

The true history of Dr. Robin Sublimate, and his associates, or, Bob turn'd physician : wherein the whole art and mystery of a certain kind of quackery is fully laid open, and such a description of the quacks, and their artifices exhibited to the publick, and may tend to put a stop to their practice.

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HISTORY

OF

Dr. *Robin Sublimate*,

And his ASSOCIATES;

OR,

BOB turn'd PHYSICIAN.

WHEREIN

The Whole Art and Mystery of a certain Kind of QUACKERY is tully laid open, and such a Description of the QUACKS, and their Artifices exhibited to the Publick, as may tend to put a Stop to their Practice.

In which is shewn,

A Character of the present *Quacks*, and of *Robin Sublimate*. How he worm'd himself into his Master's Favour. The Virtue of his *Emplastrum Aurum*. How he stole a large Quantity of HAY, and was sent to Jail. Proceedings on both Sides. He admits *Charles Bluster* into the Surgery. His Character, and *Elixir magnum pacificum*, which *Sublimate* asserted to be his own Receipt. Throws his own Blunders on *Bluster*. His consummate Assurance, and Ignorance in the *Ars Physicæ*. An Account of his Rope-Dancers, Stage-sweepers, Zanies, &c. The Character of *Will. Addle* the Rope-Dancer. Of *BEN PERIOD*, one of his Bungies. — Dr. *Judas*, and his wonderful *Quieting E-lefuary* of *Seville-Oranges*. *SUBLIMATE*'s Speech to the Publick concerning his being turn'd out, and restored. *Clumsey*'s Character. Of Dr. *Ballance*. Of the OPENING SPIRIT of MARS.

L O N D O N :

Printed for T. JONES, in the Strand. 1733

[Price Six-Pence.]





THE
HISTORY
 OF
Dr. Sublimate,
 OR,
BOB turn'd **PHYSICIAN.**

Learned SIR,



IT is many Ages ago since the learned Professors of *Physick* have complain'd that all the Honour and Respect, all the Profits and Emoluments, all the Professorships, and Posts of Honour, which belonged unto the regular Sons of *Æsculapius*, were thro' the Fickleness of the Goddess *Fortune* bestow'd on the spurious Brats of the before-mentioned God, begotten on the Sea-Nymph *Impudence*. This latter Progeny having

no just Title to their Father's Name, have assumed the Appellation of *Quacks*, and some of them by lucky Hits have made very considerable Figures in Law and POLITICKS, as well as Physick.

This illustrious Society have labour'd under the Want of an *Historian* ever since the Days of *Phil. Horneck*, of Sarcastick Memory. *Hermodactyl*, *Gambol*, and *Wild-fire*, stand recorded to Posterity; while the *Quacks* that have succeeded them, would in a few Years (but for your Curiosity) have sunk into Oblivion, and have been forgotten of all, except those whose Constitutions they have ruined.

Poor *Phil.* in his *Lucubrations*, complains heavily of having improper Medicines imposed upon the Publick, thro' the artful Cunning of a few designing Knaves; but, had he lived till this Time of Day, what would he have said, to have seen Loads of Poison cramm'd down People's Throats, almost whether they will, or no, and that too by a Juncto of Fools.

There are, you must know, Sir, a Set of People, who at present engross the whole Circle of Practice to themselves; of whom 'tis hard to determine whether they have a greater Want of Honesty, or of Understanding: A Set of People so much the

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Enemies of common Sense, that to have but a moderate Share of it, is with them an Offence ; and to have any Degree of Learning, a Crime unpardonable : A Set of People without Conduct, without Courage, without Reading, without Knowledge; in short, without every thing --- except Cunning; and who, amongst them all, possess no one single Talent in Perfection, — but that of Impudence.

This, Sir, is their Character in general: Now, for that of *Robin Sublimate*, their cival; who, with not so much Learning as an Apothecary, or half so much Address as a Mountebank, has the Impudence to write himself *M. D.* and by meer Dint of his audacious Front, has push'd himself to the very Top of the Profession!

DOCTOR SUBLIMATE, who, I dare answer, will forgive every Thing I have to say of him, when he perceives I have given him his Title; was the Son of a *Country Farmer*, who was so far from ever dreaming that BOBB would come to be a First-rate Physician that the old Fellow scarce equipp'd him with Latin enough to Decypher the Inscription of a Gallipot, or to construe a Doctor's Receipt, much less to write one.

Nature

Nature was, indeed, something kinder to him than his Parents; and though, out of pity to Mankind, she would not trust him with any large Share of Capacity, yet she supplied that Deficiency with certain succedaneous Qualities, which have rendred him much fitter for that Figure, than by her Favour he was design'd to make. Thus, tho' he be void of *Wisdom* ——— yet he abounds in *Subtilty*: And tho' in Truth, he has but very moderate Parts, — yet he disguises that Defect well enough, by his having a most immoderate Assurance.

While a Boy, his Employment was to mind his Father's Cattle; and as for his Diversions, they consisted in robbing his Neighbours Orchards, and such like Tricks, which he committed from a certain innate Disposition, that has stuck so close by him ever since, that he has even in the most exalted Station of his Life, given more than one Instance of his natural Propensity to Thieving.

When he first discovered an Inclination to Physick, he became a great Admirer of the regular Practice; and as soon as his outside Appearance of Virtue, had gain'd him any Share of Reputation, he engaged it solely in Defence of its Professors, against the Quacks in Vogue; which made him so
much

much the Darling of his Party, that tho' his Circumstances were very narrow, yet he kept up the Appearance of a Fortune, and had his Exigencies continually supplied by the Indulgence of certain Regular Physicians, who had acquired large Estates by their former Practice.

By their Recommendation, on the Methodical Practice becoming again the Mode, he got into the Service of an old Man of Quality; where, in Gratitude to his Benefactors, he studied the Temper of his Master so exactly, that in a short Time he elbow'd out every one of the Faculty, that were about him: The old Gentleman happening to be a little humorous, and being just come to a great Estate, which obliged him to live upon it out of his own Country, had no very good Opinion of his new Tenants. This, ROBIN improved so well, as to persuade him, that he would infallibly be poison'd, if he ever took a Dose of Physick from any other Hand but his own. Thus every Body, except the Creatures of Doctor SUBLIMATE, were immediately dismiss'd, and a Set of his own Metallick Relations put into their Places.

ROBIN, now possess'd of his Master's Ear, made use of it to fill his Head with a parcel of the oddest Whims that ever were heard

heard of. He made him believe, that the greater Part of his Tenants and Servants were gone wrong in their Heads; and that if he did not order them to be taken proper Care of, 'twas Ten to One but in some of their mad Freaks they would either turn him out of Doors, or chop his Head off. The Old Gentleman, who, from the small Time he had lived amongst his Tenants, could not possibly be acquainted with their Humours, left ROBIN to take his own Measures. Upon which the Doctor very fairly falls to Cupping, Bleeding, Sweating, Purgings, Vomiting, and every other Evacuation he could think of; 'till at last, except himself and his Creatures, there was scarce a Soul belonging to his Master, but was so exhausted, as to be scarce able to draw his Legs after him.

Whenever any of the Old Gentleman's real Friends endeavoured to convince him of that miserable Condition to which those about him were reduced, and the Good Old Man from the natural Generosity of his Temper, began to shew any Desire of Redressing it, SUBLIMATE us'd to stare him full in the Face, feel his Pulse, bid him put out his Tongue, and, with the greatest seeming Concern imaginable, assure him he
was

was in a very high Fever, and that it was absolutely necessary for him to have the *Emplastrum Aureum* applied to the Palms of his Hands. This Plaister was a certain Quack Medicine that SUBLIMATE was wont to use, and into the Composition of which went a large Quantity of a certain sort of *Opium*, which was sure to quiet all the Old Man's Cares, and lay asleep every Apprehension for a considerable Time after.

Another Artifice of ROBIN's, was the Pretensions of one JACOB; who from an old musty Pedigree, had taken it into his Head, that he had a much better Right to the Old Gentleman's Estate, than the Old Man himself; and tho' poor JACOB was in the most indigent Circumstances imaginable, and forced to seek a precarious Livelihood, by sneaking up and down to such Gentlemen's Houses, as he knew had formerly been acquainted with, and had an Esteem for his Family, yet SUBLIMATE, who was always putting in his Oar, even in the Old Gentleman's most private Affairs, dinn'd it perpetually in his Ears, that a great Part of his Tenants, nay, and even some of his own Servants, were in JACOB's Interest; for whose sake they were every Day attempting to poison him, and had succeeded in it long
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before now, if it had not been (says the Doctor) for my being always at hand with my preventative Remedies.

In his younger Days, as I told you, **SUB-LIMATE** profess'd a most profound Esteem for the Regular Way of Practice; but that was only to ingratiate himself with the Regular Physicians: The other Party, tho' they were Knaves, were Wits, and had such an Aversion to a Blockhead, that they would never suffer him so much as to come amongst them. Honesty, to which he made a high Pretence, was what chiefly recommended him to the Regulars; but he had soon like to have open'd their Eyes, by his natural Propensity to being light-finger'd; for having, some how or other, got into be Doctor to a Troop of Horse, not being contented with the Perquisites of his Office, he made a Shift to steal a large Quantity of Hay; and being caught almost in the Fact, he was immediately sent to Gaol, and was very like to have swung for't.

ROBIN'S Impudence prov'd now, as indeed it has upon every other Occasion, his best Protection: He not only deny'd the Fact, even after the Proof was plain, but cry'd out it was all a Forgery of the Quacks, who were bent to ruin him. This had such
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an Effect on the Regulars, that they supported him with Money, during all the Time of his Imprisonment; and though they could not stop the Prosecution, yet they found Means to have the Sentence mitigated. *SUBLIMATE*, in return, made use of all his little Rhetorick to abuse their Enemies, and was continually making invective Speeches against *Hermodactyl*, *Gambol*, and *Wildfire*; notwithstanding which, since he has come into Practice himself, he has turn'd as errant a Quack as the worst of them.

On his first coming into Play, he judged it necessary, to take in some body who might be able to support him by their Credit. With this View he clapp'd *Charles Bluster* into the Surgery. *Charles* was a Man of Family, had good Interest, and some Honesty; but with all no Conjuror; and for this Business, the most unfit Man living: He had a clumsy Hand, a rough Speech, and an uncouth Behaviour: He never examin'd a Patient without an Oath; nor ever gave his Opinion in any Case, but with a G--d D--m me. In fine, the Man would have done well enough as a Country Squire, for which Nature design'd him; but being thus unluckily put out of his Road, he made almost as

great a Blockhead in the Surgery, as BOB did in the Practice of Physick.

Bluster, had however in some Measure the Ear of his Master; and accompanying him once in a Journey to his Native Country, by the Advice of the Brethren of the *Bolus* there, he jumbled together an unaccountable Pack of heterogeneous Ingredients, to which he gave the swelling Title of *Elixir Magnum Pacificum*. This Preparation, on his Return Home, making some Noise, and SUBLIMATE as yet not knowing what Turn it would take, carefully gave out, that the Whole was originally a Prescription of his own; and that *Bluster* had only made free with his Receipt: But the Medicine soon discovering itself by violent Operations to be a strong *Cathartick*, instead of the *Anodyne*, for which it had been received, BOB, with his usual Assurance, deny'd his knowing so much as a Word of the Matter, and said with a Sneer, he had often advised *Bluster* against it, and caution'd him of its Effects: But some People, adds the Doctor, will be positive; and see what Comes on't. This with SUBLIMATE'S throwing the Weight of some of his own Blunders upon him, put *Bluster* into such a Passion, that burning his Papers, break-

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ing his Lancets, and throwing away his Packets, he quitted the Surgery in a Pet, and has lived in the Country ever since.

I cannot help telling you here an Artifice of the Doctor's, to clear himself of the Odium some unpalatable Medicines had brought upon him; and that was this: Whenever any such Bitter Draught was preparing, SUBLIMATE took Care upon some Pretence or other to get *Bluster* out of the Way, and to officiate himself in his Room: If the Dose happen'd to be a little too strong, and the People began to make wry Faces, and complain, SUBLIMATE, putting on his usual Grin, was wont to harangue them after this Manner; "I am extreamly
 " concerned, Gentlemen, for what has hap-
 " pen'd; but I hope you will all do me the
 " Justice to acknowledge, it was none of
 " my Fault, since you cannot but be sensi-
 " ble that I was wholly employ'd in the
 " Surgery, during all the Time that Pre-
 " paration was compounding."

ROBIN'S Assurance was a very valuable Qualification, and indeed the only One that could possibly intitle him to the Character of a Great Man; for as to his Capacity as a Physician, to speak impartially, saving a tolerable Knowledge of such Simples as are of our own Growth, and a few

few Terms of Art he had picked up among the Regular Physicians, he was a downright Ignoramus, not in the least acquainted with any Branch of the *Materia Medica* as its imported to us from Abroad, except some few *French* Drugs, the Virtues of which he took upon Trust from old Doctor *Ballance*, an Ecclesiastical Quack of that Kingdom: But as to a Methodical System of the *Ars Physicæ*, that was a Thing for which SUBLIMATE had neither Talents nor Inclination to master.

As to the other Liberal Sciences, BOB was scarce a Smatterer in any of them; and what is still stranger, was so utterly ignorant of Geography, that he one Day asserted roundly in a Company who were talking of the coming home of some Cochineal from *New-Spain*, that *Panama* and *Porto Bell* were both on the same Side of the *Isthmus Darien*. This Story having been publickly laugh'd at, 'till it came to SUBLIMATE'S Ears again, Poh! (says the Doctor) with his Grin of Disdain, I know their Situation as well as any of them; but I had my Reasons for making that Mistake.

For the Servants in the House, ROBIN had them all in his Interest; his only Difficulty was with the Court-Leet, which by the ancient Custom of the Manor, used

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to inspect the Behaviour, not only of their Lord's Domesticks, but, in some Cases, even that of their Lord himself. The Doctor was now and then confoundedly puzzled with them; and as they set yearly, they would have given a great deal more Trouble, had he not persuaded the Majority to make an Experiment of his Capacity for Physick, by suffering the *Emplastrum Aureum* to be applied to themselves; which having the same Effect on them, as I told you before it had on his Master, all his Measures have been implicitly approv'd of by both ever since.

ROBIN remembering how much of *Hermodactyl's* Practice was owing to his judicious Choice of Zanies, Stage-sweepers, and Shell-grinders, was extreamly assiduous therefore to follow his Example, and furnish his Stage with proper Attendants in all those Capacities. But as the Old Proverb says, *Like Master like Man*; so SUBLIMATE's second-hand Qualities were all he had to render him conspicuous; his Retainers also were of the same Stamp: An insipid Pertness pass'd for Wit; an audacious Boldness for Intrepidity of Mind; and a Flow of Words with a Flatus of Expression, was taken for the most sublime Elocution.

At the Head of these was *Will Addle* the Rope-Dancer, whom the Doctor had preferr'd for his eminent Worthlessness. This Fellow was the oddest Compound imaginable: He fancy'd himself a most excellent Speech-Maker, tho' to the Scandal of his Master (the Palate of his Mouth being fallen thro' the *Febris Gallica*) he had the most disagreeable Snuffle that could be: He was, however, continually haranguing the People on the Virtues of *SUBLIMATE's* poisonous Packets; nay, and had even the Impudence sometimes to attempt his Defence before the College of Physicians: He had a good deal of his Master's Vanity; and never mounted the Slack-Rope in his Life, but with an old Piece of crimson Ribbon ty'd Sashways about him; and this Piece of Pride being soon spy'd out by the Mob, it procured him the Title of *Sir William* amongst them. In fine, he had all the Vices of *Harry Gambol*, without either his Wit, or his Capacity.

Will's Master-piece was talking in what the Logicians call a Circle; by which he sometimes confounded, and mostly tired out his Antagonists; insomuch, that it often happen'd, that rather than stay to hear the last of *Will's* Nonsense, those that opposed him went away, and left him
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and his Master to boast of what they call'd a Victory. I must do *Addle* this Justice, that except his Master, I believe no Man has a better Stock of Assurance than himself.

ROBIN was not without his Bungies too, as well as his Predecessor. One of that Tribe, who first set up a Stage at *Hereford*, and then at *Sarum*, was the only Man of good Sense, and a solid Understanding, that ever was attached to his Party: However, he lost by it all his Practice with the People, as soon as this Attachment came to be known. D---m him says one, we shall have him mix some of *SUBLIMATE*'s curs'd Powders with his Eye-Water. Nothing more likely, Neighbour, says a second; for that Rogue has a natural Antipathy to a Man that sees clear. Why truly, reply'd a third, I had always a good Opinion of *BEN PERIOD* till of late: His Eye-Water, as it first came out, was certainly a marvellous good Thing; but since his Intimacy with that D--m'd Quack, the Water he sells you, look ye, is no more like what it was, than Chalk is like Cheese:

SUBLIMATE, who is himself a Fellow of the least Conscience this Day living, has a natural Liking to Wickedness in others: Provided a Man has neither the least Spark of Sense or Honesty in him, 'tis ten to one but the Doctor prefers him to some Post or other about his Stage, even upon the slightest Application; nay, he has such an innate Affection for Corruption, that he not long ago took the greatest Pains to stifle a Prosecution against an old Drunken Lawyer, for no other Reason in the World, but because he was generally reputed almost as great a R---ge as himself.

But when I am talking of these Dons in Physick, I ought by no means to forget Doctor *Judas*, a Foreign Quack; from whom, as some People say, SUBLIMATE had his chief Instructions for composing his *Electuarium Anodynum Mirabile*, or his *Wonderful Quieting Electuary of Sevil-Oranges*. This Fellow is said to be a Low-Countryman by Birth, but studied Physick at *Salamanca*, or *Segovia*, I can't tell which; and has, in his Turn, been both applauded and exploded half the Countries in *Europe*, for his Chymical Extractions. SUBLIMATE having given him Shelter of late, he pretended,

“ Doctor, addressing himself to the Publick,
 “ that this Medicine will yet perform all
 “ that I have promised for it. What has
 “ happened, was owing only to a slight
 “ Mistake in one of my Operators, which has
 “ caus'd it to ferment a little : But allow
 “ me, says he, three or four Months of cold
 “ Weather, to set it again in Digestion, and
 “ with an Addition of a Chymical Oil, or
 “ two, which at the first Preparation were
 “ not perfectly extracted in my Elaboratory,
 “ I will so exactly adapt its Curative In-
 “ tention to the present Epidemical Scurvy,
 “ that it shall not only effectually cleanse a-
 “ way all gross Humours, but also so tho-
 “ roughly purify, the Blood, as wholly to
 “ eradicate the Seeds of the Distemper, and
 “ certainly prevent those Breakings-out, of
 “ which most People appear so apprehen-
 “ sive in the Spring.”

SUBLIMATE'S greatest Perfection, and
 what has indeed been the chief Means of
 raising him to all his Greatness, has been
 an Aptness to comply with the Temper, and
 suit himself to the Humours of whom ever
 he thought it his Interest to work upon.
 Thus it happen'd, when his Enemies once
 prevail'd to get him turned out, and pro-
 hibited to practise, ROBIN on this imme-
 diately

diately grew Popular; all his *Airs of Greatness* forsook him at once; he condescended to converse with the Meanest of the People, or, to speak with Propriety, he began to reassume himself; “It is a great Trouble to me, good Folks, says he, to see you reduced to so lamentable a Condition, and to see ye still also treated after so harsh a Manner: When I came into Practice you cannot but remember that *Peccant Humours* abounded; and that the Symptoms in general of your Disease indicated it so strongly, that it was impossible for me to avoid prescribing you a low Diet, and taking away a little Blood: But as by Degrees, I had by my Skill dispelled the Malignity of the Distemper, and found the Sharpness in the Juices to abate, I intended to have restored you to a full Liberty of Diet, and to have left it to every Man’s Choice to Eat and Drink as he pleased.”

This Cant, together with his known former Intimacy with the Regular Physicians, soon restored him to the good Graces of the Many; who never left muttering and murmuring, till their Lord took him again into his Service: In a Fortnight after which, the People made not the least Question but that

that they should be released from that Load of Physick, under which they had so long labour'd, and be suffered to eat their Beef and Pudding with as much Freedom as ever. — But, alas! how much were they mistaken ?

SUBLIMATE was no sooner reinvested with his Doctor's Gown, but it reinstated him in all his former Principles: He began with cursing loudly all those who had practised during his Disgrace, and swore they had so poison'd the Bodies of all their Patients, that it laid him under an unavoidable Necessity of beginning the whole *Cure de novo*. Upon this Pretence, Bleeding, Purgings, and Blistering, became again in Fashion; and in this Tract of Evacuation, by the Help of one Excuse or another, he has gone on ever since, and treated all who have fallen under his Hands like so many Lunaticks; of which, I confess, their having ever rely'd on him was almost a positive Proof.

Next to his Want of Capacity, the grand Source of all ROBIN'S Errors in Practice, has been his exorbitant Love of Money; for to so great a Degree did it possess him, that he thought no Villany too great, no
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Action too base, by which it could be ac-
quired. Unsatisfy'd with the ample Salary
allow'd him by his Master for his Advice,
and the vast Sums he made otherwise by
his Practice, there was not a Soul with whom
the Old Gentleman dealt in the Way of Phy-
sick, for himself his Family, or Tenants,
but SUBLIMATE found a Way to squeeze:
He went Halves with the Apothecary, took
Poundage of the Druggist, and expected a
Present even on the Admission of a Corn-
Cutter.

DOCTOR SUBLIMATE was the most ve-
hement Accuser, and the most vigorous in
in the Prosecution against *Hermodactyl* and
Gambol, for those Blunders and Villanies
he pretended they had committed when the
Vogue of Practice was theirs: But the
Crime on which he insisted most strenuously,
was their near Correspondence with *Roselle*
the *French* Quack. Supposing, cries
SUBLIMATE, they could clear themselves
of all the rest, they ought to be hang'd, if it
were for this only. There is (continues
the Doctor) such a Difference between a
French and an *English* Constitution, between
Fellows bred up to *Soup Meagre*, and *Sour*
Champaign, and our Bold *Britons*, who eat
you two Pound of Beef at a Meal, and
drink

drinking you a Gallon of Beer after it, that to pretend to introduce a *French* Method of Cure was the highest *Mala Praxis* that cou'd be; and there may be a Tendency to Popery and Slavery, for ought I know, in every Dose of their Physick.

After all this, would any Body living have believed, that when SUBLIMATE had got both these People turn'd out, and was himself crept into the greatest Part of their Business, that he would have fallen into the same Error? I say, would any Body in the Course of a few Years, have expected to see Doctor ROBIN SUBLIMATE so deservedly Famous for his *Philippick* Oration against the *Gauls*, fall so entirely into the *Praxis Parisiana*, and avowedly confess the highest Confidence in a *French* Physician? May we not justly exclaim,

Tempora mutantur, & nos mutamur in illis.

But I had like to have forgot a Character, that will make one of the most shining Figures of any in my Memoirs, which is that of *Clumfy*.

Clumfy

Clumfy you must know, Sir, is a near Relation of **SUBLIMATE**'s, and by him employ'd as his Agent to **DOCTOR BALLANCE**. The poor Fellow had the Misfortune to be born a Blockhead, and to be bred a Clodhopper: But since this new Preferment, he is become so heterogeneous a Compound, of *French* Courtier and *English* Ploughman, that you never in your Life saw so grotesque a Creature, ——— no, not in the Paintings of old *Hemskirk*. But what is worst of all, is, that he takes it sometimes into his Head to speak; and when he does, I assure you he does not do it the least out of Character: *Punch* himself could not make a better Orator. The Court-Leet thought fit a while ago to enquire a little into **ROBIN**'s foreign Correspondency. Upon this up starts *Clumfy*: “*Messieurs*, says he, (with
 “ his Right-Hand pulling up his Breeches,
 “ and his Left in his Pockets,) I will under-
 “ take to justify my Kinsman in this; for I
 “ manag'd the whole Affair for him my
 “ self.” And with that falls to telling them, in a ridiculous Manner, his whole Negotiation.

Perhaps having, in the Course of these
 Memoirs, said so much of **DOCTOR BAL-**
 D LANCE,

LANCER, you will expect at least a Sketch of his Character from me; which I confess is a Thing a little out of my Power: For I am so much of Doctor SUBLIMATE'S prestine Principles, that I acknowledge I have very little either of Curiosity or Concern about any Thing that relates to the *French* Nation: However, as far as I can inform you I will. He was, as I told you before, an Ecclesiastick; but whether he studied Physick in his Intervals from Divinity, or whether he minded it solely, without troubling his Head with Divinity at all, there I own I am at a Loss. But this, however, I will venture to assure you, that he is as much at the Head of the Profession, and directs it as absolutely there, as BOB does here: Nay, some People, who are well acquainted with both, assert, that they strongly resemble each other in every Thing, except Parts and Learning: Except Parts and Learning, I say; for in those 'tis confess'd, on all Hands, that the Priest considerably out-strips him.

I will, however, supply this imperfect Draught, by giving you their joint Behaviour, with Regard to the present Epidemick Distemper: I don't know whether I may justly stile it Epidemick, or no; but tho' it appears

pears in so many different Shapes, yet the Cause at the Bottom being still the same, I have ventur'd to make use of that Expression. Like Hyfterick Fits, however, its Symptoms are various; some (particularly a certain Foreign Lady of the first Rank) appear a little frantick; they strut and vapour about with their Arms akimbo, and talk of nothing else but War, Death, and Slaughter. Others, again, are affected with a Chilness through all their Limbs, Cold Sweats, Faintings, and a continual Pannick. But the chief Signs which attend it through all, are an Oppression on the Lungs, a violent Anxiety of the Mind, and an almost intolerable Burning at the Heart.

Many great Physicians have been of Opinion, that nothing but the OPENING SPIRIT OF MARS, can ever effectually root out these Evils; nay, most of the Patients themselves, seem inclined to that Method of Cure. But whenever it is mention'd to either of our Doctors, Let us talk the Case over again says, SUBLIMATE. Ay, ay, another Consultation, cries BALANCE; though by this Delay, their Patients are more weakned, than they would be by the Roughness of that Preparation; which is

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the Objection they can make against it.
but 'tis no wonder at all, that both our
Doctors have so strong an Aversion to this
Tinctura Martis, since 'tis very certain,
whenever that Medicine comes into Play,
their Run of Practice will be immediately
determined.

Thus, Sir, as well as I can, I have per-
formed my Promise; and as any Thing
new arises, you shall be sure to be inform-
ed by,

S I R,

Your Obliged,

Humble Servant,

&c.

F I N I S.







