

A description of the venereal gonorrhoea; accounting for the symptoms and cure of that disorder, in a new, easy, and rational manner. With remarks on the present practice. Shewing the ill consequence of purging, mercurial preparations, injections, astringents, &c; / by James Nevill, late surgeon to the Right Honourable Lord Robert Manner's Regiment, and surgeon's mate to his Majesty's Hospital all the last War.

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A
DESCRIPTION

OF THE
VENEREAL GONORRHOEA;

Accounting for the
SYMPTOMS and CURE of that Disorder;
in a new, easy, and rational Manner.

WITH
REMARKS on the present Practice.

SHEWING
The ill Consequence of PURGING, MERCURIAL PREPARATIONS, INJECTIONS, ASTRINGENTS, &c.

By JAMES NEVILL,
Late Surgeon to the Right Honourable Lord
Robert Manners's Regiment, and Surgeon's
Mate to his Majesty's Hospitals all the
last War.

*Ut autem hæc ista Præcepta, ex Rebus petita Valetudinem
offendentibus, stabili Medendi lege fulciuntur. JOD.
LOMM. de curand. Febr. Sect. 1. Chap. 1.*

L O N D O N:

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THE
PREFACE

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When it is considered that I have
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above fifteen Years, and con-
sidering that I have had a particular
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der, not only in our own Kingdom, but in
Germany, France, Spain, Italy, and the
Low Countries, it will not be surpris-
ing to find that I have been able to
the art of curing the Venereal Disor-
der, and the Advantage of more Experience in all
Circumstances relating to the Disorder.
Careful Observations of the Effects and
Mistakes attending an incorrect Practice
are the only Means of arriving at any Degree
of Certainty in the curative Part of Physic,
and a rational Theory, accompanied by the
Knowledge thus acquired, must make the
System of Medicine the most perfect and
valuable. A Practitioner, without Theory,
not understanding the Laws of the animal
Economy



T H E P R E F A C E.

 H E N it is considered that I have been a Surgeon in the Army, above sixteen Years, and employed in our Hospitals, all the last War ; that I have had Opportunities of being acquainted with the Methods, most approved of, for curing the Venereal Disorder, not only in our own Kingdoms, but in *Germany, France, Spain, Holland*, and the Low Countries ; it will not I hope appear a presumptuous Undertaking to write a Treatise on that Disease ; since few could have had the Advantage of more Experience in all Circumstances relating to the Disorder.

Careful Observations of the Success and Miscarriages, attending an extensive Practice are the only Means of arriving at any Degree of Certainty, in the curative Part of Physic ; and a rational Theory, accompanied by the Knowledge thus acquired, must make the System of Medicine the most perfect and valuable. A Practitioner, without Theory, not understanding the Laws of the animal

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Oeconomy, must be a Stranger to the Changes introduced into the Constitution by Diseases; he can neither form a regular Method of Cure, nor account for the Operation of his Remedies, or to what End they were prescribed; and the Theorist, for want of Practice to confirm his Speculations, must be often perplexed, and go astray: Tho' he can project a methodical Scheme of Cure according to the Forms and Rules laid down by Authors, yet its Success can only be warranted from Experience; this makes him acquainted with a Sett of Medicines that can be relied on, and enables him to discover the Nature and the Cause, and to comprehend the Symptoms and Events of Diseases with Perspicuity and Judgment. If therefore Theory and Practice are so conducive to a right Understanding in Physic, the Military Surgeon must come in for a Share of that Knowledge, he must understand Anatomy to be acquainted with the Structure and Use of the Parts, and he cannot be a Stranger to the *Materia Medica*, as he compounds and dispenses his own Medicines; these two Branches of the Art of Healing are the Ground-works and Foundation of a regular Institution of Physic, but they are very often so much neglected, that a Demonstrator of Anatomy, whose Understanding usually reaches no farther than the Edge of his Knives, or the Extent of his Injections, can point out Blunders in Authors of great
Repu-

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Reputation ; and the Tyro in Pharmacy often criticises on the Contrariety to be met with in Prescriptions.

He who is skilled in Anatomy must know, that all the Parts of the Body are made up of Solids and Fluids, whose mutual Powers, when in just Proportion, constitute that Harmony on which Health subsists; and he is sensible, that whatever is capable of disturbing this Agreement, disposes the Constitution to Infirmities and Sickness; for a Disease is that State either of the Solids or Fluids, in which, from what Cause soever, the Ballance between them is interrupted or impaired; and therefore, as often as the Resistance of the Solids is superior to the Force of the Influx of the Fluids, or the Power of the Influx of the Fluids is greater than the Resistance of the Solids, the *Æquilibrium* is injured, and Disorders ensue; for Health consists in an equal Motion of the Fluids, with an equal Resistance of the Solids in every Part; the Fluids are said to move equally, when their Moment or Force is not greater in one Part than another; the Resistance of the Solids is said to be equal, when their Impressions are equal on the Fluids in every Part; and in this Condition the Actions of Life are carried on without any Sensation of Pain or Uneasiness.

On this Intercourse between the Solids and Fluids, and the Power they have over each other, a Practice has been founded, at-

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tended with all the Benefit that can be expected from Physic, and with as much Certainty as may be hoped for, from the Management of such frail Materials as Flesh and Blood.

He who knows the Properties of the Solids and Fluids, and the Change they undergo in Sickneſs, takes his Measures accordingly, which is often of wonderful Advantage to his Patient, a Diſorder being frequently removed with great Eaſe in the Beginning, when either the Solids or the Fluids are ſeperately affected, that would become ſtubborn and rebellious, without a Method of Cure depending on this Diſtinction; for neither the Solids nor the Fluids can be particularly prejudiced for any Time, without participating the Indispoſition to each other.

Thus, if the Influx of the Fluids be ſuperior to the Reſiſtance of the Solids, the Veſſels, by being too much diſtended, will have their Tones weaken'd and impair'd, which diſpoſes the Juices to a Lentor or Sizyneſs that cannot fail to ſtagnate and form Obſtructions in the ſmall Canals.

But if the Reſiſtance of the Solids exceeds the Power of the Fluids, the Juices will be too much diſſipated, which will bring on Waſts and Decays; for the Sides of the Veſſels being collapsed and preſſed together, from a Deficiency of the Influx of the Fluids, they become ſtiff and rigid, yielding not eaſily to the Impulſe of the circulating Humours,

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Humours, if permitted to remain any Time in this State.

Hence it appears, how great an Happiness it is to have that Contexture of Frame, which preserves a reciprocal Concord between the Solids and Fluids; but Soldiers are the most liable of any other Sett of Men, to have this pleasing Harmony interrupted, especially in Time of War, fatiguing Marches, Inclemency of Weather, Irregularity of Diet, and perhaps an unavoidable and entire Change of Life, in all Respects, must be complied with; these Transitions are great Inducements for Diseases to make their Approaches, but they are frequently subdued before they can lay any considerable Hold on the Constitution, by sending early for the Surgeon, a Custom constantly observed in the Army, which gives him the Advantage over other Practitioners, correcting the Disposition in the Habit to receive the Ailment, and banishing the Cause of the Complaint before it can affect either the Solids or Fluids, so as to fix a Disorder upon them.

The learned Doctor *Pringle*, by superintending the Practice of military Surgeons, became well acquainted with their Abilities. In his excellent *Treatise on Diseases of the Army*, he says, Military Surgeons are the best acquainted with the Constitution and Disposition of their Patients, as well as with the whole Circumstances of their Distempers. I could give many Instances in Proof of what

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the Doctor observes, shewing their great Success in a Variety of Disorders, but this is quite foreign to my present Purpose, my Design being to confine myself to a Description of the *Virulent Gonorrhœa*, its Nature and Cause, with the usual Methods of Cure, shewing the great Mistakes among Authors, with Respect to the Symptoms and Seat of this Disorder, both in Men and Women; and the Errors those Mistakes must consequently have led them into, with Regard to the Method of Cure.

As the Venereal Disease is pretty frequent in the Army, it may be supposed, I have some Acquaintance with it; in Truth we have been very intimate, and it has cost me a deal of Pains and Trouble to know the Nature of its Disposition and Temper so well as I do; it is full of Deceit and Artifice; no Mimick has more Power over the Features of his Phiz, or can throw himself into a greater Variety of Attitudes, than the Pox has of appearing in the Form of other Maladies, and assuming the Shapes of different Ailments; but as the Mimick has always something of the Monkey in his Constitution, a Degeneracy from Humanity; so the Pox has a Virulency, some certain Signs to distinguish it from other Disorders, notwithstanding the strong Resemblance of the Symptoms; and if you treat the Mimick as a Monkey, and the Pox according to the Nature of its Disposition, you may easily keep them
within

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within Bounds ; but if you suffer them to get a Head, you cannot so readily shake off those troublesome Companions.

Though I have not the Vanity to imagine that my Abilities, in Literature, are equal to the Task I have undertaken ; yet Truth and Experience, I hope, will carry me through ; I have always preferred Sincerity to Eloquence, and would be prouder to be esteemed the Author of one useful Proof, or plain Demonstration, than of all the fine-spun Hypotheses, that compose the Works of the most polite Writers.

Every one, who puts his Hand to Paper, must expect to undergo Censure ; the World either has, or will take, the Privilege to criticise, and he who is displeased with this Freedom, should have avoided it, by not appearing in public ; I own there ought to be an Indulgence shewn to some Writers ; it spirits them up, and their Fancy being at Liberty, roves at large, and returns the Favours they received in Sallies that delight and charm the Imagination, while too much Severity contracts the Genius into such narrow Limits, that Timidity and Rigour appear in all they say ; and it is impossible that their Works can be either entertaining or useful ; but this Licence should be granted only to Authors, whose Subjects are Wit and Humour ; those who treat of the Sciences are not to expect such Indulgences ; their Discourses should be founded on Facts, whose

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whose Descriptions depend entirely on Judgment, abstracted from Whim or Fancy, and requires no Assistance from Figures, Rhetorick, nor other Modes and Ornaments of fine Writing; these Decorations are so apt to lead the Mind astray, that we find the Generality of Authors more valued for a Floridness of Stile than for any useful Instructions, or beneficial Improvements their Writings contain; therefore a pompous Manner of Writing, and a great Shew of Learning, should be by no Means allowed of in physical Dissertations; they divert the Thoughts from the Object in View, and the Imagination dazzled by the Brightness of Expression, is entirely employed on the Beauty of Words, while the Things they represent are but faintly perceived, or make such slight Impressions on the Memory, that they are soon obliterated, or at best, but help the Judgment with confused Notions, which prove to be of no great Advantage to the Understanding.

By what I have said, it appears, I am no Stranger to the Custom of the World, in Regard to Criticism and Censure; I must expect to go through those Tryals, and if my Opinions are condemn'd with Reason, I have the Satisfaction to think it will be of great Advantage to me; for the Success I have met with in the Venereal Disorder, depended solely on the Sentiments I have of the Nature of its Malignity and Power of acting

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acting, in the different Forms it appears in ; but if a better Way of Thinking is discovered, that will more effectually explain the Nature of the pocky Virus, and its Manner of operating, I will soon find out a more prosperous Method of Cure ; for the more the Cause, the Nature, and the Symptoms of any Disorder is known, the Indication will the more materially be pointed out.

This indigested Medley, to which I have given the Name of Preface, is designed as an Apology for the Undertaking ; it seems by this, that I am, or have had sufficient Opportunities to be acquainted with my Subject ; and the Sketch I have given of the Solids and Fluids, and of their Action and Re-action, shews, notwithstanding what some People may think to the contrary, that the Practice of the Military Surgeon is founded on some Principle, and that he is not entirely guided by Guess-work and Conjecture ; and from a just Consideration of this mutual Intercourse between the Solids and Fluids, I believe, it will plainly appear, that an advantageous Conduct of the one, will always remove the Defects of the other, that is, an Indisposition of the Solids will be got the better of, by a proper Regulation of the Fluids ; and an Intemperature of the Fluids will be remedied by a right Management of the Solids ; this is as certain as any Thing belonging to the human Fabric can be, and would, if closely applied to, be attended

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tended with Advantages as infallible, as that the Expences and Wastes from carrying on the Actions of Life, are restored to the Body by Nourishment and Rest, the Changes happening to the Fluids by Bathing, Friction, and other various topical Applications, apparently shew the Influence which the Solids have on the Juices; and Diet Medicine, several Kinds of Poisons, with a Depravation of the Humours, discover by their Effects the Power which the Fluids have over the Solids.

He who has observed the Benefit, attending that successful Method of the Antients, which they called *Cyclus Metasynoriticus*, or *Resumptivus*, knows how much the Solids are invigorated by lessening the Impulse of the Fluids; and *Boerhaave* tells us, that by humecting the Liquids with thin, farinacious Decoctions, he can reduce the greatest Rigidity or Contraction of the Solids, to a State of the greatest Relaxation and Slackness.

Ergo omnes Gradus Laxitatis, qui inter summam Rigiditatem, et maximam Debilitatem, intercurrunt, efficere possum, hoc uno Decocto. De Morb. Fibr. rigid. et elast.

Were those Methods more diligently observed, in the Cure of all Diseases, particularly the Pox, the Success, I am perswaded, would be greater: I have remarked, that Mercury, when it raises a Salivation, is more speedy in its Relief than when used in Friction, or as an Alternative; and the Reason, I believe, is chiefly owing to the Abstinence,

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stinence, which accompanies that Process; for I have often taken Notice, that after a Salivation, tho' all the Symptoms were remitted; yet they frequently returned upon the Use of a full Diet, to the great Surprize of the Patient, and Surgeon; and from what I have observed of Mercury, in all the Ways it is made Use of, I shrewdly suspect, it cannot be totally relied on in the Cure of a confirm'd Pox; it must have other Assistants; its Virtues, for the most Part, consists in dissolving the Blood, and disengaging the Venereal Poison, but other Helps must be used to expel it out of the Constitution. *Boerhaave*, the strictest Observer of Nature, who never let any Thing escape his Examination that could be of Advantage to the Science of Physic, has enquired with great Circumspection into all the Virtues and Qualities of this Medicine; and although it is a great Favourite, he nevertheless is far from regarding it as a Specific in this Disease, especially, if the Taint has reached the Periosteum or Bones, *Vis enim Mercurii eousque non pertingit.* De Lue Vener.

Hoc Malum quantum saltem videre potui, Salivatione Mercuriali non cedit, De Morbis Ossium.

But let the Benefit of Mercury be what it will in the Pox, I am sure it is of very little Service in the Cure of a Clap; all the Symptoms of which depend on Inflammation, and are therefore more likely to be irritated than

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than asswaged by it ; besides, I shall make it obvious, that if given inwardly, it causes a Revulsion of the Venereal Matter into the Blood from the Part affected ; or if outwardly used, as ordered by the celebrated *Astruc*, it acts as a strong Repellent, driving the Virus into the Habit, so that in both Cases, it is more likely to convert a Clap into a Pox, than to cure it ; it is not the first Time I have seen great Quantities of Mercury given, with an Intent to abate a Chordee, and check the Scalding of Urine, and if ever it answered those Ends, it must be by licking up the Running, and deriving it into the Fluids.

Whoever has beheld the Disasters of a pocky Scene, in the declining Stage of Life, the Distress and Anxiety of Mind, the intolerable Pain of Body, an emaciated and frightful Constitution, a Countenance expressing nothing but Sorrow and Misery, Lowness of Spirits, Want of Appetite and Rest, and a universal Failing of Strength, must needs be moved with Compassion at the Sight of such Wretchedness ; but all those Calamities have been caused by the Abuse of Mercury, and innumerable Examples of other Mischiefs ; who would not guard then against those evil Consequences, and use such a profitable, destructive Remedy with Caution ? Let us consider that Mercury is about fourteen Times heavier than the Blood ; if therefore, in the Circulation, it should move with the same Velocity, the Impulse will be on the Sides
of

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of the Vessels, in Proportion to its Celerity and Gravity, that is, vastly greater than the Power of Resistance in the Vessels; the Consequence therefore of making too familiar with Mercury will be, that either the Vessels must give Way or be ruptured; but as all the Blood Vessels do admit of great Distention, the impelling Force of the Mercury may stretch them out so far, as to destroy their Tone, and deprive them of the Power of Restitution, and thus those Vessels become inactive Receptacles of stagnant Fluids; but this Damage done to the Vessels by Mercury, will always fall on the weakest Parts, or those of the finest Texture; hence appears the Cause of those Diseases of the Brain, Lungs, Liver, and other Viscera, after an extravagant Use of Mercury; and yet I must own, I think it a most noble Medicine, and like it wonderfully for its Truth and Plain-dealing; it scorns to be disguised, and never wears two Faces under an Hood; mix it in a Powder, form it in a Pill, digest it in a Tincture, and decoct it in Diet-Drink, it will never be denied to its Acquaintance; if within, you're sure always of finding it at Home.

It may be said, that I treat Mercury in the Manner, that some great Men, in their Elogiums, have used their best Friends, that is, it is hardly to tell whether what I say is a Panegyric or a Satyr; but to remove this Difficulty, I will explain myself at far as Experience

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perience can enable me, and put it in such a
 Light, that all its good and bad Qualities
 may be seen at one View. Mercury has an
 undoubted Claim to the first Class among
 Medicines in the *Materia Medica*; no Re-
 medy is proposed to answer so many Ends;
 and generally speaking, it exceeds most in
 its good Effects; but it is a Misfortune pecu-
 liar to the Practitioners of Physic, that the
 more powerful those Helps are, which they
 make use of, the more dangerous, happy,
 could it be said, if they do no Good they
 will do no Harm; but this is not the Case;
 for the least Error in Practice, where those
 are employ'd, is attended with fatal Conse-
 quences, and of this we have daily Instances
 in the Administration of Mercury, the Bark,
 Opium, &c. therefore the Prescription of
 those Remedies will require the greatest
 Caution and Conduct, a Consideration that
 will always distinguish the Judicious from the
 Ignorant, and prevent any rash Proceedings
 in the Direction of such hazardous Assistants.
 I by no Means approve of the Use of Mer-
 cury, in order to salivate, whether inwardly
 by Unction, or Fumigation, and for the fol-
 lowing Reasons. The Quantity of that Mi-
 neral that enters the Blood is too great, and
 too sudden for the Space of Time to agree
 with the natural Combinations of that Fluid
 and the other Juices of the Body; its Force
 breaks and divides them with such Rapidity
 and Speed, that especially in weak Consti-
 tutions,

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tutions, there may be Danger of their never being able to recover their Union again. This hasty Alteration in the Fluids, puts them into such Confusion and Disorder, that they lay a greater Stress on the Solids, whose Impressions on them must be likewise encreased; and now the whole Constitution, thus embarrass'd by the Mercury, is in a State of Fever; all the Secretions are sollicitated by the enrag'd Fluids, for an Outlet to abate their Tumult; but as the salival Ducts usually make the least Resistance to their Power, they force a Passage through them, which alleviates in some Degree, the Commotion; but it happens, and not very rarely, that the salival Ducts don't give Way to this Assault, in which Case the Consequences are always dangerous, and the next Effort will be upon the Bowels; should they resist, the Shock will be on the weakest Viscera; but if the Constitution is robust enough to have all its Parts so proportionably strong, as to withstand the Blow, a Fever must ensue, which is ever of a bad Kind; and in those Circumstances, I have known several People deprived of their Senses, and continue mad all their Lives after; but granting a Salivation should come kindly on, it reduces the Habit so low, that it requires a good deal of Management to recover the former Strength more than I apprehend is observed; for in a few Weeks you see a thin, meagre Person look plump and jolly; a Change too sudden

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to be wholesome. After all, this Sort of Cure is patched up in such a Manner, that it often breaks out again, Salivation alone not being sufficient to carry off all the Venereal Contagion.

Mercurial Frictions, so managed, that no Ptyalism can be feared, are infinitely to be preferred to Salivation; the Mercury mixes more leisurely and intimately with the Blood, and in this Manner, is subject to such a Regulation, that you safely make it act as a Purge, Sweat, Diuretic, or Alterative, any one of them as beneficial as a Spitting, yet they all will require other Means to subdue the Disorder; and in a few Words, except this Way of using Mercury, and in some Cases giving it crude, the *Æthiops*, and Calomel are the only Preparations that can be taken without Danger.

I have often seen the Operation of Turbith Mineral, *Præcip. Virid.* and have known the red Precipitate to be taken, and more than once have been a Spectator of the horrid Performance of corrosive Mercury; they may all have their particular Advantages, in answering the Designs of the Prescriber; but they require a great Deal of Judgment and Nicety, to keep them from committing irreparable Mischiefs; must it not then be the greatest Satisfaction to the Patient, and Content to the Practitioner, to be certain that all their good Effects can be brought about with-
out

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out running any Hazard or Danger by Medicines of superior Virtue and Benefit?

I would not have it imagin'd, from what I have said, that Mercury should be excluded from the Cure of the Pox; on the contrary, I know it to be a very beneficial Remedy, not only in that Disorder, but in many others; my Intent is, to have it ordered in such Preparations, that it may be taken with Safety, and proportion'd to the Strength of the Constitution; for otherwise the Remedy will be found to be worse than the Disease.

I shall undoubtedly appear a very odd and irregular Fellow, to the Majority of the World, for disapproving of a Practice so well established as Salivation, and condemning the Use of Preparations, that have been regarded as Sheet-Anchors in the greatest Distress; but what will be thought of me when my Sentiments come to be discovered in the following Discourse; when I assert, that the Running in a Clap does not proceed from an Ulcer; that the Seat of the Disorder in Men, is in the Fore-part of the Urethra, and that the *Vesiculæ Seminales*, *Prostata*, *Glandulæ mucosæ*, *Cowperi*, *Morgagni*, *Terranei*, *Glandula Littrii*, and their Duets, all situated near the Bulb of the Urethra, under the *Acceleratores Urinæ*, are never affected, but thro' Neglect or Mismanagement; it will appear strange to deny, that the Vagina is disordered in a Gonorrhœa, and to confine that Disease in the fair Sex, to the *Ductuli Urethræ*

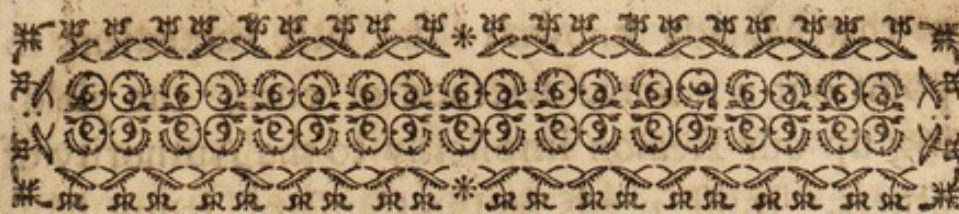
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Urethræ, Lacunæ, and the little excretory Pipes, of all the Parts *circa Urethram, et Orificium Vaginæ*, and I shall be deemed to be very singular, for opposing the Opinions of those who say, that the Matrix is the Fountain that supplies the Menstrua and Fluor-albus: How surprising will it seem, to find Fault with Purging, Injections, and in most Cases, the Use of Balsamics, in the Cure of a Clap, how repugnant to all Authors who have wrote on that Disease, and consequently how liable to the Censure of most Practitioners! These Considerations are so strong against any Person that would attempt to subvert such establish'd Doctrines, and Opinions so universally allowed of, that I am sensible, he will be esteemed rash and fool-hardy, by the Generality; but if those Conjectures, in Relation to the received Methods of Cure, can be obviated by incontestable Proof, those Opinions overturned by the Authors themselves who asserted them, the Judicious will determine in Favour of the Undertaking; and their Countenance, with the Truths contained in the following Sheets, will, I hope, be sufficient to screen me from the Prejudice of all captious Cavillers.

A

E R R A T A.

Page 6, Line 14, *for so great, read to great.* Page 44, Line 19, *for Papas, read Passas.* Page 61, Line 19, *for demonstrative, read destructive.*

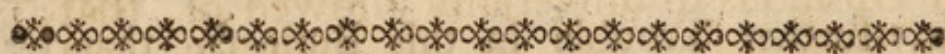


A

TREATISE

ON THE

VIRULENT GONORRHOEA.



CHAP. I.

*Of the Errors to be met with in Authors, who
have treated of the Venereal Disorder.*



THE Variety of Opinions to be found in Authors who have treated of the Venereal Disease, apparently shews, that they made Use of no certain Means to direct them to an incontestable Discovery of its Origin, nor chose the Lights proper to guide them through the Obscurities of
B their

their Subject, and make the Nature and Cause of that Malady known; the best Expedient to point out a rational Method of cure, the yielding up our Reason implicitly to the Authority of others, must needs be the Cause of many Mistakes and Errors; for if we don't give ourselves the Trouble to examine into the Nature of Things, and inform our Understandings, with all the Properties we can relating to them, we must have but confus'd Notions of their Qualities, and be under the Necessity of taking most Matters for granted, depending entirely on the Credit of other Men's Judgments; and this I take to be the Cause of the many Faults, Doubts, and Opinions, to be met with in the Writings on this Disease; few, or none, giving themselves any further Trouble in this Business, than by supporting their Conjectures with Quotations from Authors, whose Works are nothing but Extracts from other Authors, and so on: Thus you may trace the Succession to the first Offspring, and find the Fountain-head as confus'd and muddy, in this Respect, as all the Streams flowing from it; for I do not remember to have seen, in any physical Writer, an exact Account of the first Appearance of the Pox, or a satisfactory Relation of its Nature and Cause, some looking on it as an antient, others deeming it

It a modern, Distemper ; some a Disorder arising from an Impurity of the Air ; others a Disease from Copulation ; the Man, the Woman, or both, in unhealthy Circumstances ; but the most prevailing Opinion is, that it is a Native of the *West-Indies*, and imported from thence by the *Spaniards*, by whom it was communicated to the *French*, and *Neapolitans*, at the Time that *Charles VIII.* besieged *Naples*.

In a Discourse I design to publish on this Disorder, I hope I shall be able to prove the contrary of this Opinion, and establish many Particulars belonging to it on Facts, that now depend on Surmise, or plausible Conjectures ; the doing of this will remove a great many Doubts and Difficulties to be met with in Authors, and fix the Period of its first Appearance ; shew what was the original Cause of this Malady, and help us to comprehend rightly the Nature of its Malignity, Particulars still undetermin'd by the best Authors ; the Reason of those Misunderstandings, and various Opinions, which so remarkably occur in their Accounts of this Disease ; for the less the Knowledge of the Nature, and the Cause of a Distemper is, the more inconceivable will be the Method of Cure. What I have related in Respect to the Mistakes, and Errors, to be met with in Authors on the Venereal Disease, at present I must only assert in general Terms, confining myself here to a Description of the Gonor-

rhœa, and the Accidents depending on it; but in my Discourse on the Lues, I shall be very particular, extracting the Passages from those Writings where the Faults lie, and comparing them with the opposite Sentiments of other Authors: This way of Examination is frequently attended with such Advantages, that often very valuable Discoveries are made, of which there would not be the least glimmering, unless suggested by Scrutinies of this Kind. Those who have treated of the Venereal Gonorrhœa, no more agree in their Notions of the Nature, Cause, Symptoms, and Seat of that Disorder, than those who have made the Pox their Subject. In Regard to the running, it is commonly thought to flow from an Ulcer, but Doctor *Cockburn*, and his Followers, will have it to be an ousing from certain Channels, terminating in the Urethra, to which he gives the Name of *Lacunæ*: It is likewise imagin'd, that the *Vesiculæ Seminales*, Prostate Gland, *Glandulæ Cowperianæ*, &c. are the Seats of the Disorder, some few thinking it to be lower down in the Urethra, towards the Glans Penis; but the Parts disorder'd in the Fair Sex, have been so much mistaken, that the most judicious are sometimes at a Loss to distinguish between this Disease and the Fluor Albus: A Discernment so necessary, that no Pains should be spared to set the Understanding right in this particular, and no Means neglected to

to remove the Obstacles out of the Way that cause the Difficulty. The different Methods of Cure are not less numerous, than the various Opinions Practitioners have of the Nature and Quality of the Poison; few that have not a favourite Remedy, some singular way of their own, agreeing with their Notions of the Contagion; some thinking it a Virus of an acid, acrimonious Kind; others, a volatile lixivious Caustic; some a Poison Sui-Generis, as the phagedenic Ichor of a Cancer, the Scrophula or Scurvy; others a verminous putrid Taint, abounding with Myriads of voracious Animalculæ, continually knawing and devouring, yet are never satiated.

These unsettled Conjectures, about the venereal Poison, give Rise to the various Indications of Cure laid down for that Disorder; the Alkaline Virus must be destroy'd by an acid, the Poison Sui Generis is to be overcome by Specifics to that Purpose, and the verminous Putrefaction, by Worm-killing Secrets.

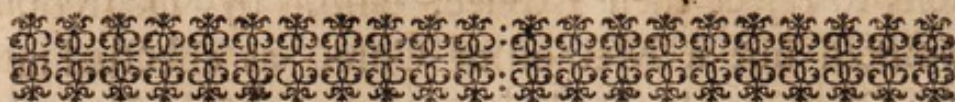
All these several Opinions, with many more relating to this Subject, are owing to the particular Fancies of some great Men, for it is in Physick too often, as well as in other Sciences, that the Singularities of extraordinary Geniuses

are receiv'd for Gospel, and it would be only calling our own Judgment in Question to dispute their Validity, in Affairs that are either above our Understandings, or of which we have little or no Knowledge; we, for the most Part, acquiesce to this Doctrine, as it prevents a Discovery of our Ignorance; and it is for this Reason, that no Whim can be so ridiculous, no Notion so fantastick, as not to have Crowds of Profelytes, when countenanc'd by the Authority of a great Name.

Complaisance in the Commerce of Life, is very commendable, and extremely necessary; but it is so great a Compliment to any Man's Judgment, to assent to his Opinions, without being satisfi'd whether they are founded on Truth and Reason, in a more especial manner, with Respect to Matters that concern the Health and Welfare of Mankind; and this Consideration, with the Disappointments I met with in Practice, pursuing the Instructions of Authors on this Disease, made me inquire more carefully into all the Circumstances relating to it; and the Ends propos'd to be effected by the several Methods of Cure: As I did not want Opportunities to make Observations, it was not long before I discover'd many Errors in the Proceedings recommended by the most distinguish'd Writers: Experience furnish'd me abundantly with Reasons

sons to reject **their Advice**, and, by Degrees, pointed out a Method of Cure, as effectual in the Clap, as the Bark in an intermitting Fever, or Ague; and yet there is not the least Particle of Mercury in the Composition; nothing that requires Confinement, or any particular Management, so as to give the least Suspicion to the most intimate Acquaintance, operating entirely by moderately increasing the perspirable Discharge, and gently promoting the Evacuation of Urine, preferable to all Remedies in this Case; as no Disorder can have a Contra-indication, prohibiting its Use, may safely, and advantageously, be taken by Women in their Pregnancy; and I can boldly affirm, will be found second to no Medicine in the Fluor Albus, or feminine Weakness.





C H A P. II.

Of the G O N O R R H Œ A.

*Shewing it to be a critical Discharge, and
design'd by Nature, to carry off the Vene-
real Poison.*



Oerhaave says, the Pox, since the Year 1463, which he must have mistaken for 93, made its Appearance in the Kingdom of *Naples*, immediately after in the *French* Camp, and then spread thro' all *Europe*, where it still continues.

Sydenham tells us, in the Year 1493, the Lues Venerea arriv'd first from the *West-Indies* to *Europe*, and before that Time, the Name of it was not even known to our World. A little after he says, this infectious Plague spreading by degrees, so defiled those Parts of the World, that if it rag'd with the same Fury still that it invaded with, it would, in some Ages, put an End to Mankind. It does not delight much in our *Europe*, but languishes daily, and fades into milder Appearances; but about a hundred Years ago it shewed itself in the Form of a Virulent Gonorrhœa, which is still the Case, opening a Pas-
sage

sage for itself thro' the Urethra, whose Poison, when not discharg'd by a Gonorrhœa, enters into the Blood, and infects the whole Mass.

Europæo nostro non perindè lætatur, sed languet in dies, et mitioribus Phænomenis fatiscit, at vero centum retrò Annis Gonorrhœa virulentæ Specie se primum ostendebat, ostenditque adhuc, hæc sibi Porta exitum quærens, cuius Virus, cum per Gonorrhœam, non ejiciatur sanguinis Massam citius pervadit inficitque. Sydenh. Epistol. Resp. 2da.

Morbus revera alius quam dum primo in Europam veniret, servat tamen eundem Genium licet paululum mitescat, nec tam sævus sit. Boerh. Annot. de Lue Vener.

From the above Quotations I shall observe, that the Mildness of the Pox was wholly owing to the Gonorrhœa carrying off the Taint, and that the Methods of Cure, used before the Clap appeared, were of little or no Benefit. Sydenham wrote his Letter on the Pox, about the Year 1680; an Hundred Years before that the Gonorrhœa first shew'd itself, so that from the Time of its first Appearance, to the Time the Pox discovered itself, was not above 127 Years, and yet, in that Space, it swept away such Multitudes, that *intra secula aliquot ætùm esset de genere Humano.* Epist. Respons. But Nature always, industrious

dustrious to discharge, whatever is hurtful to the Habit of Body, produces the Gonorrhœa as an Outlet to carry off the venereal Poison, which so well answer'd her Intentions, that it check'd its destructive Career, and obliged it to put on a milder Countenance; this is the Cause that makes it languish and pine away, and not any Dislike it has to our *Europe*, as *Sydenham* observes; since I shall be able indisputably to prove, that this Disorder is an *European* by Birth, and that it was not imported to us by the *Spaniards*.

Therefore I define a Virulent Gonorrhœa, or Clap, to be a critical Discharge of the venereal Poison, design'd, by Nature, to drain off the pocky Taint, and thereby free the infected Person from the evil Consequences of the contagious Venom.

This Definition agrees with the Sentiments of the best Authors, not only with regard to the Clap as a Disease, but with respect to the Running, considered as a critical Discharge, for Diseases are those Forces and Helps which Nature raises in our Constitutions, to expel and drive out of our Bodies, whatever should be offensive and troublesome.

*Morbum nihil esse aliud, quam Naturæ Conamen
Materiæ morbificæ exterminationem in Ægri sa-
lutem*

lutem omni Ope molientis. Sydenh. de Morb. acut. in pener.

Natura autem dicitur Hippocrato totius Corporis Adaptatio illa, in Solidis et Fluidis, unde exoritur facilis omnium Functionum exercitatio, et quandocunque hæret aliquid in Corpore, quod hoc impedit, fiunt novi quidam Motus, ut illud illiminetur. Boerh. de Febr. in Genere. By this we see when any Thing inherent in the Constitution is troublesome to the Functions of the Body, the Solids and Fluids act in Concert to shake it off, and the Efforts made on those Occasions are the immediate Cause of all Diseases; thus the venereal Poison fixing on the Ducts of the urethral Glands, is the immediate Cause of that Disorder call'd a Gonorrhœa or Clap; the stimulating, corrosive Salts, of which Poison, galling and fretting those tender and nervous Parts, excite Heat of Urine, and Chordee, the inseperable Symptoms of this Disease; but Nature ever intent in removing from her the Cause of Pain and Disturbance, sends a Flux of Humours to those Parts to disengage them from the Acrimony of the Virus, and to wash it away, and drain it off through the Urethra, and therefore the Running produc'd from this Flux of Humours, must be look'd on as a critical Discharge.

Fit Crisis Naturâ secernente Humores noxios, a bonis, et ad Excretionem præparante. Riverius de Natur. Cris. That

That we may have a clearer Conception of what I have said, I will beg leave to exemplify it, by an Extract from *Boerhaave*.

Sic si sanissimo Homini in Manum intrudatur Frustulum Vitri, oritur Statim Dolor, Calor, Inflammatio, Febris, Tumor, &c. Si verò Festucam illam educas, sedabis etiam Symptomata Omnia, et Febrim Pacabis, sed si relinquas intra Triduum, omnia Vasa quibus illud cohærebat erunt, soluta, et Erosa, adeò ut sponte possit decidere. De Febr. in genere. From this familiar Observation, a great many Particulars, relating to the Practice of Physick, may be deduced; I shall only take Notice, that if a little Bit of Glass, free from all Poison, whose Offence consists in the Sharpness of its Edges and Corners, is capable of causing so many troublesome Symptoms, an active, corrosive, poisonous Salt, is more effectually qualified for all those Purposes, which by insinuating itself deeper, and sticking more closely to the Sides of the Vessels, makes a greater Erosion of them, and will require more Time to be extricated.

Having accounted for the Operation of the venereal Poison, the Production of the Running, and that it is a critical Discharge, it remains now to prove, that the Virus is carried off by the Running.

We

We have been inform'd, that the Cause of the Running is owing to a Fluxion of Humours, excited by the Irritation and Stimulus of the pocky Poison; this Glut of Juices relaxing the excretory Ducts of the Urethral Glands, gives them a free Passage to the Virus, part of which they dissolve from Time to Time, and carry off thro' the Urethra; and this continues so long, 'till the whole Poison is either wash'd away, or a Stop put to the Running, by some Accident: The Truth of the Contagion going off in this Manner will be evident to any Person that makes Use of my Method of Cure, which acts chiefly in scouring and cleansing the urinary Passages, and expelling the Poison effectually by this Means while all other Contrivances I have any Experience of, conduce either to dry up, or to repel, or derive the pocky Matter into the Blood.

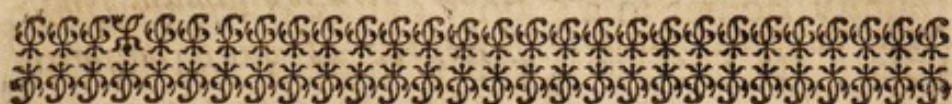
Quando Materia Fluens est Venenata nequaquam revellenda est sed ab initio, per Partem ipsam recipientem, Vacuanda. River. Inst. Med. lib. V.

The Infection communicable from one Sex to the other, is a Demonstration that the Medium which conveys the Poison, serves as a Vehicle to discharge it; and *Boerhaave* look'd upon the Running as a Security against the worst of Symptoms, which it could not be if it did not drain off the venereal Taint.

Est

Est cæteroquin hæc Gonorrhœa levissimum symptoma venerii Contagii suscepti, et quasi majorum Malorum Asylum, vix enim qui Acri Gonorrhœa laborant in Luem Veneream incidunt. De Lue. Vener.

If the Account I have given of the venereal Gonorrhœa is reasonable, and that it will appear to be a critical Discharge, is it not a most surprising Thing to think, that no one Method of Cure was ever calculated to answer the Designs of Nature, which plainly point out the Necessity of Diuretics in this Disorder; it is true those Remedies are sometimes prescrib'd, but with an Intention to abate the Sharpness of Urine, ever regardless of the Running, as a critical Discharge; beside the Diuretics generally order'd, dissolve the Blood too much, causing too great an Expence of the Fluids by Urine, which weakens and relaxes the Passages, giving a Disposition to Gleets, and Incontinence of Urine; but those Inconveniences, the Absurdity and Danger of Purgings, the Mischief of Injections, Mercurial Frictions, untimely Use of Balsamics, and astringent Medicines will be fully treated of; and satisfactory Reasons I hope given for condemning their Use.



C H A P. III.

Of the Parts affected in both Sexes with this Disorder.



TH A T the Clap is contagious, and may be communicated in Coition from one Sex to the other, no-body disputes, and a very little Knowledge in some of the Parts belonging to Generation, will enable us to apprehend how the Infection is receiv'd.

The Penis is the chief Organ of Generation, the greatest Bulk of which is form'd of two spongy or cavernous Bodies, which arise distinctly from separate Beginnings on each Side of the Symphisis, or joining of the inferior Part of the Os Pubis. Afterwards meeting together, they are extended to the Glans, or Nut of the Yard. If these Bodies, in dead Subjects, are inflated with Air, or injected with Mercury, or any kind of Fluid, they become distended and rigid.

The Glans, or Nut, is the anterior Part of the Yard, it receives the Extremities of the two
spongy

spungy Bodies in a Cavity design'd for that Purpose. Its Surface is vastly smooth and sensible; from the great Number of nervous Papillæ it is beset with.

The Urethra is a membranous Canal joyn'd to the Neck of the Bladder, and extended to the Extremity of the Glans, affording a Passage to the Seed and Urine; it is situated in a Furrow, form'd in the lower Part of the cavernous Bodies, the Diameter of this Canal is commonly equal to a Goose's Quill, and is compos'd of two strong Membranes; between whom is a spungy and cavernous Substance, puffed up and dilated in Erektion, an Infinity of small Ducts, open every where into the Urethra, whose Glands seporate a viscus Fluid, which lubricates the Passage, and defends it from the Acrimony of the Urine, and keeps it smooth and moist for the Seed to run thorough more glibly; as every Gland is a Contexture of Nerves and Blood Vessels, this Part must be extremely sensible since they abound so much here. It is not necessary to my Design, to describe any more of the Parts of Generation belonging to Men, since I shall be able to account for the Manner of receiving the Infection, and all the Symptoms attending a Gonorrhœa, from those I have mention'd, nor shall I be more tedious in enlarging on those Parts, I suppose to be injured in Women, with this Disease. The

The Rima is the external Opening of the Pudendum, in the upper Part of which, just within the Labia, is the Clitoris, cover'd for the most Part with its Præpuce; its Glans, which is not perforated, is besmear'd with a fætid unctuous Humour, as the Glans Penis, it is very nervous and extremely sensible, has two spongy Bodies like the Yard, and capable of Erection.

The Nymphæ are two membranous cavernous Parts, contiguous to the Præpuce, and joyn'd to the inside of the Labia; they hang not unlike Cock's Gills, one on each Side, sometimes larger and sometimes smaller; they abound with Nerves and small Glands, which secrete a viscous Humour; they are distended and puffed up in Coition, and encrease the Titillation and Pleasure.

A little behind the Nymphæ, is the external Orifice of the Vagina, bound with a spongy Substance, which expands itself in Coition. A great many excretory Ducts open in the external and internal Parts of this Orifice, whose Glands separate a mucous Liquor, to lubricate the Entrance into the Vagina.

The Urethra, or urinary Passage, is situated directly under the Glans Clitoris, pushing out in a little Prominence, its Length is about two Fingers-breadth long; it is wider than in Men, and
C admits

admits of great Dilitation; it has Ducts secreting a gelatinous Fluid to defend it from the Sharpness of Urine.

The Lacunæ, or little Openings, conspicuous about the Urethra, arise from its glandulous Body, and discharge a Humour to make the Parts moist and slippery.

All these Parts, by deduction or stretching out of the Labia Pudendi, discover themselves to view, and I think are the only ones first injured in a Gonorrhœa, tho' the generality of Authors fix upon the Vagina, as the Seat of that Disorder; the Reasons for my Opinion are, first those Parts are soft and pulpy, like the spongy Bodies of the Yard and Urethra, and are like them distended and puffed up in Coition, therefore more susceptible to receive the Contagion. Secondly, if they are not the Parts affected, we can never account for the Symptoms of Chordee, and Sharpness of Urine; the Glans Clitoris, and Meatus Urinarius, situated without the Vagina; and lastly, the Vagina, in Coition, is strongly contracted, closely embracing the Penis with its muscular Membranes, a Circumstance not favouring the Admission of the Contagion so much as Distention.

What I have related, concerning the generative Parts in both Sexes, is sufficient for my Purpose,

pose, if they are not the only Places seiz'd on by a Clap, I shall be able to prove they are the first injured, and when so, the Complaints they cause must convince the Patients that they are venereal, and no other, which will make them careful to seek Redress, lest further Mischiefs ensue, which can most easily be prevented at this Period.


I utterly deny the Probability of the prostate Gland, *Bulbus Urethræ*, *Vesiculæ seminales*, *Glandulæ Cowperi*, *Littrii*, *Morgagni*, *Terranei*, &c. being injured when a Man first gets a Clap, or that the Vagina is touch'd with that Disorder in Women, immediately after its Appearance.





C H A P. IV.

The Manner of receiving the Infection.

 N Erection, the Parts of Generation go through a wonderful Change, from a pliant, languid, and yielding State, they become distended, and stiff; their Bulk encreased, and their Pores enlarged, suppose them more apt to receive the venereal Taint. In Coition, let us imagine either the Man or the Woman damaged, in driving on the Bargain; is it not reasonable to think that those Parts that are most spungy, soft, and tender, are likely to come in for the greatest Share of the Infection, especially as they will have the first Offer; but there are no Parts belonging to the Organs of Generation, so porous and bloated up, as those I have described, therefore the most liable to be the Seat of the Disorder, but this will more particularly appear, by examining into the Nature and Cause of Erection and the Distention of those Parts, and in doing of this, I shall enter into no Controversy with
 Regard

Regard to muscular Motion, it sufficiently agreeing with my Intention, to observe, that every Muscle in the Body has a distinct Nerve and Artery belonging to it; and that any Muscle looses its Power of acting when a Ligature is made on its Nerve or Artery, or in Case either of them, by any Accident, should happen to be divided; by this it is plain, that the animal Spirits, in Conjunction with the arterial Blood, are the chief Causes of muscular Motion, for both those Fluids, when a Muscle acts, rushing into its Fibres in a greater Quantity, and with more Force, expand and stretch them out, which shortens and contracts the Muscles, on which its Motion depends, and this is evident from the swelling and hardness to be perceiv'd in several Muscles when they act. Thus according to this Account, when the animal Spirits, and arterial Blood, are put in a Ferment by amorous Desires, the Torrent directed to the erector Muscles of the Penis distends them, and compresses the Veins of the Yard against the Os Pubis, which retards the Blood in them, while that Fluid flows plentifully through the Arteries into the Corpora Cavernosa, whose Distention is the Encrease of the Size, and the Cause of the Stiffness in the Penis.

In like Manner the acceleratores Urinæ, act as erector Muscles to the Corpus Cavernosum Urethrae,

thræ, some of whose Fibres running to the Extremity of the Penis, terminate at the under Part of the End of the Urethra; those Muscles when they act, pressing closely on the Veins of the Corpus Cavernosum Urethræ, prevent the Return of the Blood through them, as the erector Muscles of the Yard do, while the Influx of that Fluid continues thro' the Arteries to the Corpus Cavernosum, which filling that porous spongy Substance, causes its Erection; but as all Muscles contract their Fibres when they act, the Fibres of those Muscles inserted into the Extremity of the Urethra, will be contracted, which drawing back the End of the Urethra, enlarges the opening. The Glans in Erection, not compressing the Urethra equally with the Corpus Cavernosum, gives a freer Entrance to the Virus, so that it is reasonable to suppose, that the first Lodgement of the Poison, is in this loosely compressed Part of the Urethra, under the Glans, and this agrees with Experience; for I dare affirm that Ninety-nine in an Hundred who are clap'd, observe that their first Complaints are here, or not far off. Let any Man, when the running first appears, squeeze his Penis a little above the Glans, and gently strip out all that runs, if he removes the Pressure higher up, and upon stripping it again, he perceives no fresh Moisture, it is reasonable to believe that where the Matter came from, must be the Part affected, which

which we are still more sensible of, from the Pain in Erection, and the Complaint of the Sharpness of Urine here.

When I am so unhappy as to differ from the Opinion of others, I shall offer Reasons for doing so, and it gives me the greatest Pleasure to find, that notwithstanding the Precepts I advance may seem a little odd and extraordinary, yet they perfectly agree with the Sentiments of some of the greatest Masters that ever appeared in Physick; thus the Authority of *Boerhaave* supports me in my Opinion that that Part of the Urethra I mentioned, is the first seized on by the Clap.

Prima et Mitissima species est quando Cancer veneris sive Ulcusculum illud, saniem fundens in Urethra intima hæret, ad illum Locum ubi Glandis comittitur Frænulum Præputii nec ulterius proserpit Malum. Prima species Gonorrhœa sic distingues, Veniat ad te Æger Matutino Tempore, antequam Urinam nocturnam eminxit, jube tunc ut Digiti proxime ipsum glandem applicatis, eam exprimere conetur, tunc tu Videns Materiam exire, cognosces esse in illà Parte cancrum veneris, ut autem scias an et altius proserpit Malum, jube paulo magis retro Glandem premere incipiat, sique videbis quousque pertingat. De Lue Vener.

This Disorder is most easily communicated from an infected Person to a sound one in Coition,

for the Poison is so subtil and penetrating, that wherever it lays hold on Parts qualified to receive it, it rivets itself there, and fixes so closely that it can't be shook off without causing some Injury, and a very small Quantity of the Virus will be sufficient to do the Business; the Disposition necessary in the Parts, to receive the Malignity is chiefly owing to the Distention in Erection.

Quando Penis est erectus sanguine Distentus et quasi inflammatus, apparet, hinc Omnes Pori ejus sunt quam maximè distracti, et aperti, et ad faciliorem Veneni susceptionem. Dispositi. Boerh. de Lue Vener.

In the like Manner the Parts belonging to Women that I have taken Notice of, being inflated in Coition, disposes them to receive the venereal Virus, which produces the same Symptoms in them as in Men; Running, Heat of Urine, and Chordee, those are the pathognomonic Signs or inseperable Companions of the venereal Gonorrhœa, and a thorough Knowledge of their Nature and Cause, must give us the most perfect and true Conception of that Disease, which will point out the most effectual Method of Cure, for as a Disorder is known by its Symptoms, the Removal of those Symptoms is the Cure of the Disease.



C H A P. V.

The Nature and Cause of the Symptoms, and that the Running does not proceed from an Ulcer.

W H E N the pocky Virus is thoroughly settled in the Parts it fixed on, the pungent acrid Salts insinuating themselves into the little Ducts of the nervous Papillæ in the Urethra, excite great Pain and Uneasiness, Nature ever sollicitous to expel whatever is obnoxious, sends a greater Quantity of Fluids to those Parts than usual, intending to dissolve and wash away those virulent Salts, to be carried off through the Urethra; but the Irritation of the Parts, the Fluxion of the Humours, and the Corrosiveness of the Virus melt down and shake off the soft mucous Liquid, that defends the Urethra from the Sharpness of the flowing Urine, or the Sensation of fabulous Particles in their Passage: The Urethra, stript of this viscous Covering, we can easily perceive how sensible it will be of Heat and Pain, as the Urine passes through; and tho' there are several Disorders that cause Heat and Pain of Urine,

Urine, as a Strangury, Disuria, Inflammation, great Quantity of Salts in the Urine, &c. yet they are seldom attended with a Running, never with the Chordee; tho' frequent Erections wait on those Complaints, the Stiffness altogether resembles a Priapism and not a Chordee, the Difference between whom shall be explained immediately.

Thus the venereal Salts, stimulating the nervous Fibres of the Urethra, induce Fluxion and Pain, which disposes the viscid Humour that defends that Passage, to be abraded and wash'd away, leaving the uncover'd Parts free to the Sharpness of Urine, which accounts for the Heat or Smart, one of the Attendants on the Gonorrhœa.

From whence it appears, that whatever is capable of promoting the Secretions of the urethral Glands, will the soonest, and most effectually, contribute to the Relief of this Complaint; the virulent Salts by those Means, being disengag'd from the Parts they adhered to, are dissolved and carried off by the Urine; and as they were the immediate Cause of the Heat and Pain excited by that Fluid; upon their Removal their Effects follow, therefore Diureticks must be the most proper to answer this Intention: Medicines whose Power act entirely on the urinary Passages,

an Enquiry into whose Virtues, and Manner of Operation shall be made in its proper Place.

As I have accounted for the Heat of Urine from the Erosion of the Urethra, caus'd by the Virus, so I shall ascribe the Running to be entirely dependent on the Fluxion, provok'd by the Stimulus of that Poison; but as it is the general Opinion, that the Running proceeds from an Ulcer, I shall say something on that Head, tho' I do not deny but the Parts I have spoken of may be ulcerated, both in Men and Women; yet it is impossible in that Case only, in either Sex, for the Ulcers to supply the Matter, run off in a Gonorrhœa.

Those who are acquainted with venereal Ulcers, know that they are hot and dry, yielding little Moisture, and a thin Ichor or corrosive Sanies, for the Acrimony of the envenom'd Salts, that cause them, acts as a Caustic, and burns all the Parts its Force extends to, into a kind of an Eschar, therefore little or no Running can be expected from a pocky Sore, 'till the Eschar be digested off, and this will not happen unless the Cure of the Contagion be perfected, or at least palliated; this last is the most usual Method, for so long as the venereal Salts lie in the Ulcer, they corrode and form Eschars, but the Poison vanquish'd, or drove into the Blood,

Blood, the Eschars fall off, and the Ulcers discharge a Pus like those of a benign Nature; whoever saw a Humour like laudable Pus, flow from a phagedenick Ulcer, whether venereal, cancerous, or scrophulous; but if it can be prov'd that a Humour, as to Consistence, Quantity, and Colour, with that of a Gonorrhœa can be produc'd without Ulcerations, by the Irritation of acrid or sharp Particles, bringing on a Fluxion in glandulous Parts, I think from a Parity of Appearances, there is great Room to apprehend the Running in a Clap, owing to a like Cause, and not proceeding from an Ulcer, more especially as those Discharges are produced by infinitely gentler Means than the Running in a Gonorrhœa, and this I shall be able to prove from the very familiar Instance of the great Evacuation springing from the ciliary Glands of the Eyelids, upon catching a Cold in the Eyes as it is call'd; this happens more frequently to the People on the Continent than with us, especially in the warmer Climates. Where a sudden Change of Wind to the East, in the Neighbourhood of Mountains cover'd with Snow, loads the Air with cold nitrous Particles, which fixing on the ciliary Ducts, their Pungency begets an Itching so very troublesome, that it is impossible to avoid rubbing, and causes a Flux of Humours so great, that I have seen two or three Handkerchiefs

chiefs, stain'd all over in the Space of Twenty-four Hours, with a Fluid alike in Colour, and Consistence to that of a Gonorrhœa, and the Eye-lids were only inflam'd, without the least Appearance of any Ulcer.

In like Manner those nitrous Particles, invading the miliary Glands of the Membrana Schneideriana, encrease their Secretions, which gliding down the Sides of the Trachea, some Part of the Fluidity is dissipated by the natural Heat of the Body, which makes what is expectorated thicker, and like Pus; yet no Physician judges that this Matter flows from an Ulcer, the Mucus lying a little Space in the Nostriis, its Humidity is so exhausted, that it is quite glutinous, infinitely thicker than the Running of a Clap, tho' the excretory Ducts of the Glands that secrete it, are extremely small, yet no Body to account for the Phenomenon, would have Recourse to an Ulcer.

I have often seen great Discharges from the Meatus Auditorius, and these were only Secretions of the Glandulæ Ceruminosæ. I have known purulent Evacuations in great Quantities attend colliquative Diarrhœas; but upon opening the dead Bodies, no Appearance of an Ulcer to be found.

All the glandular Secretions, favour the Opinion of a Gonorrhœa deriving its Matter from a Discharge of the Glands in the Urethra, and not an Ulcer; we frequently see Ulcers in Membranes lining different Parts, and yet they yield no Pus. These, and many other Reasons I could give, are strong Presumptions, that the Matter of a Gonorrhœa does not flow from Ulcers, but is owing to the Pungency of the venereal Stimulus, fretting the nervous Papillæ in the Urethra, and bringing on a Flux of Humours, in the same Way as the penetrating active Salts of Cantharides do, to which it has so near a Relation in its Operation, that a Grain or two of powdered Flies now and then, introduc'd into the Urethra, as their Force impairs, would produce Running, Heat of Urine, and Priapism; yet there should be no Ulcer. As we may observe from the Discharges caused by Vesicatories, especially those called perpetual, which stimulating the cutaneous Glands, their Secretions are encreased to wash away the galling Salts of the Flies, but the thinnest Parts of this Discharge evaporated, a Pus covers the whole Blister, and yet no Ulcer is perceiv'd in the Skin.

It is unnecessary to proceed further on this Topic, probability seems to keep Pace with what I have said, and I have had Opportunities
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of seeing a few Dissections of Bodies, dying with virulent Gonorrhœas on them, and tho' diligent Search was made, not the least Trace of an Ulcer could be seen. A Gentleman well skilled in Anatomy, who has been a Demonstrator for many Years, likewise assures me, that tho' several convenient Subjects have fallen under his Hand, he never could observe an Ulcer in the Urethra: I have already granted, that there may be Ulcers here, nay, am certain that the Bulb of the Urethra, the prostate Gland, Cowper's Glands, &c. are frequently ulcered, and I have seen Fistulous Openings from them into the Scrotum, and the Perinæum, through which the Urine discharg'd; but am positive they never afforded a Matter like that in a Clap, and require quite different Methods of Cure; for what corrects the Running, and abates the Heat of Urine, and Chor-dee, the Symptoms peculiar to a Gonorrhœa will be found to be of no great Service in those Complaints; they yielding only to those Means made Use of in the Cure of the Pox, which will often require the Assistance of manual Operation,

Having described the Nature, the Cause, and the Seat of two of the distinguishing Symptoms in a Clap, namely the virulent Running and Scalding of Urine, I shall now take Notice of the third Sign, which is the Chordee, those
three

three are the only and original Symptoms of a Clap, their Combinations constitute that Disease as much as Weight, Colour, Ductility, and sound do Gold; the Phymosis, Paraphymosis, and all the other Train of Complaints are only Accidents depending, either on the Irregularity of the Patient, or some false Steps taken in the Method of Cure.

Doctor *Cockburn* says, the Chordee is a Symptom of such Difficulty, that no Physician ever attempted to explain it, and assumes to himself the Honour of accounting for it, so as to make it obvious and apparent, for he says the cording Pain never admitted of an Explanation before, nor can it be accounted for by any Hypothesis but is now manifest by this Theory.

I shall therefore take the Liberty of enquiring into the Doctor's Theory, and prove that he argues from wrong Principles, which I do on no other Account, but that it carries a true Conception along with it, of the Nature and Cause of the Chordee.

The Doctor in an Exult, natural to some great Geniuses when they make Discoveries, that shew deep Penetration, and Superiority of Parts, thus triumphs.

But

“But to encrease the Paradox, the Sore is really in the Urethra; but the binding, the compressing Cause, which hurts this Sore, is really without, therefore the Mystery is out. This Assertion is evident from what was formerly describ'd, about the Course and Situation of the Urethra, for as it runs between the cavernous Substances of the Penis, and of its own outward Coat, it is always compress'd by them when they are inflated, more or less, according to the Degree of their Inflation; wherefore the sore and hurt Urethra is every way compress'd on all Sides, and cannot give any other Sense of Pain than that of being hard bound round with a Cord; this Compression of the Urethra has already been observed to be so great, that it is with some Difficulty the Seed and Urine are express'd in Times of a rigid Erection.—Tho' the Doctor is certainly out in his Account of the Chordee, he is right in the two Corollaries he deduces from it.

Cor. 1. Hence we may know the Place of the Hurt, and how far it reaches by this Pain in Erection.

Cor. 2. We may likewise conclude, that if the Soreness was occasion'd by sharp Matter, flowing from the Seed Bladders, the Parts of the Urethra, next to them, should be equally disposed, and obnoxious to be

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hurt

hurt; but as they are not, it is evident, that the Matter does not flow from thence."—Thus far I thought proper to quote the Doctor in this Affair.

I have observ'd, that the Urethra is a membranous Canal, joined to the Neck of the Bladder, and extended to the Extremity of the Glands; it is situated in an Interstice, between the lower Parts of the Corpora cavernosa Penis, and is compos'd of two strong Membranes, between which lies a spongy and cavernous Substance, subject to Distention, by the Influx of the animal Spirits, and the arterial Blood. The Fibres of the Acceleratores Urinæ, are so interwoven with the Urethra, that a Stimulus there will irritate them, and excite their Contractions, by which Means the Veins that run thro' this spongy Body are compress'd, and hinder the Reflux of the Blood thro' them, but not so effectually as the Erectores Penis, for want of a Bone to squeeze against, as Doctor *Drake* observes; whence it is, that neither the Corpus cavernosum Urethræ, nor the Glans, are always perfectly distended with the Penis, and soonest become flaccid on an Erection.

Thus the Erectores Penis, and its Corpora cavernosa, are so far from being the Cause of a Chordee, as Doctor *Cockburn* imagin'd, that they
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are intirely passive, the immediate Cause of a Chordee depending on the Irritation of the Urethra, the Contraction of the Elongationes, of the Acceleratores, and the Inflation of the Corpus cavernosum Urethræ; without allowing this, this Symptom still remains unaccounted for; the Doctor's Theory plainly confounding the Priapism and Chordee, but this makes a manifest Distinction; beside, there is a Cure for the Chordee, none, we are told by *Cælius Aurelianus* for the Priapism. *Nulla quoque Adjutorio Medicinali cessasse, ac tarde, atque longo Tempore qui evisse, quo fit ut a Satyriasi discernatur Priapismus siquidam illa celer sit, et non tardet in Corpore.* De Priapismo.

The Priapism differs from the Satyriasis, in that, *Nulla emissio Seminis est*; in this, *Initio se putant relevatos ex usu Venereo, atque Seminis Jactu, nocentur enim, atque Vexantur hoc Usu.* Cæl. Aurel. de Satyriasi.

Boerhaave thus describes the Chordee, which he calls Priapismus Venereus.

Caput Penis, aliquando eroditur in Substantiam interiorem, tunc a Capite Penis, usque ad Finem Perinæi protenditur Inflammatio, fit Dolor acerrimus in reddendâ Urinâ, et perpetua Erectio Glan-

dis, et Urethræ, non vero Corporum Spungiosorum quæ cum Urethrâ nihil Commune habent. Urethra constat binis Saccis Membranaceis, inter quæ Hæret Substantia Fungosa, et rara, sanguine Effuso, in summo Priapismi Venerei Æstro replenda. De Lue.

Nothing can be more distinct and plain than this, lest it should be imagin'd, as Doctor Cockburn thought, that the Corpora spungiosa Penis were affected by the Erosion of the Urethra, and so cause the wracking Pain in making Water, and the Chordee. Boerhaave says, the Urethra has nothing in common with the spungy Bodies of the Yard, that it is composed of two membranous Teguments, between whom lies a fine fungous Substance, filled with Blood in the high Fervency of amorous Desires, and qualified to cause the Erection of the Glans, and Corpus cavernosum Urethræ, without any Assistance from the Erectores, or Corpora cavernosa Penis; but this Qualification is the Consequence of the venereal Erosion in the Urethra; that particular Stimulus is only capable to produce the Chordee which is known from other Erections of the Yard, by its Curvity, and therefore a Pathognomonic, or distinguishing Sign of the Clap.

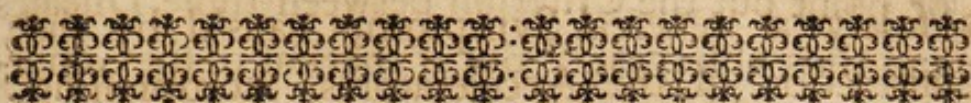
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The bending of the Yard in a Chordee, shows that the erector Muscles can be but slightly, or impartially affected in that Symptom, and happy for us they are not, for their Power, superior to Resistance of the Accelerators, must encrease the Compression, and incline the Penis to a Straightness; a Direction in this State, attended with horrid Pain, which all Men have experienced who were ever clap'd. When wanton Desires warm the Blood, and set the animal Spirits agog, their Influence on the erector Muscles raises the Yard, which always recedes from the Curvity, in Proportion to the Stiffness of that Member, and by this Means, the Urethra is so extended, that it causes intolerable Pain, and often a Laceration of its Fibres, with great Effusion of Blood.

Hence it is clear, that the Chordee depends on the Acceleratores Muscles, and the Elongations of their Fibres, for when they check the Course of the returning Blood in the Veins that Fluid inflates the Corpus cavernosum, and compresses the Urethra, causing the Pain and Curvity of the Yard; thus this Symptom is accounted for, independent of Doctor Cockburn's Theory, and by considering what has been said, the Difference will easily appear between it and all other preternatural Erections, they owing

their Rise to many Incidents, but the Chordee is solely a venereal Symptom, caus'd by the Contraction of the Acceleratores, compressing the Urethra; the Priapism and Satyriasis, arise from the Compression of the Venæ dorsi Penis, by the Erectores.





C H A P. VI.

Of the FLUOR-ALBUS,

*Shewing the Difference between that Disorder
and a Virulent Gonorrhœa.*



THOSE who have treated of the Clap are very imperfect in their Descriptions, of the Seat and Symptoms of that Disorder, in the fair Sex, which is the Cause of all the Difficulties, in perceiving the Difference between it and the Fluor-albus, a Distinction of great Consequence to Women, not only in Regard to their Characters, but their Health, the one oftentimes taken for the other, to the great Prejudice of the Patient; I shall make it appear, that those Errors are owing to their not fixing on the Seat of each Disease as they ought, nor attending to the Nature of the Symptoms, with the Cure requisite to point out the Circumstances in which they consent or disagree, a Supineness to be sometimes found in the best Authors; thus the learn'd *Astruc* look'd upon this Affair to be so very intricate, that he thought it a doubtful Thing, and would

would not undertake to determine the Difference, or point out the Criterion between those Diseases and thus observes, “ But if the Seat of the Gonorrhœa should be in the Glands of the Vaginæ, as it frequently is, we must confess, that then even Inspection of the Parts will give no light into this Affair, since the Whites take the same Passage, therefore we must still remain in Doubt, till by the open Confession of the Patient herself, her Husband, or the Man she had to do with, the Truth appears.” If this Gentleman had considered, that the Symptoms of a Disease point out the Seat and Parts affected, he would not have thought that the Gonorrhœa ever shew’d itself in the Vagina, for that Part in no particular, can produce the Symptoms of a Clap.

Every Part, when diseas’d, has its proper Symptoms, which are Signs that some particular Functions or Actions belonging to that Part, are impeded or hurt ; if the Structure and Office of all the Parts of the Body were the same, then it would be difficult to judge between them ; but since every Part has its distinct Employment, and peculiar Business, an Injury of any of the Faculties belonging to that Part, will be immediately revealed to him, who knows the Use of it, and his Observations will enable him to discover the Nature of the Ailment.

Morbi non rarò sensibus incogniti, Omnes tamen per Symptomata innotescunt, quæ sunt illorum Effectus, et potissimum per Actionem læsam, quæ a Morbo dependet immediate et per se, atque ita essentialiter, ut Posita Actione læsa necessariò ponatur Morbus a quo illa dependet. River. de Morb. Natura.

Doctor Cockburne so confounds the Clap with the Fluor-albus, that instead of clearing up the Point, he encreases the Difficulty, but he shall speak for himself, and you'll see whether I mistake his Meaning. "But this Sex being often affected with another Disease, the Whites, which resemble the Gonorrhœa very much in their Substance, Colour, and Sharpness of Urine, it is as hard a Matter as it is useful, for Physicians to distinguish well between those Distempers, their Consequences, and perhaps their Cure, being widely different; this Difficulty has been so great as to exceed the Diligence of Observation; but in the following Discourse, the Cause of the Difficulty will become so manifest, that we will cease hereafter to enquire for a Symptom, that can determine between the Running of a Gonorrhœa, and of the Fluor-albus."

I must own, I think, the Doctor in the right, for he has made the Difficulty so manifest, that if we had no other Lights but what he shews on
this

this Occasion, to guide us, we might cause hereafter, to enquire for a Symptom, that can determine between them, that is, never be able to find out the Difference.

I can't possibly mistake the Doctor's Meaning, for after saying all that he did in this Affair, that is after using all Arguments, he thus concludes, —And therefore as all the Symptoms in a Gonorrhœa, and Fluor-albus of a Woman, are so much alike, whatever their Effects may be when improperly cured, they do not afford any pathognomonical Sign, which can be taken from the Place of the Running, or any Difference of its Colour, but all its Signs are Prudential Collections only, unless the Running be attended with Shankers, or other Symptoms peculiar to a Gonorrhœa. —From this it is plain, the Doctor knew no Difference between the Fluor-albus and a virulent Gonorrhœa, if Shankers did not appear, or other Symptoms peculiar to a Gonorrhœa; but he tells you above, that the Symptoms of a Fluor-albus and a Gonorrhœa, are so much alike, that they do not afford any pathognomonical Sign, and therefore a Fluor-albus must be a Clap, and a Clap a Fluor-albus, unless Shankers appear, or other Symptoms peculiar to a Gonorrhœa, for the Doctor knew no Symptom peculiar to a Fluor-albus to point out the Difference; and yet it can be demonstrated, that the Fluor-albus, tho'

attended with many Symptoms, agrees but in the Running with a Gonorrhœa, all its other Signs are pathognomonical, and distinguish it as plain from that Disorder, as a Dislocation is known from a Fracture.

I take it for granted, that no one will deny that the Parts belonging to the Fair Sex, which I have described, must be the only ones affected in a Gonorrhœa, who considers that Heat of Urine, with the Tingling and Inflation of those Parts, are the only Symptoms joyn'd to the Running, and involuntary Erection of the Clitoris, that constitute the Gonorrhœa, for it is impossible that the Injury of any other Parts independent of those, could produce these Signs, therefore the Clap cannot be in the Vagina, as Doctor *Astruc* and Doctor *Cockburn* assert; nor can the Fluor-albus ever possess those Parts, this Disorder seizing on the Ducts, or Outlets thro' which the Menstrua us'd to be discharg'd, and that those Passages are in the Vagina, appears from the Observations of Anatomists, who have found purulent Collections there, supposed to proceed from stagnant Menfes in grown Maids, the Hymen imperforate.

Astruc and *Cockburn* are not singular in this Affair, Numbers of great Men have run into the same Errors, by allowing too heedlessly for
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Facts, what they had seen in the Writings of the learned, but if I can make it evident from undeniable Authority, that a Clap can appear without any possibility of the Vagina being affected, would it not look like Obstinacy, notwithstanding to say, that that Disorder has its Seat there.

Vidi a quatuor Annis tres Puellas, unam quidem nonum Ætatis Annum agentem, alias vero ambas, sex vel Septem duntaxat Annos natas, quæ tres omnes, singulæ laborabunt Gonorrhæâ virulentâ quam ipsarum Matres appellabant Fluorem-album, mihi dicentes se Mirari quomodo suæ Filiæ ætate adeo puerili, hoc morbo laborarent: cum autem has innocentes Puellas præsentibus earum Matribus Examinavissem, et Visitavissem, naturamque illarum Morbi bene agnovissem, quamvis nulla externarum Vulvæ partium appareret manifesta Divulsio, sive Dilaceratio, ex quâ credi potuisset, illas Puellas reverâ papas fuisse, integram Membri virilis introductionem, effeci ut ipsæ Confessæ sint, cum multo majori Matrum Admiracione, se compressas fuisse a nefariis Famulis (Igne ob Fædissimum illud Flagitium Dignis) quorum impuro Contactu Gonorrhæâ illâ virulentâ fuerant affectæ. Hæc Exempla quæ his ipse Occulis Vidi, mihi persuadere possent similem potius Gonorrhæam forsan fuisse, quam Fluorem-album, quo Fernelius dicit, se vidisse Puellam Octavo Ætatis Anno Afflictam. Mauriceau de Muliebri Fluxu.

Having

Having some Knowledge in the Theory and Practice of Midwifry, with the Advantage of improving it by the Lectures and Instructions of one of the greatest Masters in that Art, which is founded intirely on the Structure and Use of the Parts of Generation belonging to the fair Sex, it will be reasonable to imagine, that I have used some Endeavours to inform myself of the Nature of those Diseases they are subject to; and indeed as far as my poor Capacity enables me to judge, I cannot help saying, that I look upon that Part of Physick which treats of those Distempers, to be the most deficient of any belonging to the Science; and this Imperfection is as conspicuous from the ill Success attending the Methods of Cure in a Fluor-albus, as in any other Ailment belonging to Women.

I could say a great deal in Relation to this Disorder, which is very easily cured in the Beginning, but frequently taken no Notice of till it puts on dreadful Appearances, and becomes very difficult of Cure, and in many Cases irremediable; but my Business is only to point out the Difference between this Disease and the Clap, so that one may not be mistaken for the other.

The Fluor-albus, a Disorder peculiar to the Fair Sex, is a Flux of Humours of a milky Colour,

lour, and Consistence, but this varies, being sometimes thicker and sometimes thinner, as the Quantity is less or more. The Colour is also changeable, according to the Continuance of the Disease, for from its first Appearance, it has all the intermediate Tinges, from the briny Cast to the wheyish or pale Yellow: It flows thro' the same Vessels by which the Menfes were evacuated, for it never shews itself but upon an Obstruction of the Catamenia, or rather the Disappearance of the Catamenia, is owing to the Fluor-albus; for when the Hypogastric, capillary Arteries of the Vagina, are so weakened as to produce this Disorder, the continued Drain prevents the Plethora, the immediate Cause of the Menfes, so that the old Observation distinguishing the Gonorrhœa from the Fluor-albus, by its discovering itself all the Time of the menstrual Discharge may hold good, although it is reckon'd an uncertain Sign, by those who don't consider that the Supplies of the Menfes are expended by the Fluor-albus, and that for this Reason, they can never subsist together, when the Flow of the Fluor-albus is any way considerable. Indeed it must be allow'd upon some extraordinary Casualties, or accidental Plethoras, there are Profluvia which cannot be called the Whites, but they are not periodical, and are *instar Lotionum Carnis non Rubicunda.*

Authors

Authors in their Writings on this Disease, have delivered themselves in as dubious a manner as Oracles, their Sentiments may be applied pro and con with the same Propriety, it being a Question whether the Fluor-albus precedes, or follows the Menstrua. A very great Man comparing the Menses to a Rector of a Parish, says, that the Fluor-albus is sometimes the Verger, and sometimes the Vicar; that is, it sometimes goes before, and sometimes performs the Office of the Catamenia, so that whether you prove it to be either a Forerunner or a Follower, he is of your Opinion.

It would be endless to relate all the Contradictions and Absurdities to be met with in the Descriptions of this Disorder, the only Way to avoid falling into the like Error, is to take Nature for our Guide, who will prevent our going astray, and lead us through all those perplexing Mazes and Difficulties.

I have said, that the Fluor-albus is a Follower of the Menses, and am pretty certain they never shewed themselves before these appeared, therefore to have a Conception of them, it will be necessary to give some Account of the Menses.

The Menses are undoubtedly caused by a Plethora, but to account for that Plethora, has not
been

been so easy. Children, as they encrease in Growth, if they are healthy, their Appetite and Digestion improve, in Order to furnish a sufficient Quantity of Juices, to answer the Demands of a larger Bulk, but when the Body arrives to its utmost Extent, and every Part has done growing, the Appetite, and good Digestion, still remaining, must supply the Blood with that Quantity of nutritious Juices, that us'd to be expended on the Encrease of Parts, which will beget a Fullness or Plethora; and the Arteries, by being too much distended by this Fullness, will endeavour to unload themselves, by pressing on their Capillaries or Extremities, but the hypogastric Arteries, horizontally placed in great Numbers on the Vagina, almost perpendicular to the Projection of the Blood, the Impulse of that Fluid must be greater on them than on Vessels of a contrary Direction; and should the Force or Influx of the Blood be Superior to the Resistance of their Capillaries, it will push thro' them, and open a Passage for itself into the Vagina, constituting that Discharge which is called the Menfes. The Plethora removed by this Evacuation and the encreased Force and Motion of the Blood abated; the capillary Arteries are again contracted, and keep that Fluid within its Channels, till the returning Fullness acts the same Scene over again.

What

What I have said, will give a general Notion of a Plethora and the Menfes, but to have a clearer Perception of the Nature and Cause of the Fluor-albus, it will be necessary to be a little more particular, wherefore it must be considered that every Artery, as it ends, divides into three Branches, the middle runs to a Vein, into which it pours the thickest Part of the Blood ; the lateral Branches, as they are smaller, and more tender, receive the finest and most subtil Part of that Fluid, one of those Branches terminates in a Gland, the other in a lymphatic Vessel ; it must likewise be observed, that the hypogastric Veins are without Valves, which are to those Vessels, what Flood Gates are to Canals, design'd to prevent a Reflux of their Streams ; nor is this Defect supplied by the Compression of Muscles, which might contribute to propel the Blood on towards the Heart ; therefore those Veins, by receiving constantly more Blood, from the middle Extremities of the Arteries, than they are able to remit, become so full and distended, that they are incapable of holding more, and put a Stop to the Blood flowing through their corresponding Arteries ; hence the lateral Branches are obliged to receive that Fluid, which, while the Circulation, remained uninterrupted, admitted nothing but pure Lymph ; these Vessels, thus replete, and unable to make an Opposition, to the Pressure of the incumbent Blood, their Coats finer and

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thinner than those of the middle Extremities, they are forced to give Way, and let that Fluid run freely out, which continues to do so, until the contractive Power of the Heart and Arteries is lessened, that is, till the Plethora be reduc'd, which makes Room for the Blood, impeded in the hypogastric Veins, by the Fullness to return to the Heart; and the Stop thus removed, the Blood flows thro' its wonted Channels; but the Plethora frequently returning, and distending those tender yielding Vessels, weakens them by Degrees, so that they cannot make their former Resistance, to the Impressions of the circulating Fluids, whose most humid Parts constantly leaking thro' them, are the Fountains from whence the Fluor-albus springs.

Thus we see that the Fluor-albus is a natural Consequence of the Menfes, and so essentially an Attendant on them, that very few Women escape the Disorder, and the Reason appears very plainly from what has been said, which, likewise easily accounts for all the Accidents that can possibly happen to those labouring under that Disease.

The Womb is usually reputed to be the main Source of the Menfes, and consequently the chief Seat of the Fluor-albus; but I must own, I think it contributes little, or nothing, to the Subsistence

ence of either, if it does, it must be in the Time of Gestation, or in those who have suffered so much in Labour, that the Uterus never could recover its former Tone, but remains in a constant State of Relaxation; in Maids and barren Women, the Womb, in its natural Situation, is of so inconsiderable a Magnitude, so compact and firm, that the Blood Vessels it contains, cannot possibly give Way to the slight Impressions, that produce the Menfes; the Case may be otherwise in that wonderful Change this Part undergoes in Pregnancy, such large Arteries and Veins are then expanded, and discovered to View, that we are astonished at the Sight of those capacious Vessels, and admire how Nature can contrive to involve them in Quoils, so small as not to be seen, but in a State of Fœcundity, or some Disease that unfolds and stretches them out; in either of these Cases I think it may be possible, a Plethora in the Constitution, that a Stress may be laid on the uterine capillary Arteries, and force out a Discharge. But this is a Supposition barely probable; for Women, especially in warm Climates, frequently have their Menfes very copiously to the sixth or seventh Month, nay, perhaps the whole Time of Pregnancy, the Os Tineæ glew'd so close, that not a Drop can pass thro', therefore it is evident, they must flow from the Vagina, which seems for several weighty Reasons

to be the Canal appointed by Nature at all Times to carry off the menstrual Discharge.

But as the Knowledge of the Seat of a Disorder is of the greatest Advantage imaginable in the Practice of Physick, and as I hope I have made it appear, that the hypogastric Arteries terminating on the inside of the Vagina, are the Fountains from whence the Menses flow, I shall prove from some of the most esteemed Authors, that the Fluor-albus has the same Origin.

Etenim si Virgines satis amplas habebant Uteri Venas, ut per earum Ductus Menses ordinarii fluere valeant; quidni etiam Fluores-albi per easdem vias stillare poterunt. River. de Fluore Muliebri.

Fluor-albus Uterinus, nihil aliud est, quam inordinatus humorum Fluxus, qui Manare solent exiisdem Vasis, per quæ fit Menstrua Purgatio. Mauriceam de Muliebri Fluxu.

Ita restrictis Mensibus, a Sanguinis Redundantiâ Oritur Fluor-albus. Friend. Emmenol.

Having thus placed the Fluor-albus in the Vagina, I shall give some further Testimonies, that the Clap has not its Seat in that Passage.

Gonorrhœa

Gonorrhœa fluit non ex Uteri Fundo, neque ex Vasis Spermaticis, sed ex quodam Glanduloso Corpore instar prostaticarum Glandularum Collacoto versus. Meatum Urinarium, et circa totum Vesicæ Collum, quod quidem tunc Temporis intumescit, atque inflammatione inficitur, propter illius Humoris Acrimoniam, ita ut Mulier Urinam Reddens, laboret Urente doloris acerbo Sensu, cum Ardore Vicinarum Partium quæ totæ apparent obductæ mucosâ quâdam illuvie subviridi, quæ aliquando tam acris est, ut has Partes Ulceret. Mauriceau de flux. Muliebr.

Quippe in Mulieribus non Uterus, aut ejus Vagina Gonorrhœa sedes est sed Pars illa Glandulis referta, et in inferiore, ac anteriore Vaginæ Parte prope Meatus Urinarii Exitum. Charlton. in Tractatu de Catameniis.

What those reputable Authors so positively aver, with Relation to the Seat of the Clap in Women, are not the Dictates of Hearsay or Conjecture, their Assertions were founded on Reason, and evident Demonstrations support the Credit of what they advance, for if the Parts they have described, be not the Seat of the Disorder, from whence arise their Heat, Erosion, and Intumescence, or what causes the Sharpness of Urine and Strangury, if the Meatus Urinarius is not affected, it may be said that Ulcers in

the Vagina dropping a corrosive, acrid Humour, running over those Parts, might fret them, and excite all the Symptoms of a virulent Gonorrhœa ; but this is begging the Question, for it has been proved, beyond Contradiction, that the Clap can be produc'd, and the Vagina not participate of that Disorder.

If therefore the very individual Symptoms should, at all Times appear, with the same Complaints in a Gonorrhœa, as in those Cases in which there is no Possibility that the Vagina can be affected ; is it not reasonable to conclude, that the Parts diseased must be always the same, tho' there may be an Alteration of some Circumstances, I mean in Regard to the Parts, not to the Symptoms ? Let one of the Fair Sex be married, or not, if she has a Sharpness of Urine, a Tingling, and slight Inflammation of all the Parts without the Orifice of the Vagina, and that they appear covered with a yellowish, acrid Mucus, which heats and galls them, and which, tho' wiped off is known to weep from those Parts ; I should, without the least Hesitation, pronounce her clap'd, for it is impossible, that those Signs can appear without that Disorder, and it is likewise certain, that the Vagina can, in no Indisposition cause an Identity of such Symptoms ab Origine. I'll grant, that thro' Carelessness, the Matter of
the

the Fluor-albus lying long on those Parts, may heat and fret them, causing slight Inflammation, Erosions, and Heat of Urine, Symptoms that appear at once in a Gonorrhœa, but if ever they happen in a Fluor-albus, they are the Consequences of Time, and accompanied with other Signs that put the Existence of that Disorder out of Dispute. Beside, in those Circumstances, a Woman, ill to the last Excess, cannot communicate the Symptoms of a Clap to her Husband, or any Man that cohabits with her, *hic enim Morbus nunquam nisi á Contagiosâ Venere, Oriri deprehensus est.* Boerh. de Lue Ven.

The supposing a Woman to have long laboured under a Fluor-albus, with all its Signs, and to discover that she has contracted a Clap, tho' she stedfastly affirms the contrary, is the Case of the greatest Difficulty in this Affair, and yet it can be easily decided.

Make a long, soft Pessary, of spongy or imbibing Materials, large enough to accommodate itself to the Sides of the Vagina, and obturate its lower Orifice, upon introducing this, if an Oozing is perceiv'd, after the Parts have been cleaned about the Prominence of the Urethra, or that any Matter can be squeezed from them, then we may take it for granted it proceeds from the Clap,

for those Parts can never be the Seat of the Fluor-albus, for Reasons already given.

If the Parts diseased, in a Clap, are excoriated from an Acrimony of the Humours in the Fluor-albus, the Orifice and Vagina must be in the same Condition; but it is the contrary in a Clap, for they are quite free from Injury.

Cæterum qui certior esse velit, Pudenda inspiciat ita enim Partes Urethræ contiguas, in quibus, Lacunarum modò memoratarum, Exitus terminantur, mucosâ quâdam Materiâ conspercatas, ac interdum etiam exulceratas deprehendet, reliquis Vaginæ partibus interim rectè se habentibus, cujus Contrarium in Fluxu Albo reperiri assolet. Charlton in Tract. de Catameniis.

Having accounted for the Fluor-albus, and where situated, considered it in the greatest Proximity to the virulent Gonorrhœa, and shewn from Authors of undoubted Credit, how to distinguish between them, in Regard to the Parts affected; it will be also necessary to know from the Symptoms, in what they consent or disagree.

The Fluor-albus, and Gonorrhœa, have no Sign in Common but the Running, which as to Quantity, is not sufficient to point out the Difference

rence between them, tho' generally the Flux in the former is more abundant, but the Quality of the Discharge, and the proper Symptoms of each Distemper manifestly particularize the Distinction. The Running in the Fluor-albus does not smell so strong, is whiter and thinner, and flows without Pain: I have already mentioned the Quality of the Running, and other Symptoms of a Gonorrhœa, I shall therefore take Notice only of the Signs peculiar to a Fluor-albus, which can be all accounted for from the Description given of the Cause of that Disorder. Women who bear Children are more subject to this Infirmary than Maids, or Ladies of Pleasure; most Women are more liable to it in Pregnancy than at other Times, because the Menfes are suppressed.

Existente Obstructione Vasorum hujus Partis, per quæ menstruus Sanguis fluere deberet, ex illis Vasis solum distillat serosior Humor, qui Convertitur in Fluorem-album. Mauriceau Mulibr. Flux.

The Running depriving the Blood too much of its Humidity, causes a Lentor or Sizyness, in that Fluid, a Defection in the Circulation, and a Lassitude or Heaviness in the Constitution, which weakens the Habit of Body, causes a Paleness of Countenance, Loss of Appetite, Loathing

ing of Food, Difficulty of Breathing, a Blotting or Fullness about the Eyes, Oedematous Swellings, chiefly of the Legs and Ankles, often a great Pain in the Back, Palpitation of the Heart, with Swoonings, Lowness of Spirits, and other Hysterick Complaints, tho' not in so great a Degree as where there is an Obstruction of the Menses, without the Fluor-albus, for this in a great Measure carries off the Plethora, the remote Cause of hysteric Disorders. if this Flux is stubborn and continues long, it brings on hectic Fevers, and by relaxing the Vagina and Ligaments of the Womb, causes Descents of the Matrix, Intestines of the internal vaginal Membrane, with Polypusses, Schirrusses, Cancers, &c.

A due Consideration of the Cause, the Nature, and Effects of the Fluor-albus, will rationally Point out a Method of Cure, if not permitted to run to great Lengths, the antecedent Cause is owing to the Plethora producing the Menses, and the immediate Cause arises from the Impressions of the Plethora, overcoming the Resistance of the capillary Hypogastric Arteries, and weakening their Tone, the Cure then must depend on such Medicines as have a Regard to the Degree of the Plethora, as well as to the Relaxation of the Vessels, so that whatever is

is capable of dissolving the Lentor in the Blood, and promoting the Circulation of the Fluids, of encreasing the Secretions, and invigorating the lax State of the Vessels, must conduce to the Cure; and I know no Remedy equal to the one I use, in the Cure of a Gonorrhœa to obtain those Ends.





C H A P. VII.

Of the Cure of a CLAP by Purging.

Have observed, that a virulent Gonorrhœa is a critical Discharge of the venereal Contagion, and am positive, that a right Management of the Running is the only Means to free the infected Person entirely from its bad Consequences. This, all Authors seem to agree in, and are mostly unanimous in their Opinion, with Regard to purging, as a Method the best calculated to accomplish the Intention.

In Remediis Catharticis, quantum huc usque Usu Comperimus, Curationis omnis Cardo vertitur. Syd. Epist. Resp.

No Doubt the pocky Poison was suspected to have tainted the Blood, and purging was supposed to be the only Means, especially joined with Mercurials, to purify the Habit of Body effectually, and carry off the Virus; and this Course, according to *Sydenham*, was to be continued daily,

Donec

Donec Urinæ Ardor, et Color flavus Materiæ seminiformis admodum imminuantur, postea alternis Diebus, donec Humor stillare prorsus cesserit.

Notwithstanding this great Man's Advice, Experience convinces me, that purging answers no other End in the Cure of a Clap, but to encourage the Poison to enter into the Blood, and this I learned chiefly from observing the Effects of the very Method he recommends, which, with little or no Variation, is the Manner of Cure prescribed by almost all Authors.

Surgeons in the Army, who for Numbers of Years attend on a certain Set of Men, must have Opportunities of perceiving the Consequences of the several Means used in the Cure of their venereal Disorders, and from hence I will boldly affirm, that purging in a Clap is no more a certain Remedy, than Salivation alone is in a Pox; that both are demonstrative to the human Constitution, and that a compleat Cure may be had for each Ailment, without Recourse to the one or the other.

If we enquire into the Nature of Purges, and the Manner of their Operation, we shall find, that all Cathartics of the vegetable Kind, are hot, acrid, and pungent; those of the mineral, sharp, and corrosive, that both act by a Stimulus irritating

ing the Fibres of the Intestines, and exciting them to discharge their Contents; and unless the Purge is very strong, it runs off in those Evacuations, and the Jumble ceases; but if it lays fast hold of the intestinal Glands, and corrodes their Ducts, Juices are turned off, that should supply other Secretions, which will certainly embarrass the Animal Œconomy, for the Encrease of one Evacuation is the Diminution of another, and a Deficiency of Humours in any particular Part, must be injurious; and this is so conspicuous, that if any clap'd Man will but give himself the trouble to observe, he'll find that the Day he takes Physick, the Heat of Urine and Chordee will be much increas'd, for purging lessening the Quantity of Urine, hinders the venereal Salts for being wash'd off, and dissolved so plentifully as they would, which makes their Combinations stronger, and gives them more Power to be troublesome.

No Purge has any specifick Virtue, they all act by their Acrimony, which blisters and erodes the Parts it fixes upon, causing Pain and Fluxion, the Support of what they lavish.

But the chief Objection I have to Catharticks is the Derivation of Humours they cause towards the Centre, and consequently an Absorption of the
the

the venereal Poison into the Blood ; for if we allow the Matter in a Clap to be impregnated with the Virus, is it not a preposterous Thing to purge? since purging apparently abates the Running, and diverts it from a Channel where it might go off with Safety, to Places ever attended with Danger.

When a Shanker, Bubo, or any other Swelling or Eruption appears in a venereal Constitution, it is produc'd by Nature, with a Design that the pocky Contagion should be, by those Means expelled ; this is always her Intention, but it is expedient sometimes to divert her from her Purpose, as when a Lodgement of the venereal Matter is made on the Testicles, Prostate, and neighbouring Parts in the Urethra, which Parts are taken, by the Majority of Writers, to be the principal Seat of the Disorder, but I believe erroneously ; for I have frequently noticed the Virus arriving at those Parts, to cause great Pain, Inflammation, and Suppression of Urine. I have also seen Suppurations attend them, which bursting thro' the Perinæum, open new Passages to the Urine, which soon causes the Sinuses it flows thro' to become Fistulous ; therefore to prevent those terrible Consequences, or an Apostumation of the Testicles, all judicious Surgeons solicit the venereal Matter to remove into the Blood, which

which they effect by bleeding, purging, keeping strictly to a thin and cooling Regimen, with the Application of emollient, astringent, and moderately repelling Fomentations and Cataplasms; and often when the Symptoms are stubborn, and wont yield to those Means, Recourse is had to mercurial Evacuations, who make such powerful Revulsions, that they seldom fail of Success, but the Patient must be of an excellent Habit, to receive no Prejudice from the Shock.

In those Cases, notwithstanding the present Relief those Evacuations procure, we are not to imagine that they have carried off the venereal Taint; on the contrary, if the Running does not immediately return or a Bubo appear, other Measures must be taken, as a greater Security against the Poison.

Thus we see it is in the Power of Surgeons to make Diversions *ab Exteriore, ad Interiorem*, and how it is done by purging No-Body can inform us better than *Boerhaave*.

*Omnia veró Purgantia minuunt Resistentiam, in Vasis intestinis proximis, undi vi Atmosphoræ eo deducitur plus liquidi, quod fit quoque a Contracti-
one, aut Elasticitate Vasorum, et si per violentas purgationes reiteratas valdè minuatur Resistentia in Intestinis, omnis Lympha ad vasa eorum inanita
deducetur*

deducitur, ibique ejusdem fiet Excretio, quapropter ex omni Corporis Parte, per Cathartica, Lympha expelli potest: Hujus Copia tanta quandoque esse potest, ut pene Fidem Superet. De Lue Venereâ.

We see that purging and mercurial Discharges, have a Power to divert the Virulency from a Place where it fixes upon, and seduce it into the Blood, therefore it is reasonable to believe, that those Remedies will have the same Effects, when given in a Clap, and derive the Contagion into the Habit, for the Laws of Nature are inviolable with Regard to the Operation of Medicines, who answer their Ends constantly by the same Effects, let the Intention of the Prescriber be what it will.

But admitting the Infection may be carried off in Evacuations by Stool, has not the Virus infinitely more Chances to vitiate the Juices this Way, and make the Cure more tedious than, if at Liberty, to pass through the Urethra, the Channel appointed, by Nature, for its Expulsion?

Moreover, I don't know any thing more destructive to the Constitution than purging, particularly as it is usually insisted on in the Cure of a Clap, it causes Sickness, hurts the Stomach, impairs the Strength, lays a Foundation for Gleet and feminal Weakness, steals the Juices off in

colliquative Fluxes, especially in delicate and hectic Habits, and induces a Lensor into the Blood of the most robust and best Constitutions, which disposes them to Fevers, and many other Disorders. I can affirm from Experience, that I have known those Mischiefs, and a great many more, take their Rise from purging, and am certain, that Numbers have been undone by it; but the Authority of several considerable Writers will be of more Weight to depreciate them in the Reputation of the World, than any Thing I can offer to their Prejudice, if I can shew from them that they condemn their Use.

Boerhaave, in a Dropsy where Chathartics are reckoned to be of more Service than in any other Disease, thus observes of them,

Sed tunc illo eodem Remedio (scil Purgatione) quo educis Aquam, debilitas Corpus, Labefactas Viscera, et fundis Sanguinem, Sydenhamus in Reliquis fidelissimus Conductor, hic paululum male meruit, quia Veteres non consuluit, sed ex iis quos Ipse in sua Praxi viderat Casus, Universales Regulas pro hoc Morbo curando condere voluit, non sine Dolore reminiscor eorum quæ feci Experimentorum, dum in prima mea Praxi, multos Homines hisce Methodis perdidit. Boerh. Annat. de Hydrope.

As old an Author as *Cælius Aurelianus* finds Fault with purging,

Utuntur

Utuntur etiam purgativis Medicaminibus quæ Cathartica vocaverunt, hoc est Ventrem deducantibus, ex quibus Stomachus inficitur, et omnis Nervositas vitiatur. Cæl. Aurel. de Cephalæâ.

Asclepiades adhibet etiam Purgativa Medicamina, quæ Græci Cathartica vocaverunt, cum sint hæc Corruptivæ Vertutis, et propterea Corpus eliminando, consumant Potius, quam relaxant. Cæl. Aurel. de Paralyfi.

Riverius, a great Stickler for purging, says, In omni purgatione Ægrotantis Vires validas, aut Saltem mediocres, esse necesse est.

Habitus gracilis, tenuis, et laxus faciliè exsolvitur. Instit. Med. de Purgatione.

Sydenham observes that Cathartics have something poisonous in their Nature.

Cum Remedia Purgantia (Scammoniata maximè et id genus acria) Malignitatis quidpiam in Corpore relinquant, quod Naturæ tamen Committimus, cujus Vi tandem subjugatur istud, quid-quid est Veneni. Epist. 2da Respon.

It would be impossible, one would think, for so many great Men to disapprove of purging, and yet, notwithstanding, to find it in mighty Vogue.

I never recollect, says *Boerhaave*, without the greatest Anxiety, the fatal Trials I have made of Cathartics, and the Number of Patients I lost in my first Practice, by those Methods.

The Antients had very indifferent Opinions of Purges. *Cælius Aurelianus* observes, they hurt the Stomach, and destroy the nervous System; they are of poisonous Qualities, and waste and consume the Constitution.

Riverius takes Notice, that in purging, the Patient should be stout and robust, at least, of middling Strength, for the slender, weak, and lax Habit, easily melts away. And

Sydenham tells us, there is something of a Malignity in all Purges, especially those of the acrid and scammoniate Kind, which remains in the Body, and is left entirely to the Management of Nature, whose Powers, at length, destroy the Poison.

One would imagine, that some extraordinary Benefits constantly attend purging, since it is used after so many Cautions, founded on such weighty, Reasons, prohibiting the Practice. I won't take upon myself to say, what are the Motives that encourage those Proceedings, but thus much I will avouch with Confidence, that I am conversant with the Operation of Purges, from the most gentle to the roughest, and this makes me think, that there are more Virtues ascribed to them than they deserve; their greatest Efficacy consists in making speedy Revulsions, from Parts dangerously affected in some particular Disorders; as the *Angina Aquosa*, &c. But to prescribe them

them deliberately Day by Day, as they are ordered in the Cure of a Clap, would soon reduce a Constitution, from the Stability of an Oak, to the Feebleness of a Bullrush, and probably pox the Patient into the Bargain; for if a Purge has not Power to carry off its own malignant Qualities, how can it be presumed to have the Ability, to discharge the venereal Virus, therefore both are committed to the Habit to be subdu'd by Nature, and very likely it won't be known whether she was able to expel the Poison, 'till the Constitution begins to break, when the Pox may be seen thro' all the Crevices, sometimes alone, but oftener with the Gout, the Scurvy, Rheumatism, and other chronic Disorders.

I don't know whether the Reasons I have offered, against purging in a Clap, will appear conclusive, and deter others from using them; to me they have been so convincing, that for Years past, I have laid no Strefs on Cathartics, either in the venereal or any Disease, except in Cases as before observed, that required a speedy Revulsion, and where a desperate Remedy was preferable to none; and Experience tells me, I have been in the right, notwithstanding the strong Prejudices Custom has establish'd in Favour of them; but tho' Custom is respected by some, as an undeniable Law, yet it is very often grounded on Notions repugnant to the Rules of right Reason; and this is discoverable in no Instance

more than in purging for a Clap, which may be very easily perceived by any Person who makes an impartial Enquiry into the Nature and Cause of the Disease, and who will be unbias'd in his Judgment, with Regard to the Quality and Vertue of the Medicine.


I hope No body will think I would endeavour to banish Cathartics out of the Materia Medica. I only hint at the frequent Use of the Scammoniate, Aloetick, Mercurial, and Antimonial, *Tantum fortiores, Calidiores et acres, quæ simul Febrim augment.* And even those, in some very particular Cases, cannot be dispensed with; but the mild and gentle Purges will, on many Occasions be absolutely necessary, and extremely serviceable. *Talia sunt Eccoprotica, quæ Corpus inter Operandum, non multum turbant, quæque præter Ventriculi et Intestinorum Contenta, Vix quidquam è Corpore expellant, aut Saltem, valdè Parum.* Boerh. de Inflammatione.

Tho' there is no need even of these in a Clap, but to prevent Costiveness, which the Medicine I use effectually does,



C H A P. VIII.

Of DIURETICS,

 DIURETICS are Medicines that dilute and attenuate the Blood, and other Juices, disposing their more ferous and humid Parts to go off in greater Quantities thro' the urinary Passages, and also to carry along with them the Dregs and Impurities of those Fluids.

As there are different Degrees of Strength in Purges, Diuretics likewise have several Gradations, and both from the most gentle Stimulus, may be encreased to the Violence of a Caustic; hence appears the Necessity of being well acquainted with their Natures and Manner of Operation, lest what is given to abate an Inflammation, should be the Means of encreasing it.

The Diuretics proper on this Occasion, are of a Texture, so loose and dissoluble, that they mix most intimately with the Blood, and the Use of them, for a few Days, so saturates the whole Mass, that if any Taint, or Contagion has infected the Juices, or lies lurking in the small Vessels

Vessels, those Menstruums cause a Dissolution of the Virulency, wash it away from the Habit, and is expelled with them by the urinary Channels.

Hac Viâ plus purgatur Sanguis quam omni Evacuatione per Alvum, Diuretica enim in ipsum Sanguinem agunt, non vero Purgantia, adeoque per hæc Medicamenta in violentis Morbis, qui ad singula bene attendit, Crisin salutarem sæpe numero procurare potest Medicus absque notabili Corporis Perturbatione, præterea Renes sunt optimum Sanguinis Depuratorium, quoniam per eos transire possunt crassiores Sanguinis Partes. Boerh. de Anxietate Febrili.

The Judgment of the Surgeon must direct him to the Choice of the Diuretics, and Experience must confirm their Efficacy, otherwise his Intention will be frustrated to the great Disappointment or Damage of his Patient; if he uses those that are too feeble, the Malignity of the Disease will not be expelled; if too strong, they will lay a great Stress on the urinary Tubes, weaken their Tones, and be the Cause of Gleet, Diabetes, and many other Complaints. *Et per validam Vim impulsæ Humoris dilatant adeò Vasa, ut tota Moles Corporis per hæc loca Ruat, et præ Macie ferè defiliant Ægri. Boerh. de Lue Venereâ.*

But those Inconveniences can be most easily prevented, and I shall therefore observe, that
from

from this Class of Medicines, a Remedy may be compos'd, whose Use requires no Confinement or Trouble, so innocent, that it may be taken with great Advantage in Fevers, and yet so effectual, that it thoroughly cures the Clap, carrying off, in a little Time, the Chordee and Sharpness of Urine, its uneasy Attendants, and indelible Marks of the Taint, which never disappear till the Virus is subdued.

Those Symptoms have constantly governed my Conduct in the Cure of a Clap; while they are present, the Virus is in the Urethra, and he who prescribes at this Time balsamic, drying, or astringent Things, in any Form whatever, either does not understand the Nature of the Disease, or puts his Patient to the Hazard of a Pox, that he may have the Reputation of curing with Speed.

Medicus Curaturus Gonorrhœam, duplici Intuitu agere debet. 1. Opem dare ut omnem Virofam susceptam Materiam educat. et cavere ne retroeat, vel alias Partes adhuc sanas trahat, 2. Ne tamen Partes nimis laxet, et flaccidas reddat. Boerh. de Lue Vener.

All the Designs in the Cure of a Gonorrhœa, should have Respect to those two Views, and he who by any Means can attain those Ends, with Ease and Safety, knows a Remedy not much used in publick Practice, whose Effects are not brought

brought about by purging, which it is pretended Drains off the venereal Taint by Stool; nor by Injections stopping up the Poison, and driving it into the Blood; nor by mercurial Evacuations causing a Revulsion of the pocky Matter into the Habit; nor by Balsamics agglutinating the Ducts of the urethral Glands, before the Virulency is discharged; nor by mercurial Alterants, Specifics, Frictions, Lotions, &c. which are furnished to have Qualities so destructive to the venereal Poison, that they disarm, and quell the Virus wherever they meet.

But the Scope of *Boerhaave's* Directions will be obtained by a Medicine communicating itself to all the circulating Juices of the Body, freeing them from their Viscidities, and carrying off their Impurities by Urine, without relaxing the Parts, performing a perfect Cure, free from the Apprehensions of a Pox or Gleet, and requires no very particular Management as to Diet or Exercise, nor no Restraint of any Kind, except from Excesses and Coition.

Astruc thinks a Clap in the first Stage or beginning, should be treated as an inflammatory Disorder, and prescribes frequent Bleedings with a cooling diuretick Regimen; this he esteems the most rational Method to keep the Chordee, and Heat of Urine under, but Bleeding causes a Derivation from the Parts affected, therefore
3 should

should not be used but in a Plethora or Inflammation.

Quando Virus illud, ad Locum Urethræ penetravit, ubi Emissaria Vesicularum seminalium aperiuntur et hæc Ulcusculo enato claudit, aut ipsas Vesículas, cum prostaticis inflammat, tunc ipse Testis citissimè intumescit, nec potest ille Tumor, et Inflammatio sedari, nisi largissimâ Missione Sanguinis.
Boerh. de Lue Vener.

Bleeding, by emptying the Vessels, and lessening the Motion, and impelling Force of the Blood, gives an Opportunity to the obstructed Parts, to shake off the stagnant Fluids, and drive them into the Circulation; therefore this Operation always takes Place, when a Flux of Humours falls upon a Part, whose Suppuration must be prevented at any Rate, but except a Plethora, in any other Case in this Disorder, it is quite unnecessary, nay, not to be recommended, since it makes a Revulsion from the diseased Part into the Blood.

There are also Objections to this Gentleman's other Intention of Cure; the cooling and diuretic Regimen, as Expensiveness and Inconvenience. Where is the Need of Bottles of Ptisans, Apozems, and Decoctions, when a Paper of Powder, a Morfel of Electuary, or a Couple of Pills wash'd down with a Draught of Milk and Water, Small Beer, Tea, Capillaire, or any other diluting

diluting Liquor will do as well ; besides all the Diuretics he prescribes, loosen and relax the Parts too much, giving a Disposition to Gleet, and other Weaknesses, which are sufficiently guarded against in the Medicines I use, whose good Qualities will appear in the following Case, which is a Matter of Fact known to several, and not cook'd up like many Observations, to impose on the Understandings of the credulous.

When Marshal *Wade* commanded the Army at the Camp of *Gavre*, a Bubo appeared in the right Groin of a Gentleman, who was so unwilling to leave his Duty, that he tried all Means to put it back ; but as repelling Applications, by constringing the Pores, and hindering Perspiration, confine the native Heat, which makes them sometimes rather advance the Suppuration than put it back ; it so happened in this Case, for in Spight of what could be done, the Apostematation came on, and he was sent to *Guant* ; the Swelling was large, painful, and stubborn ; but at length coming to an Head, the Matter was discharged by a Caustic, and every Thing promised well ; in some Time, he was advised to go abroad for the Benefit of the Air ; the first Day he went out, tho' brought very low, the Sight of an agreeable young Woman, whom he, as an old Sportsman, knew to be one of the Game, banished all the Thoughts of his late Sufferings, spirited up his Desires, and gave him Briskness and

encreasing the Inflammation, presses the Virulency higher up into the Urethra, which affecting the Parts about the Bulb of that Passage, causes very terrible Accidents.

Non Potui hos Homines curare, qui valdè libinosi Noctu erigunt, quoniam validè distentis Partibus dilacerantur Ulcera, quæ incipiebant consolidare.

Ubi ipsæ Vesiculæ Seminales infectæ sunt tunc oriuntur, omnia illa horrenda Mala, Erosiones omnis Pinquedinis Intestino recto circumpositæ Fistulæ teterrimè et ferè insanabiles, atque ipsius quandoque Urethra Erosio, ut per Perinæum exeat Urina. Boerh. de Lue Venereâ.

All those dreadful Symptoms arise from wrong Proceedings, since it is impossible that these Parts can ever be infected with a Clap in the Beginning, this Disorder having its several Stages, and grows worse by Degrees; but if a Stop is put to the running by the unseasonable Use of Balsamics, Injections, or Astringents; it makes the Cure difficult, dangerous, and painful, that would be otherwise gentle, safe, and easy.

Verum Quoties recentum Morbum, nec malè adhibita Medela efferatur curandum habui, nunc quam defuit Successus. Boerh. de Lue Ven.

Hence appears the Necessity of having Regard to the Symptoms of the Chordee, and Heat of Urine; when these Enemies are subdued, the rest

rest fall of Course; but how little this has been attended to by Authors, may be learned from their Writings, where we are ordered to follow such round-about Ways, that one would scarcely believe they had those Points in View, or if they had, that they were unacquainted with Remedies to answer their Designs; for whatever the cooling Regimen, with the Nitrum Purificatum, effected in abating, the Heat of Urine was destroyed the next Day by the purgative, and the Chordee was to be asswaged by Calomel, or some other Preparation of Mercury; the Unction rub'd in on the under Part of the Yard, was looked upon also to conduce much to the Alleviation of this Complaint.


If the Reasons I have offered in Favour of the Medicine I prefer in the Cure of a Gonorrhœa, are not esteemed sufficient to encourage its Use, let it speak for itself, and I dare affirm no other Recommendation will be required. I have already shewed why I approve of it before purging, as Cathartics are attended with many Inconveniencies, and are dangerous and hazardous, since they most certainly derive the Infection into the Constitution. I shall now consider the Nature of Injections, and their Modes of Execution, which I will endeavour to do in the clearest Manner I can, as I am convinc'd they are the most pernicious Means that can be made Use of in the Cure of a Clap: But before I finish this
Chapter

Chapter, I think it necessary to observe, that as I have not mentioned the particular Form of the Medicine I use, it may, by some, be suspected, that I am a *Nostrum Manger*, or a Dealer in Secrets; to obviate this Charge, I must insist, that any Person having a tolerable Understanding in the *Materia Medica*, and a moderate Knowledge of the Laws of Nature, and her manner of acting in the human Constitution, who will give himself the Pains to reflect on the Symptoms of a Clap, as they have been described; and their Analogy to Complaints from other Causes, can never be at a Loss to find out the Medicine I hint at. *Boerhaave* says, a Physician, to cure a Clap, ought to have two Things in View, to expel the Poison effectually, and to take Care, that the Parts affected should not be weakened, or too much relaxed; and I dare say, the Practitioner knows how to accomplish those Ends without the Assistance of a Detail of Prescriptions: It is sufficient, that the Publick has the Nature and Cause of Diseases explain'd and made easy, but their Cure must ever depend on those who make the Practice of Physick their Business.



C H A P. IX.

Of I N J E C T I O N S.

 F all the Methods hitherto in Use, for the Cure of a Gonorrhœa, none have been so universally approved of by Patients, as Injections; they were deluded by the plausible Pretensions of their specific Efficacy, in destroying the venereal Poison before it could possibly reach the Blood, or do any Mischief to the Constitution: Nay, Doctor *Cockburn* assures us, that his Injection is so great an Antidote, or Preservative, against the pocky Infection, that tried on some Libertines of both Sexes, has secured the Safety of their Persons amidst unbounded Liberties, these are perswasive Inducements in Favour of Injections; and who would not make Use of them that is satisfied of their Safety, since the Cure is performed with so much Ease and Speed?

What Praises, has not the Gentleman just mentioned, bestowed on his Injections: Irregularity of Life, he says, might possibly make a longer Cure, but never an unsafe one; they destroy the

Corruption, and the Running with it, take off the Heat of Urine, and vanquish the cording Pain ; in short, he would have us believe his Injection answers all the Designs that can be expected from Medicine, in the Cure of a Clap, and thus observes, now Reason and Experience assuring us, that a Gonorrhœa may be well cured by Injections, Physicians will be careful how they expose their Veracity and Honour, by denying what is thus reasonable and possible.

For my Part, tho' I don't pretend to the Knowledge and Learning of a Physician, I would be ambitious to have it thought, that I have some Share of Veracity and Honour, and that I forfeit neither, by denying that a Gonorrhœa may be well cured by Injections; Experience and Reason assuring me to the contrary, for the Intention or Method of Cure, by Injections, can only be proposed to be brought about by one of these following Ways, the digestive, the styptic, and the specific, or such whose Virtues consist in a Counter-poison, destroying the Virulency by its peculiar Qualities.

The digestive I shall divide into the lenient and the balsamick ; by the lenient I mean only those of warm Milk, Milk and Water, with Honey, and some few gentle detergent Things; notwithstanding *Boerhaave* was so fond of this Kind of Injection, that he says, *Hoc Faciatis si Veletis bone*

bono esse instructi Consilio ; it will be quite unnecessary in the way of Cure by Diureticks, for he proposed no more than to wash and cleanse the Urethra by those Injections, least the running, by resting there too long, should fret and heat it. *Acrida et Rodentia admiscere nolo, quia Scopus est tantummodo elicere, detergere, et abluere, quicquid sordis Virescæ has Partes contaminat, neutiquam consolidare.* Boerh. de Lue Vener.

But what way can be more natural and regular to expel, cleanse, and wash off any Thing of the virulent Corruption that might injure the Parts, than by Diureticks ; the Urine impregnated by their mild, deterfive Qualities, scours off the Venom ; they penetrate the minutest Vessel, and are dispensed through all the Juices of the Body, freeing them from any Impurity, or contagious Taint ; there is nothing astringent, drying, or agglutinating in them, to give the least Apprehension of detaining any of the venereal Virus in the Blood, and will afford more Benefit in most Diseases than any other Kind of Medicines. Sydenham informs us he did not much approve of Injections in a Clap.

Injectiones in Urethram non magni facio ut pote quæ sive Acrimoniâ suâ mordaci, sive Stipticitate, non rarò magis officere soleant quam prodesse. Epist. 2da. Resp.

From the Opinions of those great Men, we see we ought to be very cautious in the Use of Injections, both agreeing, that any Thing acrid or styptic must be very pernicious; and as it is the Custom of many Surgeons to use balsamick Injections, thinking the running in a Gonorrhœa proceeds from Ulcers, with the Intention of bringing them to a good Digestion, it will be expedient to make an Enquiry into the Nature and Effects of Balsams, that if in them according to the Sentiments of *Sydenham* and *Boerhaave*, any Thing styptic or consolidating may be found we may look on them as Remedies that oftener do more harm than good.

All natural Balsams are hot and dry, this is not only discoverable to the Taste; but it may be also perceived from an Observation of their Effects, whether outwardly or inwardly used, the most familiar and common Digestive among Surgeons, is the Venice Turpentine, mix'd with the Yolk of an Egg; it is, undoubtedly, a noble Medicine, but it requires Judgment in the Management; should it be immediately applied upon the receiving of a Wound, it would prevent Digestion, by contracting the Mouths of the divided Vessels, for in all Wounds when the Blood ceases to flow, an Oozing constantly weeps thro' the sever'd Extremities of the Fibres and Vessels, which spreading over the Surface of the whole Wound, is designed by Nature to be a Cover-

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ing

ing to the Nerves and other Parts to defend them from external Injuries, but the Heat of the Body and the Corruption that all stagnant Fluids are subject to, causes a Putrefaction, and a Separation between this Covering and the Parts underneath, then the digestive becomes useful, by giving a Firmness to the Flesh, and consolidating the loose and flabby Fibres, relax'd by the Flux of Humours, tho' improper upon the receiving of a Wound, as it resists Putrefaction which must necessarily precede Digestion, in all Wounds where there is Loss of Substance.

Balsamus autem Vegetabilis Terebinthina, v. g. acidum aliquod præservans in se habet, nec unquam rancescit, si ergo Vulneri instillatur, Putrefactionem impedit. Boerh. de Vuln. in gener.

And further on accounting for the Operations of Digestives he says,

Quæ sunt Balsamica aliquam Acrimoniam habent per quam faciunt ut fibræ semimortuæ, Carnes spongiosæ, et sordes è Vulnere secedunt, et liberum exitum relinquant liquidis in Pus conquoquendis, tale est Mel. cum Terebinthino et Vitello Ovi conquassatum.

From hence it appears, that Balsamicks have something acid and acrimonious in them, and therefore not proper to enter into Injections, as the Things in which those Qualities are found,

must bind up, and close the little Mouths of the urethral Ducts, and confine the Poison to the Constitution, and Blisters dressed with the common Digestive, shew that it is much more a dryer than the Promoter of a Discharge.

The second Kind of Injections which I distinguish'd by the Title of Styptic, are those whose Power of Action consists in corrugating, or drawing closely up, the Ostiolæ or little Openings of the excretory Tubes, which terminate in every Point of the Urethra, and from whom proceeds the running in a Gonorrhœa; for the Spiculæ of the venereal Poison, insinuating themselves into those little nervous Channels, stir up Pain and Fluxion, the immediate Cause of the running, as has been already observed; but if any Thing astringent or styptic be applied to those small Ducts, their Mouths are presently contracted, and refuse a Passage to their Secretions, which are thrown upon the Blood, and consequently the Poison along with them, tho' it often happens in plethoric or full Habits, where Evacuations have not been used before Injection, that the Contagion falls upon the inguinal Glands, Testicles, seminal Vessels, &c.

The great Force and Power of astringent or styptic Ingredients, on animal Substances, tho' dead, is very observable; the Efficacy of Bark, Lime, and Allum, being well known to the
Tanner

Tanner and Skinner, answering their Ends in the same Manner that Injections do, drawing up the Hide or Skin closer together, by which Means it becomes more compact, tight, and firmer, the very Case of the Urethra in Men, and the Vagina in Women, who have been familiar with these Remedies.

I have several Times insisted, that the running in a Clap is a critical Discharge of the venereal Poison, and that whatever puts a Stop to it, must absolutely drive the Virus into the Constitution; but of all the Means that ever were invented, none tallies with this Intention so well as Injections, by their Use, for a few Days, the Heat of Urine and Chordee vanish, and the unhappy Patient thus freed of those troublesome Symptoms, looks upon himself to be cured, while the Seeds of the Pox are dispersed thro' the Blood; and tho' for the present, they have not Power enough to give Disturbance, yet assuredly, in Time they will put on their baneful Appearance, for by floating so long thro' the circulating Fluids, and diffused among all the Juices, they must either vitiate the whole Mass, or the scattered Poison will be collected together and become local, forming Bubo's, Ulcers, Exostoses, &c.

My condemning Injections, is not from an Ignorance of their Compositions, or Want of Experience in their Manner of Operating, nor with

a Design to advance a Method of my own, but I have had such Knowledge of their bad Effects, that I am resolved never to use them myself, and would endeavour to perswade others from their Practice; for what can be expected from astringent Injections, but to lock up the venereal Matter, and contract and harden the Urethra, causing Strictures, Suppression of Urine, swell'd Testicles, and many other frightful Accidents? What a miserable Case must a Man be in, if upon voiding a small Stone, the Urethra is so constricted, that it cannot give Way? What a torment to wear Bougies and leaden Probes, in so sensible a Canal, perhaps for Life, to prevent a Stoppage of Urine; and what dreadful Consequences must they be attended with in Women, when the Vagina is purs'd up, and consolidated so close, as to refuse a Passage to the Menfes, or be incapable of Distention in Labour, therefore I look upon the Damages, done by Injections to the Vagina and urinary Passages, by indurating their Membranes, and obstructing their capillary Vessels, to be as productive of Mischief, as the forcing the Virus into the Blood, and often causes more Difficulty and Time to remove the Complaints.

The whole Theory and Doctrine of the Materials, which are the Constituents of the Sort of Injections I am speaking of, and what may be expected from them, *Boerhaave* puts into such a Light,

Light, that we cannot possibly avoid seeing into their bad Effects.

Mos est infaustissimus, Chirurgis Gallis, et Britannis, Gonorrhœam à Cancro Venereo, Ulceroso, in Urethra enato, per adstringentia, et erodentia, curare, ipsum nempe Cancrum unde extillat sanies Lapide infernali adurunt, atque in Consolidationem cogunt, non considerantes, quod hæc Pars non sit Locus infectus, sed excretorius, tota quippe Urethra a Vesicâ usque ad supremum Marginis Glandis, est unum Corpus, inter binas suas Membras coercitum, hinc a Fomite sano, in supremâ ejus Regione hærente, potestque illa Materies descendere quæ per Cancrum evacuatur, potestque tota Urethra se sic evacuare, æque ac à Parte internâ, hinc Lapide infernali, aut Vitriolo, tu tantummodo claudis Viam virulentæ Materiæ exituræ, eam cogis in Sanguinem redire, atque Bubonis ad Inguina vel Luem Veneream excitare, posset fortè in Initio Morbi, et Statim à Contagio suscepto Locus affectus Ictu Lapidis infernalis exedi, atque iners reddi illud Venenum, hoc tamen majoris Certitudinis Gratiâ facere non Soleo. Annot. de Lue Venereâ.

By this we may observe what *Boerhaave* thought of the topical and preventive Methods of Cure, all the Golden and Silver Injections, the Pintleburn Secrets, Balsams of the Sun and Moon, Greek Broth, and many other famous antivene-real Nostrums, view'd *en Profile*, according to
Boer-

Boerhaave's Directions, will appear in an horrid Light, for by them, *tu tantummodo claudis Viam virulentæ Materiæ exituræ, eam cogis in Sanguinem redire, atque Bubones ad Inguina vel Luem Veneream excitare.*

From many Instances I could produce, shewing the great Power of Injections in the Urethra, I shall relate two, which will answer the Purpose as well as a Thousand, for by them it will plainly appear, that they stop up the running, which, mixing with the Blood, will, in Time, infect the whole Constitution.

I knew a Gentleman of a very amorous Disposition, who accidentally meeting a Lady every Way so agreeable to his Fancy, that tho' he was clap'd, would not decline an Appointment he made with her; but as the Chordee must be a great Hindrance to his Enjoyment, he removed that Impediment in less than half a Dozen Hours, by the frequent Use of a desiccative Injection, which entirely stop'd the running, nor had he any Complaints of Sharpness of Urine, and after this, in all Appearance, seemed well for about two Years, when he was attack'd with slight Head-achs, rambling, and nocturnal Pains, especially in cloudy, damp, and close Weather; sore Throat, Excoriations in the Nostrils, throwing off a flaky Scurf, with scaly Tetters in the Forehead, and different Parts of the Body, these Symptoms made it apprehended that he was
pox'd,

pox'd, and a proper Course taken with him, he soon got the better of his Disorder, which he wholly attributed to the Injection, not being clap'd, or suspicious of receiving any venereal Taint since the Use of it.

This Case which from my own certain Knowledge I know to be fact, is a convincing Proof, that the running in a Clap does not proceed from Ulcers, for nothing could possibly cicatrise them over in half a Dozen Hours, allowing them to be ever so small; indeed we see by the Aphthæ in Children's Mouths, that the Use of astringent Gargles contracting the external Membrane of the Roof of the Mouth, squeezes so closely, and binds up the little Ulcers that they almost disappear, but when the austere Particles, they are compos'd of, are washed away by the Saliva, or absorbed into the Blood, the Membrane relaxes, and the Aphthæ return to their former Dimensions, and this would happen in the like Manner to the Urethra, did the Matter flow from Ulcers; but granting that the running arises from an Erosion, or Rawness of the Urethra, Injections may be formed of such drying and cicatrising Things, that their Use for a few Hours will contract the Mouths of the small Ducts of the urethral Glands, inducing a Kind of Varnish, or cover over them, that guards against the Sharpness of Urine, prevents the Weeping, and takes off the Chordee, which is owing to the galling Pressure of the Urethra

Urethra in Erection, and by this Management, the Contagion, the immediate Cause of the Erosion drove into the Blood, the running, Sharpness of Urine, and Chordee, which are the Effects of the Erosion, instantly vanish; every Body who pleases to pox himself may make the Experiment, and undoubtedly the preservative Injections we have heard of, must act in this Manner; but to make this Affair more apparent, dissolve an exact Quantity of *Vitriol. alb. in Aquâ Calcis* of a sufficient Strength, and let the Excoriation, caus'd by a Blister, be often dab'd over with it, and you will find, that in a few Hours, the Discharge will be dried up, and the Rawness cicatrised; but I have observ'd, that there is a great Similitude between the Discharge of a Blister, and the running in a Gonorrhœa, and that there is a strong Resemblance between the Operation of Cantharides, and the Action of the venereal Stimulus; if therefore the often dabbing of the Blister over with the above Water, will, in a little Time, heal and dry it up; and if the same Water frequently injected into the Urethra, will stop up the running, is there not all the Reason imaginable to think, that the Discharge in both Cases must spring from the same Cause, and that it must be the Production of an Erosion, and not an Ulceration? for an Ulceration supposes Loss of Substance, which never could be repaired by any Application in so short a Time; but in a Blister the Scarf Skin is only stript off, and in a

Clap

Clap the Urethra only looses its mucous Covering, in which Cases, styptic and drying Applications will instantly take Effect, and supply their Places, 'till both are regenerated.

The other Example shewing the pernicious Consequences of Injections, is a Gentleman who, some Years ago, applied to me to cure him of a slight Clap lately contracted. I gave him some Remedies, with Directions how to use them, and told him I would call, in a few Days, to know their Success; accordingly, in about a Week after, I waited on him, and found him in great Spirits, extolling the Remedies I gave him for Perfections not to be equalled; he said the running was quite gone, nor had he the least Twitch of the Chordee, or Heat of Urine; as I was certain that nothing which I had given him could put so sudden a Stop to the running, I told him I suspected he had been dabbling with some Injection, and complimented him on the Success of his speedy Cure; in Return of the ironical Encomiums past on my Medicines, he said I guess'd well, and informed me that a Gentleman of his Acquaintance recommended an infallible Injection to him, and that he was convinced it was so, for it perfectly cured him in four Days, but this Gentleman has since undergone a Penance for his Credulity, and will, I believe for the future, put very little Confidence in those Kind of Remedies.

No Endeavours have been wanting to magnify the Reputation of Injections, no deceitful Gloss untried to varnish over their Defects, a thousand Tales invented to support their Credit, and palpable Lies have been maintained as Truths, by Attestations and Affidavits in their Favour; but a Method of Cure depending on the Laws of Nature, and her Operations in the Constitution despises the Assistance of such poor Artifices, and requires no false Story to advance its Praise, no Lustre to set it off, no Voucher or Evidence to prove its Success; the Consideration alone of its Designs will be sufficient to recommend it to the Esteem of the World, because it will be obvious to all Persons that they are founded on Reason.

He who reflects that Diuretics operate by gently encreasing the Motion of the Fluids from the Centre, and pushing them forward to be in Part secreted by the Outlets of the urinary Passages, will readily conceive, that any Thing hurtful lodged in those Passages, is in a fairer Way of being carried off by those Means than any other, but let him think on any Expedient capable of impelling the Thing hurtful, which rests in those Channels into the Blood, and he will easily perceive, according to the Laws of Nature, the Facility of its reaching the Centre; Applications *ad Exteriorem*, act on the venal, while Medicines given inwardly act on the arterial Blood, the Course of the one being from the Circumference

to the Centre, while the other moves in a contrary Direction, from within, outwards ; from this it is evident, that the Relief in a Clap by Diuretics, is procured, by washing away the Virus or Poison, and expelling it with the Urine, whereas the Remission of Pain, by the Use of Injections, is owing to the Poison being drove from the Parts affected into the Blood. Having, I hope given sufficient Reasons for rejecting this mischievous Practice, I would finish what I have to say in Relation to astringent Injections, but that I cannot well omit making some Remarks on a very extraordinary Construction, made by Doctor Cockburn, of a Passage which he quotes from *Fracaſtorius*.

*In Primis mirum illud erat quod Labe receptâ,
Sæpe tamen quater, ipsa suum compleverat Orbem
Luna, priusquam Signa satis manifesta darentur.* }

'Twas strange, at first the Taint receiv'd,
Yet oft the Moon four Fulls atchiev'd
Before, that Signs apparent, made it believ'd. }

Which the Doctor, by a strange Kind of Logic, wrest thus to his own Purpose. “ So we may safely conclude, as far as Experience can support us, that a Gonorrhœa never will be attended with ill Consequences, after it has disappeared four Months, and no Sign of the Pox has appeared in that Time.

Fracastorius says, it was at first amazing that the Infection receiv'd, yet often four Months were elapsed before manifest Signs were given of it, from whence the Doctor would have us believe, that if after the Use of Injections, the Pox does not discover itself in the Space of four Months, we need have no Apprehensions about it; but this Conclusion of the Doctor's, limiting the Passiveness of the Poison to four Months, to be a Certainty that a Gonorrhœa never will be attended with ill Consequences, is plainly calculated to obviate the Reproaches Injections deserve. If after four Months the Patient has any venereal Complaints, he will be told they are owing to a fresh Contraction, for if they arose from the former Gonorrhœa, they must have appeared within four Months; but how does he convince us that the bad Effects of a Gonorrhœa will shew themselves in that Time? Why, by telling us, that *Fracastorius* observes, it often happened, that for four Months after the Infection was receiv'd, the Pox discovered itself by no manifest Signs. This Observation *Fracastorius* mentions as uncertain, because he does not say it always happens, but often, from whence the Doctor infers a positive Conclusion, and says, we may safely conclude a Gonorrhœa never will be attended with ill Consequences, after it has disappeared four Months; for the Rule of the learned *Fracastorius* agrees well with Experience, but the Rule, as it is called, of *Fracastorius*, relates to the Appearance

pearance of the Pox, after the Infection was received into the Habit, before any such Disorder as the Gonorrhœa was known. The Doctor's Conclusion has Respect to the Appearance of the Pox, after the Gonorrhœa has been dried up by Injections; now as there is no Relation between the Conclusion and the Premises, this Logic, according to all Rules, must fall to the Ground, for *Non debet plus esse in Conclusionem, quam in Præmissis; Causa est, quia non potest plus concludi, quam probatum est.* But the Doctor, nor no one else, could ever prove the stated Time of the Pox to make its Appearance after the Reception of the Virus into the Blood; therefore what has been advanced, must be done with a Design to deceive the World, and screen Injections from Disgrace and Infamy.

The Doctor's Advocates cannot be displeased that I treat his Practice in the free Manner I do, himself taking the greatest Liberties with the whole Faculty, and often advancing Things which we are to believe upon no other Account but the Credit of an *Ipse dixit.* Had I sufficient Abilities to criticise, I would be far from taking Notice of Errors, purely for the Sake of shewing my Parts or Judgment, nor have I, I hope, so much Ill-Nature to find Fault upon no other Pretence than to make People uneasy; yet, I think it would be an unpardonable Crime in any Person, silently to permit a pernicious Practice,

for People of all Professions ought to look upon themselves as Servants to the Public, and should study, by all reasonable Means, to promote the common good, since they are entrusted with whatever is dear to Mankind; it is not enough that they honestly discharge themselves of the Confidence that is put in them, but they should also endeavour to preserve their different Sciences from the Tarnish of Craft, Bigotry, Avarice, Superstition, and Ignorance, by taking Reason for their Guide, and judging without Partiality, or Prejudice; and a Man of common Understanding, assisted by Experience, may, for what I know to the contrary, be as competent a Judge in those Matters, as the most refined Genius; there is one Thing in the Knowledge of Physic I am certain of, and that is, the clearer any one sees into the Nature and Cause of a Disorder, the less perplexed will be his Method of Cure, and I have observed, that this Perspicuity as often accompanies common Sense, with a slow discerning Understanding, as the lively Imagination, with all the Gaiety of Fancy, and Exuberance of Learning. Thus I greatly suspect that all Injections of the specific or astringent Kind, were the Inventions and Sallies of physical Wits, to humour Patients, and make their Method of Cure admired for Pleasantness and Dispatch; but the Man of common Sense, consulting more the Recovery of the Person than the Tickling his Fancy, condemns this Method as unsafe and dangerous, knowing

knowing that tho' *Citò* and *Jucundè* are two of the Requisites in an Indication of Cure ; *Tutò* the third should not be overlook'd ; but if the Wit cures *Citò et Jucundè*, he never troubles himself with the *Tutò* ; for whoever observed a Wit to consult either his own Safety, or other People's, Precipitancy and Pleasure hurrying away their Judgment, while the Man of common Sense is ever mindful of the *Tutò*, and would rather forfeit the Opinion of his being no Wit, than part with it for the *Citò* and *Jucundè*.

Thus Injections, by stopping up the pocky Matter, and driving it into the Blood, may be said to cure *Citò et Jucundè*, but Reason tells us, by washing it away and expelling it through the urinary Passages, the Cure is performed *Citò, Tutò, et Jucundè*, which I am perswaded no Injection can do, they all preventing the Discharge of the Virus.

Tutò itaque progreditur, si Morbum expellat quantum fieri poterat, sine Metu recidivæ, et nullam vel quam minimam Egrotanti Noxam attulerit, adhibetis nimirum Remediis, frequenti Usu, et longâ Experimentiâ cognitis. River. Inst. Med. de Method. Med.

Those Ends, I am certain, can be obtained in a Clap, by the Medicines I use, of which I am convinc'd, by frequent Practice, and a long Ex-

perience, they expel the Disease without Fear of a Return, and give not the least Uneasiness to the Patient.

Having told my Opinion, with Respect to those Injections, that I distinguished by the Titles of Balsamic, and Astringent or Drying, I will make some Enquiry into the third Division, to which I have given the Name of Specific, or those who do by some peculiar Quality, destroy the venereal Poison, as it is pretended, and make it quite harmless and inoffensive.

Tho' Specific, according to the Strictness of the Word in a physical Sense, means those Remedies which by imperceptible Means perform a Cure, *Nulla habito Respectu, ad hanc aut illam Intentionem, sive Indicationem curativam*. Syd. in Præfatione. Yet Mercury, since its first Use, has been looked upon by the Writers of all Ages and Countries, to be the grand Specific, or sure Remedy to be depended upon in the Cure of the venereal Disease, notwithstanding that its Manner of Operation can be accounted for by those who are acquainted with its Principles; but there are some who, for Want of this Knowledge, really and truly prescribe it as a Specific in the strict Sense and Meaning of the Word, having no Design in what they do, nor no Respect to the Indication of Cure; and this is the Cause of the many unhappy Accidents that have befallen the Use of this Mineral, some preferring the crude Mercury

Mercury, many the Sublimates, and others the Precipitates.

Now it is ordered, in Quantities, to promote sensible Evacuations, thinking its whole Success arises from a Salivation, or that it must operate either as a Cathartic, Diaphoretic, or Diuretic; others on the contrary imagine, that its Virtue lies in gently mixing with the Fluids, digesting them, and breaking thro' their Viscidities, destroying the venereal Poison, which, when extinguished, will be insensibly discharged with some of the Secretions, and as great Advantages were observed to attend the Use of this Medicine in all those different Indications of Cure, which Benefits, as I have already observed, ought to be regarded rather as Palliative than Eradicative; but be this as it will, the Success of Mercury in all the Variety of its Preparations, and different Manner of prescribing it, gave Rise to the Use of the Injections I am speaking of, no Respect being had to the Materials of their Composition, other than as they served for convenient Vehicles to the Mercury. Being order'd in the Unguent, Precipitate, Calomel, &c. according to the Fancy of the Operator, who in this particular Way of using it, must look upon it to be either a Specific, or be otherwise at a Loss to account for his Intention, if he does not allow it employ'd with a Design to dry up the running, and force the Virulency into the Blood.

That Mercury is not a Specific in the venereal Disease, I can affirm from Experience, having observed more People disappointed in their Expectations from a Salivation, than receive a Cure; that is, when the Surgeon depends entirely on Mercury, which I know is the Custom in several Places.

Tho' I look upon no Remedy to be equal to Mercury, for attenuating the Blood and other Juices, and for disengaging the venereal Taint from them, and disposing it to be carried off by some of the Excretions, yet other Helps must be called in, not only to expel the Poison but the Mercury along with it, for both are apt to lurk in some Sinus or Cell, out of the Power of Circulation, the Mercury probably for Life, producing many Accidents, and the Virus daily fed by some of the degenerate Juices of the Body, 'till it acquires Strength sufficient to pollute the whole Habit, or be gathered together, and thrown by Nature as a Crisis on some particular Part. Numbers of Instances of those Cases can be produced from Practice, to prove that Mercury should not be solely depended upon, nor given in Quantities to overcome the Resistance of the capillary Vessels. Sydenham thought all its Virtues consisted in its salivating Power. *Ita nullus dubito, quin si experiri possit aliud quid, sive in Regno Vegetabili, sive Animalis, quod in excitandâ Salivatione, Pares cum Mercurio Vires haberet, pariter*

riter etiam ad sanandam Luem valeret. Epist.
Resp.

Boerhaave ascribes no specific Qualities to it, accounting for its Manner of Operation, *Pondere vel Acrimonia, vel utrisque Simul. de Obstruct.*

Therefore the Advantage of Mercury in Injections proceeds either from drying up the running by its Acrimony, or if the Unction enters into the Composition by mixing with the Virus, and conveying it into the Blood, no one will dispute the desiccative or drying Qualities of Mercurial Preparations, when sufficiently diluted to prevent their caustic Properties; and, Experience tells us, that Mercury applied in the Ointment to any Part affected, carries the Poison into the Blood.

I knew a Surgeon that had such an Opinion of the specific Virtues in Mercury, that the Unguent applied to the under Part of the Penis, along the Course of the Urethra, and an Injection of *Calomel cum Mel. et Aq. Rosar.* were the only Things he used in a Gonorrhœa; they will certainly take off the Symptoms, but Time will convince the Patient whether they destroy the Virus, and prevent its further Mischief.

The Unction is recommended by *Astruc* to ease the Chordee, and his Advice seems to meet with

general Approbation, and it is the Custom of very eminent Practitioners, I know, after the Use of emollient Fomentations Morning and Evening, to all Kinds of venereal Swellings, to rub in a Quantity of the Unction, and when it is quite soaked up, to apply a gentle repelling Cataplasm; the Effects of those topical Remedies will surprisingly answer Expectation, in dispersing the Tumours, and Mercury would be a most noble Medicine if it extinguish'd the Virus at the Time the obstructed Humours were drove into the Circulation; but there is a great Deal of Reason to surmise that it has not those sovereign Qualities, and the ill Consequences of the Poison thus getting into the Blood, should be always apprehended, and every Endeavour used to banish it out of the Constitution, for while the least Particle of it remains in the Juices of the Body, there is great Danger that the whole may in Time be infected.

The Unction it must be allow'd, though it turns the Virus into the Blood will be found a powerful Remedy, in preventing Injuries that would be caused by the Suppuration of several Kinds of venereal Tumours; here Reason and Experience approve of its Use, but where is the Necessity of employing it in a Gonorrhœa, since it will certainly remove the Contagion from the Place it fixed on into the Habit? but in Tumours when the pocky Matter violently seizes on the Testicles

Testicles, the Glans, the Parts in Pœrinæo, and many other Places where Suppurations would be dangerous, then it is eligible to prevent them, as the throwing the Virulency into the Blood is esteemed less hazardous ; but in a Clap where a proper Management of the running would drain off all the Poison, to divert it from this Course, and direct it into the Habit, is inverting the old Rule, of two Evils the least is to be chosen.

When it is proposed to expel the venereal Taint out of the Constitution, Mercury is not to be applied to the Parts affected with Shankers, or any Eruptions, they are to be treated as *Boerhaave* Orders, who always gives a Reason for what he does.

Sic si Herpes sit in Humero, nollem Mercurium externè applicare, ne retrogrediatur in Venas, sed internè dabo, atque ad illum Locum determinabo per Pannos madidos, Fomento idoneo, ei applicatos. De Lue Vener.

From what has been said, I think it will very plainly appear, that Mercury externally used, insinuating itself through the Pores of the Skin, and mixing with obstructed Fluids, attenuates them, and dissolves and breaks through their Cohesions and Viscidities, dilating the capillary Vessels, and opening a Passage for itself and the stagnated Humours, into the circulating Streams
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and consequently the venereal Matter entangled in those Humours ; therefore its Use in a Clap must be greatly prejudicial either in Injections or Frictions, since it evidently drives the morbid Taint from the Part affected, into the Blood.





C H A P. X.

A SUMMARY of the whole.

S I have differed in most Particulars in the foregoing Discourse, from the establish'd Rules and Opinions, relating to the Cause and Cure of a Gonorrhœa, it will seem more reasonable to suspect my Want of Knowledge in those Affairs, than that the Numbers who have favoured those Notions and Opinions, should be mistaken; therefore if any Person who gives himself the Trouble to read this, will shew where I am defective, I will, with the utmost Gratitude, acknowledge the Favour, and make a publick Renunciation of my Errors; for all my Design was to put the Subjects I treat of in such a Light, that they may appear as they really are free from the Shades and Colouring of Deception; and that every one may the more readily judge in this Business, I shall particularise the Circumstances in which I dissent from the Generality.

I assert, that the Writers on the venereal Disease have not given us a true History of that Disorder,

Disorder, its Cause, the Time of its first Appearance, and the Nature of its Malignity, which better understood, might perhaps point out a more effectual Method of Cure.

Nam Credo omnem Causam Physicam habere in rerum Naturâ aliam sibi oppositam. Boerh. de Varioli.

I have said that the Gonorrhœa is a critical Discharge, and that purging, Balsamics too early used, and Injections, as they either divert or dry up the running, must be injurious.

I insist, that the fore Part of the Urethra, which lies nearly under the Junction of the Glans Penis, with the *Corpora Cavernosa*, is the Part first affected in Men, and if ever it ascends to the prostate Gland, *Vesiculæ Seminales*, &c. it must be through Carelessness or Mis-management.

The Disorder, in Women, is situated in the Urethra, *Lacunæ prope exitum ejus*, the Nymphæ, Glans Clitoris, and the Glandulous Substance, composing the external Orifice of the Vagina, and not in the Vagina itself, or Matrix, as some have thought. The Fluor-albus is a Disorder of the Vagina, and flows through the hypogastric capillary Arteries, terminating in vast Numbers here, which are, at all Times, the Outlets of the Menses, unless in Pregnancy, or Disorders of the Womb, which distend and stretch

stretch it out, for that Organ in a natural State unimpregnated, I believe, admits no more Blood than what is barely sufficient for its Support, being closely squeezed up and contracted.

Tota Differentia inter Vulnera Uteri Fœminæ Partui proximæ, et ejusdem non gravidæ, in solis Vasis hæret, et Arteriæ quæ olim Liquidum aquosum tenuissimum vehebant, nunc purum putum Sanguinem gerunt. Boerh. de Vulner. Uteri.

The placing the Vessels from whence the Menfes and Fluor-albus spring in the Vagina, and not in the Matrix, must give us clearer Conceptions of their Nature and Cause, and perhaps point out a more distinct Method of Cure for those Disorders that depend on them; for if an Ailment be ascribed to a Part that is not affected, wrong Judgments in the Indication of Cure must undoubtedly happen.

The internal Membrane of the Vagina, in long and stubborn Cases of the Fluor-albus, is subject to a Relaxation and Descent, for its Rugæ or Folds make it longer than the other Teguments, and by being continually drench'd in those Humours, becomes so slack and flabby, that it can't sustain itself in its natural Situation; this falling down is often taken for a Prolapsus Uteri, or, at least, a Descent of all the Membranes of the Vagina; it is the internal Coat also, that gives Way
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in a Prolapsus Ani, and not the whole Substance of the Rectum.

There are pathognomonical Symptoms, or peculiar Signs to distinguish one Disorder from another, by those, an Inflammation of the Pleura is known from an Inflammation of the intercostal Muscles of the Lungs or Diaphragm, the Gout in the Bowels from the Cholic, the iliac Passion from the nephritic Disorder, or the Symptoms of a strangulated Intestine in an Hernia; the Pox from arthritic, scorbutic, or rheumatic Pains, and the Clap from the Fluor-albus; and yet for Want of a perfect Knowledge in those Signs, many fatal Errors have been committed in Practice, Similitude of Symptoms leading the Judgment so far astray, that one Disorder has been often mistaken for another.

The Matter in a Gonorrhœa does not proceed from an Ulcer, the Virus stimulating the urethral Glands causes Pain and Fluxion, which accounts for all the Symptoms, the Running, Chordee, and Sharpness of Urine.

Venereal Ulcers yield a thin Sanies, or watry corrosive Ichor, and not a whitish glutinous Humour like Pus.

Cathartics are improper in the Cure of a Clap, they have no specific Virtues, they all act by their Acrimony, corroding the Parts they fix upon,
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promoting Pain and Fluxion, the Support of their Operations; they cause a Derivation of the Humours *ad Interiorem*, and consequently an Absorption of the venereal Poison into the Blood; nothing more hurtful to the Constitution than purging, as it is generally used in the Cure of a Clap, it ruins the Habit of Body, spoils the Viscera, and destroys the Texture of the Blood.

Injections are the most pernicious Contrivances that were ever invented for the Cure of the Gonorrhœa, they are all of astringent and drying Qualities, constraining the Poison to enter into the Blood contrary to the Course that Nature directs to carry it off. Nothing can be more delusive than to pretend that they destroy the Virus, at the same Time that they put a Stop to the running, this must be allowing them a specific Virtue, but I believe it will be readily granted, that no Remedy of that Kind has been hitherto discovered against the venereal Disease; the whole Secret of Cure consisting in the Separation of the Poison from the Constitution, and the Expelling it out of the Habit of Body; in a Clap, Nature appointed the running to answer those Ends, and the Business of the Surgeon is to moderate it in such a Manner, that it may conduce most to the Advantage of his Patient, correcting the Symptoms, by Medicines, which disengage the Poison from its Settlement, and drive it out of the Body, not to sooth it by Injections, and introduce it into the Blood.

Diuretics are Medicines the best calculated, to free the Blood and Juices from any Infection or Impurity ; they pervade every Channel through which the Circulation flows, break through Cohesions and Obstructions, and carry their salutary Virtues to the remotest Parts ; those Remedies seem to be particularly design'd for the Cure of a Clap, the Seat of which Disorder, in both Sexes, being immediately subject to their Influences.

They sooner appease the Heat of Urine and Chordee, than any other internal Medicines ; they entirely expel the Poison, prevent other Parts from being injured, and if well chosen, will effect the Cure from the beginning to the ending, without the Variation of a single Ingredient, and yet there is not the least Particle of Mercury, or any other rough Thing in the Composition that can possibly be an Objection against its Use to the tenderest Infant.

It may be asked, why I don't make known so harmless and effectual a Remedy, to which I answer, that every Person who understands the human Constitution, and the Nature of its Disorders, with a competent Knowledge of the *Materia Medica*, will, with a little Consideration of what I have said, and the Experience of some Practice, soon find it out of himself, and where those Acquisitions are wanting ; the Knowledge of all the particular Preparations of Medicine, cannot supply the Defect, or qualify a Person for
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the Practice of Physic; therefore I think it is more for the publick Good that these Kinds of Remedies should be confined to the Knowledge of those who have Sagacity to find them out, from the Hints given of their Designs, and Manner of Operation, and who, when thus discovered, know how to make a proper Use of them.

There is no Occasion for the Use of Mercury in the Cure of a Clap, if that Disorder is managed as it should be; the Benefit of this Remedy is, the attenuating the Juices, and disposing the Venereal Taint to be carried off by the Encrease of some Evacuations. I don't approve of Salivation for many Reasons, some of which I have already given, but particularly on Account of the many Relapses I have known after them, by not keeping strictly to a Diet, and proportioning the Quantity of the Food to the Strength of the Constitution; for the Repairs of the Habit in those Circumstances, depend solely on Moderation, which restores the Vigour of the Solids by Degrees, and enables them to shake off the Venereal Taints, and expel them with the natural Evacuations; but if the Cravings of the Appetite are indulged, *Citò replent sua Vasa pinguibus, et glutinosis Cibis, obesi statim fiunt, et si vel minima Pars restet pristinae Labis in Recidivum pessimum incidunt.* Boerh. de Lue Vener.

But even when the Disorder lays hold of the Bones, it can be cured by a Method he prescribes

without Salivation, of which Diet makes a principal Part.

Credo quod Omnes possunt sanari, præsertim si Dieta adhibeatur tenuis, resolvens, et nullo modo aleoso. Boerh. de Morb. Op.

As I have a compleat Sett of Annotations, on the Aphorisms of *Boerhaave*, which is not every where to be met with, I am in no Dread of an Imputation of Pedantry, nor have I any Apprehension of being accused with an Affectation of Learning, by the frequent Citations from that excellent Person; because every Thing relating to so extraordinary a Genius in Physic must be gratefully received by the Public, regardless of the Motives that divulge it; therefore I cannot finish this Discourse better, than by quoting some of his Reasons for using Mercury with Caution.

Turbith Minerale, idem ille Pulvis est, quo quædam Mulier Gallica, tantas sibi acquisivit Divitias curando scil. deperatissimos à Lue Venereâ obsessos Homines, undè incidebant ægri in Diarrhæas, Vomitus, &c. quibus sedatis, à Morbo sanabantur, sed et Plurimi moriebantur.

Itaque ne detur, nisi Medicus sit certus, Viscera esse integra, et robusta. De Lue Vener.

Mercurius in Corpus ingeritur cum Sulphure unitus vocatur tunc, Æthiops Minerale, et tunc etiam solâ Vi Mecharicâ Ponderis agit, nec ullam Acrimoniam

moniam habet, cum Spiritibus acidis, vario Modo præparatus, et tunc Pondere Metallī, et Acrimoniâ Salium simul agit, et Salivationes horrendas et Purgationes intolerabiles producit, de Obstructione, et proinde ad Salivationem. Sic omnem Sanguinem rubrum et omne Serum in puram Aquam convertit quæ vasis cohiberi nequit, sed exit, ematīatos relinquit Homines, omnibus Humoribus exhaustis, et Vasis præ nimīâ Inanitione collapsis et contractis.

Liquida attenuant et Vasa dilacerant, hinc est quod Mercurius præcipitatus ruber, et albus, non edulcoratus, Mercurius corrosivus, Turbith Minerale, et Flavum, certissima sunt Venena, et Corpori Humano nunquam seperanda.

F I N I S.



