

**A letter addressed to Caesar Hawkins : containing new thoughts and observations, in the cure of the venereal disease ... With a few extraordinary cases in that disease / By Charles Hales.**

### **Contributors**

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## L E T T E R

ADDRESSED TO

CÆSAR HAWKINS, Esq;

Serjeant Surgeon to His MAJESTY,

CONTAINING

New Thoughts and Observations, in the Cure  
of the *Venereal Disease*; the Result of *Expe-*  
*rience*, in long and extensive Practice.

WITH

A few extraordinary Cases in *that Disease*: particularly  
one in a Servant, belonging to his MAJESTY'S  
Houfhold; deemed entirely a lost Case: authenticated  
by the Officers of His MAJESTY'S Meuse.

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By CHARLES HALES,  
Late Surgeon to the *Savoy Hospital*.

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— Learn'd by slow Experience to appease;  
To check, and last to vanquish the Disease.

FRACAST.

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L O N D O N :

Printed and sold by J. DIXWELL, in *St. Martin's-lane*,  
near *Charing-crofs*; also sold by J. ALMON, *Picca-*  
*dily*; J. WILLIAMS, *Fleet-street*; and the Pam-  
phlet Shops at the *Royal Exchange*.

[Price one Shilling.]

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

ANATOMICAL RECORD

Volume 1, No. 1, 1902

CONTENTS

A few lines from the Anatomical Record, published by the University of Chicago, are in a general program to the study of the history of anatomy in the United States.

BY CHARLES D. MINOT

THE ANATOMICAL RECORD, PUBLISHED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

FOR SALE

Published by the University of Chicago Press, 525 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Ill.

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T O

*Cæsar Hawkins, Esq;*

Serjeant Surgeon to His Majesty.

S I R,

**T**H E honourable appointments which you fill with great reputation and ability; your long series of extensive and successful practice; your age, fortune, and polite deportment in our consultations, remove you, in my opinion, from the least suspicion of partiality or prejudice: to *you* therefore, I presume to address this letter.

B

I

I doubt not, but that your candor and humanity will cast a veil over the errors of the head or pen, so long as you perceive, that their chief efforts incline, only to a good and public intention. Some years ago, I published the first edition of a pamphlet, intitled *Salivation not necessary, &c.* with a view not only to my own emolument, but to inform my brethren, of the improvements I had made in the cure of the *Venercal Disease*, which, I flatter myself, were attended with *more ease* to the patient, and a *greater certainty of cure*, than were before known; consequently the course of my business must afford great pleasure and satisfaction to myself: which would have been heightened to my wishes, if my situation and circumstances would have permitted my methods of cure to have been made public.

That

That publication, being well received, made a considerable addition to the reputation I had acquired, by containing the evidence I was obliged to produce, *viva voce*, in Westminster Hall, of the many extraordinary cures \*, which I had performed in the *Savoy* hospital.

Having been early taught to believe, that more authors had written themselves out of reputation, than otherwise, I thought myself resolved for the future not to put pen to paper for public inspection; and particularly for two reasons: first of all, because there is no degree of merit, even where it evidently exists, exempt from its alloy of error; and secondly, that I was

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\* It was not only proved, but admitted, that 670 soldiers were perfectly cured. See my pamphlet, intitled *Salivation not necessary for the cure of the Venereal Disease*, &c. sold by ALMON, in *Piccadilly*.

too fenfible, how much I might expofe myfelf to critical cenfure, from a defect too common among Englifh furgeons.

I have often remarked, that the Scotch furgeons are beft educated, and the Englifh beft instructed in their profeflion; but that if the former had the advantages of the latter, their fobriety, prudence and indefatigable application to ftudy and bufinefs, would give them greatly the preference. Neverthelefs, it muft be granted, that the talents of men of the fame country, in fpite of education, differ much ;

“ *One fcience only does one genius fit ;*

“ *So vaft is art, fo narrow human wit\*.”*

I think in the medical art, it fhould be rendered one *Difeafe* only ; for furely the

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\* P O P E.

ex-

extensive, or rather boundless fields of surgery and physic, exceed the most arduous industry of one or two men, to cultivate well.

However, waving these digressive reflections, I must now inform you, that by the importunate request of some great and valuable friends, I have at last been induced to set forth, in their *simple* but *true* state, such *new* thoughts and observations, as have occurred to me in my extensive practice, for many years, respecting the *Clap, Gleet, Pox,* and *several* of their consequent disorders; intending, if possible, to remove many unjust prejudices, and to rectify the glaring mistakes and false ideas, which, contrary to reason and good sense, have to this time maintained their ground.

I do not write merely for applause, business, or wealth; it is too late in life  
for



for such attempts; No. 56 stares in my face and points to dissolution. Beside, if the two former are not already acquired, I fear it will now be a fruitless employment to search for them; and the latter ought in justice, to go as an attendant on the other two; although that is not always the case: avarice is indeed a vice, of which many hundreds of my acquaintance will acquit me, and therefore from among all my frailties and foibles, I hope that sin will be ever excluded.

Nor do I hereby mean to detract from the character of any individual, or add to my own, at the expence of others; confiding in the opinion, that every regular surgeon will act upon good principles, according to the progress of his study and knowledge; although, *Ex quovis Ligno non fit Mercurius*: therefore, I hope, I have some title to expect that a good design,

sign, however it may succeed, will not create malignant calumny. We are all subject to error, but if truth is not sought, it may for ever lie in obscurity. It has ever been my wish, that candor, unanimity, and a disinterested, mild reprehension might take place of abusive rancour, malice and envy. These sentiments would prove of great utility to individuals, and to society in general.

In points of my profession, I have for thirty years, differed much in opinion from the general practice of other surgeons, relating to the *Veneral Disease*; never fixing my faith on the sentiments or writings of any man, till I brought them to the test of trial and experience; but endeavouring at the same time to form my judgment with probity; by making allowance for the circumstances of *time,*  
*case,*

*case, habit of body, &c. &c.* and yet I must acknowledge, through close attention and observation, I have discovered that much the greater part of authors and practitioners are very erroneous, in theory and practice.

It has been granted that ASTRUC on the *Venereal Disease*, stands PREMIER, for the hypothetical part of his treatise: he was a distinguished scholar; had read almost every writer on the subject, and was able to reduce every thing he had read, into great order and method: but surely no judicious surgeon will admit of the practical parts, bearing an equal degree of merit. Whoever believes and follows him, will soon be convinced of his mistake. He gained more applause by his writings than practice, even in PARIS, where I was his pupil, and had a fair opportunity of knowing his repute, from  
my

my old Master MORAND, surgeon to the KING, and the hospital of *Invalids*; as well as from other surgeons of eminence.

The famous Dr. TURNER was indefatigable in his practice, observations, and writings: I knew him well. He was esteemed a very honest, conscientious good practitioner in his time, and yet I cannot find that he added *many great* improvements to the modes of practice, which had been in vogue, an hundred years before.

It is needless to mention other authors, as most of them, worth notice, laid down nearly the same plan.

I am not insensible of the difficulty of procuring credit to *new* thoughts and *new* methods of practice, particularly in the *Venereal Disease*. It is equally difficult to discover, ascertain and establish *new* methods

thods upon sure and unerring principles, even in hospitals; and much more so in the confined employment of one professor: nor is it to be done at all, without a daily and long scrutiny into a multiplicity of experiments cautiously made, in a great variety of cases, suitable to such noble purposes. The execution of such a task requires also a great number of patients; which falls to the share of few surgeons.

From the Year 1494, surgeons have not very widely dissented from an uniformity of practice, and yet “ \* *It is evident*  
 “ *there have been more authors who have*  
 “ *professedly treated upon this subject, (if we*  
 “ *except the plague and pestilential Fever)*  
 “ *than were ever known of any other sickness*  
 “ *in all ages past. Nor need we admire at*  
 “ *this, since from the Time of its first invasion,*

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\* ASTRUC, VOL. II. p. 222.

“ no one disease has been more FREQUENT,  
 “ more AFFLICTING and INTRICATE, and  
 “ consequently more deserving of medicinal en-  
 “ quiry. EPIPHANIUS FERNANDUS, even  
 “ at that time, or in the year 1620, makes  
 “ mention of fourscore authors who had dis-  
 “ coursed upon this topic of Venereal Disease :  
 “ Myself can reckon up at this time above  
 “ 175 ; neither (I am verily persuaded)  
 “ have all of them fallen under my observati-  
 “ on.”

The usual method for a *Clap*, from sur-  
 geons of the first eminence, to the apo-  
 thecary's 'prentice, has been nearly the  
 same. “ A few grains of *Calomel* daily ;  
 “ purging it off, commonly so called,  
 “ every third or fourth day, till they ima-  
 “ gined the infection was removed ;  
 “ which might happen in four, five or six  
 “ weeks, and then finishing with *Bals.*  
 “ *Capiv.* &c. so far as to what has been

“ termed, a *trifling weeping*, of which they  
 “ made little account ; either advising the  
 “ *patient*, who was so in the strict sense  
 “ of the word, to the use of the cold bath,  
 “ or to leave it *to nature*, for that it would  
 “ in time vanish of its own accord.”

It is needless to animadvert on such  
 practice and advice, because many thou-  
 sands have experienced the *bad* conse-  
 quences.

The cure of *Gleets*, or that discharge of  
 uninfected matter, which frequently  
 follows the *Clap*, has been, time out of  
 mind, ineffectually attempted by loads of  
*balsamic, astringent* and *styptic medicines*,  
 internally, as well as by *injections*: In  
 which cases only, *injections* have been  
 much trusted to.

Formerly *Gleets* were often deemed in-  
 curable, but since the reviv'd use of *Bou-  
 gies*,

*gies*, scarcely any *Gleet* resists a cure, except in long neglected cases, wherein many *fistulas* are formed, some of which also are curable; or when *Bougies* are unskillfully managed.

Every stage of the *Pox*, from a slight *chancre* to *foul* bones, has undergone almost one invariable method; the *grand remede*, or the *mercurial ointment*, applied in quantities sufficient to *salivate*, or smaller quantities longer continued, and allayed by means and medicines promoting sweat or stools. These methods have indeed been some time past less in vogue, since *corrosive sublimate* has been rendered fashionable, both in public and private practice. The uncertain and bad success attending this *new* mode, as well as the *old* one, is, I believe now sufficiently known, and therefore prevents me the trouble of saying any thing more on that  
sub-



subject, notwithstanding many cures have been thereby performed.

It must appear strange to every speculative man, that during more than *two Centuries and an half*, so little alteration or improvement has been made in the cure of diseases, so numerous and frequent, and which chiefly in their worst stages, both in rich and poor, become objects of the most able surgeons. Probably some reasons may be assigned for this deficiency; as, the hazard of reputation by experiments, the expence of remedies, full employment in the general practice of surgery, or a natural disposition to the more mechanical parts of the art, such as *lithotomy, amputation, &c.* which although a study not more noble or meritorious, yet by being more conspicuous, is sometimes productive of speedier preferment to an hospital, the straightest and smoothest road to po-

pularity, employment, and emolument : such practitioners as these have also the benefit of public applause, from dexterously *amputating* a limb, in case of a *foul bone* or otherwise ; while the surgeon who *cures* a *foul bone* and *preserves* the limb, must of necessity, from the nature of the disease, stifle the merit in profound secrecy ; probably too with a third part of that gratuity, which the other thinks himself justly intitled to, and yet the skill of the latter is beyond comparifon, more to be admired, and ought to be more rewarded.

I do not however design to cast any undue reflections on my brethren, for I acknowledge that many of them are ornaments to the profession, having deservedly great practice and equal ability ; but it is impossible *to excell in every branch* of it.

THAT IS ALL I CONTEND FOR.

The

The genius of one man, may lead more particularly to the study of one part of the art, than another; if therefore every one would be so ingenuous as to admit of the superiority, which shines forth in the *peculiar* province of his brother, without envious detraction from his merit; it would promote and cement that union and friendship among chirurgical professors in general, which I fear is now confined to about a *fifteenth part* of the whole, within the bills of mortality.

There, I fear, P A R T I A L I T Y has fixed her standard; notwithstanding an equal degree of natural and acquired abilities, requisite to the establishment of a good surgeon, may be found in a great number of their other brethren; but who have not met with a *lucky bit*, to bring them forth to the touchstone of probation.

A *lucky bit* I term it, for I am inclined to think that the hand of a person of distinction; national, but *praise-worthy* attachment; senatorial or dissenting interest; a dose of *aurum*, or other incidental means, have raised more surgeons to public fame, and posts of honour, than sterling merit and sound knowledge. I do not hereby wish to insinuate, that such gentlemen are destitute of the qualifications requisite to their popular and valuable appointments, for I avow the contrary: But *that these qualifications are not the steps*, by which in general they mount to preferment.

Having declared my objections to the *usual* modes of cure in the *Venerable Disease*, I shall now lay before you my *new* thoughts and observations on that subject. They have their foundation in *experience*; but if after a faithful relation of them, any doubts of my practice, result-

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ing therefrom, should arise, my reputation shall stand or fall by *another public proof* of their validity, or the ocular conviction of any eminent surgeon of probity.

In regard to the improvements, which from time to time I have added to my practice, I do not flatter myself, with having done a *fiftieth part* of what I must leave undone.

*Life is short, art long, experience difficult †.*

But if the small advancement I have made, at great expence of money, labour and anxiety, towards a happier method of cure, than heretofore; and the few hints, which I shall give, should ex-

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† HIPPOCRATES.

cite an emulation in others to pursue the track, in order to investigate yet *greater* discoveries, for the happiness and welfare of mankind, I shall receive much satisfaction; especially in my last hours, when I may be able to reflect that I was created for some good purpose, and that in my passage to the grave, I may perchance have the praises of many persons, who, providentially, through my endeavours, happily survive me. Now to business.

I believe all judicious surgeons agree, that the most difficult, doubtful, and perplexing part of the whole, in its cure, and often the most dangerous in its consequences, is the *Clap*; proceeding sometimes from the nature of the disease itself, and frequently from the inexperience of the surgeon, or the defect of due care and candor of the patient.

Nice and critical circumstances ; many little incidents, and accidents, which happen unexpectedly and unobserved, may defeat the expectations of the most able surgeon, whatever may be his mode of cure.

There are indisputably, bad and different symptoms, in various habits and degrees of infection ; but there are other obstacles, wholly chargeable to the misconduct of patients : Such are improper diet, the too free use of strong liquors, little sleep, much exercise on foot, horseback, or in a carriage, and the use of women.

The bad effects of high seasoned food, acids, spirituous liquors, and even strong beer, speedily and frequently become evident in many cases ; although not in those *amazing instances* charged on *Cayenne pepper*, by a very worthy and experienced brother.

ther. Nevertheless it may be clearly evinced, that a few glasses of punch, or even the vinegar, pepper, mustard and horse radish, daily used with our food, will promote the discharge, even at the eve of a cure, and often renew it in a greater or less degree, after the surgeon has been discharged. Can you give credit to the assertion, that even a *Glass of wine, wine and water,* or a *little juice of lemon,* has instantly produced the most excruciating pain in the *urethra*? Such a proof there is, if the solemn declarations of a man of probity are to be relied on. The case is this.

One of the *medical* profession, whom I am sure you know; a man of understanding and sound judgment in other matters, was baffled with a clap three months or longer, before he applied to me, notwithstanding he had taken more *mercurial* preparations,



parations, purges, &c. than might have cured twenty persons.

The quantity and corrosive quality of the matter was beyond conception; and the *urethra* thereby rendered so exquisitely inflammatory and painful, that it was with the utmost difficulty I could pass, or he admit a *bougie*, although not larger or less pliable than a packthread; and which, even when accomplished, required great resolution to retain an hour. Nevertheless, as it was obvious, that obstructions in the *urethra* were the *cause* \* or *effect* of that immoderate and painful discharge of matter, I advised him to the gradual use of *bougies*, and an alterative drink, but totally to omit *all* preparations of *mercury*: Whereby, in time a cure was effected.

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\* My brethren may decide that point.

During

During his attendance, he often told me, that nothing could induce him to drink a glass of wine, or even wine and water, or to suck a little lemon-juice, for that he had experienced the immediate effect to be pains in the palms of the hands and soles of the feet, which with a sudden transition seized the *urethra*; insomuch that, according to his own words, if it was not for shame, he could have rolled on the floor.

The foregoing circumstances, singular and incredible as they may appear, I will at any time in confidence, as fully as possible prove to you. The person being now alive and well.

Too little sleep prevents a due degree of perspiration, and causes an unnatural heat of body, of which the *urethra* partakes, and the discharge increases.

Immoderate exercise not only prolongs but increases the discharge, in proportion to the increased velocity of the circulating fluids; and to the injury received, by the friction of the parts affected.

The *moderate* use of women, although prejudicial, I have seldom found equally so to the obstacles before mentioned.

To add to the whole, the greater number of patients are guilty of neglect, both in relation to medicine and attendance, especially when they are informed that the infection is removed, and experience proves it. However, *patients never err*, for whatever happens amiss is charged to the surgeon's account, and sometimes proclaimed in public to their acquaintance, without regard to common honesty, truth or justice. I remember your observation, when we were both employed in the cure of a person

person of distinction ; that if a surgeon cured *nineteen claps* well in one person, and the *twentieth*, by any accident, was not attended with equal success, the merit of the others was totally obliterated.

Notwithstanding all the disadvantages, to which the surgeon and patient are in general subject, there are some *very PARTICULAR* exceptions.

I have cured one gentleman of many *claps* in seven years. He seldom goes to bed before two or three in the morning, after drinking one or two bottles of Claret, or other wine ; yet it is rare that a *clap* requires a fortnight's attention : Indeed he is constant in his visits, so long as they are necessary.

Another gentleman, whose occupation consists in daily riding on horseback, many miles, and dancing, has several times

obtained a cure ; sooner than many others, with the greatest care and regularity. But these are not examples, sufficient to induce others to the same practice.

When a patient applies to a surgeon, for the cure of a *clap*, I think it behoves the latter to enquire minutely into the REALITY of the disease, and the *time* of its appearance ; whether it be *simple* or *compound*, of *long* or *short* duration : Circumstances which make a material difference in the prognostic, and cure, and on which the surgeon's credit also much depends. — I say *simple* or *compound*, not in that sense which has been commonly adopted ; for, however singular I may appear, I call that *clap simple*, which is contracted from a woman having only a *clap*, but *compound*, when received from a woman having *also an old or a recent* pox.

Ignorance of the time when a *clap* commences, may deceive the surgeon, and totally frustrate the cure, because it may be a *recent* gleet, of two or three months duration only, which has eluded the art of another surgeon, although he may have removed the infection ; or it may be a *recent* clap, attended with an *old* gleet : Cases not always confessed or voluntarily made clear, lest the patient should be slighted in the first case, for having preferred another, and in the second, that he may take the chance of being cured of both, at the same easy expence.

It is well known that *my* methods of cure in the *simple* clap, are by various *injections*, and *alterative mercurial pills* ; adapted to cases and constitutions : And in *this* practice I think myself fully justified.

Many years I pursued the *usual* forms, but, I solemnly declare, not with that satisfaction to myself, or ease, safety, and expedition to my patients, which I have since experienced : I now meet with fewer inconveniences, and less troublesome symptoms ; which gentlemen who have been under my care know experimentally ; and will testify, that they have suffered more by *one* clap formerly, than they do now by TEN. I do not *truly* know, that any thing *more than injection* is absolutely necessary, except due care and regularity, having safely performed many cures by *that alone* ; for some persons have a great aversion to *pills*, and in gouty and rheumatic habits of body, I have been put to the necessity of omitting them, being fully convinced by a variety of examples, that a very small quantity of any *mercurial* preparation, has really brought

brought on the *gout* and *rheumatism* in such persons, as have been before afflicted with those diseases.

I took the hint of curing by *injection* thirty-five years ago. Mr. *Green*, a surgeon of *Lemon-street, Goodman's Fields*, was, I believe at that time, the *only* man who attempted that practice; which raised much clamour, many objections and prejudices against him: He was adjudged most assuredly to *pox* all his patients, and yet not a *single* instance of injury being done, or failure of a safe and good cure, could be produced. He had many experienced advocates, made a rapid progress, and, if death had not intervened, his resolution, good character and success, would probably have dispelled the mist, that obscured the sight of many, if not all the surgeons, cotemporary with him; notwithstanding one disadvantage, to which

he



he was rendered continually liable : His patients, who felt little more of the disease, than the *discharge*, would not endure a restraint from their usual recreations, which, by rendering their cure much more tedious, often produced a *gleet*, that might not otherwise have happened, and reflected an odium on his practice, which gave the surgeons an opportunity of detracting from his merit ; while their own patients, who had been debarred from all such excesses, by *gripings*, *purgings*, and a strict injunction to live according to rule, two or three months, suffered ten times more in their health, and exclusive of a *worse gleet*, rendered incurable for life : For then *bougies* were not in use.

It is absurd as well as inhuman, to condemn a man solely for the sake of opposition and envy, or to judge unfavourably of his abilities, *in speculation*, because

we

we are not so happy to arrive at his degree of skill, or if so, have not spirit sufficient to carry it into execution.

After the death of Mr. *Green*, I heard no more of *injections*. I was too young to engage in novel practice, and too weak to encounter the difficulties, which might attend such an hazardous enterprize. We had no *injections* in common use, but those prepared with *troch. alb. rhas.* and *lap. medicamentos*: To which the famous Dr. *Turner* and others, were fearful of trusting, till they were well assured that the *infection* was removed in the usual manner.

This shews that the surgeons were ignorant of *safe* and *proper injections*, and were likely to remain so; for notwithstanding venereal complaints were numerous and common, yet when divided among *physicians, surgeons, apothecaries,*  
*chemists,*

*chemists*, and *quacks*; a few only fell to the lot of a private surgeon. The principal and prime part of the business being engrossed by a few surgeons of popular character; who made so good an account of houses fitted up for the reception and salivation of their wealthy and noble patients, that a deviation from the *old* practice, however laudable, might cause a reduction of their gains, which were very alluring, as they were excessive. Trifling cases, as *simple* claps, were therefore little worthy their attention.

As to myself, length of time and *occasional* experiments, gradually opened to my view sufficient incitement to the use of *injections*: The task was great, my fears and apprehensions many, and my patients few; but as I proceeded with great caution and an anxious desire of success, if possible, I happily explored sufficient  
 proofs

proofs of the rectitude of my practice :  
Which, with the knowledge I had acquir-  
ed, of curing *poxes* without *salivation*, en-  
couraged me to engage in the cure of the  
FIRST REGIMENT OF FOOT GUARDS \*,  
wherein my success has been *legally* con-  
firmed.

Some objections have been made against  
the use of *injections* in general, without  
knowing or admitting their various com-  
positions. It has been alledged ;

1st. *That they lock up the infectious matter.*

2dly. *That the patient becomes poxed  
thereby.*

3dly. *That swelled testicles are often the  
consequences.*

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\* By desire of the right honourable field marshal,  
Earl LIGONIER ; and General CARR.

F

4thly.

4thly. *That they cause strictures, caruncles, &c. in the urethra.*

It is not to be expected, that I should account for *all* sorts of injections. Probably much mischief may have ensued from the use of many of them ; but I can faithfully answer for *my own*, and I take this opportunity to assure you in the most solemn manner, that I have never discovered an instance of a *pox* or *pocky symptom*, caused by *my* injections, even among the soldiers, most of whom were the most irregular set of patients that a surgeon could meet with.

I am under no temptation to testify a falsity, as the cure of *claps* is a matter indifferent to me ; and furthermore I scorn to deceive you or any man upon earth. I candidly confess, that formerly *some* of my injections caused much pain, and that was the only inconvenience that attended the

the use of them ; for which reason I omitted them, and used a milder sort.

This replies to the two first objections.

In regard to the third. If *swelled testicles* never occurred, but to such patients as were treated with *injections*, there might be solid foundation for that assertion ; but so long as it will appear evident, that even among judicious surgeons, patients are not more exempt from those accidents, under *all* methods of cure, wherein *injections* have had no place ; that objection drops of itself.

The 4th is also easily refuted. Many proofs have convinced me that *claps* are less liable to succeeding *strictures*, *caruncles*, &c. from the use of *proper injections* than without them. Beside, mark the *absurd contrast* ! even granting that *injections* were composed of *astringent* and

*styptic* medicines, can they cause and cure the same disease? for the best authors and practitioners admit of the free use of them, immediately after the *infection* is run off, if the remaining discharge will not yield to *balsamics* and *astringents* internally.

Monfieur *Daran* has published a long, and accurate history of cafes and cures of that fort, which happened abroad. I should be glad to know the causes assigned for that immense number of alarming and amazing instances of *gleets*, *caruncles*, *car-nosities*, *excrescences*, *strictures*, *fistulas*, &c. THEY USE NO INJECTIONS THERE.

My observations have induced me to suspect, that those dire disorders often proceed from a long continued discharge of

of matter\*, the corrosive quality of it, varying according to the degrees of infection, and different habits of body.

The real state of the matter will, I believe, at length prove, that if twenty surgeons should have each twenty patients, and as many different modes of treatment, each surgeon would find *some* cases end in *gleets*, *caruncles*, &c. in defiance to the greatest *sagacity* and circumspection: Admitting too, that they were all confined to their chambers.

I must here mention that *injections* are so far from causing *gleets*, that I have cured some *recent claps*, attended with *old gleets* entirely by *injections*.

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\* If the cure be flubbered over, or long delayed, *caruncles* arise in the *urethra*, and in the progress of time, a *carnosity*, &c. WISEMAN.



I believe you do not forget a bad case, wherein *no injection* had been used, and yet the patient suffered most of the inconveniences charged to that account. It was this.

A gentleman of fortune applied to me in great agony, with a total suppression of urine; after I had relieved him, he informed me, that he had been under the care of a surgeon three months for a *clap*, and inveighed bitterly against the treatment he had undergone, saying, he had thereby a swelling brought on near the *anus*. On examination I perceived an abscess forming in *perineo*. The necessity of hastening the suppuration, and the probability of his urine passing that way, after an incision made for the discharge of matter, induced me to propose you in consultation, in order to justify the propriety of my proceedings, and to  
 I  
 parry

parry the thrust which he might unjustly make at me, as well as my brother surgeon.

In your presence I laid open the abscess, and afterwards at the first discharge of urine, some part of it according to our prediction, passed that way.

The introduction of a small *bougie* manifested an obstruction in the *urethra*, and on that account, the continual use of *bougies* was advised, till a perfect cure was compleated, which came to pass in three months; and to this time he remains perfectly well.

I have at this time under my care a surgeon, afflicted with *three fistulas*, through which some of the urine and also semen were discharged; one at the point of the left buttock, and two in *perineo*,  
the

the consequences of a *clap* and *gleet* of some months duration, which he had altogether treated, without *injection*. He is nearly cured, contrary to my expectation, because his profession could not admit of confinement, but obliged him to ride on horse-back, more or less almost every day.

I could give many instances of such cases.

In fine, if we may give credit to the written authorities of past ages, *caruncles*, &c. bear nearly the same *date* as *claps*. Whether we take *it* from WISEMAN, surgeon to KING CHARLES 2d; THEODORE TURQUET DE MAYERNE, of *Geneva*, Physician to KING JAMES 1st. QUEEN ANNE, and KING CHARLES 1st; FRANCIS RACHINE, Physician of *Montpelier*,

1620.

1620. or from JOHN ARDEN, \* Esq; one of the surgeons to KING RICHARD 2d, and likewise KING HENRY 4th, about the years 1390, 1400,

COMPOUND CLAPS I treat in another manner. By way of precaution, I administer the same medicines, as in a *confirmed pox*; and also use an *injection*, because I am well satisfied, that if I did not as much as possible prevent the corrosive

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\* Mr. BECKET, a surgeon, in a letter published in the philosophical transactions 1720, says, in his search after the original of this distemper, that ARDEN in a manuscript curiously written on vellum, recites the symptoms, *phimosis*, *paraphimosis*, and *caruncles*, as attendants on the sickness of *brenning*, or certain inward heat, with excoriation of the *urethra*; so defined in those days, but now called the *clap*: And accordingly directs a *lenient injection* of woman's milk with a little *oil of violets*; also an *almond milk* for the like purpose. To these smooth, oily, (*not astringent*) injections, relaxing the parts too much, BECKET attributes the cause of *caruncles*,

and virulent matter lying long in the *urethra*, the blood and juices would become infected, before any internal remedies might prevail. For that reason, I verily believe, I have not had under my care a twentieth part of the *poxes*, which would otherwise have happened.

The question may be; how are *compound claps* distinguished? I confess it is a nice point, which requires quick discernment, as well as much practice. Sometimes indeed the symptoms in general appear out of proportion, in a higher degree; particularly the quantity and colour of the discharged matter, which manifest the greatest virulence.

When such cases happen, I am generally right in my conjecture, although to remove my doubts, I intreat my patients to search out, if possible, the suspected

*dub-*

*dulcinea*, and either by money or intreaty, to extort the truth; and when that has been obtained, I have not found myself mistaken above *once* in ten cases.

Surgeons therefore ought to keep this matter in view, for whatever may be the method of cure, if the case is treated as a *simple clap*, a pox may ensue, and bring disgrace to a surgeon of the first character.

I have had many patients from surgeons, exclaiming vehemently against their bad treatment *for poisoning them*; by suddenly stopping a two months running of yellow matter, with electuaries, &c. but have always rectified their misapprehensions by remonstrance, or reference to the persons of whom the diseases were contracted; the means through which I have sometimes acquired the appellation of a good prophet, and wiped off the stain from my brother-surgeons.

Women in general are sooner cured of claps than men by *injection*; for although they endure the same degree of virulence, yet those diseases in the latter are rendered more obstinate, by frequent erections, nocturnal emissions, and the more immediate effect of the urinous salts. Circumstances which I omitted to mention before.

I now come to the dangerous consequences of claps, proceeding from that uninfected, continued discharge of yellow matter, commonly known by the name of *gleet*, which by neglect, sooner or later, whatever may be the conjunct cause, most commonly excites a heat and difficulty in the discharge of the *semen*, as well as *urine*, the stream of the latter being also gradually diminished, by a contraction of, or an obstruction in the *urethra*, till in the end, a *strangury*, or *total sup-*

*suppression* of urine supervenes, often productive of *abscesses* and *fistulas*, in *pene*, *perineo*, *scroto* and *buttocks*. DIRE DISORDERS! often worse than the stone or gout, or even death itself; therefore may justly be ranked among the *Opprobria Chirurgorum*, notwithstanding a cure may be commonly obtained by a skilful application of *bougies*.

That we are now possessed of *one* remedy is most certainly a great blessing, but even the remedy itself is commonly so tedious, irksome, and difficult to be complied with, that many persons, (I dare aver, some hundreds within the bills of mortality) prefer the present inconveniences of a *very bad* gleet, and risque the event of its consequences, rather than submit to the use of *bougies*; whence, among the multitude, many persons become Victims to their ill-tim'd resolutions.

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It is much to be lamented, that no other remedy for the cure of *gleets* in general, previous to the invasion of those tremendous consequent symptoms, has yet been invented : possibly it may exist, and in time be brought to light, through the study and application of some diligent person. Such an event would signalize the ingenuity of the inventor, as well as fill his coffers, and the deserved praises of the present as well as succeeding generations would transmit his fame to the latest posterity.

For my own part, I would sustain any possible labour of body or mind to explore so valuable an acquisition ; notwithstanding there would be little probability of my enjoying more, than the pleasing reflection of having contributed to the ease and happiness of my fellow creatures.

I have already made some attempts to that laudable purpose; some of which have succeeded to my sanguine expectation, as *one to four*, but others have defeated the same means, and forced me to the *der-nier ressort, bougies*. Nevertheless, I purpose to persist in that work, in order to make as great a progress, as my health and life will admit.

If I should arrive at the satisfaction of greater success, in any manner worthy your notice, I shall cheerfully submit the history of such cases to your discerning eye.

In relation to *gleets*, I believe, many mistakes are committed. It is not uncommon to meet with persons, who have first attended surgeons, one, two or three months with a *clap*, and having then a diffidence of their skill, apply to others  
not

not more skilful; for on perceiving the linen much stained with a *yellow* running, they pronounce the *infection* is not removed, and therefore put them under a second course of *mercurials*, *purgings*, &c. which, if they knew well how to distinguish a *gleet* from a *clap*, they would most certainly have avoided.

Now, for the sake of such surgeons, who also are apt to judge that the infection remains so long as the linen is ting'd with *yellow* colour, I hereby assure them of a truth, that neither the quality or quantity of the discharge in appearance, is a *sure* diagnostic of a *clap*.

Very many *gleets* retain a *deep* yellow colour, and often run as much or more than the greater part of *claps*, without containing the least infection: nevertheless, there is a degree of acrimony, sufficient

cient to produce an inflammatory redness of the *glans*, and heat of urine; very similar to the effects of an infectious virulence.

Many patients have applied to me whose *gleets* have commenced before marriage, but who have not required my assistance till after the expiration of some years: They had often been alarmed with the above recited symptoms, after a day's riding, or a cheerful glass, notwithstanding their wives and children remained in perfect health. A clear proof of uninfected matter.

A swelled testicle is the common consequence of a *clap*, and sometimes an attendant on a *gleet*, especially during the use of *bougies*, if they give *much* pain.

Several causes have been assigned for that accident. Some surgeons say, that it proceeds from a cold, attended with a

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flight

slight fever, which stopping the discharge, fixes it usually in that gland. Others are of opinion that as soon as the testicle is swelled, the patient is poxed, particularly, if they discover that *injections* have been applied; so great is their prejudice or ignorance: and yet, as I have before said, the *composition* of the injections, whether innocent or otherwise, is totally unknown to them.

Other causes are also assigned by authors; but to set the matter in its true light, as far as I am capable, I would advise surgeons to inspect narrowly into such cases, and then I believe they will be convinced that a suppression of the running is not the *cause*, but *effect* of a swelled testicle; for during a *full* discharge of matter, pain first seizes the testicle, and within twenty-four hours the tumour commonly appears, and then the running ceases either wholly

wholly or in part ; the same effects are also produced frequently, during the use of *bougies*, when there is a very copious discharge, without the least colour of reason for a supposed infection.

From a supposition of *pocky* matter being lodged in the testicles, it has been a common practice, after bleeding, to give *calomel* and *purges*, and to apply alone or in cataplasms, *mercurial ointment* ; the readiest means of continuing the fever, and either causing a *scirrhus* or *impostumation* of those glands ; whereas, if they had taken away eight or ten ounces of blood, fomented with milk, poulticed with bread, milk and oil, applied a bag truss, and in the mean time, administered a *sudorific narcotic* dose, three times in twenty-four hours, during three or four days, they would most commonly have vanquished the fever in that time ; the pain would have ceased gradually and

the tumour soon after subsided without any consequent symptom of *venereal* matter remaining in the blood. *Salts* and *manna*, might occasionally be advised.

I have known many instances of the running being stopped, while it was *virulent*, from one, to three or four weeks, by an intense fever, without any other *venereal* symptom happening thereupon; which time has confirmed, and therefore demonstrates that when the testicles are swelled, no *pocky* matter is lodged there, and that during the absence of the running, the blood does not become contaminated.

*Phimosis* is a common, and, if ill-treated, also dangerous symptom. It more frequently attends persons, who have naturally the *preputium* long and difficult to be drawn back; and is often caused by the corrosive matter of a *clap* lodging between  
that

that and the *glans*, as well as by *chancres*,  
 The practice of some surgeons has been,  
 to *slit* the *preputium*, so far as to expose  
 the *glans* entirely to view; and of others  
 the application of *mercurial* ointment.

I have never more than twice been urged  
 to the painful necessity of the former;  
 and the latter I do not approve of. *Emol-*  
*lient* fomentations and cataplasms, and an  
*injection*, totally void of *mercury*, have  
 ever answered my purpose, and speedily  
 too. A threatening gangrene and large  
 warts, are, I think, the *only* cases where-  
 in dividing the *preputium* can be fairly  
 justified.

*Veneréal warts* on the *glans penis*, and  
 on the inside of the *preputium* are a disorder  
 more troublesome and disagreeable than  
 dangerous: notwithstanding some surgeons  
 have imagined that from them the blood  
 might



might be contaminated, and others that they proceed from venereal matter already existing in the blood; for which reasons, they have *salivated* their patients; but to their great disappointment the *warts* have remained in *statu quo*, and the constitution has not been mended.

To rectify in future those false ideas, if they will only employ the *scissars*, where they can be admitted; and where not, make use of a *mild* caustic; the patient will be cured without any other means, and success prove that my advice is right.

They will sometimes return, and the same means must be repeated, till they are totally eradicated. I am inclined to conclude, that they may be communicated from one to another, by persons who have no other *venereal* disorder.

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It is well known that I cure *poxes*, from the flightest *chancre* to *foul bones*, without *salivation*, *mercurial ointment* \*, or confinement, even in winter ; in an easy, pleasant and sure manner, admitting my patients to follow their business and amusements within moderate restrictions,

The certainty of my method having been repeatedly confirmed, I shall add only a few very extraordinary cases to this letter, in order to illustrate what I have before done.

There are many persons, who were never, or at least slightly, affected with one symptom of this disease, yet in their own

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\* Some persons yet imagine that I administer corrosive sublimate of mercury, and others have avowed that I do so ; therefore I hereby solemnly disavow that practice.

phrase,

phrase, are rotting gradually with a dry pox; running to and fro, from one surgeon to another, highly dissatisfied with those who will not attentively listen to their tedious tales, implicitly believe them, and are too honest to administer a *farrago* of unnecessary medicines; which, if done, would make no alteration in their *imaginary* evils: They pay their money with discontent to persons who undertake their cure, for not having succeeded to their wishes, and apply to others; whether *regular* surgeons or otherwise, it matters not; till at length a *real* disease of the body takes place, and puts an end to their sorrows.

Such visionary distresses may probably take their rise from some doubtful matters. *Excoriations* or *erosions* often appear on the inside of the *preputium* near the crown of the *glans*; sometimes occasioned

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ed by *venereal* matter recently contracted, and at other times from heated and acrid urine, mixed with the dried *mucus* and lodging in that part, especially if the cuticle has been before eroded ; for then it is soonest hurt, and not seldom inclines the surgeon as well as the patient, injudiciously to make a serious matter of it, and to pronounce that the blood is tainted with the *venereal* virus ; at least that the cure of those former *erosions* was not duly performed. From thence anxiety and perplexing revolutions of thought become gradually rooted, and wear out a life, to which death is preferable. Some doubts also of that sort are frequently formed, from the appearance of small pimples, the effect only of *impure* embraces, with women at an *improper* time.

To discover the fallacy of those suggestions, I advise the patient to wash the suspected part night and morning with

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warm

warm *water* only ; because if his complaints are immaterial, *that only* is sufficient ; but if otherwise, I stand justified in taking other measures for a cure.

When an *hardness* remains, after the *superficial* cure of a *chancre*, allowing for the *cicatrix*, the act of coition will renew the soreness of the part, and often the suppuration ; therefore without due and speedy precaution in the administration of proper medicines, the case may end in a *confirmed* pox.

A gentleman, an utter stranger to me, four years ago, but now my intimate acquaintance and friend, near fifty years old, in the full strength of body, as well as understanding in other affairs of life, was so deeply affected with the horror of a *supposed* disease, that words will scarcely describe his distress. He called it a *dry pox*, and would confusedly and  
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incessantly enumerate symptom after symptom, which had no solid foundation for their support, till the tears trickled from his eyes. He first applied to a *nominal* doctor, for the cure of a *slight excoriation* under the *preputium*. During five months he took a large quantity of medicines, which sometimes brought him to the verge of a *salivation*. I made a determined point of curing, if possible, this miserable object; by forbidding totally the use of medicines, giving him full liberty to call on me as often as he chose, and furthermore by way of giving him the fullest indulgence in the recital of his dismal and tedious narration, he occasionally dined with me; and although I had often refuted his groundless apprehensions, it required *two years* to accomplish that great work. But he now retains *mens sana, in corpore sano: mirum est!*

Another set of objects are equally as miserable from a real cause of complaints. Some suffer from the negligence, or want of sagacity in the surgeon, or wholly from their own misconduct, having deceived themselves as well as their surgeons : anxiously and daily pleading for the utmost exertion of skill towards a speedy and certain cure, while they incautiously, and often willfully evade the means to obtain that end. If indeed they would generously charge their eventual sufferings to their own account, and exculpate the surgeon, their omissions and follies would be rendered more tolerable ; but whatever happens, whether it be a relapse, a prolongation or failure of cure, or the false intimation of another surgeon, that all is not well, the fault never lies at their own door.

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There are other cases not uncommon ; which lurk under the disguise of other diseases ; as the *gout*, *rheumatism*, *scurvy*, *leprosy*, *consumption*, or disorders called *nervous* : or according to the usual cant, are caused by *mercury* lying in their bones.

Under these circumstances, it is not to be expected that patients can decide for themselves : they therefore apply to physicians or surgeons, who are placed in the first rank of general practice, but whose opinion and treatment are not always consistent with the real state of their cases. Many instances of this sort verify the assertion.

There are yet another kind of patients, who have been perfectly well cured, not having the least *real* symptom of the disease remaining, but who are so prepossessed with the difficulty, or great uncertainty



tainty of the *venereal* matter being totally subdued and expelled, that from an *accidental* pain in the *nose, head, groin* or *other parts*, or from spontaneous pimples in the face or body, are reduced to a dejection of mind, capable of forming to themselves the identity of a multitude of visionary symptoms, which never had existence in the *venereal* disease.

To cure persons of this complexion, who in effect have, if I may be allowed the expression, a *poxed mind*; requires more rhetorical eloquence and art of reasoning than I believe, most men are endowed with. If they can be persuaded by any *one* surgeon, to apply to no other, and to omit *all* medicines, till time alone can expose the fallacy of their doubts and false ideas, he will perform a task almost next to a miracle, and may affix an high estimation on the power of his oratory.

I lately knew a very good physician, and a learned and sensible man, who was on the point of matrimony. He had been severely afflicted with a *confirmed pox*, and had taken more medicines, by his own account, than might have vanquished his disease five times over; yet so great was the diffidence of his own judgment and others whom he had consulted, that he became the victim of death; the mere effect of deep anxiety and his own prescriptions.

I have discoursed with him for an hour at a time in many of his visits. He would leave me to appearance with a tranquil mind and great spirits, fully convicted of his own tormenting misapprehensions, and reconciled to my advice: but soon after he had left me, would retire to his house, and give the utmost latitude to his agitated, and, I suppose, distracted mind.

*The*

The following cases will, I hope, serve in some measure, not only to illustrate the subject of my former narrative\*; but also to prove the salutary virtues, - extraordinary power, and efficacy of my medicines.

## C A S E I.

A Servant of his MAJESTY's household was infected, according to his own account, with so many *chancres*, as almost covered the *penis*; and put him in fear of losing it. He applied to an apothecary, and in two months a *bubo* appeared in the groin, which was discuffed, and some time after returned. For these complaints he took medicines nine months,

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\* Salivation not necessary, &c.

and

and was then seized with giddiness and sickness; lost his appetite and flesh; and soon became afflicted with nocturnal pains in the thighs, knees and legs; an eruption over the whole body, and an ulcer in the throat. In this situation he was under the care of an eminent physician, who prescribed medicines for him one year, and then, believing him to be in a consumption, declared that, in his opinion, neither he or any other man could cure him.

In March 1769, he walked with the greatest difficulty to my house; informed me that he had not been able to do his duty since May, 1768, and could not eat or sleep with any comfort, on account of the intolerable pains which he suffered in his legs. He was much emaciated, had a large node on each shin bone, and an ulcer in his throat, which occasioned his

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breath to be extremely offensive to himself.

It is a vulgar adage, that *faith in the doctor is half the cure*; be that as it may, my promise of a speedy cure raised his drooping spirits.

I directly gave him my medicines, which relieved him in a week; so much that he could sleep comfortably, and his appetite prompted him to be his own cook.

At the end of three weeks he began to do his duty, but lest he should take cold, I advised him to avoid all business till *May*; when he went to *Richmond*, performed his usual business, was perfectly cured, and remains well to this day; which the officers of his Majesty's meuse are ready to testify.

CASE

## C A S E II.

A Poor farmer, in June, 1768, contracted a *clap* and a *chancre*, and at the end of three weeks, a *bubo* formed in the groin, which discharged itself for some weeks, and healed without any application ; then he applied to the following gentlemen.

1st, A *surgeon*, under whose care he continued three weeks.

2dly, *Another surgeon*, who cured the *clap* and *chancre*, by rubbing in *mercurial ointment* and giving him medicines two months. During this treatment, three *ulcers* appeared, one on the eyelid and one on each side of the neck, then,

3dly, A *chymist*, who thinking him past recovery, advised him to go to,

4thly, A *physician*, who ordered him to bath every night in warm water, which he performed ten times, but on account of his great weakness, put himself,

5thly, Under the care of *two surgeons*; having then nocturnal pains in the head and limbs, and a fever. They bled him three times, gave him medicines ten days, ordered him to rub *mercurial ointment* twice on his shins, and then directed him to go,

6thly, For the advice of some *hospital surgeons*.

He obeyed their order and was admitted into an hospital; where he remained four months, taking medicines, and using *mercurial ointment* about ten times. The *ulcer* in his throat was cured, but his pains remained, and he was otherwise so ill with a fever, and so much reduced, that  
for

for the benefit of better air, and to escape death, he was discharged from the *hospital*, and conveyed to his own house, in *Spital Fields*.

His landlord and another gentleman being informed of his distress, made me a visit, and, at their desire, I went along with them to see this poor object, in June, 1769.

He then suffered continual pains in the head and limbs, the ulcer in his throat was returned, his ankles and one knee were much swelled, and he had an hectic fever in an high degree; so much emaciated, that he *really* appeared to be nothing more than skin and bone; had been confined to his bed from the fourth day after his discharge from the hospital, and when I saw him, he had not strength to rise without assistance.



I had no prospect to imagine that I could even *relieve* this miserable man, notwithstanding, I gave him my medicines: however, in one week he arose from his bed, went down stairs, remained up four hours, increased daily in spirits, strength and appetite; in three weeks walked to make a visit to his landlord, in *Cheapside*, and in three more walked to *Parliament Street*, to fetch his medicines, and convince me of his surprising recovery. In a few months he was perfectly cured, and remains well to this day.

The gentlemen who employed me, generously paid for his cure, and will attest the truth of it.

### C A S E III.

**A** Reputable tradesman in the city of London contracted a *chancre*, applied to a surgeon, and in six weeks, to  
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appearance, was well. Three months afterwards he was seized with pains in his head and back, and again consulted the same surgeon, who imagined his disorder was *rheumatic*, and gave him some medicines; but the pains continuing, he advised with different gentlemen.

1st, A very *eminent physician*, who took the case for a *rheumatic gout*, and prescribed accordingly. No benefit accruing from taking medicines nine months, he was ordered into the country.

2dly, *Another physician*, who declared that the former physician's prescriptions were foreign to the case; prescribed for him four months without effect, and then recommended country air and kitchen physic.

3dly, An *eminent hospital surgeon*; the patient suspecting the disease to be *venereal*.

*nereal.* However the former dissenting in opinion, advised retirement *only* into the country for a time.

4thly, A *foreign surgeon*, who said it was the *gout*, and gave him medicines for that disease four months; when he became worse instead of better.

5thly, An *Italian doctor*, who attended and gave him medicines six months. Being then in so bad a state, that he himself and his friends despaired of his life, a gentleman of his acquaintance, desired me to visit him. Having more business than I could easily manage, I requested that he would come in a coach or sedan, to my house, but his friends assuring me that he could not possibly comply with my request, I therefore waited on him, and beheld a most miserable object, in the greatest despair imaginable; having en-  
dured

dured confinement two years from his business, by a painful disease, with the threatening prospect of inevitable death,

He was amazingly emaciated, had *thirty nine ulcers* in his legs, and his pains were so excessive, that he was almost a stranger to food and sleep; he could not suffer his legs to hang down, but, as he dreaded the warmth of the bed, commonly layed upon it almost all the day, and till four in the morning, before he could repose a few hours in it.

At my departure, he begged to know when I intended to see him again; I replied, *never more there*, because I expected he would visit me in Parliament-street, in a month, and that I should soon restore him to perfect health.

He commenced taking my *antivenereal* medicines, and on the *nineteenth* day

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made me a visit, to convince me that all the ulcers were healed, except two, about the size of a silver three pence; he lost his pains; soon after returned to business; has remained well ever since, being more than three years; and is now grown fat.

He will recite his case, to any enquiring fellow-sufferer, or any gentleman who will go to him with a line in my name.

#### C A S E IV.

In July, 1768,

**A** Young tradesman contracted a *clap*; at the end of five weeks, four *chancres* appeared on the *penis*, and in November a *bubo* in the groin began to form. He applied to a surgeon during that time, took medicines, used *mercurial ointment* and the warm bath, and went  
into

into the country, but was obliged to return in fourteen days on account of the suppuration of the *bubo*, which was laid open, and then he was *salivated six weeks*: after which, not being so well as he expected, another eminent surgeon was consulted, who, observing that he had taken and used too much *mercurial* medicine and ointment, directed the use of the *bark*, which he continued to take six months.

In *June, 1769*, he applied to me; emaciated, dejected, weak and feverish. On perceiving a small ulcer in *scroto*, the *bubo* not cicatrized, and small abscesses forming in different parts of the body and limbs, I suspected that the *venereal* matter was not totally exhausted, and therefore gave him my *antivenereal* medicines, which did not procure the desired effect; for instead of the fever vanishing, as it has often happened in venereal cases, it ra-

ther increased ; the appetite did not mend ; the strength became more impaired ; the ulcer in *scroto* did not heal ; the abscesses increased in number, and were soon succeeded by more than *an hundred ulcerous eruptions* from the hips to the ankles. Concluding from these circumstances, that the texture of the blood was almost destroyed, and that the habit of body was reduced to that state, which is commonly termed *scorbutic*, I directly put him under a course of my *antiscorbutic* medicines. In a fortnight the good effects of them were manifest : his spirits, strength and appetite returned, and every symptom bore the appearance of a recovery, but the weather proving unfavourable, he took cold, and a fever seized him violently, which I feared would have destroyed him ; he happily escaped, and I repeated my medicines till he was perfectly recovered, and he is

now

now ready to attest the truth of this narration.

Thus have I presented to your view my *new* thoughts, &c. and yet after all I have said and done, I must candidly confess, that I am too often, but justly reminded of the incapacity of man to attain to  
PERFECTION.

Having exceeded the limits of a letter, and tried your patience, I shall only add, that if the ballance should turn in my favour, by affording you the smallest satisfaction, in the perusal of these sheets, it will give no small pleasure to him, who is with the utmost deference and esteem,

S I R,

your most obliged, and

most obedient humble servant,

Parliament-street,  
June 25, 1770.

CHARLES HALES.



...to state the truth of  
...

Thus have I presented to your view my  
new thoughts, &c. and yet after all I have  
said and done, I must candidly confess  
that I am too often, but justly reminded  
of the incapacity of man to attain to  
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will give me small pleasure to him, who  
is with the utmost deference and esteem,

Yours

Your most obliged and

most obedient humble servant,

CHARLES HAYES