

A treatise on the small-pox and fevers: wherein is demonstrated the salutary effects of a medicine, known by the name of Sexton's powder ... Humbly addressed ... in particular to the President ... and ... Governors of the Small-pox Hospital / [J. Wheler].

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A
TREATISE

O N T H E

SMALL-POX AND FEVERS:

Wherein is demonstrated the salutary Effects of a

M E D I C I N E,

Known by the Name of

SEXTON'S POWDER;

For a more certain and easy Cure of those Distempers,
than has hitherto been Known or Practised.

Humbly addressed to the PUBLICK, but in particular
to the President, Vice-Presidents, and the Rest of the
Governors of the SMALL-POX HOSPITAL.

BY J. WHELER, SURGEON.

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THE STATISTICAL

SMALLPOX AND MEASLES

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FOR THE YEAR 1880

WASHINGTON: GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

1881

A

TREATISE

ON THE

SMALL-POX and FEVERS.

THE societies employed in the cultivation of *natural knowledge*, and searching after causes proceeded unhappily for a series of successive ages, by steps and methods tending rather to obstruct than promote the great end proposed, the advantage of society. They formed ideal systems and schemes of speculation, falsely termed science, the trifling play of fancy, the idle, useless labour of the closet, and the offspring of a fertile invention and weak judgment. These elaborate subtleties having no root in nature and experience, floated like flimsy cobwebs in the imagination, and like them, were swept away by the next succeeding philosophic broom that cleared the paths of science. Thus one system was erected on the ruins of a former; and thus will it happen to every Hypothesis that has not laid its foundation on repeated experiment and nature. While the learned neglect to unravel the intricate Principles

of nature, and to trace with accuracy the connexion and order of effects and causes, we need not wonder at the slow progress and advancement of useful knowledge. A few indeed followed the only rational plan, by entering into her secret operations, tracing causes from effects, and making one discovery confess another, while, by the aid of chymistry and experiment, they endeavoured to learn the qualities and properties of matter. Yet, after all the experiments made in natural philosophy, through all its parts, how few indisputable and clear axioms have been the result? With respect to medicine in particular, does the number of well established truths afford much encouragement, to a close application and eager pursuit in chymical researches? Sufficient it is, to deter one from long labour in the fire, that the curious and indefatigable Mr. *Boyle*, by all his chymical toil and lucubrations, has, for the service of physick and cure of diseases, produced only a small collection of *Recipes*, many of them dangerous, and hardly any of the smallest use in practice. This error, as well as that of practical philosophers since his time, consisted in drawing deductions before they were confirmed by experience. They suppose that certain complications of matter necessarily possess certain powers, by which they prove nothing more, than that their talents lie in making experiments, and not in concluding rationally from them.

However, as the knowledge of experimental philosophy, though sometimes abused, is greatly preferable

preferable to the imaginary system of the student, who builds on empty speculation and scholastic chimeras, so are the acquisitions of the practical Physician, who founds his theory on observation, infinitely more valuable, than the abstruse and unsupported conjectures of him, that borrows all he possesses, from the contemplative labour of the closet. I could as easily be persuaded that a man might be taught to swim on his carpet, as that a Physician should arrive at deserved eminence in his profession, by any other means, than a close attendance on the sick bed, diligently watching the progress and symptoms of the disease and the influence and power of medicines. Hence it is, that *Hippocrates* and *Sydenham* will ever be held in just veneration. Both were possessed of a quick discernment, clear comprehension, and extensive capacity, improved by the most sedulous care and watchful attention to every minute circumstance in the disease before them. They first scrupulously examined the book of nature, and then accurately copied it in their writings, by which they are, perhaps, the most valuable authors in physick now extant. What pity is it that their example is not more generally followed!

To this day, we are of opinion, the description of putrid, malignant and pestilential fevers, has not been more faithfully recorded, nor the cure more successfully practised, than by *Sydenham*. Before his time, the chief object of the Physician was, to subdue with the utmost vigour
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the *Virus*, malignity and putrefaction, supposed to taint and dissolve the natural texture of the blood. To accomplish this end, the most active and warm medicines were poured in to the patient, while he was harrassed with the whole train of Alexipharmicks, *Tberiaca Andromachi*, *Saffron*, *Snake-Root*, *Zedoary*, *Contrayerva* and volatile salt of *Hartshorn*, he was at the same time suffocated in a confined air, close chamber, and a load of bed cloaths, without regard to the season of the year, such as might be supposed to produce the disease they intended to remedy. *Sydenham* disliking a practice so opposite to reason and common sense, substituted in its stead, another, the very reverse of the former. He diminished the weight of cloaths, threw open the bed curtains, frequently the doors and windows of the sick room, introduced a free air, sprinkled the floor with vinegar and cooling refrigerating acids, even ordering the patient to be taken out of bed; plying him constantly, with diluting and attempering, or with cooling and acid medicines: But as there is nothing useful, which by excess may not be rendered prejudicial, so this regimen has too indiscriminately been followed, by the admirers of that great man, without due reflection on the peculiar circumstances that would seem to require it. While one part of the faculty, advances from a genial necessary warmth to an almost actual fire, the other proceeds from a moderate refreshing coolness to real freezing, both in extremes and injudicious; each fortify themselves

themselves with the authority of a great name, and entrench themselves behind the practice of a favourite oracle, pursuing the tract chalked out for them, in a supine fatal bigotry and slavish dependance on his *ipse dixit*; as if the name of *Sydenham*, or even of *Hippocrates*, was sufficient to justify their inattention to nature. A very little reflection on the ætiology of the disease, and the operations of nature under it, one would imagine, would plainly indicate the method of cure. In all putrid, malignant and pestilential fevers, there is a great solution of continuity in the several component globules of the blood. Its original uniform texture is broke, either by the growing putrefaction, or by the admission of a certain foreign and extraneous *Virus* and taint, that disjoins and seperates particles before united. Hence a re-union is prevented, the patient is seized with rigors and cold shiverings, a labouring and swift pulse, nausea, vomiting, thirst, excessive heat, aching and lightness of head, with a train of direful symptoms, each of which bespeak the condition of the blood. In this state, the morbid matter must be digested and thrown off, or nature must sink and fall under the attempt. Agreeable to this, *Sydenham* has defined a Disease, “*an effort of nature to ex-*”
 “*terminate the morbific matter,*” and *Hippocrates* in his concise manner of expression, calls nature, the *Physician*.

That the *Small-Pox* ought to be ranged in the class of fevers, is universally acknowledged.
 Some

Some variations arise concerning the particular species of fever to which it belongs; but the advocates of the warm and the cold regimen, both unite in treating it as an acute fever, however different their practice may be. The celebrated Dr. Mead places the *confluent*, or what he calls the *malignant Small-Pox*, under the class of pestilential fevers, making a general distinction of the disease into *simple* and *malignant*. The first he describes attended with a simple fever, soon terminating, easily ripening, and digesting in a few days into a laudable *pus*, going off with dry scabs: the other accompanied with a malignant fever, coming with difficulty to maturation, and shewing itself under various appearances, without remission of the fever. Yet, with submission to so respectable a name, we cannot help thinking this general division somewhat inaccurate and imperfect. Perhaps the *Small-Pox* might with more advantage be divided into three classes, the *simple*, the *inflammatory* and the *malignant*. By the *inflammatory* we understand, the first and mildest stage of the confluent kind, attended with an inflammatory fever, but without that peculiar *Virus* and pestilential taint, that appears in the highest and malignant sort. In general, inflammatory fevers are such as are followed by painful swellings, or irruptions in the solids, when the active principles of the blood not only assist, by a vigorous effort, the progress of the fever; but wholly, or at least in part, disengage the morbid matter, and breaking off its Complication,

plication, force it to lodge in the solids, internal or external. Hence, upon dissection, the bowels have been found covered with pustules, filled with a laudable *Pus*, when perhaps, externally, the pock contained only a thin, pale, and crystalline fluid, almost transparent as water.

If the morbid matter should be too crude and gross to pass through the fine pores of the skin, and delicate strainers of the body, it will form this resistance, acquire new force, and a continual accession of fresh supplies, by which gradual augmentation, the fever is excited, small blotches are produced on the skin, and these increasing, form according to the degree, the distinct or confluent, or in other words, the simple or inflammatory *Small-Pox*, which, by improper treatment, may bring on the worst or malignant kind. We may venture to assert, that it is nothing more than the peculiar form, size, and quantity of the morbid matter, that distinguishes the several species of *Small-Pox*, and diversifies every kind of it, from other acute fevers. These, if the virulent and diseased matter were thrown off in the same manner, as in the *Small-Pox*, might perhaps be as easily communicated by inoculation. In one circumstance however, they differ considerably; we mean, in a person's being incapable of receiving the infection of the former a second time; yet may this peculiarity be accounted for, without supposing a *το Ιειον*, a certain virus and contagious *miasma*, that characterises and distinguishes

in from common fevers. The size, the form, and the quantity of the morbid matter, may occasion a great change in the texture and disposition of the blood. The thorough purification it undergoes, may render it less susceptible of infection, by purging away the pabulum, and every thing that can nourish and sustain the seeds of the disease, and the pores of the skin may be so enlarged and extended, by the passage of the morbid matter, to the exterior parts, as for the future to afford a free passage to the contagion, and for ever prevent its producing those boils, phlegmons, and blotches, that discriminate the *Small-Pox*, from every other disease. The great *Boerhaave*, in his excellent aphorisms, obscurely hints, at the doctrine we here suggest. He may probably indeed, be thought to push his notions beyond truth and reason, in supposing it possible to invent a *specific* against the *Small Pox*; a specific so powerful in its qualities, as to prevent the effects of the contagion, though it should already be received into the body.

In a word, let our practice be founded upon a scrupulous attention to nature, and a diligent observance of the means by which she effects a *dioploresis*, and expulsion of the noxious humour. In the present case, she would seem to act as an *alexipharmic*, and the business of the physician will be, gently to promote and assist her operations, by a kindly warmth, somewhat exalted above the natural degree and tenor of heat.

heat. The indiscriminate use of cooling, acid, and antiseptic remedies, will be likely to produce effects no less fatal than an excess in Alexipharmics and Febrifuges; a just mixture of both, according to circumstances, it is, that discovers the prudent and judicious practitioner. *Nitre, vitriolated Tartar*, and the whole class of mineral and vegetable acids, frequently impede the course of nature, by exciting evacuations, opposite to her intentions, whether by the emunctories of the palate, the ureters, or by stool. Hence a revulsion is made, that weakens her efforts, saps the wise intention of providence, produces a general languor, deliquium and despondency, and weakens the vital powers, already oppressed with the load of the disease. On the contrary, zedoary, the virginian snake root, venice treacle, blisters, with every thing stimulating, warm and subtle, precipitates the natural operations, and drives forth the variolous matter, crude and undigested. Nature alone is too apt and ready to expel the noxious matter, before it is properly concocted; but to subjoin subtle powders and generous cordials of an active virtue, would be to lend auxiliary incendiaries, to succour and animate the disease, already licentious and ungovernable, and to foment the tumult intended to be appeased.

Dr. *Mead*, and the most eminent practitioners of the present age, recommend a cooling and diuretic regimen in the first stage of the *Small Pox*; a method, which we apprehend, nothing besides

besides prevailing fashion, and the authority of so great a name, can support or render general. He justly remarks, that there is an amazing connection and sympathy between the skin and the kidneys: but this very observation is the strongest argument against the use of diuretics, before nature indicates a crisis by urine. If the intention of exciting an excretion by urine, is to carry off the noxious and variolous matter by a copious evacuation, why should we use a particular means, when a more general can with equal ease and less danger be substituted? To speak my own sentiments freely, no regimen can effectually be used, in every stage of this nauseous distemper, but what moderately keeps up the pulse, raises and regulates the spirits, relaxes the skin, opens the pores of the cuticle and the minute strainers of the cutaneous glands, inducing a mild, equable and temperate diaphoresis, and general perspiration. Of this almost all the writers on the *Small-Pox* seem to be aware. *Mead* prescribes the *Bezoar*, *Stahl* is no less fond of *Nitre*, *Moreton* recommends in general the *Zedoar*, *Contrainerva*, and more powerful *Febrifuges*; but of these, some act merely as absorbents, others generally by urine, and the rest are either too powerful or too precarious to have any great dependence on their effects. Thus a medicine, such as we describe, is reputed ideal, because undiscovered. Few there are so resolute, as to prosecute any point that has been given up to despair, and to combat, not only the natural

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ral indolence, but the prejudices and artificial dependencies of mankind. Sufficient it is to deter all further attempts, that an eminent practitioner has deemed a thing impossible. Whereas reason and experience, not authority and a name, ought to influence us in particulars, that affect the general good. It is this freedom of thought, and independency of enquiry, that has raised science to its present height; and this alone it is, that can elevate it to that summit of perfection, so ardently to be wished for. It is remarkable, that nature dictates to the untutored Indians of the island of *Java Major*, what art and reflection has taught the more civilized and polished nations of *Europe*. We are told by voyagers, that the *Lues Venerea* is a disease extremely frequent among them; for which their only cure, and an infallible one, is by exciting a copious sweat through all the pores. This they effect, by sitting naked for hours together, under the scorching heat of the sun, whose subtle rays, says *Purchas*, open those fine passages, and afford a free vent and emission to those noxious and virulent particles. Of all the branches of science, perhaps physic is the most distant from this happy period. Daily improvements are made in it, by the physicians of our own and foreign countries, yet daily unsurmountable difficulties occur, not only in the physiology of the human body, but in the pathology, the nature and causes of diseases, as well as in the pharmaceutic part, and the influence of medicines.

cines. As discoveries in the former are reputed merely speculative, they escape without that censure, which will surely fall on the inventor of a new medicine. Such is the force of prejudice, that the most credible attestations, the most convincing effects, and even ocular demonstration are insufficient to remove the riveted prepossessions against innovation. However, as the poet observes,

Virtus, repulsæ nescia sordidæ,

Nec sumit, aut ponit secures

Arbitrio popularis auræ.

The man who steadily pursues what conscience and reason dictates, will rarely, whatever disappointments he may encounter, in the end fail of proving successful. A consideration that induced me, at a great expence, to purchase the property of that powder, known by the name of *Sexton's powder for the Small-Pox and Fevers*. After the most accurate experiments upon its effects, by repeated trials, after diligently perusing the cases which he published, and strictly examining the persons, to whom he refers as to the truth of his report, I could find not the least room to hesitate concerning the efficacy of the medicine, to the discovery of which, neither he nor I lay any claim. I imagined that what Mr. *Sexton*, from a natural timidity, and impatience of the *stigma* usually affixed on the character of an empiric, and a narrowness of fortune could not effect, might however be accomplished by
perseverance

perseverance, resolution and labour. Nor has experience disappointed my expectation; the influence of those who have been recovered from dangerous maladies by the medicine, has extended its sale, and raised its reputation. Yet, still to render its character more universal, and display its virtues in full view to the faculty, a few public trials under the eye of a judicious, experienced and candid physician, are required. His erudition, his skill and address, may render easy to him, what would in vain be attempted by me; I mean an investigation of the cause of its properties by its effects, and visible operations. Mr. *Sexton* indeed made a proposal to the physician of the *Small-Pox* Hospital, which if accepted might have rendered his powders of more general advantage. Whether his terms were rejected from a mistaken application, from some deficiency in point of decorum in the manner of addressing, or from a riveted attachment to the old methods of practice pursued there, I cannot say. Certain it is, that they were rejected, and according to him, because he refused to discover the composition of his powders before they were administered. Notwithstanding this assertion, we are apt to imagine that some other reasons must have concurred; for can we suppose, that a gentleman of a liberal education and profession, of character and affluence, would insist upon terms equally unreasonable in themselves, and injurious to Mr. *Sexton* the proprietor? Sufficient it was that he hazarded the reputation

putation of his medicine, of his future fortune and character, gave security that the ingredients were perfectly innocent, and corroborated his own testimony by the attestation of several undeniable evidences of the salutary effects of his powders. A fair and impartial trial before such a competent judge as the physician of the *Small-Pox* Hospital, where so many opportunities for experiments offer, is what every proprietor of integrity should earnestly desire. As I arrogate to myself neither the capacity of a philosopher, nor talents equal to the instruction of those learned gentlemen, and indeed nothing more than a common understanding, and moderate skill in my profession, it would afford me the utmost satisfaction, to see the theory I have ventured to lay down, confirmed by an authority so respectable, and the testimony of weight, knowledge and ability, superior to any pretensions I can form; (already it has received the sanction of my own experience.) It has likewise been illustrated by repeated trials of the powders in a variety of cases; but how far they may be possessed of any specific virtue, or in what manner they correct and purify the contaminated juices, and prevent those dangerous symptoms usually concomitant in the *Small-Pox* and *Fevers*, otherwise than as a cordial, and mild diaphoretic, I will not pretend to determine. This I can affirm, in all the experiments I have made, they raised the pulse, sustained the spirits, exhilarated the patient, and super-induced a gentle dewy perspiration over the

the whole body, gradually expelled the morbid *Virus*, relaxed the skin, and produced a kindly maturation of the variolous pustules. The use of the powder, if called early in the disease, was generally preceded by bleeding, and through the whole course, the patient indulged in drinking liberally of baum tea, white wine whey, barley water, and decoctions of preserved fruits. I am not insensible that in the epidemic fevers, where the pulse is weak and soft, all evacuations are in general pernicious, and not afterwards to be remedied. I have likewise seen the fatal effects of profuse sweatings, as well as of hæmorrhages, diarrhœas, &c. in *Fevers*, the *Measles*, and *Small-Pox*. These debilitate and weaken the patient, by carrying off the more subtle fluids which should nourish and support him; and profuse sweats in particular, produce a languor, depression of spirits, and faint quick pulse, at the same time that they afford a temporary deceitful ease in respiration. But hitherto I have never once experienced the evil consequences of a mild and regular perspiration, where the *Vis Vitæ* is sustained, and the pulse kept up to the standard of health, or a little above it. Such were the effects of Mr. *Sexton's* powder in the many cases that have come under my cognizance, before and since his death. As to the causes of an operation so different from the effects of all the other *Diaphoretics*, that I must submit to more able judges. It is not my intention to write a volume, neither leisure nor ability will

permit it ; though, probably, some future occasion may induce me to throw out my farther sentiments upon this subject. At present, I must refer to the faculty, the only proper judges, the farther trials and reasonings upon a medicine, in my opinion, highly estimable, resolving, that its credit shall stand or fall by their award and decision. Private interest, shall never, with me, suppress the dictates of conscience ; nor shall any emolument, that could accrue to me from the reputation of the powder, ever induce me to attempt raising my fortune on the ruin of my fellow creatures. Let me, however, avoid egotism, which must always prove disgusting to a reader. As enlarging upon what is daily repeated by the most ignorant and abandoned quacks and empyrics, would serve only to swell the limits of a pamphlet, without augmenting the credit due to my professions. I shall proceed to relate a few out of the multiplicity of cases in which the powders have been found effectual. These are delivered in the words of Mr. *Sexton*, as extracted from his minutes, and confirmed to me by the patients ; or as they were written by them and transmitted to me, with a request they should be made public. Hence will appear the reason why the histories are drawn up with less minuteness, and regard to circumstance, than otherwise they might ; but adding, diminishing, or retouching, I imagined might weaken their authenticity.

C A S E I.

THE eldest daughter of Mr. *William Savage*, a gentleman of the king's chapel and almoner of *St. Paul's, &c.* was taken ill in *May*, 1758, with violent pains in the back and head. An apothecary of eminence was sent for, who from the symptoms apprehended the *Small-Pox*. Being informed, however, that the patient had been inoculated three years before, he concluded her disorder would prove an ardent fever, or at least the *Measles*. Four days elapsed before any eruption appeared, when it was believed to be the *Measles*; but the apothecary finding the progress not to correspond with that distemper, desired other advice might be called. Several gentlemen of the faculty saw the child, who all declared her distemper a regular *Small-Pox*, and it was accordingly so treated.

A second daughter five years old, caught the distemper about fourteen days after. She was seized with much the same symptoms and put under the care of the same apothecary. Three days after, a son, about sixteen months old, was taken with symptoms more violent. He was ordered to bed, the apothecary being satisfied that the distemper was the *Small-Pox*. About half an hour after the apothecary was gone the child appeared inwardly convulsed, and soon had two strong fits. Mrs. *Savage* immediately gave him the third part of a paper of Mr.

Sexton's powder, and repeated it every three hours. After the second dose, there were no farther signs of fits; the child fell asleep and began to perspire freely, but not copiously. When the apothecary came in the evening, there was an appearance of the eruption. Mrs. *Savage* continued the powders, unknown to the apothecary. Though this child was fuller than the other two, and the first symptoms portended a worse kind of *Small-Pox*; yet he appeared much easier, kept in a constant perspiration, the body lax and the appetite good, through the whole course of the disease. Soon after the turn, he got out of bed, very little impaired, either in strength or spirits. The apothecary saw him twice every day, and declared his astonishment at his passing through the distemper so much better than his sisters, and *escaping a secondary fever*. Notwithstanding the girls were treated by him, with all imaginable care, yet were they greatly reduced, troubled with a bad cough, and forced to have recourse to restoratives, for some weeks after they quitted their chamber. Mr. and Mrs. *Savage* are so well satisfied of the merits of Mr. *Sexton's* powder, that they thought it but justice to the proprietor to give him this notice of their success.

This Case was written by Mrs. *Savage*, and sent to me.

N. B. Mr. *Savage*, has likewise communicated to me an instance of the happy effects of this powder in a *febrile* case.

C A S E

C A S E II.

ON *July* the 5th, 1757, Mr. *Sexton* was sent for by Captain *Wilson*, in *Prescott-street*, *Goodman's-fields*; his son, about six years old, being seized with the *Small-Pox* of the malignant kind. He was attended by a physician of great eminence, and others of the faculty, who till this time gave hopes of his recovery. It was now the 14th or 15th day, when there appeared a total depression of the pock, a coldness of the extremities, great difficulty in respiration, and other dangerous symptoms, which portended death. Under these afflicting circumstances the parents applied to Mr. *Sexton*, who at first declined giving his medicine. He feared it was now too late to save the patient, and his want of success might probably be reported to his prejudice. Overcome, however, by the earnest intreaties of the parents, he ventured at last to try the effects of his powder, convinced that a happy issue in so critical a case would be the strongest argument of its virtue. The usual dose was administered, and directions left to repeat it every two hours. The first dose was attended with scarce any perceptible change in the patient, although a faint glow and warmth was discovered all over the body. The effects of the second dose were perfectly apparent, a general warmth ensuing, a dewy moisture on the skin being discernible, the pustules rising, a respiration rendered easie and free

free. Still the same regimen with diluting liquors was continued, by which in 7 or 8 days the patient was entirely recovered, no secondary fever appearing, since which time he has enjoyed a perfect state of health.

This case was communicated to me, by Mrs. *Wilson*, in *April*, 1759, after the death of Mr. *Sexton*. By her I am authorized to make it publick.

C A S E III.

A Maid-servant of Mr. *Berrow's*, *Broker*, in *Nicholas-lane*, *Lombard-street*, on the 3d of *June*, 1758, was seized with an acute fever, which soon appeared to be the *Small-Pox* of the malignant kind. Altho' the whole body was incrusted, yet there was hopes of recovery till about the crisis, when the pustules sunk, and acquired a dusky livid colour. Her *Catamenie* came on profusely, and sweats followed, with a general depression and lowness of spirits. A physician of character was sent for, who pronounced the case fatal, upon which Mr. *Sexton* was called, although he had little expectation of success, yet perceiving the patient was given up by the physician, he determined to try the effects of his medicine. A paper of the powder was administer'd every two hours, the patient at the same time diluting plentifully. After the repetition of a few doses, the pock began to rise, the *Menses* were reduced, the cold sweats disappeared, respiration

respiration became more free, and her spirits were greatly raised and exhilarated. She persisted in the use of this regimen, gradually diminishing the dose of the powder after the crisis, till a cure was happily effected, without a relapse of the fever.

This case was delivered to me by Mr. and Mrs. *Berrow*, with liberty to publish it.

C A S E IV.

THE 9th of *May*, 1758, Mr. *Willm. Rhodes*, apprentice to Mr. *Parks*, Upholsterer, in *Pater-noster Row*, was taken ill of an ardent, or inflammatory *Fever*, the supposed effects of a sudden cold after an over walk to *Epping-Forest*. He was immediately blooded, but that not affording the expected relief, Mr. *Sexton* was called. Finding the fever high, the pulse quick and strong, the tongue parched, the skin dry and tense, with a violent head ach and immoderate thirst; Mr. *Sexton* repeated the bleeding, giving immediately after, a paper of his powder, to be repeated at the end of four hours, in a draught of baum tea, or any diluting liquor. In a few hours a fine perspiration ensued, which was kept up by a repetition of the powder, and in three or four days the patient was perfectly recovered.

This case, which was given me by Mrs. and Miss *Parks*, is published with their consent.

C A S E V.

THE 25th of *December*, 1758, Mr. *Sexton* was called in the evening by Mr. *Hay*, secretary to admiral *Hawke*. His son, seven years of age, of a hectic, lax, and delicate habit, had been ill of the malignant *Small-Pox* for fourteen or fifteen days. The secondary fever ran high, the head and breast were full, the pustules small, depressed, and interspersed with livid spots, and other concomitant symptoms presaging death. Till now, he had been attended by two physicians of the first eminence, who unanimously declared the case fatal. In this unhappy situation the disconsolate parents were left, either to stand by the sentence already passed, or by breaking through the rules of fashion, to try the effects of an irregular practice. This last was determined upon, and Mr. *Sexton* sent for. When he arrived the patient was in extremities, and every hour expected to be his last. However, under all these discouraging circumstances, he determined upon an effort to save the young gentleman's life, by administering his powder. A whole paper in some diluting drink was ordered, with directions to repeat it at the expiration of four hours, and if circumstances required it, once every two hours. When Mr. *Sexton* visited him the following morning, he found he had lain quiet the greater part of the night; that he had some
short

short but refreshing sleeps; that a gentle perspiration was coming on, and his convulsions less frequent and strong. He now began to entertain hopes, which he communicated to the fond parents. The powder was continued in the manner first directed, and Mr. *Sexton* again visited him in the evening. The child was now greatly mended, the fever decreased, the livid spots disappearing, and every other symptom amazingly moderated, the spirits being raised and sustained from the time the medicine began to operate. Still the powder was continued, and the child, in nine days after they were first administered, rescued from the jaws of death, and restored to perfect health. For the four last days the powder was given but every six or eight hours.

This case is taken from Mr. *Sexton's* diary, and confirmed by Mrs. *Hay* in all its circumstances; except the *livid spots* which she does not recollect.

The following cases are taken from a pamphlet, published by Mr. *Sexton*. I have here republished them, as they have been confirmed to me by the patients, or their friends.

C A S E VI.

I Was applied to on *March* the 3^d, 1755, by the honourable *John Hamilton*, to accompany him to his country seat at *Bearbill*, in *Berkshire*, near *Henley upon Thames*. His daughter, a young lady about four years old, had been inoculated for the *Small-Pox*, and was dangerously ill, the pock very small, sunk away, and much discoloured; she was convuls'd, breath'd short, and delirious, and attended with hiccoughs, (symptoms presaging death;) she had been attended by a physician, who gave but little hopes of recovery. I immediately gave her half a paper of my powder, and continued them every four hours for the first night; in the morning following she appeared something better, and the convulsions were abated, her breath not so depressed: I continued the powder as before the succeeding twelve hours; after which time the alteration was so great, as to give the most chearful hopes of a happy event: the pock was now fully thrown out, the delirium and convulsions entirely gone off, and a few days perfected her

her recovery. She had no * secondary fever at all, nor was any other medicine used to assist besides my powder. The surprising success in this case was not greater than the joy it gave to the most fond parents, who had the happiness of seeing an only child restored, which before was feared to have been a lost one. The thorough conviction and satisfaction, both the physician and Mr. *Hamilton* had of the *specific* virtues of this medicine, induced the latter to purchase a large quantity of it (from his benevolent disposition) to give away to the poor, who should be likewise afflicted; and by his own inspection, without any other assistance, performed several cures, that he transmitted me an account of, and by his approbation I was permitted to relate this case.

C A S E VII.

ON *October* the 15th, 1756, I was desired to attend two young ladies, daughters of the Right Hon. Sir *John Steward*, Bart. one of five years old extremely ill of the *Small-Pox*, of the confluent or worst kind, labouring under the most dreadful symptoms attending this disease,

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and

* The secondary fever comes on when the pock is incrustated over the skin, by which means perspiration is for a time almost totally suppress'd; the want of which often occasions a return of the morbid matter into the blood, and thereby overpowers the *Vis Vita*, and brings on death.

and was given over for lost, the body appearing so very full and black, that 'twas suspected a mortification would ensue; the throat so choak'd, as scarce to admit any passage down; she made bloody urine, and was delirious; with the greatest difficulty she took half a paper of my powder, which I afterwards repeated every three hours, till the next morning, when I visited her, and found her pulse a little altered for the better. I continued the powder oftner than before, and that evening perceived the water not near so loaded with blood, nor was the purging so frequent, yet of an entire putrid fæces. The powder was continued in the same manner, and when I visited her the morning following, to my great pleasure found the urine very little discoloured, and the other symptoms amazingly gone off; no convulsions nor grinding of teeth remained. I administer'd still the powder as before, which alone, in five days, got the better of the disease, and by the providence of God she entirely recovered. The other young lady was but three years old, and was taken ill on the first day I visited her sister. On the appearance of the pock I gave my powder in small quantities, *viz.* one paper, divided into four equal parts, to be taken every three hours, which had so good an effect, as to prevent any ill symptoms disturbing her: she ran and played about the room at the time, nor was sensible of any pain or inquietude from the beginning to the end of the cure.

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The satisfaction Sir *John Steward* received in the above extraordinary and happy events, made him not only permit me, but desire (for the public good) the case might be published; and am honoured with his leave to refer any person to him for further satisfaction.

C A S E VIII.

MISS Anne Trufram, a lady of about twenty-eight years of age, of a sanguine constitution, came out of *Bedfordshire*, to visit a relation, Mr. *Carter*, an eminent Chinaman in *Bishopsgate-street*, opposite the *South-Sea* house: she was taken very ill of the *Small-Pox* at his house, I was sent to on their first apprehension of the disorder (and soon as could be wish'd;) I immediately gave her my powder in a plentiful manner; the pock came out freely; and although she had not the least in number, they were distinct, and she endured the whole course of the cure with the greatest ease; and was capable, if it had been proper, to have kept up the whole time. There was here likewise convincing proof in this case of the power the medicine had of destroying the poisonous matter, which, from the plethoric habit of body (natural to this lady) would most certainly have been productive of mischievous, if not fatal consequences.

C A S E IX.

The three following are Fevers.

ON *November* the 25th, 1756, a young fellow, who lives with Mr. *Jofias Farrer*, an eminent proctor in *Doctors-commons*, lay at his house extremely ill of a high fever, without any intermiffion. He had been in that ftate for some time, and was become very weak and emaciated; had been attended by a gentlemen of the faculty, and had taken what is ufually given in fuch cafes (unfuccesfully.) I instantly gave him one whole paper every four hours; after taking the fecond paper there was difcovered an alteration for the better, the water began to break, and by morning following it produced a crisis, and the fever went entirely off; which was hardly to be credited, even by the apothecary, who was an eye-witnefs to it: but it was fo, and the fever never returned. He continued the powders constantly for fome days afterwards, when Mr. *Farrer* fent him into the country, he recovered his ftrength very foon, and is now in good health.

C A S E

C A S E X.

MR. *Cox*, an eminent Timber-merchant in *Rotherhitb*, lingering with a continual flow fever, which affected his spirits greatly, and reduced his body to a very low and wasting condition; was continually disturbed by heat in the night, which prevented his rest; a consumption was expected: he had experienced the common methods of treatment, which would not afford him any relief, altho' from the prescriptions of several of the most eminent now in the practice of Physic (I dont mean to reflect.) He was recommended to try my powder, which he took every six hours; and before he had taken six papers he found relief; the fever left him; and by continuing them for a very little time he never had any return, but perfectly recovered, and now enjoys a better state of health than he hath known for a long time before. The good effects of the medicine on himself, encouraged him to prescribe it to others, and in particular to Mr. *Thomas Hall*, in *Widder-street*, *Rotherhitb*, who was delirious with a violent fever, had convulsions, and in extreme danger: he recovered by no other assistance than this powder. He desires to make known his case, for the benefit of the public.

C A S E

C A S E X I.

MR. *How*, Merchant, in *Haydon-yard*, *Minories*, on the 19th of *May* last, was taken very ill of a fever, which affected his head so feverishly as to make him delirious; he had pains all over him, and all the symptoms usual in acute fevers; being corpulent, and of a plethoric habit of body, his case was judged dangerous. I was desired to attend him, and administer my powder, which he took every three hours till the next morning, when I visited him again, and found him much cooler, his delirium gone off, he breath'd easier, and was apparently better; but in the evening he had some little wanderings returned. I directed my powder to be given as before; after which he rested well, perspired freely, and in the morning following his fever was entirely gone off. I continued the powder only every six hours, his urine was quite broke and digested, and all his complaints remov'd; but being too forward in going abroad, he caught fresh cold, which threw him ill again, with the return of the fever; but having recourse to the above remedy, was cured in twenty-four hours, and is now in perfect health.

From these cases, it plainly appears, how constant and uniform are the effects of *Sexton's* powder, and how consistent their operations with the theory we have slightly hinted. It would therefore be almost unnecessary to add, that they have been administered with success, in the *Measles*, slow *Fevers*, and inflammatory disorders, the consequences of an obstructed perspiration from sudden colds; the slightest attention to the preceding histories, will sufficiently point out their utility in these. To conclude, we have only to wish that the *Presidents* and *Governors* of the *Small-Pox* Hospital, may lay aside that prejudice, which is generally conceived against every innovation, and may so far confide in our candour, as to permit a few trials to be made, under the direction of the learned gentleman, intrusted with the care of the sick. We are ready to give all possible security of the safety of the medicine; and to rest its reputation upon the result of that gentleman's experiments, and the candid report he shall be pleased to make to the board. In a word, if the medicine has merit, let the publick enjoy the benefit; if it has none, justice and humanity require, that a fraud of the most fatal consequences to society, should be exposed and detected. As to the faculty, we shall only beg leave to remind them of that precept of the great father of physick, the divine *Hippocrates*,

Ne pigeat ex plebiis sciscitari, si quid ad curationem utile.

P. S. For the farther satisfaction of the publick, we have thought proper to insert some names of families, who have experienced the good effects of this powder both in the *Small-Pox* and *Fevers*.

Of the SMALL-POX.

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|---|--|
| Sir John Barington, Bart.
five children and servant.
at his country-seat. | Mr. Gretton, Engraver, in
Fenchurch-street, three
children. |
| Mr. Barington, Gent. of
Walham-abbey, three
children. | Mr. Grace, Wholesale Linen-
draper, Cornhill, four
children. |
| Captain Belford, Hermitage,
Wapping, two children, | Mr. Hale, Change-broker,
in Mark-lane, his daughter
and servant. |
| Mr. Barenger, Watch-maker,
Salisbury-court, Fleet-
street, one child. | Mr. Hughes, Haberdasher,
Minories, two children. |
| Mr. Brookes, Engraver, in
Fleet-street, two children. | Mr. Higden, Cutler, White-
chappel, one child. |
| Mr. Beller's, Popping's-court,
his niece. | Mr. Hickman, Holbourn-
hill, one child. |
| Mr. Best, Southwark, one
child. | Mr. Ibel, Mealman of Beach-
lane. |
| Lieutenant Chester, of Lord
Robert Manners's Regi-
ment, one child. | Mr. Jackson, Vinegar Merch.
Southwark, his niece. |
| Mr. Came, Shoemaker, in
Cheapside, near Bow-
church, two children. | Mr. Keen, Woolen-draper,
Minories, one child. |
| Mr. Clarke, Barnet, three
children. | Mr. Lambert, Gent. Hoxton-
square, four children. |
| Mr. Elliot, Newington-green
one child. | Mr. Roughton, Grocer, Red-
cross street, his nephew. |
| Mrs. Ellis, in Shepherd-
alley, Bow-lane, three
children. | Mr. Thornton, Grocer, ditto
one child. |
| Mr. Elline's, Toyman, Fleet-
street, his brother. | Mr. Whitesides, Attorney at
Law, in Sun-court, Corn-
hill, his daughter. |
| | Mr. Warcus, Bookseller, in
Fleet-street, one child. |

Of the FEVER.

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|---|---|
| Mr. Chaffont, White-chapel. | Mr. Maffin, Wholesale Linen- |
| Mr. Drury, Silver-smith,
Wood-street, himself. | draper, near St. Lawrence
Church, himself. |
| Mrs. Eafon, at Mr. Mony's,
in Mitre-court, Fleet-street,
herself. | Miles Nightingale, Sen. Esq;
of Love-lane, Wood-street,
his daughter and two ser-
vants. |
| Mr. Farmer, an eminent
Scarlet-dyer, Shoreditch,
himself, son, and two
servants. | Miles Nightingale, Jun. Esq;
Wood-street, himself and
servant. |
| Mr. Fuller, Proctor of Doctors
commons, his wife. | Miss Newman, of Hoxton. |
| Mr. Grace, Hackney, one
child. | Mr. Purser, Attorney at Law,
Johnson's-court, Fleet-
street, himself and chil-
dren. |
| Mr. George, Poulterer,
Leadenhall-market, one
child. | Mrs. Siddall, of the Poultry,
wife of Mr. Siddall, Wool-
len-draper. |
| Mr. Haw, Purser of a Man
of War, two children and
servant. | Mr. Squires, Upholder, at
the Paper warehouse in
the Poultry, himself and
son. |
| Mr. Loydd, Wine-merchant,
White-chappel, his wife. | Mrs. Varelst, Threadneedle-
street. |
| Mr. Mendes Newnes, Merch.
Austin-friars, his servant. | |

E R R A T A.

Page 4. l. 26. for *complications* r. *combinations*. P. 5. l. 12.
after *bed* r. *and*. P. 6. l. 5. after *patient* put a *full stop*; l.
21. after *bed* r. *and*. P. 10. l. 27. for *dioploresis* r. *diaplo-*
resis. P. 14. l. 6. for *ocular* r. *ocular*; l. 13. for *dictates*
r. *dictate*. P. 16. l. 27. for *in* r. *on*.

F I N I S.

