, which went about the preceeding Year, the History of which I shall now relate, acquired the Name of *Malignant* among some Physicians,

ficians, who are fond of the frequent Use of Diaphoreticks.

From the middle of the Month of *May*, in the Year 1688, for some Weeks, a slight Sort of Fever became epidemical. It affected the Joints of the Patients with slight Pains, and they complained of a Pain in their Heads, especially in the Fore-part, and and of a Sort of Giddiness. It was more rife than any that I ever observed before, from any Cause whatsoever, or in any Time of the Year. A great many whole Families were taken at once with this Fever, so that hardly one out of a great Number escaped this general Storm. Now this so epidemical a febrile Infult, seemed plainly to me to depend upon the Variety of the Season of the Year; the most intense Heat of some Days being suddenly changed to cold, the sensible Perspiration of the Body being at that Time obstructed, and the Pores, which had been very open, being shut up on a sudden. But I shall make this one Observation upon it, that never were so many People sick together never did so few of them die. Those who were attacked by this Fever, whether they used proper or improper Methods, namely, Bleeding, Purging, Sweats, all Sorts of old Women's Medicines, whether from the Kitchen or the Shops, by staying a little while at Home, by going abroad into the
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Air, by riding, or any other Exercise, nay, by being free for a small Time from all Care and Perplexity, and lastly, by doing any thing or nothing, recovered almost every one of them. But if any happened to suffer by that very mild Disease, they were young People, such as were of a hot Constitution, and had been inflamed above Measure by the hottest Sudorificks: But yet one thing remains to be observed, that it is very much to be feared, that the Nature of this Fever being so mild and moderate; being easily got off by improper as well as by salutary Medicines, will hereafter have sad and terrible Effects; when those good Women and illiterate Quacks shall in vain expect the desired Success from their Cordials, and I know not what Sudorificks, when another Season of the Year may be quite adverse to the Cure, and when some Fever may shew itself attended with horrid Symptoms; in vain, I say, will they expect the same Success, which they seemed before to meet with in the Spring of the Year, that greatly favoured their Attempts, and in the mildest Sort of Fever that ever was seen.

Before I attempt to propose some Examples of Cures performed by the Benefit of my Method, I will add a few things, which relate to the more usual Symptoms of Infants,

fants, leaving what is commonly to be found among learned Authors, to the Curious.

Of all the Disorders which threaten the Lives of Infants, there is none that is wont to produce so many grievous Symptoms, as a *difficult* and laborious *Breeding of Teeth*. That nine Months Sickness, or *Pregnancy*, which may be reckoned as well as the Womb, the Cause of innumerable Calamities, does not expose the Mothers to more Danger, than *Breeding of Teeth* does their Offspring. For when the Gums of tender Infants very often undergo such an Inflammation as other parts of the Bodies of grown Persons, whom most violent Fevers threaten them, because the Teeth cannot easily thrust themselves out of their Sockets, it is by no Means to be wondered at, that their tender Bodies are therefore to be commonly affected with the most grievous febrile Symptoms. For thence proceed their *Grippings*, *Watchings*, *Uneasiness*, *Purgings* or perhaps *Costiveness*, *green Evacuations both upward and downward*, *Thrushes*, *Fevers*, *Convulsions*, and such like: all which most commonly yield to the same Method, considering the Age and Violence of the Symptoms, of first subduing the Acid, and then gently purging it out; unless it is a very complicated chronical Disease, turning to an acute one, and has struck such deep Roots
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in the Region of the principal Parts, that it cannot be removed by any Art ; or unless the poor Infants have naturally a very bad Constitution.

There are *two different Times of breeding Teeth*, which are very troublesome to Infants : one when the Tooth first endeavours to push out of the Jaw-bone, and when the outer and upper Part of the Gum, without any swelling, is usually markt with a round white Spot. The other is when the Tooth, being increased in Bulk and grown larger, always makes the Gum swell, produces a great Inflammation in it, and endeavours violently to burst thro' it. In the first of these Endeavours toward *cutting the Teeth*, as well as in the second, the Surgeons are wont on every occasion to cut the Gums of Infants unskilfully, that the Teeth may come out the more easily, whence they are wounded unnecessarily, and without any Benefit, whereas the second Time of Dentition can only properly require that Wound, which ought diligently to be observed.

There is another thing also not wholly unworthy of Observation in this Affair. Namely, that some of the *Surgeons*, when they are ordered to open the swelling Gum, perform it with their Lancet ; which has been the Destruction of many. For as such an Incision is easily cicatrised, and no
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opening at all remains thro' which the Tooth may get out, it becomes of no sort of Use, and other Remedies are in the mean Time neglected. The Physician therefore ought to take care, that the *Incision* be always made with a more proper Instrument, whether it be a *Penknife*, or any other Knife that has a thick Back.

But here it ought to be observed, that tender Infants are sometimes from this Cause seized with so great an Inflammation, that the Cure, is in vain attempted, unless the Physician begins with the Application of a Leech or two below each Ear. For whenever Bleeding is necessarily required in tender Infants, if such a Revulsion be omitted, no Medicines, how proper and wholesome soever they may be, will ever reach the designed End.

Besides at the Time of *Dentition*, the Mouth is often so exceedingly tender, as obstinately to refuse all Kind of Nourishment. In this Case the greatest Care must be taken, not to give hot, or even warm Aliment to Infants. For the almost burning Heat of the Mouth and Gums can hardly bear the least degree of adventitious Heat, without Trouble and Pain.

As the *Thrush* is known to proceed from the acrid Steam of an inward Heat corroding or vellicating the tender Pellicle of the Mouth,

Mouth, and other inward Parts of the Body also; therefore those Things which powerfully retund that Acrimony, and even take it away, are to be alone in the highest Esteem among us. But topical *Gargarisms*, or *stomatick* Medicines, are here of no Use. For Infants cannot by any Means gargle their Mouths, unless we suppose this to happen as they swallow. For they immediately swallow whatsoever is given them either to gargle or drink; nay, they will not spit out the very Humour, which is thrown into the Mouth by the *Cough*, but suffer it constantly to run down into their Stomachs, unless a *Vomiting* happens to hinder them. And, indeed, the Matter of which *Gargles* are composed is not always so innocent, as to be fit for such tender Bodies to take in. This is certain, that the *Thrush*, how much so ever it may hinder sucking or taking any Sort of Food, will soon yield to *testaceous* Medicines, and the most gentle Catharticks thrown in occasionally, as has been already mentioned; nor do I see why we should too learnedly make use of many Artifices to obtain the End, when fewer and more simple Medicines can produce the most safe as well as the best Effects.

But the Reason why the surface of the Mouth is so favourable to the Production of the *Thrush*, when at the same Time
other

other Parts of the Body are not affected with any Ulcers, is this: because the Pellicle is the same, which encompassing the Region of the Mouth, is extended, and descends in a continual Series of the same Coat thro' the *Oesophagus* into the very Stomach. Wherefore these acrid *Effluvia*, from a præternatural Effervescence of the Body about the Hypochondria, are carried up as from a boiling Pot thro' the opening of the Mouth, and easily fix their Taint on the Parts of that Membrane. Therefore the delicate Taste of the Tongue most easily distinguishes all Tastes, and, lastly, it is for the same Reason, that Physicians usually judge of the prevailing Temperature of the Body by *inspecting the Tongue*.

The *Diarrhœa* of Infants, which always proceeds from an Orgasm of Humours falling down into the Intestines, from an ill disposed Stomach, or from a Turgescence of the Bile, which in them predominates together with an Acid, is not to be restrained by Astringents properly so called, nor by *Narcoticks*. For *Astringents* are wont to produce a Reflux of the acrid Humours toward the more noble Parts; and as they are endued with a very moist and fluid Temperament, it brings them into a manifest Danger of their Lives. *Narcoticks* indeed lay asleep the Fierceness of the turgescent Humours

Humours for a Time, so that they often return again with greater Force. Add to this, that the infirm Strength of little Children, being already much broken and weakened by the Disease, is hardly ever able to sustain the most powerful Energy of *Opiates* without the greatest Hazard of their Health. But those things which gently assuage the Acidity that causes all the Disorders, are given with more Safety, and agree better with them. For altho' in slighter Cases of this Sort, where there is no *Fever*, the Use of *Diascordium*, and such like Medicines, has been found to do no Harm, nay, rather to have been of some Service, yet I have found them to be not wholly void of Danger where the Infants have had Fevers; and that *Chalk*, *Coral*, *Pearls*, and others of that Kind, which restrain the raging Humours, without any new Increase of Heat, provided they are at last purged out with *Rhubarb*, are of the greatest Service in subduing this Symptom, and are given with much greater Safety.

But it is to be observed, that the moderate Use of Narcoticks in an obstinate Vomiting, and especially in that which proceeds from a vitiated Milk, is not entirely to be condemned, tho' the Nature of Infants is very averse to Narcoticks. For sometimes so grievous a Symptom, especially

ally if it is joined with dreadful and continual Gripings, is no other Way to be subdued, than by two Drops of Liquid Laudanum, given in Syrup of Damask-Roses, or in the Syrup of Succory with Rhubarb. For when the Stomach is so weak that it cannot retain any Medicines, or even Aliments, it seems to be just and necessary that we should have recourse to those things, which give a Truce to the Symptom, whilst a gently cathartick Medicine may exert it's Force, and free and exonerate the loaded Intestines of their bad Humours.

Nor will the same Medicine be found less efficacious in a *Purging* than in a *Vomiting*. For as long as the Disorder reigns most powerfully in the Region of the Stomach, and the Acidity chiefly exerts it's Power in all the first Passages, the Medicines which are endued with these Faculties render them entire and untainted in the Stomach. *Emeticks*, as *Salt of Vitriol*, *Vinum Benedictum*, *Emetick Tartar*, &c. seem, in the Opinion of some, to exceed all other Medicines; but if the Consideration of the most tender Age, and of the greatest Imbecility of Strength, is of any Weight in the giving of *Emeticks*, and if the easy Solution and removing of Coagulations can be had by things which use no Violence to Nature, which bring no Danger of Death along with them, which

may be given with sufficient Efficacy, and much less Danger than either *Emeticks* or *Narcoticks*, it will be the Part of a prudent Physician to be very cautious in giving these, nay entirely to avoid them.

But if a great Flood of serous and noxious Humours abounds in the Stomach, and so smears the Coats of it as plainly to pervert the natural Functions, and the Stomach can hardly retain the Medicines and Aliments without Sickness and Vomiting, then about ten or fifteen Grains of *Epicacuanna* may sometimes advantageously and safely enough be given to Infants of a Year or two Years old. For that Powder, being a mild Emetick, does not necessarily require the drinking of a great Quantity of Liquids after it; and is much milder than the Emeticks just mentioned; and its Operation is more secure in tender Bodies; lastly, it dissolves, and by Degrees expels, viscid Humours that have fastened themselves on the Stomach, the frequent Cause of Crudities and Fluxes, above all other Emeticks in the whole *Materia Medica*.

Nor are these testaceous Powders of Service only in *all Sorts of Fluxes*, but in the *Gripes* also of Infants from whatsoever Cause they proceed; in which they have not only excellent but even *specifick* Faculties, if any Medicine can be said to have such.

fuch. I am of Opinion, that not even the *Peruvian Bark*, which is the Chief of all Medicines of this Age, is more a *Specifick* in *Intermitting Fevers*, nor *Opium*, that other celebrated Remedy, in appeasing obstinate *Watchings* and *Pains*, than these *testaceous* Medicines are in the *Gripes of Infants*. For tho' among almost innumerable Experiments, in so great a Variety of Constitutions, in so many hereditary Infirmities, perhaps one or two Instances may possibly be found by some very curious Enquirer, to make against this Doctrine; yet it is entirely to be ascribed to the highest Depravation of Nature, not to any Defect in the Efficacy of the Remedy. And it is found also that the *Bark itself*, which is every where cried up for a *Specifick*, does not always agree with *asthmatick* Persons, who have an intermitting or remitting Fever. And yet in those Distempers, especially the first, it is justly accounted the *Chief* of all *Specificks*.

As for *Convulsions*, or those Attacks which are often called *epileptic*, for the most Part depending both on the Strength being already broken and exhausted, and on the Acrimony of the morbidick Matter stimulating the nervous System, our *testaceous* Medicines, especially if *Castor* is added to them, will be found to excel in more

excellent and more innocent Faculties, even in so great a Disorder, however some may look upon them as Trifles, and Things of no Moment, than either *antiepileptic Waters*, which generally heat tender Bodies, or any *volatile Spirits* whatsoever, which immediately fly like Sparks of Fire into all Parts of the Body, and very often raise a great febrile Flame from very small Beginnings. For as the inner Coat of the Stomach and Oesophagus is all nervous, and is therefore the more accommodated to transfer quickly the Powers, both of Aliments and Medicines, into the inner Recesses of the Body; and as the Spirits, which inhabit that as well as other Parts of the Body, are already irritated, vellicated, and driven into inordinate Motions, it seems to me highly necessary that the Cure should be attempted by Remedies that absorb that Acrimony which irritates the Nerves, and evidently restrain the Tumult of the Spirits, and give them Rest without any *Narcotick*, and not by such things as excite a greater Tumult of the Spirits, and increase the Heat which already has made such Havock.

Moreover in the Intervals of Convulsions, moderate Bleeding, whether by the opening of a Vein, or by Leaches either applied to the Arm or behind the Ears, is sometimes of Use, and very beneficial. And afterwards
testaceous

testaceous Medicines, intermixt with mild Catharticks; may be of Service.

But in the very Fits of Convulsions bleeding throws Infants into the greatest Danger, when their tender Nature, being now fatigued with Convulsions, and almost spent, can scarce bear any farther Diminution of their small Strength from so great a Depletion of the Veins.

Nor is the Strength of Infants to be estimated by the Force and Strength of the Convulsions, but by the State and Condition of the Intermissions, and chiefly from the Observation of their Strength being greater or less with regard to eating and drinking.

There are a great many things commonly cried up, both by the gravest Authors, and the most celebrated Practitioners, as *Specificks*; but as they are common in every Bodies Mouth, I chuse to pass them over in Silence. But the Virtues of many of them, as far as I have been able to observe, seem thereby to have answered our Expectation; tho' in so great a Disorder, it is commendable to turn every Stone, nor is any one's Industry, in searching out proper Medicines, to be blamed. In the convulsive Fits of Infants, as they arise commonly from the acrid Matter of preceding Gripes vellicating all the Nerves, so those things which obtund, attemperate, or break the Acid, and that without any

new Disorder, or heating of the Body; and those which bring down the Acidity so broken and deprived of it's Points, will be found above all others to contain no contemptible Force, and to be sometimes able to subdue this dreadful Symptom.

The Truth of this was lately confirmed in the Case of an Infant hardly one Year old, the Daughter of a Husbandman. She was seized with the most grievous, vehement and frequent Convulsions that ever I saw, which for several Days before my coming had assaulted her Lips, her Eyes, her Limbs, and almost every Part of her Body. She was at that Time exceedingly pale, and of a horrid Countenance; her Body was costive, and what little Stools she had was very green. She screamed very loud, tho' her Strength seemed to be exhausted, so that the whole Neighbourhood was struck with the deepest Concern for her. Whilst these *Convulsions* lasted, with great gripings and twistings of the Belly, she hardly took a Spoonful of any Nourishment, being supported only with I know not what Cordials. I undertook the Cure of this miserable little Infant, which I effected only with two Ounces of *Crabs Eyes* mixt with a little *Cream of Tartar*. She was compelled immediately to swallow a Scruple or more of this very simple Powder every Hour in *Penny-Royal Water*, or such like,
from

from the repeated Dose of which she got Rest by Degrees, and the convulsive Fits were greatly lessened. I ordered at the same Time two or three *Glysters* of Milk and Sugar with a little Salt to be thrown up ; till at last the *Cream of Tartar*, which has a Faculty both of gently loosening the Belly, and opening obstructed Passages, provided a sufficient Quantity be given, made it's Way downwards. By these few Medicines, without any Pomp, this deplorable Infant, unexpectedly indeed, but yet perfectly, escaped from the Jaws of impending Fate. But for what Reason, to mention it by the Way, I should farther torment tender Children, already excruciated by *Convulsions*, and in a Manner wasted by *Watchings*, and want of Rest, with *Blisters* applied either to the Neck or any other Part, I cannot well understand ; for that sort of Remedy seems properly and peculiarly adapted to excite or rather force such as are *comatose*, from their Stupidity ; and besides, as Blisters sometimes affect the urinary Passages even of Adults with so great Acrimony, that they are sometimes compelled to undergo the severest Tortures by them, it must be confessed, that they agree less safely with such very tender Bodies.

I shall add, that since I have made Use of this Method in the Cure of Infants, I have found them, at my first coming,

feized with Convulsions, nay, and some of them so grievously weakened, that they had hardly Strength enough to swallow any Medicines; but I do not remember that, if they were then *free* from Convulsions, they ever returned after the Use of the above-mentioned *Powders*.

But I shall further observe concerning the Convulsions of Children, that if testaceous Medicines have been given them in vain, when the viscid Humours fill and oppress the Stomach, and disturb and confound the Spirits, then a Mixture of one Ounce of *Oxymel of Squills*, and two Ounces of *Hyssop-Water*, given by a Spoonful at a Time, will often free the Stomach, so loaded, and compose the confused Spirits at the same Time, in such a manner, that those mild Absorbents will afterwards succeed according to Expectation.

It must therefore be confessed, that such Medicines as these are sometimes not sufficient to restore the Brain, when affected with such great Irritations of the Spirits, and shaken with such great Efforts and Violences. Therefore in the most grievous Fits of Convulsions, fifteen Grains of the Antiepileptic Powder described below, in the Chapter on the Epilepsy, or other Antispasmodicks, may be sometimes given to Infants. By which a longer Space being
gained

gained between the Convulsions, proper Catharticks, or even sometimes from eight to twelve Grains of *Mercurius dulcis*, six or nine times sublimed, may be safely enough given, to disturb the morbifick Matter, and draw it out by the lower Passages. Nay, it is worth our Consideration, whether in real Madness, or in the greatest Fury of the raging Spirits, any Medicine is more likely to assuage those impetuous Heats of the Brain, or to extinguish that Flame, than the most intense cold of the *Mercury* described above, or of *Æthiops Mineral*. But whether *white Hellebore*, which has been so greatly cried up by the Ancients, as it is a Root that is hot and dry in the third Degree, and operates with the greatest Disturbance of the Body, is so much adapted to this turbulent Disease, as Medicines that cool very much, let those judge if they please, in whose Hands the miserable mad People remain imprisoned, and often in Chains, according to the Will of despotick Masters, and whose early Liberty is too often obstructed by the Gains of rapacious Heirs, or the Profit of those to whose Care they are committed.

I would add one thing more concerning Convulsions. For as much as some Families have untimely lost several of their Children, one after another, at certain Periods of their
Infancy,

Infancy, by a sort of Hereditary Convulsions; and as a common Practice has obtained among us to give the new-born Children Syrup of Violets, Oil of sweet Almonds, or the hot Juice of Rue, to cleanse or purify them from the Foulnesses contracted in the Womb; and these things do not seem to obtain the End proposed; now a moderate Share of Experience may shew, that Syrup of Sycory with Rhubarb is wont to succeed better, in preserving Infants from those Convulsions, which have caused many to perish, if as soon as little Infants are born into the World, instead of any other Medicines there be given them at least three Drams of that Syrup, in a Spoon, which will cleanse and purge out the Mucus, without offending them.

The *Small-Pox* and *Measles* of Infants, which commonly are no more than a mild and quiet Effervescence of their Blood, seldom are attended with any Danger, where neither the Aid of Physick is called in, nor the Skill of experienced Nurses, as they are fancied to be, is made Use of. But when the unruly Tumult of the Blood necessarily requires the Assistance of Physick, the *testaceous* Medicines commonly give as much Relief to Children as *Narcoticks* to grown Persons. But the *Volatile Spirits* in vogue, *Cordial Waters*, *Mithridate*,

thridate, Venice Treacle, and other hot Alexipharmicks or Diaphoreticks, are diligently to be avoided, for they expel the Eruptions too hastily, and their principal Effect is to drive them out with too much Precipitation: But such things, instead of having a cordial and expulsoy Power, which they are fancied to have, much oftener change the *Small-Pox*, which of itself was mild enough, into a dangerous Sort; and irritate, disturb, and turn inward the Matter of the Measles, which otherwise would easily have gone off by the Surface of the Body, and often invite fatal Difficulties of breathing, and excite suffocating De- fluxions; and, lastly, serve to inflame the Blood, which before was in a light and moderate Degree of Fermentation.

When I have been thinking of the Nature of the *Small-Pox*, I have oftener wondered, how a very hot Regimen in this Disease should come to prevail, not only among silly Nurses, but even among Physicians of Learning; whereas this Disease is of itself highly *inflammatory*; and as all *suppurating* Medicines, properly so called, that are wont to be applied to one or more swelling Parts of the Body, which require Suppuration, are both by Physicians and Surgeons, with one general Consent, required to be of very temperate Faculties: such as *Roots of Marsh-
Mallows*

Mallows and *Lilies*, *Leaves* of common *Mallows*, *Marsh-Mallows*, *Brank Ursine*, *Meal* of *Linseed*, *Fenugreek* and *Wheat*, *Butter*, *Fat*, *Oil*, *Yolks* of *Eggs*, *Mucilages*, *Marrow*, and such like, which by no Means excel in Heat. For the hotter Medicines, whether applied internally or externally, are plainly endued with a *discutient* and *rarefying* Faculty, quite contrary to the former. And, besides, they really disturb the Functions of Nature, aiming at *Suppuration*, and necessarily bring all things into a preposterous Confusion. Wherefore *testaceous* Medicines, which are of a very temperate Nature, which approach the nearest to *suppurating Medicines*, in their mild and benign Nature, which strongly resist the universal *Putrefaction* of the Body, which in the last Place do not disturb or disorder the animal or natural Functions, most certainly are of no small Advantage toward the Cure of the Small-Pox, especially in Infants.

I might defend the Doctrine that I have laid down with many more Words, and so draw out the Bounds of this little Work into a larger Compass. But I am unwilling to detain the Reader any longer, with any scholastick Circumlocutions, that never find or deserve any fixt Determination, and have no Relation to the Practice of Physick; I am unwilling to catch at the Shadow of an
uncommon

uncommon Learning by boastful Quotations of Authors, who are eternally confuting each other; in the last Place, I am unwilling to make a subtile Examination of other Mens Opinions, to triumph over the Mistakes of others, and squabble for my own Opinion, be it right or wrong. For I know full well how very difficult it is, perfectly to search out the Truth of Things; and I know that he comes the nearest to the Truth of every thing, who is found to have fewer Errors than others. For tho' Men are apt to hold up their Heads upon every Occasion, and easily to assume to themselves an Air of *consummate Knowledge* in this or that Part of Learning, yet it is not granted to Mortals to proceed beyond the natural Bounds of Weakness and Infirmary. And, indeed, the more any one is *superior* to others in *Knowledge*, the more *submissively* he generally carries himself. But there seems to me to be a certain moderate Comprehension of Things, and bounded by a like Proportion of Knowledge, which is diffused in every Age by the supreme Governor of the World, so that one may have no Reason to reproach the other with *Ignorance*. Indeed among the great Vicissitudes of human Affairs, we have lost many things which have adorned the Memory of some former Age. Nor are there wanting some things even in this
our

our Age, whatsoever the Envious may say to the contrary, which will greatly innoble the *Art of Physick*, as long as it is an *Art*, and will deliver it so cultivated by us sacred to late Posterity.

I shall now, at last, exhibit some *Examples of Infants* cured by this our Method; but I do not this with a View of having my Attempts, such as they are, to be preferred before all *other* more skilful *Methods*. For how much more judicious others may be, it is not my Part to determine. All that I endeavour is to bring to Light and publish what has been found *true*, or at least *probable*, by my own Observation, leaving to others the same Liberty of judging, that I have taken my self, and dare venture to hope, that some will receive Benefit from what I have here written.

OBSERVATION I.

A noble Infant, of a very sanguine and succulent Constitution, but subject to Twitchings of the Nerves, was more than once seized by *Acute Fevers*; and the *febrile Matter* was commonly apt to fall upon the Lungs. In the mean time he had a great Difficulty of breathing, and wheezed so in his Sleep as to be plainly heard by those who stood by. His Face was very
pale,

pale, he had an intense *Thirst*, and a violent *Heat* of the Skin, with a continual *Uneasiness* and *Restlessness*.

I first bled him at the Arm pretty freely, and then successfully used the Method that I have been describing, by which the *Fever*, with all its Train of Symptoms, was easily put to flight, and his Health restored.

But the first Time that I visited this young Lord, was when he was fourteen Months old, on the fourteenth Day of *June*, in the Year 1685. He was then very much weakened with a *Hooping-Cough*, when he was committed to our Care; the celebrated Dr *Short*, a Physician inferior to none, being happily called into the Consultation. When we had with joint Consent immediately opened a Vein of the right Arm, and taken away about four Ounces of Blood, I proposed a more plentiful Use than ordinary of *Pearls*, and such like Medicines, to moderate the prevailing Acidity; giving him in the mean Time twice or thrice in the Day a Spoonful of the *Juice* of *Penny-Royal*, sweetened with *Sugar-Candy*, and once in three Days gently opening his Body with *Manna*; to which *Method*, as having been before experienced by me to be both good and safe, that excellent Man, who was famous for his singular Candour and Probity, as well as Skill in his Art, most readily

dily consented. And by these Means this most noble Infant, who, after his Father, was the next Heir to the most august House in the Kingdom, except the Royal Family, who, in the Opinion of that most excellent Physician, was not like to recover in less than *three Months*, grew well in about *ten Days*, from this most violent Disease, as I at that Time expected.

The same *most noble Child*, when he was five Years old, fell ill of a *Continual Fever*, and at first complained of his *Head*, and *Belly* by turns, and afterwards being miserably tortured with most cruel *Gripings* in the Region of the *Intestinum Ilium*, with a very weak Pulse, was cured by me, with the Blessing of God. But it should be observed, that when this *most Acute* and *Continued* Fever, turned to an *intermitting* and *safe* one, the Paroxysm, not shewing itself by any cold or shivering at the beginning, as usual, but by a *dry husky Cough*, returned every Day after Dinner, I thought proper to try the Efficacy of the *Peruvian Bark*. But the Advantage thence arising was very small, and merely palliative, till some Drops of Blood coming from his Nose, with a violent *Cough*, and the *Fever* recovering new Strength, after some Reluctance, because his natural Strength seemed already much weakened by this Disease,

ease, I was at last obliged to take at least *six Ounces* of *Blood* from his Arm; and the next Day to give a *Purge*. After these Operations were over, a *corroborating Julep*, chiefly designed to drive away the remains of the *Cough*, was of such great Service to him in this weak Condition, that he daily approached nearer to the most perfect Health, and recovered a good Constitution, which he still enjoys.

OBSERVATION II.

A little Daughter of the same Nobleman, being eleven Months old, of a full and thick Habit of Body, was seized by an *Acute Fever*, with a *Cough* that was almost *convulsive* or *hooping*, at the beginning of the Spring, but in a very cold Season. I happily made Use of the *above mentioned Method*, and in a little more Time, considering the Season of the Year, I restored her to a perfect State of Health; only about the latter End of the *Cure*, I took care to add a few Drops of *Elixir Proprietatis dulcis* to the *testaceous Powders*.

OBSERVATION III.

The only Son of an illustrious Earl, being seventeen Weeks old, was seized about
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the beginning of *February*, with *Gripings* of the *Belly*, *Green Stools*, the *Thrush*, a continual *Uneasiness*, and *twitchings of the Limbs*, which returned frequently. The *Ears*, out of which a moist *Humour* used to flow, as is customary with *Children*, were now quite dry. I procured a perfect *Recovery of Health* to this *most noble Infant* within the *Compass* of six *Days* by the following *Medicines*.

Gascoign's Powder one *Dram*, *Pearls* prepared two *Scruples*, *Crystal Mineral* one *Scruple*. Reduce them to a *Powder*, and divide it into eight equal *Parts*. Let him take one of them presently, in a *Spoonful* of the following *Julep*, drinking another *Spoonful* after it.

Milk Water four *Ounces*, *Penny-Royal Water* two *Ounces*, *compound Peiony Water* three *Drams*, *Pearl Sugar* one *Ounce*. Mix them, and make into a *Julep*.

After the illustrious *Infant* had taken this *Prescription*, in two *Days Time*, to alleviate the *Symptoms* with which he was afflicted, and by which they really were alleviated, I gave him on the *Morning* of the third *Day*, the following *solutive Syrup*; by which

which his Body was gently opened, and he was out of Danger.

Syrup of Succory with Rhubarb, and Syrup of Buckthorn, of each one Dram; Powder of the choicest Rhubarb twelve Grains, Tincture of Saffron ten Drops.

I proceeded afterwards in giving him these *Powders* for two Days longer, and again on the third Day I repeated the same *Purge*. On the Conclusion of which the whole Disorder vanished, the pale Colour of the Face was changed for a lively one, and the Ears began to grow moist as before.

O B S E R V A T I O N I V.

A *Daughter* of the same Illustrious Earl, being three Years and half a Quarter old, was taken with a slow Fever, which consisted of very irregular Exacerbations. She complained very much of a violent Pain of her *Head*, and sometimes of her Belly. She had an Aversion to all Food, and was sleepy; so that all the Family entertained a Suspicion of the *Small-Pox*; sometimes she had Twitchings of the Nerves in her Sleep, and now and then was troubled with a *dry Cough*. I prescribed the following Remedy.

Milk Water six Ounces, Plague Water half an Ounce, Pearls prepared one Dram, simple Powder of Crabs Claws two Drams, Loaf Sugar half an Ounce. Mix them and make a Julep, of which let her take three Spoonfuls once in four Hours, carefully shaking the Bottle every Time.

Succotrine Aloes one Dram, tops of the lesser Centaury, and dried Leaves of Savin, of each half a Dram, Venice Turpentine enough to make a *Plaster*, to be applied to the Region of the Navel.

The next Day she continued in the Use of the Julep.

A small *Blister* was applied also to the Nape of the Neck.

A *Glyster* of six Ounces of Milk, with a little Sugar and Salt, was thrown up, because her Body was not in good Order.

Æthiops Mineral and Calomel six times sublimed, of each six Grains; Gelly of Quinces two Scruples. Mix them and make a Bolus to be taken at Night.

The next Day she took the following *purging Syrup*.

Syrup

Syrup of Buckthorn two Drams, Warwick's Powder six Grains, Powder of the choicest Rhubarb twelve Grains, Tincture of Saffron twenty Drops, Black Cherry Water one Dram.

Cream of Tartar half a Dram, was given her in a Draught of Poffet-drink, to quicken the Purge.

The same Night four Spoonfuls of the above-mentioned Julep were given at going to Rest.

On the fourth and fifth Days the following Mixture was ordered to be given by Spoonfuls.

Coralline two Drams, Powder of dried Leaves of Mint one Scruple, simple Powder of Crabs Claws one Dram, Syrup of Balsam of Tolu, and Syrup of Marsh-Mallows, of each one Ounce; Orange Water half an Ounce. Mix them.

In the Evening preceding the sixth Day, the Bolus prescribed before was repeated; and the next Morning the *purging Syrup*; by the Force and Efficacy of which she brought up a Worm a Span long. After which she was presently relieved from her whole Disorder.

OBSERVATION V.

The only Daughter of a noble Duke, being hardly a Month old, was taken with a *Nausea* and *Vomiting*, and had *green Stools* also, and consequently was tormented with *Gripings*. I easily removed the *Gripings* with eight or ten Grains of a *Pearl Powder*, given in a Spoonful of *Mint-Water* twice or thrice in a Day; and I gently brought down the morbid Matter with six or ten Grains of *Rhubarb*, given in a little of the *Syrup of Succory with Rhubarb*, by which the green Colour of the *Stools* was altered for the better; and the *Gripings* being immediately removed, her Days and Nights were very quiet. The *Nausea* also and *Vomiting* presently ceased on the *Stomach's* being mended.

OBSERVATION VI.

The only Daughter of a Member of Parliament, of a considerable Family in the County of *Surrey*, being six Months old, had been seized for some Time with an *unusual Fever*, of a bad Sort, such as they are fond of calling *malignant*. Her *Stools* were green, and the Colour of her Face very pale, almost like *Lead*. The *Thrush* in

in her Mouth hindered all Possibility of sucking; and some unusual Symptoms threatened her Life with the greatest Danger. She held her Chin up as high as she could, and threw her Head backward Day and Night, so that I suspected some Abscess about the Throat, or a sudden *Strangling*, as soon as I was sent for. I gave her fifteen Grains of one of the above-mentioned Powders, according to the Method already described. But as often as it was given her, there happened on a sudden such an *Ebullition*, as I never before observed in any Infant. All was presently changed into a most enormous Tumult, and she seemed to be in the utmost Danger, as if a total *Suffocation* was immediately to ensue. It plainly represented the usual *Ebullition* between an *Acid* and an *Alkali*, when they are first mixed together in a Vessel. When this Effervescence was over, she fell directly into a profuse Sweat. And after taking several Doses of the *Powders*, and a mild *Purge* after them, that Symptom did not seem to be in the least diminished, or the rest to be altered for the better. Therefore at last in the Evening I gave her *Mercurius dulcis*, and *Flowers of Sulphur*, of each four Grains, in a very small Quantity of Syrup of Clove Gilliflowers; and the next Morning, in order either to correct or

to root out this violent Corruption of the Humours, I repeated the same. Soon after taking the second Dose in the Morning, she vomited up a great Quantity of most fetid and putrid Humours, streaked with Blood, and representing all the various Colours of the Rainbow; from which she presently began to mend, and *those Powders*, to which a little before she had an Aversion, being given her again, *agreed* with her exceedingly well, no Ebullition appearing any more upon the Use of them. Then she began to cry and squall very loud. And a *Cough*, which gave her but little Trouble, arose, and was soon removed. The *Thrush* immediately gave way, and the *Fever* quite disappeared, a lively Colour was restored to her Countenance, and this little Infant, who had not, without Reason, been given over by all about her, soon recovered her former Vigour in every Respect.

To this we may add, that the Cause of the Symptoms above recited, and especially of the turning back of the Head, afterwards appeared evident to me. For the same Child afterwards fell into most violent epileptical Convulsions. And I have farther observed, that epileptic Persons are wont not only to bend their Heads backward in the Fits, but also to throw them back with great Violence, being, perhaps, on a sudden
forced

forced to it by some grievous Pains that torture the back Part of the Head. This Cause, in early Infancy, lay hid, and afterwards increasng, or being roused up, shewed itself with a kind of Rage and Fury.

OBSERVATION VII.

The only Son of a Captain of an *East-India* Ship, being but eight Days old, was taken with *Gripings*, *green Stools*, and continual *Restlessness*. The *Thrush* also had overspread the Inside of his Lips, and his whole Mouth like a *white Crust*, in such a Manner, that he was not able to put his tender Mouth to the Nurse's Breast, or to draw the least Milk. I prescribed therefore after the following Manner.

Pearls prepared two Scruples, simple Powder of Crabs Claws one Scruple. Mix them, and make into a *Powder*, and divide it into eight Doses. Let him take one of them three times a Day, at proper Opportunities, in a Spoonful of the following *Julep*.

Milk Water two Ounces, Penny-Royal Water one Ounce, Pearl Sugar three Drams. Mix them into a *Julep*.

From

From the first Day his *Gripings* abated, and he came to have easy Sleeps.

On the third Day he took the following *solutive Syrup*.

Syrup of Succory with Rhubarb two Drams,
Powder of Rhubarb six Grains, Rose-
Water thirty Drops. Mix them.

The same Evening he took another Paper of the *Powders* already mentioned.

On the fourth Day he began to suck, the *Thrush* now disappearing; and his Stools were free from all Greenness. But on the same Day and the fifth he persevered in the Use of the *Powders*.

On the sixth he took the *solutive Syrup*, with Half a Scruple of Rhubarb instead of six Grains. And the Operation of this being over, he perfectly recovered.

OBSERVATION VIII.

The Daughter of an eminent Divine, being about ten Months old, was taken, in the *Breeding of her Teeth*, with a most violent purging, in so much that she had forty or fifty green Stools in the Space of four and twenty Hours, as her Parents related; she was almost spent, and was given over by every Body. I gave her
a Scruple

a Scruple of the above-mentioned Powders, at least every four Hours, and oftener at the very first, till her Looseness abated, the Fury of the Bile appeased, Sleep procured, and her Strength in some Measure restored. In stopping of a *Purging*, I prefer *Chalk* before any of the other Powders, and am of Opinion that it exceeds even any Sort of *Coral*. On the third Day, having already prepared the Humours, I discharged them out of the Body with *Rhubarb*, which I can never praise enough, because it confirms the Strength of the weakened Parts; as well as gently purges out the Impurities. I persevered in giving them three or four times a Day, and on the Return of every third Day I repeated the same *Purge*. When this was over, she perfectly recovered.

Here I shall add, that as *Rhubarb* is far to be preferred before all other *purging* Medicines for Children, whether they have Fevers or not; so there can hardly any thing be found more improper in it's own Nature, or more dangerous on Account of it's Heat, in the *Fevers* of young Children, than the so much cried up *Aloë*; which notwithstanding a *Preparation* of it has deservedly been accounted *sacred*, with regard to Adults, is very pernicious in the Fevers of Children, both because of it's intense *Heat*, and because of

of it's remarkable *corroding* Faculty, which is very injurious to their tender Nature. The Truth of this I could prove, if I had a Mind, by a memorable History of a *most noble Infant* scarce four Years of Age, taken with a slow Fever, and in the space of two Days reduced to such a Condition, chiefly by the Use of *Hiera picra*, infused according to custom in a hot Vehicle, that an Inflammation of the Bowels suddenly arose, exceeding all Belief, if it had not been demonstrated by *Anatomical Inspection*. But I have done, for as *we should say nothing of the Dead but what is well and honourable, so neither of the LIVING.*

OBSERVATION IX.

A Gentleman's Daughter, four Years of Age, in the Summer of the Year 1687, was taken with the most violent Fever that ever I saw in so tender an Age; her Habit of Body was very lean. She had an insatiable Thirst, the Heat of her Skin was so hot and scorching for her Years, that one could hardly bear to touch it with the Hand. The *Parotides, or Almonds of the Ears*, were in the mean Time in violent Pain; her Cheeks were generally very red; and she languished under a continual Anxiety and Uneasiness. I saw her first in this Condition

dition in the evening. I gave her immediately one of the above mentioned *Powders*, which I rendered a little more expulſory, by the Addition of half a Dram of Sulphur, and ordered it to be repeated ſoon afterwards, in a Spoonful of *Penny-royal Water*. The next Morning the ſame Medicines were repeated; but in two Hours after the Morning's Draught, the Blood flowed plentifully out of her Noſtrils, and her whole Forehead was livid and ſwolln, with a remarkable Redneſs interſperſed here and there, ſo that her Forehead looked as if it had juſt been beaten. Under her left Temple, there was a *round bright ſcarlet Spot*, of the bigneſs of two Fingers. By the Sight of which I was not at all diſcouraged, but expecting good Succeſs, continued all that Day in giving ſuch Medicines as are proper to attemperate an Acid, but leſs expulſory than before. The next Day, that is, the third of my coming, tho' the *Fever, Heat, and Thirſt*, continued as intenſe as before, yet I was not at all afraid of giving a *purging Powder*, which was a good deal aſſiſted by Cream of Tartar; by means of which ſhe had five or ſix Stools. In the laſt Place *on that very Day of the Fever*, it was quite driven away, there was no *Thirſt* in the Evening, and the Heat of the Skin was as in the moſt perfect State of Health,

Health, and was so moderate to the Touch, that about Night being herself conscious of her Recovery she called out to her Parents with Joy, *How well I am now!*

OBSERVATION X.

A Gentleman's Daughter, one Year old, of a full and fat Habit of Body, in the Month of *November*, had a *violent Tooth Fever*; her Thirst was insatiable, her Face very pale, with some mixture of Greenness, whensoever she put her Mouth to the Breast, she was immediately forced by a sudden *Cough* to desist; from which Symptom I concluded that the *Uvula* was swoln and inflamed. The Mouth at the same time was very much exulcerated with the *Thrush*, and was so closed, that she would hardly ever open it, unless to take Breath, and Medicines at the same Time, if we stopped her Nose to force her. Her Stools were very green, and had an acid Smell, which with frequent Tossings shewed that she was tortured with *Gripings* of the Belly. When she was asleep, her wheezing was plainly heard by those who stood by. Besides, she could not cry at all, till in a Week's Time, and by Remedies given in the very Method that I have described, her Disorder being much abated, the usual Cry
of

of Infants at last agreeably saluted the Ears of those who were present. After the *second Purge*, all the Symptoms manifestly abated; and after the third, a florid Colour, with a shining Whiteness, gradually returned, her Mouth was healed, her Eyes grew lively, and her Health was confirmed.

I shall now add an uncommon Example of a *Chronical Disorder*, which will not be very foreign from my Purpose, and may perhaps be not altogether useless.

OBSERVATION XI.

A Boy of thirteen Years of Age was so emaciated with a *verminous Atrophy*, that he seemed more like a Skeleton than a living Boy. His Face was cadaverous, or *Hippocratical* as it is called, his Eyes hollow, his Nose sharp, and his Bones hardly covered with Skin. This Disease rendered him foolish, and quite void of Reason; he could hardly creep like a Snail with his withered Limbs from one part of the Chamber to another: all his Evacuations, either by Urine or Stool, were made involuntarily, in the Day-time in his Breeches, by Night in his Bed. I gave him every Day five and twenty Grains, or half a Dram of the *Æthiops Mineral* that I make Use of, Morning and Night, opening his Body very gently

gently every fourth Day. Upon this he voided several *Worms* by Stool, and then became well coloured and plump.

To what has been said I may add, and positively affirm, for the publick Advantage, that very many poor Infants, who have been formerly brought to me, miserably emaciated, so that they had no Flesh on their Thighs and Buttocks, nor any thing on their Bodies but a loose Skin, have been cured by me, and quickly made fat or fleshy, without giving them any other Medicines, than fine Powder of clean Oyster-Shells, which I always kept by me to give them *gratis*, and by giving them at the Distances of Time above mentioned, either Rhubarb alone, or Sena alone, or Rhubarb and Sena together, in order to purge them gently.

And I am verily persuaded, now even in my advanced Age, after long Experience, that the more simple Methods of Cure, tho' different from the elegant Arts of some learned Men, are generally more agreeable to the Stomach, more conducive to the restoring of Health, and are more frequently accompanied with the Divine Blessing, than a pompous *Farrago* of Medicines, notwithstanding a manifold Authority, new or old, may oppose or contradict this Opinion, and the plain Truth.

As

As the Preparation of our *Æthiops Mineral* has not been hitherto, to my Knowledge, described by any Author, and as it may prove of great Service, I shall not grudge to communicate the Description of it.

Take two parts of *crude Quicksilver*, and one part of *Flowers of Sulphur*, or native Sulphur; rub them in a Glass or other Mortar, till all the Globules of Mercury quite disappear, and the Mass is reduced to a very fine grey Powder, which being kept a little while grows very black.

The common manner of making *Æthiops Mineral*, is by incorporating and deflagrating equal Parts of *crude Quicksilver* and *Flowers of Sulphur*, till there remains a kind of *Caput mortuum*, after the burning is over, in Form of a *Powder*, retaining the middle Part of the mixed Mass; of which whether the genuine Faculties are very much destroyed by that burning, or whether they still retain their Vigour, has not yet been made sufficiently plain to build any thing upon it: and the same may be said of many other Preparations that arise from Fire.

I generally prefer this Preparation before all other *Mercurials*, because, if given ever so often, or in ever so great a Quantity, it never raises a *Salivation*, which cannot possibly agree with the most tender Natures, and never rises unexpectedly without creating

a great Horror in those who are about the Patient; and also because it is performed in a *simple and natural Manner*, without any Help of a too curious *Art*, which is wont to have no Esteem for *Medicines*, till it has first committed them to the Torture of the *Fire*, to render them forsooth *more pure*, and *defecated* from I know not what natural Impurities; whereas in reality they are often thereby changed from a better State, abounding with excellent Faculties, to a *worse*, less safe, and quite new one. Thus also the unconquerable *Volatility* of *Mercury*, in the *fixing* of which the Chymists have long sweated with much Labour and Pains, is most easily subdued by so trifling a thing as a *Pestle and Mortar*.

I could enumerate a great many other Examples of *Cures*, if I would trouble the Reader with dwelling longer on the same thing.

I could also call to Memory, and justly approve, that antient and best Custom of easily preventing most of the Diseases of Infants and Children, by well known and salutary Medicines, which resist the Corruption of the Humours, and were accustomed to be given every Month for a long Time. For as the most tender Nature of Children, is so obnoxious to all Impressions, both external and internal, and as Indigestions or Crudities so easily prevail in tender Children,

Children, it will be the Part of a prudent Physician, so to correct and amend those morbid Diatheses *per* Ἐπίκρασιν, which sometimes cannot be taken away in so soft and weak a Constitution.

I could also dispute, in many Words, whether it is *safer*, at all Adventures, to commit new-born *Infants* to the Care of *hired Nurses*, as the Custom is, that the Parents may hear at last that the Child is in the greatest Danger, after it has breathed out it's innocent Life; or whether they should rather be weaned from the very Birth; or whether the Mothers ought to act the Part of Nurses themselves; or, lastly, whether a Nurse, when there is to be one, ought to be entertained in the Mother's House, that she may more easily be restrained from the company of her own Husband, by being under the Eye of the Child's Parents.

But it will now be time to remove an *Objection*, of some Physicians well versed in Practice, and of others also, who have diligently inquired into a new *Materia Medica*: These will blame my *Method*, as being too simple, and unadorned, consisting of things so commonly known, and quite destitute of that *Variety of Prescriptions* so necessary to a Learned Physician, and often abounding among Authors. Nay, and

they will reproach me, as not having known, or, at least, as not having treated with due Respect, the *Chymical Preparations*, which have been highly celebrated by a great many Authors.

Let these therefore remember, that a *Physician is only a Minister to Nature*, and $\Phi\upsilon\sigma\epsilon\iota\varsigma\ \nu\omicron\upsilon\sigma\omega\nu\ \iota\alpha\tau\rho\omicron\upsilon\varsigma$. Let them complain also that we are born naked, that *Nature is contented with a few things*, and that it is the Business of *Art*, to emulate, or rather imitate, *Nature* as fast as it can. Let them know also, that *he who prescribes too long, or too many Forms of Medicines, offends either thro' Ignorance, or ill Design.*

As for *Chymistry*, I had rather thoroughly understand it, than give too easy Credit to vain and boasting *Chymical Promises*. I shall say nothing of my having conversed and even lived for some Time at *Paris* with the famous *Lemery*, the Glory and Ornament of the *Hermetic Art*, and of this Age, so far as relates to *Chymistry*. But if the Art of *Physick* had been less instructed with *genuine Methods of Cure*, when *Chymical Medicines* first began to take Place of others, it would have less abounded, if I am not mistaken, with many *Chymical Preparations*. For why should Physicians have recourse to unknown, uncertain, nay, and very dangerous things, why should they
fly

fly to the *Refuges of Ignorance*, unless there had justly some Suspicion arisen of things long known and experienced by many? Surely they had not so greedily caught at the *Shadow*, whilst they let go the *Substance*, if the twinkling Light of that *Shadow* had not first bewitched their Eyes. I would not however despise *Chymistry*, whilst it is kept within the Bounds of *Pharmacy*, any more than I would have others unwisely magnify it without any medical Bounds at all.

But for those who imagine that no Medicines can be well prepared by any other Art than the Spagyric, or by any other Means than by Fire, let them consider, that all Medicated Wines, and very many Tinctures, are best made without the Help of Fire, and being so made are more grateful and agreeable to the Stomach, and more beneficial to the whole Body. And, therefore, the Spagyric Fire seems very often to drive and impel the more thick, unpleasant, feculent, and impure Parts of Things, together with the pure and salutary; so that from the promiscuous Conjunction of adverse Particles, there easily arise a Loathing and Nausea, Sickness and Disturbance in the Stomach. The Truth of which thing I have not only frequently observed in Medicated Wines, made sometimes with Fire, and

sometimes without, but chiefly in the making of the *Elixir Proprietatis Dulcis*, which I have made at Home for many Years, to give away to the Poor and others *gratis*. But I do not remember that of the many Women, for whom I have so often prescribed that Medicine, prepared by a long and cold Infusion, and who were often offended by the common Preparations of it, any one ever complained of the Offence, Disagreeableness, or Nauseousness of the Medicine, unless that it sometimes seemed a little hot. But whether the common Preparations of it offend rather in the hasty Preparation, or in the bad Choice of the Myrrh and other Ingredients, or in the too fiery and empyreumatic Spirit, which is injudiciously used, or, lastly, in all these Respects together, may perhaps deserve some Consideration. For Spirit of Wine, and of many other things fresh distilled, being then highly saturated with *Empyreuma*, offend the Stomach, and injure the vital Parts, whereas being kept any time, they almost lose their offensive Fire, and are rendered more friendly to Nature, and innocent, and more agreeable to the Taste.

It is also worthy of Observation, that the greatest Favourers of Chymistry, and the most violent Enemies to the old Method of Practice, not to mention those Bellows-blowers

ers and quacking Operators, who adulterate all Medicines, and sell nothing but Smoak, generally, except a very few, live in great Penury, and yet are not afraid to *promise golden Mountains* to the Credulous, the Unskillful, and the Covetous. But tho' it is true, that Wealth and Riches, are not always granted to the Wise, the Skillful, and the best versed in every Art, according to their Merits, yet I take it to be most probable, that their extreme Want, so generally obvious, is owing to the Hurt, nay to the greatest Destructiveness of their most famous *Medicines* or *ARCANA*: and that no small part of them is at least unfit, if not very adverse, to the Health of Mankind, on Account of the destructive *Participation* or *Incorporation* of Fire. For if they were generally advantageous to Mankind, or if their Virtues commonly agreed with what is said of them, tho' they might not be able to enrich here and there an *Alchymist*, yet they would not so frequently disappoint the diligent Cultivators of the *Art* in gaining Money; as most other Artificers, who are industrious, and pretend to do any thing for the publick Good, seldom fail of getting a moderate Profit, sufficient to live upon. If *I was to give Advice to my own most dear Son*, what he should do to get a great, or, at least, a sufficient Quantity of Gold; he

should, by my Advice, adorn himself with great Probity of Manners, not fraudulently impose on any one, nor strive to invent Lies in any Manner, whatsoever kind of Life, or whatsoever sort of Business he should be to pursue, in order to increase his Fortune. And I would no less inculcate to him, that it was the surest and quickest Road to Want and Misery, perfidiously to circumvent others, to relate Falsehoods for Truths, and to act the Part of a vile Impostor, or wicked Man, tho' some Deceivers may prosper for a Time in their Iniquity.

But to return to *Chymistry*, tho' the *Works of Nature* are despised by some, and *Nature* herself is accused as being sluggish by *Epicurus*, yet I could never help thinking, that the *Works of Nature* far excel those of *Art*, nay, as *Galen* says, that they are greater and higher than all Praise. Wherefore our *divine old Man* says truly, Ἡ ἰατρικὴ μαλιστα κατὰ φύσιν ἔστιν.

But here I cannot pass by without some Animadversion, that the modern and frequent Use in Practice of the Peruvian Bark, Chalybeates, Mercurials, and Narcoticks, as well as of Spagyric Medicines, seems in some measure to have banished that *Materia Medica* which Nature herself has kindly supplied, and which is delivered so copiously by *Dioscorides*, *Galen*, and other Antients.

Antients. For the manifold Use of these few is easily learnt and committed to Memory. Nor is the Force of the Mind enervated by retaining them, nor the Strength of the Body exhausted by immense Labours. Moreover these very short Studies leave room for Chearfulness, Recreations, Drinking-bouts, and Enjoyment of Friends. So that almost all the Books of the Ancients, which require Industry to be well known, and which create much Trouble to the Reader, grow quite contemptible, or become nauseous. But how contemptible soever the Antients may be, either the principal, or those of a lower Rank in Physick, and disagreeable to the Taste of the Moderns, yet the everlasting Glory of the ancient Physicians, and the Truth of things always agreeable to the Learned, in Physick, as well as in other Sciences, will certainly prevail and triumph over all Ages. For after all the Inventions of Art and Cunning, after so many hidden things brought to Light, after so many wonderful *Phenomena* discovered in Anatomy by the help of the Microscope, and illustrated by the Wit of the Curious, after so many Bezoardicks, *Benedicta*, *Polychresta*, Specificks, and wonderful Discoveries of the Chymists; lastly, after so many new Medicines, and those not contemptible, brought from the

Indies

Indies that very *Materia Medica*, which is found so copiously in *Dioscorides* and *Matthiolus*, and collected from the rich Store of Nature with the greatest Industry, not slighting at the same Time the modern Supply of both the *Indies*, will always be admired and esteemed by good, skillful, and learned Physicians, as a precious Treasure of Physick. And altho' many of the younger Sort delight sometimes in wandering in other Paths, yet few old Physicians, who have been made wise and cautious by the Dangers and Shipwrecks of others, will prefer new Inventions and Fictions before the Observation and Experience of many Ages. But that those great Masters of Botany may more easily be brought into Use in Physick, there was a Book published long ago by *Justus Moller*, a German, called *Fasciculus Remediorum ex Dioscoride & Matthiolo*, printed at *Basil*, in which all their Medicines are clearly shewn under Heads agreeing with the Order of Diseases, than which Book, we can hardly see one more useful, and more necessary for Physicians. And where this is wanting, it is worth knowing that there is a convenient Supplement prefixed to the Comments of *Matthiolus*, containing *the Virtues of Simple Medicines according to the Places, out of Dioscorides*.

But

But what has been said concerning the *Materia Medica*, in what Manner so ever excellent, whether taken from ancient or modern Authors, is to be understood in this Manner, that the strong Judgment of a skillful Physician is required in selecting and adapting to Use certain known and salubrious Simples, and in rejecting doubtful and uncertain, obsolete and unwholesome ones; also that the Method of Cure, and medical Precepts, should direct the Use of Medicines to the Preservation or Acquisition of Health; and, lastly, that a right and requisite Administration of universal Evacuations should precede or accompany the Use of the most select Simples. For let a Herbal be ever so large, what Good can it do in the Hands of an unskillful old Woman? Of what Use are Instruments, though made with the utmost Skill and Exactness, without the Dexterity of a skillful Artificer? What signifies the finest and best chosen Library in the Custody of an unlearned, ignorant, or foolish Fellow?

The candid Reader will pardon me if I seem to expatiate too largely on this Subject. For some different Modes and Customs, sometimes perhaps better, and sometimes worse, come into Fashion and go out again in Physick as well as Dress; and the common Herd of Physicians too easily gives
Credit

Credit to the Promises of new Leaders, till that faithful Mistress *Experience* at last shews them safer Ways to Truth. But none of the past Ages seems to have been more happy in finding out new excellent Medicines, or in fetching them from a great Distance, than our own, which, glorying in many useful ones, and assisted by Microscopes and Telescopes, Aids unknown to the Ancients, thinks that nothing can escape it's Notice, either in the Heights of Heaven, or in the Depths of Earth.

But lest the Ingenious should assume too much to themselves, I shall propose two visible, obvious, and yet wonderful *Phenomena* to their Consideration, to which, if any one of a subtile Genius can bring any clear Light, with undoubted Reason, he shall justly be accounted an admirable Philosopher, and, if he pleases, wiser in the Art of Physick than *Hippocrates* himself.

And first I would entreat him clearly to explain that stupendous and constant Flux and Reflex of the Sea; what Cause it is that drives and impels the whole Ocean into such great and such regular Motions; what Cause it is, besides the Almighty Word of our great Creator, that heaps up such mighty Bulks of Waves, higher than all the Land, as is seen by those who sail in a swelling and stormy Sea, and yet circumscribes them
within

within certain Bounds, as if they were solid Masses ; what Cause it is that moves such rapid Tides of the Sea at the stated New and Full-Moons, yet contained within the proper Bounds of their own Channels, and so seldom making Inundations of the Earth ; whereas the Tides of the Sea are so rapid, as we may see particularly in our River of *Severn*, that they flow about five Tides in an Hour, carrying before them every thing that opposes, even the heaviest Masses, as if they were Pieces of Cork.

And thus Water, Air, and all other inanimated Bodies, universally obey the first Order of Things, established by the supreme Authority, much better than those animated Bodies that are puffed up with contumacious Reason, which seem to have that peculiar Privilege, of boldly resisting, at their own Pleasure, the Commands of their Creator.

In the second place I would ask him, if he is certain, whether those infinite Stars, of which so great a Number is conspicuous to the Eyes, and a much greater is discovered by the Use of Telescopes ; whether, I say, so many Stars and Planets are carried round the Earth with a most rapid daily Course, if we may believe our Eyes ; or whether the Earth itself, that little Point, in Comparison of the Heavens, the Circumference

ference of which is calculated by the most learned *Gassendus* to consist of 26255 *Italian Miles*, and the Semidiameter to be 4177 Miles, is continually whirled about its own Axle by daily Motion, the order of terrestrial Things being in the mean Time not at all changed? But I do not ask this as doubting too much of the Truth of the Thing. For Reason perswades that this Earth is moved, this little dirty Particle of the Universe; our Sense chiefly shews, that the immense Heavens are moved. But both of them plainly admonish the most learned Men to behave with the greatest Modesty in doubtful or conjectural Affairs, and not to swell with unbecoming Arrogance. Let him explain also how so great Weight of the terrestrial Globe is supported without Pillars, and remains firm and even in the midst of the fluid Air, without any Deviation from it's assigned Course, either upwards or downwards, whether this Earth is moveable or immoveable.

Again, I ask whether he is certain, that the visible Stars are placed at so great a Distance from the Earth, as the Mathematicians suppose, or conjecture, or demonstrate; whether the Atmosphere, by which the Earth is on all Sides surrounded, does not cause the distant Objects to decrease in Bigness, and to seem to be diminished according

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ing to the Length of their Distance; lastly, whether that most pure Æther, and free from Vapours, which is extended above the Atmosphere into the Heavens, at all diminishes the true Magnitude of the distant Stars? Surely it is but a very obscure Light that shines on human Eyes and Understanding, when our Speculations are about heavenly Things, and above our Capacities. Indeed we have but a small Knowledge of the Nature of earthly Things, and none at all of heavenly, except what the Almighty Being has vouchsafed to lay open to us, out of his immense Treasure of Omniscience. What if I should add a singular Instance of our Darkness about the Nature of celestial Things? All the modern Virtuosi agree in the Opinion, that the Sun is a fiery Body, or a celestial Fire; and yet the nearer the high Tops of Mountains approach to the Sun, or the great Plains of Mountains, equally suited to receive the Reflexions of the solar Rays, with the lower Plains of the Vallies, such as our Travellers describe the mountainous Plains to be near *Armenia*, the more are the Mountains covered with Frost and Snow, though they are placed in a very hot Climate, which is contrary to the Nature of Fire by which we are heated; and that the farther the Earth any where recedes from the Sun, the more the Places
are

are heated. Let Men therefore swell proudly, if they will, with their sublime Knowledge, by which it is quite impossible to cause, that any one being born blind, should be able either by Plenty of Learning, or Fluency of Discourse, or Wisdom of Philosophy, notwithstanding his familiar conversing with Mankind, to comprehend a certain and clear Notion of the Light itself, and of Colours, which he never saw with his Eyes.

Besides, if those infinite Stars, fixed in the upper Heavens, are of so great a Magnitude, as the Mathematicians either think or demonstrate them to have, I would suppose, with the leave of the Divines, and conjecture, not perhaps without Reason, if human Darknes cannot demonstrate it, that those lucid starry Regions may be the proper and peculiar Seats of celestial Spirits; and that they will be the proper Habitations of celestial Bodies, when their mortal and perishing Bodies shall be changed into celestial and everlasting ones.

I would also suppose by consecutive Reason, if Contemplation was permitted to wander off, about obscure and conjectural Things, that those great Orbs of the Planets beneath the upper Stars, or that great *Æther*, in which the Planets at first wandered, may after the last Conflagration,
be

be the dark Receptacles of evil Spirits, and Men devoted to Punishment; being always obscured with more than *Cimmerian*, with more than *Egyptian* Darkness; when the Light of the Sun, perishing together with the lower World, shall be quite extinguished; when all the Planets shall be deprived of any farther Splendor of the Rays of the Sun; and when some thick Veil shall be drawn between the bright Regions of the Blessed, and the Darkness of the Accursed; and, lastly, when all lower things shall return into the first Darkness, which covered the Chaos before the Formation of this World.

I would moreover suppose, or at least hope, that so many very large starry Worlds are not wholly deserted, but either are at present, or will be hereafter, full of blessed Inhabitants; and that they will not be so destitute of happy Inhabitants, as the narrow Thoughts of some who dissent from us would suggest, or as the censorious Temper of some good Men, or the too furious Heat of rigid Zealots may imagine. But, good God! with what great Splendor must those celestial Regions be irradiated, when the effulgent Face of *Moses*, coming down from the holy Mountain, after he had obscurely beheld the Glory of the Divine Majesty, could not be beheld by the People, till he had covered it with a Veil! when the Face of

St *Stephen*, beholding by a lively Faith the Heavens opened, shined so as to seem Angelical to his very Enemies!

And if the Faces even of mortal Men, but a little beholding the celestial Light, seem to participate of such great Brightness, with what Exultations, with what Illuminations, will immortal Souls be overspread, when they shall shine like the Sun, and when they shall have the eternal Enjoyment of the highest Illustrations, without any Interposition of Night, or any setting of Splendor!

Certainly those glorious, splendid, and sublime Orbs, both those which we behold with our Eyes, or discover by Telescopes, and those which are scattered every way thro' the immense Æther, which is not to be circumscribed by any Bounds of thinking, are lasting Monuments of infinite Magnificence, which necessarily lead the Contemplators of Celestial Things into a high Admiration of the Deity, and ought sometimes to snatch them upwards. Nay, and even the Fabrick of the least Animalcule, or despicable Reptile, composed with so much Elegance and Artifice, as also the exquisite Construction of most other Works of Nature that are near us, and therefore very often despised, and therefore commonly less considered; if they are searched into by a diligent

diligent Inquiry, will deservedly promote no small Admiration of the supreme Power.

Moreover, if there was Leisure for discovering and illustrating some obscure *Phænomena*, let any one explain, from what Spring and from what Principle arises the circulatory Motion of the Blood, the first Demonstration of which is justly ascribed to our famous HARVEY, and let him tell to what first natural Mover it owes it's first Origin. For I have seen, with Astonishment, as well as many others, with my own Eyes, and perhaps with greater Admiration than if I had beheld the seven Wonders of the World the Blood of Animals carried with a kind of Torrent thro' the Arteries to the Extremities, and brought back again from the Extremities with a swift Course thro' the Veins; but I am quite ignorant, whether the first *Impetus* of the Blood is to be derived from the Heart or from the Brain? And I am ignorant also, whether the Throne or Seat of our Soul is placed in any principal Part of the Body, or whether *the whole* is not distributed, *in the whole, and the whole in every part*, according to the Sum of the Dialectic Philosophers. Certainly it is manifest enough to our slender Comprehension of natural things, that the most Great and Powerful Lord of Nature, whom the

wisest of Mortals can never serve and honour enough, or worship with a Mind sufficiently humble and lowly, has every where overspread the Reasons of natural Things with Night and Darkness, that most of our Reasonings, or rather Blunders, may rather move the Laughter of Men that excel others in Wisdom, than deserve any Admiration.

May the *great and good God*, from whom, as from an ever inexhaustible Fountain, all good and happy Things continually come down, and *on whose Favour and Blessing the happy Success of the Art of Physick* chiefly depends, vouchsafe, out of his immense Goodness, to bless what I have faithfully written with a sincere Mind, that it may be for the Publick Benefit, which ought always to be preferred before private Advantage.



 B O O K the Second.

CONTAINING

OBSERVATIONS

On several grievous

D I S E A S E S.



I HAVE thought it not improper to add a few Cures of grievous Diseases, which perhaps will be not very displeasing, and not altogether unprofitable to the Reader. If I relate but few Observations, there will be the less waste of Time, and the Reader will not spend many good Hours idly. Let others, who love a commendable Leisure, or who have immense Treasures of Science, or who can as easily

root out any Diseases, as kill Flies, or tell Stories, let such furnish out a Medical Banquet, furnished with a sufficient Number of Observations, to satisfy the voracious Appetite of the most greedy after Learning. A frugal and philosophical Repast is at present sufficient for the Narrowness of my Circumstances. Nor is a sober and sparing Table to be quite despised, especially by Physicians, who are used to impose a Rule on others in every thing, and commonly deliver rigid and temperate Rules of preserving Health. Nor can I easily bear, that any thing should ever slip out of my Memory, which has at any Time dropped in Conversation with the most learned of our Physicians. For I once seriously asked him, who had deserved best of the Medical Commonwealth, and who had largely taught the Cure of many Diseases in his learned Writings, why he had never published any thing concerning the Diseases of the Head, who had written so happily about so many other Diseases, with universal Approbation: he answered with great Ingenuity, that *it was because he was not able to cure those Diseases.*

Therefore, whether the Art of Physick is conjectural, as they say, and in a Manner uncertain, and always was so; or whether it has been so appointed for miserable, weak, wicked, and impious Mankind, by the supreme

preme and most wise Governour of all Things, that Mortals should suffer due Punishment, by the Chastisement of various and sometimes incurable Diseases; whether it is human and almost necessary, to err more or less; or, lastly, whether thick Darkness is always spread over the Truth of natural, and especially of medical Things, I think should be left to the Judgment and Determination of the Wise. But if perfect and consummate Cures of Sickneses which shall never be frustrated, are seldom known, and only wished for, so great is the Diversity of sick Persons, so great the Variety of Circumstances, so great the Dissimilitude of the same Man in different Ages; yet the candid and knowing Reader will at least take in good Part the Will and Desire of benefitting others.

OBSERVATION I.

Of the Epilepsy.

A beautiful Girl of eleven Years of Age, of a sanguine Constitution, being seized with most violent and very long Epileptic Fits, desired my Assistance on the eighteenth Day of *December*, in the Year 1701. In the six last Months she had two violent Fits every Day, each of which held her for

two or three Hours, so that it was Work enough for two or three strong Men to hold her Hands and Feet, to keep her from injuring herself by Blows and Bruises. Beside those greater and regular Fits, she had frequently others of a slighter Sort, and easily put off; these slighter ones came upon every Start and Surprize, and if she did but happen to sneeze. The Fit was in this manner: first she fell down as if she was dead, upon the Ground or upon a Bed, whence this Disease is commonly called the Falling-Sickness, and after she had continued for a little while without Motion, she strained her Limbs every Way, that she might be able to beat herself with her Hands. In the Spasms she often bent her Head downward, and beat it back again with such Strength as if she intended to strike some Body to hurt them with the Back of her Head. Her Eyes rolled fiercely round; and at last she foamed at the Mouth. In short, she was a sad and horrible Spectacle. This Disease is justly called *Sacred*, whether on account of it's Bigness, for great things used to be called *sacred* by the Ancients; or else, perhaps, for the difficulty of it's Cure, being thought removable not by human, but only by divine Assistance. From the first Invasion of this Distemper she sneezed sometimes, and yet her Nose was always dry, and the Passage closed up, never having discharge

Several grievous Diseases. 153

charge, or occasion to be wiped. In like manner the Palms of her Hands had a constant inward Heat from the first beginning of the Fits, and were never found moistened by any salubrious Perspiration.

After a great many Medicines had been given her in the Country in vain, and without any Success, I prescribed the following Powders, of which she took one twice every Day, in a Spoonful of Cephalic Julep, taking three Spoonfuls of the same after every Dose.

Earth Worms prepared one Ounce, human Skull prepared two Drams, lesser Cardamoms two Scruples. Reduce them all together into a fine Powder, and divide it into twelve Papers.

Black Cherry Water, and Lime-Flower Water, of each half a Pound, compound Peiony Water two Ounces, Tincture of Castor two Drams, compound Syrup of Peionies two Ounces. Mix them into a Julep.

But because her Stomach loathed such a great Quantity of nauseous Powder, she took soon after each Dose thirty Drops of *Elixir Proprietatis Dulcis*, upon a little Sugar. Where the Patient is pretty nice, the Nauseousness, or unpleasant Taste of the
Medicine,

Medicine, may be taken away or palliated by some Drops of the Chymical Oil of Nutmegs, mixed with a little Sugar, and added to the former Medicine, or by Ambergris mixed with Sugar; but whether the Medicine will be the better or worse for it, is not quite plain to me.

On the second Day after she had taken these Powders, her Fits were reduced from two to one every Day.

On the fourth Day she began to grow very hot, and to be taken with a kind of febrile Effervescence; wherefore I ordered seven Ounces of Blood to be taken from the Cephalick Vein of the right Arm; whereby that vehement Heat was presently removed: and the epileptic Fits quite disappeared within a Week after the first taking of the Powders. But the febrile Heat just now described seemed to intend the Maturation of the impure Humours in the fore Ventricles of the Brain, or in the neighbouring *Sinciput*. For about the End of the first Week, two very memorable and good Symptoms appeared. First the Passages or excretory Ducts of the Nose, thro' which so great a Quantity of *Mucus* is often discharged in a good State of Health, and which were so long and so close shut up, were opened about the End of that first Week, so that about half a Pound of *Mucus*

cus or Snot streaked with Blood was discharged by the Nose, as if an Abscess had broken in the Brain, and run out that Way. In the second Place the Palms of the Hands, which had been so long dry and parched, were sensibly to the Touch overspread with a moderate and wholesome Moisture. Whence it came to pass, that the sneezing which happened afterwards caused no disturbance, or any Accesses of the Falling-Sickness. Then all the Swelling of the Face, which before was perceivable to any one who considered it attentively, quite disappeared, and she was no longer apt to start and be affrighted at any slight Cause. I advised her to continue for some time in repeating these Powders, and that she should take them again afterwards three Days before every New and Full Moon; and also that she should have Issues opened in each Leg, and so from that Time she had no return of Epileptic Fits.

OBSERVATION II.

Of the Palsy.

A Colonel's Lady, about forty Years of Age, about the beginning of *March*, in the Year 1693, when it was a very hard Frost, was taken with a Palsy in all her
Limbs,

Limbs, both upper and lower. She was not able to bend so much as any one Finger to help herself, and lay supine in her Bed, without the Use of her Limbs. But her Head, like an impregnable Citadel, that holds out after the rest of the City is taken, and possessed by the Forces of the Enemy, preserved all it's Functions entire, so that she was able to speak much, and very plainly. Now in so cruel a Disease, whether this Lady's Tongue justly preserved so great an Immunity and Privilege, above all the other Parts of her Body, on Account of it's never having been devoted to lying and slandering, I did not think it material to make any scrupulous Enquiry.

This Palsey was universal, and almost Apoplectick, all the Nerves, which proceed from the *Vertebræ* of the spinal Marrow, and are dispersed thro' the Trunk and Limbs of the Body, being relaxed from their due Tension; those Pairs only of Nerves being free from the Disease, which being derived from the *Medulla Oblongata*, serve the Functions of the Head. This kind of Palsey very seldom occurs, the *Hemiplegia*, or Palsey of peculiar Parts on one Side being more frequent.

This Lady, tho' in so bad a Case, was relieved by these few Medicines, with the Divine Blessing, in so short a Time, that
in

in a few Days she could make a little Use of her Fingers to eat, and on the tenth Day from my being consulted, I saw her walk about her Chamber, leaning on her Maid, before I went over to *Holland*, to attend his Majesty.

Diffolve three Drams of Scio Turpentine in the Yolk of a new laid Egg, and add Syrup of Stœchas one Ounce, Milk Water four Ounces. Mix them, and make a Potion.

Ruffia Castor fifteen Grains, Conserve of Sage Flowers two Scruples, compound Syrup of Peionies a sufficient Quantity to make into a Bolus.

She took that Turpentine Draught four Mornings successively, and then that her Stomach might not nauseate it, she took it every other Morning, and the Bolus every Night.

It is worthy of Observation, that after taking those Draughts, the sick Lady affirmed, that she felt a painful *Flatus* to go downward by Degrees, from the upper *Vertebræ* of the Spine, which, no doubt, was the immediate Cause of the Disease, whatsoever is commonly determined concerning a Humour poured upon the Nerves; and

and as this *Flatus* went gradually down the Spine, the Turpentine Draught being repeated, she constantly perceived it to be driven downwards, and her Strength to be more and more restored. It is observable also, that Turpentine is deservedly reckoned among the most famous Carminative Medicines, on Account of the wonderful Faculties that it has in dispelling *Flatus's*, in whatsoever part of the Body they are inclosed, and by their penetrating Power more easily gain an Entrance into Passages impervious to Humours, than they can get out again. I have sometimes given six Drams or one Ounce of Venice Turpentine, and such a Quantity the Ancients commonly gave, dissolved in like manner, in a Draught, not only in paralytick but also in arthritick and rheumatick Cases, with the best Success; but in this last Disease Bleeding twice or thrice ought to precede the Use of it.

It is on Account of this carminative Virtue of Turpentine, that the terebinthinate Balsam of Sulphur is so justly esteemed in the Cure of the Palsy, that the Hospital Physicians esteem it highly; though from twelve to twenty Drops of that Balsam is a small and diminutive Dose, and therefore generally brings but a poor and weak Aid. And the Spirit of Turpentine, of which the Balsam is made, being endued with a
short

short and transient Power, passing quickly out of the Stomach into the Intestines, cannot cause so great and so lasting an Impression on the nervous Coat of the Stomach, and consequently on the other Nerves of the Body that arise from the Spine, as the tenacious, permanent, and balsamick Faculty of the Turpentine itself can with much more Power and Efficacy. But it is not so easy to explain, as it is true to affirm, that wandering *Flatus's* in the Body are the immediate and nearest Cause, both of manifold Pains which torture the Miserable, and also of this Disease, which is in a Manner anodyne and insensible, distinguished rather by a Stupidity than Pain. The Theory of *Flatus's* flying through the Body, seems as hidden and unknown to us, as the Nature of stormy Winds, when they war sometimes in the Sky with a great Noise and thundering, is a hard and difficult philosophical Speculation. And, indeed, as Winds sometimes raise Storms and Tossings of the Waves from the Bottom of the Sea up to Heaven, as they sometimes cause Tremblings and Earthquakes, when they are inclosed in the Bowels of the Earth; so do *Flatus's*, being bred and shut up in human Bodies, cause Gripings, racking Pains, and Convulsions.

OBSERVATION III.

Of the Diabetes.

A wealthy Merchant, being seventy Years of Age, in the Month of *December*, in the Year 1701, laboured under a total Suppression of Urine for five Days together, so that during all that Time he did not make so much as a single Drop.

On the seventh Day of the Month, after various Medicines, and universal Evacuations had been given in vain by me and another famous Physician, at last we ordered the following Cataplasm to be applied to the Navel of the Patient.

Black Soap six Drams, best Saffron half a Dram, Salt of Amber fifteen Grains.
Mix and form them into a Cataplasm.

The next Day the urinary Springs, breaking through their Obstacles, were opened, and a Deluge of Urine succeeded, so that I ordered the Cataplasm to be removed that Evening, being in Fear for the venerable old Gentleman, lest a Disease quite contrary to the former, a *Diabetes*, should come in the Room of it.

On



On the ninth Day there was no Room left to doubt; for the pathognomonic Signs of a *Diabetes* shewed themselves. He continually made Water without Measure, and almost without Intermision, and his Thirst was insatiable, as if he had been bitten by a poisonous *Dipsas*. But no Quantity of Drink answered to the Urine, nor does any one so affected suffer himself to be restrained either from drinking or making Water. There were some who were pleased to taste the Honey Sweetness of his Urine. For my Part, I was sufficiently persuaded of the Nature of his Disease, without tasting. Here now is a fit Occasion for tasting, if there was but a Disciple of *Xenocrates* present, or if *Xenocrates* himself, formerly a famous Physician, was now alive, who never gave any Medicines to his Patients, but what were taken from the filthy and nasty Tribe of Dungs and Urines. He, as it is related, used to taste, and he deserved it, the Urine and other Nastiness of his Patients, that he might form the better Judgment of their Diseases, and that he might judge the more certainly, what Animal's Excrements he should produce from his own Dunghil at Home, or pharmaceutical Promptuary.

The sick Gentleman, tho' old, was of a fleshy and juicy Habit; but this Disease

made a quick Diminution of his Flesh and Muscles. On the fifteenth Day of the Month, from fat he became lean, and from a corpulent Man, almost a Skeleton. For all the Juices of his Body flowed in a kind of Torrent through the urinary Passages, which at that Time were very open. When all the Children and Grandchildren of his numerous Family, with their Friends and Relations, were at that Time met together to take their Leaves of the dying Patient; after various comforting Medicines, after Treacles, and other Things given in vain, it came into my Mind, that this immoderate Flood of Urine was a Kind of *Diarrhœa*, or Flux of the urinary Passages, just as that other Kind of *Diarrhœa* is proper to the Intestines, derived with the same Violence through the Belly, and causing the same Colliquation of all the Flesh.

In this deplorable Case of so excellent an old Man, I had a Mind to try the great Virtues of that noble and innocent Medicine Rhubarb, which is as well suited to old Age as to Infancy, whether it would be of as much Service in the Flux of the Kidnies, as it usually is in that of the Intestines. For these Diseases seem to be not much unlike, since the only Difference lies in the Part affected, and a *Diarrhœa* is a
Kind

Kind of Diabetes of the Belly, a Diabetes is a Diarrhœa of the Kidnies.

I therefore prescribed in the following Manner, with the Consent of the other Physician.

The best Rhubarb cut half an Ounce, white and yellow Sanders, of each one Dram, lesser Cardamoms half a Dram. Mix and infuse them over a slow Fire, in a close Vessel, in a Pint of the best Canary.

The Patient took six Spoonfuls of this Wine strained at six o'Clock the next Morning, on the sixteenth of *December*, and repeated the same at ten in the Forenoon. Now what was the Effect of this medicated Wine! tho' this miserably languishing old Man had before this Day continual Streams of Urine like Rivulets flowing from him, yet from the Noon of that Day till ten in the Evening his Diabetes was quite stopped, he had no longer an urging to make Water, his Thirst left him, and on repeating the same Draught for three or four Mornings, he perfectly recovered from this most grievous Disease.

How far the Mineral Waters of *Bristol* are of Service in this Disease, and what Esteem they have deservedly acquired, is now commonly known by every Body. But

those famous Waters also justly deserve Fame and Reputation in many other Weaknesses and Decays, beside those of the Kidnies; they greatly restore the decaying Strength, and above all others most quickly extinguish the Thirst arising in the Diabetes. But all Mineral Waters whatsoever seem to me to be better suited to Youth and the middle Age, than to decrepit old Age. For Burgundy, Port, and such like Wines, will most certainly heal the Decays of old Men much better than any Mineral Waters whatsoever.

OBSERVATION IV.

Of a rare Example of a Wound of the Lungs.

A Captain of about forty Years of Age, living at *Westminster*, about the Beginning of *February* last Year, was run through the Breast in a Duel, and received a Wound under the Right Breast. Thus Honour, far dearer than Life, shone in her highest Glory, and thus Dignity was preserved, being stained with the most noble Purple. For it becomes only Philosophers to despise Injuries, and let Philosophers, if they please, believe, that *Injuries despised wear out*. But the Military Art delivers quite contrary Rules,

Rules, and Men of the Sword know how fine a Thing it is to cut and slash one another about any trifling Offence, and how much more glorious it is to lie in the airy Bed of Honour, than in a soft and secure Feather-Bed. For *Heaven covers him that has no Grave.*

The wounded Officer committed himself to the Care of two very skillful Surgeons, who healed up the Wound soon enough, if not too hastily. For soon afterwards, when every Thing seemed quiet, a sudden Storm arose, and an Abscess breaking in his Breast, he vomited up a great Quantity of Matter streaked with Blood.

Being sent for seven Weeks after his first receiving the Wound, I found him confined to his Bed, tho' his Pulse was strong and regular, his Voice clear, and his Countenance like one in Health. I asked therefore, why he did not get out of Bed, as he had no Fever, and did not seem to have any Occasion to be confined for a Wound? He answered, that he had no Want of Strength or Inclination to rise, but as often as he rose in Bed, either to put on his Cloaths or to eat, he was taken with such a violent and long Fit of Coughing, that he was hardly able to bear the Fatigue of it; however he ventured to make trial of it before me, and getting up was seized with a

most violent Fit of coughing, which lasted an Hour. During the Fit he threw up a full Pint of Phlegm and purulent Matter; and this he did, as he told me, in every Fit. There were also some small Streaks of Blood, mixed by the Violence of the Cough, with what he threw up; and sometimes he felt Pain in the wounded Part.

When I had seen all this, I was of Opinion, that the lower Lobe of the Lungs adhered to the Diaphragm, from some remaining *Ichor* of the Wound, or incrassated Blood, or mucous Phlegm, acquiring an agglutinating Power, from the too hasty or immoderate Use of Narcoticks and Astringents. For whilst he lay on his Back in Bed, he continued free from all Uneasiness, and without any Disturbance, and he was not sensible of any Weight on his Lungs; but as soon as he raised himself in Bed, his Lungs being deprived of their former free Motion, and drawn downwards, were oppressed with a preternatural Load. The above-mentioned Abscess seemed to have been able to produce this unusual Connection of the Parts by it's Viscosity, and to indicate attenuating Medicines, which are contrary to Narcoticks.

And as I soon observed that neither Balsamicks, nor Pectorals, nor even spirituous Medicines, could do any Thing towards removing

removing the Cause, and as I saw such a Quantity of Phlegm thrown out by the Cough, I prescribed the following drying Diet, with a Prognostick, that if there could be any Hope from Medicines, it was undoubtedly to be expected from this Drink in Process of Time.

Shavings of Guaiacum half a Pound, Sarsaparilla cut in Pieces three Ounces, knotty China-Root cut in Pieces two Ounces, white and yellow Sanders, of each half an Ounce. Infuse them in six Quarts of Spring Water for fifteen Hours. Then boil it over a slow Fire to the Consumption of a third Part; adding in the boiling four Ounces of Raisons cut, and at the latter End two Ounces of Liquorice cut in Slices. Strain it, and let it settle. Let the Patient drink a Quart, or a little more, every Day. It might be better to prepare only half the Quantity of this Apozem, that it may keep the better, in warm Weather.

The Event was, that he was able in a few Days to rise out of Bed, without coughing, and in a Fortnight, being perfectly recovered, walked in the Garden. But he continued a little longer, by my Advice, in the Use of the Diet Drink, to prevent a Relapse.

I had the like Success in an *Empyema* that followed an ill-cured *Pleurisy*. A young Bookseller, after an Inflammation in his Side had suppurated, had an Abscess broken, which poured out a great Quantity of Matter into the Cavity of his *Thorax*, upon which the Apothecary thought it proper that I should be sent for. He was not able to incline or bend his Body in the least Degree, without coughing immediately, and pumping up by Degrees a great Quantity of Matter, almost a Pound, at every Fit of coughing. I immediately ordered him the same Diet Drink, and the like Effect by Degrees succeeded. I make mention of this Example the rather, because in such Cases some famous Authors, and particularly *Fabricius ab Aquapendente*, are wont to advise the dangerous Operation of opening the Side, between the fourth and fifth Rib of the *Thorax*, to let out the Matter.

OBSERVATION V.

Of Worms producing the Small-Pox.

A young Gentleman, eleven Years old, had the Small-Pox in *June*, in the Summer before last. When I first saw him, his Fever was very acute, his Pulse quick and vermicular,

vermicular, his Stomach was sick, and his breathing difficult; yet when he was asked he complained of no Pain, because his Head was loaded with a great Stupidity, inso-much that he was almost speechless, and scarce knew any of those who were present. A few red Spots began to appear in his Face. But after the Operation of that mild and safe Emetick, the Root of Epicacuanna, all the Symptoms changed for the better; the next Morning the Fever greatly abated, the Difficulty of breathing ceased, and he was relieved from all the grievous Symptoms: so that a mild Small-Pox, sufficiently distinct, proceeded.

On the twelfth Day from the first Attack of the Distemper, he was quite free from any secondary Fever, and seemed to be out of all Danger; so that I told his Mother I should not come again till after four Days, unless some unexpected Symptom should require my Attendance before the appointed Time. Therefore laying aside or intermitting all Medicines, I advised him only to take a Glass of warm Sack every Day. On the fifteenth Day of the Distemper, a Messenger came to me in great Haste, earnestly desiring me to come immediately, without Delay, and see the Child, who was thought to be dying. When I came I found him in a very acute Fever, with an undulating

undulating and creeping Pulse, a Difficulty of breathing, and racked with such cruel Gripes, that he was continually crying out aloud. Besides, he had brought away two round Worms alive, which had been disturbed by the Wine, one by Vomit, and the other by Stool. Which Symptom leading me to judge, that many other Worms might be the Cause of such grievous Symptoms, I immediately prescribed *Sal mirabile* and *Sal catharticum amarum*, of each three Drams dissolved in six Ounces of warm Spring Water, to be given instantly; and one Dram of the Oil of Nutmegs by Expression to be laid as a Cataplasm to the Navel.

When I came again the next Morning, I found the Storm quite over, and a new Calm established. For the Fever was quite vanished, the Gripings appeased, the Pulse like one in Health, and he breathed easily. I was informed also by the Nurse, that he had voided by Stool an infinite and almost incredible Number of a Sort of Threads, or small Worms, having had a pretty many Discharges.

Wherefore that no fresh Tumults might happen from other Worms, and because the proper Time of purging approached, I prescribed the following Bolus to be given him that Evening, and a purging Draught the
next

Several grievous Diseases. 171

next Morning, to be repeated every third Day for five Times.

Seeds of St John's Wort one Scruple, Wormseed and Troches of Agarick, of each half a Scruple, Syrup of Wormwood a sufficient Quantity to make a Bolus.

Choice Rhubarb, and best Agarick, of each two Scruples, Leaves of Sena pickt one Ounce, Seeds of St John's Wort half a Dram, Dried Leaves of Thyme and Savory, of each one Pugil, crude white Tartar two Scruples, infuse and boil them in a sufficient Quantity of Spring Water to strain off three Ounces, in which dissolve Manna and *Sal mirabile*, of each three Drams. Mix them and make a Potion.

From the first Purge he voided twelve dead Worms; from the second ten; from the third fifteen; from the fourth eleven; and, lastly, from the fifth six others, all round, white, and dead, and most of them about nine Inches longs, besides a Sort of Cluster, or Seed-Bag of the Spawn of Worms, that had hardly acquired their full Shape, which were thrown off with the first Purge.

Between

Between the Purges I granted a Truce to the Enemy, and gave no Anthelminthicks, but only advised him to go on in taking four Spoonfuls of Sack as before, to recover his Strength, and preserve his Body from any farther Putrefaction. And in the last place I advised, that when he was well, and free from all Disorder, he should go into the Country for the Benefit of the Air; and that after two Weeks he should take every Morning the Quantity of a Nutmeg of the following Electuary, licking it off a Stick of Liquorice, till he had taken the whole.

Wormseed entire one Ounce, common Honey half a Pound.

Thus he enjoyed at last a perfect State of Health, and continued free from Worms afterwards.

But since the *Sal catharticum amarum*, and *Sal mirabile*, contributed their Virtues in the present Cure, and as they are justly in frequent Use among us, and as the first of those Salts is commonly thought to be a true and genuine Salt, extracted from the purging Mineral Waters, I believe the just and proper Use of it will not at all be interrupted, if at last it should be known, that *this excellent Salt is Sal Gem, either fossil*

fossil or marine, boiled in a great Quantity of purging Mineral Waters, crystallized, or evaporated to Dryness. Tho' great Part of the common Salt, or Sea Salt, which we use to preserve Meat, is reckoned to be a fossil Salt, dissolved in Sea Water, purified and evaporated. Or this cathartick Salt is otherwise made from fossile or marine Salt, dissolved in like Manner, and as it is concreting, having dropt upon it some chymical Oil, such as Oil of Wormwood, &c. For there are various Ways of operating, and various Tastes of the cathartick Salt, according to the different Skill or Craft of the Operators. Nor could I ever persuade myself, from the first common Use of the same Salt, that it could be any Thing else than a muriatick Salt altered by Art; since such an unexhausted Quantity of Salt, thought to be obtained from the purging Mineral Waters, is every where supplied at so cheap a Rate, and seeing so small a Quantity is really obtained from the Evaporation of the Waters.

Besides, tho' the Curious easily conjecture, and make no doubt, but that they obtain Nitre, Alum, Vitriol, and other Kinds of Salt, from an exquisite *Analysis* of the Mineral Waters, which Distillation affords them; yet we cannot comprehend that there is almost ever any other saline Principle in them,

them, than a fossil Salt inclosed in the Bowels of the Earth, through the subterraneous Mines of which the Streams of Water flow, before their Springs discover themselves to our Sight. And certainly the Waters of Mineral Springs are at first endued with a greater or muriatick Saltness, when they are first saturated with the above-mentioned Salt, but being afterwards gradually squeezed through the Strainer of the Earth, through which they run, they grow more and more sweet; as even the Sea Water also is rendered sweet by flowing through the inner Parts of the Earth, by the circulatory Law of Nature. Thus Sea Salt, when found in the Earth, becomes fossil, as the fossil Salt, when found in the Sea, becomes marine.

Besides, I am apt to suspect, that those purging Mineral Waters, which yield the least Salt in Distillation, and yet have the same purging Faculty with those which yield more, may contain some noxious Salt more than the rest. Of this Kind are our *Epsom* and *Richmond* Waters, situated in a very wholesome Air, which yield Salt very sparingly.

Lastly, we cannot deduce the Saltness of the immense Ocean from any other Cause, than from a great many Mines of that fossil
Salt,

Salt, distributed every where through the Cavity of the Sea.

OBSERVATION VI.

Of the Quinsy.

The Lady of a Right Reverend Prelate was ill of a Quinsy. There was a *Phlegmon* of the inner Muscles of the *Larynx* and *Fauces*, and the Swelling on the Inside hindered her swallowing. Her Mouth also was spread with a phlegmatick and frothy Slime.

Being sent for in the Morning I ordered some Blood to be taken from her Arm, and soon after an emollient Glyster to be thrown up; after the Return of which she took a Spoonful of the following Linctus every Hour. It is to be observed, that if a Tumour of this Kind, on the *Fauces* inwards, takes away all Power of swallowing, a dry Cupping-Glass or two applied to the Spondyls of the Neck, will draw back the Muscles that compress the Gullet or *Oesophagus*, and the Throat, in such a Manner, that an Opportunity may be obtained of taking Medicines or Nourishment, during the Application of the Cupping-Glasses.

Oil

Oil of sweet Almonds fresh drawn, and Flowers of Sulphur or Native Sulphur, of each one Ounce, Cream of Tartar in Powder two Drams, Syrup of Marsh-Mallows three Ounces, distilled Oil of Nutmegs three Drops, Sugar-candy two Drams. Mix them, and make a Linctus.

From the Operation of so common a Medicine, which commodiously cleanses out the *primæ viæ*, and purges strongly enough by Stool, during the Phlegmon, when I came the next Morning I found the Lady perfectly free from the Quinsy; and then after two Days she took a purging Draught, and had no farther Occasion for Medicines. I have heard People labouring under this Distemper affirm again and again, that the Swelling uses to decrease sensibly more and more, after the taking of each Spoonful of such a Linctus.

And it is really manifest, that Sulphur, either in it's natural State, or sublimed into Flowers, has excellent, and by no Means contemptible, Virtues in Tumours of the *Fauces*, Piles, and many other Parts. Only it should be observed, that Evacuations ought to precede the Use of it; and that Bodies ought first to be rendered fluid, and free
from

from Constipation, that the Cure may thereby more easily and quickly succeed.

To this I would add an Observation on the Nature of Sulphur, which perhaps may not be useless, or of small Consequence in Practice; for I have had it confirmed by my own Experience, and it has not yet, to my Knowledge, been handled by the most diligent Authors.

The sublimed Flowers of Sulphur, tho' they are endued with a Power of drying superfluous Humours, and though at first Appearance they seem to promise a remarkable Purification and Exaltation, and a greater Excellence, yet when they are taken, they bring many Inconveniencies along with them. For they dwell too long about the upper Orifice of the Stomach, they often swim or float upon the pituitous Humours contained in the Stomach, thereby creating a troublesome *Nausea*, which is most fruitful of Crudities and Indigestions. But the Native Sulphur is quite free from these Inconveniencies. For by it's terrene Weight it easily descends to the Bottom of the Stomach, and therefore does not produce any *Nausea*, but after it has diffused it's drying Faculty above, it seasonably changes Place, and slides into the Intestines, and so at last is discharged by Stool. Whereas, on the contrary, those sublimed Flowers, being

N quite

quite deprived of their natural Weight, and raised again by the natural Heat of the Stomach, rise upwards again, and being stimulated by their acquired Levity, are raised upwards, contrary to the Nature of Concoction. Wherefore it seems much more safe, to use the Native Sulphur inwardly, which the antient Physicians used alone, than those light, artificial, and more unwholesome Flowers.

OBSERVATION VII.

Of an Anomalous Sort of Small-Pox, or a Sort of Small-Pox joined with the Measles.

Seeing in my former Discourse I have taken Notice of the great Danger attending sick Persons from the Use of very hot Medicines, as Venice Treacle, Mithridate, and such like, not only in the Cure of Infants, but also in the Fevers of Adults, and have mentioned it in several Discourses; I shall here relate, with the Leave of my Superiors, a very deplorable Example of the Truth of what I have said, that the Authority of so great an Example, may, if it pleases God, deter others from a like Misfortune. When first our late most gracious Queen *Mary*, who now wears an immortal Crown in Heaven, was pleased to lay before me the

State

State of the Health of our late illustrious King, since received among the blessed, at which Time I was undeservedly favoured with the Honour of serving so great a Monarch; the Queen, I say, who was justly to be esteemed one of the best, most prudent, most sweet, and most pious Women, that ever lived in any Country, from the Beginning of the World down to the present Time, from whose Presence no one ever retired without Joy and Alacrity, was pleased to relate to me concerning herself, that *as often as she was out of Order, or found herself feverish, she was accustomed, by the Advice of the famous Dr Lower, then deceased, to take a large Quantity of Venice Treacle, to promote a Sweat, at going into Bed.* At that Time, which was about two Years before she was taken with that fatal Small-Pox, which caused her to change this mortal Life for an immortal one, I answered; *Though I have no small Veneration for the most learned Dr Lower, yet I am of Opinion, that your Majesty will some Time or other undergo an extreme Hazard of your Life from a Medicine so intensely hot, whenever you shall be seized by a permanent and continued Fever. For I never happened to see more destructive Fevers, or sooner attended with most furious Phrensies, than in those Patients, who have unhappily taken*

Venice Treacle, Mithridate, and the like hot Alexipharmicks, at the first Beginning of a Fever. And this Injury is wont to happen the more, in Proportion as the feverish Persons have been of a more hot and sanguine Constitution, in which no one exceeds your Majesty. And Galen himself, who wrote a Book on purpose upon the manifold Praises of the Treacle, no where commended it for burning Fevers, but only for chronical Disorders, and in Cases of Poison. However, this justly admired Queen, forgetting all that I had said, and fixing the famous *Lower's* Advice firmly in her Memory, was pleased, at the first Attack of the Small-Pox, to take Venice Treacle the first Evening, and finding no Sweat to appear as usual, she took the next Morning a double Quantity of it, to throw out a Sweat in vain, before she asked the Advice of the Physicians. Thus it pleased the most wise Governor of all things, suddenly to translate the best of Queens from her unworthy People into Heaven. Never was any Mortal bewailed with so many Tears, such sincere Lamentations, and such an universal Sorrow, not even the most beloved Parent by the most darling Child. For not only the Loss of the Queen was deplored, but the Ruin also and Destruction of the whole Kingdom was at that Time apprehended. But the vehement Grief
which

which the Remembrance of so great a Calamity always renews, is much lessened to me, when I recollect that I pointed out the Rocks on which she was cast away, and admonished her of the future Danger.

And because some Censures of learned Men at a great Distance, and especially Foreigners, with Relation to this most unhappy Case, have been unjustly spread among the Vulgar, both as to the Physicians and the Disease; therefore I shall not think it much, having obtained leave of my Superiors, to add a few things not altogether unworthy to be known, for the more certain Knowledge of the Truth of this Affair.

The SMALL-POX, by which that precious Life was suddenly taken away, was of the very worst and most dangerous Sort; being united with the *Measles*, and such as is usually accompanied with an *Erysipelas* in the Face, Purples, and spitting of Blood. And when the Physicians at that Time differed in Opinion, some taking her Distemper for the Small-Pox, others for the Measles, I assured them, that the Force of both Diseases was united, and that this Union was what I had more than once observed. And as I do not know that this has been committed to writing by any Author, and perhaps not observed by any Phy-

fician before, this Digression will the more easily obtain Pardon.

I could write a great deal concerning the History and almost pestilential Nature of that Small-Pox, which may easily be judged to have depended greatly on that Error about the Venice Treacle, but I shall only touch lightly upon it. On the third Day of the Disease the Eruptions appeared, with a very troublesome Cough; and they came out in such a Manner, that the Physicians were very doubtful whether they would prove the Small-Pox or Measles. On the fourth Day the Small-Pox shewed itself in the Face and rest of the Body, under it's proper and distinct Form. On the sixth Day in the Morning, the variolous Pustules all over her Breast were changed into the large red Spots of the Measles. And the *Erysipelas* called *Rosa*, swelled her whole Face, the former Pustles giving Place to them. That Evening, many broad and round *Petechiæ* appeared in the Forehead above the Eyebrows, and on the Temples. I had foretold the coming of these in the Morning; but when a very skilful Physician asserted that these Spots were not *Petechiæ* but sphacelated, on Account of their blackish Colour, the next Morning, being that of the seventh Day, some of those Spots were opened by the Lancet of a famous Surgeon, during the
Consultation,

Consultation, and the Blood that came out of them plainly shewed they were true *Petechiæ*. After the Middle of the Night succeeding the sixth Day, on which Night I sat up myself, there began a great Difficulty of Breathing, and a little afterwards a copious spitting of Blood. On the seventh Day the spitting of Blood was succeeded by bloody Urine. On the eighth Day the broad Spots of the Measles continued on her Breast, but in the lower Limbs where there had been any Pustules of the Small-Pox, all the Swelling of them immediately disappeared, and they changed into round Spots, about the Bigness of the Pustules, of a deep red, or full Scarlet, their Surface being smooth, and not at all elevated, like the pestilential *Stigmata*. There was one large Pustule filled with Matter, having a broad scarlet Circle round it like a burning Coal, which I then observed above the Region of the Heart; and under which a great deal of extravasated Blood was afterwards found on opening her Body. Lastly, about the Middle of that Night she breathed out her pious Soul.

OBSERVATION VIII.

Of the Hysterick Passion.

Whether the female Disorders, which are called Hysterical, derive their Origin rather from the Womb, or from a depraved Stomach, or from other Parts of the Body; and whether they depend primarily or secondarily on the Womb, the Spleen, or the Lungs, I shall not go about to enquire. It is easy for Persons of a subtile Wit, or much Leisure, to raise up medical Controversies; but to settle Disputes, and make a prudent Determination, is a thing of much Weight and Labour, and very worthy of the subtile Genius of learned Professors; but to drive away a Disease by salutary Medicines, is the most useful and most commendable of all.

The Wife of a wealthy Merchant, being about thirty Years of Age, had long been in an ill State of Health. But among many female Complaints, the most observable was, that from ten in the Evening, when she went to Bed, till two in the Morning, she was obliged to sit up in her Bed covered with a Nightrail, not being able to lay her Head on the Pillow, for Fear of being strangled by *Flatus's* rising upwards. When
Narcoticks

Narcoticks did not procure Sleep, but rather hindered and disturbed it; and when Chalybeates, and various other Medicines before prescribed by famous Physicians, were thought to have injured so tender a Constitution very much, I advised her to take the following Bolus at going to Bed, drinking four Spoonfuls of the following Julep after it.

Conserve of Borage Flowers two Scruples,
Ruffia Castor half a Scruple, Syrup of
Clove-Gilliflowers a sufficient Quantity to
make into a Bolus.

Milk Water four Ounces, Penny-royal and
Rue Water, of each two Drams, com-
pound Bryony Water, and compound
Peiony Water, of each one Ounce, Syrup
of Mugwort an Ounce and half. Mix
them, and make a Julep.

From these Medicines she immediately found such great Relief, so much Peace and Rest to her Spirits, that she was no longer afraid to lie down in Bed, or to lean her Head on the Pillow; and tho' she could not immediately compose herself to Sleep, yet her Sleeps were afterwards quiet, and free from *Flatus's*, and not quite destitute of moderate Sleep.

But

But because Pills were more agreeable to her, I prescribed the following, of which she took one or two at going to Rest, when she found herself out of Order, and never failed of having an easy and quiet Night's Rest after them; and as she has always kept these Pills in Readiness for these ten Years, she has found no Occasion to have Recourse to me, or to any other Physician.

Russia Castor in fine Powder one Dram,
 best Myrrh and purest Galbanum, of
 each half a Dram, finest Saffron one
 Scruple, extract of Gentian diluted in a
 little compound Gentian Water, a suffi-
 cient Quantity to make into middling
 Pills.

I cannot in this Place pass it over in Silence, that it is often inconvenient and hurtful to give Narcoticks to hysterical Women, in order to procure Sleep. For hysterical Medicines, properly so called, such as Castor, Myrrh, *Galbanum*, *Assa foetida*, and Saffron, cause very many Women to sleep more safely and efficaciously, when Opiates or Narcoticks, tho' peculiarly adapted to nightly Rest, besides other Inconveniencies and Disorders, often occasion Women to pass whole Nights without Sleep. But of all Times for giving Narcoticks most
 unsuc-

unsuccessfully to the tender Sex, none seems to me more unfortunate and improper than when they are in *Labour*. And tho' the common Midwives, and even Physicians, are often not afraid boldly to make Use of Narcoticks, in the Pains and Watchings of childbed Women, yet I am verily persuaded, that a good and firm State of Health, in many Women, is often injured and depraved by Narcoticks, at that Time unseasonably made Use of, and by this, above all other Causes, perverted into a morbid and sickly State. Hence arise those immovable Obstructions, Suppressions of the *Menses*, Loss of Appetite, continual Gripings, Melancholies, and sometimes Madnes. Hence, lastly, the morbid Taint is so rooted in their Constitutions, that they cannot be totally removed before the next lying-in, when the true and most opportune *Crisis* returns again of restoring them to their former Health, and a fit Occasion, if ever, is offered, of correcting former Errors.

Top of Roman Wood and lesser Con-
tury of each half a Handful, Flowers
of Camomile two Pails. Root of
Gentian sliced two Drams. Infuse them
of twelve Hours in three Pints of
White Wine. Again, take a cold In-
fusion of ten Drams of choice Rhubarb
cut

OBSERVATION IX.

Of a violent Pain of the Stomach, joined with a periodical Vomiting. Also of the Colick, and of the Prevention as well as Cure of it.

An illustrious Lady had a most grievous Pain in her Stomach, and most troublesome Vomiting, returning every other Week for several Years. She had in vain consulted our most famous Physicians for a long Time, who by Bleeding, Emeticks, Narcoticks, Chalybeates, and other not contemptible Medicines, endeavoured to relieve her disordered Stomach. After many vain Attempts, I prescribed the following medicated Wine, which being at first frequently, afterwards more seldom repeated, her Stomach was at last freed from all the troublesome Symptoms, and her Ladyship perfectly recovered without any other Medicines.

Tops of Roman Wormwood and lesser Centaury, of each half a Handful, Flowers of Camomile two Pugils. Root of Gentian sliced two Drams. Infuse them cold for twelve Hours in three Pints of White Wine. Again, make a cold Infusion of ten Drams of choice Rhubarb
cut

Several grievous Diseases. 189

cut small, of the dried Roots of *Calamus aromaticus*, and male Peiony, of each three Drams, Elecampane a Dram and half, Coriander Seeds one Dram. Mix them, and strain only at the time of using.

Our famous *Bates*, in his private Memoirs, of which I have had the good Fortune to meet with a large Collection, on all the Diseases of the Body, from the Head to the Foot, containing both all his own Observations, and those which he used to obtain from others, mentions a Prescription which is described in the *Pharmacopœia Bateana*, published by Mr *Shipton*, formerly a very skilful Apothecary, under the Title of *Tinctura Rhabarbari*. A certain Nobleman, who had been long tormented with a Pain in his Stomach and Gripings in his Bowels before the Use of this Medicine, obtained the Prescription from his Apothecary for forty Pounds, when he could not prevail upon his Physician to communicate it for any Money. By the Use of it the noble Lord soon recovered, after he had tried all other Medicines in vain. This was the Form of it.

Choice Rhubarb cut small two Ounces,
Raifons stoned N. 60. Liquorice sliced
two Ounces, Sugar-candy half a Pound,
Aqua

Aqua Vitæ, or Aniseed Water two Pound.
Macerate them for some Time, and strain
them. Give two or three Spoonfuls in
the Morning as often as it shall be ne-
cessary.

The Colick is falsely so called, seeing
every violent Fit of it is always a Disorder
of the Stomach not of the Colon. The
great Magnitude of the Colon is most fit
for the Accumulation of the *Fæces*, and it's
great Folds are accommodated to the retain-
ing of them. But the thick and obtuse
Substance of the Colon, though the *Flatus's*
being carried from it upward, sometimes
offend the Stomach and other principal Parts
of the Body, as in great Costiveness, does not
seem capable of being an effective or adequate
Cause of producing such Tortures and Spasms
as those who have the Colick are frequent-
ly afflicted with. But when the Stomach
is depraved by Crudities, and it's Functions
are injured, as it is the Kitchen of the whole
Body, in which all the Food is drest, com-
minuted, and converted into a Sort of Cream
or Chyle, for the future Distribution of the
Aliment, and Nourishment of the Body,
almost all Diseases, and especially the Colick,
happen differently, according to the Diffe-
rence of Constitutions, and the natural or
adventitious Weakness of peculiar Parts.

The

The Mouth, or Entrance of the Stomach, is encompassed and surrounded with a remarkable *Plexus* of Nerves, a great Quantity of Spirits making there their first Watch, that no noxious or hostile Things may be admitted into the large Camp of the Stomach, instead of those which are friendly and nourishing, without some Sensation, Disturbance, Pain, or Hiccup, like the sounding of an Alarm. The inner Coat also of the Stomach is wholly nervous, and appropriated to Sensation, so that when any furious Tempest arises in the Stomach, raising up a Storm with violent Blasts, the neighbouring Spirits presently are disturbed, easily run into Spasms, and cause exceedingly painful Tensions, Inflations, and Swellings. The Stomach therefore seems, both by it's Fabrick and Use, to be established as the proper and primary Seat of those troublesome and often destructive Twistings, which cause such Torture in the Colick. *Galen* certainly, and all the ancient wiser Physicians, considered the Stomach as the Base and almost Support of all Health, when they so often gave Absinthiates in Water if there was any Fever, in Wine when there was no Fever, as if they alone, without any Thing else, were able in a Manner to restore Health to a weak Body.

The modern Juleps by the Way, derived from Distillation, were wholly unknown to the ancient Physicians. *Water*; *Wine*; *Ptisan*, or a Decoction of decorticated Barley; *Melicraton*, or an extemporaneous Mead; *Οἶνομέλι*, or *Vinum mulsum*, or Wine sweetened with Honey; *Passum*, or *Vinum passulatum*, a Sort of Raisin Wine, being expressed from dried Grapes; *Sapa*, or boiled Wine; *Posca*, *Oxycratum*, or Vinegar mixt with Water, were almost all the Juleps that were used by our Ancestors, in the Practice of Physick. But whether those Juleps of the Ancients, on Account of their Simplicity, Smallness of Expence, and εὐπορεία, or those in modern Practice, because they are more agreeable to the Palates of the Nice, and Desires of the Rich, ought to be preferred, I shall leave to the Determination of the sagacious, skilful, and honest Physician.

As for the Prevention of the Colick, the frequent chewing of Rhubarb strengthens the Stomach so disposed more than any Thing; it relieves it from a Load of Crudities, and dispels the *Flatus's*, before they can rise into a violent Storm. *Dioscorides* advises, that Στομαχικῶς ὡς ἐστὶ διαμασσόμενον καὶ καταπινόμενον, μηδενὸς ὑγρῶ ἐπιρροφούμενον, those who are disordered in the Stomach should chew Rhubarb in Substance, and
swallow

swallow it gradually, without mixing it with Liquids. And I can speak from my own Experience, who have formerly had dreadful Fits of the Colick, one or two at least almost like the Iliack Passion, and yet by the chewing of Rhubarb have long been free even from the slightest Attacks of it.

As for the more violent Fits, they must be relieved, if possible, without Delay, for fear the enormous Vomitings should at last pervert the peristaltick Motion of the intestinal Fibres, and unexpectedly produce the miserable Iliack Passion. As for the appeasing of the chronical and lighter Inflammations of the Stomach frequently returning, the above-mentioned Tinctures of Rhubarb, or Rhubarb chewed, or *Elixir Salutis*, as also Mithridate, Venice Treacle, and many Things of that Kind are often sufficient. But if the Colick is violently tormenting, and cruel Vomitings arise, the *Fæces* being hardened, and the Passage of the Stools quite stopt up; then after Bleeding, and a very salt Glyster, Catharticks joined with Laudanum commonly take off the Fit. Three Ounces of *Tinctura sacra*, or Tincture of *Hiera Picra*, with fifteen or twenty Drops of Dr *Sydenham's* Liquid Laudanum, given in the Intervals of the most violent Fits, and three Pints of the purging Mineral Waters next Morning, drank by Degrees,

grees, will powerfully drive away the colick Fit. And sometimes it is no contemptible Thing to make Use of *Sal mirabile*, or *Sal catharticum amarum*, dissolved in the Mineral Waters, and repeated till they can open the lower Passages. For these mild Catharticks are most safe, whereas the stronger ones, adding Force to the raging Bile, too much diminish the Strength of the Patients, especially if they are of a melancholick Constitution, and often leave a Jaundice behind them. Also, after Universals, a small Quantity of the Peruvian Bark in Powder given with Liquid Laudanum, and repeated as often as there is Occasion, in the Intervals of the Vomitings, if given discreetly by the Physician being present, sometimes completes the Cure of a severe Fit in a short Time.

OBSERVATION X.

Of an immoderate Flux of the Piles.

An excellent Lady, a Widow, of a slender and bilious Constitution, living with a Right Reverend Bishop in my Neighbourhood, had in the Night-time so great a Loss of Blood on a sudden, by the hæmorrhoidal Veins, that the Standers-by computed it at above four Pounds in a few Hours,
before

before my coming, which was a little after Midnight. And, indeed, there was Reason to believe, that a very great Quantity of Blood had rushed out by Stool without any Gripings, because the good Lady told me at the same Time, that once on only opening a Vein in the Arm, her Blood was roused into such Fury and Violence, that she was in the greatest Danger of losing her Life, before the rapid Bursting out of the Blood could be stopt by various Medicines. And if a Vein in the Arm, in an open Place, exposed to topical Medicines, was able to throw her into the greatest Hazard of her Life, how much greater Danger must now impend from a bursten or corroded Vein, in a Place where the very Vessel was concealed, and where no topical Medicines could touch the internal disordered Part! After the fainting Lady had received the holy and last *Viaticum* from the Hands of the Right Reverend Bishop, as being about to take leave of all earthly Things, and to pass immediately into the heavenly Regions, having got ready in the mean Time such Things as seemed at present necessary, I ordered the Servants to heat some rectified Spirit of Wine in a proper Vessel, and to dip some Pieces of Flannel in it, and to apply them warm, one after another, to the Fundament of the

Patient. After this Fomentation had been used for a little while, the Blood, which had flowed so violently, was quite stopped, without any other *Apparatus* of Remedies, and the sick Lady was presently delivered from her Fears. Now though the rectified Spirit is exceedingly penetrating, yet I caused it to be heated, that the Smoak rising up might the more easily enter into the internal Veins, to suppress the Flux by it's sanative and corroborating Power. But whether Spirit of Turpentine, in such a Case, has equal Virtues with the Spirit of Wine, as it is deservedly used, with great Commendation, by that famous and skilful Surgeon Mr *Young* of *Devonshire*, I shall not dispute, nor, if it is agreeable to Experience, contradict. In external Hæmorrhages a Fomentation of Vinegar is much esteemed, as also of Oxycrate, or the *Posca* of the Ancients, or Vinegar mixt with Water taken inwardly. This Lady however, after so large and sudden a Loss of Blood, was taken with a Tertian, which easily yielded to the Peruvian Bark.

I have observed moreover, that the same Fomentation of rectified Spirit of Wine, sometimes repeated, is no less able than a Fomentation of Wine Vinegar to stop an immoderate Flux of the *Menses*, when no internal Medicines can reach the intended Purpose,

Purpose, and when Astringents and Narcotics are not so safely to be given.

In an immoderate Flux of the *Menses*, I have sometimes with Success made Use of the purging Mineral Waters, which attenuate the Heat of the Blood, and are endued with a moderate Astringency. Two Pints of those Waters drank for a few Mornings, with one Ounce of Syrup of Marsh-mallows in the first Draught of them, are often of Service.

Before I finish this Decad of Observations, it seems fit to admonish, that one or two Prescriptions in them may, perhaps, not be exactly the same in every minute Circumstance with what I wrote at the Time; but that I have supplied them according to the best of my Memory, in little Particulars. But the Sum of what was prescribed, on which the Cures principally depend, has been delivered every where with the utmost Fidelity.



O F T H E
V E N E R E A L D I S E A S E .

THIS Disease is so grievous and severe; spreads itself so wide, and scatters it's destructive Poison so far; oppresses the miserable Wretches, that are afflicted with it, with such cruel Tortures; and is so difficult to be totally cured, in such a Manner that the Patient may be restored to his former State of Health, that I could not forbear adding something relating to it. The first Stage of this Distemper, which affects only the *Pudenda*, may be slighted, and made a Jest of by our Beaux and Rakes, who are wont to look upon it as a Matter of small Concern; but whensoever that first Degree of Contagion, or the following ones, shall at last get into their Blood, and spread the Poison through the whole Body, they will abundantly suffer the Punishment due to their Follies.

There

There are great Doubts about the Original of this Disease, whether it has existed from all Ages; or whether it was brought in the last Century into *Europe* from the *West-Indies*. There are many Testimonies, or at least not contemptible Suspicions, concerning the Antiquity of this Disease, tho' as many Kingdoms almost have disputed against it's opprobrious Original, casting that Reproach upon each other, as there were Cities that formerly contended for the Glory of having *Homer* born among them. This is certain, that it's true Name lay hid in Darkness till our Age. Nor were the Form and Figure of this Monster described with sufficient Clearness and Distinctness by the former Physicians, nor were they known any otherwise than confusedly, before it's new Denomination. But this we know for a Certainty, that there were formerly a great many Hospitals built among us for the Reception of leprous Persons; and I am much mistaken, if we have now so much as one single House remaining for the Reception of those who are afflicted with the Leprosy. The same Cause of venereal Contagion has always exercised his Tyranny, namely, the casual and promiscuous Use of Harlots; and there has never been any Age without infamous Strumpets, who have made a vile Profit by the Prostitution of their Bodies;

now the *Cause* being given, the *Effect* also is given, as the *Effect* is taken away when the *Cause* is taken away. For in whatsoever Countries or Places, those Prostitutes and common Corrupters of Youth are driven far away, and the Severity of the Laws restrains all whoring, there this Disease is also banished together with the impure Harlots. But wheresoever Brothels are permitted, either by the Remissness or Connivance of the Magistrate; or wheresoever Strumpets can securely acquire impure lurking Places; there this Plague, with it's horrid Train of Evils, and all it's Family of Miseries, prevails far and wide. And, in my Opinion, this Disease is as certainly and naturally produced in the impure Wombs of common Prostitutes, who mix their Embraces with many different Men, as Lice and Fleas are produced from Filth and Uncleanliness. And because the *Corruption of the best* is always the worst, why may not that venemous Disease be naturally produced by the depraved and incongruous Corruption of the prolifick Seed, which is designed for such great Uses of Nature?

Seeing the Fury and Rage of many Animals renders their smallest Bites, tho' but just pricking the Skin, venemous and deadly; seeing some Animals, otherwise tame enough, when filled with the Rage of unbridled

bridled Lust, are wonderfully agitated, and when they find themselves restrained or with-held from their greedy Desires, rush precipitately into the most violent Cruelty and Fierceness; seeing the Spirits of the whole Body are joined with united Force at the Time of Copulation; seeing it is manifest, that the Seed is impregnated with innumerable Animalcules, and so many Armies of them are thrown out by different Whoremasters, and dispute and fight together in the same impure Womb; it is not very wonderful, that there should follow such dreadful Consequences, that so various, so prodigious, so pestiferous an Offspring as the *Veneral Disease* should be produced. Those who are pleased to think otherwise, as being learned in this Affair, and differ from each other, not without Reason and Arguments, shall have leave from me to enjoy their beloved Opinions; but yet I am verily persuaded, that this popular Plague has always spread itself among infamous Debauchees, in the most remote Ages, as well as in modern Times. But whether this miserable Disease was formerly called the *Leprosy* by the Ancients, or whether our *Pox*, which spreads itself so universally, is a modern Disease, this however is certain, that the *Leprosy of the Ancients* has quite given place to our *Pox*; and I cannot believe

believe that so many *Hospitals* for the *Le-prosy* could have been built by our Forefathers for the *cutaneous* Diseases which still remain.

This destructive Plague is in Truth a dreadful Scourge of the supreme Judge, like that drawn Sword hanging over the Head of *Damocles* at his Table, always threatning those who are abandoned to Lust, and will easily deter the Wise from impure Embraces, and lash the Unwise with most severe Scourges. For what Follower of common Women can be sure that any Harlot, who seems to take Wages only of himself, has not already, or will not afterwards, be common to many more, and therefore obnoxious to the venereal Poison, how constant soever she may pretend to be, according to their accustomed Lyes and Perjuries?

This Disease has been frequently called the *Neapolitan*, as being generally thought to have derived it's Beginning from the Siege of *Naples*, in the Year 1493, when *Charles* the Eighth, of *France*, is said to have invested *Naples* with his Army. But as there is such great Uncertainty in popular Rumours, that wise Men can hardly pronounce any Thing to be certain, but what is confirmed by manifest and well-known Testimonies; as the first Rise of
other

other Diseases remains in equal Darknes; as human Affairs are constituted in such a Manner, that some things continually perish in every Age, and are given up to Oblivion, and some others emerge and rise again; as the venereal Poison has been long spread, and every Way diffused almost into all Regions of the Globe that have hitherto been known, from East to West, and from North to South; as in the last Place some very grave Physicians constantly affirm, that this infamous Contagion had already invaded *Europe* with it's virulent Taint before that *Neapolitan* Epoch, contrary to the common Opinion, it is very difficult to settle and determine any Thing certain and undoubted in so obscure an Affair; tho' the Antiquity of the Pox seems to have been very plainly pointed out by the ancient and permanent Existence of the Cause, namely, an unlawful, wandering, and promiscuous Whoredom, equal in Age with the first Beginnings of human Affairs, or at least with the unbridled Lust of Men, and the Allurements of Harlots.

It is in Truth a great Matter of Wonder, whence a Fable so false and forged should gain Credit, and take it's Rise, tho' so easy to be refuted, concerning the Origin of the *Venereal Disease* at the Siege of *Naples* by *Charles* the Eighth, whereas that King entered

tered *Naples* in a most magnificent Manner, without any Siege, and the Magistrates, together with the People of *Naples*, went to meet the King, carrying him the Keys of the City, after *Capua* had been besieged and delivered up to him; as the whole Affair is faithfully related by *Philip de Comines*, at that Time an Eye-witness of the Transactions in *Italy*, in his most honest History of memorable Things. And as the Writers have been guilty of so popular and principal an Error in relating the spurious Origin of the *Pox*, there is very great Cause of equal Suspicion, about settling the true Rise of it so late as is generally done.

And I should not at all doubt, but that this common Opinion of the Moderns concerning the late Origin of the *Pox*, may hereafter for ever be refuted, and the Truth be established, if Experience might lawfully be permitted to determine this Controversy. And it might be more commodiously ascertained, among the Oriental Nations, subject either to the *Turkish*, the *Persian*, or the *Indian* Empire, where the great Men rule with arbitrary Power, and where both Sexes of Mankind are sold in the Markets as commonly as other Animals. For if among these barbarous Nations, several sound Slaves were to be shut up together with a sound young Woman in the same House, remote
from

from other People for several Months, and to be kept entirely from all other Communication, it would then easily appear, that from the promiscuous Mixture of Nature, and wicked Confusion thereof, a true and genuine Pox would be produced.

But to carry the Examination of this Affair a little higher; *Hippocrates*, whose Authority is of great Weight among all the Learned, in his third Book of *Epidemical Diseases*, enumerates many horrid Symptoms, which come very near to the Venereal: as *great Pustules, and Pustules breaking out all over the Body, and infesting chiefly the Head, very foul Ulcers about the Pubes and Pudenda, malignant and eating erysipelatous Inflammations, Purgings, and Loathings of Food, Consumptions or Atrophies, sometimes with Fevers, and sometimes without, great Mutilations of the Flesh, Nerves, and Bones, from a preceding Caries, sinking of the Parts corrupted by Abscesses, and Denudations of the whole Thigh, Leg, or entire Foot, falling of the Brachium or whole Cubit, and most miserable Losses of Flesh; when the Disease affects the Pubes and Pudenda, Ichors of Ulcers and Abscesses, quite unlike Matter, and worse than any Sort of Matter, falling off of the Hair, many Defluxions to the Pudenda, violent Pains with Watchings, creeping Ulcers of the Mouth, and internal*
and

and external Tubercles or Buboës about the Groin, Tubercles of the Fauces, Ulcerations of the Pudenda, and such like, which he delivers with his wonted Brevity and Conciseness. Now whether all these arise from the true Plague, or from this pestiferous Disease also, I shall leave the Learned at full Liberty to dispute.

But let us determine how we will concerning the foul Nativity of the *Pox*, it is certainly a Thing much to be lamented, that the Cure of so great a Disorder, which pollutes all the Parts of the Body, both internal and external, from the Head to the Foot, is gone out of the Hands of skilful and learned Physicians, and commonly trusted to Surgeons, and even to unskilful Barbers, and all Sorts of ignorant People. For what foolish, ignorant, or illiterate Blockhead is there, who does not presently set up for a Quack in this Disease, without Education, without Learning, and without Art; who does not at once promise an infallible Cure of the *Pox*, or at least of a *Clap*, with an undaunted Assurance? But what Sort of Physicians are these? Why, truly, Taylors and Blacksmiths most commonly, and such like Artificers, idle Alehouse-keepers, and Cooks, who have already lost their Credit in their own Shops. How unhappy therefore and miserable is the Condition

dition of the Infected, who suffer double Punishment, and are condemned not only to the Tortures of a most cruel Disease, but also to the dangerous Ignorance of an unskilful Quack! As if any of the slightest Disorders stood in need of the Skill of a Physician, and the most doubtful of all Diseases, that is quite fixt into the Marrow, might safely be committed to the most illiterate Fellow!

But that the very great Danger of those who are infected with the *Veneral Disease* may more manifestly appear, it must be considered, that this Disease appears frequently in various Shapes, and that after it's being first subdued, often puts on new Appearances. And, indeed, I am easily persuaded to believe this, because I have seen so many perish by Consumptions and Atrophies, their Lungs being hardly at all touched, and only secondarily injured. And unless it has happened that they have died of some acute Disease, I have always observed them to waste by some scarce understood Decay and Atrophy. To such as these Asses Milk, Pectorals, Narcotics, and such like, having no regard to the first invenomed Cause, are given them in vain to the very End of their Lives. The Surgeons, as soon as the Salivation is over, and the Reward of their Labours received,
boldly

boldly promised a sound State of Health ; and the Patients afterwards, being seized with very different Symptoms from what they had before, do not dream of any Remains of the venemous Taint, laid asleep for some time, and still lurking within, but recovering itself under a new Shape. In the mean time the Physician, how skilful soever he may be, will not easily suspect any Thing of a venereal Cause, and the Patient, partly through Shame, and partly through Security of his former Cure, makes no mention of former Affairs, already given up to Oblivion. Alas ! in what Danger therefore are such Patients, when they themselves do not so much as speak a Word of the primary Cause of their Sickness, and when their Physicians, like the *Andabatae* of old, fight blindfold with an unknown Disease ! Certainly some Authors, of more Sagacity, have smelt this out, when they have so prudently advised, that as often as any ischiadick, rheumatick, or other obstinate Pain, refuses to yield to the proper and usual Remedies, we should have recourse to a sudorifick Diet-Drink, made of Guaiacum, Sarsaparilla, and such like, as to a sacred Anchor.

On these despised Remains of the *Pox*, which for some time lie hid, not only depends the valetudinary and miserable Condition

dition of Parents, as well as of other impure Persons; but also some tralatitious, and almost incurable Diseases of Children, which I do not care to name, least innocent Children, when they are at last grown up, should unjustly suffer Reproach, Sadness, and Uneasiness of Mind. For though the Reproach that is derived from the Baseness and Infamy of our own Vices, is really greater than that from our Descent, yet I have known some great and brave Men, descended of a noble and illustrious Family, though illegitimate, who were grieved without Measure, as often as they apprehended that any Mention was made of their spurious Birth, in the private Whispers of common Conversation. And in this Affair, the Justice and Wisdom of the *Turks* is greater, among whom no one transfers unjustly the Blame of the Parents to the Children, and it is no Ignominy for Children to have proceeded from an illegitimate Birth.

Moreover it must be allowed, that the *Venereal Disease* is a venemous and very deleterious Disease, and though it does not kill immediately, like the Stings or Bites of venemous Animals, yet in some Space of Time, more or less, it most certainly deprives the infected of their Lives, unless they are timely restored to Health by proper and

P salutary

salutary Remedies. These among others are Marks of Poison, a remarkable Paleness of the Face and all the Body, and cold of the extreme Parts, which are most conspicuous in the Venereal. When Poison has been taken, Nature strives with all her Force to expel the poisonous Matter to the Surface of the Body, and external Parts, whence various Spots, Pimples, and Eruptions proceed: In like Manner, in the *Venereal Disease* Spots appear, sometimes small like Tetter, sometimes broader; sometimes red, and sometimes yellowish; and first about the Forehead and Temples, and then about the rest of the Head, and at last diffused all over the Body; and not only Spots, but also Pustules and Tubercles break out in the Skin. When Poisons are taken by the Mouth, I mean such as are hot and eating, there arises a great Fire in the *Fauces*, and the Stomach and Intestines are tortured with exquisite Pains or Gripings: Those who are infected by the *Pox*, are always seized with an Inflammation, and by Degrees with an Exulceration of the *Fauces*; their Stomach is gradually spoiled, and tho' their Joints most commonly bear the Severity and Violence of the Pains, yet I have more than once known either the Intestines or Hypochondries affected with the same dreadful Tortures, which return at Night,
and

and commonly invade the Joints more regularly. In the last Place, Poisons require their own and peculiar Antidotes, that they may be rightly expelled: The *Pox*, unless it's virulent Quality is expelled by proper, and as it were, specifick Antidotes, is wont to despise all common Medicines, and all Methods whatsoever, let them be ever so learned.

But the Nature of this Venom is different, according as Countries lie more to the North or to the South, and also according to the Varieties of Constitutions. For in *Spain* and *Portugal*, where it is very mild, they talk as commonly of it as we do of the Spleen and Scurvy. For their Physicians, when they are sent for to Ladies of the greatest Quality and Virtue, though they have Fevers, commonly ask whether they have the *Venercal Disease*, just as ours ask about the *Menses*, though with some Reservedness. And in those Countries, where some Part of the Poison continually perspires, many infected Persons often confess, that they can pass their whole Lives easily enough with this Disease upon them. But among us it is quite otherwise, and this Distemper exercises a severe and cruel Tyranny. Here there is no End of Symptoms and Tortures, unless some severe short Cure, or mild long one intervenes, till either the Pains by tor-

turing, or the Ulcers by eating, or the poisonous Ichor by corrupting the Bones, puts an End to the Misery, and the putrid Carcass is at last thrown out, an ungrateful Food for the Worms, and scarce worth even their Acceptance.

Moreover, according to the Difference of Constitutions, this Poison has different Degrees of Strength among us. For the melancholy and bilious Constitutions are cured with more Difficulty than the sanguine and phlegmatick. Young Men also are much more easily restored than those who are more advanced in Years. The same may be said of the Itch, Ringworm, and some other Diseases that afflict various Constitutions. And as a Difference of Constitutions is the Cause that Catharticks have very different Effects; one Body being easily purged by the mildest Medicines, and another hardly submitting even to the strongest; and as the same purging Medicine being given in the same Weight to different Men, shall cause a quick and violent Operation in one, a slow and mild one in another, and none at all in another: So the same may be said of Poisons, that they use to kill sooner or later, not only by their proper and innate pernicious Force, but according to the stronger or weaker Repugnance of that Nature, which has received
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the Poison. For that common Opinion that the *Indians*, and from them the *Italians*, have been so skilful in the Art of Poisoning, as to be able to kill the poisoned Person in a determined Time, whether it be a Week, a Month, or a Year, is feigned and false. For the Nature of one more than of another, as was said before of Purges, opposes itself to the Poison, suppresses the deadly Venom, or is frustrated.

There are some who think that the *Pox*, having it's Strength worn out and weakened by old Age, has laid aside all it's Tyranny, and is now with Age drawing near it's End. And the same Opinion has long obtained among many learned Men, for the Learned, as well as the Courtiers, sometimes accommodate themselves to vain Flatteries of Words, and are wont to gain Favour by their indulging them. But let those who think so visit our modern Hospitals, or consult honest and experienced Surgeons; let them see the various, cancerous, and eating Ulcers, the *Tophi* and Nodes, the Rottenness of the Bones, and Putrefaction of the Flesh; let them see the Consumptions, Faintings, Cachexies, and, in short, the whole Box of *Pandora*; let them hear the horrid Execrations of the Miserable, the bitter Groans, and terrible Howlings; and then let them say whether *Venus* receives

her modern Votaries with that extraordinary Mildness; let them judge also whether *Mars* or *Venus* destroys the greater Numbers; and which of those Lovers makes the greatest and most frequent Havock of their Adorers.

As for the Cure of the *Venereal Disease*, some attempt the Cure by Salivation; others promise boldly to perform it without Quick-silver, and by I know not what foolish *Arcana*. Others, in the last Place, endeavour totally to subdue this Poison by Mercurial Emeticks, Catharticks, and such like, sometimes interposing a Course of Sudorifick Diet Drinks.

Almost all the Physicians, and the whole Fraternity of Surgeons, with one Consent, endeavour to cure the Venereal Disease by Salivation, as the shortest and most efficacious Method. And it cannot be denied by any one that is ever so moderately versed in the Art of Physick, that Salivation is the most quick and efficacious of all the Methods that have been invented by medical Skill, to obtund that Venereal Poison, and break it's pernicious Malignity, and is often of sufficient Power to root it quite out. Certainly in these Northern Regions, that are subject to the Dominion of cold, where the Venereal Disease rages with so much Violence, Salivation, above every thing yet known,

known, gains the readiest Truce, and the quickest putting off of the Destruction, and Cessation of all the vehement Symptoms; and it also sometimes completes a perfect Cure in some infected Persons, especially in the younger Sort. But when we consider this horrid, terrible, and sometimes intolerable Cure, it is at least to be wished, and earnestly desired by all, that some more pleasant, more safe, and less troublesome Method of Cure might be found out.

The most powerful and efficacious Kind of salivating is that, which is excited by the mercurial Uction, and which our most famous *Sydenham* commends, as the only Remedy equal to the Greatness of the Disease. But it is worth knowing, and attentively considering, into how many Hazards of their Lives this Salivation throws the infected; how many commonly are destroyed by it; what horrid Swellings it causes of the Head and Throat, frequently threatening a sudden Suffocation, and scarce to be governed by the Bridle of the most skilful Hand. The Anointers know full well what dangerous Purgings, Dysenteries, and Faintings it frequently produces in Constitutions averse to Mercury; but they will never exercise, or even seek after any other Art, than what they have learned in their Apprenticeship from their Masters.

But so great is the Fusion of Humours in this Kind of Salivation, so great the drawing out of all the Juices of the Body, that it is no Wonder if the vital Spirits are dissipated at the same Time; and especially, if in this Land, otherwise the most happy, where Melancholy obtains so great a Rule, very many sink and perish by so rapid a Profusion of the Fluids. How transient is the Pleasure that so often is repaid with the severest Punishment! With what Care and Industry are the Blandishments of those poisonous *Syrens* to be avoided by all, who would preserve a sound State of Body, or desire to finish a long Life with a pleasant and easy old Age!

Moreover, if the Powers of Quicksilver taken into the Body in so great a Quantity, and pervading every Part of it by the circulatory Motion of the Blood, as it happens in Salivation: if we diligently consider it's Powers so noxious and injurious to human Nature; it's Poison so hurtful to the Nerves and Brain, as is testified by the Palsey and frequent Tremblings; if we attend to the Load and Gripings which it generally occasions to the Stomach and Intestines; the pale Leaden Colour that it gives to the Face; and, lastly, if we carefully remember that Quicksilver was reckoned in the Catalogue of Poisons by all the antient Physicians:
Then

Then surely it is incumbent on a Physician, when he has to do with the united Force of two Poisons, one of the Disease, and another of the Remedy, to be solicitous about some proper, salutary, and excellent Antidote. And if ever any Darts are found, that are more able and fit to overcome this Disease, they must be surely taken from the still better supplied Quiver of Physicians, rather than from the Armory or Shop of any Pretenders to the Art, or I am very much mistaken.

And whatsoever the giddy Multitude, and others sometimes of a sounder Judgment, think to the contrary, yet I am persuaded that there is not any one, among all the Diseases which afflict wretched Mortals, that more requires the acutest Judgment of a skilful and experienced Physician, instead of any Quack or illiterate Artist, than this cruel and venemous Disease of the *Pox*.

But tho' Salivation is every where preferred before all other Methods, yet that is worthy of Observation, which *Julius Palmarius*, a most famous and learned Physician of *Paris*, who was a Disciple of the great *Fernelius*, and wrote an elegant and learned Book of Contagious Diseases, has said at large on this Subject. He relates that *scarce one in a Hundred* of those who have

have the *Pox*, are perfectly cured by Salivation by the dreadful Unction, how popular soever at that Time, as it is now commonly used; but that it returned upon them again, kindling afresh from some Sparks that had long lain hid, and caused them to languish, sometimes after many Years, and sometimes sooner. And *some*, he says, *have tried Salivation ten Times, others twelve Times, in vain*, with so much Severity of Pain, and such a Croud of miserable Evils, that a brave Man would rather die, than in such a Manner prolong a Life worse than any Death.

Therefore after long and much Consideration, I could never comprehend, why the more safe and pleasant Methods of *Fernelius*, *Palmarius*, and other most learned Physicians, have obtained so few Followers, and are banished from the present Practice, unless it be for these Reasons.

I. Those most famous Physicians burned with too violent a Hatred against Quick-silver, on Account of the grievous Injuries that it often inflicts on the Body. And *Fernelius*, before any other Physician, openly promised, and perhaps too rashly undertook the Cure of the *Pox*, without any internal Use of Mercurials; trusting wholly in his select and most wholesome Amulets, his sudorifick Diet Drinks, and purging some-

sometimes interposed. And certainly that excellent Physician was worthy of the highest Praise, for so great and bold an Attempt, and so beneficial to Mankind, notwithstanding that the Success might not entirely answer Expectation, though in this pestiferous Disease the Use of that dangerous Medicine, which *Pliny* * calls *the Poison of all Things*, seems at present highly necessary to us. For *an evil Crow lays an evil Egg*. But *Palmarius* was incensed against the common Use of Quicksilver, on Account of it's pernicious Quality, and also on Account of the most sharp Pains which the anointed are necessarily condemned to bear; and also because his proposed Cure by Guaiacum and the Amulet, or by his Alexipharmicks joined with Quicksilver, was safer, and far more wholesome than the common Unction, that exhausts the Strength by spitting. Wherefore he proposed other Methods of extirpating the Pox, that were more safe, more salutary, and more pleasant, though a little more tedious.

2. The Surgeons all, with one Consent, seem to favour Salivation above all other Ways of curing, either because they have greater Rewards for it, taking care of the Disorder after that Manner, with the greatest Affiduity, keeping the infected Person so long under

* *Nat. Hist. lib. 33. c. 6.*

under a Sort of despotick Power of Life and Death, in a private Chamber, remote from all other Witnessees except the Nurse; or because during their Apprenticeship they have hitherto learned no other certain Way of curing the *Pox*; or because they will hardly ever learn any other.

3. Because the Surgeons by their Arts, have, according to the best of their Power, got this Part of Physick universally into their own Hands; and the Physicians, either on Account of the Trouble attending such a filthy Cure, or because they are hindered by other Business, have too much neglected and slighted that Province, as if they had quite given it up.

4. Because temporary and palliative Cures are in this Disease, as in some others, more pleasant and agreeable to the Patients, than such as are eradivative, which are more laborious, and require no small Skill. For which Reason a Truce from many the most grievous Pains being suddenly obtained by Narcoticks, often please the Patients more, and are sometimes preferred by the Physicians before any other salutary Cure, that suffers the Pain to continue for some Time. Add to this, that Salivation for the most Part takes away all the Venereal Symptoms in such a Manner, that no Suspicion of a Relapse remains for the present, nor does
any

any Reason appear to the Patient to defer the Payment of the Reward.

As for those unskilful Impostors, base Deceivers, and common Cheats, who, with astonishing Impudence, publickly promise to all who are infected by the Pox, a most short and infallible Cure, without Mercury, without Regimen, and without Trouble, they deserve to be answered rather with a Cudgel than with physical Arguments, and are fitter to be corrected in *Bridewell*, than to be honoured by any Dispute with them.

Lastly, the third Way of curing the *Venerereal Disease*, which, setting aside the usual Salivation by Unction, and despising the Fallacies of ignorant Deceivers, turns upon the united Force and Efficacy of Venereal Catharticks and Emeticks, together with Diet-Drinks of drying Roots and Woods, and a due Regimen, requires a great deal more to be said about it. But least so many Quacks and Impostors should hence get a Handle for their Tricks and Deceits, I shall contract what I have to say, and add a few Things to what I have already delivered.

And, 1. It is to be observed, that drying Woods, and Gums, the Bark and Wood of Guaiacum, the Wood of Sassafras, and the Roots of Sarsaparilla and China, bring almost as much Benefit to human Nature,
and

and produce as much salutary Support to it, as Quicksilver does Hurt or Injury to the Body. These are the salubrious Alexipharmicks of this venemous Disease, tho' imperfect as well as *Mercury* itself, seeing without the additional Help of *Mercury* we commonly lose the Fruit of all our Endeavours. And tho' they never obtain the desired End among us, if *Mercury* is omitted, nor can entirely extinguish and destroy the Venereal Poison, yet they raise and cherish the natural Strength, and most certainly change the Paleness consequent to this Disease into a lively and healthy Colour.

2. It is to be observed, that the Catharticks, called deleterious, sometimes are less fit to drive out this Disease, which of itself infringes the greatest Strength of Body, and easily pulls down the most robust Constitution, than milder and gentler Medicines. And as often as a stronger and rougher Purge is required, it is more safely performed, in weak Constitutions, by Sena, Rhubarb, Agarick, Jalap, Dodder of Thyme, Polypody, Manna, or any of them, being stimulated with *Sal mirabile*, *Sal catharticum amarum*, *Polychrestum*, *Prunellæ*, or Cream of Tartar; by these, I say, the Body is often more securely and commodiously purged; and if these are often repeated they do not hurt weak Bodies, like Scammony,

Scammony, Coloquintida, and Hellebore, which either disturb the Stomach, or corrode the Intestines, and torture them with terrible Gripings, or by their malignant Quality are injurious to all the Bowels and principal Parts.

3. Tho' *Mercurials* are commonly used by the Favourers of *Quicksilver*, in all Sorts of Constitutions that are infected by the *Pox*, yet it is to be observed, that thick, fat, phlegmatick, and cold Bodies, are most of all injured by them; and it is manifest, that the great Injuries which the taking of *Quicksilver* occasions to such, can hardly ever afterwards be removed, so that they are in as much Danger from the Remedy as from the Disease. But the sanguine, bilious, and very hot Bodies, suffer less Inconvenience from the Use of *Quicksilver*, than either of those already mentioned, or the melancholick Constitutions. For a hot and dry Disorder of the Bowels is corrected and amended by the contrary Faculties with which *Quicksilver* abounds, and is thereby sometimes greatly helped, and the Acrimony of the raging Bile very much abated.

4. As often as any who have been formerly infected by the foul Disease, and have gone through a Salivation, or have by other Means been set up only for a Time, when it breaks out again from it's Concealment,

ment, and stirs up new Troubles ; as often, I say, as they fall into an Atrophy, not depending on consumptive Lungs, or Worms, though they are exhausted by a most violent purging, yet the Physician must religiously abstain from Narcoticks, and avoid all Restringtons. For the Malignity of the Venereal Poison, lurking within, being thus diminished, and carried off thro' the Sink of the Body, proper Antivenereal Medicines will not long fail of the desired Success, and the scraggy Body being almost destroyed by the deleterious *Pox*, will grow fat again beyond Expectation.

5. When the Venereal Poison is well blunted and broken, and all the Rage of the Symptoms restrained ; yet the venemous Taint being not thoroughly extinguished, lies hid under the Ashes, being ready afterwards to raise new Tumults : just as in other Cases sometimes, where the weak are affected with anomalous Symptoms, and wandering Pains, *salubrious* Nervine, arthritick, bitter and antiscorbutick Medicines, being used for a good while, and especially being mixed with the more innocent Antivenereal Remedies, some mild Catharticks being also interposed, will safely put to flight the Relicks of that broken Poison, and restore a perfect Health sooner than any thing. For such Things are contrary to the deleterious
Corruption

Corruption of the Humours, and are very conducive to the Preservation of Health, to the Restitution of it when lost, to the Prolongation of Life, and to the Confirmation of the finer vital *Stamina*.

6. Infants that have been infected by their Nurses who suckled them, though they are all covered with Spots, Pustules, and Ulcers, and though they are tortured with cruel nocturnal Pains, yet are very easily restored. The almost insipid Powder of Sarsaparilla, which at least has no nauseous or unpleasant Taste, being mixt with their Victuals or Pap, according as it is convenient, adding also, for the Sake of the Stomach, a little Powder of yellow Sanders, which also is not at all nauseous, with a proper Interposition of Purges, has restored a perfect State of Health to the most tender Age, as I have sometimes joyfully observed. But that the infected Infants should be taken away from the poisonous Nurse, as from a Plague, before the Cure is attempted, I need not admonish.

In the 7th and last Place, when the Patients are attempted to be cured by the milder, more gentle and salutary Methods, than by that cruel and torturing Salivation, they are not to persist for a certain and determinate Number of Days, but sometimes to wait for a shorter, sometimes for a longer Continuance of the Remedies, according to the Degree of the Poison, and Reluctance of Nature, till the

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Venom

Venom is quite subdued under a due Regimen, and all the Symptoms entirely disappear.

Before I conclude, I cannot pass over in Silence a foolish popular Error, but a very pernicious one, which has unhappily very much prevailed. The ignorant Vulgar have learned, or perhaps heard, that if any infected Person lies with a sound Woman, he will immediately become safe and free from all *Venereal* Taint. How many *sound Girls* have been infected, or got the Pox, and been lost by this stupid Error! But when the pestilent Poison has pervaded the Blood, and the *Viscera* are tainted with the impure Disease, the foolish Populace may as well think they can wrest the Club out of the Hand of *Hercules*, or take the Thunder-bolt from *Jupiter*, or that they can pull up Mountains by the Roots, and remove them to another Place.

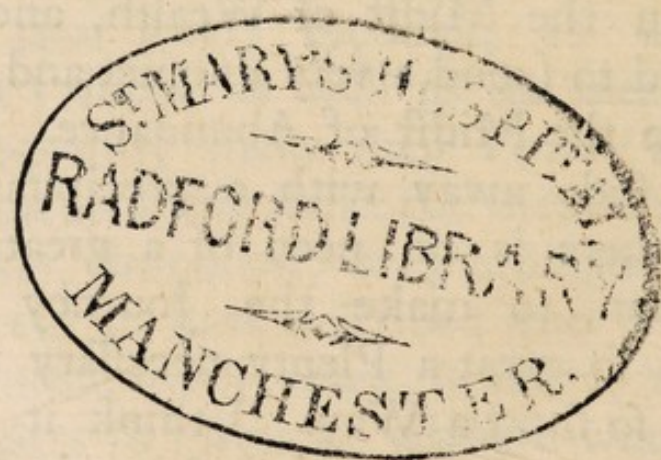
But to conclude at last, I may seem perhaps to some to have been too severe against a Disease proceeding from the all bountiful *Venus*, that lovely Goddess, to whom the greatest Princes, as well as the mean Vulgar, too frequently make their Vows; and whose Allurements easily strike the Breasts of all with a certain, impotent, or inordinate Rage. I may seem to have described the Violence of this Disease with more Severity, than some Pretenders to Physick, who are wont to slight it, and look upon it as nothing; that they may make an Ostentation of a certain exquisite

quisite Art which they have somewhere learned; but, in Reality, in order to pick the Purses of the Unwary, to oppress their Acquaintance, and to turn every thing unjustly to their own Gain and Profit. But it is far better for an honest Physician, who has been instructed in the Liberal Arts, to speak the Truth, rather than to be seduced by any Gain, and to prefer the common Advantage to his own. Let no one repent of having a moderate Fortune, provided it be honestly acquired. For a little sometimes satisfies our Desires, and a great deal seldom fatiates the Mind. A moderate Plenty of things necessary for living well and conveniently is easily supplied, and is seldom wanting to good Men. But in heaping up Superfluities, there is commonly no End of most grievous Cares, no Weariness of the greatest Troubles, no Bound of Rapines; as if that dreadful Execration, or Fascination, always accompanied the Unjust and Avaritious, that they should be poor in the Midst of Wealth, and be condemned to spend a very unquiet and penurious Life in the Midst of Abundance. Our short Lives slide away with a precipitate Course. And there is no need of a great Pomp of Provision, to make the Journey agreeable, nor is so great a Plenty necessary to be laid up for so short a Way. I think it well done by them, who pass their Lives in doing well. Nor should wise Men *lament the Death of*
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*the Body, which is followed by the Immortality of the Soul. For then at last it is manifest that we live, when we are departed out of this Life. How excellently did the Philosopher speak to this Purpose, when his Breast was swelling with Hope, full of Consolation, and his Mind greatly aspiring to future Joys, when he was approaching to old Age, and nobly praising it? * If I err in this, says he, that I believe the Souls of Men to be immortal, I willingly err: Nor will I suffer myself to be persuaded out of this Error as long as I live.*

** Cic. de Senectute.*

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