

An account of the putrid sore throat / [John Fothergill].

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P A R T I.

Of the SORE THROAT attended with
ULCERS ;

As it appeared in *Spain, Italy, Sicily, &c.*

THE Disease which is called by the
Spaniards Garrotillo (a), by the *Ita-*
lians, and other nations, *Morbis*
strangulatorius, Pestilens Faucium Affectus,
Epidemica Gutturis Lues, and by divers other
Appellations (*b*) ; is said to have appeared
first

(a) Ab Hispanis *Garrotillo* appellatur, ut eadem pa-
tiantur Angina laborantes, quæ facinorosi homines, cum
injecto circa collum fune strangulantur. Epist. R. *Mo-*
reau ad Th. Barth. Epist. Med. Cent. i. p. 336.

(b) Affectus suffocatorius, Carbunculus anginosus,
Phlegmone anginosa, Angina pestilentialis, Morbus
Gulæ, Morbus Puerorum, Pestilens ac præfocans pueros
abscessus, Tonsillæ pestilentes, *Αυχόνη λοιμώδης*, Aphæ-
nalignæ. Passio anginosa, Laqueus Gutturis, &c. Vide
Portes. Miscel. Med. p. 666. *Severin. & Epist. Ren.*
Moreau ad Th. Barthol. de Laryngotomia.

first in *Spain* about the Year 1610, to have spread from thence to *Malta*, *Sicily*, *Utranto*, *Apulia*, *Calabria*, and the *Campagna*, in the Space of a few Years; and to have broke out at *Naples* in 1618, where it continued upwards of 20 Years ravaging the different Parts of that Kingdom (c.)

It is not certainly known how much longer it remained in these Countries, or to what others it was communicated at that Time, its Declension being as obscure as the Causes it sprung from. That it wholly disappeared in these Parts, soon after the Time above-mentioned, seems probable, from the Silence of those Physicians, who have published their Observations made in the Places, which had so severely felt the Effects of this Distemper.

Several Writers, as *Wierus* (d), *Forrestus* (e), *Ramazzini* (f), and others, take notice of epidemic Affections of the Throat, in some Respects resembling the Disease here described; but a little Attention to the Symptoms of each, will,

(c) *Severin*. de recondita Abscessuum natur. p. 446.

(d) *Joh. Wieri* Observat. lib. vi. de Angina pestilenti Epidemica, Oper. p. 910.

(e) *Pet. Forrest*. Observat. lib. vi. de Febris publice grassantibus, p. m. 150.

(f) *Bern. Ramazzini* Constitutiones Epidem. Oper. p. 195, & seq.

will, I think, discover an essential Difference between them. The same I think may be said of the Sore Throat and Scarlet Fever, which shewed itself at *Edinburgh* in 1733 (g).

Tournefort, in his Voyage to the *Levant* (h), seems to have met with this Disease in the Islands of the *Archipelago*; at least so far as one can judge from the imperfect Description we have of it. His Account is as follows.

“ When we were in this Island (*Milo*)
 “ there raged a terrible Distemper, not un-
 “ common in the *Levant*: It carries off Chil-
 “ dren in twice 24 Hours: It is a Carbuncle
 “ or Plague-sore in the Bottom of the Throat,
 “ attended with a violent Fever. This Ma-
 “ lady, which may be called the Child’s
 “ Plague, is epidemical, tho’ it spares adult
 “ People. The best way to check the Pro-
 “ gress of it, is to vomit the Child the Mo-
 “ ment he is perceived to grow heavy-headed.
 “ This Remedy must be repeated, according
 “ as there is Occasion, in order to evacuate
 “ a Sort of *Aqua fortis*, that discharges itself
 “ on the Throat. It is necessary to support
 “ the Circulation of the Juices, and the
 A 2 “ Strength

(g) Medical Essays, vol. 1. p. 133.

(h) *Tournefort’s Voyage to the Levant*, vol. 1. p. 133.

“ Strength of the Patient, with spirituous
 “ Things ; such as the *Theriaca, Spir. vol.*
 “ *oleos. aromat.* and the like. The Solution
 “ of *Liquid Styrax* in Brandy is an excellent
 “ Gargarism upon this Occasion. Tho’ it is
 “ a Case that requires the greatest Dispatch,
 “ the *Levantine*s are seldom much in Haste
 “ in the Cure of any Disease.”

This Account does not disagree in general
 with that which has been left us of the *Mor-*
bus strangulatorius ; only he is singular in as-
 serting it to arise from a Kind of *Aqua fortis*
 discharged upon the Parts : But his favourite
 Study had ingrossed his Attention, and to this
 we must impute both the present Mistake,
 and his Want of Accuracy and Precision too
 frequently, when he treats upon medical
 Subjects.

When it first broke out in the Countries
 above-mentioned, it soon engaged the Phy-
 sicians of those Times, as well to observe
 its Nature, Effects, and whatever might
 contribute to its Cure, as to vindicate their re-
 spective Systems and Opinions ; and out of
 such of the Tracts then published as I have
 had an Opportunity of perusing, the follow-
 ing Account of it, as it appeared at that
 Time, has been collected.

Ludovicus

Ludovicus Mercatus, Physician to *Philip* (II. and III. Kings of *Spain*, among his Consultations, published in *Tome V.* of his Works, (a), has one upon this Disease (b) : He mentions it as a Calamity which had but newly appeared, and at that Time affected several Provinces and Cities of that Kingdom : He has related only one Case ; but, in commenting upon it, according to the Method of writing on Diseases then in Use, he takes Notice of several Circumstances relative to it, and makes some Observations respecting the Cure, which, tho' they seem to have been neglected by many who succeeded him, Experience hath since shewn to be just ; some of these will be pointed out in their proper Places : And, considering that he wrote very soon after the Distemper broke out, the Approbation prefixed to this Part of his Work being dated in 1612, they are a Proof of his Attention and Sagacity.

Johannes Andreas Sgambatus, a Physician of *Naples*, published a Treatise upon this Subject

(a) *D. Ludovici Mercati, Medici a cubiculo Philippi III. Hispaniarum—Regis, &c. Oper. Tom. 5. Francof. 1614.*

(b) *De Faucium et Gutturis anginosis et lethalibus Ulceribus. Consultatio xxiv. p. 137.*

Subject in 1620 (i). He gives us a methodical and pretty exact History of the Symptoms, and Method of Cure both general and topical, together with a summary View of the Disputes, which at that Time were managed with sufficient Heat and Acrimony, in relation to its Name, Cause, and Nature; about which they were as much divided as they were about the Method of Cure; each Party appealing to *Hippocrates*, *Galen*, *Avicenna*, &c. for the Support of their Opinions concerning a Disease, which it is not certain that those whom they appeal to ever saw.

Johannes Baptista Cortesius, in his *Miscellanea Medica* (k), takes Notice of this Disease, and describes its principal Symptoms, in a Letter to *Jo. Anton. Anguilloni*, Physician in chief to the *Maltese Gallies*. He considers it indeed as a different Distemper from that which infested *Naples*, and other Parts of *Italy*; tho', from his own Account of it, there appears little Reason

(i) *De pestilente faucium affectu Neapoli sæviente, opusculum, auctore Jo. Andrea Sgambato, philosopho ac medico Neapolitano, et academico otioso. Neapoli excudebat Tarquinius Longus, 1620, in 4to.*

(k) *Joannis Baptistæ Cortesii, medici ac philosophi, in Messanenfi academia praxim ordinariam e prima sede interpretantis, Miscellaneorum Medicinalium Decades Decem. Messanæ 1625, in fol.*

Reason to question its being the same. He seems to have been led into this Mistake, by considering the Disease he treats of, as contagious only in a certain limited Sense, whilst the *Italians*, as some of the *Spaniards* had also done, declared theirs to be pestilential and contagious without Restriction. He allows, that the Breath of a Person affected might convey the contagious *Effluvia* to another near at hand; and gives an Instance of one who got the Disease, and died of it, by trying, at his Friend's Request, who then laboured under this Disease, if his Breath was affected (1); for from this Circumstance they guessed at the Degree of Danger attending the Sick.

In

(1) Divi Francisci Custos, vir doctrina et moribus insignis, hac lue obsessus, tonsillas solummodo et gargareonem inflammatione læsa habebat, et continuo querebatur se percipere in ore fætorem quendam; et ut hac de re certior redderetur, ad se vocavit baccalaureum quendam sibi amicissimum, qui maximo affectu assistebat, rogavitque ut vellet olfacere, percipereque naribus, an verum esset talem fætorem emittere, an ab ejus imaginatione prodiret: olfecit baccalaureus, me (scil. *Cortefio*) præsentem, et multis aliis: at statim non multis elapsis horis decubuit sola faucium et glandularum inflammatione vexatus, absque aliqua manifesta corruptione partium, omnibusque præfidiis ex arte factis, quarto die suffocatus periit; et tamen Custodem non tetigerat, sed solo olfactu aerem ab ore prodeuntem naribus traxerat: quare ab hujusmodi exemplo veni in sententiam hunc morbum non esse absque aliqua contagione. *Cort. Miscel.* p. 698.

In 1636, *Ætius Cletus*, of *Signia* in *Italy*, published his Treatise *De Morbo strangulatorio* (m). He mentions some Facts relating to it, that had escaped *Sgambatus* and *Cortefius*, which will be taken Notice of hereafter.

Marcus Aurelius Severinus, Professor of Anatomy and Surgery, and Physician to the Hospital of Incurables at *Naples*, wrote a Dissertation upon this Disease, under the Title of *Pædanbone Loimodes, seu de pestilente ac præfocante Pueros Abscessu*; and annexed it to the second Edition of his Book *De recondita Abscessuum Natura*, which was printed in 1643 (r). From a Person of his Capacity, and furnished with the best Opportunities of seeing the Disease in every Stage and Condition, we might reasonably have expected such Observations as would enable one to form a just Idea of this Distemper; but we meet with little of this Kind in his Performance. He has indeed mentioned some Circumstances relating

(m) De morbo strangulatorio, opus *Ætii Cleti Signini*, doctoris medici et philosophi. Romæ 1636, 8vo.

(r) De recondita abscessuum natura, libri 8. *Marci Aurelii Severini Tharsiensis*, philosophi et medici, regio in gymnasio Neapolitano anatomes et chirurgiæ professoris. Editio secunda, *Francofurti ad Mœnam* 1643. And again printed with *Bartholine's Exercitationes*, as a Commentary upon it, and *Villani's Therapeuta Neapolitanus, seu Venimicum Consultor*. Neapoli 1653.

relating to its History, not taken notice of by the other Writers I have seen, and his Method of Cure is different from the rest; but he refers us to others for an Account of the Symptoms, and contents himself with reciting and commenting upon *Aretæus's* Description of the *Ulcer Syriaca*, which he takes for granted to have been the same with the Disease at that Time infesting *Naples*; tho' very probably without sufficient Reason.

Petrus Michael de Heredia, Physician to *Philip IV.* King of *Spain*, in his *Disputationes de Morbis acutis*, treats of this Disease expressly in several Chapters under the Title of *Angina Maligna*. His History of the Symptoms contains several Circumstances which were not taken notice of by any other Writer I have seen; so that though he was probably among the last of the *Spanish* Physicians, who wrote upon this Subject, yet the Diligence of his Predecessors had not wholly exhausted it. In the second Edition of *Heredia's* Works, which was that I made Use of (o), nothing appears whereby to ascertain the Time exactly when he wrote his Account; but as he mentions the *Polyanthea* of *De la Parra*, which, ac-

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cording

(o) *Petri Michaelis de Heredia complutensis—Philippi IV. Hispaniarum regis Archiatri—Opera medicinalia Lugduni 1673. fol.*

according to *Ren. Morcau* in *Bartholine's* Epistles, was printed at *Madrid* in 1625, it is plain that he must have written after this Time.

One might justly expect some curious Observations upon this Disease, from a Person so well qualified for it as *Thomas Bartholine*: He was in *Italy* whilst it raged there, and, it might be supposed, would be attentive to the minutest Circumstance relating to it, and be inquisitive enough to know what Men of Character had said upon it. But the Treatise which he wrote upon this Disease, and published in 1646 (a), contains so little to the Purpose, that it is difficult to conceive for what End it was written, unless to compliment his Master *Severinus*, which he does very liberally (b).

According

(a) *Thomæ Bartholini de Angina Puerorum Campaniæ Siciliaeque epidemica exercitationes, Lut. Parisior. 1646.*

(b) *Zacutus Lusitanus* also mentions this Disease, and relates an unhappy Instance of its Effects in the following Terms:

In his partibus (scil. faucibus) ex humoris virulenti affluxu gignuntur carbunculosæ inflammationes, quæ pestis diræ, aut veneni promptissimi instar, contagio quodam, pueros et adultos corripunt; et sævis maleficientissimisque stipatæ symptomatis citissimam necem inferre solent. Malum in Hispania non multis abhinc annis frequens, vulgus medicorum Hispano sermone *Garrotillo* nuncupat;

According to the Accounts which have been left by these Authors, it appears, that the Disease which they describe was extremely malignant, and most particularly fatal to Children; tho' Adults, if they were much conversant about the Sick, were very often seized with it; yet more of these recovered in proportion than of Children; and it was observed, that more Boys got well thro' the Disease than Girls: Some thought, that such of this Sex as had black Eyes suffered more from it than others.

As it was sometimes observed to carry off whole Families together, and to spread to those Places first, between which and the Countries affected by it the Communication was most frequent; and also that Children, sent away from the Towns where it raged,

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de cujus essentia, periculo, brevitae, et complicatione ulsivi et ulcerosi tumoris, ac deleteria corruptione, lacoonice dicam. Hoc fuit pressus biennis infans, sanguineus et obesus. Primo die ex catarrhosa defluxione in suffocationem pene incurrit, difficulter respirabat, et lac deglutiebat, et febril acuta affectus, nec plorare poterat. In parte gutturis dextra externa glandulosus apparuit tumor cum dolore multo. Secunda die intra fauces ulcus visum est ad nigrum vergens, quod putrilago et mollities multa comitabantur; et ab ore faetor horribilis prodibat, magnum certe corruptionis completæ indicium. Tertio die nullis adjutus auxiliis strangulatus est extinctus. *De praxi medic. admiranda, lib. i. observ. 90.*

in order to avoid it, escaped whilst they were kept at a Distance, but had it on their Return, if the Disease was not extinguished; it was almost universally allowed to be contagious (o).

Those who were seized with it, first complained of a Pain or Soreness in the Throat, with a Stiffness of the Neck, an Uneasiness on moving it, as if a Cord was twisted about it, a Difficulty in swallowing, and frequently in breathing also, with a disagreeable fetid Smell and Taste. On Inspection, the *Uvula*, the *Tonsils*, *Pharynx*, and the whole *Fauces*, appeared of a remarkably florid red Colour, like that attending an *Erysipelas*: This Colour was not uniformly intense, but some Parts seemed to be of a deeper Dye than others. The Parts above-mentioned were swelled more or less, tho' not always so much as to affect Respiration, as in a common *Angina*.

If the Attack was violent, they had an extreme Difficulty in breathing, and also in swallowing, with a Kind of compressive Pain and Straitness of the Breast and Back, a Redness of the whole Face and Neck, great Heat of all the Parts affected, the Voice much injured,

(o) Quod ad contagium attinet, hoc communi omnium consensu atque experimento evincitur. *Severin*, p. 442.

injured, an unquenchable Thirst, and the Patient seemingly in Danger of being choaked (*p*). In some, the Swelling and Ulcers of the *Fauces* were apparent upon looking into the Mouth; in others, nothing could be seen, but a most offensive putrid Smell was perceivable. A Fever came on with the other Symptoms, and was frequently accompanied with small Pimples and Eruptions like Flea-bites. In very bad Cases, this Fever, which *Mercatus* calls a most malignant one (*q*), did not always discover its Violence or Malignity at first; but it was not the less formidable on this Account (*r*).

On the same Day, or the Day following, such Parts of the *Fauces* as at first seemed to be of a deeper Colour than the rest, turned white, ash-coloured, or black; this was not
occasioned

(*p*)——difficultas respirandi, et non raro deglutiendi, cum pectoris et dorsi dolore ac veluti compressione suffocante, simul cum pestilente odore, et vehemēti harum omnium partium ardore, et rubore totius oris et colli, cum vocis et loquelæ vitio, ac linguæ extractione, et siti incompefcibili. *Mercat. Consult.* p. 136.

(*q*) Maxime ob malignissimam febrem, quam plerumque sibi adjunctam habet, &c. *Consult.* p. 136.

(*r*)—nec multum fidere oportet, si febris mox non apparuit aut succrescat, nam sæpe citius suffocat affectio, quam causa succendatur; ac non raro malignitas humoris corrumpit spiritus et mortem accelerat, sine eo quod febris succendatur. *Mercat. Consult.* p. 137.

occasioned by any Crust or Matter superinduced upon the Parts, but proceeded from a gangrenous Colliquation of them, the Substance itself being mortified.

The Voice was hoarse and obscure; not as in a common Cold, but as it is in those People who have venereal Ulcers in the Throat: So that, from this Affection of the Voice alone, some were able to guess at the Disease (*s*).

The Neck and Throat soon after began to swell externally; the Tumour was of a soft œdematous Kind, and increased in Magnitude as the Disease advanced. All the Symptoms were aggravated during the Night. If the Patients had any Interval of Quiet, it was commonly in the Day-time (*t*). About the fourth Day this Tumour was generally grown very large, and the white Places in the *Fauces* began to turn black; a putrid corrosive Sanies was discharged by the Mouth and Nostrils (*u*); the Breath grew extremely offensive;

(*s*) *Severin.* p. 442.

(*t*) *Sgambat.*

(*u*) Quibus etiam accedit sublimis respiratio et alta ac spirituum revulsio, cum maxima pinnarum nasi distentione.—faniei per os et nares excretio, variis ulcerum coloribus et intensissimo fœtore nauseam plerumque movente cum sordida excretionem. In aliquibus vero extra, prope cervicem, et infra mentum glandulæ apparent, pestiferi morbi naturam redolentes, et universa cervix, et collum intumescunt, et fauces cum robore saturato, instar laqueo suffocatorum. *Merc. Consult.* p. 136.

five; Respiration, if hitherto not much affected, now became difficult, and the Patient expired in a very short Time.

Tho' this was the common Progress of the Disease, where it terminated unhappily, yet it often varied from this Type, and was attended with very different Symptoms. Some had an extreme Difficulty of breathing almost from the first; some had a violent Cough; some were comatous; others had a Delirium; some died in a lethargic Stupor; others bled to Death at the Nose; whilst others again had none of these Symptoms, but were carried off suddenly by an instantaneous Suffocation. The *Oesophagus* in some was sphacelated down to the Stomach; the *Aspera Arteria*, in others, to the Lungs: As these could only breathe in an erect Position; so those could swallow nothing when the Parts were so affected. The Nostrils discharged a fetid Ichor, sometimes mixed with Blood; and sometimes Blood alone, without Mixture. This Bleeding at the Nose seemed at first, in one Case, to give Relief; but the Patient soon after died (*w*). *Mercatus* relates an Instance of a Child that had the Disease, in which the Acrimony of the Humour discharged from the Ulcers was so great
as

(*w*) *Severin.* p. 440.

as to inflame the Nurse's Breast, and brought on a Mortification. He also tells us, that the Father of the Child whose Case is described above, having frequently put his Finger in the Child's Mouth, to draw out the viscid Phlegm, had his Finger inflamed, and was seized with the same Distemper (x).

These were the Symptoms in general, and they judged of the Event by the Mildness of their Progress, or the contrary: Tho' it was agreed, that nothing could be more fallacious than this Disease; and that the most Experienced were often deceived in their Prognostic.

If the Redness of the *Fauces* above described, which appeared at the first being seized, was succeeded by an Ulceration, without any of that Whiteness (which for the future I shall call Sloughs), if the Swelling about the Neck and Throat was not large, if the Patient discharged by the Mouth considerable

(x) —erat quidem dira humoris conditio adeo perniciofa, efficax et contagiofa, quod digitum patris indicem, quo extrahebat eum succum ab ore filii, mordicaret, et in ruborem moveret cum dolore: tandem mox pater conque- rebatur de difficultate respirandi et deglutiendi cum dolore et tumore faucium, ac saturato colore, et glandulis extra apparentibus juxta mentum. Ex quibus secundo die halitum prave olentem expirabat; ita ut jure optimo possis colligere, contagio filii patrem fuisse affectum. *Mercat. Conf. p. 139.*

considerable Quantities of thin pituitous Matter, if the Breath was not fetid, and the Patient had no Disgust to his Food, if the Eyes retained their proper Lustre, all was judged to be secure.

On the other hand, if the Lustre of the Eyes was considerably faded (*z*), if the external œdematous Tumor was very large, if the Breath stunk, if the *Fauces* were livid or black, with a *Coma* or *Delirium*, if with these the Patient had an Aversion to his Nourishment, and his Breathing became difficult or laborious, the Danger was judged to be extreme.

It was not observed that the Disease had any stated Crisis; or that the Signs of Recovery, or Death, appeared on any certain Day. Some died on the first, others on the second, third, and on every Day, to the seventh; tho' the greatest Part died before the fourth (*a*). Those who survived the fourteenth were thought to be out of Danger, at least from the Disease itself (*b*); though some dropped off
C unexpectedly,

(*z*) Hoc unum salutis est indicium vel interitus: dum oculorum nitor adservatur, salutis spes semper adest; quo tempore hic deperit, in propinquo mors est. *Ætiii Cleti Op.*

(*a*) —indies magis ac magis hæc accidentia crescunt, donec brevissimo tempore laborantium majorem partem perimat, idque non raro intra quartum diem. *Merc. p. 137.*

(*b*) *Ætiii Cleti Op. de Morbo strangulatorio.*

unexpectedly, after a much longer Re-
prieve (*a*).

The Consequences of this Disease were of-
ten felt a long Time after it had ceased: An
excessive Languor and Weakness continued
for many Months; and the Voice or Deglu-
tition was frequently affected, so as to be per-
ceivable in some almost a Year after (*b*).

It was however observed, that notwith-
standing the Disease most frequently was ac-
companied with Symptoms of pestilential Ma-
lignity, yet it sometimes appeared with a
much more favourable Aspect; its Progress
not being so quick, nor its Symptoms so vio-
lent and dangerous, as hath here been de-
scribed to be the Case in general (*c*). At its
first breaking out in any Place it was commonly
the most severe; it then spared no Age or
Sex, but swept off Adults together with In-
fants (*d*): By Degrees it became less violent,
and at length either wholly disappeared, or was
of so little Consequence as to be disregarded.

We

(*a*) *Quinimo post xxx dies, et xl. jam. prærepti morbi
furoribus, præter omnium opinionem ex improvise sunt
extincti. Adeo scil. latitans et recondita veneni vis est.
Severin. p. 440.*

(*b*) *Æt. Clet.*

(*c*) *Severin.*

(*d*) —ut pestis more in citissimam mortem pueros et
adultos deducat. *Merc. Consult. p. 135.*

We are directed, by most of the Authors I have seen, to begin the Cure of this Distemper, whenever we are called in Time, with Evacuations, the chief whereof are Bleeding and Purging: Which of the two ought to precede, was not a little disputed; but it was on all Hands agreed, that unless these Remedies were very early applied, as they were principally useful by way of Revulsion, they were not only of no Advantage to the Patient, but highly injurious (e). Observations of this Kind, we are told (f), induced several Physicians to omit Bleeding intirely; and it was, probably, the Reason why those who were Friends to Venesection ordered it more sparingly in this than in most other

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acute

(e)——disputare coepimus de sanguine extrahendo: *siquidem non defuerunt medici, qui id renuerunt: cæterum unanimes consulentium consensu, primo die sanguinem misimus, cruribus scarificatis, et mox octava noctis hora brachiis, aut si ultra duos annos fuerit natus, ex vena brachii: in hoc malo plurimum vereri oportet, vires plurimum dejicere. Mercat.*

Brevissime secandam esse venam in hoc consentitur omnes. *P. Mich. de Heredia de Morb. acut. p. 101.*

(f) Circa quod præsidium (venæsectionem) in pueris exequendum, consulo ne differatur, quia ejus occasio solum est, antequam fluxio in partibus contenta ad putredinem commigret. Nam tunc temporis, si sanguinem fuderis, summopere lædes, quæ causa fuit quod multi medicorum, viso hoc damno, renuerint sanguinem mittere. *Mercat. Consult. p. 138.*

acute Diseases (*g*). *Severinus*, who was by no Means a timid Operator, orders from four to eight Ounces to be taken away; which, considering the common Practice in those Countries, is a very small Quantity (*b*).

Some not only gave the Precedence to Purging, but imagined it alone was sufficient; alledging, as a Reason for it, that some Children had recovered where this Evacuation only had been employed; whilst Bleeding had been injurious, by lessening the Strength (*i*). Purging was however commonly allowed the second Place by those who were Advocates for Bleeding, but

(*g*) In hoc sacro igne non mittendus est sanguis in ea quantitate ac in angina exquisita.—Placuit quibusdam in hoc morbo secare venas sub lingua; alii admoventur hirudines collo; mihi nulla istarum evacuationum unquam probari potuit. Nam cum tumor superveniens ex sanguine non oritur, frustra adhibentur ea auxilia quæ ad sanguinem ex parte affecta evacuandum excogitata fuerunt. *Sgambat. de Pest. Faucium Affect.*

Esse vero efficiendas parcas missiones in quantitate, dum revellere intendimus, docuit antiquitas.—Quod præceptum magis observandum in morbo præsentis, in quo nimis timemus virium jacturam. Copiosa enim sanguinis missio, præterquam quod minus proprie revellit, dejecit vires. *P. M. de Heredia, ubi supra.*

(*b*) *Severin.* ubi supra.

(*i*) —hoc solo præsidio aliquando visum fuit, pueris ad integram sanitatem recuperandam sufficere, sicut aliis sanguine detracto. vires plurimum fuisse dejectas. *Merc. Conf. p. 138.*

but under the like Restrictions (*k*). They generally made use of Manna, Rhubarb, Senna, Tamarinds, Syrup of Roses, and the like, for this Purpose. But it was always inculcated, that, in directing these Evacuations, the Patient's Strength was especially to be regarded; since whatever diminished this, in the End was undoubtedly prejudicial (*l*).

Severinus orders an antimonial Vomit to be given at the first Attack, and a cooling gently astringent Gargle to be used Night and Day. He then orders a Clyster, takes away some Blood from the Jugular, and gives from *xv* to *xxi* Grains of Bezoar Mineral twice a-day, or oftener, as Occasion requires, with thin diluting Liquors, in order to raise and promote a moderate Sweat. He gives five or six Grains of the same Medicine to Children at the Breast, and commends it highly. He scarifies the discoloured Parts in the *Fauces*, in order to let out the corrosive *Virus*; a Practice which, though it was recommended by the *Spaniards* (*m*),
was

(*k*) Quod evacuandum morbus exposcit, evacuetur brevissime. *Idem*, p. 102.

(*l*) —in morbis malignis breviter destruentibus vires, et poscentibus simul robur animalis virtutis ad sui fanationem, multum evacuare non licet. *Heredia*, p. 102.

(*m*) Si vero malum non mitescat, sed gravius affligat partem, quod constabit ex lucido aut nigro colore, vel ex nimia mollitudine—cum intolerabili foetore, scarificabitur

was disliked by some of the most eminent *Italians* (n).

Cupping, with Scarification, was universally approved, and commonly practised. Leeches were also applied, by way of Revulsion, to different Parts.

Considerable Benefit was expected from Ligatures made on the Extremities, and from chafing the Limbs with the Hand, or a Cloth; also from Cupping without Scarification; apprehending that a Revulsion from the Parts affected was by this means procured; and that some Portion of the morbid Matter was carried off by the Pores of the Skin.

Some of the *Spanish* Physicians recommended Vesicatories of *Cantbarides*, and other acrid or caustic Substances, to be laid on each Side the Neck; but they had not the same Opinion of their Usefulness, when applied to the Back or Shoulders: *Heredia* expressly tells us, that he had seldom found any Benefit from them (o): Neither do the *Italian* Physicians seem to have been fond of them; the Progress of the Disease was, in their Opinion, too swift to admit of any Relief

ficabitur profunde, prout partis natura tulerit. *Heredia*, p. 105.

(n) *Cort.* Miscel. p. 697.

(o) Multi etiam vesicatoria consulunt spatulis applicata. — Quod auxilium parum prodesse semper vidi. *Heredia*, p. 108.

Relief from either Caustics or Vesicatories (p), both which had been made Use of in Spain (q).

To moderate the continual and malignant Fever which accompanied this Disease from the first, and which was thought by some to be only Symptomatical, and had therefore the last Place in their Consideration (r), they had Recourse to such internal Medicines as were deemed cordial and alexipharmac. *Armenian* Bole, Bezoar both animal and mineral, and, according to the Philosophy of those Times, the precious Stones were reckoned of this Class. Of vegetable Products, the Juices of Citrons, Lemons, Oranges, Pomegranates, and Sorrel; Vinegar, the Juice and Decoctions of Borage, Bugloss, *Carduus Benedictus*, Endive, Scabious, Scorzonera, Scordium, with many others of the like Nature, were recommended. But a Decoction of the *Contrayerva* Root was in the highest Esteem in this Disease, both as an Alexipharmac in general, and for its peculiar Efficacy, when applied as a Gargle; to which *Mercatus*, from his own repeated Observations, gives a very ample Testimony (s).

But

(p) *Sgambat.*

(q) *Heredia ubi supra.*

(r) *Febris etiam continua statim in initio apparet, symptomatologica quidem. Idem, p. 97.*

(s) *Hoc unum observantissimum habeo, nimirum omnes oris et gutturis collutiones efficere supra decoctum
ejus*

But as they found from Experience, that no regular *Crisis* or Concoction of the Humours was to be waited for; that no Evacuations, except by way of Revulsion, after the Access, were of Use (*t*), they began to consider the Disease as local, as a particular (*u*) morbid Affection of the *Fauces*, and applied themselves chiefly to Topics, without laying much Stress on Internals.

In this Part of their Directions they have therefore been more explicit; and some of them, in order to point out their Applications with more Propriety, have divided the Course of this Disease into four different Periods (*x*).

The first they called the State of Inflammation. In this, mild Repellents were thought necessary; such as Vinegar in Barley-Water, Juice of the Pomegranate, Syrup of Roses, Mulberries, Purslain, or a Decoction of Barley, red Roses, Liquorice, and Plantain; to two Pounds of which were added *Acet. Rosar. ℥j ss. Syr. Diamor.*

ejus celeberrimi medicamenti, quod medici Hispani *Contrayerva* nuncupant, maxime si mucosa et viscida pituita abundaverit. *Mercat. Consult.* p. 138.

(*t*) — Experimento monstratur, quamcunque evacuationem per alvum, aut sudorem inutilem esse et nocivam, quia cum non profit, necessario debilitat. *Hered.* p. 100.

(*u*) *Cortef. Miscel.* p. 703.

(*x*) *Sgambat. de Affectu Faucium pestilente.*

Diamor. ℥j. *M* (y). If it was required yet more repellent, a small Quantity of Alum was added.

The second Stage is that wherein the white Sloughs begin to appear, which is a Step towards a gangrenous Colliquation. In this they ordered mild Abstergents and Antiputrefcents; such as a Decoction of Lupins, Beans, Vetches, with Honey of Roses (z).

The third is, when the Ulcers appear foul and fordid, and begin to look black, a real Mortification being come on, sometimes penetrating to a considerable Depth, with great Putrefaction. More powerful Astringents and Exsiccants were requisite in this Case; such as Powder of Myrrh, and a little Alum mixed with Honey, or Honey of Roses, Bole dissolved in Treacle-Water; a Solution of *Unguent: Ægyptiacum* in Barley-Water was also much in Use (a). Alum, Sulphur, Copperas, Verdigrise, Oil of Vitriol, Oil of Sulphur, Spirit of Salt alone, or mixed, or diluted in different Liquors, were much employed. In this Case, sometimes the acid

D

Spirits

(y) *Herediq.*, p. 105.

(z) *Idem ibid.*

(a) *Celebris utilissimaque est unguenti Ægyptiaci lotura: sumuntur quidem ℥ij. et insunduntur in ℥ij. aquæ hordei, plantaginis, vel feri lactis: post infusionem percolatur per linteum, et colatura tangitur ulcus. Idem ibid.*

Spirits were dextrously applied to the Parts affected by Means of an armed Probe ; but they were oftener diluted with Syrup or Honey of Roses, and in Children poured into the Mouth.

Tho' many had Recourse to these powerful Remedies, and even to Arsenic itself, yet the most Experienced were justly afraid, that the Use of such caustic and acrimonious Applications was often attended with pernicious Consequences, both to Children and Adults; and they are therefore, with good Reason, condemned by *Mercatus* (b).

Nevertheless some went so far as to advise the actual Cautery, if the potential ones did not succeed, and gave Directions for the Time and Manner of their Application (c); but as this Operation will be liable to all the Objections made to the former, to have mentioned it will, I imagine, be thought sufficient.

Tho' the Author last quoted advises us to scarify the black or livid Crusts or Sloughs, yet he gives us a Caution not to tear them off, or forcibly to separate them, as the Consequences

(b) Ego quidem arbitror, plures pueros interfecisse usum horum medicamentorum, quæ caustica sunt, quam affectionem ipsam. *Merc. Consul.* p. 139.

—compertum habuimus in hoc viro, et aliis laborantibus, hæc caustica inflammationi et ulceri summopere esse nocua: suppurantia corruptioni. *Id.* p. 40.

(c) *Hæredia*, p. 106.

quences would be an Increase of Pain, and Inflammation; whence the Ulcers would spread, and at the same Time eat deeper (*d*).

In the fourth Stage the Putrefaction is supposed to be extinguished, the mortified Parts cast off, and an Ulcer only remains. In this Case, the Fume of white Amber thrown on live Coals, and received into the Mouth, as a *Suffitus*, was advised; also the *Vinum Myrrhites*, a Decoction of Guaiacum, Roses, Balauftines, Pomegranate-Peels, by Way of Gargle; Medicines that were supposed to dry with some Degree of Astringency.

Such was the Appearance of the *Angina Maligna*, or ulcerated Sore Throat, at its first being taken notice of in *Europe*; and such were the Methods of treating it then in Use. In this Recital I have been the more prolix, inasmuch as the Disease, described in the following Pages, is the same with the *Angina Maligna* of these Writers, with whose Experience and Observations it may doubtless be of Use to us to be acquainted.

(*d*) *Idem*, p. 109.

P A R T II.

Of the SORE THROAT attended with
ULCERS ;

As it has appeared in THIS CITY and
Parts adjacent.

ACCORDING to the Information I have received from several eminent Persons of the Faculty, it was in the Year 1739, that a Disease was first taken notice of, which was thought to be the *Morbus strangulatorius*, already described, and which differed in no essential circumstance, as far as I can learn, from the Distemper which is the Subject of this Treatise.

The sudden Death of two Children in a Family of Distinction, and of some others near the same Part of the Town, whose Complaints had chiefly been of a sore Throat, seem to have occasioned this Suspicion : But as very few Cases of the like Nature occurred after these, or, if they happened, passed unobserved, little Mention was made of it during several Years.

It began however to shew itself again in 1742, but not in so general a Way as to render it the Subject of much public Discourse; for tho' such of the Faculty, as were in the most extensive Practice, met with it now-and-then, in the City especially, it remained unknown to the greatest Part of Practitioners, till within these two or three Years, in which Time its Appearance has been more frequent, both in Town, and in the Villages adjacent.

I am informed, that in the Winter of 1746, so many Children died, at *Bromley* near *Bow* in *Middlesex*, of a Disease that seemed to yield to no Remedies or Applications, that several of the Inhabitants were greatly alarmed by it; some losing the greater Part of their Children, after a few Days Indisposition. Some others of the neighbouring Places were affected at the same Time with the like Disease; which, from all the Accounts I have met with from those who attended the Sick, was that here treated of. I am informed likewise, that it raged at *Greenwich* about the same Time (a).

—It

(a) The Reader may be pleased to take notice, that the Facts contained in the following Narrative, where the contrary is not expressly mentioned, have all come under the Author's Observation, who has endeavoured to relate what

— It still continues in this City, and sometimes shews itself in the Villages about it, though at present with so mild an Aspect, as seldom to prove fatal; unless the Subject is very unfavourable, or the Disease hath been neglected, or improperly treated at the Beginning; which Circumstances, tho' of some Importance in all Cases, yet are of the utmost in this; as a wrong Step at the first may put it out of the Power of Art to afford Relief.

Tho' this Disease has now been amongst us several Years, and has consequently survived the different Seasons, and all the Variety of Weather to which we are exposed, yet it seems to shew itself most frequently in Autumn, and the Beginning of Winter; at least I have met with many more Cases from *September* to *December* inclusive, than in all the other Months together.

It may likewise be remarked, that the Summers of 1747 and 1748 were dry, with some Days in each uncommonly hot, for
this

what he has seen, and in such a Manner as he thought would best contribute to public Advantage. It may also be necessary to observe, that the Disease is described, as it appeared in 1747 and 1748, that if the Symptoms should hereafter vary in any Circumstance, the Diversity may be attributed to the Nature of the Distemper, and not imputed to Design or Inattention.

this Climate; the Mercury in *Fahrenbeit's* Thermometer rising in the Shade, and within-doors, one Day to 78, and during several to 75 and 6. The Autumns of the same Years were as unusually temperate and warm; the Wind continuing longer in the Southerly Points than has often been known at this Season.

In this Country, as well as in those where the *Angina maligna* was first taken notice of, Children and young People are more exposed to it than Adults: A greater Number of Girls have it than Boys; more Women than Men; and the Infirm of either Sex are more liable to have the Disease, and to suffer from it, than the Healthy and Vigorous: I have seen but few Adults of this Constitution affected by it, and not one who died of it.

When it breaks out in a Family, all the Children are commonly affected with it, if the Healthy are not kept apart from the Sick; and such Adults as are frequently with them, and receive their Breath near at hand, seldom escape some Degree of the same Disease.

It generally comes on with such a Giddiness of the Head, as commonly precedes Fainting, and a Chilness or Shivering like that of an Ague-Fit: This is soon followed by great Heat; and these interchangeably succeed each other during some
Hours,

Hours, till at length the Heat becomes constant and intense. The Patient then complains of an acute Pain in the Head, of Heat and Soreness, rather than Pain, in the Throat, Stiffness of the Neck, commonly of great Sickness, with Vomiting, or Purging, or both (*b*). The Face soon after looks red and swelled, the Eyes inflamed and watery, as in the Measles; with Restlessness, Anxiety, and Faintness.

This Disease frequently seizes the Patient in the fore Part of the Day: As Night approaches, the Heat and Restlessness increase, and continue till towards Morning; when, after a short disturbed Slumber (the only Repose they often have during several Nights) a Sweat breaks out; which mitigates the Heat and Restlessness, and gives the Disease sometimes the Appearance of an Intermittent.

If the Mouth and Throat be examined soon after the first Attack, the *Uvula* and *Tonsils* appear swelled; and these Parts, together

(*b*) The Vomiting and Purging were but seldom observed to accompany this Disease, at its first Appearance amongst us, as I have been informed by some Physicians of Eminence, who saw it early; but it is generally agreed, that these Symptoms almost constantly attended, in the Manner here described, during the Years 1747 and 1748, the Time in which these Observations were collected: And I have since found, that the above-mentioned Symptoms have not so regularly appeared as at that Time.

gether with the *Velum Pendulum Palati*, the Cheeks on each Side near the Entrance into the *Fauces*, and as much of them, and the *Pharynx* behind, as can be seen, appear of a florid red Colour. This Colour is commonly most observable on the posterior Edge of the Palate, in the Angles above the *Tonsils*, and upon the *Tonsils* themselves. Instead of this Redness, a broad Spot or Patch, of an irregular Figure, and of a pale white Colour, is sometimes to be seen, surrounded with a florid Red; which Whiteness commonly appears like that of the Gums immediately after having been pressed with the Finger, or as if Matter ready to be discharged was contained underneath.

Generally on the second Day of the Disease, the Face, Neck, Breast, and Hands to the Fingers Ends, are become of a deep erysipelatous Colour, with a sensible Tumefaction; the Fingers are frequently tinged in so remarkable a Manner, that, from seeing them only, it has not been difficult to guess at the Disease.

A great Number of small Pimples, of a Colour distinguishably more intense than that which surrounds them, appear on the Arms, and other Parts. They are larger, and more prominent in those Subjects, and in those Parts of the same Subject, where the Red-

ness is least intense; which is generally on the Arms, the Breast, and lower Extremities (a).

As the Skin acquires this Colour, the Sickness commonly goes off, the Vomiting and Purging cease of themselves, and rarely continue after the first Day.

The Appearance in the *Fauces* continues to be the same; except that the white Places become more ash-coloured; and it is now discoverable, that what at first might have been taken for the superficial Covering of a suppurated Tumour, is really a Slough, concealing an Ulcer of the same Dimensions.

All the Parts of the *Fauces* above-mentioned are liable to these Ulcerations; but they generally are first discernible in the Angles above the *Tonsils*, or on the *Tonsils* themselves; though they are often to be seen in the Arch formed by the *Uvula* and one of the *Tonsils*; and also on the *Pharynx* behind, on the Inside of the Cheeks, and the
Base

(a) The Redness and Eruption have not accompanied this Disease so regularly, during the latter Part of this Winter*, as they did in the preceding Seasons: In some Cases they did not appear at all; in others not till the third or fourth Day; and, as I have heard, in some not till the fifth, and even later.

Base of the Tongue, which they cover in the Manner of a thick Fur. Instead of these Sloughs, where the Disorder is mild, a superficial Ulcer, of an irregular Figure, appears in one or more of these Parts, scarce to be distinguished from the sound, but by the Inequality of Surface it occasions.

The parotid Glands (*b*) on each Side commonly swell, grow hard, and are painful to the Touch; if the Disease is violent, the Neck and Throat are surrounded with a large œdematous Tumour, sometimes extending itself to the Breast; and, by straitening the *Fauces*, increases the Danger.

Towards Night, the Heat and Restlessness increase, and a *Delirium* frequently comes on. This Symptom, which appears in some even on the first Night, seems to differ considerably from the like Affection in other Diseases. The Sick commonly answer the Questions put to them properly, but with an unusual Quickness; they talk to themselves incoherently when left alone, and frequently betray the first Tendency to this Disorder,

E 2 by

(*b*) *Heredia* takes Notice of the same Symptom, and assigns a very probable Reason for it.—*In Angina maligna non tument externa, quia in illas ex externis translata materia fuerit, sed quia ita adimplentur interna, ut materiam fluentem non capiant, et sic ad externa dilabuntur. Heredia, p. 99.*

by affecting too great a Composure: This, for the most part, happens to those who sleep but little; for some are comatous and stupid, and take little Notice of any Thing that passes.

In this manner they continue during two, three, or more Days; they commonly grow hot and restless towards the Evening: Which Symptoms and the *Delirium* increase as Night comes on; a Sweat more or less profuse breaks out towards Morning; and from this Time they are easier during some Hours; a Faintness only continuing, of which they frequently complain more than of the Rest of their Sufferings.

The Disease seems to have no stated Period which can properly be called its *Ἀκμὴ*, or Height. Some grow easier from the first Day of the Attack; but, in general, the Symptoms of Recovery appear on the third, fourth, or fifth Day, and proceed in the following Manner:

First, The Redness of the Skin disappears; the Heat grows less; the Pulse, which was hitherto very quick, becomes slower; the external Swellings of the Neck subside (*c*); the
Sloughs

(*c*) At least of all the Parts about the Neck, except the Parotids themselves; which sometimes continue swelled and hard a long Time after the other Symptoms abate, and at length suppurate.

Sloughs in the *Fauces* cast off; the Ulcerations fill up; the Patient sleeps without Confusion, is composed when awake, and his Appetite begins to return.

The Pulse, during the whole Course of this Disease, is generally very quick; frequently 120 Strokes, or more, in a Minute: In some it is hard and small; in others soft and full, but without that Strength and Firmness which usually accompany equal Quickness and Heat, in genuine inflammatory Disorders.

If a Vein be opened soon after the Distemper is come on, the Blood generally appears of a fresh florid Red; the *Crassamentum* is rather of a lax gelatinous Texture, than dense or compact; the *Serum* yellow, and in a large Proportion (*d*).

The Urine is at first crude, and of a pale Whey-Colour: As the Disease advances, it turns yellower, as if Bile was diluted in it; and, soon after the Patient shews any Marks of Recovery, it commonly grows turbid, and deposits a farinaceous Sediment.

They seldom have any Stools, if the Symptoms are favourable, from the Time when
the

(*d*) But it is often fizy when the Disease has continued two or three Days; and in some Instances which lately occurred, it was so soon after the first Attack.

the Purging, which generally attends the Accession, ceases. This Discharge is frequently bilious and without any Pain: Tho' these Evacuations differ in different Habits.

They complain of Thirst commonly less in this than in other acute Diseases. The Tongue is generally moist, and not often furred: In some nevertheless it is covered with a thick white Coat or Fur, and these generally complain of Soreness about the Root of the Tongue.

The *Uvula* and *Tonsils* are sometimes so much swelled, as to leave but a very narrow Entrance into the Gullet, and this Entrance frequently surrounded with Ulcers or Sloughs; yet the Patients often swallow with less Difficulty and Pain than might be expected under such Circumstances (*e*).

They frequently complain, soon after they are taken ill, of an offensive putrid Smell, affecting their Throats and Nostrils, which oft occasions Sickness before any Ulcerations appear.

In those who have this Disease in a severe Manner, the Inside of the Nostrils, as high up as can be seen, frequently appears of a deep

(*e*) I have seen many Cases, where these Glands were so enlarged, as to force back through the Nostrils most Part of what was attempted to be swallowed.

deep red, or almost livid Colour: After a Day or two, a thin corrosive *Sanies*, or with it a white putrid Matter of a thicker Consistence, flows from them, which is so acrid, as to excoriate the Part it lies upon any considerable Time. This is most observable in Children, or in young and very tender Subjects, whose Lips likewise are frequently of the Colour above-mentioned, and covered on the Inside with Vesicles containing a thin *Ichor*, which excoriates the Angles of their Mouths, and the Cheeks where it touches them.

It is probable, that Part of the same acrid Matter passes with the Nourishment into the Stomach; especially in Children; and it is perhaps owing to this Cause in part, that they suffer much more from the Distemper than Adults; this corrosive Fluid without Doubt producing the same Effects on the Stomach and Bowels, as it does when applied to the much less sensible Skin of the Face; *i. e.* it excoriates the Parts it touches; which in fact seems to be the Case: For, if they get over this Stage of the Disease, a Purging sometimes succeeds, attended with the Symptoms of Ulcerations in the Bowels; and after enduring great Pain and Misery, perhaps some Weeks, they at length die emaciated. I have been informed, that some Children have had the Parts about the

Anus

Anus excoriated (*f*); the *Sanies* retaining its Virulency through the whole Tract of the Intestines.

The Sick sometimes bleed at the Nose towards the Beginning of the Disease; and the *Menses* very often appear in those of the Female Sex, who are of Age to have them, soon after they are seized, notwithstanding the regular Period is at a considerable Distance: If they are taken ill about the usual Season, the Discharge is commonly greater than it ought to be. Some young Persons, who never had the least Appearance of them, have had this Evacuation during their Illness.

In strong and full Habits, these Evacuations are seldom attended with much Benefit, or with manifest ill Effects, unless they are very copious; for in this case they occasion great Faintness, and an Increase of the other Symptoms, in proportion to the Excess. In tender weak Subjects they are often prejudicial.

It has happened in this Distemper, that Hæmorrhages from the Nose and Mouth have suddenly carried off the Patient. I have heard of the like Accident from Bleeding at
the

(*f*) Some Adults, who have had the Disease in a violent Degree, have suffered very much from the same Cause: Emollient mucilaginous Liquids taken plentifully, and also applied externally, by way of Fomentation, to the Part affected, frequently give speedy Relief.

the Ear : But these fatal Discharges most commonly happen after the Patient has been ill several Days ; and it seems more probable, that they proceed from the Separation of a Slough from the Branch of an Artery, rather than from a Fulness of the Vessels, or an Effort of Nature to relieve herself by a salutary Crisis (g).

Bleeding in this Disease has in general been observed to be prejudicial : Some indeed admit of it at the first Attack, without any sensible Inconvenience ; but a Repetition of it, even where the Disease is mild and favourable, seldom fails to aggravate the Symptoms ; and in some Cases it appears to have produced very fatal Consequences. The Heat, Restlessness, Delirium, and Difficulty of Breathing, which this Evacuation commonly prevents or mitigates in other Cases, in this are increased by it ; nor does

F the

(g) This I find was also *Heredia's* Opinion, who considers a Discharge of Blood, either from the Mouth or Nose, as a Sign of the utmost Danger. — *Malignam significationem præbet segnis sanguis stillans e naribus ; ex corrosione quippe vasorum, et purulagine emanat, innuitque certissimam mortem, quia putredo interne cohiberi non potest :—ideo periculosissimus censetur sanguinis fluxus ex naribus aut ore. Quidam cum hoc signo nullum vidisse liberatum docent : nos vero unicum solum ægrotum summa diligentia a tanto periculo vindicavimus. Heredia, p. 100.* Of three whom I attended, and who had this Symptom, two recovered : the third died of a Bleeding at the Nose, before any Assistance could be procured :

the Swelling of the *Tonsils*, *Fauces*, &c. seem to receive the least Benefit from it: On the contrary, tho' the Fulness of these Parts decreases, yet the Sloughs thicken, and change to a livid or black Colour, the external Tumor grows large, and the Spitting commonly diminishes (*b*).

Nor has Purgings been observed to be more beneficial: Gentle Cathartics have brought on very dangerous Symptoms. Upon procuring a few Stools with Manna, especially when the Disease has continued two or three Days, the Redness of the Skin has disappeared, and the Flux to the Throat has been surprisngly increased: If it happens that this Discharge by Stool continues, the Swelling of the Neck commonly grows larger, the *Fauces* become flaccid, dry, and livid; and the Patient in a few Hours after this expires: So that Purgatives seem to have no better Effects in diminishing the Tumor, and abating the supposed Inflammation, than Bleeding.

Nitrous

(*b*) The Heat indeed and Quickness of the Pulse seem at first to be affected by this Evacuation, but they commonly return after a fallacious Respite with greater Violence; the Patient is seized with a Difficulty of Breathing, falls into cold Sweats, a Stupor, and dies suddenly.

Nitrous cooling Medicines frequently produce the like Effects; they increase that Faintness which accompanies this Disease, and either dispose the Patient to copious Sinking Sweats, or to Stools.

Upon the Whole it appears, that all Evacuations, which tend to lessen the natural Strength of the Constitution, are in this Disease injurious; and that those Persons in common are in the greatest Danger, if attacked with it, who have been previously indisposed, or have had their Strength impaired by Grief, or any other Accident. Of which it may not perhaps be improper to relate an Instance or two in this place, as it will also tend to explain the usual Progress of the Symptoms in the worst Cases we meet with.

A young Gentlewoman about 26 Years of Age, of a pale lax Habit, but of an active chearful Disposition, had enjoyed a pretty good Share of Health in common, till a Year or two before her last Illness; about that Time she unhappily made use of some external and empirical Application to remove a Redness attended with Pimples, which now-and-then broke out in her Face. She was soon relieved from this Complaint by the Medicine she used; but was quickly after seized with Sickness, Vomiting, Loss of Appetite, and either an obstinate Costiveness,

or a troublesome Diarrhœa ; the *Menses* were pale, and in small Quantities ; and her Health in general was greatly impaired.

She had scarce recovered from this weak State, when the Death of a near Relation brought her almost into the same Circumstances ; from which she was slowly recruiting, when she married. Her Sickneſs, Vomiting, and Loſs of Appetite, ſoon returned ; which ſhe concealed as much as poſſible.

Under theſe Diſadvantages, ſhe was ſeized with this Diſtemper, a Day or two after ſhe had viſited an Acquaintance labouring under the ſame Diſorder : It came on with a Coldneſs and Trembling like that of an Ague-Fit, great Faintneſs, and an acute Pain in her Head, with a Vomiting more violent than ſhe was uſually affected with, and a Purging. Towards Evening ſhe grew very hot and reſtleſs, complained of a Soreneſs in her Throat, and the Diſcharges abated. Her Face, Neck, and Hands were intenſely red ; ſhe frequently ſighed, and from her Aſpect and Geſtures there was Reaſon to ſuſpect a Delirium approaching. She ſlept little that Night ; and next Morning her Pulse, which before was very quick and ſmall, ſeemed to be ſomewhat more full, but not ſenſibly ſlower ; and ſhe complained of Faintneſs and Anxiety. The Parts about the *Fauces* were much relaxed, very red, in ſome Places almoſt livid,
with

with a Kind of glossy Dryness upon them. She continued in this Manner, without any remarkable Increase of Symptoms, till Night, when the Looseness returned, and in a very short Time exhausted her Strength to a great Degree: The Redness upon the Skin disappeared, the Extremities grew cold, her Eyes became dim, her Pulse scarce perceptible, she breathed with Difficulty, and expired in the Morning, on the third Day of the Disease.

Another young Woman, who frequently visited, and sometimes assisted, a Relation who had this Disease, was attacked with it in the usual Manner. She was about 17, of a pale and somewhat bloated lax Habit, naturally inactive, averse to Exercise, and was thought to have indulged some painful Solitude, to the Prejudice of her Health, and making Way for an obstinate *Chlorosis*.

Under these Circumstances she was seized with the usual Complaints, but in a violent Manner. The Purgings continued till the Day following; when it yielded for a Time to the Power of Opiates; but constantly returned when their Effects were over. The other Symptoms, such as Heat, Restlessness, Anxiety, and Faintness, increased with the Purgings; the Pulse was small, quick, and hard; a Difficulty of Breathing came on, the small Re-
mains

mains of Lustre in the Eye perished, and she died early on the fourth Day of the Distemper.

No Marks of any Sloughs in the Throat appeared in either of these Cases; but the Redness became daily more intense, and approached nearer to Lividness, whilst the *Fauces* could be inspected, which, from the great Difficulty they had in Breathing, was impracticable several Hours before the Patients expired.

Warm aromatic Cordials and anodyne Astringents were administered assiduously, with suitable Nourishment, and Vesicatories applied successively to the Neck, Back, and Arms, but without Effect.

If the Purging therefore continues long after the first Exacerbation of the Disease, it may be looked upon as a dangerous Symptom; for tho' it be sometimes restrained for the present by Opiates or Astringents, yet it commonly returns with more Vehemence when their Efficacy ceases, and in a short time exhausts the small Degree of Strength remaining.

In this Case they generally spit very little; the *Fauces* appear dry, glossy, and livid; the external Tumor grows large; they void their Excrements without perceiving it, and fall into profuse Sweats; Respiration becomes
difficult

difficult and laborious; the Pulse sinks; the extreme Parts grow cold, and Death in a few Hours closes the Scene; and in no Disease, that I have seen, is the Eye so early deprived of its Lustre as in this; for it is sometimes opaque or dim several Hours before Death; and, as *Ætius Cletus* hath observed, is a fatal Presage of its Approach (i).

A copious Flux of pituitous Matter to the Glands, and other Parts about the *Fauces*, seemed

(i) *Heredia's* Description of the fatal Progress of this Disease, and the necessary Cautions he gives in respect to the Prognostic, deserve particular Notice.

Fallacissimam esse hujus morbi naturam, confitentur omnes.—ulceribus oris, et partium quæ visui existebant conspicuæ, recte curatis, et sedata inflammatione æger periclitatur.—ex eo quod paulatim serpit putredo per asperam arteriam ad cor, aut per gulam ad ventriculum, sine aliquo dolore, aut febris sensibili, cujus sit habenda cura: et cum medicis auxiliis, ablata fuerint ulcera, et inflammationes sedatæ in partibus visui patentibus, occulta putredo, paulatim mortificans partes internas, tabe, parvissimis et debilissimis pulsibus extinctione caloris, refrigeratione extremorum, faciei extenuatione, inappentia perpetua, et molesta mutatione decubitûs, somno fallaci, et apparente, quia vigilandi impotentia, somnum verum æmulatur, misere ægrotantes interficit, ut visum jam sit subita et inopinata morte periisse aliquos,—e lecto surgentes, et intra domos ambulantes; ob quod etsi quæ vitiosa apparebant in faucibus, aut partibus aliis, in melius mutata conspiciantur, non licet salutem polliceri, quia solet communicari paulatim putredo, et gangræna partibus internis. *Heredia, p. 99.*

seemed to be the Cause of sudden Death, in a Girl about 12 Years old. She was seized in the common Way, with Shivering, Head-ach, Sickness, Vomiting, and Purging. The Discharges abated in a few Hours, and were succeeded by great Heat, Redness of the Skin, and a sore Throat; the *Uvula*, *Tonsils*, and contiguous Parts, were red, and so swelled in eight or ten Hours, as to touch each other, and seemed to close the Entrance into the *Pharynx*. She breathed without much Difficulty, swallowed with less Pain than could be imagined, and spit up large Quantities of Phlegm. About six in the Evening she was seized with a Difficulty of Breathing, as if strangled: Those about her raised her up, thinking she was in a Fit; she recovered herself a little, but expired upon being again laid down in Bed, in somewhat less than 24 Hours from the first Attack. A large Quantity of viscid Phlegm, with which, after she was dead, her mouth appeared to be filled, together with the tumefied *Uvula*, *Tonsils*, and *Velum Palati*, had perhaps jointly closed the *Rima Glottidis*, and put a Stop to Respiration.

By a Fall in her Infancy she was reduced to the Necessity of using Crutches. She was big-boned, had a good Appetite; and, for want of that Exercise which Persons at her Age commonly enjoy, seemed to be plethoric,

These Circumstances perhaps might contribute to this speedy and unhappy Event.

Accidents of the like Kind seem not to have been uncommon while this Disease continued in *Italy*, according to a Remark of *Cortefius* (*k*).

From the preceding Account of *the Sore Throat attended with Ulcers* (*l*), it will, I believe, appear, that this Disease is widely different from a *common Sore Throat*, or *simple Inflammation of any of the Parts about the Fauces*; both as to the Subject commonly affected by it, the Manner of its Attack, the Progress of the Symptoms, and its Conclusion: For the sore Throat with Ulcers generally attacks Children; and of these, Girls more frequently than Boys, as hath been observed: If Adults are seized with it, they are commonly such as have been very much conversant with the Sick, or else

G

are

(*k*) —Ad prædictarum partium (Uvulæ, Tonsillarum) inflammationem subsequeretur interdum materia quædam pituitosa a capite tam repente et inopinato descendens, ut miseri ægrotantes subito suffocarentur. *Cortef. Miscell.* p. 697.

(*l*) The Disease here treated of is, strictly, a *Sore Throat*; since by *Soreness* we aptly express the uneasy Sensation accompanying an *Ulcer* (*i. e.* a *Sore*) and not that which attends an Inflammation, which is indeed *Pain*, but not properly *Soreness*.

are weak and infirm : And it seems to affect those Adults in the severest Manner, who have been previously indisposed, or whose Strength has been reduced by unseasonable or immoderate Evacuations.

On the contrary, the common *Angina*, or an Inflammation of the *Tonsils*, most frequently attacks the Healthy, the Vigorous, and Robust ; the Weak, the Delicate, and Infirmit, are less exposed to it, at least suffer less from it, than the former.

As both Diseases are attended with a Fever, and as most Fevers come on with Shivering or Chillness, this Symptom may at least appear equivocal : But if Sickness, or Vomiting, or Purging, or an acute Pain of the Head, towards the back Parts or Top especially, or if all these come on in the Space of a very few Hours, which they generally do where the Disease is vehement, it may justly be esteemed to be of the putrefactive Kind : But if with these Symptoms an erysipelatous Redness discovers itself in the *Fauces*, with Ulcerations or Sloughs, the Disease is evident.

In some Cases, the Symptoms have been so obscure, that it was difficult to determine to which Disease they properly belonged : But in these Circumstances they were commonly so favourable, that, supposing the Disorder not to be of the ulcerated Kind, no other Inconvenience

venience seemed likely to ensue from treating it as such, than a Suppuration ; which is often an Event rather to be chosen than avoided.

The Redness of the Skin in the Face, Neck, Breast, and Hands, is another obvious and distinguishing Characteristic, which in Children, and young People especially, seldom fails to accompany this Disorder.

In the *common sore Throat*, a local Inflammation is the Disease : All the Symptoms are derived from this Source : An acute throbbing Pain, greatly increased upon swallowing even Liquids, is the principal Grievance. In the *other*, the whole Habit suffers, as if by a *Stimulus* of a peculiar Nature ; and although the Throat is always more or less affected, yet it is sometimes the least Part of the Patient's Complaint ; and Instances have occurred to me of considerable Sloughs being formed, before any Soreness or Pain in the *Fauces* hath been mentioned.

Again, *this Disease* is accompanied with a greater Tendency to a Delirium, than either a common *Angina*, or almost any other Distemper we are acquainted with. To have this Symptom appear in the Disease we are treating of on the first Night, is not uncommon ; and on the second, frequent. A Girl about Eight Years of Age, whom I attended, was scarce known to be indisposed, till she alarmed the Family, by appearing

to be light-headed. She had made no Complaint of her Throat, nor was this Part thought to be affected, till, upon Examination, I found it so; being led to suspect it by the Colour of her Hands, and the Delirium. She got well through the Disease, tho' its Progress, at first, appeared to be very swift.

A *common sore Throat*, if the Patient recovers, either goes off by Resolution, or the Parts affected suppurate, or, if glandular, become hard and scirrous.

In that *attended with Ulcers*, none of these Circumstances happen; for it terminates in a superficial Ulceration of some of the Parts about the *Fauces*, if the Disease is very mild, with little Appearance of any Sloughs, and with large and deep ones, of a white cineritious, livid, or black Colour, if it is more violent.

It will not perhaps be difficult, from such a comparative View, to distinguish this Disease from a *common sore Throat*, or an inflammatory Affection of those Parts in most Instances: But there is another no less certain Criterion, tho' too often a fatal one, which is, the constant Increase of Symptoms upon Bleeding, Purging, and the liberal Use of cooling antiphlogistic Medicines: A Method, which, as it seldom fails to remove a genuine Inflammation, if it is early enough and assiduously pursued, so it is too often injurious in the present Case.

Case. An Instance whereof I think evidently appeared in the following Subject.

A Youth about 14 Years old, of a brisk lively Disposition, who had enjoyed a good Share of Health, saving that, for a few Years past, a cutaneous Disease, a-kin to a Leprosy, had sometimes appeared on his Head and Arms, was seized one Morning with a general Uneasiness, and a Disposition to vomit; he was put to Bed, and a severe Shivering ensued; his Sickness increased, he vomited up every Thing, had several purging Stools that Day, and complained much of his Head, with some Soreness in his Throat. He was ordered to be bled, and had an Emetic given him: This operated but little; he grew hot and restless, a deep Redness spread itself over his Face, Hands, and Arms, with a plentiful Eruption of small Pimples, which induced those about him to apprehend it was a common Scarlet Fever.

The next Day, which was the second of the Disease, his Throat continuing sore, and the feverish Symptoms increasing, a Purge of Manna was given him, which operated gently; and at Night his Head and Throat being more uneasy, his Heat still continuing, with a Tendency to Delirium, a Blister was applied.

On the third, the Symptoms not abating, he lost about ten Ounces of Blood. He had taken

a cooling nitrous Powder every four Hours ; this was now changed for one more cordial. At Night he grew delirious, his Fever increased, and he had some loose Stools, which were rather encouraged than restrained, as it was hoped they might relieve him. Blisters were applied to his Head and Arms.

On the fourth in the Morning I was sent for : I found him delirious, with convulsive Twitchings ; his Hands in constant Motion, gathering the Bed-clothes ; his Pulse quick and weak ; his Tongue parched. With some Difficulty I looked into the *Fauces* ; they seemed to be pale in some Places, intensely red or livid in others, with a glossy Brightness : His Excrements came away involuntarily ; his Eyes were languid, and dim ; he breathed with Difficulty, fell into profuse clammy Sweats, and died in a few Hours after.

In some of the first Cases I met with, the Quickness of the Pulse, the Degree of Heat, the apparent inflammatory Redness of the Eyes and Face, and Pain in the Head, sometimes urged me to order Bleeding, especially if there were any Marks of a *Pletthora* ; but in these Cases it did not appear to have any advantageous Effects : So that, notwithstanding the Vehemency of the Symptoms above mentioned, it seems proper in general to omit this Evacuation.

Cupping

Cupping with Scarification has been applied to the Shoulders and Back of the Head, in order to remove an acute Pain of this Part, which is often complained of, but, as far as I have been able to observe, without much Benefit.

It is necessary that the Patient should keep in Bed as much as may be, tho' the Disease should seem to be slight: It has happened, for want of Care in this Respect, that a Purging has come on, the Redness of the Skin disappeared, and a Disorder, which with Confinement alone would probably have gone off in twice 24 Hours, has been rendered tedious and difficult.

If we are called in at the first, while the Sickness or Vomiting continues, it will be of Use to promote this Discharge, by giving an Infusion of Green Tea, Camomile-Flowers, *Carduus*, or a few Grains of *Ipecacuanha*. In some Instances, where the Attack has been severe, and this Method practised, the Disorder has gone off with more Ease than was at first apprehended.

If these Symptoms do not abate with the Operation of the Emetic, small Draughts of Mint-Tea, with a sixth Part of red Port added to it, may be given frequently; together with some grateful and warm aromatic, cordial Medicine, every four or six Hours. The *Pulvis Contrayervæ simp.*—

comp. Confect. cardiac.—*Raleigh. Spec. arom. Vinum croceum*; *Aq. Mentb. spirit. Aq. Alex. spirit. cum Aceto* (k); with others of the like Nature, may be used for this Purpose.

In this Disease it is at all Times necessary to attend very carefully to the Diarrhœa. For the most Part it ceases with the Vomiting, in less than twelve Hours from the first Attack: If it continues longer than this Period, it is necessary to check it, otherwise it occasions great Faintness, sinks the Strength, and in the End produces very dangerous Consequences. The aromatic Cordials above mentioned, if they are given plentifully, commonly take off this Symptom, as well as the Vomiting; but if they prove ineffectual, Recourse must be had to Astringents and Anodynes, in Proportion to the Exigence of the Case; such as the *Confectio Fracastorii*, or *Elect. e Scordio*, dissolved in small Cinnamon-water, and given *post singulas sedes*.

It is common for the Redness, so often mentioned, to appear upon the Skin, as these
Discharges

(k) Vegetable Acids, such as the Juice of Lemons, Oranges, Wood-Sorrel, Verjuice, Vinegar in small Doses, and the like, as they are undoubtedly Antiputrescents, may seem to be indicated; but their Proneness to increase the Discharge by Stool, or profuse Sweats, ought to render us very circumspect in using them.

Discharges abate: It has happened that this Colour has gone off sometimes, and the Patient has been brought into imminent Danger, upon giving a mild Cathartic: Which Circumstances, as they point out a close Connection between them, indicate the Use of a warm Regimen, notwithstanding the Heat and other Symptoms might seem to forbid it.

A Girl about 9 Years old, of a slender Make, but healthy and active, was seized with this Disorder. The Sickness and Vomiting went off, and the Redness of the Skin appeared soon after: The Apothecary who attended her, judging it an inflammatory Case, as she complained of her Throat, bled her, gave her a cooling Purge the next Day, and afterwards some nitrous Draughts. A plentiful Efflorescence which covered the Face, Neck, and Arms, suddenly disappeared; a Diarrhœa came on, she grew restless, faint, and insensible. In this Condition I first saw her on the third Day of the Disease; she frequently sighed, her Pulse was quick, small, and hard, without any remarkable Colour upon her Skin; and the Swelling on each Side the Neck large: It was not possible to examine the *Fauces*, as she lay in a comatous motionless Condition, her Stools and Urine coming away insensibly. A warm cordial

H Mixture

Mixture (a) was frequently given her, upon which the Diarrhœa soon abated; and the next Day the Efflorescence again appeared upon her Face and Arms. From this Time she continued to recover, tho' slowly, and was for some Time attended with a Cough and hectic Heat.

Another Symptom, which requires our Attention in the Cure of this Disease, is an excessive Faintness: Of this they generally complain soon after they are taken ill, and continue to do so, if sensible, till the Distemper begins to abate: The Urgency of this Symptom seems to indicate the Degree of Danger: It is more or less violent, as the Disease is mild or malignant; and an Abatement of it may be looked upon as a pretty sure Presage of Recovery.

Warm aromatic and gently stimulating Medicines, such as have been already mentioned, as the most effectual to suppress the Vomiting, and check the Looseness attending this Disease, have likewise been found useful in removing this Symptom: And though the Degree of Heat, and Quickness of the Pulse, would be enough to dissuade a Person who has not seen the Disease, from giving them in so liberal a Manner as Necessity requires; yet we are not to be governed so
much

(a) R. Aq. Alexit. simp. ℥vj. Alexit. Spir. cum Acet. ℥jss.
Conf. cardiac. ℥ss. Pulv. Contray. simp. ℥ss. Syr. Croc.
℥ss. f. Mixt. de qua capiat ægra coch. ij. tertia quoque
hora.

much by these Symptoms, as by the Faintness, Depression of the Pulse, and Increase of Putrescency in the *Fauces*. One Drachm of the *Confectio Raleighana* has been given to a Youth not quite 15 Years of Age, every four Hours, which was soon followed by a sensible Amendment, and the Decrease of the Patient's Restlessness, Faintness, and Heat.

Some of the *Italian* Physicians forbid the Use of Wine in the Cure of this Disease, and the Warmth of that Climate might perhaps make this Caution necessary; but as it is a generous Cordial, and at the same Time antiseptic, it seems to be in no Respect improper here; and, besides, in Whey, I have allowed it to be given, freely, mixed with Mint, Baum, or Sage-Tea, Barley-Water, Gruel, Panada, Sago, and the like; and alone, where the Faintness has been excessive; the Age, the former Way of Life, and the Symptoms, affording the necessary Rules as to Quantity and Kind. Chicken-Water, or thin Broth, may also be allowed, which is frequently very acceptable to the Patient. And I don't remember to have observed so general and early an Inclination after animal Food, in any acute Disease, as in this: For at a Time when, one would imagine, both from the Condition of the *Fauces*, and the Degree of Heat, that Liquids would be the most acceptable, it is not uncommon to find

Children, who have this Disease, extremely desirous of Chicken, and chearfully complying with Directions, in Hopes of being gratified in this Respect.

Blisters are likewise of Use to relieve the Faintness. At first I was in Doubt, lest the Flies, by their Acrimony, should increase the putrescent Disposition, and consequently aggravate the Disorder they were intended to remove: But no such Effect having appeared from their Use, I have ordered them to be applied, and I think with Advantage, both to the usual Parts, and to the Neck on each Side from below the Ear almost to the Clavicle, as Occasion required (*a*).

The Ulcers in the Throat demand our early and constant Attention, as a considerable Loss of Substance cannot here be suffered without immediate Danger to Life itself, or the most injurious Consequences to the future Action of the Parts, if the Patient survives.

Where the Disease is of the mildest Kind, a superficial Ulceration only is observable; which may easily escape the Notice of a Person unacquainted with it. A thin, pale, white Slough seems to accompany the next Degree: A thick, opake, or ash-coloured one, is a further Advance: And if the Parts have

(*a*) It has been observed by several, that the Discharge from Blisters in this Disease, is in general both more copious at first, and continues longer than is usual in other Cases.

a livid or black Aspect, the Case is still worse. These Sloughs are not formed of any foreign Matter spread upon the Parts affected as a Crust or Coat, but are real Mortifications of the Substance; since, whenever they come off, or are separated from the Parts they cover, they leave an Ulcer of a greater or less Depth, as the Sloughs were superficial or penetrating.

When the Tendency to Putrefaction is stopped, these Sloughs in most Cases come off spontaneously; or their Separation may be promoted by suitable Remedies and Applications: But it seems by no means adviseable to attempt it by Force, or to scrape them off with the Fingers or Instruments, as *Severinus* proposes; since the Experiment has been tried, but with such unhappy Consequences (a), as are sufficient

(a) Si quis tamen vel digitis, vel aliquo instrumento levi ipsam (materiam albam) auferre tentasset, quamvis operatio hæc fieret absque dolore, ea tamen ablata brevissimo tempore peribant ægrotantes; quod præ cæteris in *Petro Soprano* genero meo observatum est, cui cum hujusmodi mortificatio apparuisset in suprema superficie dictarum glandularum faucium, et palati, ita ut videretur esse maximo respirationi et deglutationi impedimento, chirurgus existimans posse facillimo negotio a subjectis partibus eam separari solis digitis, levissime quidem eam abstulit; quæ ablata, tantum abest ut juverit deglutationem aut respirationem, ut utraque potius actio læsa magis fuerit, unde brevissimo tempore miser, meo cum maximo dolore, mortem oppetiit; id quod etiam in aliis quamplurimis pueris sæpius observavi, et præsertim in ejusdem *Petri* filiolo nepoti

cient to discourage one from persisting in this Method (*b*).

In a Case where I was concerned, previous to my being called in, a Surgeon had endeavoured to separate the Sloughs by the Assistance of his Probe: He succeeded in his Attempt without much Difficulty; but was surprised to see the same Parts covered the next Day with thick, dark, ash-coloured Sloughs, penetrating deep into the Substance.

It is true, the Sloughs have been sometimes scarified, from an Apprehension that Matter was lodged underneath them, without any manifest Inconvenience; but as there are Instances of fatal Mortifications having ensued, it seems most prudent to decline the Practice.

From under these Sloughs, and from every Part of the Ulcers which they cover, a thin corrosive *Ichor* is discharged, so acrid as to excoriate the external Parts upon which it is suffered to remain. This is sometimes observable in Adults, when the Parts above the *Fauces* are affected; the *Ichor* in these Cases flows through

nepoti ex filia, quinque annorum, mihi carissima, qui post paucos dies eodem modo, quo pater, vitam cum morte mutavit. *Cortef. Miscel. Med.* p. 697.

(*b*) Quod si enim adhærentem adhuc crustam avellere aggrediamur, ulcerationes magis in profundum procedunt, et inflammationes consequuntur, augentur dolores, et in ulcera serpentina proficiunt. *Heredia*, p. 109.

through the Nostrils, and frequently raises Pimples and small Blisters on the Skin of the upper Lip; but it is most obvious in Children, who often have this Part, the Corners of the Mouth, and the Cheek on which they commonly lie, blistered or excoriated.

It is probable, as hath been already hinted (p. 39.) that Part of the same virulent Matter, passing down the *Oesophagus* into the Stomach and Intestines, acts upon them as it does upon the Skin, when applied to it externally; it frets and corrodes the Parts it touches, and produces that Sickness, Vomiting, Purging, and Faintness, which sometimes accompany this Disease in different Parts of its Progress.

In Children, and very young Subjects, the Symptoms arising from this Cause are yet more dangerous: The natural Softness and Laxity of the Parts liable to be affected, disposes them to suffer by it much more than Adults: At the same Time they are commonly alike incapable of promoting the Discharge of this Matter themselves, and of admitting Assistance from others, being generally, if the Distemper is not very mild, either comatous and stupid, or delirious and untractable. If Gargles are injected, they either prevent them from reaching the Seat of the Disorder, by their Tongues, or they swallow them, and the putrid Taint of the Ulcers, together; the Mischiefs spreads beyond the Power of Art to

restrain it; violent Purgings ensue, or fatal Hæmorrhages from the penetrating Gangrene. And to this, perhaps, it may in part be owing, that Children suffer so much more from this Kind of Sore Throat, than Adults (a).

That this corrosive Matter produces these Effects, is farther confirmed, by observing, that those whose Throats are severely affected, if they have a plentiful Discharge from the *Fauces*, are seldom attended with Sickness, Vomiting, or excessive Faintness; tho' after longer Sleeps than ordinary, or a Neglect of encouraging this Evacuation, they have complained of Sickness, and have had Retchings come on: And in such Cases, where there has been little or no Discharge of this Kind, the Symptoms are commonly the most dangerous.

From hence it is obvious, that great Advantages may be expected from the constant Use of gently stimulating aromatic Gargles; as they promote the Discharge of the pituitous Matter flowing to the *Fauces*, and, doubtless, with it, of some Part of the corrosive Fluid above-mentioned: To which if we add Antiseptics and Detergents, in order to
check

(a) *Heredia* takes Notice of the same Thing, and gives it as a principal Reason why so many Infants and Children suffered by this Disease.

Infantium et puerorum multitudo maxima perit, quia nec exspuere, nec excreare lentas et crustaceas materias possunt, et minus auxiliis obediunt.—p. 100.

check the Progress of the Mortification, and cleanse the fordid Ulcers it produces, every Indication is provided for.

Where the Disease is mild, the Symptoms favourable, the Sloughs superficial, or scarce perceptible, it may be sufficient to order a Gargle of Sage-Tea with a few Rose-Leaves added in the Infusion; three or four Spoonfuls of Vinegar may be mixed with Half a Pint of the Tea, and as much Honey put to it, as will leave it agreeably acid.

But where the Symptoms are urgent, the Tendency to Putrefaction great, the Sloughs large and thick, and the Breath offensive, Recourse must be had to more efficacious Remedies: A Composition like the following, varied only as the Patient's Age and the Circumstances of the Disease required, has in general been attended with very good Effects. The Proportion here given may be used for Adults, and the more active Parts lessened for younger Subjects.

℞ *Decoct. Pectoral.* ℥xij. *cui inter coquendum add. Rad. Contrayerv. (contus.)* ℥ss. *Liquori colato admisce Acet. Vin. Alb.* ℥ij. *Tinct. Myr.* ℥j. *Mel. opt.* ℥vj. *f. Gargarisma.*

As the Parts about the gullet are frequently so much affected, as to render it
I
painful

painful or impracticable for the Sick themselves to make use of the Gargle so freely as they ought, it is commonly ordered, that a few Spoonfuls of this Liquor, made somewhat warm, should be very often injected into the *Fauces* with a small Syringe; and especially before the Patient swallows any Thing, in order to wash off as much as possible the putrid *Sordes* adhering to the Ulcers, and prevent it from passing into the Stomach and Bowels (*n*). In young Subjects this Method is the more necessary, as they don't always know how to manage a Gargle to any Purpose, did the Soreness of the Parts permit them to do it (*o*).

As so much depends upon the frequent Use of Gargles, or rather of Injections, a strict Attention to this Affair can scarcely be too strongly enjoined to those who have the Care of the Sick committed to them; since an assiduous Repetition of these Lotions not only promotes a Discharge from the Glands of the Throat, which is probably of great Use,

(*n*) The same Caution was given by *Heredia*, and almost in the same Terms.—*Cujusque rei deglutitionem præcedat excrementorum oris excretio, deterfio, ne lotionis venenosa excrementa cum rebus deglutiendis ferantur ad viscere.* p. 109.

(*o*) —*cum pueri nequeant gargarismatis uti, injiciantur cum Syringa.* *Id. m. ibid.*

Use (*p*), but retards the Progress of the Ulcers, by washing off the putrefactive corroding *Virus*, and prevents a large Train of very dangerous Symptoms (*see p. 62.*); and has therefore been strenuously insisted on by several writers, by *Mercatus* especially (*q*).

If the Sloughs are large, and cast off slowly, they may be touched with *Mel Ægyptiacum*, by Means of an armed Probe; or if the Condition of the *Fauces* is such, that this cannot conveniently be done, a Spoonful of the following Mixture may be injected, and retained in the Throat, as long as the Patient can endure it; the Parts may then be washed two or three Times with the Gargle alone.

℞ *Gargarisma præscript.* ℥ij. *Mel; Ægypt.*
℥j. *m.*

By the constant and regular Use of these Applications, if the Patient is kept warm, and the Method of treating him in other Respects is observed, agreeable to what has been

I 2

mentioned

(*p*) *Heredia*, after having observed, that no Evacuations by Stools or Sweat were of Use in this Disease, admits that some Advantages may be expected from this Discharge. *Est autem aliqua spes in frequenti expuitione, quando crassa et glutinosa excreatur.* p. 100.

(*q*) *Cavendum est diligenter, ne sic affecti lutiant propriam salivam, quinimo ora puerorum dil sunt abluenda.* *Mercat.* p. 137.

mentioned above, it seldom happens but that the febrile Symptoms disappear, the Sloughs come off, and the Ulcers are disposed to heal in a few Days; unless it be where, Mismanagement at first, Malignity of the Infection, or an unfavourable Constitution, have one or all contributed to increase the Disease, and to render its Consequences more lasting and mischievous.

What Effects improper Treatment produces in this Case has already been observed. With regard to the Matter of Contagion, or the Nature of that Cause which so suddenly brings on such a Train of Symptoms as hath been described, little can be said with any Degree of Certainty: Thus much, however, seems to be true in Fact, that in some Cases this Disease appears to be of so mild a Nature, and so benign, as to require but little Assistance from Art: Persons even recover from it under the Disadvantages of unskilful and injurious Management; whilst in others, the Progress of the Symptoms is so rapid, and the Tendency to Corruption so strong, that nothing seems able to oppose it. Just as it happens in the Small-Pox; the benign and distinct Sort bears ill Treatment without Injury; in the malignant flux Kind, the utmost Art and Experience are too often insufficient to conduct the Distemper to a happy Issue. Whether this Diversity in the *Sore Throat*

we

we are speaking of, is owing to a Difference of Constitutions, or of Seasons, to the different Quality or Quantity of the Contagion, or the Manner of receiving it; or whether there are in Reality distinct Species of it; may perhaps hereafter be more certainly determined.

With respect to Constitution, it may be further observed, that, in soft, lax, leucophlegmatic Habits, and languid inactive Dispositions, every Thing else being equal, the Disease seems to proceed more slowly, to go off more irregularly, and to leave behind it more lasting Effects. In some Persons of the Temperament described, though the Fever has grown less, and all the Symptoms abated in four or five Days, yet the Sloughs in the Throat have continued almost a Week after; whilst in the opposite Constitution, though the Disease has been much more acute, yet the Symptoms have no sooner abated, than the Sloughs have cast off, and the Ulcers healed of their own Accord.

✓ A copious Hæmorrhage from the Nose, Mouth, or Ears, the last especially, coming on after the Disease has continued three or four Days, or longer, is a dangerous *Phænomenon*: For at this Time of the Distemper, it most probably proceeds from the Branch of an Artery destroyed by the Mortification, and laid open by the Separation of the Slough,

as hath been already observed. If the Vessel is therefore large, the Bleeding may prove fatal to the Patient in a very Short Time; or if he escapes for the present, the Loss of a considerable Quantity of Blood at this Time of the Disease will occasion various ill Consequences.

It is therefore absolutely necessary to endeavour to stop this Discharge with all the Expedition possible. If the Patient is costive, it will be of Use to procure Relief in this Respect, by Clysters or Suppositories, as soon as can be done: To apply Vinegar, by means of Tents, or otherwise, as near to the Orifice of the Vessel as we can: To convey the Steam of it into the *Fauces* and Nostrils plentifully, and to keep the Patient in a sitting Posture, or his Head raised as high as may be, and his upper Parts moderately cool: If these Methods don't immediately take Effect, Recourse must be had to more efficacious ones, amongst which we may rank the *Bark* and *Opium*.

It is not uncommon for hectic Heats, Night-Sweats, Want of Appetite, and Dejection of Spirits, to attend those a considerable Time, who have had the Disease in a severe Manner. Fresh Air, Asses Milk, and other usual Means of recovering the wasted Strength, in a short Time restore to such Invalids their pristine Vigour.

Having

Having thus related the most material Circumstances that have occurred to me in respect to the Symptoms, Progress, and Event of this Distemper, the *Juvantia*, *Lædentia*, and the Accidents chiefly to be regarded in its Cure, in such a Manner as I hope will enable those who have not seen or known it, to distinguish it from a *common Sore Throat*, and to treat it with some Degree of Propriety and Success when it occurs, I shall conclude with observing,

1. That the *Sore Throat attended with Ulcers* seems to be accompanied with a strong Disposition to Putrefaction, which affects the Habit in general, but the *Fauces*, and the Parts contiguous, in particular. And it seems not unreasonable to suppose,
2. That the Cause of this Tendency is a putrid *Virus*, or *Miasma sui generis*, introduced into the Habit by Contagion; principally by Means of the Breath of the Person affected.
3. That this *Virus*, or contagious Matter, produces Effects more or less pernicious, according to the Quantity and Nature of the Infection, and as the Subject is disposed to receive or suffer by it.
4. That putrefactive and malignant Diseases, in common, admit of the most sensible

sensible and secure Relief, from Discharges of the peccant Matter, either upon the Skin in general, or on particular Parts of the Body.

5. That the Redness, and cutaneous Efflorescence, in the present Case, may be considered as an Eruption of the like Nature, and therefore to be promoted by such Methods as have proved successful in similar Diseases.

6. That a cordial, alexipharmac, warm Regimen, has been found by Experience to be of the most Use in such Cases; and that Bleeding, Purgings, Antiphlogistics, liberally employed, either retard, or wholly prevent these Discharges.

Therefore, as to expel the morbid Matter (3) seems to be the Design of Nature, to promote this Design by the Measures that are approved by Experience in analogous Disorders, is the Duty of the Physician.

F I N I S.