

**The virtues of cinnabar and musk, against the bite of a mad dog, illustrated, in a letter to Sir George Cobb ... With a word or two concerning Dr. Henry Bracken's newly discovered specific, of near eighteen hundred years standing ... goose-grease / [Joseph Dalby].**

### **Contributors**

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Bracken, Henry, 1697-1764.

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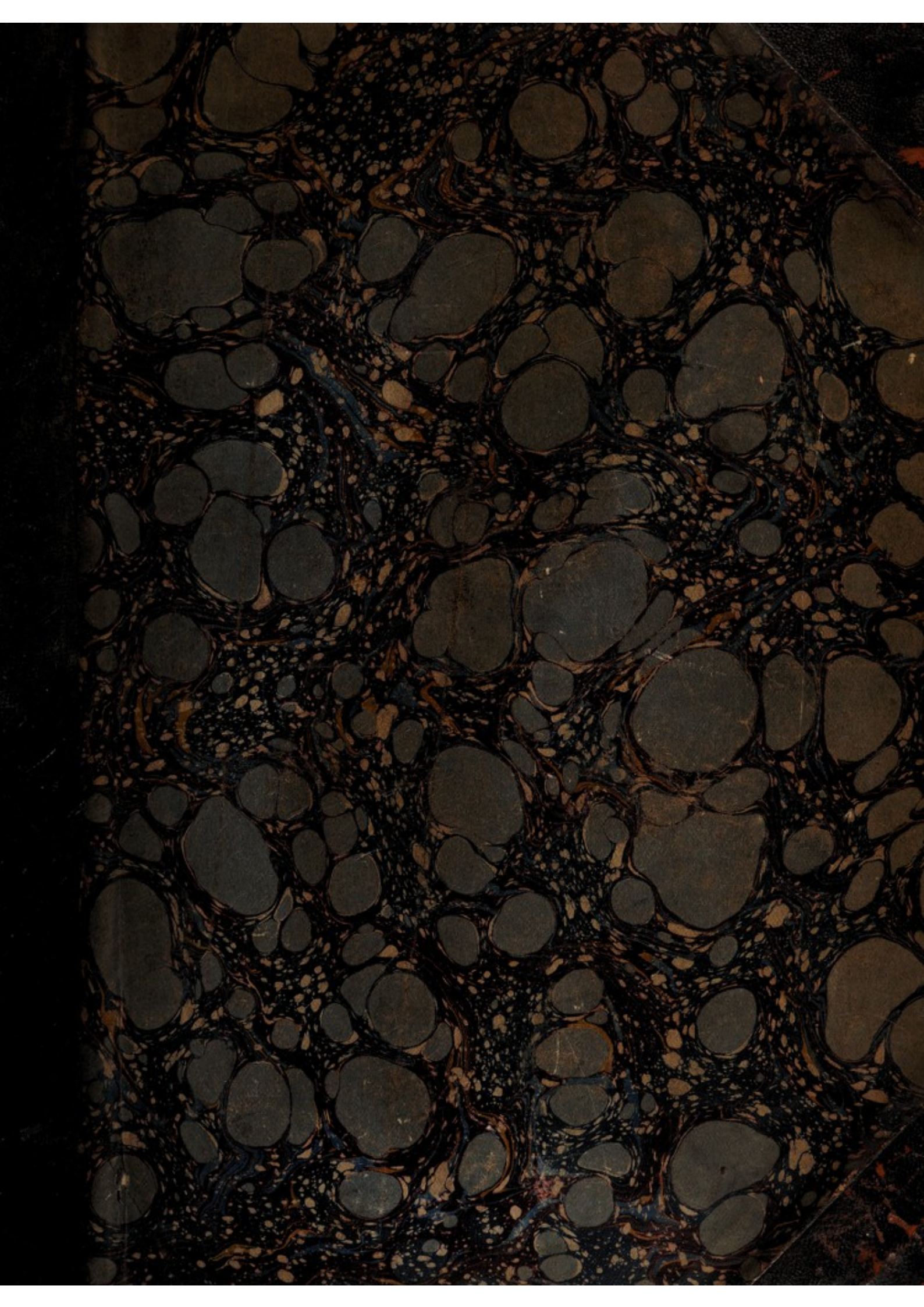
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*Clive Pambertist, Chimique*







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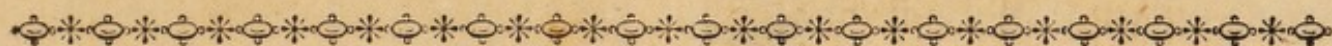
THE V I R T U E S  
O F  
CINNABAR AND MUSK,  
Against the B I T E of a  
M A D D O G,  
I L L U S T R A T E D,

In a Letter to Sir *G E O R G E C O B B*, Baronet:

In which are recited upwards of a hundred Cases, wherein this Medicine hath happily succeeded: (whereof two were after the *Hydrophobia* appeared;) together with some few Instances wherein it hath not succeeded; owing entirely to its not being properly given, as is proved to Demonstration: with proper Directions whereby to avoid the like Disappointment for the Future.

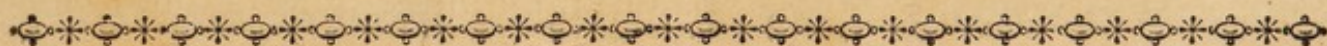
W I T H A W O R D O R T W O

Concerning Dr. *H E N R Y B R A C K E N*'s newly discovered *Specifick*, of near eighteen hundred Years standing; being a sufficient Refutation of the flimsy Arguments advanced by this celebrated Writer, in a learned Rant on the Virtues of *Goose-grease*.



By *J O S E P H D A L B Y*, Surgeon.

*Causa latet, vis est notissima.*



*B I R M I N G H A M*;

Printed by *J O H N B A S K E R V I L L E*, for the Author:

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M D C C L X I V.



## ADVERTISEMENT.

The following Sheets being wholly intended for the public Good, it was thought but common Justice to address them to Sir GEORGE COBB, to whom we are indebted for the Knowledge of the *Tonquin* Medicine, against the Bite of a *Mad Dog*; but the Demise of that Gentleman happening while the Papers were in the Press, it is hoped the Author may be excused the unnecessary Trouble and Expence of altering them.





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T O

Sir G E O R G E C O B B, Baronet.

S I R,

THE State of *Physick*, as of *Empires*, hath undergone many and various Revolutions; like them too hath sometimes improved but little from Innovations; though perhaps its Origin may be less dark, and its History better preserved, than those of many Empires of a later Date.

THE many Diseases Human Nature is liable to, strongly suggested the Necessity of seeking after Means for Relief; insomuch that HERODOTUS tells us, the more ancient *Egyptians* were wont to bring out their Sick and lay them in the Streets, and by the Sides of the public Roads, imploring all that passed by to look on them, and tell them if they knew of any Thing that had been helpful to others in a similar Case.

THE general Expectation of Success was poorly answered by these means; and the Futility of a Method so very vague and uncertain, appeared from the slow Progress made thereby in the healing Art. This induced the *Egyptian* and *Greek* Priests to take upon them the Culture of a Science much wanted, because it was but little known in the World: and whenever the salutary Effects of any Drug were discovered, they recorded the Case, wherein it had succeeded, with the utmost Accuracy and Care. And in so high an Estimation were their Discoveries held by them, that they always laid up these Volumes in the *Ἀδύλον*, or secret Part of their Temples, into which none besides the Priests were suffered to enter, and where they had Recourse to them on all Occasions.\*

B 2

THUS

\* See Willis's Diat. Pharm. S. I. p. 1.



THUS by the Humanity of these Men, by their frequent Practice and diligent Observations, great Improvements were, in Time, made in this most useful Science. The *Therapeutick* Art became respected, and the Empyrical Practice was, by the unwearied Pains of the divine HIPPOCRATES, at length brought to a regular System. To His unrivalled Genius we are obliged for a most accurate Description of Diseases, their several Symptoms, and Methods of Cure: and if, in some few Instances, his Successors find he was mistaken, the very great Difference of the *Climate* in which he lived, compared with that of this Island, and the early Age wherein he wrote considered, it is rather to be wondered at that his *Errors* were not by far more numerous, and his *Discoveries* less important than they are found to be. To him we are indebted for a Plan that has been the Basis of sound Practice throughout all succeeding Ages, and will, no Doubt, remain unshaken to the End of Time. To a HARVEY we owe the Discovery of the Circulation of the Blood: to the Fathers in *Peru* the Use of the *Vegetable* Specifick: to You Sir, the Use of *another* Specifick, of inestimable Value, in a Case, of all others, the most deplorable and dangerous; which, by your pious Concern, for the Preservation of Mankind, was transplanted from an ingenious Nation in the most remote Quarter of the Globe, and generously made publick for the Benefit of a People, who, notwithstanding they can boast a BOYLE, a SYDENHAM, a MEAD, a HUXHAM, together with many other ingenious and learned Gentlemen, that, at this Day, do Honour to their Country and add Dignity to their Profession, might yet have wanted a sure and certain Antidote to so malignant a Poison: a *Poison* of which the renowned BOERHAVE so lately declared, that in the whole *Prophylactick* Class, scarcely any Medicine could be relied on to prevent its destructive Effects; and heartily lamented, that, from all the Efforts which had been made throughout all Ages, there was no well authenticated Instance, of any one Person recovering, that was actually *Rabid* and *Hydrophobous*.

IT would be a fruitless as well as tedious Attempt, to recount the many various Remedies that have been, and daily are obtruded  
on



on the World, as *certain Cures*, for the Bite of a *Mad Dog*, few whereof are worthy of the least Notice; for, like other Murderers, as soon as they have been tried, they are generally condemned.

Dr. MEAD'S *Pulvis Antilyffus* has had its Day, and deserves a Place in the first Class of *Prophylacticks*; though perhaps, Sir, 'till you taught us the Use of *CINNABAR* and *MUSK*, no preventive Medicine was ever given with greater Success than a Composition in Dr. BATES'S Dispensatory, entitled *Decoction ad Morsum Canis Rabidi*; which is, with small Variation, the Medicine whereof Sir THEODORE MAYERNE writes, *Hoc Remedium nunquam me fefellit*. It is likewise the same Medicine, that, of late Years, hath frequently been published in almost every *News-Paper* in the Kingdom, and is therein said to have been taken from *Calthorpe Church* in *Lincolnshire*; in which Parish a *Mad Dog* having bitten great Numbers of the Inhabitants, most of them took the *Decoction*, and did well; those who did not take it, died *Mad*; in Remembrance whereof, they agreed to record this Instance of the Blessing of the Divine Providence, on the Medicine, by publishing the Case, with the Receipt annexed, in some conspicuous Part of the Church.

THIS Medicine hath also been esteemed a great Secret, in many private Families, in different Parts of the Kingdom; and though it may not be infallible, yet it must be acknowledged that much Good hath been done by it. But of late, this, as well as all other Medicines of inferior Note, begin to give way to the matchless Power of the *CINNABARS* and *MUSK*.

HAD Dr. BOERHAVE lived but a few Years longer, he would have found those Hopes that had long been sunk in Despair, emerging in Success. The *Therapeutick* Power of the *CINNABARS* and *MUSK* appeared in the Case of *Elizabeth Bryant* of *Bath*; who, on the 24th of *June* 1751, was bit by a *Mad Dog*, had the *Hydrophobia*,\* and was happily cured, by this incomparable Medicine, given by the judicious Directions of Dr. CHRISTOPHER NUGENT; who, in an ingenious and learned Treatise, entitled *an Essay on the Hydrophobia*, hath

\* This young Woman being unable to endure the Sight or Approach of Water, took her Medicines mixed up in the Form of Bolus's, with Honey.



hath fully and faithfully related the Case, with every Symptom thereof, as it occurred, “from its first Rise to its final Defeat.”

THE Advances made, by this learned Gentleman, in exploring the Genius of this tragical Disease, render it greatly to be wished, that so useful a Treatise, (wherein is contained a most singular and interesting Case, judiciously treated and ending with Success) had a Place in every Parish-chest in the Kingdom; or, it may rather be thought strange that it is not to be found in every Closet. But however expedient such a Measure may be, for the propagating and establishing the most useful Branch of Practice in the World, while Facts give Place to Faction, and Scepticism and Obstinacy so often dispute the clearest Proof; while Enthusiasts recommend and Fools adopt every absurd unmeaning Farrago; while Men continue to set an exaggerated ideal Value on Things they want, and to despise or slight the greatest Blessings as soon as they are possessed of them, it is to be feared that this, like other Pearls of great Value, may be some by rejected, and Things of little Worth preferred before it.

Dr. HILLARY gives many Instances of the *Prophylactick* Power of this invaluable Medicine: particularly in one Family, in *Barbadoes*, three *Whites* and seven *Negroes* were bitten by a *Mad Dog*. One of the *Whites*, a Woman, died *Hydrophobous*, about a Month after the Accident; whereupon the two surviving *Whites* and five of the *Negroes* had the *CINNABARS* and *MUSK* given them, and all did well: The two other *Negroes*, being alien Property, had no Medicines given them, nor any Care taken of them, shocking Inhumanity! and both died *Rabid* and *Hydrophobous*, about two Months after the Death of the Woman.

THE same learned Gentleman also says, that thirteen *Negroes*, Servants in another Family, were all bitten by a *Mad Dog*, when he was in the last Stage of the Disease, all of them took the *CINNABARS* and *MUSK* by his Directions, and every one escaped the *Hydrophobia*: and that he had given the same Medicine to many others with the happiest Success. He adds; “neither  
“have I ever yet seen any, who have pursued this Method regularly,  
“that have ever had the least Appearance of this Disease after-  
“wards;



“wards; which induces me to recommend this Method of *Prophylactic* Cure to others.”

PERMIT me, Sir, to lay before You a few Instances of its Success, which have occurred to me in my own Practice; and I flatter myself I shall the more readily be excused, since the only Gratification your Humanity expects for making it publick, is to see it prove more beneficial to Mankind, in this melancholy Disease, than any Thing, yet known, in the *Materia Medica*; and herein you have already seen your Wishes happily accomplished, in the Recovery of a Person actually *Rabid*, and under the *Dread* of Water. And since there are many more Instances of its succeeding, after Symptoms of *Madness* have begun to appear, one would think that Men should want no other Inducement to use this Medicine than a general Knowledge of its superior Virtues; seeing that of the whole Tribe of Specificks which have been fondly recommended, by their several Admirers, as *infallible*, not one among them all, pretends to celebrate their Virtues in a higher Degree, than by recommending them as Preventives of *Madness*; well knowing their Inability to heal after the *Dread* of Water comes on.

THE latter End of the Year 1746, *Thomas Estcourt Cresswell Esq*; of *Pinkney*, in the County of Wilts, gave me the Prescription for making the *Tonquin* Medicine, as the *CINNABARS* and *MUSK* are frequently called by some People; and at the same Time, passed the highest Eulogium on its Virtues. I had no Opportunity of trying it till the next Summer, when the same Gentleman sent to me for ten Doses, a *Mad Dog* having bitten several of his *Pointers* and *Spaniels*, while he was in *London*. They were, all of them, sent to the *Sea*, and dipped; and one of them went *mad* soon after, and bit the Butler; and most of the Dogs about the House; one of which was badly torn in the Head. The Servant went immediately to the *Sea*, and at the same Time all the Dogs, to the Amount of fourteen or fifteen, were sent and dipped again. On their Return, one of them went *mad* and died; the rest were imprudently shut up together in an old Barn. Not many Days after another Dog went  
*mad,*



*mad*, and was shot, by the Keeper, through a Hole in the Door. Within a short Time two more, five in all, successively shared the same Fate.

Mr. CRESSWELL returning about the Time that the last Dog went *mad*, and finding no immediate Symptoms of *Madness* among those that survived, though it is more than probable that they were all bitten many Times, gave a Dose of *CINNABAR* and *MUSK* to each of them, as soon as it could be got ready; and ordered that they should be kept apart and tied up. The Dog that was bit in the Head had two Doses the first Day, the Waterman that dipped them having declared ‘,that he would certainly go mad,\*’ whatever Means might be used to prevent it. The Butler likewise, for the greater Security, had two Doses the first Day; and at the Expiration of thirty Days, he, and each of the Dogs, had another Dose, and all did well; not one, among them all, discovering the least Symptom of *Madness* after this Medicine was first administered.

THE like Havock was made, some Years ago, in the late Duke of Marlborough’s Pack of Hounds; a *Mad Dog* having bitten several of them, which from Time to Time went *mad*, and died. To prevent therefore the dangerous Effects of this growing Mischief (it being beyond a Doubt that many of the Dogs were bitten, if not the whole Pack, and some perhaps more than once) each Dog had a Dose of *CINNABAR* and *MUSK*; which, being duly repeated, effectually put a Stop to the Progress of this destructive Malady; no Dog discovering the least Symptom of *Madness* after the *Tonquin* Specifick was made use of.

ON the 14th of *June* 1748, Mr. *Daniel Hughes*, a Farmer of *Sherston*, Tenant to Mr. *Cresswell*, had three Pigs bitten by a *Mad Dog*, who sent them immediately to be dipped in the *Sea*. The next Day he applied to me for the *MUSK* Medicine, for two of them only; the

\* It is a vulgar Errour, universally prevailing, among the common People, that Bites in the Head, from *mad* Animals, are absolutely fatal, and therefore some of them destroy their Cattle instantly, without trying any Means for their Recovery. The Power of *CINNABAR* and *MUSK*, in this, and some other Cases, hereafter mentioned, abundantly proves the Absurdity of such premature Conclusions.



the third being so slightly bitten,\* that the Wound was scarce discernible, he said he would entirely rely on the dipping, the Pig being of little Value, and the Medicine expensive.

THE two Pigs that took the Medicine were torn pretty much, and one of them was bit in his Side, and in several Places in his Head, one Ear being almost torn off: wherefore I ordered a second Dose to be given, within an Hour or two after the first; and at the End of thirty Days, from the Time of the Bite, a third Dose was given to each. The Event was; those that took the Medicine did well; the Pig to which it was not given died *mad*, near two Months after the Bite was inflicted, notwithstanding its being dipped in the *Sea*, or however *slight* the Injury that occasioned it.

FROM this Time 'till Midsummer 1751, I gave the *CINNABARS* and *MUSK* to many; more than twenty of different Species. In one Family,† four Servants, six Dogs, and a Horse were bitten by a *Mad Dog*, and two other Servants received some of the Foam of the Dog upon their Hands. The six Servants, the Horse, and all the Dogs took the Medicine, and all did well. The diseased Dog being a Favourite in the Family, was the Occasion of so many being bitten, or otherwise in Danger.

SOME Time in the succeeding Summer, Mr, *James Lea*, a Farmer at *Charlton*, Tenant to the Earl of *Suffolk*, applied to me for a Medicine for a Sow that had been bit by a *Mad Dog*, in two or three Places in the Head, eight Days before. I put up two Doses, with thirty Grains of each of the *CINNABARS*, and twenty Grains of *MUSK*, in each; which were formed into two Balls, with Butter; one of which was given immediately upon his Return Home, the other four or five Hours after. I also recommended a more frequent Repetition of them, in regard that it was, as hath been said above, the *ninth* Day from the Time of the Accident; and the Wounds were in the Head. But the Expense of the *MUSK* was objected, and no more was given till the 30th Day,

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when

\* The illustrious Dr. HUXHAM observes (see his Essay on Fevers p. 103) that a *small* Wound, made by the Teeth of a *Mad Dog*, is generally found worse than a large lacerated one, because *this* gives a more free Vent again to the Poison.

† The late Right Honourable and Reverend GEORGE Lord Viscount *Irwin*.



when the Dose was repeated: six Weeks after which the Sow brought forth a large Farrow of Pigs, suckled, and brought them up, and the ensuing Year, being in perfect Health, was fatted and killed for Bacon.—The Beast being large, accounts for my increasing the Quantity of each Ingredient.

FROM this Time, till the 2d of *November* following, three People, that had been bitten near the extreme Parts, applied to me for the *MUSK* Medicine. They all took it, and all did well. But, as there was nothing remarkable in either of their Cases, nor any infallible Criterion whereby to determine that the Dogs which bit them were actually *mad*, I shall proceed to relate the Case of a large Crop-eared *Dane Dog*, belonging to WILLIAM EARLE Esq; of this Town; which, on the Day abovementioned, was bitten, by a *Mad Dog*, through the upper Lip, and deeply in the Trunk of one of his Ears. On the 4th a Dose of the *CINNABARS* and *MUSK* was given him, in the Proportions directed, for a Man, *viz.*

*Of Native and Facitious CINNABAR, finely levigated, each twenty four Grains, Pure MUSK rubbed to a very fine Powder, sixteen Grains.*

THESE Powders, being well mixed together, in a Mortar, after they had been prepared separately, *as they always must\* be*, were formed into a Ball, about the Size of a Nutmeg, with a small Portion of Butter, and given in the following Manner. A small Rope with a Loop at one End, was passed through the Dog's Mouth, beyond the *Tusks* or *Holders*, and brought over the upper Jaw, where being drawn tight, by the Noose, and the other End passed over a Pully, fixed to the Beam, the Dog was thereby suspended. The Dose being placed at the Edge of a Drenching-horn, (in which was a Spoonful of lukewarm Milk) was, without difficulty, conveyed down his Throat; the lower Jaw being, at the same Time, kept open by another Rope. But this Method seems to be better calculated for drenching Swine than *Dogs*, because Dogs swallow greedily

\* It is a gross Error in the printed Directions, which I have seen, to order the *CINNABARS* and *MUSK* to be mixed in a Mortar, and rubbed together to a Powder; because it would be found impracticable, to reduce the *CINNABARS* to an impalpable Powder, when mixed with an Animal Substance.



greedily, and by making them fast a little, before the Medicine is given, it may be chuckt into their Mouths, and they will swallow it instantly without chewing (more especially if a Hole be cut in a small Piece of *Flesh*, and the Ball thrust therein, the Aperture being sewed up, lest the Dog should not readily swallow it, and the Medicine be lost) and after this Manner I have known it given to many Dogs without Trouble.

TWO or three Hours after the first a second Dose was given, and on the 14th of the same Month a third Dose; which, being stitched into a small Bit of Beef, was given in Manner above described.

ON the Morning of the 20th, it being near the Full of the Moon, the Dog appeared fullen, his Eyes looked heavy and dull, his Tail dropped between his Legs, if he was disturbed, or beat up, he would presently stand still, discovering an Indisposition to move, though but to the End of his Chain; Rigors or Shiverings frequently thrill'd through his Body, and he refused both *Food* and *Water*; whereupon a Motion was made to demolish him; but I insisted that another Dose should be given, which was not to be effected without the *Ropes* and *Pully*;<sup>\*</sup> the Assistants Hands being well guarded with the thickest Beaver-skin Gloves.

AFTER a fourth Dose these Symptoms, of the first Stage of *Madness*, went off; and the next Day the Dog lapped Water, and took to his Food again as usual.

ON the 2d of *December* a fifth Dose was given, which made any further Repetition of this expensive Medicine unnecessary, and entitled the poor Creature to his Liberty in about six Weeks afterwards.

I made Use of no topical Applications to the Wounds, such as *Cauterising* them with a red-hot Iron, *Escharotick* Dressings, *Cupping* the Parts, applying *Salt*, washing them with Salt and Water, &c, &c. which some have very boldly recommended as *certain Remedies*,

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but

\* Whenever Symptoms of *Madness* begin to appear in a Dog, and the Owner thinks it worth while to attempt his Recovery; or, for the greater Security of those concerned in drenching any infected Beast, let the Creature be forced against the Wall, by thrusting across the Chain, that confines him, close up to the Collar, a strong Fork or common Stable Prong, with the convex Side towards him; and when he is thus confined, you may halter and draw him up, without Danger or Difficulty. The common Method of gagging Horses and black Cattle, practised by Farriers in drenching, may serve to give the Ball to them.



but which may, it is greatly to be feared, have deluded many unwary credulous Persons to their Destruction.

MANY of these Methods were practised and recommended by CELSUS,\* who wrote near 1800 Years ago, and have been long since found ineffectual. Had either of them proved a sufficient Bar to the Progress of this most subtle and destructive Poison, Time would undoubtedly have established its Use beyond the Power of Cavil or Contradiction. But neither Time nor Evidence is sufficient to convince or subdue the Prejudices of obstinate Men.

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\* There are also other Methods of Cure recommended by this celebrated Roman; namely, The sending the Patients into a Bath, immediately after the Bite, sweating them therein till they are ready to faint, the Wound being kept open all the while; to the Intent, that the greater Part of the Poison may thereby be drawn off. And after they are taken out of the Bath, to let them drink copiously of generous Wine: Wine being, at that Time, accounted an Antidote to all Sorts of Poisons. This Process being repeated for three Days successively, was thought to be a sufficient Security against Danger.

But the *Hydrophobia* coming on, he advised, as an excellent, or only Remedy, that the Patient be taken at unawares, and plunged into a Pool, and there to dip him till he has swallowed a large Quantity of Water, against his Inclination. By these Means, he says, the Patient will, at once, be relieved from the *Hydrophobia*, and that intolerable Thirst which accompanies it.

The present Practice, founded on Experience, being quite opposite to these chimerical *Hypotheses*, shews, that this excellent Author was either misled by an implicit Credulity, or that a pleasing Theory had made him a Slave to *Hypotheses*, founded neither in true Philosophy nor Experiment.

That Experience warrants the Use of the hot Bath I have no where found, but have often heard it condemned. But if the credulous Reader objects the following whimsical Story, mentioned by RIVERIUS, to give fair Play to an extravagant Subtlety, which he himself could not subscribe to, the Author wisheth him Success if ever he should be inclined to make the Experiment upon himself, and till then hopeth that he will not be too forward in recommending it to his Neighbours.

*Sic Philosophus ille qui à Cane rabido demorsus fuerat, dum illi Imaginatio lædi incipiebat Balneum ingressurus, falsam Canis Imaginem in Balneo percipiebat; quem tamèn Imaginationis Errorem Ratio adhuc integra redarguens, hæc illi Virba suppeditavit. Quid Cani cum Balneo? et statim in Balneum se coniecit; cujus Ope à Morbi imminenti, nempe Hydrophobiæ Periculo liberatus est. Prax. Medicæ L. 1. Chap. xi. de Phrenitidæ.*

But—to return—I am inclined to think, that large repeated Draughts of such Wines as were, at that Time, chiefly in Use among the Romans, would rather prove an Incentive to Madness, than a Preservative against it. No particular Sort of Wine is here prescribed; and those from Oporto, Madeira, and others of a more antiseptick Property, were little used, and some of them not known by that People. But whatever Preference may be due to Wines possessed of such a Quality, I am inclined to think, that any Wine drank to Excess, for three Days successively (however pure it may be or free from Adulteration, which seems to be implied by the *multo meraco Vino*) would itself want an Antidote, rather than act as such to any Poison whatever.

And that Experience is against the Practice of forcing with Water, those languishing under an *Hydrophobia*, evidently appears from the Case of a Person mentioned by Dr. ALLEN, in his *Synopsis Medicinæ*, that was blindfolded and bound by the Direction of his Physician, and forced to drink several Draughts of Water, which presently brought on Convulsions, and Death soon



I shall only trouble you, Sir, with one Instance wherein the actual *Cautery* hath proved ineffectual. It is indeed the only Instance I have ever heard of, or can at present recollect, of its being used in this Case. I had it from Mr. *James Bellingham*, of *Hooe*, near *Battell* in *Suffex*, who performed the Operation.

ON the 11th of March 1731, a *Mad Dog* bit a Horse in the Nose, as he was standing at a Blacksmith's Door. Mr. *Bellingham* instantly took a red-hot Iron from the Forge, and with the utmost Accuracy and Circumspection, cauterised every Place where the Dog's Teeth had made the least Impression; which he thinks was completed in about five Minutes. This done, a large Quantity of *Blood* was immediately taken away, and the next Day a Purge was given, which at due Intervals, was twice or thrice repeated. On the

soon after completed the Tragedy. Probably the Authority of so great a Man as CORNELIUS CELSUS suggested the Experiment to the learned Gentleman that advised it.

A celebrated Writer, taken Notice of towards the Conclusion of this Letter, affects to recommend the Practice of *Cupping* and *Scarifying* as if it were a Discovery of his own. To cover his puny Plagiarism, and render this intended Deception yet more complete, he amuses his Readers by pointing out to them a new Use for their *Pickle-pots* and *Gooseberry-bottles*; and with an unembarrassed Pen, at once speaks scurrilously of Gentlemen that quote the Authors of Antiquity upon this Subject, and adopts Means prescribed by the Ancients for the Cure of this Disease, as will appear to my learned Readers from the following Section, of a Chapter in CELSUS *de Medicina*, entitled

*Curatio adversus rabiosi Canis Morsum.*

“ Utique autem, si rabiosus Canis fuit, *Cucurbitulâ Virus ejus extrahendum est*; Deinde, si Loc-  
“ cus neque nervosus neque musculosus est, Vulnus id adurendum est. Si uri non potest,  
“ Sanguinem Homini mitti non alienum est. Tum ulso quidem Vulneri, superimponenda  
“ quæ cæteris Ullis sunt. Ei vero, quod expertum Ignem non est, ea Medicamenta quæ  
“ vehementer exedunt. Post quæ nullo novo Magisterio, sed jam supraposito, Vulnus erit  
“ implendum, et ad Sanitatem perducendum. Quidam post rabiosi Canis Morsum protinus  
“ in Balneum mittunt; eumque ibi patiuntur desudare, dum Vires Corporis sinunt, Vul-  
“ nere aperto; quo magis ex eo quoque Virus distillet; deinde multo meracoque Vino exci-  
“ piunt, quod omnibus Venenis contrarium est. Idque cum ita per triduum factum est,  
“ tutus esse Homo a Periculo putatur.”

“ Solet autem ex eo Vulnere, ubi parum occursum est, Aquæ Timor nasci, ὕδροφοβίαν  
“ Græci adpellant. Miserrimum Genus Morbi: in quo simul æger et Siti et Aquæ Metu  
“ cruciatur; quo oppressis in Angusto Spes est. Sed unicum tamen Remedium est; nec  
“ opinantem in Piscinam, non ante ei provisam, projicere; et, si natanti Scientiam non  
“ habet, modo mersum bibere pati, modo attolere; si habet, interdum deprimere, ut invitus  
“ quoque Aquâ satiatur. Sic enim simul et Sitis, et Aquæ Metus tollitur. Sed aliud Peri-  
“ culum excipit, ne infirmum Corpus in Aqua frigida vexatum, Nervorum Distensio absu-  
“ mat. Id ne incidat, à Piscinâ protinus in Oleum calidum dimittendus est. Antidotum  
“ autem (præcipuè id quod primo Loco posui; ubi id non est aliud) si nondum Æger Aquam  
“ horret, potui ex Aquâ dandum est: et si Amaritudine offenditur Mel adjiciendum est: at  
“ si, jam is Morbus occupavit, per Catapotia sumi potest.”



the Mornings of the intermediate Days, the Horfe was plunged into the *Sea*, for three Weeks, and *Æthiops Mineral* and *Antimony*, in equal Parts, were given twice a Day for near fix Weeks.—Notwithstanding these Precautions, the Horfe died raving *Mad* on the 26th of *April* following.

ON the 16th of May 1754, two Pointers and a Spaniel, belonging to the before mentioned GEORGE Lord Viscount *Irwin*, at *Crudwell*, were bitten by a *Mad Dog*. The Day following they were all sent to the *Sea*, and dipped; and a Dose of the *CINNABARS* and *MUSK* was given to each; which was repeated in thirty Days from the Time of the Bite. They all did well: neither did either of them discover the least Symptom of *Madness*.

FROM this Time no Case occurred to me wherein it was certain that the Dog which did the Mischief was actually *mad*, till towards the latter End of April 1759, when a *Mad Dog* came into the outer Court of THOMAS ESTCOURT CRESSWELL Esq; at *Pinkney*; and was seen, by a Maid-servant in the Family, to bite some of the Pigs. But she, not suspecting that the Dog was *mad*, said nothing of it till the 13th or 14th of *May* following, when one of the Pigs went *mad*, and bit the Gardiner.

AS the Pigs went together, it is highly probable that many of them, if not all, were bitten before the diseased Pig was discovered to be so; because when he bit the Gardiner, he seemed, from the best Information I could get, to be in the last Stage of the Disease; having been observed, for a Day or two before, to run after and frequently snap at his Companions. The Day following he died, and the rest were all sent to the *Sea* and dipped, as was the Gardiner also. On their Return a Dose of the *CINNABARS* and *MUSK* was given to him, and one to each of the Pigs. A second Dose was, for the greater Security, given to the Gardiner the same Day, and a third at the Expiration of thirty Days inclusive; and he remains, at this Time, quite free from every Symptom of this Disease.

BY an unaccountable Neglect, this Medicine was not repeated to the Pigs at the usual Period. The Consequence was, another  
of



of them went *mad*, upwards of eight Weeks from the Time of the Bite. Soon after a third was, in like Manner affected, and died. The rest continued well, till the Beginning of *September*, when two more went *mad* and died also; which made it necessary to keep those that survived apart, one from another (it being beyond a Doubt, that most of them, if not the whole Herd, had been bitten many Times) and to repeat the *CINNABARS* and *MUSK* twice to each of them; which were thereby preserved; not one, among them all, discovering the least Symptom of *Madness* afterwards.

ON the 3d of *November* following, a Pig, about half grown, the Property of WILLIAM BURGH Esq; of the same Place, was bitten by a *Mad Dog* in the Head, and the next Day was sent to the *Sea* and dipped. On the 5th, Mr. *Burgh* sent to me for the *Tonquin* or *MUSK* Medicine. I put up two Doses, the Proportion, and Quantity, of each Ingredient, the same as for a Man. And that no Waste should be made, I formed them into Balls with a small Portion of Butter; and directed them to be given by the Help of the *Ropes* and *Pully*; as hath been already described. And I was the more particular and positive in my Directions, as Mr. *Burgh* was from Home, and I found the Servant fond of thinking that by dissolving them in warm *Whey*, the Pig would suck them up, without Force. I represented to him the Impracticability of giving them this Way, and the ill Success wherewith it would be attended; shewing him, as clearly as I could, the Certainty of his thus losing the greater Part, both of the *CINNABARS* and *MUSK*; the former of which, by their Gravity, would sink to the Bottom of the Vessel, and the latter, as soon as it should be set at Liberty, by the Solution of the Butter which held it together, would float on the Surface of the Fluid, and by the Motion thereof be driven to the Sides, and adhere there; or else be attracted by, and stick to the hairy Snout of the Beast.

BY this Explanation and these Assurances, I brought him, at last, to promise to follow my Directions. But so strongly possessed was he, with his own Opinion, that no sooner did he get Home, than



than he resolved to follow his own foolish Method. The Consequence was, the Creature, in about a Fortnight, died *Mad*, it being then the *Full* of the Moon.

IT is with me beyond a Doubt, that a third Part, either of the *CINNABARS* or the *MUSK*, was not swallowed. The Want of Success, wherewith it was attended, confirms my Opinion. For, I am morally certain that this Beast would have recovered, had the Medicine been properly given, and no Part of it wasted; having never known it fail when the Directions have been punctually observed.

ON the 25th of August 1760, *Thomas May*, a Collier, of little *Sodbury*, in the County of *Gloucester*, complained to me, that he had been bitten by a *Mad Dog*, three or four Days before; whereupon, I put him up a Dose of the *CINNABARS* and *MUSK*, which he took that Evening; and within a Month after he received the Injury, I gave him a second Dose; which was all that he took. He remains at this Day perfectly free from every Symptom of the Disease

THIS Man in Compliance with an ancient universal Practice, very little to be relied on, as hath already been sufficiently proved by many Instances, was dipped in the Sea, before he applied to me for the Medicine.

THESE, Sir, are the principal Cases wherein I have known the *CINNABARS* and *MUSK* given against the Bites of *Mad Animals*. And if Perspicuity be wanting in stating them, Truth will, I hope, compensate the Defect.

IT would be needless to enforce by Argument what is so fully illustrated by Examples; many of which, like so many self-evident Propositions, admit of no Dispute. In particular, the Case of the Planter's Servants in *Barbadoes* (transmitted to us by Dr. HILLARY,\* as hath already been said) who were all bitten by the same Dog. Among these, it must be remembered, that all who took *CINNABAR* and *MUSK* recovered, and all that had it not died *Hydrophobous*.

NOT less notorious was the Success wherewith it was given to the Duke of *Marlborough's* and Mr. CRESSWELL's Dogs, or Farmer

HUGHES'S

\* See p. 6.



HUGHES's Pigs; nor the Fatality which attended the Difuse of it in all these memorable Instances. And here it may be necessary further to observe, that the Case of Mr. CRESSWELL's Pigs clearly points out two Things; the Expediency of giving the Medicine as soon as may be after the Poison is communicated; and the Necessity of repeating it at the Expiration of thirty Days, and sometimes sooner. And indeed, under some Circumstances, it may be necessary to repeat it many Times within that Space. For nothing can be more evident than that those, who upon all Occasions, servilely pursue your printed Directions, will sometimes find themselves fatally mistaken. I therefore advise all Persons in imminent Danger of this dreadful Calamity, to take a Dose of the *CINNABARS* and *MUSK*, as soon as it can be prepared, after the Bite is inflicted, and to repeat it within 12, or at most, 24 Hours; which should by no Means be neglected, when the Bite is in the Head. Afterwards, let a Dose be repeated once a Week for a Month. And for the greater Security, it may not be amiss to take another Dose at the Expiration of another Month. And I earnestly recommend to all that are bitten in the Head, that they take two Doses the first Day, and afterwards, a Dose once a Day, for at least, three or four Days successively, hence-forwards once a Week, for six Weeks or two Months. Let them live temperately, and keep themselves moderately warm, to encourage Perspiration. But if any alarming Symptoms appear, or the *Hydrophobia* is unquestionable, let a Paper of the Powder, mixed up into a Bolus with Honey or Syrup of Diacodium, be given (together with a Grain or two of *Opium*, provided the *Spasms* or other terrifying Symptoms are violent) once in five or six Hours, till their Violence abates; and afterwards every Morning and Evening, with or without the *Opium*, as the Exigency of the Symptoms may require, till the Patient recovers. During his Illness, or as long as the *Spasms* continue, let the Part most convulsed be well chafed, many Times a Day, with warm Sallad Oil, as Dr. NUGENT directed in the Case of *Elizabeth Bryant*. Previous to this, it may be proper to take away 12, 14 or 16 Ounces of Blood, and to repeat the Operation the next Morning, provided

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the Spasms, Ravings, Thirst, or other dangerous Symptoms run high, and the Patient be of a sanguine, or an athletick Constitution.

TO conclude my Observations upon the Case of these hapless Brutes.—It may reasonably be supposed, that as none of them went *mad* till after the 22d of *June*, a seasonable Repetition of the *MUSK Medicine* would have prevented the Mischief. But if the *Rabies* was the Effect of Bites by the Dog from whom the Herd received the Injury in the first Instance, it is not to me a clear Point that two Doses only would have been a sufficient Security to the rest; it being full three Weeks, after the Infection was conveyed, before the first Dose was given to either of them; which, as hath been said above, was not repeated till *September*, although the great Distance of Time, from the Injury to the giving the first Dose of the Medicine, strongly suggested a more frequent Repetition of it; as demonstratively appears from the Case of *Elizabeth Bryant*,\* who took no Medicine at all till three Weeks after she was bitten; when she was dipped in the *Sea*, took four Doses of Dr. MEAD's *Pulvis Antilyffus*, and after that, two Doses of the *CINNABARS* and *MUSK*. And besides, went into the cold Bath every Morning for four Mornings successively; all which were insufficient to stop the Progress of the Disease, although the *CINNABARS* and *MUSK* duly repeated, entirely conquered it after it came on.

IT is a well known Truth, that all Constitutions are not alike susceptible of Impressions from Malignities of any Kind, nor are the same at all Times alike. That the Virulency of the *Canine Rabies* more forcibly resists the Power of Medicine in some Constitutions than others, is plainly exemplified in the Case of Mr. EARLE's Dog; which, eighteen Days after it was bitten, discovered Symptoms of *Madness*, notwithstanding three Doses of the *CINNABARS* and *MUSK* had been given to him. The *MUSK* was remarkably fine, and the first Dose administered within three Days after the Injury was received. The fourth Dose removing these threatening Symptoms, plainly shews, that less than the Quantity prescribed is not  
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\* See Dr. NUGENT's Essay on the *Hydrophobia*.



to be relied on, and that, to be safe, it is highly expedient to repeat it oftener than has been commonly practised; which many People are not, without much Difficulty, to be prevailed on to comply with, on account of the high Price of the *MUSK*. It is therefore most ardently to be wished, that every Means were used so to reduce the Price\* of this incomparable Drug, that the Poor may have free Access to it, in the Day of Danger, on reasonable Terms.

FROM lowering the Price of *MUSK* there would be less Temptation to corrupt or adulterate it, than there is at present. Consequently, the general Expectation of Success from it would be, by far, more certain than it now is. And besides, it would be a Means to induce People to give it the Preference it so very justly deserves, and to repeat it as often as may be thought necessary for their Security.

AS this, Sir, is an Object not unworthy the Attention of a BRITISH Parliament, I will not despair of seeing your good Intentions rendered still more effectual, by the Interposition of the supreme Authority; by their enacting that Purveyers shall be appointed in *China*, to see it collected and packed up, and by making it *Felony* to adulterate it. By their empowering the *East-India* Company to import it free from every Kind of Duty; and by giving such further Encouragement to the Importation of it as may prove most conducive to the End required. It might then very reasonably be expected that the Directors of this opulent Corporation would generously contribute their best Endeavours to further so salutary a Design, by disposing of it at a low or reasonable Profit.

THAT the *MUSK* ordinarily sold is too often adulterated we have all imaginable Reason to fear: The following Circumstance gives Weight to such a Suspicion.

TO the Intent that I might not be deceived in a Medicine of so great Expectation, when ever I have ordered *MUSK* from a Druggist, for this Purpose, I have always declared the Use for which it was intended, insisting on its being sent pure and unmixed with any extraneous Matter, whatever it might cost.

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\* There is a Duty on *Musk* of ten Shillings and six Pence for each Ounce imported.



BY this Method I have always been supplied with *MUSK* of the best Quality, but have generally been obliged to submit to a Charge considerably above what it might, at the same Time, have been bought for in some Shops. An evident Proof, of what hath been above suggested, *that the great Price it bears, is a Temptation to many that deal in it to adulterate it*; and may be a Means hereafter, *if this Evil remains unredressed*, of bringing the most efficacious Antidote to one of the most dangerous Poisons in the World, into disgrace; since one single Instance of its being given unsuccessfully, more especially, if it happens to a Person of Distinction, will excite a greater Clamour against it, than a thousand Instances of its Success, among the Vulgar, will be able to remove.

I should here have laid down my Pen, but that when I was about to send my Copy to the Press, I happened to see, in an old News-Paper,\* a Letter signed HENRY BRACKEN, wherein that Gentleman warmly recommends a Method to prevent the destructive Effects of the Bite of a *Mad Dog*; and without the least Regard to the Evidence of Facts, or common Decency, insolently censures Gentlemen of the Faculty, as Novices in their Profession, *for talking much* (to use his own Phrase) of a Method of curing an *Hydrophobia* after it has come on; and for recording a Case, wherein it has succeeded; merely because it does not, as he assumes, square with "*the true Philosophy now established*," or his own mechanical Reasoning.

AS I would treat this Gentleman with more Candour and less Rudeness than he has, tho' in an oblique Manner, a Gentleman† *who hath talked much*, and much to the Purpose too, of curing a Patient, after the Dread of Water, the most distinguishing Symptom‡ of the *Canine Madness*, was on her; I have here quoted his Letter entire, submitting it with my Remarks thereon to the Decision of the candid Publick.

To

\* The London Chronicle of the 25th of October, 1760

† Dr. NUGENT.

‡ The *Hydrophobia* or Dread of Water hath universally been thought a *Pathognomonick* Symptom of the *Canine Madness*; but of late it hath been confidently said, that it is not an infallible Criterion of that Disease. In support of this Opinion, some few Instances have been



*To the Printer of the London Chronicle.*

“ A S your paper appears to me very diffusive, I take the liberty of  
 “ sending you my opinion with relation to the cure for the bite of a  
 “ mad-dog; which, if inserted, I apprehend may be of service to man-  
 “ kind, in respect to this particular affection, so terrifying to our ap-  
 “ prehensions, and dreadful in its consequences, when people are  
 “ affected either in imagination, or in reality bit by a mad-dog: I  
 “ say affected in imagination, because amongst a great many men,  
 “ women, and children, which I have had under my care, during  
 “ upwards of forty years practice (in cases of this sort) I remem-  
 “ ber one man, who is now living, and in health, that was so ter-  
 “ rified on account of a little dog, that got upon his bed, and  
 “ licked his face; which dog he believed was going mad; so that  
 “ he could not be persuaded but he should suffer from such acci-  
 “ dent; for the worst of it was, the dog was killed, therefore no  
 “ prognostick could be formed whether he was really mad, or other-  
 “ wise: however, his imagination was so struck, and his notions  
 “ so bewildered, that he told me he could see birds, as Thrushes,  
 “ Blackbirds, &c. in the hedges, as he passed along, tho’ the night  
 “ was ever so dark; and when I told him that this was all fancy  
 “ and chimera, and that if the thing was as he represented, yet it  
 “ was

been produced, in the *Medical Essays* and other Tracts, of People becoming *Hydrophobous* from other Causes besides that of the Bite of a *Mad Animal*.

There are very material Objections, which ought well to be weighed before we accede to this Hypothesis, viz. the Newness of the Discovery, and the Consideration of its being a negative Position, and wholly repugnant to the concurrent Opinion of all ages; the *Hydrophobia* and *Canine Madness* having hitherto been used indifferently, as synonymous Terms. Besides, whenever a Person is seized with and dies of an *Hydrophobia*, without being able to recollect the Cause of his Illness, (as was lately said to be the Case of a Monk in Germany) it may be taken for granted, that Infection was conveyed by some Inlet, through the Skin, however the Accident might have escaped the Patients Observation. For there are frequent Instances of careless or hardy People, receiving a slight Scratch or such like Injury, not knowing how they came by it. And very possible it is, that a Man might handle a Dog in the first Stage of the Disease, not suspecting that he was *mad*, and by a small Particle of Saliva insinuating itself through the slightest Fissure in the Skin be infected with the *Rabies Canina* and die *Hydrophobous*, many Months after the Poison was communicated, whence it might be concluded that the Disease came on Spontaneously.



“ was not any essential symptom attendant upon the bite of a  
 “ mad-dog; yet he continued very uneasy and unsettled in his  
 “ head, *for many weeks*, and look’d pale upon the account; there-  
 “ fore I found it necessary to apply medicines to his imagination,  
 “ especially as he had a strong belief of the efficacy of some sort of a  
 “ composition vended about by one Mr. *Hill*, of *Ormskirk* in the  
 “ county of *Lancaster*; and which is said to be the same that Mrs.  
 “ *Parker* of *Colne Edge* disposes of, when people apply for some-  
 “ thing to cure the bite of a mad-dog, though in fact neither the  
 “ *Ormskirk* medicine nor that of *Colne Edge*, seems to claim any me-  
 “ rit, farther than easing people of their fear; which indeed, is  
 “ mostly the *affection* when these *inefficacious* and *effæte* medicines are  
 “ called for. I have said that I let this man go to Mr. *Hill*, and  
 “ then he became satisfied and easy in his mind, and regained his  
 “ colour and complexion *in a few weeks*; and I could enumerate  
 “ many cases something similar to this, but thus far I know, *viz.*  
 “ that about fourteen years ago, a man near *Garstang*, in this  
 “ county, happening to go into his barn, and finding a strange  
 “ dog, he took up a pitchfork to drive it out, and the dog leaping  
 “ up at the man, bit him into his lip, and then made away; so a  
 “ messenger was immediately dispatched to Mr. *Hill*, and the *speci-*  
 “ *fic powder* was given without effect; for the poor man died bark-  
 “ ing mad in a very little time: and I could name other instances  
 “ in brutes, as cows and dogs, where this cried-up specific has failed  
 “ of success. But indeed, every county in *England* has one or  
 “ more, who pretend to sell something or other as a certain cure  
 “ for the bite of a mad-dog: and not only *England*, but in most  
 “ other Kingdoms, it is the same in respect to these empirical pro-  
 “ ceedings. And how can we expect otherwise, while the bulk  
 “ of mankind continue ignorant of the property of *matter*, nay,  
 “ even of the property of the very air we breathe in; therefore,  
 “ when a person is bit by a mad-dog, let the part be immediately  
 “ scarified, or cut with a razor or sharp penknife, as deep (if in a  
 “ fleshy part) as the dog’s teeth might be supposed to enter; then  
 “ take a narrow-mouthed pitcher or small pickle-pot, and put  
 “ „ lighted



“ lighted tow, or a sheet of brown paper on fire, squeezing the  
“ paper together so as to go into the pitcher before you set it on  
“ fire; and this will rarefy the air in the vessel, so as to make it  
“ answer the end of a cuping-glass; and it must be applied with  
“ the mouth upon the part bit, while the flame is strong; *viz.* to-  
“ wards the latter end of the flaming; that by this means it may  
“ adhere strongly to the flesh; and after it has continued three or  
“ four minutes, if it will leave the skin easily by working it a little  
“ up at the edge, you may repeat the same operation three or four  
“ times successively, so as to draw out a good deal of blood; or if  
“ the part that is bit be such as not to admit of a narrow-mouthed  
“ pitcher or pickel-pot, you may make a good cuping-glass of a  
“ wide-mouthed gooseberry-bottle; the larger the bottle the better,  
“ but it should be very dry.

“ I mention this method, because it often falls out that a Sur-  
“ geon is not near at hand; for if there is one to be had imme-  
“ diately, and that he has his cuping-glasses and scarificator in order,  
“ he will perform the operation according to art; though as the  
“ poison is quick in its passing into the reflux blood and juices,  
“ so should help be as near at hand as possible; wherefore the method  
“ I have mentioned may be put in practice till a Surgeon can be  
“ had, who may apply his cuping-glasses, &c. and when the part  
“ has been cuped and scarified as above, then anoint it well with  
“ any kind of oil or fat, but rather oil of olive, or goose-grease,  
“ the last of which is a very penetrating grease, and will greatly  
“ help to sheath the poisonous Saliva of the mad-dog; for as a  
“ dog's teeth are not tubulated in the manner of the viper, which  
“ emits its poison through the holes in the teeth, from small Ves-  
“ icles or Bladders, at the Root of the Teeth, when that Creature  
“ bites; I say, as this is not the case, a great part of the Saliva or  
“ Slaver of the Mad-Dog, stops upon the cuticle or scarf-skin,  
“ when the dog bites; therefore the danger may be more easily  
“ prevented. And let it not appear strange that penetrating  
“ oils, or fatty substances, should have a property of preventing  
“ the bad effects of these bites; when we are well assured, that the  
“ viper-



“ viper-catchers, who keep little dogs that will make a set or point  
 “ at vipers, on the moss grounds, only smear their hands over  
 “ with the fat of vipers, and are void of fear; nor receive any  
 “ harm, tho’ the vipers bite them ever so much; and though viper’s  
 “ fat is very penetrating, yet has it nothing of a specific quality  
 “ whereby to destroy the venom of the bite any more than other  
 “ unctions or oily applications: and *for these reasons*, those Gen-  
 “ tlemen who talk much of Cinnabar and Musk, or the Tonquin  
 “ medicine, &c. &c. are little versed in *natural philosophy*, the *æcono-*  
 “ *my* of the *human body*, or the *modus operandi* of *medicine*; for let  
 “ any common capacity only consider the venomous Saliva of a dog  
 “ entering the true skin; for there are two skins upon the human  
 “ body, *viz.* the *cutis* and *cuticula*; the latter of which has not any  
 “ blood vessels, but is formed of excrementitious matter from the *re-*  
 “ *ticulum mucosum*, as *Malpighi* terms it: and this skin is insensible,  
 “ and spread all over the body (except under the nails) in order  
 “ to defend the extremities of the nerves; otherwise, if we were  
 “ stripped of this membrane, we should agonize at every pore, as  
 “ Mr. Pope very justly expresses it, now the cuticle, or scarf-skin,  
 “ being insensible and void of blood vessels, the venomous Saliva  
 “ of the dog would not hurt us, tho’ spread upon it, provided it  
 “ was firm and not broken: and it might be safely washed off with  
 “ water; therefore the account we have in the Philosophical Trans-  
 “ actions, relating to two boys that were playing with the Ear  
 “ of a dog that had been bit by a mad-dog, and the dog’s Ear  
 “ bleeding upon the boys hands, *they both*, some time after *went*  
 “ *mad, and died*; but this did not proceed from the blood of the  
 “ dog, I dare say, for some of the Slaver had been about his Ear,  
 “ and the children’s hands or fingers have had cuts or sores upon  
 “ them, by which such venom entered the small capillary or hair-  
 “ like vessels, and so got into the mass of blood, and contaminated  
 “ it; I say again, let any common man only consider the venom  
 “ entering by small wounds made by the dog’s teeth, and tell me  
 “ whether he cannot equally believe the doctrine of *Transubstantia-*  
 “ *tion* or the *Transmigration of souls*, as that any kind of medicine  
 “ whatever,



“ *whatever*, taken into the stomach of an animal, shall be able to  
 “ stop the progress of the venomous Saliva, and effectually secure us  
 “ from its deadly effects; no, no, they are Tyros in our art, who  
 “ argue so immechanically; and their running over, and quoting the  
 “ *Arabian, Greek, and Roman* authors, on this subject, serves only  
 “ to display their reading, and shew us that they are more bewil-  
 “ dered in a variety of words and opinions, than truly sensible of  
 “ the matter in Hand.

“ I have observed a number of receipts (as they call them) in-  
 “ serted in the *Chronicle*, and other News Papers, for the cure of  
 “ the bite I am treating upon, and amongst the rest, one of them is  
 “ pretended to be found in some Church or other in the South of  
 “ *England*, as if sent there by *Providence* for the good of mankind.  
 “ But this *receipt* is no more than a copy of that in *Bates’s Dispensa-*  
 “ *tory*, under the title *Decoctum ad morsum canis rabidi*, or a decoction  
 “ against the bite of a mad-dog; which is prepared of Rue, Gar-  
 “ lick, London or Venice Treacle, and filings of pewter, to be boiled  
 “ in Ale, and the liquor to be taken inwardly, a certain quantity  
 “ *per day* for *nine days* (as there is luck in an *odd* number) and the  
 “ *magma* or *residuum*, to be applied as a poultice to the wound;  
 “ and then follows, in this book of Ignorance, some other recipes  
 “ for the same intention, such as the liver of the mad-dog,\* and  
 “ the volatile salt of the whole dog, &c. mere nonsensical bombast;  
 “ though I have seen people run after the supposed mad-dog, in  
 “ order to get his liver; and these notions will still prevail as long  
 “ as

“ *The Queen of Night, whose large command,*

“ *Rules all the Sea, and half the Land;*

“ *And over moist and crazy Brains,*

“ *In high spring tides, at midnight reigns.* HUDIBRAS.

“ IT is a well known truth, that *oil* taken inwardly in pretty  
 “ large doses, has prevented the bad effects of arsenic, and other  
 E “ poisons,

\* The Doctor might have informed his Readers, that this *nonsensical Bombast*, is an Absurdity of antient standing, and was censured and exploded by *Galen*.



“ poisons, when people have either wilfully or inadvertently  
 “ taken such substances: and if the wound or wounds, made by  
 “ the bite of a mad-dog, are cupped and scarified, and oil or  
 “ goose-grease rubbed well upon the part, it is more likely by far,  
 “ to subdue the poison, than *salt and water*, and such applications  
 “ as are no way warrantable by the true philosophy now established.

“ I have had many under my care who were bit by real mad-dogs,  
 “ and such dogs, have been tied up and died mad, and, I thank God,  
 “ none ever went mad that I had to do with, although bit in their  
 “ hands and fingers so severely that they dropt with blood, and  
 “ my method was as described; but it is a comfortable considera-  
 “ tion, when we reflect upon it, *viz.* that most dogs that are pur-  
 “ sued as mad-dogs, are not really so; for a dog that is pursued  
 “ and beaten, and tumbled about in the dirt, will, from the in-  
 “ stinct of self-preservation, naturally defend himself, and fly at  
 “ all others in his way; whereas a dog really mad, will not go  
 “ out of a strait road on purpose to bite either man or beast.

“ I remember a carrier, who carried goods between *Kirby Lons-*  
 “ *dale* and *Bernard Castle*, that went mad as he was travelling over  
 “ *Stain-moor*, near two years after he had been bit by a mad-dog;  
 “ but in this case the poison had lodged at the very extremities of  
 “ the circulating vessels, and till some bruise had happened to the  
 “ part, or a fore or scorbutic spot broke out where the dog's teeth  
 “ had pierced the cuticle or scarf skin, I say till this happened,  
 “ the poisonous saliva of the dog had no ill effect upon the blood  
 “ and juices of the man's body; but when this venomous saliva is  
 “ put in motion, it is so subtil and deleterious, that it runs as  
 “ quick almost as a spark of fire among gunpowder, and throws the  
 “ whole nervous system into hurry and confusion, which terminates  
 “ in a most miserable death. And as to some of our faculty, pre-  
 “ tending they have performed cures upon their patients, when  
 “ the *Hydrophobia* or dread of water has been on them, it is all a  
 “ Farce; since it is *plain*, that then the disorder is in its last stage,  
 “ and the patient irretrievable by our art. Therefore I appre-  
 “ hend, that such Cases are *mistated*, and the symptoms judged to  
 “ be



“ be what in reality they were not; because, in people of a delicate texture of fibres and quick imagination, it is wonderful to see how they are affected when terrors of several kinds seize their *spirits*, as they term it; and hence such a constitution and structure of the animal *fibres*, would suffer most from the apprehension of having been bit by a mad-dog, and the patient having read or heard of an *Hydrophobia*, or Dread of Water, might work him or herself up to such a pitch, that the Doctor, unless he was well versed in distinguishing between *Diseases* and *Symptoms*, would be at a loss to know whether it was, or was not a genuine *Hydrophobia*.

I am your's

Lancaster, October 6, 1760.

HENRY BRACKEN.”

IF the Doctor has advanced a small *Douceur* to the Editor of the *London Chronicle*, for making that Paper the Vehicle of this pompous Philosophick Rant, He is the only Person that has any Cause to thank him for it. But if Mr. Editor has little Reason to thank him for his Correspondence, the Publick, I am sure, has less to thank him for his Performance; as the foregoing Cases abundantly evince.

HAVING never heard of the *Ormskirk* Medicine 'till the Doctor gave us an Account of it in his Letter to Mr. *Wilkie*,\* I shall not say any Thing of it, more than that it unluckily appears, from his own Account, that however *inefficacious* or *effæte* an Antidote it may be to the Bite of a *Mad Dog*, it proved a more effectual Specifick against a *disordered Imagination* in a few Weeks, than any or all that were drawn out of the *Lancaster Arsenal* for many Weeks before.

THE learned *Rhâpsodist* ever fond of misleading and often misled, hath grossly mistated the Case of the *two Boys*; who, as he relates, went *mad* and *died*, from playing with the *Head* of a *Dog*, which had been just before bitten by another that was *mad*. But the Truth is, (as related by Mr. *Kenneda*,† or as the Reader perhaps will think, by the good Woman that nursed the Children) of  

E 2
this

\* The Printer of the *London Chronicle*.

† See Lowthorp's *Philosophical Transact.* vol. 3. p. 282.



this Pair of dead Boys two survived, and it is not impossible but they may be, at this Day, a Brace of *lusty old Men*. And that neither of them ever was affected with the *Rabies Canina* is, I think beyond a Doubt, notwithstanding the ingenious Solution of the *Procatarctick* Cause of their Death given by this perspicacious Annotator.

BUT to avoid Controversy, I candidly acknowledge, that it is not impossible I may be mistaken in the genuine Sense and Meaning of this Huddle of Words, because it does not appear to me, to be either Logick or Grammar.\* It was a sober Maxim with MATTHEW PRIOR, that "Authors before they write should read." It is a Pity the Doctor did not read to a better Purpose! For it is at best a Doubt, whether *he* appears to a greater Advantage in quoting this *Irish* Author, than other Gentlemen have in quoting those of *Greece, Rome or Arabia*.

THE Account given in the *Philosophical Transactions*, of the Case of two Boys in *Ireland* is as followeth.

"ABOUT the last of October 1679, it happened that 2 Boys  
 " of 10 and 9 Years Old, of a Sanguine and Cholerick Complexion,  
 " did Touch and Handle the Head of a Dog, which had been  
 " wounded by a Mad Dog, but by the Handling and Washing of his  
 " Wound, by the Children, the Dog so wounded was healed, and  
 " did not become mad. But about May 1680, the Children be-  
 " came unwell, and were seized with a Paining Grief towards the  
 " bottom of their Bellies, which did Grind and Torment them with  
 " Pain and Trouble, which Ascended gradually towards their Navil.  
 " And about the first of July, together with the foresaid Grief, they  
 " were taken with a slow Flux, and with Fainting Fits by times,  
 " when the foresaid Pains assaulted them. After they had continued  
 " thus for a time, their Pains and Grief Ascended towards and  
 " above the Stomach, whereupon followed very violent, and Convul-  
 " sivelike Motions in their Bodies, especially about the Stomach and  
 " Belly, by which they were tossed and tumbled and disturbed in the  
 " whole Body, with some Foaming at the Mouth, in the interim of their  
 " Fits;

\* See the Passage in the Doctor's Letter "therefore the Account we have in the *Philosophical Transactions* of, &c."



“ *Fits*; now and then these *Symptoms* continued and increased until  
 “ the latter End of *August*, that they were taken with the *Fear* of  
 “ *Water*, and could not endure to look into any Liquid Thing un-  
 “ til the Cup was covered,\* but forthwith would have fallen down  
 “ as Dead, and so would have lain a little Time as in a *Sounding*  
 “ or dead *Fit*; and then would have tumbled and tofs’d in the fore-  
 “ said violent Motions and Distractions of their Bodies; *Moaning*  
 “ and *Groaning*; and ordinarily, the eldest especially, *Snarled*, *Barked*,  
 “ and indeavoured to *Bite* like a *Dog*; they continued in this *Fit*  
 “ for an Hour sometimes, and sometimes less, and so came out of  
 “ the *Convulsivelike Motions*, lying as it had been in a *Sound*, a little  
 “ before they came out of the *Fits*, and when they did come out of  
 “ the *Fits*, would have copen away in a *Feared* manner from any  
 “ who had been by them: and thus within an *Hour*, or little more,  
 “ they came so out of their *Fits*, that they were also *Well*, and as  
 “ much themselves as ever; They remained under these *Symptoms*  
 “ untill the middle of *September* every day taking the said *Fits*, in  
 “ which they could not speak, and in their intermissions were as  
 “ towardly and as well in their *Wits* as ever. And ’twas observable  
 “ that they both took the *Fits* and came out of them at the same  
 “ Time. But about the middle of *September*, about which time  
 “ especially their *Barking* and *Snarling* like a *Dog* came, they be-  
 “ came more Wild; so as for some *Days* now and then, even whilst  
 “ out of their Torturing *Fits*, they would not endure any *Company*,  
 “ no not so much as to come near one the other, and thus con-  
 “ tinued of this Disposition for a *Week*; and then the Eldest drew  
 “ near his Father, saying as one surpriz’d, Father *I am well*; and  
 “ so he and the other became forthwith *Well*, and could look into  
 “ *Water* without any *Fear*, and so continued to be *Well* for 3 or 4  
 “ Days, and after that fell Ill again, and remained Ill 6 or 7 Days,  
 “ at the end whereof they both became *Well* as formerly on a *Sud-*  
 “ *dain*, and from that time continued *Well*; only the Eldest about  
 “ the end of *January* had some *Fits* like the former.

“ O B S E R V E that in *August* there were *Doses* of *Antimony* and  
 “ *Mercurius Vitæ* prescribed together with *Antidotes* of *Venice Treacle*,  
 “ and Powder of *Crabs Eys*, and other Things.”

\* Query! How did they contrive to look into it then?



THAT there was something special in the Case of these two Boys, appears from their Story; but whether their Symptoms arose from *Worms*, or what other Cause, I will not take upon me to decide in a Matter so nice, attended with so many uncommon Circumstances, of which that remarkable *Sympathy* which appeared, in their being seized with and released from the Fits at the same Time, is none of the least. Or whether it was a Type of the *Cock Lane Ghost*, may forever remain a Secret.

TO form Conjectures from a Case so very abstruse and uncommon would be to introduce an useless Episode, foreign to my present Design. My Intention in citing it at large is only to shew how little Respect is due to the wild Rant of such furious Declaimers, as feel not the least Compunction for making the grossest Misrepresentations of the plainest Facts, merely for the sake of an Opportunity of displaying a specious Smack of speculative Reasoning (the better to give an *Eclat* to further Extravagances) which the Sagacity of every old Woman would have suggested to her, had the Case stood as he hath reported it. Thus by fundry Misrepresentations and false Suggestions the Author at once insults the Dignity of human Nature, and renders himself obnoxious to the Contempt of every Man that can read. Yet nevertheless one would hope that no Man's Vanity could, upon so serious a Subject, seduce him to commit such an unlimited Outrage purely for the Sake of building up a Fame to a favourite Brat of his own, upon the Ruins of any efficacious Medicine whatever. Surely a Man must have arrived at the highest Pitch of Idolatry that would constitute an Idol for the Pleasure of sacrificing to it.

FOR my own Part, I want no further Evidence of the Efficacy of the *CINNABARS* and *MUSK* to determine their *Superiority* over all other Medicines now in Use. Whether they are absolutely *infallible*, or not, Time must discover. But though they were, I should be extremely glad to find many other Medicines equally so. Indeed I have but little Notion of absolute Infallibility in any Medicine, because we daily see *very different Effects* from the same Medicines in different Constitutions, *however similar the Symptoms may be to which they are applied.*



IF Dr. BRACKEN hath, from repeated Experiments, discovered that *Oil of Olives* or *Goose-grease*, will so sheathe or entangle the venomous *Saliva* of a *Mad Dog*, as to destroy its *Virulency*, or prevent its causing an *Hydrophobia*, the Discovery certainly merits the Attention and Thanks of the Publick. For in this Case above all others, Knowledge established by successful Experiments is of infinitely greater Value, than all the *mechanical Reasonings*, or philosophical Speculations of the Schools; the one being the unerring Road to Truth, the other often leading its Votaries into Errour. Or, should he be able to prove by unexceptionable Vouchers, a Fact that, at present, rests only on his bare *Gratis Dictum*, the Certainty thereof might easily be ascertained by making a sufficient Number of Experiments on *Capital Convicts*, who would perhaps, submit to it on Condition of a Pardon in case they recovered.

THIS, Sir, would be putting the Matter to a fair Issue, and by administering the *CINNABARS* and *MUSK* to all those that should happen to be deceived by *omnipotent Goose-grease* the Discoverer might at once be convinced of his double Mistake. For, unless future Experiments should demonstrate *Oil of Olives* or *Goose-grease*, to be more efficacious, than past Experiments have shewn *Scarifying* and *Cupping*\* to be, the most accurate Trials will only serve to establish the Futility of this Gentleman's System.

#### ANOTHER

\* The late learned Dr. MEAD tells us, that the *Hydrophobia* was first taken Notice of in the Time of ASCLEPIADES, who lived in the Days of POMPEY the Great: the Practice of submerging or ducking the Patient in cold Water first mentioned by CORNELIUS CELSUS: that of scarifying by Incision round about, and cauterising Wounds made by the Bite of a *Mad Dog*, wisely recommended by GALEN; which he says, were the best Methods then known: but at the same Time acknowledges that their Effects were uncertain: of which, I make no Doubt, the Experience of every Age affords many Instances. Strange it may seem, and it is greatly to be lamented, that the Experience of near 1600 Years, should suggest no Improvement in this Branch of Practice!

Notwithstanding that neither of these Methods, nor the Practice of *Scarifying* and *Cupping*, recommended also by CELSUS, can with any Degree of Certainty be relied on; yet, when the external Wound is very small, it is quite right to dilate it instantly, with any sharp Instrument that may readily become at, and so let it bleed 'till it stops of its own Accord, squeezing it frequently to force out as much Blood as you can. By these Means great Part of the Venom will be discharged, which otherwise might be locked up in the Wound. And this may always be done, although the Situation of the Part renders the Application of a *Cupping-Glass* or *Gooseberry-Bottle* impracticable.



ANOTHER Difficulty seems to remain, as to the Practicability of applying *Goosberry-Bottles* or *Pickle-Pots* to the Fingers, as Substitutes for *Cupping-Glasses*: And this Difficulty, I fear will always remain, unless this ingenious Gentleman will be pleased to explain the Method he took in applying *Cupping-Glasses*, *Goosberry-Bottles*, or *Pickle-Pots* to the Fingers “that were so severely bitten that they dropt with Blood” (for this he says was his Method) it being presumed that their Surface was not equal to the Diameter of the Mouth of a wide-mouthed *Goosberry-Bottle*, or an ordinary *Cupping-Glass*, wherefore we are at a Loss to conceive the Possibility of excluding the Air, and consequently how a good *Cupping-Glass*, for the Fingers, can be made with a wide-mouthed *Goosberry-Bottle*, unless it should eventually come out, that in *Lancashire*, Men’s Fingers are larger, or their *Goosberries* smaller, than in these more Southern Counties. But it is with due Submission granted, that if any Person, *Man* or *Woman*, should happen to be bit in the *Posteriors*, a Surface might be found *there* sufficient to display either a *Goosberry-Bottle*, or *Pickle-Pot* to great Advantage.

THAT the *Fat* of *Vipers* hath nothing of a *specifick* Quality whereby to destroy the Venom of their Bite is not denied: nor is it granted, that because it hath a Property of preventing the bad Effects of the venomous Bite of the one, it should *therefore* be equally an Antidote to the other,\* any more than that *Violets* and *Tansy* should both

The poisonous *Saliva* is so immediately absorbed by the circulating Fluids, however slow its Migrations may be in some Constitutions, that the Application of *Cupping-Glasses* or the actual *Cautery* will, I fear, be made too late, and prove ineffectual, unless they are at Hand when the Accident happens: And even then it may happen to prove so. The most certain of these painful Operations, seems to be the circular Incision, but not performed, exactly, according to *Galen’s* Directions.—The Method I would prefer, when practicable, is instantaneously to take out the whole Piece, by an Incision made round about, and a little deeper than the Bottom of the Wound. But if the Patient deliberates and at length submits, I fear his *Resolution* will betray him into *certain Pain* for *uncertain Profit*.

\* Whether the Figure of those two Animal Poisons is alike in the *Viper* and *Mad Dog*, merits Inquiry. If it is, it does not follow that such Bodies as are a *Vinculum* to the one should necessarily be so to the other: Probability seems to be against it, seeing that the Symptoms excited by the one are very different to those produced by the other: The Effects of This more local, and “*sudden as it were a Spark of Fire among Gunpowder*,” of That more slow, it being many Weeks, nay, frequently many months, before the Poison begins to discover itself.



both emit the same *Odours*, because they both grow together in the same Soil, as any common Man, unassisted by Natural Philosophy, may easily conceive.

FROM what hath been said I would not be understood, or thought to insinuate, negatively, that *unctuous Epithems* will not prevent an *Hydrophobia*, from the Bite of *Mad Animals*: I own I never knew the Experiment made, and should rejoice to see some *well attested* Instances of its Success; which in a Case so interesting, the Publick has a Right to expect; and no Doubt will insist on it before they adopt or prefer it to *CINNABAR* and *MUSK*, whose Virtues are better known, and much better attested.

THE Doctor hath said “when this venomous Saliva is put in Motion, it is so subtil and deleterious that it runs *as quick almost* “as a Spark of Fire among Gunpowder;” wherefore we are again at a Loss to conceive the Reason why the Anointing with *Oil*, or any *unctuous Matter*, that may most readily be come at, should be deferred till after the Apparatus for *Scarifying* and *Cupping* could be got ready, and the Operations performed; when the Anointing might be done before a *Goosbery-bottle* could be procured, made dry and fit for the Purpose: and as the venomous Saliva begins its Workings as soon as it is deposited in the Wound, (for nothing can be more absurd or preposterous, than to suppose so subtil a Poison *lies dormant* or *inactive* a single Moment) no Time should be lost in applying this Remedy, provided that *Oil* or *Goose-grease* are found to act upon the venomous Saliva of a *Mad Dog* in the same manner as *Vipers Fat*, or *Oil* has been thought to act upon that of a *Viper*; since, upon that Principle, it is beyond a Doubt, that if it be not *immediately applied* it will have no Effect at all, as will be readily conceived by all that have a just Idea of the Principle upon which *unctuous Matter*, in that Case, is supposed to act. Wherefore as this Method of Cure is, at best, so very limited and confined, it seems to stand in the lowest Class of *Prophylacticks*; and is, *for that Reason*, in no Degree comparable with those that have been successfully used many Days after the injury was inflicted, much less is it to be set in Competition with a well-authenticated *Therapeutick*. Nevertheless, when *Oil* or any Thing *unctuous* can be instantly come at, I would

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by no Means discountenance the Use of it. Let it be tried; since it is certain it can do no Harm, by interfering with, or obstructing the *Operation* of any other Medicine that might afterwards be given; and in all Cases of such extreme Danger, no collateral Means should be neglected that bear the Face of Probability, when neither *Reason* nor *Experience* hath decided against them.

BUT after all the Bustle that has been made, to prove that unctuous Applications will sheathe the virulent Spiculæ of the *Viperine Poison* and thereby destroy their malignant Effects, if it should appear that they have no such Property or Power, and that their salutary Effects are produced upon a very different Principle, I fear all this boasted Fund of *true Philosophy* will end in Dissipation.

IN Opposition to this Hypothesis, it has been said, that the embrocating the Part bitten by a Viper, with *Vipers Fat* or warm *Sallad Oil* does, by its relaxing Quality, allay the spasmodick Contractions of the nervous Fibers, and prevent an Inflammation of the neighbouring Parts, together with a Series of tragical Symptoms, that always accompany it. That by frequently embrocating the Part round about, with either *Oil* or *Vipers Fat*, without suffering the least Particle of it to enter the Wound, the same Effect would be produced as if it were to be rubbed immediately into it, upon the *Viperine Poison*. Whence it appears that the Cure is not wrought by the sheathing, “with fatty Substances,” the *saline Spiculæ* in the poisonous Saliva.

BOTH these Hypotheses have their Advocates, and both in their Turns, have been supported by a specious Appearance of sound Argument.

Dr. NUGENT ordered *Elizabeth Bryant's* Hand and Arm that were convulsed, during the Time she languished under an *Hydrophobia*, to be embrocated, many Times a Day, with warm *Sallad Oil*. This could not be done with an Intention to sheathe the *saline Spiculæ* in the venomous Saliva, but to relax and take off the Tensity of the nervous Fibers, and abate their spasmodick Contractions. It had its Effect, the Spasms were relieved; the Physician was satisfied.

AS to the Business of *Scarifying* and *Cupping* one would almost be inclined to think, from the many Competitors there are for the Honour



Honour of the Discovery, that the Operations were always attended with Success. Near ten Years before our Author here preferred his Claim, another *self-obstetrick* Artist, pregnant with Invention, had conceived an important Discovery, to which this seems to be a *Superfetation*; and so very like it is, that the nicest Eye could not discern the Difference between them. After many laborious *Pangs* and *Throes* he delivered himself of it in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1751. Fond of his Offspring, he, in the most endearing Terms, modestly recommends it to the Tutelage of all the parochial Clergy throughout the Kingdom, by requesting each and every one of these Reverend Gentlemen to purchase a Set of *Cupping-glasses*, and to use them in their respective Parishes on all Emergencies.—The ingenious Editors, of this monthly Performance observe—that they should have taken the Author for a *Glass-maker*, but that they were well assured he was not.

THE Manner whereby the venomous Saliva of a *Mad Dog* produces an *Hydrophobia* is not more abstruse than the following inconclusive *Proposition*, notwithstanding it is ushered in with all the Pomp of dogmatical Arrogance, viz. that “*penetrating Oils or fatty Substances* have a  
“ Property of preventing the bad Effects of the *Bite* of a *Viper*, and  
“ though *Vipers Fat* is very penetrating, yet it has nothing of a speci-  
“ fick Quality whereby to destroy the Venom of the Bite any more  
“ than other unctuous or oily Applications, and FOR THESE  
“ REASONS those Gentlemen who talk much of *CINNABAR*  
“ and *MUSK* or the *Tonquin* Medicine are *Tyros*, little versed in  
“ *natural Philosophy, the Oeconomy of the Human Body or the Modus ope-*  
“ *randi* of Medicine.”

THESE, Sir, are the Reasons which, at once, irrefragably prove the *Acuteness* of his own Penetration, and the *Puerility and Ignorance* of his Neighbours. And who, besides himself, could have argued so very Philosophically? But to become a little more serious; could it be deemed a criminal Presumption to suppose, that the Doctor, in groping about in the Dark for Argument, hath picked up Abuse? what Apology he will be able to make for producing it in open Daylight, may not be in the Power of any common Capacity to guess.

DID the Gentlemen, against whom this Invective seems princi-



pally to be levelled, think it worth the Trouble of a Reply, they would perhaps, *affuage* the Fury of his Choler, by shewing him, that he, not being “truly sensible of the Matter in Hand,” is a little bewildered between Cause and Effect; which like an *Ignis Fatuus* have so egregiously misguided him, as to seduce him to triumph in a shameful Defeat.

AS to the Doctrine of *Transubstantiation* or the *Transmigration* of Souls, although I make neither of them an Article of my Faith, yet I could as readily subscribe to either *the One* or *the Other*, as prevail on myself to suppose, *that any Man of a common Capacity*, Dr. BRACKEN excepted, should think it absurd to administer an *Antidote* internally, thereby to secure us from the deadly Effects of a Poison conveyed by *Inoculation*, “through little Holes made in the Skin;” seeing that every Day’s Experience shews the Reasonableness and great Utility of giving *Medicines into the Stomach*, to check the Progress, and secure Us from the deadly Effects of the *variolous Poison* in the *inoculated Small Pox*; and the *Venereal Virus*, less rapid in its Progress, though not less deadly in its Effects, *is generally cured by Medicines taken into the Stomach*, although it is propagated by *Inoculation*.

THIS formidable Critick’s, by Turns, as fullen as JACK in the Tale of a Tub, and like PETER, turbulent and overbearing, concludes by modestly assuring his Readers, not only *without* but *against* positive Evidence, that “what some Physicians have said “concerning their curing their Patients when the *Hydrophobia*\* or “Dread of Water has been on them, is all a Farce:”—a Lye I suppose he means—and the Reason he assigns for it, is, “because the “Disorder is then in the last Stage, and the Patient *therefore* irre- “coverable by human Art.” Or in other Words, all Persons under an *Hydrophobia*, are absolutely incurable, *because they are*. Or, because HE never did, or could cure, or never knew any one that recovered from an *Hydrophobia*.

SUCH

\*The late learned Dr. MEAD diffidently says. “at that Time all Authors do agree the Malady to be incurable.” He well knowing the Uncertainty of all earthly Things, and the great Imperfection of Human Understanding, wisely forbore to aver, that it must, of Necessity, for ever remain so.

Upon dissecting Bodies that have died of the *Canine Madness*, their Stomachs and Parts contiguous have been found highly inflamed and mortified; which perhaps, *Cause* and *Effect*,  
not



SUCH inconclusive Deductions as this and a former equally curious, are the common Result of such supercilious Animadversions. But the latter bears so striking a Resemblance to the *Logick* of Monsr. MOLIERE in his burlesque Definition of the *Nature, Properties, and Modus Operandi* of *Opium*, that I cannot forbear quoting it upon this Occasion; notwithstanding the severe Censure passed by the Doctor, in a Part of his Letter, hitherto not taken Notice of, on *some Gentlemen of the Faculty*, for their quoting the *Arabian, Greek, or Latin Authors*; for if he quarrels with me on the same Account, I shall take Leave to put him in Mind, that, although I have quoted a Latin Passage to elucidate one of his, it is from a *French Dramatick Author*, and therefore I might hope to be indulged the Liberty of quoting a *Play*, by a Gentleman, who, in treating upon the same Subject, hath quoted HUDIBRAS.

## THE

not being duly attended to, has induced People to suppose the *Hydrophobia* incurable: But the Recovery of *Elizabeth Bryant* casts such a new Light upon the Matter as leaves little Room for Despair.

Much ingenious Speculation has been employed in tracing the true Cause of this Inflammation: and it seems still to be an undecided Point, whether it arises immediately from the escharotick Quality Irritability of the Saliva swallowed by the Patient, or the spasmodick Contractions of the Nervous Fibers: some maintaining that the Blood is contaminated by the poisonous Saliva of the *Mad Animal* from which it was received; while others confine its Operations wholly to the nervous System. Both undoubtedly partake of the Mischief, *This* in the Beginning, *That* towards the Conclusion of the Disease. That the Blood is diseased plainly appears from the poisonous Saliva secreted from it; which as soon as the *Hydrophobia* comes on, is, to all Intents and Purposes, of the same malignant Nature with that which gave the Infection. Till then no formidable Nervous Symptoms appear; and whether the Cure is wrought by the Mercury in the CINNABAR destroying the Malignancy of the infecting Matter, which from the great Success wherewith *Turbith Mineral* and other *Mercurials*\* have of late been used, both internally and by Uction, as well in this Nation as in *France*, seems not improbable: Or, whether by the incomparable Power of the MUSK as a nervous Medicine; or by the joint Powers of both, acting together upon these or any other Principles, hitherto unexplored, it is sufficient to my Purpose, that this Medicine, which none other can boast, hath succeeded, in many Instances, after the *Hydrophobia* hath appeared, and therefore,

Not to enter further into Inquiries of this Sort, which have been already very learnedly treated upon by Men of acknowledged Abilities, and which may for ever be liable to Objections, I shall beg Leave to remark; that one single well attested Instance of a Person recovering from the *Hydrophobia*, accompanied with a faithful Relation of the Method and Means whereby such an happy Event was brought about, is of infinite more Value and Importance to Mankind, than the most ingenious Disquisition, or fine-spun Theory, which the Subtlety of the most fertile Genius can devise or suggest. It argues therefore the most consummate Vanity, the most arrogant Presumption in any Man, to set up an arbitrary Conjecture, or any Kind of Theory, against well known and well attested Facts.

\* See Dr. Laidlaw's Essay on the Bite of a Mad Dog. S. 3. passim.



THE Question, *Quare Opium facit dormire?* being put to a *French Physical Tyro*, is thus resolved.\*

“ *Quia est in eo*

“ *Virtus dormativa,*

“ *Cujus est Natura*

“ *Sensus assoupire.*”

The Analogy between the *modern* Philosophy of the *French Tyro* and the *English Adept* is too obvious to need any further Comment.

—— ——— —ridentem dicere verum

*Quid vetat?*

WHAT Sort of Phrensy could raise the Climax of Self-conceit to so high a Pitch, as to make him flatter himself that he was a better Judge of Symptoms which he had no Opportunity of *seeing* or *examining*, than Gentlemen of the first Character in their several Professions, who had *inspected and closely attended to them throughout the whole Course of the Disease*; or what could induce the most restless Genius upon Earth, with a Passion equally unnatural and unaccountable, thus sportively to assault an infant Plan, happily set on Foot and successfully improved, the Completion whereof would prove infinitely beneficial to Mankind: or what could seduce him thus mischievously to attempt to suppress it, by striving to pervert so important a Truth, by arbitrarily endeavouring to pollute the Understanding and debauch the Judgment of the Publick, and with Assertions as false as they are insolent, to contrive to disengage their Attention from the further Pursuit of it, may be difficult to conjecture.

BEFORE I conclude it may not be improper to declare, that if this over-bearing Gentleman had been contented with recommending his new Method of curing by Unction (for *Scarifying* and *Cupping* is an old one) without throwing out any squinting Reflections upon Gentlemen, of whose Abilities the World wants no Evidence; or without attempting to depreciate, by a String of false Arguments, the most excellent Medicine yet known in this Disease, I should not have thought myself obliged to take Notice of *this very extraordinary Letter*. But as I have had such frequent Opportunities of seeing the good Effects of the *CINNABARS* and *MUSK* as af-

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\* See the *Hypochondriack* by Moliere.



ford the fullest Conviction of something more than their *Prophylactic* Power, and have the Honour to be well known to, and have benefited by the Intercourse I formerly had with Dr. NUGENT, who is the only Gentleman I know of, that hath publickly born Testimony to this Medicine as a *Therapeutick* in this Disease, (to which many of the learned Faculty in *Bath* were Witnesses, having frequently visited *Elizabeth Bryant* in her Illness) and, for twenty Years past have had much Pleasure in my Acquaintance with Mr. WRIGHT, and great Satisfaction from his ingenious Correspondence; who, although he hath not written upon *Bryant's* Case, constantly attended her, as well before as after Dr. NUGENT was consulted; and as he was well convinced of, has often asserted the Reality of her having a *genuine Hydrophobia*, I should be without Excuse, while I am writing upon a Subject wherein the Abilities of these Gentlemen have been implicitly reflected on, were I to have said less while there is so much Room to say more.

I have only to add, that there is all Imaginable Reason to hope, that these Cases will find a favourable Reception from the Publick in general, as a general Good may be expected from them. Facts always speak for themselves, and as they want not the Aid of false Colours to set them off, they need not fear the most virulent Efforts of Calumny or Defamation. For, as these are but poor Supporters to a bad Cause, so they will never be able to prevail against a good one; although, for a while, good Causes, like good Men, may, through them, sometimes, suffer.

I shall close my Remarks upon the Strictures of this redoutable Critick, by comparing a few Passages in his very curious Letter to the Printer of the *London Chronicle*, with some others advanced by him, upon the same Subject, in another Place..

“ I have been *well informed*, from very  
“ credible People, that a Carrier be-  
“ tween *Bernard Castle* and *Kirby Lons-*  
“ *dale* in *Westmoreland* went mad three  
“ Years after the Bite.”

“ I remember a Carrier, who  
“ carried Goods between *Ber-*  
“ *nard Castle* and *Kirby Lonsdale*,  
“ that went mad as he was tra-  
“ velling over *Stain Moor*, near  
“ two Years after he had been  
“ bit by a Mad Dog.”

Dr. Bracken's Art of Farriery improved.

P. 523.

Dr. Bracken's Letter to Mr. Wilkie.

“ A



“ A great deal of Stir has been made  
 “ in the News, with an Account of a  
 “ pretended Secret for the Cure of the  
 “ Bite of a *Mad Dog*. And I knew some  
 “ Gentlemen who esteemed the Thing  
 “ (before it came into the News) as a  
 “ grand *Orvietan* or Counter-poison;  
 “ whereas the Composition is in *Bates’s*  
 “ Dispensatory, under the Title of *De-*  
 “ *coctum ad Morsum Canis Rabidi*. And I  
 “ MUST OWN THE SAME IS WELL ENOUGH CAL-  
 “ CULATED FOR THE INTENDED PURPOSE.”

Ibid. p. 529.

“ THE late Earle of *Derby* had most  
 “ of his Hounds bit by a *Mad Dog*; and  
 “ his Lordship thought fit to try Mr.  
 “ *Hill’s* Secret. An equal Number of  
 “ them took the Powder, and as many  
 “ of them, *equally affected*, as far as could  
 “ be judged, took the Decoction of  
 “ *Rue, Garlick, &c.* from Dr. *Bates’s* Dis-  
 “ pensatory. Five out of the nine of  
 “ Mr. *Hill’s* died, and those that took  
 “ Dr. *Bates’s* Medicine ALL RECOVERED.”

Ibid. p. 530.

“ IN the Main there is scarce any  
 “ Difference in the Effects of the Fat of  
 “ Animals, I mean Quadrupeds; but  
 “ *Vipers* Fat is of all others the most pe-  
 “ netrating, and what no large *Family*  
 “ should be without, seeing it has the most  
 “ Right to claim something extraordinary in  
 “ curing not only the *Viperine* Poison in-  
 “ flicted by the Bite, but also all other  
 “ venomous Bites.” Ibid. p. 533.

IT now rests upon the Judgment of the Reader, whether the  
 learned Doctor hath not given it under his Hand, that himself was  
 once a TRANSUBSTANTIATIONIST, a TRANSMIGRATIONIST  
 and a *Tyro* ἐν Ἰατρικῇ.

“ LET any common Man  
 “ only consider the Venom  
 “ entering by *small Wounds*, made  
 “ by the Dog’s Teeth, and tell  
 “ me whether he cannot equal-  
 “ ly believe the Doctrine of  
 “ Transubstantiation or the Trans-  
 “ migration of Souls, as that any  
 “ Kind of Medicine, whatever,  
 “ taken into the Stomach of  
 “ an Animal, should be able  
 “ to stop the Progress of the venom-  
 “ ous Saliva and effectually secure us  
 “ from its deadly Effects. No! no!  
 “ They are *Tyros* in our Art  
 “ who argue so immechanical-  
 “ ly.” Ibid.

“ THOUGH *Vipers* Fat is  
 “ very penetrating, yet has it  
 “ nothing of a specifick Quali-  
 “ ty whereby to destroy the  
 “ Venom of the Bite, any more  
 “ than other unctuous or oily Appli-  
 “ cations.” Ibid.



# S U P P L E M E N T.

CONCERNING the Time when the *Hydrophobia* was first taken Notice of, Authors have been very much divided in their Opinions; some affirming that it was known to HIPPOCRATES and the Antients, while others, with equal Confidence, fix the Aera of its first Appearance many Centuries later. Among those who maintain the former of these Opinions, a learned Gentleman that hath lately favoured the World with an Essay on the *Hydrophobia*, endeavours to persuade us, that HIPPOCRATES alludes to that Disease in the following Sentence.

Οἱ φρενιτικοὶ βραχυπότηι ψόφῳ καὶ ἀπρόμενοι τρομῶδες,

*Those in a Phrensy drink but little at a Time, and are seized with Tremblings on any sudden Noise.*

TO strengthen his Assertion he avers, that “COELIUS AURELIANUS was clear in Opinion in favour of HIPPOCRATES and “the Antients;” that ARETAEUS concurred in the same Sentiment, and that the *Hydrophobia* is a Symptom common to many other Diseases.

IT is amazing to see what Lengths Men will sometimes go to support the most extravagant Conjectures. To detach Passages from old Authors, and press them into their service, or to quote by Scraps, without regarding what goes before or follows after, and thereby dress up such a Disease as the Antients had not the least Notion of,\* is an absurd Foible of long standing; that, when indulged, only serves to bewilder and mislead the ignorant, or unwary Reader, while the least Benefit to the Publick cannot possibly result from it.

THERE is not perhaps a Passage, in all the Writings of this great Man, that has been the Subject of so much trifling Animadversion as this single Word, notwithstanding its true and genuine Meaning is as plain and self-evident as any one compound Word

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\* See it censured by Dr. FRIEND in his History of Physick. Vol. 2. p. 340.



in the Greek Language, and has been properly explained by GALEN,\* in his Comment thereon.

*βραχυπόλαι dicuntur qui rarius et per multa Intervalla bibunt.*

*They are called βραχυπόλαι who drink but seldom, and then by sipping, or frequently breaking off in the Midst of their Draughts.*

THIS, as it is the most obvious, is the only proper Sense in which the Word can here be taken. For neither Etymology nor practical Observation warrants any other; and he must have been a careless Observer who does not know that this is precisely the Case with People in a raging Phrensy.

IN 1760 and the following Year, I attended two Patients, each about fifty Years Old when he was seized with this melancholy Disease, and in both it began with a Febricula or slow nervous Fever. The one lived about a Fortnight after, the *Phrensy* came on, the other somewhat longer, and both were βραχυπόλαι in the strict Sense and Meaning of HIPPOCRATES, agreeably to the Explanation given by his great Commentator.

THE Frankfort Editor† tells us, that the Word is often used by GALEN, in treating of *Phreniticks*; and that it is also used in the same Sense by ARETAEUS.

*Quæ Vox sæpè celebratur in Phreniticis a Galeno et usurpatur etiam Aretæo.*

HIPPOCRATES begins his Book‡ with a Description of the Symptoms common to a *Phrensy*; and with his wonted Perspicuity, recites them severally, as they occurred to his Observation; but says nothing that affords the least rational Grounds to suppose he had an Eye upon the *Hydrophobia*. The famous Passage under Consideration makes the sixteenth Sentence; and it has already been shewn, that sipping and hastily taking the Cup from the Mouth is a Symptom common to a *Phrensy* in its highest State; wherefore He, with great Propriety calls those so affected βραχυπόλαι: and as this is no Symptom of an *Hydrophobia*, I hope the Word may hereafter be permitted to rest undisturbed, in the full Possession of its only true and genuine Meaning. The better therefore to ascertain its

Right

\* Lib. 3. Com. 3.

† Foefius.

‡ Lib. Prædict.



Right it must be insisted upon, that if the Word *βραχυπόλαι* were to be read in the Sense Dr. LAYARD is contending for, the very accurate Description of a *Phrensy* given by HIPPOCRATES, would thereby be rendered incomplete; because the Word has not a double Power, and cannot be made subservient to both Purposes. By mutilating his Description of a *Phrensy* to bring him acquainted with the *Hydrophobia*, the greatest Character that ever existed would be rendered absurd, and quite inconsistent with himself in every other Instance. For, what ordinary Writer in Physick ever flew off, from one Subject to another, and after he had described a Symptom or two of the Disease he had digressed to, left it again as abruptly as he had entered upon it, and again resumed his former Subject? And this must have been the Case here, provided the Word *βραχυπόλαι* is to be read in a Sense synonymous with *ὑδροφοβοί*. The Premises considered, it is not to be supposed that a Man whose Precision in describing Symptoms of the most common Diseases sometimes betrayed him into Prolixity, should, in this Instance, break through all Manner of Rule or Order in writing, by thus slightly touching upon a Disease of the last Importance, and in no other Part of his Works make the least Mention of it; as is really the Case.

THE learned Author of an *Essay on the Bite of a Mad Dog*,\* hath indeed made an Effort towards reconciling this Difficulty. He supposes (from what Authority he hath not told us) that in the hot Climate of Greece, where HIPPOCRATES always lived, “the  
“ Progress of the *Hydrophobia* is so very speedy, that it destroys Peo-  
“ ple on the first Appearance of the Difficulty of swallowing, whence they  
“ were called *βραχυπόλαι*, *Parvibibuli*,” and therefore presumes,  
“ that HIPPOCRATES never had an Opportunity of seeing the  
“ entire *Hydrophobia*, either in *Phreniticks*, or Persons bitten by Mad  
Animals.” S. 2. p. 37.

IT is obvious, from Experience, that the Difficulty of swallowing, together with a Dread of Water, is one of the earliest Symptoms of the *Canine Madness*, even in this temperate Climate. The following Case may serve to illustrate the Truth of the Proposition.

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ABOUT

\* Dr. Layard.



ABOUT fifteen Years ago, one *James Dorman* of *Malmesbury*, was bitten, by a large Mastiffe that was *mad*. About forty Days after the Accident, the Man being at a Village, two Miles from Home, found himself very thirsty, and desired something to drink. Some Ale was brought him, of which he could not swallow a Drop. Repeated Efforts were in vain made; for, as often as he put the Cup towards his Mouth, to drink, he hastily caught back his Head from it. Finding it impracticable to get down any of his Liquor, and being truly sensible of his impending Danger, he hastened Home with the *Hydrophobia* upon him, and sent for the late Mr. RICHARD CAPSON, at that Time an eminent Apothecary there; to whom he declared his Apprehensions. Mr. *Copson*, by trying him with Water, found his Suspicions were but too just. Being satisfied of the Reality of the Case, he blooded him copiously; and many Medicines were given, in the Form of Bolus's; but what they were I know not; nor is it very material for the Publick to know, because the Patient died on the third Day\* from the Time of his being seized with the *Hydrophobia*.

THIS single Instance may serve to shew that the *Hydrophobia* and *Difficulty* of swallowing Liquids, are the first distinguishing Marks of the *Canine Madness*, in the northern Climate of *Britain*; where, perhaps, the Disease may not be “of so violent a Nature, so frequent, or in its Progress so speedy as in the more southern Climate of *Greece*, where HIPPOCRATES lived.” But that “it destroys the Patient on the first Appearance of the Difficulty of swallowing,” as the learned Essayist has assumed, I own, I have some little Doubt; being inclined to think that he hath too implicitly relied on the fallacious Testimony of parole Evidence in this Particular; without considering that, if the Fact stands as he hath reported, the *Hydrophobia* would, in hot Countries, be sudden Death to all that should become the Victims of its Fury.

BUT since the Passion for quoting hath been so far indulged; and in Opposition to GALEN's Sense of the Word, COELIUS AURELIANUS hath been made to say, that HIPPOCRATES, in this  
laconick

\* He was seized on a Friday in the Afternoon, and died the Sunday following about eight o'Clock in the Morning, as I am informed by his Relations.



laconick Sentence, alluded to the *Hydrophobia*, it may not be amiss to inquire what AURELIANUS says on this Subject. In Order hereunto I shall take Leave to recite a few Passages from this celebrated Author, as they are quoted by the learned Translator\* of HIPPOCRATES, in his Comment on the Sentence in Question; being unprovided with the Writings of COELIUS AURELIANUS. And this Licence, I hope, will not be denied me, as Dr. LAYARD himself, seems to have derived many of his Authorities from the same Source. And first, COELIUS AURELIANUS says,

“ Although HIPPOCRATES is not directly treating upon the Hydrophobia, yet, the Words, abstracted from what they are connected with, may seem to bear such a Construction.

*Ipse quoque HIPPOCRATES, et si non principaliter de ipsa Passione tractans, Sensu tamen Dictorum hanc Passionem memorasse monstratur.*

HE then supposes that they were called βραχυπόλαι because they drank but little, being afraid of the Liquor.

*βραχυπόλαι, dici existimat quod Modicum biberent ob Liquoris Timorem. And that they were properly called βραχυπόλαι who, being possessed with a Loathing, refused both Meat and Drink; or, their Imagination being depraved, fancy that they cannot drink; or, their Madness rendering them suspicious, may have a Jealousy that Poison has been mixed with their Liquor.*

*Quos recte βραχυπόλαι, dici scribit, quod Fastidio possessi non solum Cibum verum etiam Potum refugiunt; vel, quod Imaginatione laesa, accipiendum Potum non existiment; vel Suspicionem ob Delirationem affecti, admixta putent Venena Liquori.* Foes. Com. in Lib. Præd. p. 48.

TO lay down Premises or draw Conclusions from the Actions of mad Men is really trifling; unworthy the respectable Character COELIUS AURELIANUS bears in the learned Word; so that one would rather think that he was retailing the different Opinions of different Men than seriously advancing his own. For, I believe he is the only Man of acknowledged Abilities, that ever supposed the Actions of mad People were regulated by a cautious Forecast. Were this the Case, might they not, literally, be said, *insanire cum Ratione?*

CONSCIOUS

\* Foesius.



CONSCIOUS of the Futility of these Conjectures, He, (to use the Words of the Frankfort Editor) *as it were in the same Breath*, resolves that the Sentence in Question is descriptive of a *Phrensy*, not of an *Hydrophobia*.

*Et si sanè, mutata quasi Velificatione, id rectè PHRENITICIS non HYDROPHOBIS attribui afferit.*

WHICH puts it beyond a Doubt that COELIUS AURELIANUS at length determined HIPPOCRATES does not speak of the *Canine Madness* in this Place, however he might have balanced between two jarring Opinions.

I shall dismiss this Part of my Subject by recommending to the learned Essayist, a Perusal of the first Sentence of the Book \* wherein this Passage first occurs; and in the former Part of it he will find many Presages of an approaching *Phrensy* very accurately drawn up. And it merits Attention, that this Sentence concludes by observing, that *a Running of the Nostrils is a Presage of ill Omen; more especially if it happens ON THE FOURTH DAY FROM THE ATTACK.*

*Narium Stillatio Pernicem ostentat, idque præcipuè SI QUARTO INTER INITIA DIE CONTINGAT.*

AND it is further observable, that the very same Word, φρενιτικοί, is used more than once, by HIPPOCRATES, in this Book, in describing the Disease wherein Men are said to be βραχυπόται or Sippers: It occurs also in another Book,† where, in treating further upon the Subject, this illustrious Father again makes Use of the same Sentence.

*Οἱ φρενιτικοί βραχυπόται ψόφῃ καθάπλόμενοι τρομώδεις ἢ οπαμώδεις.*

IT may be needless to produce any further Evidence to prove that the Disease alluded to, by this plain and obvious Passage, was not sudden Death to all those that were seized with it; or to shew that HIPPOCRATES had seen *the entire Disease* he was treating upon, and that he does not here allude to any other. Because, before the Use of CINNABAR and MUSK was known in Europe, very few, if any under an *Hydrophobia*, have ever survived that Period.

LET me add—When the Greeks 500 Years after the Death of HIPPOCRATES first took Notice of the *Canine Madness*, they called it,

\* Lib. Prædict.

† Coac. Prænot. Sent. 96.



it, as CELSUS informs us, ὑδροφοβία or the Dread of Water, in Contradistinction to the βραχυπόται or Drinkers of a little at a Time: and if the venerable old Man, had made Use of the Term βραχυπόται to describe the grand Diagnostick Symptom of that Disease, it may be assumed, that his Countrymen, who were almost ready to pay Divine Honour to his Memory, would not have adopted a new Name for it, to the Prejudice of the old one. Not the Greek Writers only—Authors of all other Nations have always distinguished the *Canine Madness* by the Term *Hydrophobia*, although the *Hydrophobia* is only a Symptom of that Disease.

THE absurdity of supposing that HIPPOCRATES should content himself with barely mentioning so momentous a Disease hath already been shewn. It hath also been shewn that his Catalogue of Symptoms would have been incomplete were this striking Symptom to be expunged and applied to another purpose. And our great Master hath in both Pages where this Sentence is found, very carefully summed up the Symptoms common to a *Phrensy*; and why After-ages should suppose he meant to describe a Disease very different, nay, quite contrary to what he hath in the most explicit Terms laid down, is not readily to be conceived. HIPPOCRATES was a Man of too firm an Understanding to call an unhappy Wretch that could not, without Horror, look upon any pellucid Liquor, or swallow a single Drop, a *Drinker of small Draughts*; and it would be injurious to his Humanity to suppose him capable of punning or speaking with Levity upon so serious a Subject: wherefore it was Cruelty, aggravated with Ingratitude, to make a Man to whom the learned Faculty, in general, owe so much, for the Benefits they have derived from his industry and uncommon Abilities, speak Nonsense many Centuries after he was dead.

WE come next to consider the Evidence offered to prove “that the *Hydrophobia* is a Symptom common to other Diseases”—and first—we are told “that the Methodists ranked all Diseases under two Classes; those caused by Stricture or Tention, and those caused by Relaxation.” He proceeds to explain the Nature and Cause of an *Hydrophobia*; and after dropping a strong Intimation that



that it may result from such sudden and inordinate Passions of the Mind, as create Stricture or Tension (more particularly such as are attended with Spasmodick Contractions of the Nerves of the Throat) in the following Passage, he, at once, resolves the *Hydrophobia* into a Symptom common to all Diseases that are through Stricture or Tension dangerous.

“ THE *Hydrophobia* therefore is a constant Attendant upon such  
 “ acute Diseases as are dangerous, though Stricture and Tension; and  
 “ more particularly in the Bite of a *Mad Dog*. Whenever this  
 “ severe Symptom appears, it is the more fatal; the greater the  
 “ Tension and Inflammation, the longer the Symptom hath lasted;  
 “ and from the different Rigidity of the Fibers, it is, by far more  
 “ difficult to remove in Men than Women.” \*

WHETHER this subtle Theory is not rather too fine-spun, I shall leave to the Decision of an abler Pen, or of that unerring Guide, Experience; when perhaps it will be found to have made a much prettier Figure in Speculation, than in Experiment. I shall only remark, that however specious this Argumentation may be, such acute Diseases as are capable of exciting an *Hydrophobia* through Stricture or Tension very rarely occur; or, I believe very few of the learned Faculty, in this Part of the Kingdom, have ever observed this striking Symptom to proceed from any other than that well known Cause, the Bite of a *Mad Animal*.

IN support of this eccentric Theory, an Instance hath been produced of a Person supposed to have become *Hydrophobous* from an Abscess in the Neck of the Bladder, attended with a Suppression of Urine, and a high symptomatick Fever, which I have here recited.

“ IN April 1758 a Farmer and Grazier, about 40 Years of Age,  
 “ of a sanguine Constitution, was seized with a violent Pain a little  
 “ above the Pubis; an Inflammation on the Neck of the Bladder,  
 “ and total Stoppage of Urine ensued, he was bled, purged, and  
 “ lenient Diureticks were give him. The Symptoms abated upon  
 “ a Discharge of purulent Matter; which shewed that the Inflam-  
 “ mation



" mation had terminated in an Abscess. On the third of *May* the  
 " Man having some Evenings before taken Cold, by going after  
 " some Cattle in the Wet, was again seized with the same Symp-  
 " toms, but to a greater Degree of Violence; the Suppression of  
 " Urine was also total, and to a high Fever and Delirium suc-  
 " ceeded also a *Phrensy*, and such a furious *Madness* as to equal the  
 " most disordered Person. In this Situation I found him when  
 " Mr. LITCHFIELD an ingenious Surgeon and Apothecary at *Ram-*  
 " *sey*, in the County of *Huntingdon*, first sent for me. To all the Signs  
 " of *Madness*, of the most mischievous Kind, it must be added, that in  
 " his lucid Intervals, which were chiefly in the Morning, he could  
 " not on the fifth and sixth of *May* swallow the least Drop of Li-  
 " quid: He grew outrageous at the presenting it, spitting in the  
 " Faces of his nearest Relations, as well as others, and telling them  
 " that they meant to choak him. By plentiful and repeated  
 " Bleedings, and emolient Clysters, Bladders half filled with warm  
 " Water and Milk, and applied to the Pubis, Fomentations, Pedi-  
 " luvia, shaving his Head, and washing it with a Lotion of *Elder-*  
 " *flower* Water with *Vinegar* and *Camphor*, the Convulsive Spasms  
 " and the *Phrensy* were abated. Oily and Terebinthinate Clysters  
 " were injected, and when a Passage could be had, lubricating,  
 " cooling, laxative, and diuretick Medicines were administered,  
 " which removed the Complaint. But as he had been unavoidably  
 " brought low by the repeated Evacuations, it was a long Time be-  
 " fore he recovered a settled State of Mind; which, however, re-  
 " turned perfectly, by means of the *Cortex Peruvianus*, with proper  
 " Restoratives, and change of Air."

OUR Author tells us " that Dr. MEAD quotes, from SCHEN-  
 " KIUS, Instances of the *Hydrophobia* in malignant Fevers." He  
 goes further, and says " that this learned and experienced Phyfi-  
 " cian has seen the *Hydrophobia* last many Hours in an *Hysterick*  
 " Disorder, and in a Case attended with Fits of a Palpitation of the  
 " Heart, wherein the Violence of the Symptoms seemed not to  
 " differ from the true *Hydrophobia*."



IT happened while I was perusing this Essay, and considering how far I might venture to subscribe to these Reports, that I was called upon to bleed a young Woman in an *Hysterick* Fit, a Servant to Mr. *Buckland* a wealthy reputable Farmer at *Crudwell*, in the County of *Wilts*. Upon Inquiry I found, that she had for some Time past been subject to *Hysterick* Fits, which returned frequently, and were sometimes accompanied with strong Convulsions. Her Constitution partaking much of the Sanguine and Phlegmatick, I judged, from her Pulse and other Circumstances, that she had been well advised, and took away near twelve Ounces of Blood. She was but just come out of a Fit when I came to her; and soon after Bleeding another Fit with slight Spasms came on. Some Water was offered her, in a white Bason, which she once suffered to be put up to her Mouth; but whether she swallowed any is, with me, a Doubt. Finding that she did not care to drink, and that as often as it was presented to her, she, with a fastidious Look, instantly turned away her Face, and would not suffer a Drop to come within her Lips; and being fully satisfied that she was in her Senses at that Instant, I was determined to try how far this might, with Propriety, be called an *Hydrophobia*; and therefore took the Bason into my Hand, and for a Minute or more, held the Water full in her View. From the nicest Observation I could not perceive that it gave her the least Emotion. I then put it up towards her Mouth, and the more readily to induce her to swallow some, said it would do her Service if she could get down a little; and the most pressing Instances were made in vain: For, as soon as the Water came near her Mouth she constantly turned away her Face, as she had done before, and would not touch it; so I directed the Women that were present to lead her out into the Air, and soon after left her.

TWO Days after I saw her again, when she told me that she had been better since I bled her, and thanked me. I then asked her, whether she remembered her turning her Face away, and refusing to drink the Water which was brought to her? She answered, *Yes*. My next Question was, Did you feel any Dread or Uneasiness at the Sight of it? She answered, *Not in the least*. That I might



might not be misunderstood—I repeated my first Question. You turned away your Head and seemed displeased as often as the Water was presented, did the Thought of swallowing shock or in the least disgust you? *No! I was a little chilly, the Water was cold, and I was not thirsty.* That was all? *Yes! I had no other Reason for refusing to drink than that which I have given.*

THESE answers accompanied with some little Appearance of Surprise, denoting that the Questions were thought strange, and were unexpected, fully convinced me that this Symptom could not properly be called an *Hydrophobia*, notwithstanding her peremptory Refusal of Water, or whatever Adjudication has been made of Symptoms analogous to these in *Hysterical Disorders*.

THE careless Reader may probably look upon the above Case, of the Huntingdonshire Grazier, as an incontestible Proof, *that the Hydrophobia is a Symptom common to other Diseases*, as Dr. LAYARD hath taught. But upon a more close Examination, it rather proveth, that the learned Gentleman, who hath related it, was too hasty in his Prognosticks, and that it was not an *Hydrophobia*. For, in that Case, the Patient is, from the first Attack, instantly seized with Horreur, and thrown into great Agonies at the Sight of Water, although no Attempt be made to force him to swallow it; and that too in his lucid Intervals. That this was not the Case with the Grazier, may, among many other Criteria, be ascertained, from his bearing the *Pediluvia*, bathing or soaking his Feet, without Emotion. Which I take for granted he did, because the learned Essayist, who seems to have described every Symptom of this Man's Case, with great Accuracy and Precision, is quite silent as to this Particular: and he, certainly, would have adverted to a Criterion so very decisive had there been the least Room for it. Therefore the Case before us appears to be a *Phrensy*; induced probably by the Acrimony of the extravasated Pus, and the intense Pain, and consequent Fever, which arose from the Inflammation.

IT is sometimes observable, that Persons in a high raging *Phrensy*, will not suffer any Liquor to pass their Lips for a long while together, although they behold it with the same Indifference and



Unconcern as any other Object. Hence this Case may properly be classed with the *βραχυπόλαι*, who looked upon Water without Pain, not with the *ὕδροφοβοί*, who are thrown into Agonies at the Sight of it: and for this further Reason, that it was happily cured, as symptomatick *Phrensy's*, in young People, often are, by the Antiphlogistick Regimen, which has not been found successful in curing an *Hydrophobia*.

NOTHING is more common, than for *Phreniticks*, to spit at their Friends, or people around them; to refuse Liquor, and if they take the Cup into their Hands, as if with an Intention to drink, they will hastily throw its Contents at some of the By-standers. And HIPPOCRATES tells us, that frequent dry-spitting, provided it be accompanied with any other certain Presage of a *Phrensy*, denotes the Approach of that Disease.

*Execratio frequens et irrita, si quidem aliud quoddam Signum affuerit, Phrenitidem portendit.* ibid.

ALL these Symptoms I have many Times observed in *Phreniticks*, without ever thinking of classing them among the *Hydrophobi*. And (with due Deference to the great Authority produced be it said,) I believe few ever thought of calling that utter Inability to swallow Liquids, so evident in some *Hysterical* Disorders, an *Hydrophobia*; notwithstanding the Impracticability of getting any down their Throats during the Height of the Paroxysms: a Period wherein the intellectual Faculties are wholly suspended, and incapable of Passion. There is nothing strange or uncommon in *Hysterical* Women having a Disinclination to drink. For he who does not know, that in nervous Diseases in general, even Fevers of that Class, the Sick have but little Thirst or Desire for Drink, knows but little of such Diseases.

I have dwelt the longer upon, and have been the more particular in considering these Cases, and different Sentiments, in Hopes of obviating a *Heresy* in Physick, which (were it to gain Credit) might be productive of much Mischief, from the strong Tendency it has to mislead and perplex the Judgment of the Prescriber, and render doubtful a very critical Symptom, at a Time when the least  
Delay



Delay may prove irremediably fatal to the Patient. For, if a Person should happen to be infected with the poisonous Saliva of a *Mad Dog*, without ever hearing that the Creature was diseased; and in Consequence thereof should become *Hydrophobous*, it is hardly to be doubted but that the Case would be mistaken, and improper Medicines unsuccessfully applied.

BUT after all, I do not insist that the *Hydrophobia* is a Symptom peculiar to the *Canine Madness*. It would be a negative Position, and consequently illogical and absurd. I therefore, with great Deference to the Abilities of the ingenious Dr. LAYARD, submit to the Judgment of the learned Faculty, whether or no the Grazier's Case, or any Thing that hath been offered in Favour of this new Hypothesis, affords sufficient Proof that the *Hydrophobia* is a Symptom common to other Diseases.

ALTHOUGH I have already exceeded the Limits of my original Plan, I must crave the Indulgence of my Readers, while I add a Word to what has already been offered, in Defence of *CINNABAR* and *MUSK*.

THEIR well known Powers against the Bites of *Mad Animals* render the most exalted Panegyrick an useless Labour: the most that the ablest Pen can do is to record them. Dr. LAYARD confesses their Power as a Preventive, and I am sorry to find, in the same Page, under the Mask of a friendly Caution concerning the Use of them, a Stab given to their Reputation. He speaks largely in behalf of the external Use of *Crude Mercury*, and I shall rejoice to find that it deserves the Commendations he hath given of it. We are told (and it deserves to be attended to) that some Frenchmen had, by the daily Use of the *Mercurial Ointment*, together with opening Medicines occasionally, cured great Numbers of People bitten by *Mad Dogs*; some of them after the *Hydrophobia* was on them.\* He Mentions also the Case of two Fox Hounds, cured with *Turbith Mineral*, given in pretty large Doses by Dr. JAMES, after they were supposed to be *Mad*. And after many Eulogia on the external Use of *Mercury*, he acknowledges the Utility of *CINNABAR* and *MUSK* in this Disease; as well as in *Spasmodick*, *Epilep-*  
tick,

\* S. 3. Passim.



*tick*, and *Hysterical Cafes*. But that you may not be too highly prejudiced in Favour of this excellent Medicine, you are told, that “in putrid Diseases, where the Crasis of the Blood has been broken, and the *Vis Vitæ* much impaired, *MUSK* has failed him, in such Constitutions as have been accustomed to a *Vegetable Diet*, and very little Animal Food; and when neither the *MUSK Julep*, nor *MUSK* in Substance would take Place, the *camphorated Julep* with Acids has succeeded.”

“This does not *quite* invalidate the Use of the *MUSK* and *CIN-NABAR* in the Case of a Bite from a *Mad Dog*; it may certainly succeed, even in our Climate, as a Preventive; but whenever the Disease attains any Degree of Putridity it will not be safe entirely to rely on it.” S. 3. p. 85.

I take it for granted, that the putrid Diseases here spoken of, wherein the *Camphorated Julep* with Acids hath succeeded, after *MUSK* had been given ineffectually, were not *Hydrophobous Cafes*. And I readily join Issue with the learned Gentleman, and acknowledge, that its Want of Success in one Disease does not *quite* invalidate its Use in another.

NO Proof has yet been made that the *MUSK* Medicine is less powerful in subduing the *poisonous Saliva* of *Mad Animals* in *Scorbutick Constitutions*, or such wherein the Crasis of the Blood is loose, weak, or broken, than in the more *athletick* or robust; whose Blood is of a closer Texture, and their Fibres much more tense and rigid than the others. But, if I understand the Author, he endeavours, in another Place,\* to shew that the *Hydrophobia* is, by far, more difficult to remove in such Constitutions than in those of more lax or weak Fibres. So that by these fine-threaded Arguments the *MUSK* Medicine seems to be almost superseded in this Kingdom, where the Scurvy is very common.

BUT till Experience has decided the Controversy, or some other more effectual Medicine is discovered, the Rationalist may plume himself in vain; for such Cautions against its Use will always be rejected as frivolous and trifling. Insinuations like these unaccompanied

\* S. 2. p. 48.



compained with well-attested Recommendations of a better Medicine, must be looked on, by the ingenuous, as the last Resource of impotent Envy.

IT would be a bold Advance to suggest that *Turbith Mineral* or the *Mercurial* Uction is better suited, than *CINNABAR* and *MUSK* to such Constitutions wherein the Crasis of the Blood is loose or broken, and the *Vis Vitæ* much impaired. Both the one and the other are, undoubtedly, exceptionable in such a State of the Fluids; and what no good Physician would choose to prescribe, for the Relief of any Symptoms induced wholly by such an Intemperies, of them; seeing that, from the Principle upon which volatile and ponderous Medicines are known to act, they both have a Tendency to increase the Disease. But this Consideration is so far from quite invalidating the Use of *CINNABAR* and *MUSK* against the Bites of *Hydrophobous* Animals, that it is no Objection at all to them, although the Blood be never so weak, or the *Vis Vitæ* never so much impaired. For, since it has a Property of destroying the deadly Quality of the poisonous Saliva in all Constitutions, and thereby preventing the most acute and terrible Disease that Mankind is obnoxious to, its having a Tendency to protract a chronick Disease cannot be alledged, with any Colour of Reason, as an Objection to its Use, in whatever State the Fluids may be, when the Difuse of it would be attended with so dreadful an Alternative.

PEOPLE much enfeebled by a tedious chronick Illness may be restored to Health by a regular Perseverance in a proper medical Regimen, and a due Regard to the Non-naturals. And therefore, as the little temporary Injury the Constitution may sustain from the Use of these *Prophylæticks*, bears not the least Proportion to that which is to be dreaded from the Difuse of them; and seeing that we know none other that can be relied on, without Controversy, every prudent Man would endeavour to evade the greater Evil, by risking the Danger of the Less.



*To the* P U B L I C K.

Ready for the Press and speedily will be published, an  
Essay on Diseases of the Bowels; more particularly those  
destructive Bilious Gripes common to Infants. Where-  
in, the Hypothesis of the late learned Dr. *Walter Harris*,  
concerning an Acid Bile is considered; and an effectual  
Remedy for the immediate Relief of Infants labouring  
under such Complaints, and of grown Persons afflicted  
with Colicky Disorders, is recommended by a Series  
of authentick Cases.

*At jam, Deo benigno Gratias, Remedium habemus ut certissimum ita  
tutissimum.* List. Com. in Hippocr. Aphor.











29 **Baskerville.**—The Virtues of Cinnabar  
and Musk against the Bite of a Mad Dog, by  
Dr. Dalby, *Surgeon*, 4to, *half calf, neat*,  
RARE, *Birm.*, J. Baskerville, 1762  
With Mr. Oliver Pemberton's fine bookplate.











