Morbus anglicanus sanatus, or, A remarkable cure of an inveterate scurvy ... / in a letter from a country clergyman to his son in London. Concluding with a contrivance or two, for saving the lives of those, who shall happen to be in the upper rooms of a house, when the lower are on fire.

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Wellcome Collection 183 Euston Road London NW1 2BE UK T +44 (0)20 7611 8722 E library@wellcomecollection.org https://wellcomecollection.org Morbus Anglicanus Janatus:

REMARKABLE CURE.

OR, A

OFAN

Inveterate Scurvy.

Made public for the BENEFIT of those who labour under the fame troublesome DISORDER.

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LETTER from a COUNTRY CLERGYMAN to his Son in London.

CONCLUDING

With a CONTRIVANCE or two, for faving the LIVES of those, who shall happen to be in the upper ROOMS of a House, when the lower are on FIRE.

Non domus & fundas, non æris acervus & auri, Ægroto domini deduxit corpore febres : Non animo curas. Valeat possessor oportet, Si comportatis rebus bene cogitat uti. —tua res agitur, paries cum proximus ardet. Ibid.

LONDON:

inted for JOHN and THOMAS CURTIS, at Shake. speare's Head, in Fleet-street.

M.DCC.LXVI.

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My Dear Son,

HOUGH your Conduct from your Infancy has, in every Refpect, been dutiful, and very agreeable to me; yet from no Inftance of your filial Regard, and Affection, have I received that folid Satisfaction, and Pleafure, as from the feveral Vifits, you have made a Point of paying me, fince you were engaged in the Mercantile Way of Bufinefs.

(3)

In our private Conversations, at fuch Times, I have the Comfort of observing, that the Expences of your Education have not been thrown away; nor the Advice, I have given you from Time to Time, given in vain: That the A 2 Hopes, Hopes, I all along conceived of you, in your growing Years, are fully anfwered, in your becoming, what I always wifhed, a ufeful Member of the Community; and that, to my extreme Joy, you are now the reputable Trader, the kind Relation, and, above all, the good Chriftian.

Befides thefe more important Parts of your Character, I am pleafed, when you are under my Roof, with your focial Sprightlinefs, and Vivacity: They help to foothe my Anxieties, and remove that Lownefs of Spirits, to which I have for many Years been fubject. Your Company, rendered ftill more agreeable, by Accounts of your diligent, and fuccefsful Application to your Bufinefs, chears and revives me for a Time; yet afterwards, I muft confefs, I retire with gloomy Thoughts to my own Chamber, a Prey to Spleen and Melancholy.

You are not ignorant, that this Difpofition in me, proceeds from a fcorbutic Habit of Body. This was fo inveterate and alarming, that after many unfuccefsful Attempts for a Cure, I began almost to defpair fpair of meeting with any thing, that would give me any Sort of Relief, in this dreadful Malady.—But, with a glad and thankful Heart, I think, I may now fay, with the enraptured * Philosopher, [#]upn%a. #

I have, I own accidentally, hit upon a Medicine, from which I have received fpeedy, and most amazing Advantages. This Information will, I am well affured, be a Kind of Feast to one of your affectionate, and benevolent Temper of Mind ; and the more fo, when you fee I publish it, for the Benefit of the Multitudes, who labour under the fame Complaint, and who by this Means will most probably find the fame Relief.

It is on all Hands acknowledged, that the Natives of this Ifland are fo extremely fubject to the Scurvy, that it is called the *Morbus Anglicanus*. It may likewife be as univerfally confeffed, that it makes its Appearance in various Shapes; and how the poor Patients are haraffed thereby, and through the Dejection of Mind it often

* Archimedes.

occasions,

occasions, how miserable their Lives are rendered, is a very melancholy Reflection.

To you, my dear young Man, should you ever be afflicted in the fame Manner as your Father, and to those of the Public, whom it may concern, I therefore recommend a fafe, cheap, and efficacious Medicine; to combat, and in many Cafes, I verily believe, to cure this epidemical, and generally, obstinate Diforder. As I write from Experience, I am little concerned what the Faculty, or Adepts in the physical Profession may fay in Derogation, or Ridicule, of this well-intended Publication; but shall freely state my Cafe, and discover, without Fee or Reward, but with the most benevolent Intention, the fimple, though effectual Cure, of a most inveterate Scurvy.

For near forty Years I have been a Sufferer from this Diftemper. Sometimes it made its Appearance in one Part, fometimes in another, of the animal Machine. In order to conquer, or at leaft keep under, this troublefome Adverfary, I dabbled in Sea-water, and Tar-water; of both of which which I have drank many Gallons. I took Ward's White Drops, and feveral pretended Antifcorbuticks; and made Ufe of other, as I thought, rational Means: But, alas! with little or no Succefs. At Intervals, I was afflicted with an extreme Depreffion of Spirits, of courfe was very unhappy; and the more fo, as I defpaired of ever getting the better of my Diforder. And Reafon enough I had to defpair, when at the Age of Fifty-fix, I perceived it grew worfe and worfe, and threatened to end in a confirmed Leprofy.

Under this Apprehension, it came into my Mind to try, what the two simple Drugs of Cream of Tartar and the common Flour of Brimstone would do for me; and having some by me, I weighed an equal Quantity of them, and made them into an Electuary with Treacle. Of this I took, three Times a Week, as much as a small Walnut, about an Hour before I arose in the Morning. In about three Weeks I found the most falutary Effects. The rank Eruptions I had, in fome Parts of my Body, difappeared; a Humour which greatly affected the Parts round my Eyes, and even threatened me with Blindnefs, abated; and in a Fortnight more was carried off entirely; and to my Comfort and Joy (to yours I am alfo affured) I was freed from that Lownefs of Spirits, and Dejection of Mind, of which I had, at Times, for many Years, been the unhappy Victim.

When I perceived these good Confequences arising from this Regimen, I took the Medicine lefs frequently; twice for fome Time, and afterwards only once a Week, or as I found Occafion. Though this was my Method, let it be obferved, that I would not confine every Perfon to the fame; but would leave that to their own Difcretion, and let that, and their own Constitutions, be their Directors. In taking fo harmless, and fafe a Prescription, there is no Neceffity of being very precife ;' and where that is apparently the Cafe, it will not be difficult to adjust the Times of applying it, and the Quantity. It may be unneceffary 4

unnecessary to hint, that it may be taken with Safety in all Seafons, and requires no Confinement.

I am aware, that a Remedy of fo fimple a Construction, and destitute of the Sanction of the medical Gentlemen, is fure to be laughed at by one, ridiculed by a fecond, and despised by a third; but let it not be cither laughed at, ridiculed, or defpifed, till its Power and Effects are known, and experienced. Let those particularly, whose scorbutic Habit discovers itself in outward Eruptions, make the Trial; and in this Cafe, fimilar to my own, fimilar Effects may reasonably be imagined to ensue. The Medicine must be acknowledged to be innocent, cheap, and eafy to be taken; ftrong Arguments in its Favour. And as a further Encouragement to the Numbers, who stand in Need this Way, it is not puffed off, in Hopes of Emolument; the fole Motive and End of making it public, being that of doing good.

I claim not the Merit of inventing this Prefcription; it was advifed by a late eminent Phyfician of London, for keeping the B Body

Body of one of his Patients in a due Temperature : And also recommended by a Phyfician in the Country, as a good Preparative for Inoculation. But should the World be apprized, by my Means, of its being also a most powerful Antiscorbutic Medicine; and if it should prove to do more good, than any other fashionable Specific, or a tedious, expensive, and difagreeable Course of medical Discipline; I suppose, I should not be refused, were I known. the Gratitude and Thanks of those, who should be benefited by it: And I doubt not, from the aftonishing Effects it had upon me, but Thousands would find Relief from it, would they but give it a fair Trial.

Unfkilled as I am in the Profession of Physic, I pretend not to analyze the Ingredients of which this Medicine is composed, or point out the particular Manner, in which it operates upon the human Body; but my Reason suggests to me, that the Scurvy, as well as many other Complaints, is occasioned by unequal Secretions, and that this Medicament, simple as it is, is a great Assistant to Nature in this Operation. I also I also apprehend, that it lends its friendly Aid, in attenuating the viscous Humours, accelerating their Motion, and confequently removing Obstructions, when that is too languid. This is my Notion of the Matter: But if I am unable to deferibe the precife Manner, in which this Medicine produces its falutary Effects, the Defect is amply supplied by Fact; and Experience will by you, and every fensible Perfon, be acknowledged in this, and all Cafes whatsoever, the best Mistress, and the most faithful and intelligent Inftructor.

I forgot to acquaint you, that befides the good Effects mentioned before, I experienced another, which I fhould by no Means pafs over unnoticed. You may remember, that I have had feveral Attacks of a moft dangerous Eryfipelas in my Head, and which I had Reafon to fear, would at laft prove fatal. When that Complaint was not upon me, I may truly fay, I was feldom free from the Symptoms of it. But fince my taking this Medicine, I have the Satisfaction and Pleafure of informing you, that eve-

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(12)

ry Symptom of that Diftemper is totally removed.

It has also been helpful to me in another Complaint, to which I have been subject almost from my Infancy; and that is, that painful and tormenting one, the Gravel. To Persons addicted to this Malady, no one can scarcely be ignorant, that Costiveness is a great Enemy. From this gently-opening Medicine, they must, therefore, of Course, find Relief; and this, I can affure you, has very fensibly been the Case with me. I have now less Occasion to make Use of my Horse, which, in that particular, I always found to be my best Doctor.

Thus you fee, my dear Son, that by the Ufe of this plain, but most valuable Medicine, I am at once happily freed from a Complication of Diforders; but I cannot express fufficiently my Gratitude and Thankfulness to a good Providence, for its extraordinary Success, fuch as vaftly exceeded my Expectations, and my Hopes, and which I efteem one of the greatest of my temporal Bleffings. In the Decline of Life, to have Infirmities conquered, and removed, which might be thought unconquerable and immoveable; to have the Health and Chearfulness of Twenty-five return in the fiftyfeventh Year; and to have the Prospect of a tolerably comfortable, instead of a miserable, Old Age, are fuch favourable Events, as constrain me, invita Minerva, to commence Author: Not for the Sake of being in the lowest Class of public Scriblers; not with a View of transmitting my Name to Posterity; not in Hopes of picking People's Pockets, to fill my own; not to ram down the Throats of my Fellow-Creatures a Tincture of one Vegetable, or the Effence of another, uncertain and regardlefs whether they kill or cure, if I am but a Gainer: But with the fole Intention of contributing to the Relief of a numerous Race of Mortals, my fcorbutic Brethren.

I wifh, most earnestly wish, for the ingenious Pen of a *Berkeley* to explain the Nature, and describe the Virtues of this Medicine; and thus to allure the Numbers to taste and try it, as he did his Tar-Water. Many more good Consequences, I am

(14)

I am firmly perfuaded, would enfue therefrom, than from the Use of his ungrateful Beverage.

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The Affurance of an H--- might not be unferviceable to me; as by eternally advertifeing, People would perhaps be teized into an Attention to a Matter, in which their own Advantage is fo nearly concerned. Either Ingenuity or Effrontery would stand me in Stead, to make my Case of public Benefit.

Packets, to fill my own; not to ram down

But I must be contented with a plain and dry Narrative of a Matter of Fact, as it happened to myfelf; and with drawing a natural Conclusion from it. I do avow, in the most faithful and folemn Manner, the good Effects before mentioned, from this innocent and palatable Recipe. It was fo efficacious in answering the End required, and fo speedy, as indeed aftonished me. And if I was fo much, and fo quickly benefited by it, why fhould not others in the like Circumstances? If one, why not two? If two, why not ten? If ten, why not a Hundred? If a Hundred, why not Thoufands? Let no one therefore be fo infatua-1 2013 ted.

ted, as to liften to the puffing Advertifements of Quacks, for a Cure of a fcorbutic Habit of Body; nor be too fond of applying to the regular Phyfician, when he may, at the fmall Price of Six-pence, be cured from the next Druggift's and Grocer's Shop.

told him, it was a very

Your frequent Dealings with my old Friend Mr. Invoice the Merchant, have brought you into an Acquaintance with him; but you may perhaps be unacquainted with fome Anecdotes of his Life, which may, not improperly, be inferted in this Place. When I lived in London, he and I, having much the fame Conftitutions, used often, in our Conversations together, to compare Notes, and lament, that we could find no Remedy for our Complaints, which were mostly fimilar. I remember, with what fanguine Hopes (though contrary to my most urgent Remonstrances) he would fometimes purchase the infallible Quackeries, puffed off in the Daily Papers: And though trying many, receiving not one Dram of Relief. After his Difappointments in this Way, he was as unfuccefsful in confulting the practifing Phylicians, though

(16)

though he confulted those of the greatest Name and Reputation.

The first he made Application to was Doctor Cris; who, when he had heard his Cafe fully defcribed, shook his Head, and, giving one of his most fapient Looks, told him, it was a very bad one : But added, he would do all in his Power for him. Accordingly he takes his Pen, and writes a Prescription half as long as his Arm. This, fays he, with Mr. Bolus the Apothecary's Care and Attendance, will, I hope, restore you. Mr. Bolus was not at all negligent on his Part, but supplied him daily, and almost hourly, with gilded Pills, and Phials of various fizes, containing the choiceft Liquids; and made Use fo freely of Bleeding, Cupping, and Bliftering, that the poor Man was, in the Course of a few Weeks, almost brought to Death's Door.

When honeft Nature had, in fome Meafure, reftored my Friend Invoice, from the Weaknefs, to which this fevere Courfe of Discipline had reduced him; an Acquaintance of his recommended Doctor Hectic,

as the most excellent Man, for Complaints of the scorbutic Kind. Away hies the credulous Man to the House of this able Phyfician; who, having heard and ruminated a little upon the Matter, fays; Sir, it is perhaps in my Power, to pick your Pocket of many Fees, in combating this inveterate Distemper of your's : But I fcorn fo mercenary a Procedure. Take your Horfe, let me advise you, and haften to Scarborough, Harrowgate, or Cheltenham; it is my Opinion, any of those Waters will recover you. With much Fatigue he trots down to the first of these Places; with great Expence he abides there the ufual Time. From the Use of the Waters, the Humours he complained of were in some Measure checked; the Delights of the Place, and Amusements of the Company, gave him a Flow of Spirits; and he returns to Town, full of Satisfaction, and Hopes of a perfect Cure. But he had not rolled on a Month, in the old Channel of Life, before his Complaint returned with its full Force, together with all its melancholy Attendants. What shall he now do? What other Twig is there to be catched at? What other Professor in the medical

medical Art remains, from whom he can hope for better Success?

None fo likely to anfwer his Purpofe, he now thinks, as Doctor Nervous. To him therefore, as his laft Refource, he makes his Application; to him he tells his long Tale; recounts the Medicaments he had, without Effect, fubmitted to; and the whole Gantlope he had run, to no manner of Purpofe.

The Doctor heard him with great Patience, and his ufual Candour, and, without much Confideration, replied; You have been treated wrong, I assure you, my dear Friend. Drains, Sir, are the only Things, that can totally carry off your Diforder. The Method is concife, natural, and eafy. It is only Mr. Bandage the Surgeon's making you a Seton in the Nape of your Neck, and cutting you two or three Iffues befides; which he will quickly do, after giving him this Note, and my Compliments. In less than an Hour, by the Dexterity of Mr. Bandage, my poor Friend ----- was made a voluntary Cripple; and, in Confequence,

sequence, some Time after, an Object, offenfive to himfelf, and all about him.

(19)

And thus did the unfortunate Man find, in a Course of two or three Years, without reaping the Advantage he expected from this fevere Treatment, the Remedy even worfe than the Difeafe.

I fay not this to depreciate the Body of the Practitioners in Physic. They are a Set of Gentlemen, for whom I have a profound Veneration and Respect; whose Worth and Merits I greatly value; and fome of their Affiftance I should be defirous of, if attacked by an acute and dangerous Distemper. I gave this Instance of my Friend's Cafe only to shew, how obstinate a Complaint the Scurvy is; how frequently it baffles the Skill of the most skilful, and the various Efforts of the ingenious Sons of Galen. Be pleased, when you see him, to put this Letter into his Hand; if he despairs not absolutely of Relief, I hope, and am perfuaded, he will find more by the flight, and feemingly trifling Medicine recommended in it, if he gives it but a fair Tryal, than he has yet done; and that fome Time hence.

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hence, I shall have the Pleasure of congratulating him upon a perfect Recovery.

With a View of contributing to the Welfare and Happiness of many of our distreffed Fellow-creatures, labouring under a troublesome and tormenting Complaint, I have thus freely and ingenuoufly expressed my mind. To many of them, I make no Doubt at all, of the Remedy's proving highly beneficial; and should it become as much the Fashion, to take this agreeable Electuary, as it has been to fwallow down Tar, or Sea-water, or Ward's Drops, the good Effects, I doubt not also, would be much more general. And what Joy this would give you and me, and indeed every humane Person, I need not tell.

After delivering my Sentiments upon a Subject, interesting to vast Numbers in the Island of *Great-Britain* (more than the Armies of *Xerxes* or *Alexander* confisted of) you will readily excuse my concluding this Epistle with another, which has much employed my Thoughts, at Intervals, ever 2 fince fince the dreadful Catastrophe of the late Lady *Molefworth*, and her Family. The Transition may not appear so unnatural, when it is confidered, that the first Part of the Letter is calculated to preferve the Health of many; the latter the Lives of some Persons, in the most distressful of all Situations; who shall be in the upper Rooms of a House, when the lower are in Flames.

Upon sudden Fires happening in London, it is often extremely shocking to read Accounts of Persons, leaping out of high Windows; and, to avoid Death in one Shape, almost furely meeting it in another, perhaps more lingering and terrible. Is it not furprifing, that amongst the many ingenious of both Sexes, in this and other Nations, nothing effectual has been invented to fave the Lives of their Fellow-creatures, in a Circumstance fo wretched and deplorable? Rope-Ladders, and Wooden ones, have indeed been thought of, and propofed; and to the Active and Courageous, they may be ferviceable. But what must Children, and timorous Females, do in a Cafe of this Nature? To fuch they can be

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of no Ufe. I cannot help thinking, that a long Bag made of Fustian, or any other light Stuff, might answer the Purpose, by faving the Lives of many, in the terrible Dilemma, of being burnt, or instantly losing their Lives, or breaking their Bones,

by leaping into the Street.

I would have this called a Fire-Bag; and every Houfe-keeper provided with one, in a Clofet next the Street, in the fecond or third Floor, as shall be thought best. Let this Bag be made as wide as a common Shirt, and long enough to reach the Middle of Cheapside from the Window, and quite to the opposite Side of narrower Streets and Lanes. Let one End be open, and the other fewed up. One Side of the open End, which should be rather wider than the reft of the Bag, should be nailed fast to the Bottom of the Infide of the Window-Frame; that Side of the Bag, I mean, which, when it lies folded under the Clofet-window, is the upper, when, thrown out, will be the under Part.

When any Perfon wants to escape out of a Burning-house, let the Bag be thrown out,

out, and the End caught hold of by two strong Men, who should hold it stretched out, as far from the House, as the Length of the Bag will permit : By this Means, I apprehend, any one, even a Child, might eafily flide down the Bag, with a moderate Degree of Velocity, and without receiving any Hurt. To make the Entrance into the Bag eafy, an Iron Ring might be fewed on each Side of the upper Part of the Bag's Mouth; which, when used, should be hung upon two Hooks, driven into each Side of the Window-Frame, at proper Diftances: And thus the Mouth of the Bag would refemble a Funnel, for the eafy and more expeditious Reception of those, who are to defcend; and who should defcend with the Feet downward. A Slit should likewife be made towards that End of the Bag, held by the Men in the Street, large enough to take out those that come down; and if Eyelet-Holes were made all the Way down the upper Side of the Bag, as it hangs in the Street, large enough to admit four Fingers, they would ferve to catch hold of, and render the Motion lefs precipițate; they would also admit the Light

(24)

Light and Air, and of Course make the Descent less disagreeable.

To a Perfon of Fortune, or the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, &c. the Expence of making a Trial of this Expedient would be but trifling; and this might be done, by tying the Feet of a large Maftiff-Dog, previoufly muzzled, and toffing him down the Fire-Bag. If this Project, thus reprefented, or with any Improvements from others, fhould prove inftrumental in faving the Lives of any, threatened with the Fury of a devouring and mercilefs Element; imagine if you can, for defcribe I cannot, the Pleafure it would give me.

I am aware, that feveral Objections may be made to this Contrivance. It will be faid, perhaps, to be unfeafible, if not quite impracticable; but this I can by no Means allow. Little or no Danger can, I think, be apprehended, if the Men at the Bottom act but their Part well; and that they will, may be eafily taken for granted, either from the Motive of common Humanity, or the Hopes of a Reward. For my own Part. Part, were I to be in the miferable Situation, for which this is intended to be a Help, I should not foruple in the least to make use of it, when all Things were properly prepared, and well adjusted; and should think myself very happy in such an Expedient.

The Expensiveness of so long a Bag, will be objected to by many; and a material Objection it is, no Doubt, to those who cannot afford conveniently to make such a Purchase.

In narrow Lanes and Alleys, it may likewife be faid, that the Bag will be ufelefs. That it cannot be fo conveniently ufed in fuch Places, is readily acknowledged; but ftill it might be ferviceable to those whose Habitations are fituated in broad Streets, Squares, and Courts.

Should it be faid, in Opposition to this Scheme, that the Thoughts of passing down, in the Manner described before, are terrible; much more furely are those of the dreadful Dilemma, of being dashed to Pieces by a Leap into the Street, or D reduced reduced to Ashes with the burning House.

Admitting thefe feveral Objections their full Force, and that they are fuch, as may deter fome Perfons from putting this Project in Execution; I will offer another to you, and the Public, which may probably meet with a more general Approbation.

Let a Piece of Iron, strong enough to bear the Weight of the luftieft Man, be well fastened to the Outside of the Top of a Window-Frame in an upper Story. The Shape of it should refemble a Swan's Neck inverted, and reach down as low, as where the upper and lower Sashes meet. The lower End of the Iron, being crooked, should project from the Window about eighteen, or twenty Inches, and have an Eye, or Hole near the End, that will just receive the Hook of a Pulley. If this Iron is always kept well painted, it will take no Damage from Ruft, and not be unfightly. In a Closet, near this Window, should always hang a Pulley, with a small Rope of sufficient Length run through it; at one End of which I would have a square Basket constantly

constantly fastened; that, in Case of an Accident, there would be nothing to do, but to hang the Hook of the Pulley in the Hole of the projecting Iron. When this is done, the End of the Rope should be thrown down into the Street, but the Bafket retained, till fome Perfon catches hold of the Rope; who may, with great Eafe, and in a quick Succeffion, let down those that want to quit the burning House. The Basket should be deep enough, that the Sides, when a Man stands in it, may come up to his Arm-pits; for Fear any, in their Fright, should fall out of it. The Top of the Basket may, and should be so contrived, as to hang close to, and even with the Bottom of the Window; in this Polition, Children may eafily be put, or grown Perfons get into it, without Difficulty.

The Exceptions against the Fire-Bag cannot, I apprehend, be taken to this Expedient. It may be put into Execution in the narrowest Lanes, and the most obfcure Alleys, as well as in the most open and situations.---The Expence is trifling; the whole Apparatus being, I suppose, to be obtained, for the small Sum of D 2 twenty twenty Shillings, or thereabouts. The only Objections which, I think, can be made to this Contrivance, are two. The Persons, descending in the Basket, it may be faid, will be exposed to the Flames iffuing out of the lower Windows. But the Motion will be fo quick, that if they take the Precaution of muffling themfelves, in the leaft, with any Cloth, or Garment, they can receive little, or no Injury .---Where there are large Areas before the House, it may be objected, that the Basket will naturally fink into them. To prevent this, it is neceffary to be provided with a long Pole, with a Hook at the End of it, with which the Basket may, with great Ease, be directed over the Pallisades.

The frequent Fires which happen in London, and the many Lives loft thereby, are terrifying, not to the Inhabitants of the Metropolis only, but to all Perfons of humane and fenfible Difpofitions, at what Diftance foever they live from it: And particularly to those who have Friends in Town, daily liable to fo dreadful a Calamity. As your House, my dear young Man, is situated in one of the busiest Parts of the City, 2 I am almost afraid to take up a News-Paper, left I should be shocked with an Account of its being reduced to Ashes; and you, and your Family, either involved in the Conflagation, or with Maims and Bruises, narrowly escaping with your Lives. Let me therefore befeech you, as you regard my Quiet, and your own Safety, to provide yourfelf with one of the Expedients recommended above, and this without loss of Time. But though I earnessly advise you, to use this Precaution, my Wishes and Prayers are not wanting, that you may neyer have Occasion for it.

The next Letter you fend me, I expect will express your Aftonishment at the Temerity of your Father, in subjecting any Production of his Pen to the Criticism, perhaps the Censures, of the Public. The Respect and Deference you always religiously pay me, will not, I am well affured, suffer you to blame me; yet it is natural to think you will be surprised, particularly at my giving the least Hint derogatory to one of the learned Professions. I foretel your faying; Are you not afraid of offending a numerous, and very respectable Body of the the Community?—Or if the Faculty are not Objects of your Fear; do you not dread the Lashes of the Reviewers, which are often severe and very heavy, especially upon the poor Rogues, they squeeze into their monthly Catalogue?—Or are you not astraid of the Contempt and Reproaches of the many who are disposed to find fault, without confidering the Views of the Writer, or their own Incapacity for judging?

With refpect to the first Set of Gentlemen, I will suppose they have so much Honour, Difinterestedness, and Tenderness for their Patients, as to be pleased with their Recovery, from whatever Hand it shall be pointed out.——The Members of the fecond Society, though sometimes severe in their Reprehensions, yet these, I observe, are generally candid, where the Design is in any Degree laudable, tending to the public Good, or the Benefit of Individuals. ——The Rest of the World (regardless of their Opinion, or Censures) I address, and take my Leave of, in the charming Words of the French Poet ; Je crains Dieu—et n'as point d'autre Crainte.

(31)

With the heartiest Prayers for your Safety, Health, and every other Bleffing, I am,

My dear young MAN,

Your very affectionate,

and tender FATHER.

April 22, 1766.

