

**The ancient physician's legacy to his country. Being what he has collected himself in forty-nine years practice: or, an account of the several diseases incident to mankind ... Together with ... remedies / [Thomas Dover].**

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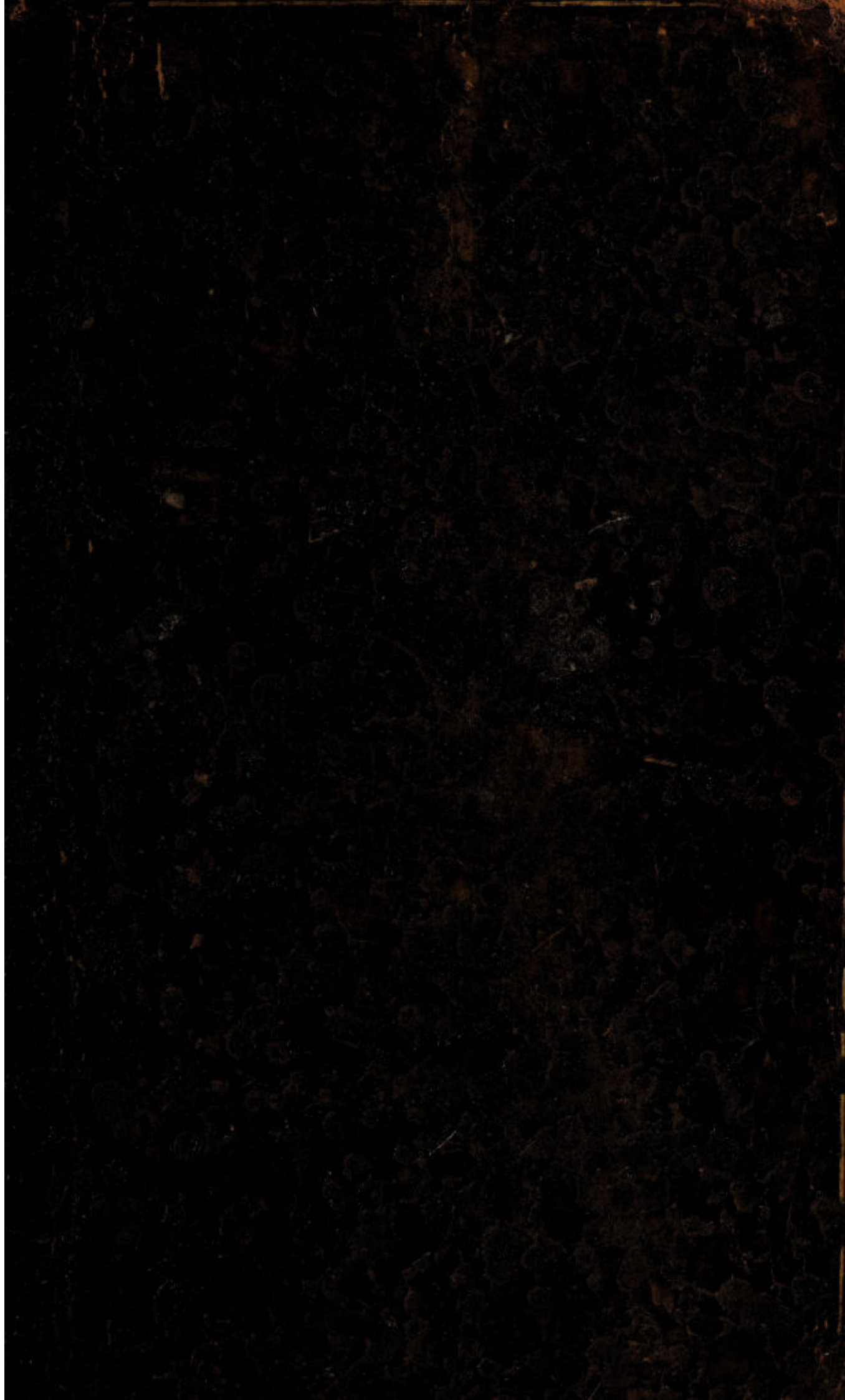
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THE ANCIENT  
PHYSICIAN'S  
Legacy to his *Country*.

B E I N G

What he has collected himself in  
Forty-nine Years Practice :

O R,

An ACCOUNT of the several DISEASES incident to Mankind, described in so plain a Manner, that any Person may know the Nature of his own Disease.

Together with the several Remedies for each Distemper, faithfully set down.

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Designed for the Use of all Private Families.

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*Homines ad Deos, nullâ in re propius accedunt, quam Salutem hominibus dando. CIC.*

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By THOMAS DOVER, M. B.

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L O N D O N :

Printed for the AUTHOR : And Sold by A. BETTESWORTH and C. HITCH, in *Pater-Noster-Row*; W. MEARS, at the *Lamb* in the *Old Bailey*; and LAWTON GILLIVER, at *Homer's Head*, over-against *St. Dunstan's-Church, Fleet-Street*. 1732.

Price stitched Five Shillings.





307350

*Exise*

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T O

JOHN TRACY Esq;

O F

Stanway in Gloucestershire.

S I R,

**A**MIDST the general  
*Corruption* into which  
we are fallen, *Physick*  
has not preserved its Purity ;  
though this, perhaps, is too im-  
portant a *Truth* to be published  
with Safety. There is a *Craft*  
(if



## *The Dedication.*

(if the Word is not too harsh)  
in this Profession, as well as in  
all others; and the greatest  
Part of its Followers will not  
fail to oppose the least Step  
towards a Reformation.

YOUR Reputation is so well  
established, that the sheltering  
myself under your Name, may  
be some Security against Ca-  
lummy; your Esteem must na-  
turally procure me the Esteem  
of all good Men; and this, one  
would think, might in some  
Measure soften, if not entirely  
subdue the Spirit of Detrac-  
tion.

To



## *The Dedication.*

To mention the Antiquity of your Family (though it extends to the most ancient of our Kings) is needless: Your own *Personal Merit* gives you a much higher Value, not only than your *Birth*, but than any *Title* which the Crown could confer upon you: I have ever hated *Flattery*; and I believe there is not a Gentleman who has the *Honour* and *Happiness* to know you, but will readily allow that what I say of you is strictly true.

COULD this Essay as effectually establish the *Health*, as the whole Course of your Life  
has



## *The Dedication.*

has promoted the *Happiness* of Mankind, it would more than answer my utmost Hopes: But however Short I may fall in this Respect, I have at least an Opportunity of gratifying my Ambition, by declaring myself,

S I'R,

*Your most obliged,*

*Most faithful, and*

*Most devoted Servant,*

**THOMAS DOVER.**

( 2 )

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THE ANCIENT

# PHYSICIAN's

## Legacy to his *Country*.

I HAVE spent the greatest Part of my Life without the least Thought of becoming an Author; and if it should be asked, What makes me now appear in Print : I answer, That I have acquired in Physick, by my long Study and Practice, what I conceive may be for the common Benefit of Mankind ; and therefore I publish my Observations.



IF this should not be allowed as a sufficient Reason by some who have expressed no good Will towards me, it will give me but little Concern : I leave what I write to the unprejudiced Reader.

My Design is to touch on such Parts of Physick, as I conceive most necessary to be understood by every Practitioner, and which seem to me hitherto to have been neither explained, nor accounted for in a proper Manner, notwithstanding the voluminous Works in which they have been treated of.

AUTHORS for the most Part follow one another, and deviate but little from the common Track. This Method I shall in no wise pursue ; my Design being to set down only such Things as have occurred to me from the Practice and Experience of *forty nine* Years.



I AM very sensible that my Stile is not correct, and I shall take no extraordinary Care to polish it. I shall be sufficiently satisfied, if what I write be intelligible, and if my Matter be thought worth attending to. In a Word, I shall be contented if this Treatise does but in some Measure deserve the Character which Mr. *Budgell* gives of the Writings of the Honourable *Robert Boyle* Esq; in his most excellent *Memoirs of the Family of the Boyles*. Mr. *Budgell*, who seems to inherit the Genius of his near Relation the great Mr. *Addison*, speaks of Mr. *Boyle's* Stile in the following Words:

“ *It must be confessed, that his Stile is*  
 “ *far from being correct; that it is too*  
 “ *wordy and prolix; and that though it is*  
 “ *for the most part plain and easy, yet,*  
 “ *that he has sometimes made use of harsh*  
 “ *and antiquated Expressions; yet under*



“ *all these Disadvantages, so curious is his*  
 “ *Matter, and so solid are his Observations,*  
 “ *that the hardest Thing we can say of his*  
 “ *most careless Piece is, That it appears*  
 “ *like a beautiful Woman in an Undress.*

IF a Gentleman, who is so perfect a Master of every Sort of Stile himself, (for though I cannot *paint*, yet I pretend to know a good Picture,) prefers *solid Matter* to a *Flourish of Words*, I hope none of my Readers will pretend to be more squeamish.

IT is essentially necessary in the Cure of Diseases, to be thoroughly acquainted with the Nature of them : Without this Knowledge, no Good is to be done. On the contrary, much Harm may probably ensue from the Physicians mistaking the Patient's Case ; which in some Persons is easily discovered, in others very difficult to understand.

THIS,



THIS, I apprehend, proceeds from the Affinity and Resemblance there is between different Diseases; which, though often attended with the same Symptoms, yet proceed from different Causes, and consequently require various Methods of Cure: For which Reason the Physician should be very cautious in prescribing, till he has fully examined the Symptoms of the Disease, compared them with the several Answers of the Patient, and till he has just Reasons to think he understands the Nature of the Distemper.

COMPLICATED Cases are most difficult; neither is it possible to determine any Thing of them before they happen, by Reason of their various Degrees, and uncertain Combinations.



IN these Cases, so very hard to be adjusted, it may be pardonable for a Physician to err a little; but in simple Diseases, the Mistake admits of no Excuse.

To go no farther than a Dropsy. — I have attended some Persons in this Distemper, where it has taken very deep Root. — Their Legs, Thighs, and Bodies, have been blown up like Bladders; yet some of these Persons have been blooded four or five Times, in order, as was said, to relieve their Shortness of Breath; whereas Shortness of Breath is not always an Indication for Bleeding.

THERE are three Causes of a *Dyspnæa*, or Shortness of Breath; Inflammation, Convulsion, and Plenitude: Bleeding in Convulsions, if it has not been, ought to be exploded; and in Fulness, occasioned by Dropsies



Dropfies, it is pernicious to the laft Degree.

I SHALL make no Scruple to affirm, That Shortnefs of Breath, though it be what we term *Actio Laefa*, makes no Diftemper, without fome other bad Symptoms attending it; if it did, a Man who runs, or uſes any violent Exercife, cauſing Shortnefs of Breathing, might be ſaid to be diftempered.

NEITHER in other Cafes is Shortnefs of Breath to be looked on as any Thing but the Effect of ſome Diſeaſe, cauſing great Weaknefs, which on the leaſt Motion is followed with Difficulty of Breathing.

It may ſeem ſtrange that this Diſeaſe, viz. a Dropſy, ſhould be ſo groſſly miſtaken; when the Condition of a Woman, near the Time of her Delivery, is not more apparent to the Eye, than that of an hydropical Perſon. However, this ſhews what great Rea-



sions there are to set the Symptoms of Diseases in as clear a Light as possible.

I SHALL, in the Prosecution of this Subject, take Notice, in a very brief Manner, of the Fluids in human Bodies ; a Point very necessary to be understood, because they are the Seat of all Distempers ; whereas the solid Parts are only passive. — Little, that I can find, has been said of this Matter, though the right Understanding of it is of so great Use in the Art of Healing.

INSTEAD of giving us such necessary Preliminaries, many lay the whole Strefs of curing Diseases upon the Number of their Receipts, stuffing their Books with long and tedious Prescriptions ; which is little better than teaching us how to cure People, before we know the Nature of their Distemper.

THIS brings to my Mind a Saying of that good and truly honest Man Dr. Sydenham :

——Me-



— *Meaicæ Artis pompa & dignitas non tam formularum Concinnitate & Elegantiâ, quam morborum Curatione cernitur.*

THE late famous Dr. Radcliff was of Opinion, That it was expedient for young Gentlemen, entering upon our Profession, to travel; and that such as pursued their Studies at Home, could not (allowing they have had the Advantages of an Academical Education) improve themselves equally with those that spend many Years Abroad, and make good Use of their Time.— This was his Reason for settling annual Pensions upon some young Physicians, that they might be in a Capacity to travel.

PERHAPS he had done better, if he had obliged those Gentlemen to practice Physick, at least ten Years, before their setting out for foreign Parts: They would then have been much more capable of making such Observations, as might be of singular Use to them;



them ; and 'tis farther my Opinion, That if he had ordered them to visit the most intemperate Climates, where all acute Diseases are the most violent, they would have returned Masters of greater Knowledge and Experience, than they can ever acquire by only passing through the most healthy Parts of *Europe*, which seems more like travelling for the sake of their own Health, than that of other People.

IF travelling be necessary to make an accomplished Physician, I am very sure that I have travelled more than all the Physicians in *Great Britain* put together.

BUT I am going a little out of my Way, and shall therefore return to what I at first proposed; wherein, if I fall short, I shall yet please myself in my sincere Design of being beneficial to Mankind. All I desire of those who find fault with my Performance, is to produce a better in its Room.

IN

IN the Account I give of Diseases, I shall endeavour to be as short and intelligible as possible.—— The usual and general Division of Distempers, is into Chronical and Acute, and each Branch of them is subdivided into many particular ones.—— The most common I hope to describe in so plain a Manner, that even the Patient himself shall be able to give a proper Name to his Disease.

To begin then with the Chronical: —— Which as they are the most difficult to be remedied, so are they many Times equally difficult to be known.—— Of these the most common, and most painful, (though I think not the hardest to be cured,) is the Gout.

Gout,



## GOUT, or Arthritis.

**T**HIS has various Names, according to the Parts affected : 'Tis termed *Podagra* when in the Foot, *Chiragra* when in the Hand, *Gonegra* when in the Knee, *Sciatica* when in the Hip. •

'Tis strange to see how often Physicians call this Distemper a Rheumatism, and a Rhematism the Gout. — The Difference between them will plainly appear from the Description I shall give of these two Distempers.

OF the several Names above set down, a regular Gout may most properly be termed *Podagra*, because it begins in the first Joint of the Great Toe, and that usually about Midnight ; where, after it has rack'd the Patient

tient forty eight Hours with a violent fix'd Pain, a small Tumour begins to appear, increasing gradually ; after that, an Inflammation, and then the Violence of the Pain abates.

THE first Fit may last a Fortnight, or three Weeks ; but a great Weakness, and Tenderness in the Part afflicted, remains much longer.

THE Patient may feel no more of this Disease for two or three Years, or at soonest a Twelvemonth : But what adds much to the Misfortune of this Distemper, is, That every Fit becomes more painful, and the Paroxysms more frequent and lasting.

THE Gouty Matter increasing, rises to the Ancles and Knees, which, as was said before, swell with Inflammation : This Degree of the Distemper, by some Authors, is called *Morbus Articularis*, and is always  
attended



attended with a symptomatical Fever ; for as the Pains wear off, the Fever abates.

THUS it takes its Progress, increasing by Degrees, till the poor Patient is lacerated, and torn to Pieces ; Chalk-Stones working out of the Joints, attended with other melancholly Circumstances.

IT must be observed, towards the latter End of this Disease, when the Fluids are almost wholly changed into gouty Matter, the Fits are not so regular, nor the Pains so violent ; but then the Patient is seldom free from them.

PHYSICIANS have been much mistaken about the Cause of this Distemper : That it is Matter, appears from the Tumors and Inflammation that attend it ; but the Difficulty lies to find out the *Nature* of this Matter. — I shall venture to affirm 'tis an Alkali : That the Chalk-Stones that work  
out



out of the Joints are such, appears from the Fermentation occasioned by Acids, which in small Quantities cause Pains in gouty Persons: These Pains proceed from the Acids meeting with a contrary Quality, whereby a preternatural Fermentation is raised in the distempered Part; and this creates a Heat and Burning, the Heat being an Effect of that Fermentation or Motion, according to the Learned Dr. *Willis*, whose Treatise of Fermentation I prefer to his other Works: If I mistake not, he gives this Definition of it, *viz.* “ *Motus Intestinalis ad perfectionem*  
“ *alicujus Corporis, vel ad Internecionem*  
“ *ejusdem.*”

THERE have been so many unsuccessful Attempts made to master this Disease, that Patients have very little Faith left, and (as they commonly say) have no Hopes from any Thing but Patience and warm Flannel: But with Submission, keeping the Part warm is wrong, because 'tis *proprium Caloris attra-*



*here* ; and does, beyond doubt, attract gouty Matter to the Part.

NOTWITHSTANDING the many fruitless Attempts that have been made to cure this miserable Distemper, Providence has in this, as well as in all other Diseases, left Means for our Recovery, which in many Instances I am able to make appear. I shall refer to one where the curious may be satisfied : The Coachman of the Right Honourable the Lord Viscount *St. John* had a long and tedious Fit of the Gout, and was hardly able to stir without Crutches : I gave him a very pleasant easy Sudorific, which had its desired Effect : — Inasmuch that the Day following, he walked from *Albemarle-Street*, to *Cecil-Street*, to give me Thanks. He came to me without the Help of a Stick, and with strait Shoes on : The Swelling was entirely gone : He affirmed that he was never better in his Life ; and that he was able to walk from one End of the Town to the other.



the other. This is about fifteen Years ago.

THE Fellow has never had any Return since, though he was much afflicted with it many Years before. — It may be asked, Will he never have it again? The same Question may be asked of any Fever, (except some few with Eruptions;) for many Persons are very subject to Fevers every Spring; yet I presume no Body will say a Patient was not cured of a Fever he had fifteen Years since, though he should happen to have a Fever again this Year.

It will, I hope, at least, be granted, That such long Intervals add much to the Comfort of Life; and I am confident there is no Body can have the Gout to that Degree, but that there may be a Rebate given to his Pains. He may find great Relief without Opiates, or painful Remedies, which I am a Stranger to, and very much dislike.

C

TAKE



“ TAKE Tamarinds half an Ounce, Leaves  
 “ of Senna two Drams, Rheubarb one Dram,  
 “ boil them in Water to three Ounces,  
 “ strain them off; and dissolve in them of  
 “ Manna, and the purging Syrup of Roses,  
 “ each one Ounce, Syrup of Buck-Thorn  
 “ and Elixir Proprietatis, each two Drams.  
 “ — Drink Poffet-Drink, or thin Gruel,  
 “ between Motions.—Taking this once  
 “ or twice a Week, will lessen the Gouty  
 “ Matter, and break the Force of the Fits.”

“ TAKE Opium one Ounce, Salt-Petre  
 “ and Tartar vitriolated, each four Ounces,  
 “ Ipocacuana one Ounce, Liquorish one  
 “ Ounce. Put the Salt-Petre and Tartar  
 “ into a red-hot Mortar, stirring them with  
 “ a Spoon till they have done flaming.  
 “ — Then powder them very fine; af-  
 “ ter that slice in your Opium; grind these  
 “ to a Powder, and then mix the other Pow-  
 “ ders with these. Dose from forty to sixty  
 or



“ or seventy Grains in a Glass of White-  
 “ Wine Poffet, going to bed. — Cover-  
 “ ing up warm, and drinking a Quart or three  
 “ Pints of the Poffet-Drink while sweating.”

IN two or three Hours, at farthest, the Patient will be perfectly free from Pain; and though before not able to put one Foot to the Ground, 'tis very much if he cannot walk the next Day. When it is taken, keep your Bed till next Day Noon. This Remedy may be taken once a Week, or once a Month.

MYNSYCHT's Elixir of Vitriol taken often in large Quantities, most certainly destroys Gouty Matter, yet for some Time it may cause Pain; but taken in its due Latitude, if Water will quench Fire, it must in the End have its desired Effect.



## DROPSY, *called* Hydrops.

THERE are three Sorts of Dropfies; the most common and most fatal, is the Ascites. This Distemper is often many Years contracting; in some near twenty Years, according to the best Judgment that can be made. One or two Instances may make this clear.

MR. WILLIAM STAUNTON of *Hampton*, near *Hampton-Court*, formerly a Chancery Clerk of *Furnival's-Inn*, was for twenty Years afflicted with a violent Asthma: He had many Physicians; but found no help: At last he had that Species of the Dropsy which I am going to describe. His Distemper reduced him to that Weakness, and made him so corpulent and unweildy, that he was not able to turn in his Bed, nor lie but on one Side, insomuch that the Flesh was worn  
off



off the Hip and Shoulder: It was expected a Mortification would ensue. — In this Condition Mrs. *Staunton* asked, If I conceived any Hopes of him? I answered, there was but little Room for Hope; yet if she pleased to try the Force of the Medicine I should prescribe, she might be assured there was no Danger in it.

HE took it every Night and Morning, as I usually give it. — He has told me since that, it constantly brought away from a Gallon to five Quarts of Water. — Taking this daily, it must be supposed he was soon freed from his Waters.

HE has been clear of his Asthma ever since, and enjoys a better State of Health than he has done for twenty Years past. This was in the sixty seventh Year of his Age, yet he has at present as florid a Complexion as any Man of twenty.



I CONCLUDE that he had a Collection of Waters in his Breast, which caused the Asthma.

I HAD another Patient, who had a White-Swelling, as the Surgeons call it, in both Knees. He came to Town, and applied himself to Mr. *Bocheer*; who, like an honest Man, did little to him, but advised him to go to *Bath*; which he did for near twenty Years, as the Gentleman told me. But in the End this appeared to be an Ascites. I was called to him; and upon purging off the Waters, those White-Swellings totally disappeared. He told me he had not had so good a Command of his Legs for twenty Years past.

MANY Instances of the like Nature I could produce; but I take these two to be sufficient for my present Purpose.

HENCE



HENCE It is evident what slow Paces this Distemper many times makes.

SOME Nicety will be required to give such a Description of this Disease, as to make it known in its Approaches. 'Tis easily prevented, though very difficult to be cured, when it comes to an Height.

It begins with a Thirst, which insensibly grows on the Patient. The Inside of the Hands grows dry with a more than common Hardness, and the Patient is attended with an unusual Heat. All the Glands of Secretion begin to fall short of performing their due Functions, till at last Transpiration ceases. The Urine decreases much in Quantity, and is often high coloured. An Inability to Motion increases as the Body fills, with great Shortness of Breath, and Loss of Appetite.



THESE are the several Symptoms of an approaching Dropsy, which usually shews itself first in the Legs. This Distemper may be coming on several Years, as has been above noted; and for want of a due Examination of the Patient, it has been too often taken for some other Disease, which has proved fatal to many People.

To describe a confirmed Ascites, is no more than to set the foregoing in a clear Light.

THE Thirst is more intense, Urine less in Quantity, higher coloured, coming near to the Water made in a Jaundice; Shortness of Breath to that Degree, that there is no lying down in Bed; an Inability to all Motion, a total Loss of Appetite, loose Stools, frequent, but in small Quantities. The Legs, Thighs, and all Parts of the Body are full of Water; which, with the Addition of a Symptomatical Jaundice, make up the frightful



ful and merciless Retinue that attend this great Evil.

AFTER all, I shall venture to say, That let me but come to People as early in this Distemper as they generally apply for Relief from other Physicians, and it shall be cured with as much Certainty, as any other Gentleman may cure a Distemper he thinks himself most Master of. — I am surprized that the Paracentesis or Tap, should be so frequently used in this fatal Disease. — I should be glad to know if one in five hundred has been cured by it. — It rather confirms the Disease, and often renders it incurable, while the poor Patient's Life is protracted in Misery and Despair; so that it may well be said,

*Graviora morbis patimur Remedia,  
Nec vita tanti est, vivere ut possis, mori.*

*Such Aids new Fuel to your Pain supply ;  
Who values Life, if he must hourly die ?*



## *The* TYMPANY, Tympanites.

**A**NOTHER Species of Dropfy, to which the fair Sex are only liable, proceeds from their frequent Miscarriages and hard Labours: Besides, as they are of a much finer Texture of Body than Men, they are more subject to the Passions of the Mind, which have often been the Cause of this Distemper.

THIS is part Wind, part Water, swelling the Abdomen, or Belly, only. The Muscles waste so in this Disease, that the Patient becomes a mere Skeleton with Loss of Appetite; Thirst, but in a more remiss Degree than in the Ascites; Urine in small Quantities, but often of a healthy Colour. — This may be cured pretty much in the same way with an Ascites.

# ANASARCA.

**T**HIS is another Species of Dropsy, plainly differing from the Ascites and Tympany. The Symptoms are vastly more unfettled: The Swellings in the two former are fixed; in this they very often shift, and for the most part affect only the Muscles. As for Example: The Patient shall swell on one Side of the Body; and in a short Time the Tumor shall quit that Part, and appear on the other Side of the Body; and in like Manner shift from one Thigh, Leg, or Arm, to the other.

THIS Disease is not so common as the Ascites or Tympany, and is much easier cured. Yet Mr. *Towne*, one of the King's Gardiners, died of it under Dr. *Radcliff's* Care. — A Gentleman carried me to that unfortunate Man; but the Doctor was so

con-



confident of saving him by the wonderful Panacæa Blisters, that I was not listened to. The Blisters, instead of proving Remedies, only gave the Patient Pain, without affording him any Help; so that in a short Time after he died.

“ TAKE Steel prepared with Sulphur and  
 “ crude Antimony, each one Ounce, Diagri-  
 “ dium four Ounces; Make a fine Powder  
 “ of these; then add as much of any Sy-  
 “ rup as will make a soft Electuary. —  
 “ Take a large Spoonful at Night going to  
 “ Bed, and another in the Morning, stirring  
 “ it well from the Bottom, increasing or less-  
 “ ening the Dose as you see Occasion. —  
 “ You must not drink during the Opera-  
 “ tion of this Physick, as in other Purges;  
 “ for if you pour in too much Liquor, it  
 “ will destroy the End of purging, and you  
 “ will find yourself just where you  
 “ were.

WHEN

WHEN your Waters are off, you may repeat your Purge once in four or five Days; then once a Week, and so on, to once a Fortnight, and once a Month, till your Blood has recovered its due Tone.

You must avoid all Spoon-Meats, Fruits, and Garden-Stuff, of what Kind soever.— And be sure not to exceed a Pint and a half of Liquor in twenty four Hours; for if you drink, your Thirst will never abate. By this Method, and God's Blessing, I have cured Hundreds in my Time.

THIS Method will serve either in a Tympany or Anasarca.

DIABETES



## D I A B E T E S.

**T**HIS is a very fatal Disease, but rarely seen ; yet in one Day I was called to two Patients that were afflicted with it. — *Riverius* says, he never saw more than one Person labouring under this Distemper, in all his Practice.

IT arises from breaking the Compages or Tenor of the Blood.

THE Description follows : 'Tis attended with a small Fever, Loss of Appetite, intense Thirst, a great Dejection of the animal Spirits, profuse Quantities of Urine of a Violet Scent, with a thin oily Substance swimming on the Surface of it. When all these Symptoms meet they constitute this Distemper.

THE



THE Sort of Water described is very common in what Physicians call scorbutick Cafes.— Upon which, after the Learned Dr. *Wills* has made a very long Harangue about hot Scurvy and cold Scurvy, I must own my Capacity too weak to comprehend his Meaning; nor do I believe the Disease owed its Name to any Thing, but that when the Physicians met with a Distemper they knew little of, they called it a scurvy one.

ONE Mr. *Jonathan Keate*, some Time after Surgeon to the Hospital at *King's-Town* in *Jamaica*, was so far gone in a Diabetes, that he was not able to get out of his Cabin.— I was on Board with some Company, who told me the Surgeon of the Ship lay dangerously ill, and desired to see me.— I soon perceived his Distemper, and sent him from Shore what I thought proper. In three or four Days he came to

J

Port-



*Port-Royal*, to return Thanks for the great Service I had done him. He did, as we say, *pancratice valere*, and so continued. — This is thirty Years since. — About six Years since, I saw him in Town; he lodged in *St. Martin's-Lane*, and was then just come from *Barcelona*.

I SHALL only give one Instance more: A Person, recommended to me by his Grace the late Duke of *Richmond*, was so weak in this Distemper, that he could hardly stand. — I ordered him ten Days after to meet me at the Duke's; which he accordingly did; and gave his Grace Thanks for being perfectly recovered. He lived on *Tower-Hill*, and, if I mistake not, was an House-Carpenter; but I have forgot his Name.

THERE needs nothing more to be done for the Cure of this Disease, which has hitherto puzzled Physicians in all Ages, than to drink a quarter of a Pint of Allom Posset-



set-Drink, first and last, made as strong as your Stomach will bear it. — This I have experienced for thirty-five Years, and do not remember that it ever failed.

## CONSUMPTION, *or* Phtifis.

**T**HOUGH this be a Chronical Disease, it is also inflammatory; and I know of no other Chronical Distemper that is so.

It begins with a violent Cough, and is always attended with an inflamed Mass of Blood, except in convulsive Cases; and as the Lungs are all Bronchia, or little *Air-Bladders* of the Aspera Arteria, when we inspire the inflamed Part, or what we see on the Top of the Blood, which the Physicians term Pleuritical, is strained from the Mass, which being left in those Air-Bladders, occasions a

D

great



great Shortness of Breath, till by violent Coughing, or frequent Succussions of the Lungs, it is brought off. — If this Matter continues, it inflames the Lungs, till at last they are impositumated; and then the Patient's Case becomes desperate.

THIS Disease commonly proceeds from Cold; which increasing, the Patient complains first of a great Soreness in his Breast, Difficulty of Breathing, Loss of Appetite, a great Heat and Dryness in the Palms of his Hands, with frequent and sudden Flushings in the Face; according to that of *Hippocrates*, *Rubor pertinax & saturatus in Genis pulmonem indicat inflammatum*.

As this Disease gathers Strength, colliquating Sweats come on towards Morning; then a Diarrhæa, or Looseness; the Fingers Ends are swelled, and a few Days before Death, the Legs swell, which is the last Symptom.



THE good Dr. Sydenham wonderfully commends Riding in this Distemper ; and he says, “ *Hoc sancte assero, quod neque*  
 “ *mercurius in Lue Venereâ neque Cortex*  
 “ *Peruvianus in intermittentibus efficaciores*  
 “ *extent quam in Phtisi curanda exercitium*  
 “ *jam laudatum.*— Speaking of Riding,  
 “ *Modo æger curet ut lintheamina lecti sint*  
 “ *probe arefacta, atque etiam ut satis longa*  
 “ *Itinera emetiatur.*”

BUT, with Deference to my old Friend's Judgment, I have known frequent Bleeding in small Quantities do more good than Riding. I shall set down one Case, of which any Person may satisfy himself.

A NEPHEW of Sir George Caswall's, whose Lungs were most apparently im-  
 posthumated from the corrupt and foetid Matter that proceeded from them, had those  
 colliquating Sweats, with a Diarrhæa, or  
 D 2 Looseness,



Looseness, and brought up large Quantities of Blood every Day, almost equal to a Vomica Pulmonum.

HIS Muscles were almost entirely wasted; and so very weak, that he could hardly walk alone. I ordered him to bleed every other Day. — He soon visibly grew better. — I sent him to the Cold Bath; which he used to very great Advantage; so that he soon grew healthy and strong, and fuller of Flesh than ever.

WHEN Mr. *Pettit* bled him, he would often say, he could not possibly live four and twenty Hours.

As this is an inflammatory Disease, all Methods of Cure ought to be avoided, except such as abate the Inflammation; which, I may venture to say, is usually increased by the vast Quantities of Oils and Syrups prescribed: And this is the chief Reason that Physicians have



have had so little Success in Consumptions They allow the Patient to use a strengthening Diet, and indulge him too much with Wine, Gravies, and the like, contrary to a known Maxim in Physick. — *Impura corpora quo plus nutries, eo magis lædes.*

ANOTHER Cause of Consumptions is from an Empyema; which is an Impoisthumation on the Pleura; as when Pleurifies or Peripneumonies are not blooded off, as long as any poignant or shooting Pains remain, there is an infallible Indication for Bleeding. 'Twas said the Lord *Sunderland* could not die for want of Bleeding, having lost seventy Ounces: Whereas my next-door Neighbour had a Servant seized with a Pleurify, who lost two hundred and sixty Ounces of Blood before his Pain left him. — This Mr. *Pyle*, a very honest and eminent Surgeon, will attest.



THE Man since enjoys a perfect State of Health.

ONE Mr. *William Masters*, an eminent Surgeon at *Evesham*, in *Worcestershire*, was so far gone in a Consumption, that he was not able to stand alone. I advised him by all Means to lose six Ounces of Blood every Day for a Fortnight, if he lived so long; then every other Day, then every third Day, and fifth Day for the same Time. This was in the Month of *November*. The *March* following, he rode from *Evesham* to *Bristol* in one Day, which is forty-seven long Miles, to give me Thanks for his Recovery. — He lived many Years after. His Relations all died in Consumptions. This was the first Experiment I made of Bleeding in this Disease; and have cured many since by the same Method.

ONE *Ambrose Clark*, a Servant to Sir *John Dutton* of *Sherbourne*, in *Gloucestershire*,



*shire*, was so very weak in a Consumption, that they entirely despaired of his Life. He was blooded at least fifty Times; and in a short Time recover'd so very well, that he enjoys a better State of Health than ever he did before.

“ TAKE Aniseeds finely powdered, Saffron of Steel, each half an Ounce, made into Pills, with *Lucatella's* Balsam; take five of these every Morning, and at Five a-Clock in the Afternoon, drinking a large Draught of Water acidulated with *Mynsicht's* Elixir of Vitriol. — After each Dose, Riding is of singular Use, and Cold-Bathing; but above all, frequent Bleeding in small Quantities: For, as is before observed, whatever keeps the Lungs cool, is the only Way to cure Consumptions; and I have of late experienced that Quick-silver is the most beneficial Thing in all the World for the Lungs, taking one Ounce every Morning.”



## A S T H M A.

OF this there are two Species ; the one convulsive, the other proceeding from a foul Mass of Blood.

THESE are not hard to be distinguished : The Convulsive generally has its Paroxysms, or Fits ; and though you may cough with greater Violence, and find a much greater Difficulty of Breathing, though you spit only a frothy Substance, yet when the Paroxysm is over, the Patient finds not much Disorder.

“ TAKE Castor one Dram, Salt of Steel  
 “ half a Dram, made into very small Pills,  
 “ with Extract of Rue : These you may take  
 “ every Hour till the Convulsion is abated,  
 “ drinking three Spoonfuls of the following  
 “ Julep after each Dose. — Take of  
 “ Black-Cherry, and Penny-Royal Water,  
 “ each



“ each an Ounce, of Rue and compound  
 “ Brio y Waters, each four Ounces, with a  
 “ small Quantity of Sugar, made into a Ju-  
 “ lep. — Or a Toad dried and powdered,  
 “ made into Pills, and taken as above, is  
 “ a most excellent Remedy. — But we  
 “ are so wise as to take it for granted, that  
 “ a Toad is a very poisonous Animal : Our  
 “ Mothers instill into us such an Aversion  
 “ against the poor innocent and harmless  
 “ Creature, that whenever we see him, most  
 “ certainly he is stoned to Death : Whereas,  
 “ rightly considered, he is a very great Bles-  
 “ sing bestowed on Mankind.”

IN a sanguinary Asthma, or what pro-  
 ceeds from a foul Mass of Blood, the Pa-  
 tient is seldom free ; though at some Times  
 much better than others. As when the  
 Winds are Easterly, the Patient soon finds a  
 sensible Alteration for the worse. — Nay,  
 I have been told by those that keep their  
 Beds, that they have been sensible in a few  
 Minutes,



Minutes, when the Wind has shifted to the East, they cough, and spit a digested Matter.

THIS Disease rarely seizes People before they are of an advanced Age; which is the Reason it does not cause Consumptions; for the Parenchyma, or Substance of the Lungs, is then grown so very hard, that it rarely admits of Putrefaction. — The Cure of this last Asthma does not much vary from that in Consumptions.

WHEN it proceeds from a foul Mass of Blood, it ought to be treated as in a Consumption; only purge once or twice a Week with the Purge set down in the Gout.

**J**AUNDICE,

## JAUNDICE, *or* Icterus.

**T**HIS is very visible from the Yellowness of the Eyes and Skin, black Urine, and white Stools, accompanied with great Sicknefs and Faintings, but little Pain. If the Excrements are not white, it may be feared the Case is complicated; and it proves a Symptomatical Jaundice; which is never to be cured by Ictericks, or such Medicines as are commonly used in the Jaundice.

THIS Disease proceeds from an Obstruction of the Ductus Coledochus, which leads from the Gall to the intestine Duodenum; the Bile not passing there, leaves the Ordure white, which otherwise takes its Colour from it; but mixing with the Blood, tinctures the Skin; as the Hair on the Head or Body, takes its Dye from the Fluids.

PARACELSUS,



PARACELSUS, in his Treatise *De Signatura Rerum*, very much commends the inner Bark of Barberries, Turmerick, Rheubarb, and all Plants of a yellow Cast, in the Cure of this Disease. But they are too weak, as has been sufficiently experienced long since. — He likewise commends the Arbor Tremula in Agues, the Pulmonaria maculosa in Consumptions, Trachelium in sore Throats and Quinseys; and so goes on. — I mention this, to shew on what weak Foundations we often venture our Lives.

THIS Disease commonly ends in some violent Hæmorrhage; either by Urine, Stool, or a Vomica Pulmonum, which soon terminates in Death. — All this may be imputed to that Alkali Bile, which tears the very Arteries in Pieces, and renders the Patient incurable.

ONLY

“ ONLY take eight Grains of Turbith Mi-  
 “ neral at Four or Five in the Afternoon,  
 “ drinking thin Gruel, or Poffet-Drink, be-  
 “ tween Motions. — After four or five  
 “ Days repeat the Turbith as above. —  
 “ In the intermediate Days take half a large  
 “ Spoonful of *Mynsicht's* Elixir of Vitriol  
 “ in half a Pint of Spring Water, three  
 “ Times a Day. — This cures any original  
 “ Jaundice I ever met with.” —

AT the *Bath*, I have seen Gentle-  
 men so far gone in this Disease, that their  
 Faces have been of an exact Lemon-Co-  
 lour. — I have been much concerned, to  
 think how small a Progress has been made  
 in the Art of Healing.

STONE,



## STONE, *or* Nephritis.

**T**HE Stone is an exquisite Pain on the Ureters, or Neck of the Bladder. — And is caused by a cold Stomach, hot Reins, and ill Digestion; which sends Crudities into the Blood by the Lacteals. These Crudities pass to the Kidneys by the Emulgent Arteries; and not being so readily received by the Emulgent Veins, make Lodgement in the Pelvis, or Cavity of the Kidneys, where, by their Heat, they soon petrify: And thus Gravel is formed; but never in the Bladder, as some conceive. This Gravel, or small Stones, entering the Ureters, long and narrow Passages of exquisite Sense, cause great Pains, with violent Vomitings; and the same again, when they enter the Neck of the Bladder and Urethra. — The Patient frequently complaining of Pains in his Thigh, which

I take to proceed from the Muscle *Psoas*, which reaches from the Reins thither.

ALL the Relief we can afford, is to dilate and lubricate the Urinal Passages, that the Stone or Gravel may pass with less Difficulty.

IF any of the small Gravel should accidentally adhere to any Part of the Bladder, it like a Snow-Ball collects the finer Part of the Sand, till by its Weight it falls from its Cystis on the Neck of the Bladder; and then nothing is to be done but Lithotomy, or Cutting.

THIS brings melancholy Reflections on the unhappy Patient, since all the Endeavours of Physicians, Quacks, and Empericks, to find out a Cure, have proved ineffectual. — Many Trials have been made to find out a Diffolvent for the Stone; and such have been  
found



found out as will break the Stone, being laid in your Hand. — But as nothing but an excrementitious Serum enters the Bladder, the Powers of every Medicine must be vastly weakened, before they reach the Seat of the Distemper.

THERE is little to be done to ease the Patient in the Fits, or Paroxysms, but to use such Medicines as lubricate, and open the Passages; by which means, the Stone or Gravel will pass more easily. — As Balsam of Capivie, taking a large Spoonful in any Vehicle, whether Wine or Water. I know it is a common Method, to give strong Diureticks in such Cases. — Now, the Coats of the Ureters being nervous, by such Irritations contract themselves, and hold the Stone more closely. — Whereas the Weight of the Urine is sufficient to carry the Stone before it, if the Passages were sufficiently dilated. — I prescribe the inmost Coat of the Gizzards of Pigeons finely powdered,

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to

to be taken Night and Morning, one Scruple, in a Glafs of White-Wine. But you may please to try one Ounce of Quickfilver every Morning for one Month. I have known this do Wonders. Clysters often afford some Relief, as Turpentine opened with the Yolk of an Egg, and Urine added to it.

“ TAKE Peach-Leaves in their Perfection,  
 “ and dry them in the Sun, then break them  
 “ pretty small, and use them as Tea: But  
 “ only half the Quantity.”

I HAVE known it do very extraordinary Things in the Gravel, and equally beneficial to gouty Persons.

E

PALSEY,



## PALSEY, *or* Paralyfis.

**I** AM now entering on nervous Diseases: As to that Part of them which compose the several Species of Palsey: It will be Matter of no great Difficulty to distinguish, and explain them. Nevertheless, I am sensible, as I launch farther into this Field, and treat of nervous Diseases at large, there will be great Nicety required to give their several Descriptions; and make them so plain, that one may not be taken for the other; or even that they may not be taken for acute Cases, which may prove of the worst Consequence to the Patient.

HEMIPLEGIE,



## HEMIPLEGIE, or Hemiplexia.

THIS Species of the Palsey effects but one Side, which is owing to the doubling of the Dura Mater, called the Falx, by which the Brain is divided ; so that, unless in extraordinary Cases, the Paralysis is seldom met with. The great Author of Nature has afforded us Duplicates in almost every Particular ; so that in case one becomes uselefs, or lost, yet the other in a great Measure supplies the Defect. Thus we have two Eyes, two Lobes of the Lungs, two Kidneys, two Testicles ; so that one Part remaining, Vision, Respiration, Secretion, and Generation, are all performed. The *Mabometan* Women, in the greatest Part of *Asia*, destroy one Testicle: No doubt they find their Account in it ; because the Males make their Addresses more frequently when there is a less Expence of Spirits at each Evacuation. The



Hemiplegie and Paralyfis are both cured by fuch Medicines as open the Obstructions of the Nerves ; then the Animal Spirits recover a free Passage, and all Senfation returns.

IN recent Cafes, this Diftemper is foon cured.

I WAS called to Mrs. *Potts*, the Mother of Mr. *John Potts* the Oilman. In the feventieth Year of her Age ſhe was feized with this Hemiplegie, falling down with an entire Loſs of Senſe and Motion on one Side : Yet, by what I ordered her, ſhe was perfectly well in ten Days, and ſo continued many Years after. Many Inſtances of the like Nature I could produce, but they are at ſome Diſtance from *London*.

“ In this Caſe I bliſter the Arm, the Leg,  
 “ and the Thigh of the Side affected. I  
 “ give Mercurius Dulcis, and Cinnabar  
 “ of



“ of Antimony, each eight or ten Grains,  
 “ which I repeat every four or five Days.  
 “ The intermediate Days take Conserve  
 “ of Roman Wormwood, Conserve of the  
 “ outward Rinds of Seville Oranges, each  
 “ one Ounce ; Angelica, Nutmegs, and  
 “ Ginger candied, each half an Ounce; Pow-  
 “ der of Wake-Robin three Drams, made in-  
 “ to an Electuary with Syrup of Cytron :  
 “ Take the Quantity of a large Nutmeg in  
 “ the Morning, and at Five of the Clock in  
 “ the Afternoon ; drinking fix Spoonfuls of  
 “ the following Tincture after.”

“ TAKE the Roots of Master-Wort, Ele-  
 “ campane, Angelica, each one Ounce ;  
 “ Leaves of Common Wormwood, Hore-  
 “ hound, Germander, each one Handful ;  
 “ Tops of Centaury and St. John's-Wort,  
 “ each half an Handful ; Juniper Berries two  
 “ Ounces ; the Rinds of nine Seville O-  
 “ ranges ; infuse these in three Quarts of  
 “ White-Wine, straining it off as you use



“ it. The same Method cures both Kinds  
“ of Palsy.”

## St. VITUS'S DANCE, *or* Chorea Sancti Viti.

**T**HIS is a Palsy of a more remiss Kind than the forementioned : I never knew any but young Persons seized with it. If it begins in the Arm, it soon affects the Leg on the same Side ; and so *vice versa*. It never wears off without proper Means.

THIS admits of the same Method of Cure as the Palsy.

THERE is another Species of the Palsy, known by the Name of the Shaking Palsy ; 'tis commonly the Effect of old Age, Intemperance, or a *Malum Stamen Vitæ* : It ever proceeds from a Deficiency of Animal Spirits.

## A P O P L E X Y.

**T**HIS, of all others, deserves to have a Place amongst the Acute Diseases. But, as I am going to describe those of the Head, this Distemper, so remarkable, and so fatal, cannot be omitted.

WHATEVER affects the Head, must be either inflammatory, convulsive, or accidental ; as from Contusions, Bruises, and the like.

THE Patient in an Apoplexy falls suddenly to the Ground, deprived of all Sensation and Motion.

SOME Physicians place this Distemper in the Centre of the Brain ; but that, with Submission, can hardly account for the Effect it produces : Upon better Consideration it



will appear, that both Brains must be affected. That the Cerebrum, or great Brain, is so, appears from the Abolition of Sense and Motion. That the Cerebellum, or little Brain, receives its Stroke likewise, is evident from the great Difficulty of Breathing the Patient labours under in this Disease: It being very justly allowed, that this Brain is the Cause of all involuntary Motions, of which Breathing must be one. 'Tis not easy to conceive that this Distemper is so common, as is pretended, when in more than forty seven Years Practice, I have met with no more than two.

VERY often the Denomination of this Disease is given to Epilepsies, and many Times to high Hypochondriacal Effects.

THERE are two Causes of Apoplexies: Blood extravasated in the cortical Part of the Brain; or Convulsions, that immediately obstruct the Animal Spirits.



THE first of these is incurable, it being impossible to draw the extravasated Blood off; the latter, by proper Remedies has been often removed, and the Patient cured.

“ HIGH Bleeding may be of Use. Take  
 “ of Mercurius Dulcis, Cinnabar of Anti-  
 “ mony, each one Scruple, made into a Bo-  
 “ lus with Conserve of Hips. Give such  
 “ Things as cause Sneezing; as the Root of  
 “ Hellebore, or the Leaves of Affarabacca  
 “ powdered. Bruise Garlick, which you  
 “ may apply to the Hand, Wrists, and  
 “ Soles of the Feet. Likewise give the Ju-  
 “ lep described in the Convulsive Asthma,  
 “ making it very strong with Spirit of Sal  
 “ Armoniac.”

FALLING



## FALLING SICKNESS, *or* Epilepsy.

**T**HIS Distemper must be convulsive, it being impossible for any inflammatory Disease to seize the Patient so surprisingly; for he would complain of Vertigoes, or great Pains in the Head, before the Paroxysm. Whereas it gives its Stroke without any previous Symptom, much like an Apoplexy, and is too often taken for that Distemper; as I have before observed. This affects likewise both Brains; which is visible from its taking away all Sense and Motion, and is attended with a Dyspnœa, or Difficulty of Breathing, yet not so great as in Apoplexies.

It plainly differs from other Convulsive Diseases; since in this Case the Patient always falls on his Back, and is thrown down  
with



with great Violence, foaming much at the Mouth.

'Tis cured by proper Neuroticks, little differing from the Methods of Cure in other Nervous Cases.

DURING the Paroxysm, what is prescribed in the Apoplexy, is not amiss, Bleeding excepted. But to prevent Returns, take as prescribed in the Convulsive Asthma. All Convulsions proceeding pretty much from the same Cause, which we call an Ataxie, or irregular Motion of the Animal Spirits.

## HYPONCONDRIACAL *and* HYSTERICAL DISEASES, Morbus Hypochondriacus & Histericus.

**H**ERE are two different Names for the same Distemper; nor can they be distinguished otherwise than thus: What

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we



we call Hypochondriacal in Men, we term Hysterical in Women. I shall enter only on Hysterical Effects, because they are more common, and more visible in the finer Sex.

THERE is no Disease incident to Human Bodies but these Hystericisms will counterfeit so exactly, that without the greatest Caution the Physician must be deceived.

As when it seizes the Head, it causes violent Pains, Vertigoes, strong Convulsions, with Deprivation of Sense; when it affects the Eyes, with Loss of Sight for the present, great Quantities of pure Water issuing from them.

WHEN the Heart: Palpitations.

WHEN the Lungs, Succussions or Coughing; in some much resembling the Barking of a Dog.

WHEN



WHEN the Gullet, or Exphagus, Suffocation, with a great Swelling rising up to the Throat; when the Side, a Pleurisy; when the Stomach, Sicknefs, Pain, and Vomiting.

WHEN the Intestines, the Cholick often accompanied with a Diarrhœa, or Looseness.

WHEN the Kidneys and Neck of the Bladder, it many Times causes a total Suppression of the Urine, with Pains so like those caused by the Gravel or the Stone, that tis impossible, *nisi a juvantibus & lædentibus*, to distinguish one from the other: When the Womb, all Distempers appear that are incident to it; all the Muscles and Joints are affected with Swellings, followed with torturing Pains without Inflammation.

NEITHER



NEITHER are the Teeth or Nails free: The Skin shall be often affected, becoming hot and dry, as in a burning Fever.

THE Scorbiculum Cordis, or Pit of the Stomach, is very often much disordered with Pains, Tremblings, and Sinkings, which often cause sudden Motions to make Urine; which is not only larger in Quantity than usual, but pale, and clear as Water from a Fountain.

THE Reason why the Pit of the Stomach is so generally affected, is, because there is a Plexus, or Net of Nerves, meeting there; which is a plain Indication that all the several Symptoms above mentioned are Nervous.

I PROCEED to enquire into the Cause of so great a Variety of Symptoms, which is from an Ataxie, as we call it, or an irregular Motion



Motion of the Animal Spirits, which proceed from a Weakness of them; so that the least Noise, Surprize, Trouble, Anger, or any other Passion of the Mind, immediately brings on the greatest Disorders and Confusions, and makes the Patient presently blown up with Wind in almost every Part.

THIS Disease, which has the several Appearances of almost all acute Diseases, without Matter or Corruption of the Fluids, makes me wonder that Physicians should begin with Bleeding, Vomiting, Purging, and Blistering; and after that have Recourse to Fontanelles or Issues; then Steel, Bitters, Opiates, and the like; all directly contrary to the Practice before set down. Steel in Substance is very pernicious to human Bodies; Bitters rarely have their desired Effects: Opiates only palliate, and at the same Time give deeper Root to the Disease. The last Remedies prescribed are *Bath Waters*; which are really good to repair decayed Spirits.

THE



THE only Help which can be administered in this Disorder, is to fortify the Animal Spirits, and strengthen the Genus Nervosum: Which is done by proper Neuroticks, Deoppilatives, and such as strengthen the Stomach and help Digestion: In all these there are no Evacuations; and yet it may be affirmed, these are proper Remedies in the above-mentioned Distemper.

I SHALL be very particular in my Account of every Thing that I ever found was of any Relief, or of any Use in these Cases; which often proceeding from Disorders of the Womb: It is of very great Import to see that Nature does her Part; that her Returns are regular, neither abounding, nor too sparing; either of which, often cause Barrenness. In the first, use this Method.

“ BLEED twelve Ounces from the Arm,  
 “ three or four Days before the Return of  
 “ Nature is expected. Take large Quan-  
 “ tities



“ tities of *Mynsicht*’s Elixir of Vitriol, half  
 “ a large Spoonful in half a Pint of Spring  
 “ Water, three or four Times a Day;  
 “ or of *Eaton*’s Stiptick. Take of the  
 “ Plaister De Minio, and the Rupture-  
 “ Plaister, each a like Quantity; two or  
 “ three Drams of the Loadstone, finely pow-  
 “ dered: Put this to the Reins of the  
 “ Back; avoiding all Meats or Drinks that  
 “ any way heat or inflame the Blood.”

WHERE Nature is wanting, use the fol-  
 lowing Receipt:

“ TAKE Salt of Steel one Ounce, Extract  
 “ of Rue; make these into Pills: Take one  
 “ going to Bed, and another in the Morn-  
 “ ing: So increase, till you take five Pills  
 “ Night and Morning, drinking three or  
 “ four Spoonfuls of the Julep prescribed  
 “ in the Convulsive Asthma; or take *Myn-*  
 “ *sicht*’s Tincture of Steel, and Elixir Pro-  
 “ prietatis, each a like Quantity. Of this  
 F you



“ you may take a large Spoonful in half a  
 “ a Pint of Spring Water, first in the Morn-  
 “ ing, and at Five in the Afternoon, for a  
 “ Month : Wear a Galbanum Plaister to your  
 “ Navel. The Pills and Juleps in the Con-  
 “ vulsive Asthma, taken and repeated every  
 “ two or three Hours, when the Symptoms  
 “ are at the highest, soon put a Stop to  
 “ them. The *Indians* at the *Malucco*  
 “ *Islands*, and the Ladies at *Smyrna*, often  
 “ take Quicksilver, as a Remedy against Bar-  
 “ renness. An Ounce may be taken once a  
 “ Day for a Month or two.”

## GREEN-SICKNESS, or Chlorosis.

**T**HIS Disease is incident to the Female  
 Sex only ; and that for the most part  
 in the Time of their Virginity. This formerly  
 appeared near the usual Time of the Coming of  
 the Menstrua : But since, Mothers have been  
 so foolishly desirous for nice Shapes for their  
 Children,



Children, and in their tender Years, have laced them so very strait, they have not only brought this Distemper on more early, but caused great Crookedness and Deformity of Body. To go farther; It so depraves the the Juices of the Stomach, that the true Appetitions of Nature are wholly lost; for what good Stomach called for Leather of old Trunks, Woollen or Linnen Rags, Cork, Nut-Shells, and almost every Thing that a healthy Stomach would nauseate?

THIS Distemper is attended with great Pains in the Stomach, Shortness of Breath, with an Aversion to all manner of Motion. For these Reasons, one wou'd think all Mothers should become avowed Enemies to lacing their Daughters, till they are in their Teens, at soonest; and not to act as if that wise Being, who formed us so perfect in the Womb, was ignorant how to model and shape us while we are growing to Years of Maturity.



THE ill Consequences that daily attend this Practice, might be thought sufficient to deter Parents from it:

LET Mankind take a View of Barbarous Countries, as I have done ; contemplate those People, where God and Nature have only been : Observe in what Order and Delicacy their Muscles are placed ; how strong their Bodies ; how taper their Limbs. There are no full Shoulders, nor gummy Thighs or Legs, nor any Deformity : All Parts are conspicuous, since the Natives have no more Cloathing, than what our First Parents had during the short Time of their Innocence. In some Places, they have not so much as a Fig-Leaf to conceal the Distinctions of either Sex.

THE Reader must pardon a short Digression : Since Mention has been made of *Mothers*, I can't but observe, how religiously  
 they



they restrain their Children from eating green Fruit, from a Notion that it breeds Worms : However singular I may appear in my Opinion, I hold the contrary to be true ; green Fruit being rather a great Destroyer of Vermin.

'TIS *Ripe Fruits* that breed Worms ; for it is manifest all animal Corruption turns to Vermin ; and the same in vegetable Putrefaction. Now ripe Fruits being the last Fermentation of Perfection, or rather the first of Putrefaction, the Vermicular Ovaria must be very pregnant ; which, when received in a depraved Stomach, may prove as proper a Nidus for their Vivification, as the Corruption in which they are enveloped.

THE most offensive and most dangerous of all Species of Vermin, are not visible to the naked Eye.



FOR some Years last past I have not so easily assented to several received Opinions in natural Philosophy, as many others have done, who are ready *furare in verba alicujus Magistri*, but have thoroughly weighed and considered them so far as to be convinced that they are, for the Generality, false : I shall set down one vulgar Error more.

'TIS a generally received Notion, nay, even amongst many Gentlemen of the Faculty, the Quicksilver is Poison : If such Persons are not ashamed of their being no better natural Philosophers, I have no Reason to be under Confusion of Face for them.

THEIR Opinion is a Sign they have travelled *far* at *home*.

LET them take a Trip to *Hungary*, and visit the Mines where the Quicksilver is dug ; they may there see Slaves working entirely  
naked,



naked, to prevent the Stealing this precious Jelly of Mettals, as it may be called ; yet every Day swallow so much that they buy a Choppin of Drink with it at Night.

SEVERAL Physicians have enquired of my Patients, To what End do I give it? Wherein can the Efficacy or Power of it consist? If they do not know, what follows may serve for Instruction.

FIRST, it secures the Patient from all Vermicular Diseases; of which no Practitioner can be sufficiently apprised, that has not spent some Time in hot Climates.

NEXT, it opens all Obstructions, which are supposed to be another general Cause of Diseases.

LASTLY, it makes a pure Balsam of the Blood beyond all other Things in the Creation. Otherwise, why cannot Venereal Ul-



cers be cured without it? We often see those Sores in a Salivation grow well, without the Help of a Surgeon.

I DESIRE to know, Why I am called the Quicksilver Doctor, by way of Derision? Pray do not you, Gentlemen Physicians, Surgeons, and Apothecaries, prescribe it almost every Day of your Lives? I aver, you do. Only you disguise it; and I give it in such an open honest Manner, that my Patient cannot be deceived in taking it. Let me ask you, What is your *Æthiops Mineral*? Is it not Quicksilver ground to a black Powder, with Brimstone? and in as great Esteem with you as any of your Medicines? A very ingenious Physician says, This is like striking a Man with your Sword in the Scabbard; and were it possible to have found a worse Menstruum than Sulphur, I do not know whether it ought not even then to have been tried. Certainly this Medicine shews a more  
than



than common Virtue, which can thus powerfully exert itself, when bound down by so contrary a Quality.

A PATIENT of mine, a Gentleman of Reputation and Figure, was lately taking of Quicksilver by my Direction. He told me, one of the most eminent Physicians here in Town, said, he was very sorry to hear that I had put him under a Course of Quicksilver, and affirmed it to be the most dangerous Medicine in the whole World; advising him by all Means to leave it off. When this Gentleman at the same Time was intimately acquainted with a Person, who had the same Indisposition with his own, and had Quicksilver prescribed him by this very Doctor. He told me, besides, in what Manner he gave it; which a Man who had studied Physick only a Month, would have thought no small Reflection upon his Judgment. I wish my Patient would have given me his Name, it should



should have been put down in Words at full Length, for the general Good of Mankind.

*Read the Second Part of the Hospital Surgeon, of the Nature and Virtues of Quicksilver.*

*Bellost*, the Author of this Book, calls it the Miracle of Nature, and the greatest Gift of God in the whole Materia Medica.

I APPEAL to the Reader, if such a Person as I lately mentioned, deserves the Title of Doctor. As for my Part, though I am but a poor Batchelor in Physick, I shall for ever scorn so mean, so dishonourable a Behaviour.

THE following Paragraphs are taken out of the Writings of two learned Physicians, and will convince the World that I am not single in the good Opinion I have of Quicksilver.



“ I HAVE found the continual Use of  
 “ *Æthiops Mineralis* to be not only safe,  
 “ but always effectual; which is generally  
 “ postponed to the other Preparations of Mer-  
 “ cury upon this Account only, because it  
 “ is the most easily prepared of them all.  
 “ Thus the Operation of Quicksilver holds  
 “ universally the same; which, however  
 “ constant it may be, hinders not yet in the  
 “ least, but that Quicksilver may be endow-  
 “ ed also with other Properties; for it not  
 “ only opens obstructed Vessels, but also as  
 “ constantly blunts the Points of Acids.

*Friend's Emenologia, Chap. xiv.*

“ IN *Æthiops Mineral*, and *Cinnabar* of  
 “ Antimony, the Mercury is so bridled up  
 “ by the Sulphur, that none of their sensible  
 “ Operations and Appearances are felt, while  
 “ they produce wonderful Changes in the  
 “ Body. I cannot pass over *Æthiops Mi-*  
 “ neral



“ neral without preſſing its more univerſal  
 “ Uſe therein, for ought I know, it has  
 “ yet had in common Practice. It is  
 “ one of the moſt certain and univerſal Al-  
 “ teratives, if doſed ſufficiently, and long  
 “ enough perſiſting in, of all the Diſpenſa-  
 “ tory. It radically extirpates the Itch, Piles,  
 “ ſcorbutic and ſcrophulous Ulcers. All  
 “ cutaneous Foulneſſes ; all Inflammations  
 “ and Fluxions of the Eyes ; all internal  
 “ Ulcers, Rheumatifms, White-Swellings,  
 “ ſharp Humours in the Stomach and Guts ;  
 “ and almoſt all Diſtempers ariſing from ſizy  
 “ Juices ; I ſay it cures theſe, if Art can  
 “ do it. It may be given almoſt to half an  
 “ Ounce a Day, eſpecially with interſperſed  
 “ Mercurial Purges, without Trouble, or  
 “ any ſenſible Operation, and may be con-  
 “ tinued a Twelvemonth, if one pleaſes. I  
 “ have had frequent Occaſion of trying the  
 “ Æthiops in different Caſes, ſince the firſt  
 “ Edition of my Treatiſe, and never with-  
 “ out Succeſs. Amongſt others, I tried it  
 “ upon



“ upon a Person of an exceeding gross cor-  
 “ pulent Habit, who had passed the Meridian  
 “ of Life, for a spreading, foul, scorbutic  
 “ Ulcer, which had affected the whole Ankle  
 “ for more than a Span Length quite round,  
 “ and was pretty deep in the Outside. He  
 “ took three Drams, made up with Syrup of  
 “ Lemons, twice a Day for four Months suc-  
 “ cessively, and a gentle Mercurial Purge  
 “ once in ten Days: This, with a low cool  
 “ Diet, and proper Dressings, healed it quite  
 “ up, when ’twas generally thought, scarce  
 “ any Medecine, especially so easy a one,  
 “ would ever finish such a Cure in such a  
 “ Constitution. The Æthiops was taken  
 “ without any Disgust, Trouble, or Inter-  
 “ ruption of Business ; and it was observable,  
 “ (and it is for the sake of this Observation  
 “ chiefly that I mention this Instance,) that  
 “ the very Æthiops itself, after the Body  
 “ had been fully replenish’d with it, in two  
 “ Months Time, forced itself through the  
 “ sound Part of the Leg and Shin, and  
 “ stuck



“ stuck to those Parts of the Plaister that  
 “ cover’d them, in its proper Substance and  
 “ Colour ; which shews how readily this  
 “ Medicine passes through the small Vessels  
 “ of the Glands. This very Method never  
 “ fails to cure Ophthalmia’s, even scrophu-  
 “ lous ones ; and is a most certain Remedy  
 “ in an Ulcer of the Bladder, as I have al-  
 “ ways found, if given in a sufficient Dose,  
 “ and persisted in a sufficient Time.”

*Cheyne’s Essay on the Gout,*  
*Edit. 2. pag. 48, &c.*

MUCH may be said to shew the Impossi-  
 bility of Quicksilver doing any Damage to  
 the Patient ; what gives offence to Nature,  
 is what we term Spiculæ, Points or Edges.  
 Now, Quicksilver always retaining a globu-  
 lar Figure, together with the Softness of its  
 Body, no Harm can happen from the Use of  
 it ; only this I would advise the Patient, that  
 he get a small Crucible, put into it the Quan-  
 tity



tity of a Pistol-Bullet of Quicksilver, set the Crucible on the Fire, if any of the soft Metals are put to it, they will remain, and the Quicksilver fly off. Note, a Pound of Lead costs two Pence, and a Pound of Quicksilver eight or ten Shillings ; the Profit that arises may be one Cause of its Adulteration, and another to bring the Medicine into Disrepute.

BUT let him take particular Care not to hang his Head over it, for the Effluvia are a Poison of the most subtile Nature.

Now, does any Thing so useful, so beneficial to Mankind, deserve to be so much exploded, and treated with so much Calumny ? But amongst all their false Insinuations, let them bring one single Instance, well attested, of the Damage any one has received from it. Though I believe there never was a Medicine given, but sometimes has proved not only detrimental to the Patient, but even  
Death



Death itself has ensued, especially when misapplied: Witness the so much celebrated *Gascoin's Powder*, which occasions yearly the Loss of many thousand Subjects to the Crown. I aver, Quicksilver never did any Harm to the Patient, which is more than can be said of any other Medicine.

THERE is another prevailing Opinion, That Acids are the Cause of almost all Diseases: Whereas they are not liable to Corruption, therefore must keep the Fluids pure, and without any Contamination; nor can they be the Cause of any Fever, because they are the greatest Coolers we know of, neither can they be the Cause of any cutaneous Eruption; because I know by Experience (as I could bring many to testify) that they are a very powerful and effectual Remedy against such Distempers.



I KNOW no Method more proper than what is laid down in the foregoing Chapter, where Nature is wanting.

## KING'S-EVIL, *or* Scrofula,

**I**S either Hereditary, or Accidental; is seated in the Blood, and usually descends to the Children, if either of the Parents ever had it.

THIS Disease is seldom met with, but in young People. It generally appears first in the Glands of the Throat, with hard Swellings of a livid Colour; slow in coming to a Maturation, bearing the Touch without much Uneasiness, being attended with less Pain and Soreness, than any other Ulcer of what Kind soever.



THE Accidental proceeds from any old Ulcer that has been long in curing, or from any Inflammation of the Eyes, which I have observed in a very short Time to become scrofulous.

THE Hands, Feet, or any other Part may be affected with it. Before the Patient comes to be twenty-five Years of Age, 'tis rare but this Distemper naturally wears off. I was some Years since called to a Merchant's Son in this City, about six Years old: He had this Disease, in a violent Degree, in his private Parts, which were swelled to a prodigious Size; and at the same Time, afflicted with no less than seven Ulcers. I ordered him a Diet-Drink; upon taking of which, the Swelling abated, and the Ulcers grew well, without any other Application than dry Lint.



THE Spring following, this Distemper threatened a Return; but upon the Repetition of the Diet-Drink, he was perfectly recovered.

“ Take Mercurius Dulcis one Dram, Antimony revived half a Dram: You may give of this Medicine three, four, or five Grains, according to the Age or Strength of the Patient. Take this twice a Week.”

IN the intermediate Days, use the Diet-Drink following :

“ TAKE of the Leaves of Senna half a Pound, the Root of Monks Rheubarb seven Ounces, the Roots of the sharp-pointed Dock, the Roots of Polypody of the Oak, of each four Ounces, the Roots of Mizerion, three Ounces and a half, Rue leav'd, Whitlow-Grass, three Hand-  
G 2 “ fuls,



“ fuls, Rinds of Oranges dried, fix Ounces,  
 “ crude Antimony, \*grofly powdered, one  
 “ Pound: Slice and bruife thefe, then put  
 “ them in a Bag, and boil them in four  
 “ Gallons and a half of midling Drink to  
 “ three Gallons: Take half a Pint every  
 “ Morning, encreasing or leffening the Dofe,  
 “ according to its Operation. By this very  
 “ Method, I have cured great Numbers.”

## ELEPHANTIASIS.

**T**HE worft, and moft obftinate of  
 Cutaneous Difcafes: 'Tis vermicu-  
 lar.

THIS Species of Eruption does not  
 always appear the fame ; fometimes it  
 breaks out like fmall Boils of feveral Co-  
 lours ; fome yellow, fome again white, and  
 others of a livid Complexion. This laft  
 Sort fometimes brings off the Patient's Nails.  
 I had a Gentlewoman, in this Town, in this  
 miserable



miserable Condition; yet, in a short Time, she was perfectly well. In some, this Distemper appears in an infinite Number of Water-Bladders, from whence issue great Quantities of a salt briny Matter, of so corrosive a Quality, that where it falls, it excoriates. Salivation, in these Cases, has been tried without Success; yet the Distemper yields to Remedies in no respect violent.

## LEPROSY OF THE GREEKS, *or* Lepra Græcorum.

**T**HIS appears in a broad white Scale, surrounded with a small Circle of Red, but almost even with the Skin; which, as People grow in Years, for the most part gets Ground; so that in Process of Time the Patient becomes very uneasy. This Disease is rarely cured, because the Nature of it is for the most part mistaken, by reason Physicians suppose it to proceed from an acid Quality



in the Fluids: For which Reason; they pour in Alkalious Remedies of all Sorts, which only add to the Matter of the Disease. Now, if any Person desires to be satisfied of this Mistake, I will venture to give such Proof of it, as shall be convincing from the Experience of many Learned Men, that there is no Acid of any Kind in the Fluids; as *Pitcairn* says, the famous Mr. *Boyle* asserts. Sir *John Colebatch*'s Experiment with the Syrup of Violets, is sufficient to go no farther. Doctor *Borehaave* is in the same Way of Thinking.

BUT why should Men of Art be so averse to Cold Bathing in this Case? The *Israelites* were famous for an itchy scabby People; and the only Remedy we find they made use of, was Immersion in cold Water.

PHYSICIANS object, That the Immersion in cold Water, in Cutaneous Cases, has often thrown

W

this



this corrupt Matter on the Lungs, and caused Consumptions. If they can make this appear from one single Instance, it may give some Satisfaction as to what they assert; though it will be far from proving their Conclusion to be true. What they say of Cold Bathing, is very different from what I have experienced in Practice, and from my Way of Thinking.

UPON the Patient's Immerſing in the moſt intense cold Water that can poſſibly be found, all the Heat is flung from the Surface of the Body, into its moſt inward Parts; when the Patient comes out, the Heat returning from whence it came, performs its Motion with that Elaſticity and Force, that it fills the Skin with vaſt Numbers of cutaneous Spots; by which the Blood becomes much finer, and thoſe corrupt Parts of the Fluids are diſcharged. For the Truth of this, I appeal to every one that immerſes in very cold Water.



It may be farther presumed, That whereas the Patient often complains of flying Pains in the Muscles, which occasion a great Inability to Motion. This Disorder, generally speaking, is caused from Wind, blowing up the Muscles beyond their due Tension: In which Case, they will receive Benefit, not only from the cold Quality of the Water, but more from the Weight of it, which presses the Muscles into their due Places; so that you find yourself instantly fitter for Motion.

IN some Parts of *Asia*, as soon as any one complains of Pains in their Muscles, and Bones, their Friends immediately throw them on the Ground, and kneel on them; at length, by pressing their Muscles, they are sensible of Relief.



I HAVE dwelt the longer on this Head, because I would have *Cold Bathing* grow as universal, as I hope, *Inoculation* in a short Time will do. And now I have mentioned Inoculation, I should think it unpardonable, if I should take no Notice of her Majesty; as a great Promoter and Encourager of this Practice. I believe the World will readily allow me, that her Majesty is as much superior in her Understanding to the Generality of her Sex, as she is superior to them in that Station in which Providence so happily, for Mankind, has placed her. How many are there that are ready to run into any Mode or Fashion, though never so extravagant, if it has but the Sanction of the Great! Let such, on this Occasion, imitate their Queen. Is it possible, they can be solicitous in Matters of a trifling Nature, and shew little or no Regard to what is of infinite Importance to Mankind? Inoculation is as be-



neficial an Invention, in every Refpect, as either this Age, or any of the preceding ones have produced : Yet, what is very furprizing, it meets with little Encouragement from the Ladies. Is Beauty, that arrives to fuch a Perfection in an *English* Climate, of fo little Importance, that it is beneath our Care? What miserable Havock, what terrible Changes has this one Diftemper produced in the moft lovely and amiable Part of the Creation? The Ladies may poffibly fmile to hear a Man of Seventy ufe fuch warm Expreffions, but I will venture to fay with Mr. *Dryden*, That

*Old as I am, for Ladies Love unfit,  
The Power of Beauty I remember yet.* •

I therefore lament the fmall and inconfiderable Progreff which Inoculation has as yet made in *Great Britain*.

As



As to that ridiculous Asperſion ſome People have caſt upon it, by calling it a *Tempting of God*, and bringing Diſeaſes upon our ſelves: This, to a thinking Perſon, muſt appear ſo frivolous, that it ſcarcely deſerves an Answer. Is there one ſingle Paſſage in the whole Sacred Writings, that reſtrains Mankind from anticipating an Evil, by making uſe of the proper Precautions for preventing it? If theſe ſcrupulous Gentlemen, whoſe Conſciences were not always ſo ſtrait-laced, will produce me but one ſingle Inſtance of an abſolute Prohibition from Things of this Nature, I will readily acquieſce, and willingly retract my Error. I beg my Reader's Pardon for ſo long a Digreſſion; but I hope, the Importance of the Subject will ſufficiently atone for it. I can aſſure them, what has been ſaid on this Occaſion, is not from any View  
to



to my own private Interest, but merely out of Regard to the general Good of Mankind.

## BRANNY ITCH, or Pruritus Farinus.

**T**HIS Sort of Eruption is much like Bran, from whence it takes its Name. 'Tis pretty universal, spreading all over the Body and Limbs; but is much easier cured than either of the former.

'Tis cured by the same Method with the Leprosy of the *Greeks*.

ITCH,



## ITCH, or Pruritus.

**T**HIS is the most common of all, very much infesting the Sea-Coasts of *England, Scotland, and Ireland*; and is very contagious. It is caused generally by Filthiness, and feeding much upon Fish. This even the Illiterate allow to be vermicular. In hot Climates I have seen the Vermin moving in the Pustles. The Remedies which are used, undeniably prove the Disease to be very vermicular; for all Mercurial Ointments and Washes, nay, a Quick-silver Girdle, are the common Remedies; and we know nothing that so infallibly destroys Worms as Mercury.

I SHALL now proceed to give a Description of most of the Acute Diseases amongst  
us,



us, as I have done of the Chronic; except a Lethargy, which proceeds from too moist a Brain, and needs no Description.

“ Take one Quart of Spring Water, dissolve in it one Dram of Sublimate, Cream of Tartar, half an Ounce: Wash the Pustles over with this at Night going to Bed: Change your Linnen, and three Nights at farthest, you shall be well. 'Tis necessary at least to purge. I likewise recommend Bleeding.”

## PLAGUE, or Pestis.

I SHALL begin with what the Learned Dr. Willis says of it. *Natura pestis miasmata virulento & spirituali fundatur, a quo Effluvia vaporosa quaque versus diffusa adeo potenter se explicant, ut vel ex minimo seminario*



*seminario feracem mortis & exitii segetem  
cito propagent.*

By this he only designed to describe after what Manner the Infection is conveyed; which seems very reasonable. Take the Description of this Distemper as follows :

It begins as all other Fevers do, with Intermissions of Heat and Cold; the Symptoms are higher than in any other Fever; intense Thirst, violent Vomitings, Pains in the Head, Back, Joints, and all over the Muscles, a total Failure and Prostration of all Strength and Ability; as if there was, as in Reality there is, a general Mortification of all the Fluids ensuing.

THE Appearances, which come on in a few Hours, are what we call Petechiæ, or black Spots; with a Bubo or inflammatory Swelling



Swelling in the Groin, or some other of the Emunctories.

THIS Disease is very soon at a Crisis, in three or four Days at the farthest, but generally sooner.

WHEN I took by Storm the two Cities of *Guaiaguil*, under the Line, in the *South Seas*, it happened, that not long before the Plague had raged amongst them. For our better Security therefore, and keeping our People together, we lay in their Churches; and likewise brought thither the Plunder of the Cities: We were very much annoyed with the Smell of dead Bodies. These Bodies could hardly be said to be buried; for the *Spaniards* abroad use no Coffins, but throw several dead Bodies one upon another, with only a Draw-Board over them; so that 'tis no Wonder we received the Infection.



IN a very few Days after we got on Board, one of the Surgeons came to me to acquaint me, that several of my Men were taken after a violent Manner with that Languor of Spirits, that they were not able to move. I immediately went among them, and, to my great Surprise, soon discerned what was the Matter. In less than forty eight Hours we had in our several Ships one hundred and eighty Men in this miserable Condition.

I ORDERED the Surgeons to bleed them in both Arms, and to go round to them all, with Command to leave them bleeding till all were blooded, and then come and tie them up in their Turns. Thus they lay bleeding and fainting, so long, that I could not conceive they could lose less than an hundred Ounces each Man.

H I F



IF we had lost so great a Number of our People, the poor Remains must infallibly have perished. I began to consider, that the Plague was no more than a Fever of the most exalted Kind; and so *Duro huic nodo durior adhuc cuneus adhibendus*. A Fever we define to be *Aucta sanguinis Fermentatio sanguini & humoribus inducta*. The only Intention of Healing, must be to abate that preternatural Fermentation, and resist Putrefaction, which must be by large Quantities of cooling and diluting Liquors. We had on Board Oil and Spirit of Vitriol sufficient; which I caused to be mixed with Water to the Acidity of a Lemon, and made them drink very freely of it; so that notwithstanding we had one hundred and eighty odd down in this most fatal Distemper, yet we lost no more than seven or eight; and even these owed their Deaths to the strong Liquors which their Mess-Mates procured for them.

THEY



THEY had all Spots, which in the great Plague they call Tokens; few or none of the *Spaniards* escaped Death that had them; but my People had them, and Buboes too.

Now if we had had Recourse to Alexipharmicks, such as Venice Treacle, Diacodium, Mithridate, and such like good-for-nothing Compositions, or the most celebrated *Gascoin's* Powder, or Bezoar, I make no Question at all, considering the Heat of the Climate, but we had lost every Man.

'Tis surprizing to me that Physicians can read so many Authors, and overlook the most reasonable Rules for the Good and Preservation of Mankind, and imbibe Principles, which, were it not for fear of giving Offence, I should say, are contrary to Common Sense; I shall instance in one more remarkable than all the rest.



THE first Axiom that is laid down by *Riverius* in his Theraputic Part of his Institutes, is, *Omnis curandi Methodus a primo hoc & generalissimo principio desumitur, contraria contrariis curantur.*

*GALEN* says, No Rule in the Mathematicks is more certain than this. I have had more than Forty Eight Years Experience to back this Assertion, and in the worst Climates.

READ the Man whose Reason was much superior to mine, the honest and good *Dr. Sydenham*, and see if the Rule above was not his Guide.

*SENNERTUS* also in his Institutes says, *Quicquid curatur curatur contrariis.*

THIS very Rule has been so little regarded, that a Physician of this Town offered to lay



lay Five Hundred Pounds with me, that I did not produce such an Axiom ; but as he grew cooler, he thought better of it. By this it appears, how little Notice is taken of the most useful Rules in the Art of Healing.

IF it should please God to afflict us with this Disease, some Persons must be under no small Concern to procure a sufficient Quantity of Cantharides ; for if it should so happen that People went to their Graves with whole Skins, then the most sovereign Remedy would be omitted. Now this great Catholicon does not only poison and inflame the Fluids, but draws off the purer Part of the Blood ; which is the Serum. By this Practice the Mass becomes more grumous and thick, so that Circulation is impeded, and the Patient suffocated : Whereas, if there was Care taken to dilute and thin the Mass of Blood, Circulation would be much easier maintained, and by this Means prevent Death.



An eminent Physician was asked, How Blistering came so much in Fashion? He answered, They had it from the *Indians*. But I, that have seen more *Indians* than all the Physicians in *England*, deny that the *Indians* ever make use of Blisters. They do often cauterise; and in all Fevers amongst them they cover the Patients over in the Sands, till they are in a profuse Sweat, and then throw them into the cold Water, by which Means they become well.

I SHOULD be glad to know if Dr. *Radcliff* ever used this inhuman Method of Blistering, as it is now in Vogue. I should be glad to know likewise, if there is any Authority from any of our most approved Authors for such a Practice. The honest Dr. *Sydenham* calls Blistering, *Humano corio ludere*. Dr. *Baynard* would say, That as *Belzezebub* signifies a Fly in the *Hebrew* Language, that the Devils were nothing but great Cantharides. We should likewise  
be



be at a Loss for Bezoar, that petrified Matter of Disease cut out of the Paunches, Galls, and Bladders of some of the nastiest Creatures in Being, as Guananoes, a monstrous Beast between a Camel and a He-Goat, black Cattle, Hogs, Goats, and an ugly Animal they call Pacos D'la Tierra, Monkeys, Porcupines, and all such nasty Animals.

OF this I have been credibly informed by Persons of the best Reputation, both in the *East* and *West Indies*.

WE in Dissections too often find in the Galls and Bladders of Human Bodies great Quantities of Stones, which doubtless may as well serve for Bezoar, as the diseased Matter of the afore-mentioned Beasts. They for the most Part dying with these several Sorts of Stones, as by Experience 'tis daily seen we do.



## SPOTTED FEVER, or Febris Pestilentialis.

**T**HIS begins like the Plague, excepting that all the Symptoms are less violent. Intermissions of Heat and Cold, Vomiting, great Pains in the Head, Back, Limbs, Joints, and all the Muscles, intense Thirst. The first Crisis is the Petechiæ, or black Spots. If the Patient survives this fatal Disease, the last Crisis, which we define to be *Subita & repentina mutatio in morbo facta vel ad salutem vel ad mortem divergens*, is seldom before the seventeenth or twenty first Day.

ABOUT thirty seven Years since this Fever raged much in *Bristol*, so that I visited from twenty five to thirty Patients a Day for a considerable Time, besides their poor  
Children



Children taken into their Workhouse, where I engaged myself, for the Encouragement of so good and charitable an Undertaking, to find them Physick, and give them Advice at my own Expence and Trouble for the two first Years. All these poor Children in general had this Fever, yet no more than one died out of the whole Number, which was near two hundred.

I SHALL give a particular Instance of one Person cured in an uncommon Way.

ONE *Thomas Hackett*, an Apprentice to Mr. *John Scandrett* a Grocer in *Wine-Street Bristol*, labouring under this fatal Fever, had a violent Hemorrhage, or Flux of Blood at his Nose, notwithstanding great Quantities of Blood were taken from his Arms, and the most cooling Medicines administer'd which could be thought of; yet all proved ineffectual, insomuch that there was no room to expect his Life. I ordered a large Vessel



fel to be filled below Stairs with Spring Water. He was carried down in a Sheet, and put into the Water; he dipp'd his Head several Times, upon which the Bleeding stopped. I believe he might continue in the Water a Quarter of an Hour; after which Time he was carried to Bed, only covered with a Sheet. He slept well that Night; the Spots all disappeared; he was very well, only weak, and is now living in *Bristol*.

THIS being of a very high inflammatory Nature, it is proper to take away large Quantities of Blood, giving the Purge described in the Gout, every other Day; taking after it the same Night the following Draught.

“ BLACK-Cherry-Water, Mint-Water, of  
 “ each one Ounce and a Half; Plague-  
 “ Water half an Ounce, Diacodium ten  
 “ Drams, made into a Draught. Of the  
 “ Days you do not purge, take the follow-  
 “ ing: Conserve of Wood-Sorrel, of Hips,  
 “ and



“ and Barberries, of each one Ounce ;  
 “ Cream of Tartar, and Tartar vitriolated,  
 “ of each two Drams ; Syrup of Raspberries,  
 “ enough to make it into a fine Electuary.  
 “ Take the Quantity of a Nutmeg at four  
 “ or five in the Afternoon, and at Bed-  
 “ Time, drinking after it a Tea Spoonful  
 “ of *Mynsicht*’s Elixir of Vitriol in a large  
 “ Glass of Water, keeping the Patient very  
 “ cool, and giving large Draughts of cool-  
 “ ing and diluting Liquors.”

## *The* FLUX SMALL POX, or Va- riolæ Confluentes.

THIS Disease was, doubtless, long be-  
 fore the Time of *Hippocrates*, or the  
 Divine old Man, as we call him, and yet  
 ’tis very surprizing he makes no mention  
 of it ; nor have we any *Greek* Word for  
 it.

P

THERE



THERE are three Species of this Disease commonly known to Physicians: The Confluent, Anomalous, and Distinct.

I SHALL venture to set down a Fourth Kind, which I have observed, as different from the three former as they are from each another; and which may be called the Spotted Kind.

I SHALL begin with the most fatal of the three first Sorts, the Confluent Small Pox.

THIS Distemper sets out in the same Manner as other Fevers do, from the Plague to an Ague, Intermissions of Heat and Cold, Vomitings, great Thirst, violent Pains in the Head, Back, &c. But the Physician may be assured where those Lumbago's or Pains in the Back are complained of, let the Fever be of any Kind whatsoever, it certainly



ly carries a Sting with it, though no Man can say what Species of Fever it will be before its first Crisis.

SOON after the Patient is seized with this Sort of the Small Pox, the Face and Hands, and all Parts of the Body shall be very much inflamed, broad red Spots appearing; and the second or third Day, at farthest, there shall begin to appear an entire Blister from Head to Foot, often attended with spitting Blood, bloody Urine, and the like.

ONE would think from the new-invented Way of curing this Distemper by Blistering, (for which no good Reason can be given, nor do I remember any Authority for it,) that this Disease must certainly bring its Remedy with it; for here is a Blister from Head to Foot, and consequently this Confluent Kind of Small Pox ought to be less dangerous than the other two Sorts. But to our great Grief, we find this Sort to be more difficult



difficult to be cured, than either Pestilential Fever or Plague; nor does any acute Disease come up to it for Danger, except the Fourth Sort of Small Pox, of which I shall speak hereafter.

IT will be necessary to take Notice of the critical Days in this fatal Disease. There is little Mention made of any critical Day in this Town but the *Ninth*, which is no critical Day, nor is it possible any just reckoning can be kept by it. Thus while People are ignorant of the Days of Danger, how can Provision be made against them.

THE critical Days we shall venture to say are the eighth, the eleventh, the fourteenth, the seventeenth, and the twenty first, to be thus accounted.

IF you are ill at ten of the Clock at Night, that must be called the first Day, as really it is inclusive.

AND



AND 'tis thus we reckon Tertian and Quartan Agues.

THE Reason why the ninth Day comes to be accounted critical, is from People's reckoning from the Day of Eruption.

Now in Confluent Small Poxes, if the Patient begins to complain at two or three in the Morning, there shall be broad red Spots appear before twelve at Night. 'Tis evident, the critical Days are much protracted by the Crudity of the Matter ; which always happens when it appears so very soon ; and by this Protraction the last critical Day comes to be the twenty first.

'Tis a known Maxim in Physick, *Primæ concoctionis vitium non corrigit secunda* ; and so on.



IN the Anomalous Kind, which is less crude, the fourteenth or seventeenth are the last critical Days; and in the distinct Sort the eleventh.

THIS Account I'll venture to say is a true one; so that the ninth Day has no Place amongst the critical Days. If the Faculty please, it may be called one of the *Dies Indices*.

## ANOMALOUS SMALL POX, *or* Variolæ Anomalæ.

THOUGH my Design is to treat of several acute Diseases; yet there need no farther Description, than that where Symptoms appear high, the Fever will be of a more dangerous Kind; and where they  
are



are more remiss, the ensuing Distemper will be of a more favourable Sort.

THIS Species of Small Pox is distinguished from the other two by its fluxing in some Parts, and being in other very distinct.

THE Physician may be very serviceable to his Patient in this Case, if it be rightly understood, otherwise the Patient often suffers Death. But it must be consider'd, Nature is three Days forming variolous Matter, most Physicians are too apt to be giving heating Medicines to throw it out; by which Means the Fever is very much encreased, which brings on a great Ataxie, or irregular Motion of the animal Spirits, so that all Digestion of the morbid Matter is obstructed, contrary to a known Maxim, *Cocta non cruda sunt medicanda*. So that nothing but Water-Bladders and blue Spots appear, which renders the Patient's Circumstances very deplorable.



It must be Want of Observation that makes Physicians so fearful of Bleeding in this Distemper after the Eruption. The good Dr. *Sydenham* goes no further than *Mittetur sanguis quovis die ante tertium inclusive*, which is but the second Day after their Appearances. But the most excellent *Peter Bayrus* of *Turin*, who wrote about one hundred and ninety Years since, goes further; and I can affirm by Experience, and from the Success I have had, that the Patient may be blooded every, or any Day, to the twenty first.

It is impossible it can pass the Observation of Physicians, and People that usually attend Women in this Species of Small Pox, that about the sixth or seventh Day great Floodings come, especially if it happens in the Flower of their Age: Now all this is arterial Blood, which is the Life and Spirit of Mankind. And this is never  
pre-



prejudicial, where no Endeavours are used to stop it. Nature will neither be forced nor driven, and is often very hard to be led ; but will do Wonders when properly assisted.

Now if so much arterial Blood may be lost without Inconvenience, how much more may be taken by Phlebotomy from the Veins, with the utmost Advantage to the Patient.

THERE is one Thing very material, and which ought principally to be regarded in this Distemper, that about the seventh or eighth Day there comes on a Ptyalism, which is a Salivation, without which the Patient never lives. Children that have it never salivate, but have a Diarrhæa or Looseness, which is much the same in Effect. Where the Physician stops it, he kills the Child ; and how many poor Babes have lost their Lives by this Practice, 'tis terrible to think.



PERMIT me to give an Instance of a Gentleman, who was Steward to the Duke of *Beaufort*, one Mr. *Curr*, he had this Species of Small Pox, no Ptyalism coming on at the usual Time, I gave him Mercury ; but that not answering, and he lying as it were *in Extremis*, I resolved to make a Child of him, and purge him to eight or ten Motions, by which he was so much relieved, that I went on in that Course every Day, till the Danger of his Distemper was over. He is now living in *South Wales*, a Gentleman of 1000 *l. per Annum*.

THIS brings to my Mind a Saying of the great and learned Lord *Verulam*, *non fingendum aut excogitandum, sed invenendum quid natura faciat aut ferat.*

DISTINCT



## DISTINCT SMALL POX, *or* Variolæ Distinctæ.

**T**H E R E wants very little to be said on this Kind of Small Pox. I have heard of several, but never had one that died in this Case: The less is done the better; for having but a few, they are never of a bad Sort, whereas, if you have many, they are never of a good Sort.

## SPOTTED SMALL POX.

**T**H I S Sort begins with very high Symptoms, and appears with large red Spots, much like the Confluent Kind, with the Face and other Parts very much enflamed; yet in twelve Hours the Patient shall



become perfectly pale, the very Middle of those red Spots turning to a black, corney Substance, hardly so big as a large Pin's Head. Of this Sort, in forty odd Years Practice, I have observed no more than five, all Children. I could never carry one to the first critical Day; whereas, in the Confluent Kind they rarely die before.

“ IN this I bleed in large Quantities,  
 “ keeping the Patient very cool, and constantly plying him with Cool Tankards,  
 “ and such diluting Liquors, giving every  
 “ Evening about five of the Clock an Ounce,  
 “ or an Ounce and an half of Diacodium. If  
 “ that does not procure Rest, after three  
 “ Hours I repeat it. I sharpen all his Malt-  
 “ Liquors with Spirit of Vitriol. If it be of  
 “ the Flux or Anomalous Kind, the seventh  
 “ Day I give of Mercurius Dulcis, and Cin-  
 “ nabar of Antimony, of each half a Scruple,  
 “ made into a Bolus, with any Conserve;  
 “ and do the like again the thirteenth Day.  
 “ The



“ The tenth Day you may begin to use the  
 “ following Cordial in small Quantities.

“ TAKE Cowflip-Water, Mint-Water,  
 “ Black-Cherry-Water, of each three Ounces;  
 “ Plague-Water, and Aqua Mirabilis, each  
 “ an Ounce and a half prepared ; Pearl, a  
 “ Dram and a half sweetened with fine Sugar.  
 “ You may sometimes take a Glafs of Wine,  
 “ agreeable to a known Maxim in Phyfick :  
 “ *In declinatione morbi quo magis calefacis*  
 “ *eo magis concoctionem promoves.*

“ WHEN the laſt critical Day is over, I  
 “ bleed to about twelve Ounces, the next  
 “ Day purge with that ſet down in the  
 “ Gout, taking a Quieting Draught of Dia-  
 “ codium at Night when the Purging is over.  
 “ Purging and Bleeding very well after this  
 “ Diſeaſe muſt upon no Account be omitted ;  
 “ otherwiſe the Patient will break out in  
 “ Boils, and will have very fore and weak  
 “ Eyes for a conſiderable Time after.”



WHILST I lived with *Dr. Sydenham*, I had myself the Small Pox, and fell ill on Twelfth-Day. In the Beginning I lost twenty two Ounces of Blood. He gave me a Vomit, but I find by Experience Purging much better. I went abroad, by his Direction, till I was blind, and then took to my Bed. I had no Fire allowed in my Room, my Windows were constantly open, my Bed-Clothes were ordered to be laid no higher than my Waste. He made me take twelve Bottles of Small Beer, acidulated with Spirit of Vitriol, every twenty four Hours. I had of this Anomalous Kind to a very great Degree, yet never lost my Senses one Moment.

THIS Method will serve very well in the Confluent Sort. This you may follow in the Distinct Small Pox, but in a more remiss Degree.

MISS *Corbet* had as high a Confluent Small Pox as ever I saw, making bloody Water,  
and



and the worst Symptoms attending her. Dr. *Mead*, and another Physician, left her, saying, She could not live six Hours. I was called to her; I desired she might instantly be bled. The Right Honourable the Lady *Hotham*, her Mother, sent for a Surgeon, who refused to do it, telling my Lady, That Dr. *Mead* said, That if she was bled she would die instantly. I told the Lady, That *Colours were all the same to the Blind*; I had a *black Man* that bled very well, and sent for him, who performed the Operation: She lost a vast Quantity of Blood. Miss *Corbet* declared afterwards, That upon Bleeding she found her Spirits revived, and, as it were, a new Life coming on; and so it pleased God she recovered.

BUT there is lately a new Species of the Small Pox, called the Honeycomb Small Pox, never known before. The Use of Blisters in this Disease rob the Pustles of the Matter

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contained in them, and then the Pustles, by subsiding, something resemble an Honeycomb: But if Doctors will create new Diseases, 'tis fit they should give them new Names.

## MEASLES, *or* Morbilli.

**T**HIS is a Disease chiefly incident to Youth ; the Pustles never rising above the Superficies of the Skin, unless forced by too heating Medicines, and too hot a Regimen. It generally terminates the fourth or fifth Day, carrying with it little or no Danger, if the Physician be not over busy with his Cordials and forcing Medicines, which only encrease the Fever, and by that Means often endanger the Patient.

I do not remember I ever heard of any one's dying of this Disease, till about twenty five Years since ; but of late, by the Help of  
*Gascoin's*



*Gascoin's* Powder, and Bezoartic Bolusses, together with Blisters, and a hot Regimen, (which, if experienced on a healthy Person, would endanger his Life,) the Blood is so highly inflamed, and the Fever encreased to that Degree, that it is become equally mortal with the Small Pox.

THERE is nothing farther required in the Cure of this Disease, than to give a little Diacodium at Night, allowing a sufficient Quantity of cooling and diluting Liquors.

## SCARLET FEVER, *or* Febris Scarletina.

THIS is a Fever of a milder Kind than the Measles, and does not want the Assistance of a Doctor. The Skin seems to be universally inflamed, but the Inflammation goes off in forty eight Hours.

THERE



THERE is also another Sort of Fever, with Eruption too inconsiderable to make another Chapter. This Distemper, called by some the Swine Pox, by others the Chicken Pox. There is nothing more necessary in these light Fevers with Eruptions, than to purge duely after them.

USE the same Method as in the Measles.

## ERYSIPELAS, or Febris Erysipelatosa.

THIS Fever when in the Face is called St. Anthony's Fire, when in the Body, or Limbs, Erysipelas.

IT appears with a very great Inflammation, where it begins with vast Numbers of  
Water-



Water-Bladders, and is very apt to turn to a Mortification; as it often does, insomuch that the Patient loses his Life. But by proper Remedies, it is very easily cured, and in a few Days.

THIS inflammatory Fever is curable by high Bleeding and frequent Purging. The best topical Remedy is Venice Treacle, which prevents Mortification, and soon destroys the Pustles, or Water-Bladders.

## PERIPNEUMANIE, *or* Peripneumonia.

THIS comes on, as all other Species of Fevers do.

'Tis known by a violent, acute, and poignant Pain all round the Breast and Sides. In short, a general Inflammation of that most sensible



fenfible Membrane, the Pleura, accompanied with a great Difficulty of Breathing, short Cough, Languor of Spirits, and kills in a very few Hours, without profufe Bleeding.

THIS Distemper is incident to all Ages and Sexes, but generally feizes adult Persons.

THE principal Thing required in the Cure of this Disease is Bleeding, which must be followed till all the poignant or shooting Pains are entirely removed.

“ Take Oil of Lillies, Oil of Sweet Al-  
 “ monds, Ointment of Althea, of each  
 “ equal Quantities; rub it into the Parts af-  
 “ fected very well, Morning and Night,  
 “ putting a Sheet of brown Paper over it.  
 “ Take of Melon, Pompion, Gourd-Seed,  
 “ of each half an Ounce, white Poppy-Seeds  
 “ three Drams, ten Jordan Almonds blanch’d;  
 “ bruise these in a Marble Mortar, pour-  
 “ ing on by little and little a Pint and  
 “ half



“ half of Barley-Water. Add a little Sugar,  
 “ and make an Emulfion. Let the Patient  
 “ drink plentifully of this. Take Oil of  
 “ Sweet Almonds two Ounces, of Syrup of  
 “ Violets, and Syrup of Venus Maiden Hair,  
 “ of each one Ounce, Sugar Candy half  
 “ an Ounce, making it as sharp with Spirit  
 “ of Vitriol as a Seville Orange, and make  
 “ a Lambative; take of it often in a Day  
 “ from a Liquorish Stick.”

## PLEURISY, *or* Pleuritis.

**T**HIS may be said to be the half of  
 a Peripneumonie, affecting one Side  
 only; some will have it that it falls only on  
 the Left Side, but it often comes on the Right  
 too. 'Tis an high inflammatory Fever, ac-  
 companied with violent, acute, and pricking  
 Pains, with a short Cough attending it, with  
 which, after a little Time, if the Physician  
 be not ready in bleeding it off, the Patient



spits a bloody and purulent Matter, and is in danger of a Consumption.

THE Cure is the same as in the foregoing Chapter: I never knew any one die of this Disease, but for Want of Bleeding.

### QUINSEY, or Angina.

THIS is one of the most violent and acute Fevers that can befall us. The Learned make not three Species, but rather three Degrees of it. *viz.* Cynanche, Synanche, and Parasyanche. This inflames the Tonfils or Glands about the Throat, as also the Muscles of the Wind-Pipe and Gullet, so that swallowing any Thing is totally obstructed. This Disease yields to nothing but high Bleeding. Many have died in eight Hours after the first Seizure.

THIS



“ THIS Disease requires as high Bleeding  
 “ as any ; you must likewise open both Veins  
 “ under the Tongue. Take Plantane-Water,  
 “ Red-Rose-Water, and Frogs-Spawn-Wa-  
 “ ter, of each three Ounces, the Whites of  
 “ three Eggs beaten to a Water, Syrup of  
 “ Mulberries two Ounces, gargle your  
 “ Throat often with these. Another Gar-  
 “ garism, though this be a very good one,  
 “ I much prefer : Take Spring-Water one  
 “ Pint, Mercury Sublimate half a Dram,  
 “ Cream of Tartar two Drams. Levigate  
 “ these very fine, then filtre it off for your  
 “ Use. Purging is very requisite.”

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RHEU-



## RHEUMATISM, *or* Rheumatismus.

**T**HIS is likewise a high inflammatory Fever; the Blood does not appear more pleuritical or fizy in any Distemper than in this.

THIS for the most part causes great Pains in the Joints; nor are the Muscles free. If it fixes in any Part three or four Days, it often causes small Tumours without Inflammation, which, as the Pains pass to other Parts, soon disappear; for they are never long fixed on any Part; from whence it takes the Name of Arthritis Vaga, or Wandering Gout.

IN the Day-Time these Pains are very tolerable, but when the Patient is warm in Bed, very acute and torturing.

BLEEDING



BLEEDING in this Case is no Remedy; I myself having known very many lose an hundred Ounces of Blood, and more, without the least Relief. The Cure is much easier performed without that Operation, as has been often experienced by several eminent Physicians.

“ TAKE Turbith Mineral eight Grains,  
 “ Conserve of Hipps one Dram; make it  
 “ into an Electuary. Take it about four a  
 “ Clock in the Afternoon; between every  
 “ Motion drink Poffet-Drink. At Bed-Time  
 “ take an Ounce, or an Ounce and half of  
 “ Diacodium; drink plentifully of the Emul-  
 “ sion prescribed in the Peripneumanie.  
 “ The next Night take of the Sweat as pre-  
 “ scribed in the Gout. Immersion in cold  
 “ Water is a Remedy of singular Use.”



## AGUE, or Febris Intermittens.

**I** HAVE observed, That a Consumption was an inflammatory Disease ranged among the Cronicks: An Ague is a nervous Distemper, placed amongst the Acute.

THIS Species of Fever does not proceed from an inflamed Mass of Blood, as all other Fevers do, but from an Ataxie, or violent Motion of the animal Spirits, which causes as great a Degree of Heat, as if the Blood were in the most exalted Fermentation. All Heat being nothing else but the Effect of Motion.

PHYSICIANS have been very much at a Loss to find out the Cause and Seat of this Disease, it being, as was observed before, a nervous Fever. It must proceed from the  
Brain;



Brain; otherwise, how is it possible it should keep its stated Periods, so as to come at the same Hour every Day, every third, and every fourth Day, as it certainly does, reckoning the Days inclusive. Whereas in an inflamed Mass of Blood, the Fever always continues till the Inflammation is wholly taken off, and then the Fever ceases, without any Return.

FARTHERMORE we say, *Ex juvantibus & lædentibus sumitur indicatio*. Bleeding, 'tis plain from every one's Experience, is highly prejudicial in this Case. The Remedy to which this Distemper yields, is the Bark, which is the best Medicine in nervous Cases known to Mankind. Yet the giving such large Quantities of the gross Part, has often done very great Prejudice to the Patient.

THE Virtue of this Vegetable consists in a resinous Quality; which, if separated from



the earthy Part, will prove a Remedy indeed.

It may be wondered with what Difficulty the Use of the Bark was first introduced, and that it should almost be look'd upon at present as a Panacea is, equally surprizing, infomuch that now there is more Harm done by it, than it formerly did Good. The Doctor watching diligently for an Intermiffion ; whereas there's great Difference between Intermiffion and Remiffion ; for as all Fevers have their Times of Exacerbation, fo neceffarily they muft have Times of Remiffion, but none of Intermiffion ; becaufe then the Patient muft be perfectly well and free, as in an intermitting Fever. Too many pay dear for this Miftake.

DOCTOR *Morton*, esteemed a good Phyfician, was a great Admirer of this Medicine, infomuch that he gave it in almost all Cafes.



I never observed it to do any Good, but in nervous Complaints. Physicians and Apothecaries are little acquainted with the Nature of it. In *Peru* they call it *Cascarilla*. It may be doubted if one hundred Weight of it be used in a whole Year throughout that Kingdom, which is more than twenty Times as large as *Great Britain*.

“ TAKE two Ounces of fine Bark grossly  
 “ powdered ; infuse it cold in a Quart of  
 “ Red Port for twenty four Hours ; then  
 “ filtre it off as you use it, taking six Spoon-  
 “ fuls every third or fourth Hour, begin-  
 “ ning just when the Fit is off, till you have  
 “ taken the whole Quart. Thus repeat it  
 “ four Times, and it will not return. This  
 “ must be observed, If it purges, it will do  
 “ no Service. In this Case put two or three  
 “ Drops of Liquid Laudanum into each Dose,  
 “ till the Purging is stopp’d.”



## FEVER on the SPIRITS.

**I**T may be justly said, All Fevers are on the Spirits, and no where else. 'Tis wisely observed this Fever does not appear ; to which may be readily answered, *De non existentibus & de non apparentibus eadem est ratio.*

THIS naturally leads me to take Notice of the Fluids of human Bodies, and I shall leave it to the Opinion of the Reader, in which of them a Fever begins or continues.

Now the Fluids consist of animal, mineral, and vegetable Beings, Alkali's, and Acids, which may be thus accounted, Spirit, Sulphur, Salt, Earth, and Water ; there is no Description to be given of the first of these, unless a negative one, the two second  
are



are Minerals, the other two the joint Cause of Vegetation.

LET the Reader consider, if a due Mixture of the four last are capable of begetting such a Heat in human Bodies, as to cause a Fever without the Intervention of the Spirits, from whence it may reasonably be concluded, all Fevers proceed.

THIS is cured, as in the foregoing Chapter.

## DISEASES of the STOMACH, de Ventriculi affectibus.

ALMOST all Distempers proceed from a Vice in this Bowel ; and it as rarely fails to have its Share in most Disorders liable to human Bodies ; as great Sickness, Pains, Convulsions, which are the usual  
Com-



Complaints the Patient makes when this Part is affected. This seems principally to be caused from Indigestion ; so that the crude Chyle mixing with the other Fluids, soon brings on Putrefaction ; for if the first Digestion be not good, the second never corrects the Vice of the first ; as we say, *Primæ concoctionis vitium non corrigit secunda*, and so on ; so that any Distemper we are liable to, may, and for the most part does proceed from Indigestion.

VOMITING, in the forementioned Disorders, if exploded, would prove beneficial to the Patient ; it being contrary to the Rules of Nature, which has provided, that what is received at the Mouth, should pass to the common Draught : So that Purging seems more reasonable, because by that, the Intestines, as well as the Stomach, are freed from their Filth and Impurities, which Vomits do not so effectually carry off.



THERE is farther this Disadvantage, that the Fibres of the Stomach are drawn from their true Peristaltick, to a contrary Motion, which is too great a Strain for those fine Vessels, by which Means they become lax, and are much weakened; so that the Tone of the Stomach, by too frequent Repetition of this Practice, is wholly lost.

I SHALL forbear to mention the many Instances that may be given of those that have lost their Lives under the Operation of Vomits.

'TIS confess'd, the Doctor many Times gives Satisfaction to the Patient, by shewing the slimy Matter that is brought off the Stomach, upon the Points of Feathers; whereas that Matter is necessary to promote Digestion. Let it be considered, for what End were those little Cells formed in the Crusta Villosa, surely not to be kept empty, neither  
to



to be filled with what's of no Use or Benefit to Mankind.

“ TAKE Salt of Wormwood two Drams,  
 “ Juice of Lemon six Ounces; take a Spoon-  
 “ ful of this every Hour: Or take of Spring  
 “ Water half a Pint, *Mynsicht's* Elixir of  
 “ Vitriol a large Tea Spoonful: Take this  
 “ in the Morning, at Five in the Afternoon,  
 “ and at Bed-Time: Or take *Mynsicht's*  
 “ Tincture of Steel, Elixir Proprietatis, equal  
 “ Quantities; take this in Water, as before,  
 “ but double the Quantity. Crude Mercury,  
 “ taking an Ounce every Day, exceeds all,  
 “ taken in any Vehicle.

## DISEASES of the INTESTINES, de affectibus Intestinorum.

THESE shall be placed in one Chapter, by Reason of the Nearness of their Relation to each other.



THE Duodenum is a Gut so called, from its Mensuration, being almost twelve Inches in Length.

THE Jejunum is so termed, because 'tis rare to find any Excrement in it.

AUTHORS have seldom taken Notice of any Distemper incident to these two Bowels.

THE third is the Ileon, *a circumferendo*. In this Intestine is seated the most painful and dangerous Disease, called the Iliac Passion; and by some, the *Miserere mei*, from the acute Pains it gives the Patient. *Exper-tus loquor*.

It begins with Vomitings, with a great Pain about the Navel; which encreasing, at last the Patient vomits up his Excrements, or any Clister given; and then it is incurable.

THIS does not proceed, as some People will have it, from a Twist in the Intestine



testine, by Reason of the Misfentery adhering to it, but it is caused from an Inversion of the peristaltick or vermicular Motion, which naturally moves downwards. Now, this being turned upwards, the Excrement being carried before it, presses on the Valves of the Intestines, which, together with its being contracted within itself, gives that miserable and intolerable Pain.

THE next of the Intestines, is called the Cœcum or Blind Gut. This hangs more like a Soldier's Knapfack, from the other Intestines; the Excrement passes in and out the same Way; I don't know that it is liable to any Distemper.

AFTER this, comes the Colon, *ab impediendo*; because it hinders the Excrement from passing too quick: Without this Retention of the Excrement, we should be always subject to Diarrhæa's or Loosenesses.

THE



THE Disease, incident to this Intestine, is called Cholera Morbus, the Cholick.

OF this, there are two Kinds: Either Bileous, or Histerical; or when in Men, Hypochondriacal. As their Causes are widely different, so are the Methods of Cure.

THE Rectum, or Streight Gut, in great Weaknesses, is apt to fall down, which we call Procidentia Ani, and is known to every one that has it; and therefore needs no Description.

THE Sphinctre-Muscle is very subject to the Hæmorrhoides or Piles, both within and without, which many Times cause Fistula's in the Part.

DISEASES



## DISEASES of the INTESTINES.

## The Iliac Passion.

**Y**OU need go no further for the Cure of this fatal Disease, than to take a Pound, or a Pound and half of Crude Mercury.

## The CHOLICK.

“ **F**OR the first of these, take Rheubarb,  
 “ Cream of Tartar, Liquorish, Cori-  
 “ ander-Seeds, powder all these very fine ;  
 “ take half a Dram Night and Morning in  
 “ a Glass of Wine : Or take Black-Cherry-  
 “ Water, Mint-Water, of each two Oun-  
 “ ces, strong Cinnamon-Water, Liquid Lau-  
 “ danum twenty Drops ; take this at Night  
 “ going to Bed ; or take the Salt of Worm-  
 “ wood, as prescribed in Diseases of the Sto-  
 “ mach, for the other.”

THE



## The Streight Gut

**I**S often infested with little white flat Worms, called *Ascarides* ; which are destroyed by the following Clyster : Boil Quicksilver in Water in an Earthen Pot for two Hours ; give it by way of Clyster.

THE Case of Miss *Corbett* was so very remarkable, that it made a very great Noise all over the Town, insomuch that the Gentlemen of the Faculty seemed to be much alarmed. The Right Honourable the Lady *Louisa Berkeley* being left off by other Physicians ; and the Right Honourable the Lady *Rachel Mannors*, being likewise left off by her Physicians ; it was agreed on all Hands, that I kept them alive several Days longer than was expected by any Person about them. The Lord *Irwin* died of the Small-Pox, near the same Time ; as did the Duke

L

of



of *Rutland*, and Mr. *Mansel* of a great *Welsh* Family. Great Endeavours were used to saddle me with the Death of these three Gentlemen: It was given out by the Apothecaries, that I had killed all three of them, by introducing a new Method of Practice: Whereas, to the best of my Knowledge, I never saw the Face of either of them.

I NEVER affronted any Apothecary, unless ordering too little Physick, and curing a Patient too soon, is, in their Way of Thinking, an unpardonable Crime. I must confess, I could never bring an Apothecary's Bill to three Pounds, in a Fever: Whereas I have known some of their Bills, in this Disease, amount to forty, fifty, and sixty Pounds. If they can't cure with less Charges, I can't forbear saying, That I have the same Opinion of their Integrity, as I have of their Understanding.

SINCE



SINCE these Gentlemen have been pleas'd to take such Liberties with my Character, I think I have an equal Right, or that at least it will be pardonable in me, if I endeavour to lay open their Iniquities to the World. When I have attended some of my Patients, they have very often given it as a Reason for not seeing me, That I do not prescribe every Time that I visit them ; and have likewise told me, That they learned this Doctrine from the Apothecary, *That 'tis your Writing Physician only, who has a Title to a Fee.* I must own, at first Sight, this carries a very good Face with it, and must naturally create in Patients a great Opinion of the Apothecary, who seems, in this Respect, to act merely out of Regard to their Welfare, and not from any View to the Doctor's Interest, or his own. But to me, it appears very plainly a Deceit, however plausible to others ; and, to make it clear to you, only consider, that if the Physician writes, it must be ten or



twelve Shillings at least in the Apothecary's Way; and for my Part, I don't look upon this to be at all better than picking one Man's Pocket, to put Money into another's.

Now, I appeal to each unprejudiced Reader, Whether, if a Physician must be compelled to vary his Prescriptions, when there is no Occasion for it, he is not consequently left under the greatest Uncertainty, and incapable of judging what may, or may not be of Benefit to his Patient? So that if such a Practice does not prove fatal to the Patient, he runs at least a very great Hazard of his Life.

'Tis my Opinion, the less Apothecaries Gains are, the better the Patients may afford to see their Doctor. I know very well, I am no sooner called to a Patient, but it is reported immediately he is dead, and I have killed him; as in the Case of Sir *John Blunt*, very lately, who was struck with the Dead Palfey:



Palsy : However, in four Days, his Senses were perfectly restored to him ; and in twelve Days, he had the same Motion, Life, and Sensation, on that Side which was struck, as on the Side that was not affected.

IF by what I have said, I have disoblighd all the Apothecaries in the Kingdom, I have not many more Enemies amongst them, than I had before. If it should be asked now, What was the original Grounds of their Dislike to me, I can give no other Reason, than my being always inviolably attached to the Interest and Welfare of my Patient, and entirely regardless of these Gentlemens unwarrantable Gains.

IF after all that has been said, I am still to be recommended by Apothecaries, and must depend entirely upon their good Word, I can assure the World, I shall soon retire ; where none, except the Poor, will have any Assistance from me.



I AM very sensible, my Method in curing Fevers, is much exploded, because I act quite contrary to the common Practice. I happened to live in *Gloucestershire*, in the Years 1728 and 1729; when a very fatal Epidemical Fever raged to such a Degree, as to sweep off whole Families, nay, almost whole Villages. I was called to several Houses, where eight or nine Persons were down at a Time; and yet did not so much as lose one Patient where I was concerned. I defy the Malice of my most implacable Enemies to make it appear, that in my ten Years last Practice, I have lost twelve Patients in all Kinds of Fevers put together.

THE Case of *John-Dineley Goodeere* Esq; of *Charlton* in *Worcestershire*, near *Evesham*, was very remarkable: Some Years ago, when he was in *London*, he was seized with a violent Fever: He was unwilling that *Sir Edward Goodeere*, his Father, who was in  
Town



Town at the same Time, should know any Thing of it; so that he was, as it were, *in Extremis* before his Father was acquainted with it. He ordered me immediately to be called to his Son; whose Eyes were set in his Head, his Jaw fallen, his Tongue directly black and hard, his Face as black as an *Indian*, with round Drops upon it as big as Pease or Pulse. The Apothecary being present, I asked him if he bled. He told me, Yes; and accordingly got every Thing in order for it. I bid him take Care to make a large Orifice, which he did. He asked me how much Blood he must take away. I answered I could not tell. He said he had taken off twelve Ounces. I said, Let the Patient bleed on. The Apothecary now told me he had drawn twenty Ounces. Then I discerned something of a Pulse coming on in my Patient. In the Conclusion, he bled to forty-eight or fifty Ounces. The Sweat went off, and his Face came to its Colour. Whilst he was bleeding, I got a cool Tankard of Rhenish Wine,

L 4

Water,



Water, and Lemon, which held near three Quarts : I raised him upon his Pillow, and gave him about a Pint-Glassful ; and immediately after he began to move his Eyes, and close his Jaws. In a very short Time after, I gave him a Couple of Glasses more. He then fixed his Eyes hard upon me, put his Hand out to me, and said, *Is it you, my dear Friend?* I asked him, *If he could drink.* He answered, *The Ocean.* I made those about him rub his Head with dry Clothes, and then asked how he found himself. He answered, In a strange confused Condition. In one Hour, or thereabouts, he flung the Clothes off the Bed, put his Feet in his Slippers, called for his Night-Gown, walked to the other Side of the Room, set himself down in a two-armed Chair, *Now, my dear Friend,* (says he,) *we will have one Flask of Claret together.* I told him, I would drink a Flask of Claret ; but that he must stick to his Cool Tankard.



THE next Morning, when I came to wait on him, he was down in the Stable amongst his Horses, without a Cap, having nothing on but his Night-Gown and Slippers. I asked him, *How he did?* He said, *Never better in all his Life.* This was in the Month of *March.* Now, this is termed a desperate Way of Practice. But then, they who condemn it, should give an Instance of any one I have lost by such Methods.

THERE is nothing more certain, than that the whole Animal Creation is liable to divers Kinds of Diseases ; and it is as certain, that the Almighty Goodness has afforded Animals such Appetitions of Nature, or Instinct, that we daily see they have Recourse to such Remedies, whereby they recover their Health. Birds resort to their several Sorts of Castings, when their Stomachs are depraved ; in Fevers, to Cold-Bathing ; or when they have gorged themselves with too much Food,



Food, then to their Weatherings on the Tops of high Trees. Let but a Lady's Lap-Dog go out in the Fields, he shall search every where to find out the *Gramen Caninum*, or *Dogs-Grass*; of which he shall eat, till he both vomits and purges. As for the Reptilia, those small Animals, there is no doubt to be made, but they have also their Remedies. Now, by our Treatment of the several Diseases incident to us, it seems as if Providence had exempted us from this great Benefit afforded to the subordinate Creatures. If we have a Fever, we must be kept close, and ply'd with the most heating Remedies; be deny'd cooling and diluting Liquors, and every Thing else that we call for with the greatest Earnestness. This is contradicting the Rules of Nature, and most certainly wrong. Right Reason, and the Rules of Nature, will eternally tally.

I AM credibly informed, The most learned and ingenious Doctor *Boerhaave*, in all Fevers



vers bleeds plentifully, gives Air to his Patients immediately, tears off all Blisters, and indulges the sick Person with all manner of cooling and diluting Liquors.

THE Remedies that have been prescribed for the several Distempers mentioned in this Treatise, may, with God's Blessing upon them, be depended on as very efficacious in the Cure of each particular Disease ; unless a Person has a Complication of Distempers upon him at once. But I must give the Reader one Caution, That there is a great Difference in the several Constitutions of Mankind ; and therefore it must be left to every Man's Discretion, as to the Quantity he is to take of each of these Medicines.

I HAVE gone through most of the Distempers common to the Climate we live in ; and have shewn, at the same Time, what is the most likely Method of curing them ; and hope, that as to the Plainness of my Style, and making the Descriptions intelligible, I have  
J been



been as good as my Promise made in the Beginning of this Treatise.

I do not seek for Applause from this Performance, especially from the Gentlemen of the Faculty, being sensible how many great and powerful Enemies I have amongst them: Who, as they have done all they could hitherto to discredit my Practice, so probably will take Occasion from the Publication of these Sheets, to improve their Invectives and Resentments against me. But as Custom has made ill Usage familiar to me, I think I am prepared for any future Calumny. In the mean Time I would caution unwary People against one Thing; which is, Not to mistake every Graduate for a Physician, nor a Clan of prejudiced Gentlemen for Oracles. Experience is all in all; and I will venture to say some Experience has fallen to my Share, having fought it in other Places besides the Shops of Apothecaries, or the Colleges of Physicians.

POST



# POSTSCRIPT.

**H**AVING omitted the following Letter from *Anthony Balam Esq*; in *Great-Russel-Street*, which I designed to have inserted when I was speaking of *Quick-silver*, I shall give it my Readers in this Place.

*London, 15 April, 1732.*

*S I R,*

“ **Y**OU have always undoubtedly great  
 “ Satisfaction in hearing Success at-  
 “ tends your Advice, especially in obstinate  
 “ Chronic Cases, which have long baffled  
 “ the Power of Physick.

“ I therefore think myself indispensibly  
 “ obliged to give you that Pleasure, so  
 “ much  
 J



“ much your Due, in reciting the Effects of  
 “ your Prescription.

“ You will, I am sure, excuse me from  
 “ the difficult Attempt of explaining my  
 “ Case; which, were I able to execute,  
 “ would be needless to you, who are so well  
 “ acquainted with it. Let it therefore suf-  
 “ fice to say, That my Asthma has been  
 “ from my Infancy, and at different Times  
 “ has afflicted me under all the various  
 “ Shapes that Distemper exhibits in all the  
 “ Patients I ever yet conversed with, and  
 “ that I never found any very sensible Relief  
 “ from Physick. Some Time in *December*  
 “ last was Twelve-Months you advised me  
 “ to take Quicksilver; I happily resolved  
 “ to follow this Advice, and immediately  
 “ found great Relief. Other Disorders, af-  
 “ ter some Time using it, intervening, oc-  
 “ casioned some Interruptions in my Course;  
 “ and from *June* till *October*, being in the  
 “ Country, I quite forbore the Use of it;  
 “ but



“ but at that Time I again began taking it an  
 “ Ounce *per* Day, and hath hitherto con-  
 “ tinued it with very few Intermiſſions: The  
 “ Conſequence of which is, that from the firſt  
 “ Time of taking it, to this Inſtant, I never  
 “ had any violent Fit; and during all the  
 “ laſt Winter I have not been confined other-  
 “ wiſe than through Precaution, to avoid  
 “ the Inclemencies of very bad Weather, or  
 “ upon ſlight Attacks, when Reſt is always  
 “ preferable to any the leaſt Motion. My  
 “ Complaints, though very greatly dimi-  
 “ niſhed, I cannot ſay are abſolutely re-  
 “ moved; I have had frequent Symptoms  
 “ threatening me, and eſpecially this Spring;  
 “ the Variableneſs of the Weather being  
 “ always a great Enemy to me. But hap-  
 “ py in a high Degree is my preſent Con-  
 “ dition, when compared with my former.  
 “ To you I am indebted for this Happineſs;  
 “ and I ſhall be always ready to make ſuch  
 “ Acknowledgments of it, as the moſt grate-  
 “ ful Senſe can inſpire.

“ IF



“ IF you think my Name may do any Ser-  
 “ vice in encouraging other Sufferers to try  
 “ a Remedy, which, by my Experience  
 “ in a long Use, proves not only very inno-  
 “ cent of the Charge of bringing on other  
 “ bad Consequences, but likewise the sole  
 “ efficacious one in this lamentable Disorder,  
 “ you are very welcome to make such Use  
 “ of it as you may think proper.

“ I HAVE the Liberty to mention another  
 “ Gentleman's Name, who, through my  
 “ Means, and by Encouragement from me,  
 “ has reaped a much greater Advantage  
 “ from your Advice than myself. Mr. *More*,  
 “ who lives at *Epsom*, has been troubled  
 “ from his Infancy with an Asthma in an  
 “ extream Degree: About last *February* was  
 “ Twelve-Month he began the Use of  
 “ Quicksilver: He has taken it ever since  
 “ with very few Intermissions: He has  
 “ from



“ from that Time had but two small Fits;  
 “ the last was in *August* past, and was the  
 “ least of the two: Since that Time he has  
 “ not had one Asthmatick Symptom; and  
 “ from not being able scarcely ever to walk,  
 “ he has, for his Diverſion, walked from  
 “ *London* to *Epsom*.

“ I wish you may soon produce so many  
 “ other Examples of such Cures, as may  
 “ overcome all Prejudices and groundless  
 “ Fears, and propagate the merited Credit  
 “ of so salutiferous a Remedy. I am,

SIR,

*Your most obliged*

*And very humble Servant,*

TO DR. DOVER.

ANTHONY BALAM.



( 22 )

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N. B. HAVING taken Notice of some Errors in the Practice of other Physicians, I shall frankly acknowledge one in my own: I have hitherto been too zealous in recommending one particular Apothecary; but am resolved, for the future, to let all my Patients make use of any Apothecary they like best; which, I think, is but doing Justice to the Gentlemen of that Profession.

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E R R A T U M.

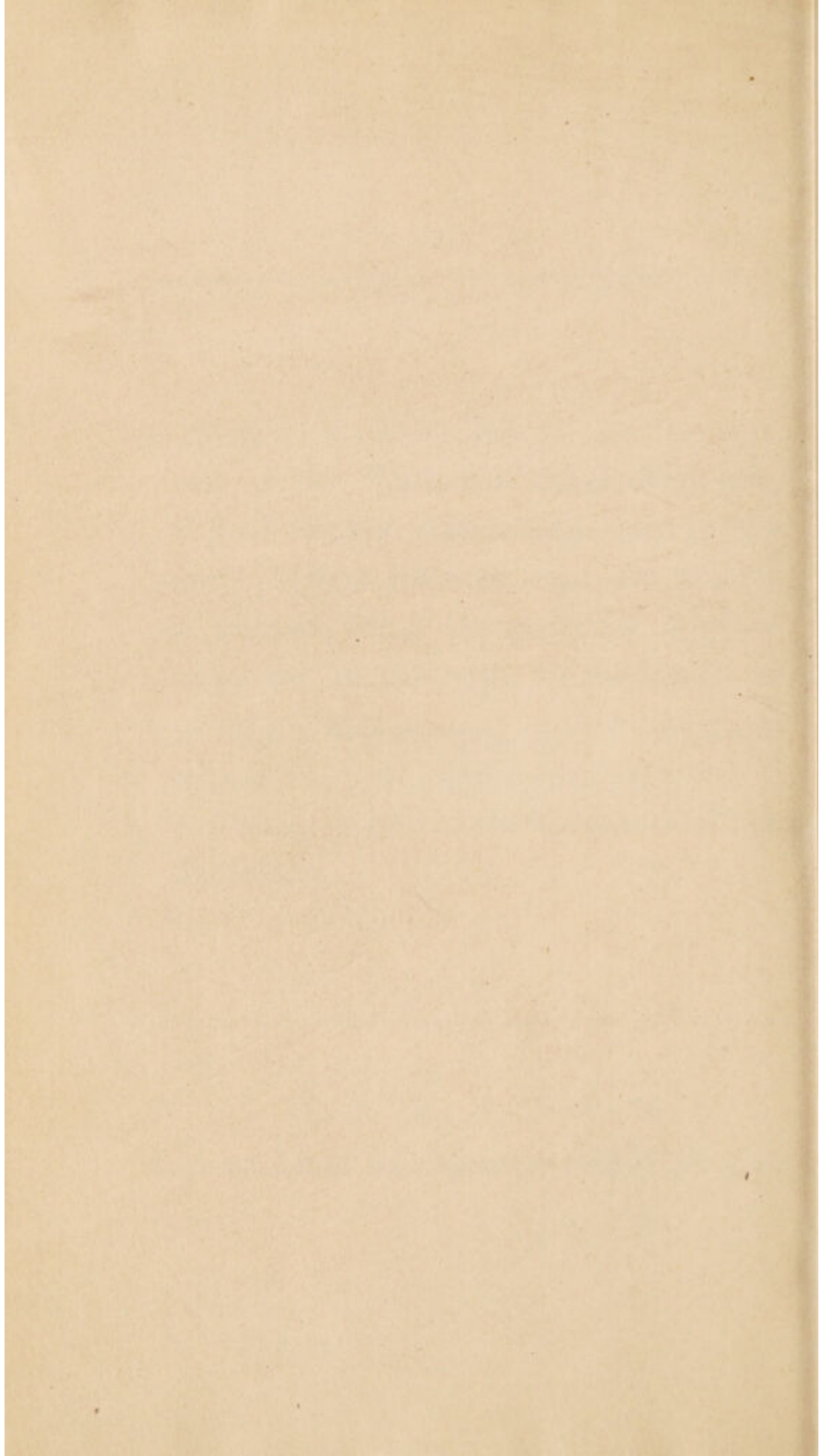
Page 93. Line 6. for *Diacodium*, read *Diascordium*.

ANTHONY BALEM.











Pulv. Specie Co. p. 18

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Ingout.



