

**Lithotomia Douglassiana: or, an account of a new method of making the high operation, in order to extract the stone out of the bladder ... / Invented and successfully perform'd by John Douglas.**

**Contributors**

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*Lithotomia Douglassiana :*

O R,

An Account of a New METHOD  
of making the High Operation, in  
order to extract the Stone out of the  
Bladder.

Which is much easier to the Patient, much  
sooner done by the Operator, and the  
Cure much more certain, than after any  
of the other Methods now in Use.

By which also, several of the most dismal  
Consequences of the common Operations  
are entirely prevented, such as *Incontinency*  
of *Urine*, *Impotency*, *Fistula's*, &c.

---

Invented and successfully perform'd

B Y

JOHN DOUGLAS, Surgeon.

---

*Non est ut fidas his, qui merè audita recensent : Fidas  
autem illis serio, qui ex Experientia propria loquuntur.*

---

L O N D O N :

Printed for *Tho. Woodward*, next Door but one to  
*Temple-Bar*. MDCCLXX.



John Douglas

O R

An Account of a New Method  
of making the High Operation, in  
order to cure the Stone out of the  
Bladder.

Which is much better to the Patient, than  
the former, and is performed by the  
Use of the Stone, and is

GM 4281

By which also, several other  
Consequences of the common Operation  
are easily prevented, such as  
the Stone, Impaction, Pus, &c.

308396

Invented and successfully performed  
by

J. D.

John Douglas Surgeon

Now of it shall be said, and it is  
entirely new, and is performed by the  
Use of the Stone, and is

L O N D O N

Printed for the Author, at the  
Sign of the Star, in St. Pauls Church-yard.





*Lithotomia Douglassiana :*

O R,

An Account of a New METHOD  
of making the HIGH OPERATION,  
in order to extract the Stone out of  
the Bladder, &c.



IN this new Operation, I cut on  
the lower Part of the Belly. In  
the common Operations, *viz.*  
Cutting on the *Staffe*, and cut-  
ting on the *Gripe*, they cut on  
the *Perinaeum*, *i. e.* between the Testicles and  
Fundament.

A

This



This Section is call'd by Authors, *The High Operation, or Hypogastrick Section.*

I have hitherto only met with three, that ever pretended to have made it: The first of whom is *Peter de Franco* of *Turriers* in *France*, of which he gives the following Account in his Treatise of *Hernia's*, (at the End of the 33d Chapter, Page 139) publish'd at *Lyons* in the Year 1561, in these Words:

“ *Histoire,*

“ *Je reciteray ce que une fois m'est advenu*  
 “ *voulant tirer une pierre a un enfant de deux*  
 “ *ans ou environ: auquel ayant trouué la pierre*  
 “ *de la Grossèur d'un œuf de poule, ou peu pres,*  
 “ *je fey tout ce que je peu pour la mener bas: &*  
 “ *voyant que je ne pouvoye rien avancer par*  
 “ *tous mes efforts, avec ce, que le patient estoit*  
 “ *merueilleusement tormenté, & aussi les Parens*  
 “ *desirans qu'il mourust plustost que de viure en*  
 “ *tel travail: Joint aussi, que je ne vouloye pas*  
 “ *quil me fut Reproché de ne l'avoir seu tirer,*  
 “ *(qui estoit à moy grand folie) je deliberay*  
 “ *avec l'importunité du pere, Mere, & amis, de*  
 “ *Copper le dit enfant par dessus l'os Pubis, d'au-*  
 “ *tant que la Pierre ne voulut descendre bas,*  
 “ *& fut Coppé sur le Penil, un peu a Costè &*  
 “ *sur la Pierre. Car je leuoyz icelle avec mes*  
 “ *doigts, qui estoyèt au fondment, & d'autre*  
 “ *Costé en la tenant subiette avec les mains*  
 “ *d'un Serviteur qui comprimoit le petit ventre*  
 “ au



“ au dessus de la pierre, Dont elle fut tirée hors  
 “ par ce moyen, & puis apres le patient fut  
 “ guarý, (non obstant qu’il en fut bien malade)  
 “ & la playe consolidée : Combien que je ne  
 “ conseille a homine d’ainsi faire. Ains plust-  
 “ ost user du moyen par nous inventé du quel  
 “ nous venons de parler.

This is (in his own Words) all that he  
 says about it : Which, for the Benefit of  
 those that don’t understand *French*, I shall  
 translate into *English*, thus :

“ He says, he had a Child about two  
 “ Years old, who had a Stone in the Bladder  
 “ as big as a Hen’s Egg, brought to him to  
 “ cut : He used all his Dexterity to force the  
 “ Stone down to the Neck of the Bladder,  
 “ but found it impossible to be done : The  
 “ Child was in that Torture and Misery,  
 “ that the Parents wished him rather dead,  
 “ than he should live longer in so doleful a  
 “ Condition. *De Franco*, on the other Hand,  
 “ thinking it would tend to his Dishonour  
 “ not to take away the Stone, at last re-  
 “ solv’d to make Tryal, whether he could  
 “ not bring it to the very Groin, which he  
 “ did, by putting his Fingers into the Fun-  
 “ dament, and raising up the Stone, he caus’d  
 “ his Servant, on the other Side opposite to  
 “ him, to press it down to the Place in-  
 “ tended for Incision ; which he made, took  
 “ out the Stone, and, tho’ the Child was  
 “ very



“ very weak, recover’d him, and heal’d the  
 “ Wound : But he advises others not to fol-  
 “ low his Example ; and, instead of it, re-  
 “ commends the Operation which he calls  
 “ his own Invention, and has describ’d, in  
 “ the foregoing Part of the same Chapter.

The next to him, that’s said to have per-  
 form’d it, is one *Bonnet*, of whom *Monf.*  
*Tollet*, in the 5th Edition of his *Lithotomy*,  
 publish’d at *Paris* 1708, gives the following  
 Account, Page 139.

“ *Feu M. Jonnot m’a dit autrefois que*  
 “ *M. Bonnet Chirurgien, qui pratiquoit il ya*  
 “ *tres-long-temps la Lithotomie dans l’Hôtel*  
 “ *Dieu de Paris, l’avoit assuré d’en avoir taillé*  
 “ *de cette façon. M. Petit, Maître Chirurgien*  
 “ *façon de cet Hospital mà dit l’avoir vu pratique*  
 “ *sur une Petite fille par le même M. Bonnet.*

“ *Mr. Tollet* says, that the late *Mr. Jonnot*  
 “ (who was also a famous *Lithotomist*) told  
 “ him formerly, that *Mr. Bonnet*, a Surgeon,  
 “ who practis’d *Lithotomy* a considerable  
 “ Time ago in the *Hotel Dieu* at *Paris*, assur’d  
 “ him, (*viz. Mr. Jonnot*) that he had cut  
 “ after that Manner. *Mr. Petit*, Master-Sur-  
 “ geon of that Hospital, also told our Au-  
 “ thor, that he had seen it practis’d by the  
 “ same *Bonnet* on a young Girl.

Monf.



Monf. *Dionis*, in the 2d Edition of his *Course of Chirurgical Operations*, publish'd at *Paris* 1714, Page 139, gives the following Account of the same Man, viz.

“ On nous assure que Monsieur Bonnet a  
 “ pratiqué souvent cette Operation à l'Hôtel  
 “ Dieu de Paris avec une heureux succès, &  
 “ que même Monsieur Petit luy a vû faire.

“ We are assur'd, that Monf. *Bonnet*, fre-  
 “ quently and with good Success, perform'd  
 “ this Operation at the *Hotel Dieu* in *Paris*;  
 “ and that Monf. *Petit* has seen him perform  
 “ it.” This is all the Account that I have  
 met with of this *Bonnet*.

After him, Dr. *Groenevelt* was the next  
 that perform'd it, of which he gives the fol-  
 lowing Account in the *English* Edition of  
 his *Lithotomy*, publish'd at *London* in 1710.

“ I once had a Patient in *Long Lane, Moor-*  
 “ *fields*, upon whom I was oblig'd to per-  
 “ form this High Operation; and very suc-  
 “ cessfully extracted the Stone, by making  
 “ Incision near the Groin, the Patient soon  
 “ recovering; which shews, that Wounds in  
 “ the fibrous Part of the Bladder are not  
 “ always mortal.

Those are the only Three that I have met  
 with, that ever pretended to have cut above  
 the *Os Pubis*, i. e. into the Belly.



*Franco* cut so first, because he had a Patient that he could not cut his own Way, tho', at the same Time, he had the Character of one of the best *Lithotomists* of his Age. But tho' he succeeded, yet, it seems, he found such Difficulties in it, that he would never do't again, and charges us never to follow his Example; which one would have expected that he should have explain'd in his Account of it, the better to deter others from the like Practice.

*Bonnet* is said to have done it several Times with Success; yet he don't recommend it to others as a Rule of Practice, nor was ever imitated by any of his Contemporaries.

*Groenevelt* did it but once, and says, he was oblig'd to do it: I suppose, in some such-like Case as *De Franco's*; and though he also succeeded, yet, instead of recommending it, he only draws this Consequence from it, *viz.* That Wounds of the fibrous Part of the Bladder are not always mortal.

*Franco* cut on the Hair above the *Pubis*, a little on one Side; *Groenevelt* near the Groin: But not one of them tells us what Instruments they used, or which Way they used them; whether they made a cross, oblique, or longitudinal Incision; whether they made the Incision at once, or at several Times, or what Position they put their Patient in; all which, and many more Circumstances, ought to have been exactly describ'd, before any one could be said to have follow'd



follow'd their Method; from whence I may very safely infer, that it will be no easy matter to tell which Way any of them made their Operations, and yet it's commonly asserted with the greatest Assurance (not with any Design to raise *De Franco's* Reputation, but to lessen mine) that I made this Operation after *De Franco's* Method, though he has told but very little of his Story, and I have told none of mine.

Upon the Whole, I must say, that it's a Miracle to me, that after so much Success, either they, or those that saw them do it, did not either continue the Practice of it, or give us more substantial Reasons why they disapprov'd of it; so far from that, they have not given us one Instance of a Patient's dying after this Section.

This Operation is also recommended as a very probable Way by *Roussetus*, *Dionis*, &c. yet not one of them was ever so far perswaded of it as to make the Experiment, however several of them have undertaken (which none that ever made the Operation thought fit to do) to describe the Method how it may be done, *i. e.* to teach others to perform what they can't do themselves; (which, in my Opinion is the greatest Absurdity in Nature;) but to what Purpose, he that makes the Experiment will see.

Having thus recited all the Instances that I have met with of the Stone in the Bladder, being extracted through the Belly, in the Words of the Authors, That every one may



be a Judge of the Encouragement I had to undertake this Operation from what has been done this Way before.

I shall next give an Account of the Objections made against the fore-mention'd Gentlemens Operations, by some of the most authentick Authors that have mention'd them.

*First*, Some say that the Urine from the Bladder, and the Discharge from the Wound, will flow into the Cavity of the *Abdomen* or *Pelvis*, where Corrupting, will occasion several grievous and incurable Symptoms, amongst whom is *Dr. Drelincourt*, &c. who expresses himself thus :

“ *Operatio Franconiana ut inventa est sic*  
 “ *exolevit, quia dum perfunderetur Vesicæ fun-*  
 “ *dum Urina Effluebat in Abdominis Cavum &*  
 “ *Mortem inducit, i. e.*

“ The *Franconian* Section, *viz.* the high  
 “ Operation, died as soon as it was invented ;  
 “ because when the Fund of the Bladder is  
 “ perforated, the Urine flows into the Cavity  
 “ of the Belly and causes Death.

*Secondly*, Others say that the Wound being made in the membranous Part of the Bladder, won't heal again, amongst whom is *Barbett*, &c. who has these Words :

“ *Peri-*



III “ *Periculosa interim & in se molesta Operatio*  
 “ *est, & quod si Labia Vulneris in Vesia facti*  
 “ *haud uniantur Musculis Abdominis, exulceratio*  
 “ *vesicæ sequitur, magis dolorifica minus cura-*  
 “ *bilis ipso Calculo, quæ etiam incommoda esse-*  
 “ *cerunt quod minus Operationibus aliis haberi*  
 “ *cæperit à practicis veris, i. e.*

“ It’s a dangerous and in it self a trouble-  
 “ some Operation ; and if the Lips of the  
 “ Wound made in the Bladder don’t unite  
 “ to the Muscles of the *Abdomen*, an Ulcera-  
 “ tion of the Bladder will follow, more pain-  
 “ ful and less curable than the Stone it self,  
 “ which Inconveniencies have made it less  
 “ esteem’d than the other Operations by true  
 “ Practitioners.

*Thirdly, Mons. Thevinin, a very eminent Surgeon, in his Book of Chirurgical Observations, publish’d at Paris in the Year 1669, Pag. 68. gives this Account of it, viz.*

“ *L’hault appareil qui a este premierement prati-*  
 “ *qué par deFranco n’est point en usage à present,*  
 “ *à Cause de l’incision qui l’oblige de faire au*  
 “ *fonds & corps inferieur de la vessie qui apporte*  
 “ *de grand accidens, i. e.*

“ The high Operation, first practis’d by *de*  
 “ *Franco*, is no more in Use, because the In-  
 “ cision being made in the Fund and Body  
 “ of the Bladder causes great Accidents.



Fourthly, Others say that the Guts will burst out at the Wound, &c.

Thomas Fienus, in the 70th Page of his Book, *De præcipuis Artis Chirurgicæ controversis*, Edit. 1602. gives his Opinion of this high Operation, in these Words :

“ *Præter hætenus usitatam Sectionem exortus*  
 “ *est, Franciscus Roussettus, qui in Libro suo de*  
 “ *Partu Casario scribit, videri longe securio-*  
 “ *rem & faciliorem sectionis rationem futuram,*  
 “ *si Venter aut Abdomen a Latere sub umbilico*  
 “ *aperiantur, & imposita per foramen manu*  
 “ *vesicæ corpus vulneretur & inde calculus exi-*  
 “ *matur. Sed illa ratio non valet: vesicæ enim*  
 “ *vulnus lethale est, & non potest consolidari, &*  
 “ *quamvis aliquando legatur consolidatum, est*  
 “ *tamen rara avis, & temerarium nimis foret,*  
 “ *& quia illam rationem nemo secutus est, de ea*  
 “ *non agimus, i. e.*

“ Besides the common Ways of Cutting,  
 “ there's one *Fr. Roussettus*, who affirms in  
 “ his Book of the *Cæsarian* Birth, that the  
 “ Operation would be safer and easier, if  
 “ we cut through the Belly (a little below  
 “ the Navel, and on one Side) and into the  
 “ Bladder, and then extracted the Stone  
 “ through the Wound. But that can't be,  
 “ because Wounds of the Bladder are mor-  
 “ tal, and cannot be consolidated; altho'  
 “ we have some Histories of their being cur'd,  
 “ it's



“ it's a great Rarity, and therefore it's too  
 “ rash an Undertaking ; and because no Body  
 “ practises it, I'll say no more on't.

The Answer to all which (not to descend to Particulars) is the happy Success of my Operation.

The next Question that naturally follows, is, What could incite or encourage me to undertake this high Operation, which those that had done it, had such an indifferent Opinion of, which those eminent Authors (just quoted, and almost every one else that have mention'd it) exclaim'd so warmly against, and which, by the common Consent of Mankind, was deem'd impracticable ?

To which I answer: That it was, first, because I was fully perswaded that the great Danger, Tedioufness, and frequent bad Consequences of the common Operations, were entirely owing to the Structure of the Parts concern'd, which the best Operator could not avoid, if the Stone was of any considerable Bigness, or of a rugged irregular Figure.

*Secondly*, Because I was as firmly perswaded, that all the Objections made against the fore mention'd Gentlemens Operations, (so far as they concern mine) were very ill grounded ; which is prov'd by the Success.

The



The Two Operations that are only in Use now amongst us are, *First*, That which Surgeons call Cutting on the Staffe, *i. e.* When a furrow'd Probe is pass'd into the Bladder, upon which they afterwards Cut.

The other is call'd cutting on the Gripe, *i. e.* When they pass their Fingers into the Fundament, and press the Stone outwards, and then cut upon it.

In order to explain what I have just now asserted, *viz.* That the Danger, Tedioufness, &c. of the common Operations, are entirely owing to the Structure of the Parts concern'd. I shall first describe the Parts concern'd in each, and then make such Conclusions as naturally follow therefrom.

Cutting on the Staffe is most in Use, and therefore I shall begin with it.

*Parts concern'd in Cutting on the Staffe, or Great Apparatus.*

*Parts Cut :*

They cut first through the Skin, on one side of the *Rapha* of the *Perinæum*.

2dly, Through the *Accelerator Muscle*.

3dly, Through the Bulb of the *Urethra*.

*Parts that are dilated.*

The Incision being made, opens a Passage into the membranous Part of the *Urethra*, at the upper-end of which is the *Sphincter* of the Bladder, through both which the Instruments



ments must pass into the Bladder, and the Stone, tho' enlarg'd by the Thickness of the *Forceps*, must pass out.

They are both apt to be too much dilated by a large, and lacerated by a rugged Stone.

The membranous *Urethra*, is about Two Inches long, more or less, according to the Bigness of the Person.

It's about as big (in a middle-fiz'd Man) as to admit of a Goose Quill.

It's much longer, and not so thick and strong, as the *Urethra* in Women, and consequently more liable to be injur'd.

The *Sphincter* is a few circular Fibres, which keep the Bladder shut, and so prevents the involuntary Discharge of the Urine.

*The Genital Parts, which by the Nearness of their Situation are liable to be injur'd, next after the foremention'd, are :*

*First, The Vesiculæ Seminales, i. e. the Reservatories of the Seed : They are situate immediately behind the Sphincter, between the Bladder and Rectum, i. e. the straight Gut.*

*Secondly, Their Ducts ; which pass from them, and open about the Middle of the membranous Part of the Urethra, by Two Orifices, which are cover'd by a sort of a Caruncle, call'd, Caput Gallinaginis, or Verumontanum ; which serves instead of Valves, to hinder the involuntary emission of the Seed.*

*Thirdly,*



*Thirdly*, The *Prostatæ*; which are situate a little below the *Vesiculæ Seminales*, between the membranous *Urethra* and straight Gut.

The Structure and Situation of the Parts being thus stated, it will not be difficult to deduce all the foremention'd Inconveniencies from them, *viz.*

*First*, The Danger of this Operation (to say no more) will appear from a Computation of the Number of those that do and do not escape after it; which is (in general) occasion'd by the Length and Streightness of the Passage before describ'd, Figure and Bigness of the Stones, Force requir'd to extract them, &c. Whence the foremention'd Parts, &c. are lacerated and contused to too great a Degree, and thence excessive Pain, Hemorrhagy, Loss of Strength, &c. too great to be master'd.

*Secondly*, Every one that has made, or seen any Number of these Operations perform'd, cannot but be sensible of the Tedioufness of them (and consequently of the Pain the Patient must needs suffer) which is owing to the Length and Streightness of the Passage (which cannot be alter'd, as is commonly suppos'd, by enlarging the External Orifice,) Number, and Necessary Largeness of the Instruments used; Number, Bigness, and Figure of the Stones, &c.

*Thirdly*, The bad Consequences that frequently follow this Operation (in those that escape

escape



escape with Life) are, *Incontinency of Urine, Impotency, Fistula's, &c.* which every one must be satisfy'd of, that have seen any Number of them : In some of whom you'll observe an *Incontinency of Urine*, in others *Impotency*, in others *Fistula's*, in others all of them ; any one of which is very little better than the Stone itself.

### *Cause of the Incontinency of Urine.*

It's caused when the Sphincter of the Bladder is over-stretched by the Bigness, or lacerated by the Asperity of the Stone ; because it can never afterwards do its Office as before ; And so the Urine flows involuntarily Day and Night ; which keeps them always wet, from whence none of the most agreeable Scents arise.

### *Cause of the Impotency.*

It's occasion'd by the Laceration of the Ducts of the *Vesiculae Seminales*, or the *Verumontanum* ; and that by the Bigness or Asperity of the Stone, as before : So when the Wound heals, the Ducts, or *Verumontanum*, are stopp'd by the *Callous*, so that the Seed can no more flow into the *Urethra*.



## *Cause of Fistula's.*

These Parts are Membranous, Nervous, or Spermatick, as Authors call them, and, of Course, very unapt to heal when wounded, lacerated, or contused; which is also increas'd by the constant Passage of the Urine, Gravel, &c. thro' the Wound, and so they turn fistulous; and then all or a great Part of the Urine, which should pass thro' the Yard, passes thro' the Fistula left in the Wound; whence People are made nauseous to themselves and others.

The Great *Hildanus*, pag. 733, expresses the Danger of this Operation in these Words:

“ *Ingens ac magnus Calculus ut per Collum*  
 “ *Vesicæ extrahatur, propter ejus angustiam*  
 “ *longum requirit tempus, interim ager ingen-*  
 “ *tibus affligitur Doloribus, Vesica, ipsiusque*  
 “ *Fibræ dilacerantur, Sanguis copiosè profluit,*  
 “ *vires dissolvuntur, maximoque cum Cruciatu*  
 “ *ager vel in ipsa Operatione aut paulò post*  
 “ *extinguitur, i. e.*

“ When a large Stone is extracted through  
 “ the Neck of the Bladder, because of its  
 “ Streightness, it takes up a long Time: In  
 “ the mean Time, the Patient suffers intole-  
 “ rable Pain, the Bladder and its Fibres are  
 “ tore,



“ tore, there’s a great Flux of Blood, Loss  
 “ of Strength, and the Patient, by reason  
 “ of the great Torture, dies, either in or  
 “ soon after the Operation.

The late Mr. *Couper*, in his Comment upon *Bidloo*, has the following Observations on the Accidents which happen from the Structure of the Parts.

“ This Part of the *Urethra*, viz. that be-  
 “ tween the *Prostata* and the *Bulb*, is liable  
 “ to be wounded, and sometimes perforated,  
 “ by too hastily introducing the Conductor  
 “ into the Bladder, after an Incision is made  
 “ in the *Perinæum* in Cutting for the Stone ;  
 “ whereby the Operator afterwards thrusts  
 “ his *Forceps* between the Bladder and *Re-*  
 “ *ctum*.

“ This Inadvertency, I’m persuaded, is  
 “ very often practised by the Pretenders to  
 “ *Lithotomy*, and frequently proves fatal to  
 “ the Patient : One would think it hardly  
 “ possible, that a Man in his Senses, and  
 “ but tolerably acquainted with Anatomy,  
 “ could commit such Errors ; yet, of this I  
 “ have met with more than one Instance,  
 “ when being called to dissect the Deceased,  
 “ in whom such Operators have been so un-  
 “ fortunate as to leave the Stone still in the  
 “ Bladder.



So much to shew the unavoidable Danger,  
*&c.* of Cutting on the *Staffe*.

The other Operation in use is Cutting on  
 the *Gripe*.

Parts cut.

They cut (farther off of the *Rapha* of the  
*Perinæum* than in the foregoing Operation)  
 1. Through the Skin : 2. The Fat : 3. Part  
 of the *Erector Penis* : 4. Some considerable  
 Blood-Vessels : 5. A Part of the *Levator Ani* :  
 6. Into the Body of the Bladder above the  
*Sphincter*.

This Operation can't always be practis'd,  
 because our Fingers are not long enough to  
 bring down and keep the Stone fast against  
 the *Perinæum* in grown People. Though,  
 when it can be done,

*The Inconveniencies of it are,*

1. When the Stone is rough, it's trouble-  
 some, painful, and tedious, to make the In-  
 cision on it.

2. The Arteries, which are cut, are often  
 very large.

3. When the Stone is rough, it pricks, and  
 contuses the Bladder in several Places, by  
 being pressed hard against the *Perinæum*;  
 whence several dangerous and deadly Symp-  
 toms ensue.

4. The



4. The Wound in the Bladder being depending, is hinder'd from aglutinating, by the Gravel and Urine passing thro' it, &c.

From all which, I think 'tis evident, that the rare Success of these Operations, even in the best of Hands, (not to mention the Havock that is often made by Pretenders) is entirely owing to the Structure of the Parts concern'd; which is what I undertook to prove.

*Advantages of this new Operation.*

Whereas, in the other Operations, the Danger, &c. are owing to the Structure of the Parts; in my Operation, by reason of the Structure of the Parts, they are successfully prevented. *E. G.*

1. There can be no Impotency caused by it, because there's none of the Genital Parts can be injur'd in doing it.

2. There can be no Incontinency of Urine caus'd by it, because the *Sphincter* of the Bladder cannot be hurt in making it.

3. There can be no Fistula after it, if proper Care is taken of the Wound.

4. There can be no such Force requir'd to extract the Stone, as will contuse and lacerate the Parts, which, in the other Operations, are the Cause of Symptoms too hard to be govern'd) because the Wound may be  
made



made as large as you please, which can't be done in them.

5. There can't be any Flux of Blood, because there's no Occasion to cut any of the great Vessels, &c. Thus the Defects of the others are supply'd by this.

My Patient was between sixteen and seventeen Years of Age, and was cut two Days before last *Christmas*, and in a Month's Time the Wound was perfectly cicatriz'd, *i. e.* healed.

The Operation was over in one Minute, and I believe will never be above two.

He now performs all his natural Faculties as well as he had never been troubled with the Stone.

There were two Physicians, two Surgeons, and an Apothecary, present at the Operation: But to save them the Trouble of answering every little Prig's impertinent Questions, I don't think it's proper to mention them.

The Stone was of the Bigness and Figure express'd in the Plate following.

Some



*The Natural figure & Bigness of y<sup>e</sup> Stone*

Some say that I have robb'd the Dead of their Right, and endeavour'd to impose on the Living, by putting my own Name to another Man's Work, and pretending that it's a new Operation, though, at the same Time, it was practis'd by its first Inventor, *De Franco*, above 150 Years ago.



*De Franco* ( whose Memory I reverence, because he was certainly an excellent Surgeon, and one of the best *Lithotomists* in his Time) is so far from valuing himself upon the *High Operation*, which he was once forc'd to make, that he owns himself to be very much to blame for doing of it; and desires no Man afterwards to follow his Example; and in the Room of that, in the preceding Part of that very same Chapter, recommends another which is made on the *Perinæum*, which he assumes, and, with a great deal of Pleasure, calls his own Invention.

*Hildanus* is also of the same Opinion, and expresses himself thus, *Pag. 730.*

“ *De quarto operandi modo, in Lithotomia*  
 “ *usitato, qui merito Lithotomia Franconiana*  
 “ *appellari potest.*

And so he goes on to describe and recommend that Operation, which *De Franco* owns in the 33d Chapter of his Book, to be his proper Invention: But it's not the *High*, but an Operation in the *Perinæum*, that's assum'd by the one, and commended by the other.

In Page 732, he has these Words:

“ *Franciscus Rousettus Lib. de partu Cæsa-*  
 “ *rio concludere voluit, semper calculum eo in*  
 “ *Loco*



“ *Loco exsecandum esse, illudque minori cum pe-*  
 “ *riculo fieri posse. Lithotomiam proinde illam*  
 “ *Franconianam vocat, cum tamen D. Franc.*  
 “ *eam minimè ad Imitationem præscripserit,*  
 “ *sed expressè in Libro suo, se stolide egisse*  
 “ *fateatur, adeoque unumquemque, ne ipsum hæc*  
 “ *in parte imitetur, sed precedentem operandi*  
 “ *modum amplectatur, Hortetur.*

“ *Franciscus Rousettus, in his Book on the*  
 “ *Cæsarian Birth, asserts, that we ought al-*  
 “ *ways to cut for the Stone through the*  
 “ *lower Part of the Belly, because it can be*  
 “ *done with a great deal less Danger; and*  
 “ *then calls it De Franco's Method, notwith-*  
 “ *standing De Franco never prescrib'd it as a*  
 “ *Rule; so far from which, he confesses in*  
 “ *his own Book, that he acted foolishly in*  
 “ *doing it; and therefore advises us never*  
 “ *to imitate him in it, but in the Operation*  
 “ *just before describ'd.*

He concludes his Story thus :

“ *Cum dicto igitur D. Franco, fideli atque*  
 “ *industrio cuivis Chirurgo periculosa hujus*  
 “ *Lithotomiæ Administrationem iterum atque*  
 “ *iterum dissuadeo.*

“ Therefore, with the foremention'd *De*  
 “ *Franco*, I again and again dissuade every  
 “ faithful and industrious Surgeon from per-  
 “ forming this dangerous Operation.



From all which I conclude, that instead of being an Honour to *De Franco*, to have had his Name put to it, it would have been a real Injury to the Memory of the Dead, to have made him the Author of an Operation, that he blam'd himself for doing when alive.

Nay, I'm so far from having an Opinion of *De Franco's* Operation, as he has describ'd it, that I think it's fully as inconsistent and impracticable as *Talicotius's* Project of restoring lost Noses.

All the Analogy between his and mine, is, that they are both made in the Belly. But his was made in one Place of the Belly, and mine in another: His, with his own Instruments, (which he has not mention'd) mine with mine: His were used after one Manner, mine after another: And those, I think, are the most material Differences betwixt any two Operations, *viz.* The Variation of the Place upon which the Operation is made, of the Number, Figure, and Size of the Instruments, and of the Method of using them.

The two foremention'd Operations, call'd, Cutting on the *Staffe*, and Cutting on the *Gripe*, are both made on the *Perinaeum*: The Design of both is the same, *viz.* To extract  
the



the Stone out of the Bladder ; yet no Man ever was so absurd as to call them both the same Operations, for the Reasons before-mention'd.

The late famous Mr. *Rau*, Professor of Physick and Surgery at *Leyden*, and the fore-mention'd *De Franco*, and several others, as *Celsus*, *Guido*, *Marianus*, &c. had each a particular Method of Cutting on the *Perinæum*, to which every one gave his own Name, and why should not I be allow'd the same Liberty.

But supposing that my Operation was, in every Tittle, the same as *De Franco's* ; yet, if it's found to be a safer and easier Way of relieving the Miserable, it's nevertheless new ; for that Operation was as much dead, before mine, and thought as much impracticable, (which the general Opinion of the Town on this Occasion abundantly proves) as it was 150 Years before *De Franco* was born.

I readily grant, that one Operation, tho' successfully perform'd, is not enough to satisfy the Publick that it's the safest Method ; but it's enough to me, who, before the Operation, thought myself very sure of Success, else I had never attempted it. But now I have perform'd it, and seen the whole Process of the Cure, I'm in no manner of Pain



about the future Success of it ; nay, I dare venture to prophecy, that not one in ten will die, nor one in fifty want a perfect Cure, that do after the common Methods ; and therefore do (what never any did before) recommend it as the most easy, safe, and speedy Method of extracting the Stone, (exclusive of all others) in Males, and when the Stone is large, in Females.

I have had a great many vile, malicious, and false Reflections cast upon me, on this Occasion, by a Set of *Scioli*, who (because they never did anything out of the common Road themselves) envy every Man else that does.

The Imputation of Novelty (says the great Mr. *Lock*) is a terrible Charge among those who judge of Mens Heads, as they do of their Perukes, by the Fashion, and can allow none to be right but the receiv'd Doctrines. Truth scarce ever carry'd it by Vote any where at its first Appearance : New Opinions are always suspected, and usually oppos'd, without any other Reason, but because they are not already common : But Truth, like Gold, is not the less so, for being newly brought out of the Mine.

*Magna est Veritas, & prevalebit.*

**F I N I S.**



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