

**A dissertation on the properties and efficacy of the Lisbon diet-drink, a medicine. ... successfully used in Portugal, in the cure of the venereal disease and scurvy: in which, its comparative excellence with mercury and guaiacum is considered, and the particular cases are pointed out, where it justly claims the preference to both : Together with reflections on the improper use of mercury, and the manner of its actions on the solids and fluids To which is annex'd, an appendix, with a short state of such remarkable venereal and scorbutic cases, as have been successfully treated ... / by J. Leake.**

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A

DISSERTATION  
ON THE  
PROPERTIES and EFFICACY  
OF THE

*Lisbon* DIET-DRINK;

A MEDICINE, for many Years, successfully used in  
*Portugal*, in the Cure of the  
Venereal Disease and Scurvy :

In which, Its Comparative Excellence with  
MERCURY and GUAIACUM

IS CONSIDERED,

And the Particular CASES are pointed out, where it justly  
claims the PREFERENCE to BOTH,

TOGETHER WITH  
REFLECTIONS on the Improper USE of MERCURY ;  
and the Manner of its ACTION on the SOLIDS and  
FLUIDS.

*To which is annex'd,*

An APPENDIX;

With a Short STATE of such remarkable *Venereal* and *Scor-*  
*butic* CASES, as have been successfully treated by a  
Course of the LISBON DIET-DRINK.

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By J. LEAKE, SURGEON.

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*Morbos autem, non Eloquentiâ, sed Remediis  
curari.* CELSUS.

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The SECOND EDITION.

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DISSERTATION

ON THE

PROPERTIES AND APPLICATIONS

OF THE

DISSOLVING DRINK

PREPARED FOR THE USE OF THE

PHYSICAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE

WELLINGTON



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# P R E F A C E.

*AS the late Calamity at Lisbon, may deprive several of a Medicine, which, for many Years, had there been deemed inestimable, for its constant Success, in curing two Diseases of the most formidable Kind; 'tis presumed the following short Account of it may not be unacceptable; and as it is my Aim, through the whole, to avoid every Thing that may stand in Need of an Apology, I have nothing to offer by Way of Excuse.*

*There are many Gentlemen, at this Time in London, who have themselves not only experienced its happy Effects Abroad, but have also remark'd its Excellence in the Cases of others; and to These, this Treatise is particularly address'd, as most likely to subscribe to the Merit of the Medicine, without any Mixture of Partiality or Prejudice.*

*What I shall set down concerning it, is not taken from the Authority or Credit of another;*



*another, but is the immediate Result of my own Observation and Knowledge of its Efficacy, in the perfect Cure of the confirm'd Lues Venerea and Scurvy; having seen, when at Lisbon, repeated Instances of its surprizing Success in these Diseases, even when Salivation, and all other Methods, had been submitted to in vain, and the despairing Patient was left to himself as incurable.*

*This Medicine, at Lisbon, was universally known by the Name of the German-Diet-Drink, from its being given there, for many Years, by a German, who, as I was inform'd, had been Physician to the Queen Dowager of Portugal: Its Success was so amazing in many Cases that were thought to be incurable, that several Gentlemen resorted thither from England, Italy, Holland and other Parts of Europe, in Hopes of Relief; so that, of late Years, Montpelier has not been more famous than Lisbon, for the Means of repairing those Constitutions which had suffered from Venereal Complaints, or the improper Use of Mercury.*

*I have for a considerable Time, given the SAME MEDICINE, and hitherto with good Success:*



*Success: But being perfectly aware of the Difficulty which may oppose the favourable Mention of particular Remedies, the Reader is desired to remark, that I do not stand indebted to the following Sheets for a Proof of its Efficacy, but shall have Recourse to Matters of Fact, to convince those who may doubt of it, not only by referring such, to those very Persons who have been cured by it, after the most powerful Remedies had failed; but also to Gentlemen of known Abilities and Eminence in the Profession, who have jointly attended with me, and have seen to a Demonstration the extraordinary Effects of this Medicine in some of the very worst Cases which I have, in this Edition, inserted in the Appendix.*

*As I have the Honour to be a Member of Surgeons-Hall, it is not my Design to obtrude this Medicine upon the Publick, with the fulsome Encomiums of an infallible Remedy; 'tis enough for me, that its Credit has been too sufficiently establish'd by Success and Length of Time, to stand in Need of any such despicable Assistance.*

*The*



*The Composition, indeed, not being made known, may afford an Opportunity to some, of raising Objections to it, merely upon that Account, but by those who are disinterested, 'twill be allow'd a Matter of small Consequence to the Patient, how, or by what Means, he is restor'd to Health, provided he gets rid of his Complaints, and finds himself safely and perfectly cur'd : And as a Course of this Diet-Drink will effectually answer all the Intentions of a Salivation (by an Enlargement of the Secretions) without either Confinement, or that Waste of Strength and Injury to the Constitution, which the Patient must unavoidably undergo by the too liberal Use of Mercury ; I believe it will be granted, that the Method of Cure propos'd by this Medicine is much more gentle and efficacious, than any of those in general Use.*

*The well-known Case of a late Nobleman of the first Distinction, some Years ago, is one of the many Instances which shews the remarkable Certainty of this Remedy ; for by its sole Use he was restored to Health, after the Advice of the most eminent Physicians had been followed to little Purpose.*

Half-Moon-Street, Piccadilly,  
June the 20th, 1760.

S E C T.



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 OF THE  
 E F F I C A C Y  
 OF THE  
*Lisbon* DIET-DRINK.

 AND THE  
 PROPERTIES by which it expels the  
 VENEREAL POISON.

**O**BSERVATIONS founded upon  
*Experience*, are the surest Guides to  
 Truth in every Science, and when  
 apply'd to the Cure of Diseases, are alone,  
 much more likely to succeed, than the  
 most refin'd and plausible Theories, where  
 these are disregarded and laid aside ; by  
 the first, we have a true Copy of a Disease,  
 where all its Symptoms, like the Features  
 of a well-drawn Picture, are faithfully  
 delineated from the Life ; but where er-  
 ring Hypothesis guides the Pencil, the  
 Strokes



Strokes tho' ever so delicate, widely differ from Nature, and exhibit not only a faint, but false Resemblance of the Original.

AND as Physick at first began without Theory, so it might in a great Measure subsist without it : That had no Share in furnishing Hints, or guiding the wild *American* to a Remedy for his Disease ; for without enquiring into its Cause, he would often cure, Relief being the only Thing he sought or car'd for. Thus pure Experience, built upon the most simple Knowledge, supply'd the Place of deep Speculation, and taught him to rate the Value of his Medicine by the Ease it procur'd him.

UPON this Account, I shall confine myself entirely to the sensible Effects of the Medicine under Consideration, without confounding or obscuring plain Facts with Matter of idle Surmise ; its *constant Success* being a much stronger and more incontestable Proof of its Efficacy, than any Conclusion that can be drawn from the most elaborate Description of its Excellence.

BUT



BUT tho' I shall only mention the most evident Properties by which it expels the Venereal Poison, or Scorbutic Acrimony; yet I am far from limiting its Power of Action, solely to those *Secretions* which it principally tends to promote; since Medicines often operate by Qualities too abstruse to be discover'd by the Senses.

IT may not here be improper to observe, that the noblest and most celebrated Specificks are not alike successful in all Cases; the divine Powers of *Opium* do not always solace the Patient with Intervals of Ease, nor does the most prudent Use of the *Bark* invariably put a Stop to the Progress of an *Intermittent*; a convincing Proof, that the most powerful Medicine cannot justly be warranted infallible, and a Reason too prevailing, to allow me the Mention of so pompous an Epithet, upon this, or any other Occasion.

FORMERLY, the *Lisbon Diet-Drink* was chiefly confined to the Cure of the *Pox* and *Scurvy*, and generally, I believe,



it may be the most prevalent in these Diseases; but it may also be given with admirable Success in most Disorders that arise from Acrimony, or a viscid State of the Blood.

IN the *Rheumatism*, and irregular *Gout*, it is of vast Service; in which Cases, I have known it afford the most sensible Relief; for it not only dissolves the obstructing Matter, but blunts the Acrimony of the sharp Juices, and by conveying them gradually out of the Body, by the several Secretions, it mitigates the most severe wandering Pains.

IT produces its Effects in the most salutary, gentle Manner, acting principally by *Perspiration*, *Urine*, and moderate *Stools*; infomuch, that wherever there is Suspicion of a venereal Taint, it may be given with the utmost Safety and Success to *Children*, and *Women with Child*; and as Infants are often infected by distemper'd Nurses, or sometimes born Heirs to this cruel Disease, this *Medicine*, by its Mildness, becomes peculiarly adapted to the Cure; being proper in the most tender



der Constitutions, and even in *hectic Complaints*, where the Use of Mercury would be highly prejudicial.

IN the Cure of Diseases, we are often directed to watch the Course of Nature, and to observe with Diligence the Steps she takes to free herself of every Incumbrance ; now in the *Venereal Disease* and *Scurvy*, the Patient is sometimes seiz'd with a Flux of the Belly, which being an Effort of Nature, to throw off the morbid Matter by the intestinal Glands, ought, by all Means, to be encouraged ; agreeable to this, 'tis evident that a Medicine which is gently laxative, and constantly keeps the Bowels open, must greatly contribute to the Cure, by affording the Venereal Poison a free Passage out of the Body by the *Intestines*, whenever Nature determines it that Way : Again, when the tainted Juices are thrown outwards, and deform the Skin with *Eruptions*, this Medicine, by promoting a free Perspiration, will assist in forwarding their Discharge. In this Case, Dr. *Robinson*, in his excellent Treatise on the Venereal Disease, absolutely condemns a *Salivation*,



as attended with very pernicious Consequences ; for, according to his Opinion, it may resolve the Matter of the Pocky Scabs, Blotches, and Ulcers, and oblige the tainted Juices, that Nature for her Security had flung upon the Skin, to melt down, and retreat into the Blood again ; which is acting both against the Laws of *Nature*, and the evident Maxims of the *Animal OEconomy*.

THE better to account for the Effects of the *Diet-Drink*, I shall beg Leave to consider, in the shortest Manner, the Nature of the *Venereal Poison*, and the horrid Consequences arising from it, when intimately mixed with the several Juices ; for if the Virus, which, at first, was only in Possession of some particular Part, is not speedily disengaged from the Place of its Residence, and carried out of the Body by the Power of Medicines, or the Efforts of Nature, its Strength will be multiplied in Proportion to the Time of its Stay, and by Degrees it will insinuate itself into the Blood, 'till the whole Mass is contaminated : And as the Fluids separated from it, either in a sound or diseas'd State,

are



are constantly converted into Solids, in order to supply and repair the Loss of what is wore away by the Actions of the Body; that Poison which, at first, was local, will now be universally diffus'd throughout the Body, and the very Principles of its Existence will become infected.

The Venereal Poison is generally suppos'd to be of an *acid, corrosive* and *fix'd* Nature; from one or all of which Properties, 'tis suppos'd, almost every Symptom of the Disease may be accounted for: however, it is hard to affirm, with any great Certainty, that either the one or the other of these Qualities actually reside in it; because, we can only judge of the Nature of the Poison by the Effects it produces.

FIRST, I imagine it is thought to partake of *Acidity*, from its coagulating the Lymph, and bringing on Obstructions and Tumors in the several lymphatic Glands.

SECONDLY,



SECONDLY, 'tis deem'd *corrosive*, from the strong Tendency that is observ'd in Venereal Ulcers to spread and eat deeper. And lastly, it is with great Reason suppos'd of a *fix'd Nature*, because, the Infection is seldom or never communicated by Effluvia, as in the Small-Pox, and other contagious Diseases.

THE Blood, therefore, being alter'd from its sound State, by the Acrimony of the Venereal Poison ; all the Fluids separated from it become vitiated, and unfit for the Purposes of Life ; the Solids are not only robbed of their due Supply of Nourishment, but also suffer greatly from the Sharpness of the Juices, irritating, and at last eroding the Vessels in which they circulate ; and from this Cause arise Pain and Inflammations, which often ulcerate without a previous Suppuration of the Part.

BESIDES, the Stimulus occasioned by the acrid Fluids, will sollicit the minute Vessels which are most sensible, to contract and force back their Contents into  
the



the larger Branches, and this, by lessening the Diameters of the several Vessels, and preventing a due Circulation, will become the immediate Cause of Obstruction, Tumors, and Caries of the Bones : This contractile Disposition of the Solids is not at all Conjecture, but prov'd, from Experience, to be Matter of Fact: for by examining with a Microscope, the Parts of an Animal in Pain, that is found sufficient to alter the Course of the Blood, and by the Spasms it occasions, will drive back the Fluids in their Vessels, till the Stimulus is remov'd ; so that from this Obstruction to the Progress of the Circulation, Tumors may probably happen, without any preter-natural Thickness or Coagulation of the Blood.

INDEED, it is generally thought, that at first, the infectious Matter acts chiefly by coagulating the Juices, which stagnating, acquire a Degree of Acrimony sufficient to erode the Solid Parts, but whether the one of these Qualities precedes the other, or whether they do not exist together, from the Time of Infection, is a Circumstance which, I think, has never yet been sufficiently clear'd up.



THE Viscidity of the Blood is also the Consequence of the Venereal Poison, which, concurring with its Acrimony, may produce Symptoms almost innumerable, and tho' variously complicated, yet all of them depending upon the two preceding simple Causes.

THE Globules of Blood have mutual Attractions, which increase in Proportion to their Surface of Contact, and there are several Properties residing in Matter, which are found to augment or diminish this attractive Power; *Vegetable Acids* dissolve it, whilst *mineral acid Spirits* infallibly coagulate and dispose it to run into preternatural Cohesions; and as the Venereal Poison is suppos'd to be of an acid, or salso-acid Nature, 'tis no Wonder that it should thicken the Lymph, and bring on all the Symptoms consequent of that Quality, *viz. Buboes* in the Groin, Inflammations and Enlargement of the *Testes*, with Tumors and Obstruction of the *Glands* in several Parts of the Body.



A viscid State of the Blood may likewise happen from a Defect of its Motion from any Cause ; for as the constituent Parts of all the animal Fluids are globular in their natural State, so do they preserve that Figure by the constant Revolution of their Parts ; by which, every separate Particle may be consider'd as a Ball, or *small sphere*, continually turning round its own Axis, in various Directions ; therefore, as their Motions languish, or wholly cease, these Particles must recede from their original globular Figure, and assume others, more or less approaching thereunto : But since spherical Particles do, of all others, contain the greatest Quantity of Matter under the least Surface, their Points of Contact, *inter se*, must be the smallest, and consequently the best adapted to compose a fluid Body ; so that whenever the Juices change this Figure for any other that is pointed or angular, they are said to be in a diseas'd or acrimonious State ; and not only so, but they must likewise become more glutinous and roapy, for the Cohesion of their Parts will be in Proportion



to their Surface of Contact, and as the Quantity of their Surface is increas'd by their new-acquir'd Figure, they must, of Necessity, constitute a Fluid more viscid and tenacious than what it was before.

THIS Indisposition of the Juices will prove the greatest Obstacle to a free glandular Secretion, and the venal Blood being, by this Means depriv'd of that due Supply of Lymph, which, in a natural State, dilutes and keeps it fluid, will grow thick and unfit for Circulation; its Motion will become languid, and its Return to the Heart, thro' the small Vessels, more difficult; and as this Loss of Motion will still become greater and greater, as the several Glands increase in their Obstruction, so will the Blood's Viscidity be augmented more and more.

THE Nature of the venereal Poison being such as to communicate Acrimony, and dispose the Blood to a viscid State, the Cure will be soonest brought about by such Things as blunt the Acrimony, thin the Blood, and evacuate the offending Matter



Matter which occasioned these Depravities.

THE *Lisbon Diet-Drink*, already mention'd, is eminently possess'd of all the above Properties, and by these it is directly suited to answer all the Intentions of Cure.

'Tis a nice Point to commend with Judgment, and still more difficult, to avoid the Imputation of Partiality, in a Subject of this Kind ; I therefore beg Leave to acquaint the Reader, that I only look upon this Medicine as a valuable Acquisition ; and that the Merit of the *Cures* perform'd by it, are, by no Means, due to me, but properly belong to that Gentleman who first introduc'd and apply'd it to Practice.

IT is compos'd of *saline, penetrating, subtile* Parts, join'd with a soft *resinous Balsam*, which together make a Kind of natural Soap, readily mixing with the animal Fluids, and with them easily convey'd to every Part of the Body : It occasions no Tumult in the Blood, nor hastily



its own Expulsion, but goes the whole Length of the Circulation, and searches to the Extremities of the finest Strainers.

By its saline, deterging Quality, it dissolves the coagulated Lymph, and powerfully scours the obstructed Glands; whilst, by its soft balsamic Parts, it becomes friendly to Nature, defending the Solids, and sheathing the Acrimony of the sharp Juices, which before were constantly eroding and preying upon their tender Fibres.

Its Effects in the Blood-Vessels seems somewhat anagolus to those of Oils in the Stomach, when taken upon Poisons, or Emulsions drank plentifully to remove the Stranguary from blistering with *Spanish Flies*; for as the Design of administering these, is to blunt the caustic Salts, and and convey 'em out of the Body without wounding the Solids, so is this *Medicine* intended to answer the like Purposes, by breaking and inveloping the Asperity of the Venereal Poison, and by enlarging the Secretions for its quicker Discharge.



THIS Medicine, therefore, being constantly, and for a considerable Time, largely admitted into the Mass of Blood, by its active penetrating Salt, suspended in a medicated Liquor, dilutes and lessens the Cohesion of its constituent Parts, by Means of which the *Venereal Poison*, or *Scorbutic Acrimony*, are the more easily separated from the sound Juices, and wash'd out of the Body by the several Secretions of *Perspiration*, *Urine*, and *Stool*.

IN this Manner it thoroughly changes the whole Mass of Blood from a distemper'd to a sound State, and manifestly works a radical Cure, without disordering the Patient, or leaving him in that languid, death-like Condition, which unavoidably follows a *profuse Salivation*: On the contrary, it rather becomes a *Restorative*, by imparting a *balsamic Disposition* to the Blood, and supplying the Solids with such Matter as was abraded and wore away by the Sharpness of the Juices; for the same Reason, it will also, in a great Measure, repair the Injuries done to the Constitution, by the *imprudent Use of Mercury*;



*cury*; and upon this Account, I have known two or three who grew fat during its Use, who before were extremely thin and emaciated by a preceding Salivation.

HENCE also, the almost certain Success of this Medicine in *foul Venereal*, or *Scorbutic Ulcers*, which are not restrain'd by Mercury, but continue spreading in Spight of its liberal Use ; for in such Cases, the Blood being depriv'd of its richest and most balsamic Parts, the very Stamina of the Solids give Way, and tend to a State of Diffolution.

BUT, be a Medicine ever so good and powerful, it still remains as a Thing of the last Importance, to distinguish and particularize the several Cases where it is found, from Practice, to be the most remarkably advantageous.

I WOULD therefore, from Experience, in a very particular Manner, recommend the Use of the *Lisbon Diet-Drink*, in *worn-out, feeble Constitutions*, where the Patient is an improper Subject for the Use of



of *Mercury*, and even after a Salivation has fail'd, and left him hectic or consumptive, with spreading Ulcers, Eruptions on the Skin, an inveterate Head-ach, acute wandering Pains, or any other Symptoms that may be deem'd truly *Venereal* or *Scorbutic* : In these Cases it will sweeten and restore the sharp thin Blood to its former balsamic State ; and from hence a more free and equal Circulation will again take Place : It is likewise given with the most certain Success to *infected Children*, and *Women with Child*, and seems incomparably well suited to such delicate Constitutions, since I believe, there is no Remedy yet known so safe and gentle in its Operation, where the Event is alike successful.

WHOEVER doubts the Efficacy of this Remedy, from its Want of that Gravity with which Mercury and other Minerals are endued, need only to attend to a common Experiment, which will entirely overthrow that Objection, *viz.* The Bones of Animals, which have for some Time eaten their Food with a Mixture of Madder-Root, do by this Means acquire a  
florid



florid red Colour, even in their most solid and compact Parts : This Circumstance is mention'd by Mr. *Monro*, speaking of the Vessels of the Bones.

“ THE clearest Demonstration of the  
 “ intimate Distribution of these small Ar-  
 “ teries, is, to observe the Effects of such  
 “ a tinging Substance, as can retain its  
 “ Colour when swallow'd, digested, and  
 “ mix'd with the Blood of any living  
 “ Animal, and at the same Time has Par-  
 “ ticles small enough to be convey'd into  
 “ the Vessels of the Bones; such is RUBIA  
 “ TINCTORUM, Madder-Root\*; for we  
 “ see the gradual Advances which this  
 “ Tincture makes from the Periosteum  
 “ into the more internal Parts of the  
 “ Bones, and how universally the Distri-  
 “ bution of Liquors is made, the whole  
 “ bony Substance being tinged.”

FROM hence, it is evident that all the Parts of the Body, even the very *Bones*, abound with Vessels infinitely small, which admit of Circulation, and are pervious to  
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\* *Philos. Transact.* Numb. 442, Art. 8. Numb. 443, Art. 2. Numb. 457, Art. 4. *Mem. de l'Acad. des Sciences* 1739, 1743.



the subtile Particles of *Medicines*, which act not at all by their Gravity, but rather by a Specific Quality, which, with the animal Fluids, is constantly propell'd by the Force of the Heart, and by Degrees transmitted to the *affected Part* ; so that tho' the Disease is ever so inveterate, and the Patient infected, *even to the Bones*, provided he will conform to a proper Regimen, and duly continue this *Diet-Drink*, for a considerable Time, he may in the End, with the greatest Probability, rely upon an absolute Cure.

BUT, seeing the Circulation in the smallest Order of Vessels appears too remote from the Heart, to be mov'd by its Impulse, perhaps, a medicinal Effect on such Parts may be better accounted for, by ascribing the Motion of the Fluids to Attraction, simular to that in capillary Glass Tubes, or to what we see in the vegetable Syphon, at one End imbibing \* the Fluid, which rises against its own Gravity, and is discharged at the other.

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\* *Vide* Kenneir's Essay on the Nerves.



THE *Scurvy*, according to the best Writers, cannot properly be defin'd a simple Affection depending upon any one single proximate Cause; but is rather a Complication of Disorders, attacking the Patient with various Symptoms, most of which may be trac'd to the Fountain from which they spring, *viz.* a bad State of the Blood: This Discracy of the Blood, may be occasion'd by tedious and long-continued Illness, by unwholesome Diet, such as that of Flesh-Meats, which are rendered indigestible, by being excessively dry'd, or from the vast Quantity of Salt used in preserving them; by drinking of corrupted stagnating Water, or by breathing a confin'd, moist, inelastic or putrid Air; but, according to *Lind*, those who have undergone a *Salivation* are, of all others, the most subject to this Disease.

IT may be observ'd of *Sea-Salt*, that the Force of the digestive Faculties only serve to subtilize its Parts, but is insufficient to change its Nature, which, after repeated Circulations, still remains invincibly the same; so that, without these Salts,



Salts, with which the Blood is overstock'd, are plentifully carried out of the Body by the Urinary Passages, they will fall upon the Glands of the Skin, in form of yellow scurvy Eruptions; or else by vellicating and eroding the muscular Fibres, the Blood will extravasate, and occasion black petechial Spots, especially on the Legs; and as all animal and vegetable Substances become putrid, as soon as the progressive Motion of their Fluids ceases, these Discolourations will often afterward break, and become troublesome spreading Sores: The *Gums* also grow spongy, bleed upon the slightest Touch, and at last will ulcerate, from the Acrimony of the putrid Saliva.

THAT the *Kidnies* are the proper excretory Organs, by which this muriatic Acrimony is naturally discharg'd, is evident from the Saltness of the Urine; and therefore, a Disease brought on by this Quality can never be more effectually cured, than by giving a diuretic Medicine, which also resists Putrefaction, and which, by diluting the Blood, will likewise dissolve the sharp Salts, and carry them off, by an increas'd *Urinary Discharge*.



NOTHING, as Dr. *Pringle* observes, could be more unexpected than to find Sea-Salt a Hastner of Putrefaction ; yet his twenty-fifth Experiment demonstrably proves it to be such ; for tho' one Dram of Salt, in two Ounces of Water, preserved Flesh sweet twenty Hours longer than pure Water, yet he found, from repeated Experiments, that Flesh, with from five to twenty Grains of Sea-Salt, putrified sooner than the same Quantity of Flesh infus'd in Water only ; and further observes, since Salt is never taken in Aliment, beyond the Proportion of the corrupting Quantities in the Experiment, it appears subservient to Digestion, chiefly by a septic Virtue ; and consequently, I think, may be justly deem'd a principal Cause of the Scurvy, contrary to the Opinion of a modern Writer on that Disease.

IT is the Nature of all animal Oils, when exalted by extraordinary Heat, or long Rest, to acquire a Degree of Rancidity, sufficient to bring on a total Corruption of the Humours with which they  
are



are mix'd, and also to erode the Solids, where they chance to stagnate: This seems, in a great Measure to be the Case, not only in the Scurvy, where the most evident Marks of Putrefaction appear, but also in the Bilious and Petechial Fever, where the Blood drawn from the Veins, particularly in the Scurvy, sends up a putrid stinking Smell, and appears of a dark, greenish, muddy Hue, without any regular Separation of its Parts, after standing to cool.

'Tis found, from Experience, that nothing will sooner correct the Acrimony of rancid Oils, than vegetable Salts; for by mixing rancid Train Oil with Pot-ashes, it loses its Sharpness, and is immediately chang'd into a Soap, which is a mild, innocent Substance, widely differing from the two Bodies which produce it.

IN such a putrid State of the Humours as has been already hinted at, watery *Dilutents*, tho' impregnated with the most proper medicinal Virtues, can be of little Service, except endued with such a *Saponaceous*



*naceous Quality*, as will become a Medium to incorporate and combine the watery with the rancid oily Parts : The *Lisbon Diet-Drink* gives the most plain and visible Proofs of such a Quality, by the frothy Bubbles which remain on the Surface, for several Hours, after shaking ; and from this Property to divide, and mix with the Juices, and its Power to evacuate the morbid Humours by *Perspiration, Urine, and Stool*, it tends to the Cure of the most confirm'd Scurvy.

WHATEVER impairs the Solids, and diminishes their Force upon the Fluids, as long protracted Chronical Diseases, a profuse Mercurial Salivation, &c. may likewise be principally concern'd in the Production of this Disease.

EVERY Degree of Putrefaction is follow'd with a proportional Degree of Resolution in the Fluids, and a suitable Relaxation and Decay of the Solids, though ever so insensible ; and since the Blood is thoroughly melted down, and the Solid Fibres over-strain'd, wasted, and render'd effete by a *Salivation*, it may, without Doubt,



Doubt, be look'd upon as a Cause powerfully disposing the Patient to the *Scurvy*; for it evidently tends to promote the same Process as that of Putrefaction itself: This may probably be deem'd a substantial Reason, not only why the *Scurvy* so often recurs after a Salivation, but also why the smallest Portions of Mercury are so extremely pernicious in that Disease, having often been found to excite the most profuse salivary Discharge, with the Loss of the Gums and Teeth, and likewise, for the most Part, to be attended with a dangerous *Bloody Flux*.

IN such Cases, the Mercury will not only farther break down the Texture of the Blood, already too much destroy'd, but will also exalt that Degree of Putrefaction which before existed in it from the scorbutic Cause: Besides, as *Lind* justly observes, the Want of a due Perspiration may likewise account for the Reason why Mercury in Scorbutics, so powerfully falls upon the salival Glands.

THE Spring and Summer are the proper Seasons for taking this Medicine to the  
greatest



greatest Advantage, the usual Quantity being a Pint Night and Morning, for three Weeks, a Month, or longer, in Proportion to the long or short Duration of the Disease, and the Violence of the Symptoms ; but should the Largeness of the Draught chance to be any Objection ; instead of a Pint, half that Quantity may be taken, four Times a Day, with equal Success.

IT agrees with almost every Stomach, and requires no *Confinement* ; the Patient may use moderate Exercise, and go A-broad in his usual Manner, but ought to conform to the following Regimen : He must avoid all Acids, and every Thing salt or high-season'd : Fat Meats, Hog's Flesh, Fish and Vegetables are, at this Time, prejudicial ; let him live chiefly upon dry Food, and white Meats roasted, such as Veal, Rabbit, Fowls, &c. He must likewise abstain from the immoderate Use of Liquids, especially those of the spirituous Kind, and, at Meals, drink sparingly of Lisbon, or any of the light White Wines, diluted with Water.



THIS was the Method observ'd in administering the Diet-Drink at *Lisbon*, where this Medicine has succeeded in the most deplorable Cases of the *Venereal Disease* and *Scurvy*, even when *Salivation* and all other Means prov'd ineffectual, and, for that Reason, was constantly recommended by the most eminent Physicians and Surgeons there.

F

SECT.



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S E C T. II.

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## R E F L E C T I O N S

O N T H E

Improper Use of M E R C U R Y :

A N D T H E

M A N N E R of Its A C T I O N on the

S O L I D S and F L U I D S.

**M** E R C U R Y, or Quick-Silver, is a ponderous mineral Fluid, consisting of very minute globular Parts, easily divisible, and the heaviest of all Bodies, excepting Gold : Its Affections on the Parts of the human Body are various and surprising, but, in general, may be accounted for, from its Gravity, Divisibility and Figure : By the first Property, it may be consider'd to act with a mechanical Power, like that of the Wedge, &c. By  
the



the second, it becomes capable of insinuating itself into, and pervading the most minute capillary Vessels ; and by the Third, 'tis exquisitely fitted for Motion and Circulation, when mix'd with the animal Fluids.

THE Preparations of this Mineral, as apply'd to the Practice of Medicine, have afforded Subject for various Opinions, being, by Some, deem'd highly pernicious, and suspected of arsenical Qualities, consequently a dangerous Poison, and absolutely unfit for medicinal Purposes: Others again, have applauded their Excellence, and zealously insisted on their Safety and Efficacy in many Diseases, particularly that of the *Lues Venerea*: But both Parties have certainly err'd in the Extreme ; for the first rashly condemn'd this valuable Medicine, from the terrible Symptoms that follow'd its improper Use, without ever considering, that the horrid Devastation it made, was more owing to the immoderate Quantity, than to any deleterious Quality residing in it: On the other Hand, the Advocates for it, too lavishly commended it, without sufficiently



attending to those *particular Cases*, in which later Experience proves it to be extremely pernicious : And yet this Opposition of Opinions seems not at all unaccountable, for in the early Stages of the Venereal Disease, a Medicine, thus uncertain in its Qualities, was chiefly administer'd by Empericks, and unskilful Men, who boldly gave to one, that which had cur'd another of the like Disease, without any Regard to proper Dose, or Difference of Constitution. Such inconsiderate Practice produc'd the most dreadful Effects, and Death itself was oftentimes the Consequence ; for, by over-loading the Blood with Mercury, the Patient was quickly destroy'd by a Hæmorrhage, Suffocation, or such like alarming Symptoms ; so that 'tis no wonder it should fall into Discredit and Neglect : However, there were not wanting some, who, by more cautious and rational Methods, became able to ascertain its Dose ; with more Exactness, and from the better Success of those, it was again reviv'd in Practice, and brought into Esteem. Medicines, therefore, like most other Things, derive their Value from their proper Use, since



since we find the same medicinal Substances good or bad, according to the Manner of their Application.

AN Attempt to raise the Esteem of one Medicine by degrading another, might justly admit of the most severe Censure ; and therefore, before I go further, shall beg leave to obviate every Objection of this Kind, by assuring the Reader, that this is so foreign and repugnant to my Design, that 'tis the only Thing which I would industriously seek to avoid ; for throughout the whole, I would only be understood to doubt the Safety or Success of a *Salivation* in particular Cases, where a gentler Remedy would not only more certainly effect a Cure, but what is of the greatest Consequence, without subjecting the feeble Patient to those Injuries which his Constitution must unavoidably sustain by a Treatment so tedious and severe.

MERCURY, in its purest State, seems void of all Acrimony, except divested of its natural Form by a Chymical Process ; and such is the peculiar Property of this Fluid, that its ultimate Particles will still  
retain



retain their spherical Figure, tho' divided and resolv'd into the most subtile Vapour ; and since it is suppos'd to act upon the human Body by its Gravity, Divisibility, and Figure ; 'tis highly probable that most of the elaborate chymical Processes, by changing its Figure, lessening its Gravity, and fixing its Motion, rather tend to destroy than to exalt its medicinal Virtues.

MERCURIALS, when judiciously given, may, without Doubt, generally prove the absolute Cure of the Pox in robust Habits ; yet there are many Constitutions which have suffer'd so much from the long Continuance of the Disease, and the improper Application of Mercury, that they are unable any longer, to withstand the Force of severe Remedies, and most likely would sink under a Salivation ; which, with a long Course of Abstinence, during the Progress of it, is sufficient to induce such a *Waste* of the Body, as oftentimes, is never to be repair'd : So that the unhappy Patient, tho' perhaps cur'd of the Pox, languishes out his Days, and at last dies of a *Consumption*.



WITH a View therefore to caution against the indiscriminate Use of Mercury in all Cases that are suppos'd Venereal ; I shall venture an Attempt to shew how it may be hurtful to a weakly Constitution, either when receiv'd into the Blood in a Salivation, or where the Venereal Disease is complicated with others, which may be exasperated and render'd worse by its Application.

MERCURY is a Fluid, whose specific Gravity is fourteen Times greater than that of the Blood ; and tho' the Quantity of Motion in the mercurial Globules, when mix'd with the Blood in the largest Vessels, is, at first but fourteen Times greater than the Globules of Blood ; yet, in the smallest Branches of the Capillary Arteries, it will be above a hundred Times greater ; according to the Calculation of the learned *Astruc*.

Now it is evident what will be the Consequence of this great Disproportion between the increas'd Motion of the Blood, and the Resistance of the Fibres which



which compose its Vessels; for as they are acted upon by a Force, one hundred Times greater than what they sustain'd in a natural State, it is requisite that their Power of Resistance should be nearly a hundred Times greater than before, to counteract the Velocity of the Blood's Motion : But this is so far from being the Case in a Salivation, that the Solids, instead of being strengthened, are daily weaken'd and relax'd more and more; first, from the slender Diet enjoin'd in the Salivation; secondly, from the Addition of Mercury entering the Blood at each Friction; and lastly, from the profuse and immoderate Discharge of Saliva.

THE great Dissolution which the Mass of Blood suffers from the Action of Mercury, may also become an additional Cause in overcoming the Tone of the Vessels, and help to destroy that mutual Action and Re-action which ought to subsist between the Solids and Fluids; for supposing the Blood to consist of different Orders of Globules, which is the received Opinion; as its constituent Parts become comminuted and melted down  
by



by the Gravity of Mercury ; the excessive Heat, at this Time produced by its quick Motion and Attrition against the Sides of the Vessels, will rarify the Air shut up in each Globule, so as to make it possess a larger Space and distend the Vessels, especially those of the weaker Viscera, even to the Danger of bursting.

THAT Air really exists in the Globules of Blood seems plain from their Spherical Figure, but Observations with the Microscope have now so far confirmed that Supposition, as to leave no Room for Dispute ; for by examining the Circulation, *Leewenhoeck* asserts, that in their Passage through the capillary Vessels they change into an oval Figure, re-assuming their Roundness as soon as they come into a larger Space : This Change of Figure in the sanguineous Globules denotes the Elasticity of the Air they contain, since nothing is Elastic but what has Air in its Composition.

NOR will the vast Force of the Airs Expansion when rarified by Heat, seem at all strange to those who consider it as



the principal Agent employed in digesting our Food in the Stomach.

To the foregoing Supposition, may be objected the Experiment of tying a Portion of an Artery with its circulating Blood included, for since no sensible Swelling was perceived in it, after placing it in the exhausted Receiver of the Air Pump, it was from thence inferred that the Air contained in the Blood remained inelastic in its natural State : But this Experiment seems fallacious and not sufficiently conclusive, for if the Resistance of the strong Arterial Coats was more than equal to the Force of the Airs Expansion, no sensible Enlargement could possibly happen.

FROM hence it plainly appears, that in a *Salivation*, the Blood acts with the greatest Violence at a Time when the Solids are the least able to resist it, and consequently by its Rapidity may burst its containing Vessels, as appears evident from the Patients *bloody Stools*, *Hæmorrhage* from the Nose, Mouth, &c.

WITH



WITHOUT disregarding the Testimony of Truth, it cannot be denied but that this Remedy is sometimes attended with Consequences not only dangerous but often fatal, particularly where a *hectic Fever* prevails, or where the Lungs or any of the softer Viscera are in a decay'd State; for to give Mercurials with Freedom in such Cases, would be giving certain Death to the Patient: So that Salivation is so far from being always proper, in every Circumstance of the Venereal Disease, that it often manifestly endangers the Patient, and lays a Foundation for future Diseases.

FOR the Reasons already given, it will dispose the Body to a State of universal Relaxation, which will become the Parent of Stubborn and sometimes incurable chronical Complaints, such as excessive *Weakness*, *Consumption*, *Dropsy* and *hectic Fever*: For as the Strength of Animals is supposed to be in a triplicate Proportion to their Quantity of Blood, how great must be the Weakness of the Body after a *Salivation*? Where the Vessels, which were before distended, enlarged,



enlarged, and over-strained beyond Measure, are now drained of their nutritious Juices, and of a sudden, left almost empty, from the profuse Discharge of Saliva and Sweat.

ALMOST every one, from his own Experience, can tell the Inconvenience that attends a simple *Sprain* in any Part of the Body, and how long it is before the affected Part regains its former Strength: The same Cause, tho' in a less Degree, will also account for the excessive Weakness that so often follows a high-raised Salivation; for in both Cases the Nature of the Injury is the same, *viz.* the Application of a *greater Force* to the Solids than their natural Structure can bear; only in the First, the Effect is instantaneously produced in a particular Part, with the Sense of Pain, and in the Last, the Complaint is universal, and brought about by Degrees so slow and insensible, as not to give such manifest Marks of approaching Danger.

INDIGESTION is likewise a Disorder more immediately arising from Relaxation than from any other Cause, as is evident



dent by the Means which relieve it ; for whatever braces the Fibres and increases muscular Motion, seldom fails of restoring the Stomach.

THE Contraction of the Heart is also, at this Time, extremely Weak, and that Power which the Solids ought to exert upon the Fluids being wanting, the Circulation becomes languid, the Motion of the Blood at its last Ebb, and Perspiration is almost totally obstructed : Thus then that Vapour which ought constantly to exhale from the Pores of the Skin, being retained, the Vessels will be overloaded with Serum, and a bloated anasarcaous Habit generally ensues ; and since there is a Tendency in the Blood to resolve into its constituent Parts, when freed from the Compression of the Solids, as long as the Fibres remain lax and inactive, so long will the Blood unavoidably continue in a crude, watery State.

THIS Tendency of the Patient's Constitution to a Dropsy, cannot be wonder'd at, since that Disease is often found to supervene a profuse Hemorrhage from the Nose, Uterus, &c. And as the Dis-  
charge



charge in a Salivation is not only supply'd from the Blood \*, but is also derived from the very *Stamina* of the *Solids* themselves dissolv'd and melted down, may not this vast Expence of these Solids and Fluids be much more likely to produce a Dropsy than a simple Flux of Blood, or a preternatural Increase of any of the other Evacuations ?

EXCESSIVE Weakness and a Defect of Perspiration may also arise from a bad Digestion ; for in such Cases the Nourishment derived from the Food in the Stomach is not sufficiently elaborated, and enters the Blood in a crude, unconcocted State, without ever being so subdued and subtilized by the circulating Powers as duly to nourish the Body, or render it fine enough to pass off by the cutaneous Pores.

WITH the utmost Respect and Deference to the Opinion and Practice of others, I should, therefore, think it advisable whenever Salivation is required, to raise it by slow Degrees, and instead of the usual Quantities of three Drachms or half



half an Ounce of the Mercurial Uñction rubbed in at one Time, to apply only a Drachm or a Drachm and a Half by proper Intervals ; for by this Means the Mercury will lie longer in the Body, and have more time to act, without solliciting its Expulsion at the Mouth ; the Secretions in general will also be more moderately and equally affected, and the Patient both more safe and certain of a Cure, provided this Method is continued its due Time : For when a large Quantity of the Uñction is apply'd at once, or too hastily repeated, the salivary Glands become dilated of a sudden, and their Resistance to the Discharge of Saliva so small, that the Mercury no sooner enters the Blood than it rushes off by the Mouth ; yet this gross Mistake of rating the Patients Safety by the Quantity he spits, is so prevailing, that it deserves to be remarked.

THIS Circumstance seems one probable Cause, why so many are disappointed of a Cure after a plentiful Salivation ; for the Mercury, when too liberally applied, instead of undergoing several Circulations and affecting the Habit in general, hurries off by the Glands of the Mouth, and leaves



leaves the venereal Poison untouched in those Parts which lie most remote from the Circulation.

IT seems also necessary here to take Notice, that *Mercury* does not always carry off the Infection by raising a Spitting; for there have been many Instances, where that could not possibly be procured, notwithstanding its plentiful Use, and yet the Patient was perfectly freed from all his venereal Symptoms; which Circumstance evidently shews, that Salivation, though principally depended upon, is not a thing essentially necessary to the Cure.

THIS I imagine might be the principal Reason which first gave rise to the Practice of curing the Pox by Mercury without a Salivation; for when it appeared from Experience, that the Cure was brought about by an Enlargement of Secretions, without the least salivary Discharge, 'twas highly rational to conclude that the Disease might be removed by promoting these Secretions without subjecting the Patient to the Severity of a Salivation: To this End, by giving such Things as determine the Mercury to the Pores of the Skin, or  
favour



favour its Exit by Urine or Stool, and at the same Time ordering Astringent Gargles, the Flux of Saliva to the Glands of the Mouth has been entirely prevented.

THIS Method is particularly recommended by *Desault*, was also approved of and followed by Dr. *Douglass* and others, and with a little Variation, in particular Cases, has since been practised with Success at one of the principal *Locks* in Town, under the Direction of a very eminent and ingenious *Surgeon*, no less remarkable for his great Affability and a communicative Disposition for the Instruction of his Pupils, than for the many useful Improvements he has added to the Science of Surgery.

BESIDES, the Success attending a Salivation ought not to be ascribed to any peculiar specifick Property inherent in Mercury, but merely to the discharged Quantity of Saliva; for 'tis generally believed, that if any other Body could be found, which would fuse the Blood and occasion the like Discharge of Saliva; that would in all Respects, as effectually Cure the

H      Venereal



Venereal Disease as a Salivation raised by Mercury.

THE Mineral, so often mentioned, has been charged by the Antients with many pernicious Qualities, and some \* Observations of very modern Date seem to second their Opinion, suggesting that it raises a Salivation only by Virtue of some Artificial Particles with which it is intimately mixed, and which alone produce all the ill Effects arising from its Use.

NOTWITHSTANDING this Assertion, I can hardly believe that it effects a Salivation by a Property so pernicious as that of which it is suspected; for setting that aside, all its bad Consequences may be deduced from its Gravity, by which, according to *Astruc*, it may overload the softer Viscera, and tear asunder the distended Coats of the Vessels.

THIS Opinion is confirmed and proved even to a Demonstration, from an Experiment by Dr. *Moulin* in the *Philos. Transact.* No. 192, p. 486. Where, by injecting crude Mercury into the jugular Vein of a Dog, the mercurial Globules had burst

\* *Vide* Gent. Mag. June 1755.



burst through the small Vessels in the Lungs, and forced their Way to the Surface, separating their external Covering in Form of small Blisters, and where the Globules lay conspicuous to the naked Eye ; as this seems pertinent to the present Subject, I shall take the Liberty of transcribing a few Lines at the Conclusion, as the Result of the Experiment.

“ From hence may appear the Danger  
 “ of using Mercury in human Bodies, so  
 “ as to get into the Mass of Blood, especially in the Lungs, because they are of  
 “ a lax, spongy Texture, and want that  
 “ brisk strong Motion, which the Muscles  
 “ have in other Parts, whereby they are  
 “ enabled to force it along with the Blood  
 “ in order to the raising a Salivation. That  
 “ Mercury has this Effect on the human  
 “ Lungs, is plain from what we daily  
 “ see in Persons that have been salivated,  
 “ who are afterwards observed to die of  
 “ Consumptions, that will yield to no  
 “ Medicine, “

“ OUGHT we not therefore to be extremely cautious in proposing a *Salivation* to such as are of a lax Habit, and much  
 “ waisted,



wasted, whose Solids cannot but with great Injury sustain the vast Stress laid upon them by such a Remedy? A Consequence still more dangerous must attend those who labour under an inward *Decay*, and yet unwarily submit to a mercurial Course; for here the rarified Blood will rush upon the diseased Viscera with a Force superior to the Resistance of their Fibres, and by the Violence of its Motion will break down and destroy their tender Texture; or what is equally probable, will inflame and bring a Collection of Matter on the effected Part, which bursting inwardly, may quickly destroy the Patient.

ALL the Arteries before they enter the Viscera are divested of their external Coat; which is a Circumstance worth attending to, for, by this Means being rendered much thinner, they become more yielding to the Impulse of the Blood, than those in any other Part of the Body.

THE Mercury-miners are always short-lived\*, for in a few Months they begin to tremble and scarcely any of them live to

\* Fallop. Tract. de Metall. & Fossilibus.



to the third Year: Also according to \* *Ramazini*, from the Authority of several Writers they die miserably, being affected with Palsies, Vertigo's and a hectic Fever. This, however, seems to prove but little against the Safety of Mercurials, for these are Symptoms which seem not to arise from the noxious Quality, but rather from the immense Quantity of this Mineral.

GUAIACUM, a Medicine formerly, not less famous than Mercury for the Cure of the Veneral Disease, has its Advantages in particular Cases, but in general seems to fall short of the Character which at first attended its Use: It is frequently beneficial in a cold phlegmatick Disposition of the Body, but is always found to be hurtfull in bilious dry Constitutions, or in a sharp, thin State of the Blood, where the Patient is hectic; for as it consists of warm acrimonious Parts, which stimulate the Solids and increase their Action upon the Fluids, the Blood will still be farther broken into smaller Particles, and rendered more quick in its Motion, by which its most fluid Parts will pass out of the Body in profuse Sweats, to the great Detriment

\* De Morb. Art.



triment of the Patients Recovery ; whose Strength must daily decline from the Aggravation of all his feverish Symptoms,

\* FROM those of its Qualities which are sensible to the Taste and Smell, one would be inclined to think it a valuable Medicine, and such it certainly would often be found in some Cases, if given in strong Decoctions with proper Regimen ; ordering the Patient to Sweat by Intervals as his Strength will bear, according to the Practice of the Antients,

THERE are two fixed Points, beyond which the Vessels of the Body can neither be filled nor emptied without a *Plethora* happening in the one Case, and *Inanition* in the other ; and as the ill Symptoms during a Salivation, are occasioned by too great a Plenitude of the Vessels, and the violent Distention of their Coats ; so do the Complaints consequent of a Salivation arise from Inanition, and a general Weakness of the Habit ; and therefore, the Remedies most likely to succeed are nourishing Diet with moderate Exercise, Chalybeates with the Bark, Aromatic



matic Bitters, and the Use of the Cold Bath : But this last is never to be advised where the Patient is extremely Weak or where there is a Suspicion of unsound Viscera ; in the last Case it might prove fatal, by forcing the Blood with Violence to the affected Part ; and in the First, it would most certainly increase his Complaints ; for if the first Shock given to the whole vascular System by the intense Cold should fail to restore the Elasticity of the Fibres, every future Effort would weaken their Spring, and become ineffectual.

MERCURY therefore, though a powerful and most excellent Medicine in many Cases, when used with Caution, may, when misapplied, be productive of many terrible Consequences, and like a Sword in the Hands of a Madman, become the Instrument of irreparable Ills. \* It acts as it is acted upon by the vital Impulse, and whenever that is wanting to transmit it to  
the

\* Argentum vivum, solâ vi vitæ actum hoc malum sanat, motu expellit. Ideo & ejus medicata potestas haud valet corrigere venereum tabum, quando illud figitur in locis, ad quæ actio Cordis & Arteriarum vix pertingit.



the diseased Part, it fails of Success, and becomes of no Effect.

FROM this we plainly see that it has no specific Property in subduing the Venereal Poison; that it works a Cure by its *Gravity* and *mechanical Pressure*, and that it drives out the Disease, but with it the nutritious Juices, which are the very Principles of Life.

\* “ Tanto verò est in hoc Salivationis  
 “ genere Humorum Fusio, tanta Succo-  
 “ rum omnium Corporis sæpe exantlatio,  
 “ ut nil Mirum sit, si Spiritus vitales unâ  
 “ dissipentur, & maxime si in hâc Terrâ,  
 “ aliter sælicissimâ, ubi Melancholia tan-  
 “ tum obtinet Imperium, complures ex  
 “ tam rapida Fluidorum profusione suc-  
 “ cumbant ac periant.”

\* Harris de Lue Venereâ.

## S E C T.



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# S E C T. III.

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## OF THE PARTICULAR CASES WHERE

SALIVATION is allowed to be dangerous  
or ineffectual ;

AND WHERE THE  
*Lisbon* DIET-DRINK

Justly claims the PREFERENCE.

**T**HOUGH this Section should have gone before the last according to the Title, yet, in Order that the Reader might have a more exact comparative View of the Remedies already considered, *viz.* Salivation and the *Diet-Drink* ; the particular Cases, where the one seems evidently preferable to the other, have been referred to the last.

FIRST then, Salivation is by all allowed to be dangerous in a universal Weak-  
I - nefs



ness and Relaxation of the Solids, where it is feared the consumptive Patient might sink under the Loss of a profuse salivary Discharge, or where the Vessels from their decay, have lost their vibrating Power and cannot sufficiently react upon the circulating Fluids \* ; for in this Case, the mercurial Atoms diffused throughout the Blood will not only prove ineffectual, but will further inflame, break down and destroy the diseased Parts, till at length, extravasating with the Juices, they will subside by their own Gravity, unite with each other, and form Globules, such as are observed in the carious Bones or imposthumated Parts of dead Bodies, after a Salivation.

SECONDLY, where the Venereal Disease is complicated with the Scurvy ; for scorbutic Ulcers of the Mouth, &c. are by this Means greatly irritated and often become gangrenous from the Use of Mercury.

*Bachstrom*, a Dutch Physician, together with *Hoffman*, here both condemn the Use of Mercury, and *Etmuller* observes that

\* *Pref. Boerhaav. ad Morb. Gall. Authores Var.*



that it is so pernicious in the Scurvy, that the Dutch abstain from it even in venereal Cases, for fear they should be complicated with that Disease.

\* *Kramer* also informs us, that four Hundred of the Imperial Troops in *Hungary* near *Belgrade*, who took *Mercury*, without his Advice, all died by the dreadful Consequences of a Salivation.

THIRDLY, where the Pox is complicated with scrophulous Tumors of the Neck, which may be so enlarged by Mercury as to compress the contiguous Veins, and cause a Fit of the Apoplexy by putting a Stop to the Return of the Blood: And even in those Cases of the Evil or Leprosy where Mercury may be given with Safety §, it seldom ever effects a thorough Cure; for though the Symptoms are alleviated for a Time, they at length return with their wonted Severity. This, in some Measure may serve as a Proof that the Leprosy, Scrophula and Pox are three distinct Diseases; for if these were only different Species of the

I 2

same

\* *Krameri Dissert. Epistol. de Scorbuto.*

§ *Willis de Lep. Grecor.*



same Disease, produced by the venereal Poison, Mercury would be the most likely to subdue them all, however diversified by Climates or Constitutions..

FOURTHLY, in an habitual Diarrhæa, where the Mercury by its superior Weight, would force open the Vessels of the Bowels and bring on a Bloody Flux.

FIFTHLY, in a spitting of Blood from decayed Lungs, or where the Liver has been schirrous for a long Time; for if the Obstruction does not readily give Way, the Force of the circulating Blood, assisted by the Gravity of Mercury, may burst the Vessels, or bring the affected Part to Suppuration and destroy the tender Texture of that Bowel.

SIXTHLY, in pregnant Women, where Mercury, by increasing the Circulation, would Force the tender *Embryo* from its Connection with the Uterus, and occasion Abortion.

SEVENTHLY, in the infant State, where the Rapidity of the Blood's Motion would act with greater Force upon the Solids  
than



than their tender Fibres could bear, and consequently bring on bloody Stools, Convulsions and other dangerous Symptoms, which might end in Death.

THESE are some of the many particular Cases, in which *Salivation*, is either dangerous or ineffectual, as those, who happen to submit to it, will be convinced by dear bought Experience ; for if the Patient is extremely weak and languid, this Method will only serve still farther to exhaust and infeeble him ; and instead of affording him the Relief he sought for, he will find his too sanguine Expectations ending in Disappointment : On the contrary, in these and all other Cases where the Patient is an improper Subject for *Mercury*, and his Complaints are assuredly Scorbutic or Venereal, a regular Course of the *Lisbon Diet-Drink*, will seldom ever fail of removing the Disease, if not advanced to a State absolutely incurable.

WHOEVER desires to be more fully acquainted with the dangerous Effects of a Salivation, may consult Dr. *Robinson's* excellent *Treatise on the Venereal Disease* ; where, besides the Cases already mentioned,



tioned, may be found many more in which it is highly prejudicial, and where, I believe, all candid Judges must give the Preference to a *Medicine* gentle and mild in its Effects, which, by a regular and long continued Use, is not only much more safe, but also more certain in exterminating the *Venerical Disease*.

## APPENDIX

WHOMSOEVER desires to be more fully acquainted with the dangerous Effects of a Salivation, may consult Dr. Robinson's excellent Treatise on the Venerical Disease; where, besides the Cases already mentioned,



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# APPENDIX.

With a STATE of  
Such *Confirm'd* VENEREAL and  
SCORBUTIC CASES,  
As have been perfectly Cur'd by a Course of  
The LISBON DIET-DRINK.

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## CASE I.

With *Scorbutic Eruptions, Wandering Pains*, and profuse *Night-Sweats*, &c.

A Cabinet-Maker near *Golden-Square*,  
(from his own Account) had been  
afflicted with an inveterate *Scurvy* for the  
Space of *six Years*, which every Spring  
and Autumn attack'd him with redoubled  
Vigour : The Disease began with violent  
*gnawing Pains*, which wander'd about  
and became almost intolerable in the Night,  
but were somewhat abated towards the  
Morning.



AT first, I could hardly help thinking they might arise from something venereal, but from talking with him I found I was mistaken, and that he was perfectly free from every Symptom of that Sort.—He had *Eruptions* on the Hands, Legs and Arms, from which a clear glairy Moisture ouz'd forth, and growing dry, gradually harden'd into thick, *horny Crusts*, which at last peel'd off, and were again immediately succeeded by others of the same Kind.

THESE Symptoms were accompanied with *Inactivity*, and Loss of Strength, from his profuse colliquative Sweats, and likewise with Weariness and a Pain in the muscular Parts, as after immoderate Exercise : He had sometimes a *Hæmorrhage* from the Nose, with an Itching and *Spunginess* of the *Gums*, which bled upon the slightest Touch.

ABOUT two Years before, several small glandular Swellings appear'd in his Neck, and likewise under his Arm-pits, the last of which came to Suppuration and were opened. From the Patients own Account,



count, the Wound digested badly, and though without much Pain or symptomatic Fever, a fresh Collection of Matter was brought upon the Part, which was discharg'd by Incision as before, notwithstanding the Sore made no Advance towards Healing, but degenerated into a *sinuous Ulcer*, which turn'd out tedious in the Cure, and was laid open several Times before that was effected.

DURING the Time of his Illness he had try'd several Medicines, *viz.* *Mercurial Physic*, the Purging Waters with *Æthiop's Mineral*, for a Month together ; and likewise the different Kinds of Anti-scorbutic Diet-Drinks, but to little Purpose.

NOVEMBER the 6th 1755, he apply'd to me, and began a Course of the *Lisbon Diet-Drink*, and at that Time, besides the Symptoms already mention'd, he had great Difficulty in Breathing, and acute Pains under his Shoulder-blades. By the Use of the Medicine, his Pain went off in about ten Days, and he could breath with Ease ; soon after, the *Eruptions* on the Hands, Arms, &c. began to fall off, and



at the End of a Month he had a good Appetite, and was perfectly well.

THE Medicine kept his Body moderately laxative, and remarkably increas'd the urinary Discharge.

## C A S E II.

A *Gonorrhœa* of long standing, with violent *Pain* and *Pressure* at the Neck of the *Bladder*, and a frequent Endeavour to make Water.

MARCH the 12th 1756, a Gentleman of a sanguine Constitution, aged Thirty-five, applied to me: By his Account, he had been extremely ill treated; for tho' his Complaint was, at first, only a Running with Heat and Inflammation of the urinary Passage, he had been liberally ply'd with *Mercury* and *strong Purges*, instead of *Bleeding*, plentiful *Dilution*, and the Use of *Emollients*.

HE was render'd extremely low and weak, by this rough and injudicious Method of Treatment, which by irritating the inflam'd Parts, brought on a violent Pain



Pain at the Neck of the Bladder, with a forcing down, and a frequent Endeavour to make Water, which he voided in small Quantities, and with much Pain : This Complaint at last ended in a total *Suppression* of *Urine*, infomuch as to oblige him to have it drawn off by the *Catheter*, and afterwards he was directed to the Use of the *Bugée*.—— I found him feverish and weak, and his Bowels so tender from his preceeding Treatment, as hardly to bear any thing he eat or drank, without severe *Gripings* and *frequent Stools*.—I took away ten Ounces of Blood, order'd him an *Opiate* at Night, and an Emulsion of Almonds with the Addition of *Nitre* and *Gum Arabic*, to be taken occasionally, which abated his Pain, and had otherwise a good Effect. A few Days after he began with the *Lisbon* Diet-Drink, which agreed with him very well, and gently open'd his Body : In a short Time the Irritation and forcing down at the Neck of the Bladder abated, and the Heat and Inflammation of the urinary Passage gradually went off, so that at last he could make Water without any Inconvenience. His Stomach grew better, and a Gleet, which remain'd in a small Degree, disappear'd by the Use



of the Cold Bath, as the Parts regain'd their former Strength. He has since remain'd free from every *venereal* Symptom, and at present is perfectly well.

### C A S E III.

With *Eruptions* on the Body, an *Ulcer* in the Mouth, and a *Bubo*.

A Gentleman of Fortune, of a Plethoric Habit, and good Constitution, perceiv'd a small Tumour in the right Groin, which by a Surgeon in the Country was judg'd to be the Effect of a Cold, and consequently was disregarded; it continued to increase for five Weeks after its first Appearance, till it became big as a *large Walnut*, at which Period, a Fluctuation of Matter was sensible to the Touch, and the Surgeon no longer doubting of its being a venereal Bubo, propos'd to lay it open by Incision, but from the Patients Account, waiting too long for the pointing of the Tumour, in order to give him less Pain in opening it, the collected Matter was absorb'd into the Mass of Blood, leaving behind it a hard, indolent Swelling, which would neither disperse nor suppurate: Soon after an Ulcer appear'd near the



the right Tonfil Gland, and at the same Time he had Eruptions on the Skin with brown Spots here and there, which peel'd off like *Bran*; this induc'd him to come to *London* for farther Advice, where at his Arrival, he was advis'd to undergo a *Salivation*, which he intended to submit to, but by the Recommendation of a Gentleman in Town, he alter'd his Mind and apply'd to me, the *Bubo* being at that Time in a Manner schirrous.

APRIL the 5th, 1757, he began a Course of the *Lisbon* Diet-Drink, which in about ten Days brought the *Bubo* to Suppuration, so that a Caustic being apply'd, the Matter was discharg'd, and the Ulcer, which digested well, heal'd firm and sound from the Bottom: Towards the End of his Course, which was concluded in about a Month, the Ulcer in the Mouth heal'd, his Skin was clear of the Eruptions, and he was perfectly well in every Respect.

THE *Diet-Drink* sweated him much, and kept his Body gently open.—As this Gentleman had liv'd freely, I was oblig'd at first to allow him half a Pint,  
and



and afterwards a Pint of Wine a Day :  
 —He frequented the public Diversions,  
 and never was confin'd a Day during the  
 whole Course.

#### C A S E IV.

A stubborn *Scorbutic Head-ach*, with  
 Eruptions on the Body.

A Clerk to a Timber-Merchant, aged  
 Twenty-four, had for eight Years  
 past, been constantly more or less troubled  
 with a stubborn scorbutic Head-Ach ; the  
 Pain was chiefly fix'd to the right Tem-  
 ple, and so violent by Turns, as almost  
 to reach a Fit of Distraction ; for at such  
 Times it generally brought on a Vomit-  
 ing, like that from a Concussion of the  
 Brain, attended with a Stiffness and Swel-  
 ling of his Eye on the same Side : In this  
 Condition, he often could not eat, nor  
 sleep for several Nights and Days together,  
 his Stomach being sick, and his Head so  
 giddy, that every Thing he look'd at  
 seem'd in Motion.—To use his own Ex-  
 pression, he was perpetually taking one  
 Thing or other, both by the Advice of  
 Gentlemen of the Faculty and others :  
 He



He was blister'd between the Shoulders, bled both at the Arm, and by *Leeches* apply'd to the affected Part, and frequently took Purging Physick. Several other Remedies were both internally and externally apply'd, but without the Relief that might naturally have been expected from such considerable Evacuations.——About seven Years before his Body broke out, all over, with a moist Scab, and from that Time he never miss'd these Eruptions, more or less, every Spring, till that of taking the *Diet-Drink*.

APRIL the 27th, 1757, he began a Course of the *Lisbon Diet-Drink*, which was duly continued daily for upwards of a Month: This Medicine promoted Sweat and Urine plentifully, and kept his Body open: He found sensible Relief in four or five Days, and had but one Attack of the Head-Ach during the whole Course, towards the End of which, he became quite free from Pain, and in every Respect perfectly well.

CASE



## C A S E V.

*Ulcers* in the Throat, and *Eruptions* on the Skin.

SEPTEMBER the 3d, 1757, a young Gentleman, Clerk to a Merchant, aged Nineteen; a Year and a Half before he apply'd to me, contracted a *Genorrhœa* with Shankers on the Penis, and a Beginning Bubo; which Symptoms were removed by a Surgeon in six or seven Weeks, and the Patient was concluded well.——About a Month after, he perceiv'd a Hoarseness, with a husky Dryness in his Throat (as he express'd it) particularly in the Morning; in this Manner he continued for several Months, till prompted by the Uneasiness and Pain, he had the Curiosity to look down his Throat, which appearing raw and ulcerated, alarm'd him greatly.

HE had likewise several broad, tawney Spots upon his Breasts and Belly, resembling *Bran*. Upon examining his Throat, I found the *Tonsil Glands* almost eaten away, and the back Part of the Passage behind the Uvula full of  
*small*



*Small Ulcers*, which seem'd in a spreading State, and appear'd to be creeping downwards; the neighbouring Parts being much inflam'd and in a Manner raw. — *September* the 5th, he began a Course of the *Lisbon* Diet Drink, which in ten Days clear'd his Skin of all the Eruptions, and sensibly reliev'd his Throat, not being able to swallow till then, without a violent Pain behind his Ears; in a Fortnight after the Inflammation quite abated, the Ulcers stopp'd from spreading, grew clean and seem'd disposed for Healing, which was entirely effected at the End of three Weeks; however for his better Security, he continued the Diet-Drink a Week longer, and was then dismiss'd perfectly cur'd: The *Diet-Drink* kept his Body *lax*, increas'd his Quantity of *Urine*, and promoted *Perspiration* plentifully. — He is since grown fat, and remains hearty and well in every Respect, though he afterwards told me, that for Fear of Suspicion, he had liv'd as the Family did, without minding any particular *Regimen*.

L

C A S E



## C A S E VI.

*Nocturnal Pains* in the Head, a *Caries* of the Bones of the *Nose* and *Palate*, with Loss of Substance ; also *Blindness* from Inflammation of the Eyes, and likewise *Ulceration* of the Tonsils and Uvula.

SEPTEMBER the 14th, 1757, a Gentleman of a slender Constitution, aged Fifty-three, by the Recommendation of an *Apothecary* in Town apply'd to me : — About seven Years before he had been constantly troubled with *nocturnal Pains*, which being very acute, depriv'd him of his natural Rest, insomuch that he seldom ever slept till towards the Morning, at which Time, the Pains were considerably abated, and in this Manner he continued for a long Time.

HE told me that he also often felt indolent Pains across his Face, extending downwards to the Ears, and that in a short Time after he had a Sense of Weight across his Nose, which prov'd the unlucky Fore-runner of what afterwards happen'd,



*viz.* a *Decay* of the *Cartilage* and *Bones* ; At length the Inside of the Nose was *ulcerated*, and fill'd up with *Scabs* in such a Manner, that it was with the greatest Difficulty he could breathe through it ; so that he was adviz'd to take Cæphalic Snuff, &c. About three Months after this, in picking the Nose and attempting to blow it, several Pieces of the *decay'd Bone* came away in small Splinters, and continued doing so from Time to Time ; one of which was near as large as the Nail of the little Finger : The Nose, for Want of its due Support, was now considerably depress'd, so as somewhat to disfigure the the Face ; and in this unhappy Situation, (the Patient told me) he was quite in Dispair for several Months, and that he labour'd under the most dreadful Apprehensions of dying by Inches, as several Methods had by this Time been try'd in vain for his Relief.—Half a Year after, a violent Inflammation fell upon his Eyes, and for a long Time he was almost blind, but totally so on the *right Eye*, insomuch as not to distinguish the Light of a Candle.—The Patient was now attended by an *Oculist*, who attempted to abate the Inflammation by *cooling Physick*, a *Decoction* of



of the *Woods*, *Repelling Washes*, &c. and in this he at last succeeded ; but neglecting to treat his Case as *Venereal*, the Relief was of short Duration, for in a few Weeks he was attack'd with a sore Throat, and an Ulceration of the *Uvula* and *Tonsil Glands* : At this Time he put himself under the Care of an *eminent Apothecary*, who treated his Case judiciously in every Respect, and us'd every Method which he thought bid the fairest for a Cure : He try'd Fumigation and the several *Mercurial Preparations*, but particularly the *Blue Pill*, with a *strong Decoction* of the *Woods* as an Alterative for a long Time, but without the wish'd for Effect, for the Ulcers still continued in a corroding State, and what was worse, another *Ulcer* made its Appearance on the Roof the Mouth, about half a Year after, and soon destroy'd the *Palate Bone* quite through.—The Gentleman who attended him, finding his Disease thus uncommonly inveterate, and so deeply rooted in his Constitution by Length of Time, began to loose all Hopes of a Cure, as well as the Patient, who seem'd sinking under his Disorder extremely fast, being much too weak to think of undergoing the Severity of a Salivation ; and in  
this



this Condition his *Apothecary* came with him to me.—Upon examining his Throat I found that both the *Tonsil Glands* were totally consumed by the *Ulcers* which still seem'd spreading to the surrounding Parts; the *Uvula* was eat away at its Basis, and hung by a small Appendicle, a little thicker than a Pack-thread and ready to drop into the Throat, which I therefore snipp'd \* off with the Probe-scissars; the *Ulcer* on the Roof of his Mouth had made its Way quite through the *Palate-Bone*, and was large enough to admit a Goose Quill, insomuch that the *Liquids* he attempted to swallow, were forc'd through this *Hole* and gush'd out at his Nose, which oblig'd him (when in Company) to hold his Handkerchief to his Face, to hinder it from being perceiv'd. —September the 16th, he began a Course of the *Lisbon Diet-Drink*, which constantly sweated him Night and Morning, and though these Sweats were sometimes profuse, he found both his Strength and Spirits much better than before; his Quantity of Urine was also increas'd, and he had generally two Stools a Day. On the 23d, the Inflammation of the Throat seem'd

\* *Vide the Plate.* No. 4, the diseas'd *Uvula* snipp'd off at its upper Part, by which it hung.



seem'd abating, and the Ulcers look'd cleaner, he could swallow with less Difficulty and Pain, and had a craving Stomach with better Digestion : About the 30th, the *Ulcers* in the Throat began to heal very fast, and the *Hole* in the Roof of his Mouth, unexpectedly began to fill up with Granulations of sound Flesh ; he could now swallow without much Regurgitation of the Liquids through the Nose, and in less than five Weeks from his first Beginning with the *Diet-Drink*, all the *Ulcers* in the Throat were perfectly heal'd, and the *Hole* on the Palate was firmly clos'd, so as not to allow one Drop of Liquor to escape through it into the Nose : He was now in good Spirits, grew fat and got Strength apace, and at the End of six Weeks left off the *Medicine*, perfectly cur'd ; though this is now near *three Years* ago, he has never had the least Relapse, but continues well in every Respect. I have taken the State of this Case (as well as all those which are remarkable) from the Patient's own Mouth ; 'tis with his Approbation, that I here insert it, and appeal to him, and to the Gentleman who jointly attended, with what strict Regard I have adher'd to Truth and Matter of Fact.



## C A S E VII.

*Ulceration of the Left Tonsil Gland, with a large Venereal Tumour on the Inside of the Throat, succeeding an old Gonorrhœa, and a Swelling of the Left-Testicle,*

OCTOBER the 7th, 1757, an *Apothecary* in Town, aged Twenty-seven, of a thin Habit of Body and slender Constitution, apply'd to me: About three Years before, he contracted a *virulent Gonorrhœa*, which he treated in a Manner suitable to recent Disorders of that Kind; the inflammatory Symptoms were removed in a few Weeks, and the Running was brought to a good Colour and Consistence; the Discharge, however, still continued, but having no Marks of *Virulence*, he neglected it as a *Simple Gleet*, proceeding from a Weakness and Relaxation of the affected Parts: In this Manner it remained about *two Years*, varying a little in Colour or Quantity, from any Irregularity in Drinking, or the Inconvenience of catching Cold.—At Length he perceiv'd a Swelling in the *Left Testicle*, which in a short Time abated by the Use of Mercury and purging



purging Physick : Not long after, the *Running* stopp'd, and in about three Months or less, he had a Soreness in his Throat, with *Ulceration* of the Left *Tonsil Gland*, so that it appears plain, his Blood became tainted by the Remains of the *Venereal Poison*,—Upon this he told me he was much alarm'd, and immediately began a Course of *Mercurial Alteratives*, with a *Decoction* of the *Woods* ; but tho' he kept regularly to this Method, and continued it daily for several Months, the *Ulcer* still grew larger and appear'd in a foul corroding State : In a few Weeks, a small fleshy Granulation about the Size of a Pea, began to shoot out from the ulcerated Part, which the Patient taking for proud Flesh, endeavoured to destroy by Means of Escharoticks, &c. He now made trial of the different Preparations of *Mercury*, both of his own Accord, and by the Advice of others of the Profession, in Order to destroy that venereal Cause which gave Rise to the Ulcer, and also to restrain the encreasing Bulk of the *Excrescence*, which he perceiv'd every Day growing bigger and bigger ; he also observ'd, that as it grew larger, its Appearance was considerably chang'd, being much more solid



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solid and compact, than what it was in the Beginning : In about twelve Months the *Tumour* was so enormously enlarged downwards, and across his Throat, that 'twas with the utmost Difficulty he could *breath, swallow*, or distinctly pronounce his Words ; and whilst in Bed, his Respiration was so extremely laborious, that he was often oblig'd suddenly to rise up, to avoid the Danger of being choak'd.— He apply'd to me soon after, in a very languishing Condition, being extremely wasted and wore away from Anxiety of Mind and the Want of due Nourishment, for at this Time he was not able to swallow any *solid Food* at all, and therefore was oblig'd to live upon Fluids, such as Broth, Milk, &c. I extirpated the Tumour with some Difficulty \*, and destroy'd the Roots of it by the Caust. Lunar, inclos'd in a Silver Canula, and cautiously convey'd down the Throat to the affected Part. The *Uvula*, though in a sound State, was forc'd out of its natural Situation, by the Growth of the Tumour, so

M as

\* *Vide the Plate.* No. 1, the Body of the Tumour extirpated from the Inside of the *Throat*. 2. A remaining Portion of the same Tumour, extracted two Days after the first Part. 3. Small Fragments of the Tumour extracted in separate Pieces.



as not to be discover'd till that was removed.—A few Days afterwards, as soon as he could swallow, he began with the *Lisbon Diet-Drink*, which sweated him Night and Morning, and prov'd so remarkably *diuretic*, that contrary to his usual Custom, he was often oblig'd to rise from Bed in the Night to make Water. The *Medicine* generally procur'd him two lax Stools a Day, and towards the End of the Course, he had a good Stomach, and got Strength very fast. In a Month's Time, the Sore in his Throat was heal'd quite firm and smooth; he is since grown fat, remains perfectly well to this Time, and is free from every venereal Symptom, having a few Days ago been favour'd with the Particulars of this Case from his own Mouth.

### C A S E VIII.

*A Bubo, Blotches on the Pudenda with Shankers, and a virulent Discharge ting'd with Blood.*

**N**OVEMBER the 24th, 1757, I was sent for to a Gentlewoman of a florid Complexion, aged Twenty-four; after talking with her a little, I had great Reason



Reason from the Nature of her Complaints, to suspect they were *Venereal*. As she seem'd in great Pain, and had been without Rest for several Nights, I desir'd she would allow me to inform myself more particularly of her Case, which after another Visit or two, she with Reluctance consented to.

I FOUND the Pudenda full of large *Blotches*, which by Length of Time, and the Sharpness of the Humours they discharg'd, had made deep spreading Sores, and excoriated the surrounding Parts: She had likewise *Shankers*, with intolerable Heat and Pain in making Water, and also a *Bubo* in the left Groin, tho' small and without much Pain.—Her Pulse was feverish and quick, and her Head distracted with Pain; but whether this last Symptom was *Venereal*, or owing to her Fever, I shall not take upon me to say.—I advis'd her to loose Blood, and to keep the affected Parts clean, by often washing them with warm Milk and Water. The next Day she began a Course of the *Lisbon Diet-Drink*, which agreed perfectly well with her Stomach, and never made her the least sick; it usually gave her two or three lax Stools a Day, sweated her profusely



fully after she had taken it at Night, and in the Day-time, particularly, increas'd her Quantity of Urine. The Heat in making Water soon abated, and also the Pain in her Head ; in about ten Days the Discharge from the Ulcers and Vagina was much abated, but upon her using violent Exercise, return'd in a more than usual Quantity ting'd with Blood, however it gradually diminish'd again, and at last entirely went off: She pursued this Course about a Month, during which the Bubo dispers'd, and the Sores on the Pudenda were perfectly heal'd without any external Application, excepting the Lotion of Milk and Water, which was necessary to keep the Parts clean. She has ever since remain'd free from every venereal Symptom, and is at this Time, in perfect Health.

### C A S E IX.

*Pain in the Head, Eruptions on the Skin, with Shankers on the Glans and Prepuce.*

A Gentleman of a Plethoric Habit and strong Constitution, aged Twenty-eight or thereabouts, contracted a virulent

*Gonor-*



*Gonorrhæa*, with Heat and Inflammation in the urinary Passage, which by the Medicines he took disappear'd, and in a few Weeks he was concluded perfectly cur'd. He remain'd well for about three Months, and then grew much disorder'd with a Pain in his Head, grew listless and inactive, with a Sense of Weight and Soreness over his whole Body; *Shankers* appear'd at the same time on the Glans and Prepuce, which totally eat away the *Frænum*. By the Use of Mercurials and other Medicines, the Sores on the Penis heal'd in a few Months, but appear'd again in a short Time without any fresh Contraction; his Legs and Arms likewise broke out with dry crusty Scabs, and on several Parts of his Body there were tawny colour'd Spots, which peel'd off like *Bran*.—These were his Symptoms when he apply'd to me, except that his Head-ach was somewhat reliev'd on the Appearance of the Eruptions, and the Shankers seem'd partly closing on one Place with a hard unequal *Cicatrix*, and breaking out in another.—*February* the 16th, 1758, he began a Course of the *Lisbon* Diet-Drink, which produc'd a very sensible Alteration for the better in a few Days, the Sores on the Penis looking less in-



inflam'd, and some of the Blotches on the Legs and Arms beginning to fall off; from this Time he daily continued growing better, and in the Space of a Fortnight, his Skin was smooth and clear of the Eruptions, and in all other Respects he was perfectly well.

THE Medicine generally procur'd him two lax Stools a Day, remarkably promoted the urinary Discharge, and in the Morning he constantly found a Moisture on the Skin from his encreas'd Perspiration.—The Diet-Drink was continued near a Month for his greater Security.

HE has ever since enjoy'd a better State of Health than usual, is grown fat, and at present is hearty and well.

### C A S E X.

*Nocturnal Pains in the Head, with a Shanker on the Prepuce, and hard glandular Swellings under the Chin, and behind the Ears, after a Salivation.*

JULY the 25th, 1748, an Officer in the Army of a slender Habit of Body, aged Thirty-three or thereabouts, apply'd  
to



to me on the Day of his Arrival in *London*, from a distant Part of the Country, where he had undergone a *Salivation*, for an old venereal Complaint, which by that Means was reliev'd for a Time, but not totally cur'd : He told me that sometime after the *Salivation* his Symptoms return'd, and were still evidently venereal, and that he was advis'd to take a *Decoction of the Woods*, with the *Solution of Sublimate*, which he thought of some Service to him at first, but though he pursued the Use of it for a Time, he again became bad as ever, and therefore being vastly dissatisfied and uneasy, he hastened up to Town.

WHEN he came to me, he seem'd very much emaciated, and told me that he had never rightly regain'd his former Strength after the *Salivation* : At this Time, he was constantly troubled with *nocturnal Pains* every Night, which hinder'd him from Sleeping 'till the Morning when they abated ; he had also a *Shanker* on the Prepuce, and the Glands under his Chin, and behind the Ears were hard, painful and much enlarg'd.—He began a Course of the *Lisbon Diet-Drink*, which procur'd him almost immediate Relief ; for in five  
or



or six Days the nocturnal Pains in the Head were exceedingly abated, and the Shanker healed very soon after ; the glandular Swellings indeed, did not totally disappear till towards the End of five Weeks, at which Time he left off the Medicine, and was perfectly free from all his *Vene-  
real Symptoms*.

As he was apt to catch Cold upon slight Occasions, I advis'd him to take the Bark, and make Use of the Cold-Bath ; but as he was order'd Abroad with the Troops a few Weeks after, I know not whether he did or no.

## C A S E XI.

### *A Schirrous Tumour of the Testicle.*

**A** Sea-faring Gentleman apply'd to me, with a hard schirrhous Swelling of the left Testicle, about the Size of a large Hen's Egg, which he concluded Venereal, as it appear'd without any Bruise or external Injury ; and this Conjecture seem'd the more probable, as he told me he had liv'd with great Freedom, for some Time before ; though in Reality he had not  
one



one Symptom besides, that in the least tended to confirm such a Suspicion.

I I M A G I N ' D that perhaps he had been taking *Mercurials*, and that he had got Cold with them, or that the Swelling arose from the Stoppage of a Running, but he positively assur'd me this was not the Case, and that he first perceiv'd the Swelling as he sat in a Coffee House after coming from the Exchange, — At first he apply'd to an Apothecary, who had bled him two or three Times, fomented and poultic'd the Part, and given him Medicines for a Fortnight without any Abatement in the Size of the Tumour. — *September* the 12th, 1758, he came to me in the Situation already mention'd ; I order'd him a Bag-Truss to suspend the Scrotum, and immediately put him upon a Course of the *Diet-Drink*. — For the first Week I could perceive no sensible Change in the Part ; in about ten or twelve Days it grew much softer and began to decrease in Bulk very fast. — He continued the Medicine for a Month or upwards ; in which Time both the Hardness and Swelling totally disappear'd, and the Testicle was reduc'd to its natural Size.



IN this Gentleman the Diet-Drink operated by Stool and plentiful Sweats at Night, and did not seem much to effect the Urinary Discharge.

## C A S E XII.

*A Virulent Gonorrhœa* of long Continuance.

OCTOBER the 29th, 1758, a Tradesman aged Thirty-five, or thereabouts, apply'd to me, with an old *Gonorrhœa* of near eight Months standing; he had taken a great Quantity of *Mercury* and purging Physick alternately, which generally reliev'd him for a Time, but did not clear him of the Disease.—The Running was virulent when he came to me, and stain'd his Linnen of a deep yellowish green Colour: The Discharge was also large in Quantity, and what with his Disorder, and repeated Doses of strong Physick, &c. he was brought very weak, with a violent Pain across the small of his Back. *October* the 30th, he began with the Diet-Drink, and in about three Weeks he was perfectly well, without any Relapse.



## C A S E XIII.

*Old Shankers* on the Prepuce, breaking out again after a Salivation.

**A**P R I L the 21<sup>st</sup>, 1759, a Gentleman of Fortune apply'd to me; he was of a very thin, delicate Habit of Body, and appear'd consumptive:—— He told me that a few Months before, he had been recommended to me by a Gentleman at *Plymouth*, for the Cure of an old *venereal Complaint*, and that he came to *London* accordingly; but on his Arrival in Town, he was persuaded to undergo a *Salivation*, which he submitted to, and by which, the Symptoms of his Disease were carried off for a Time:— The Violence of this Course greatly impair'd his Strength, and left him in a very languid Condition; but what was much worse, brought upon him a *Spitting of Blood* from the Lungs, which in the End, prov'd the Occasion of his Death.—— A few Weeks after the Salivation, the *old Shankers* on the Prepuce again broke out, which was the Reason of his applying to me:—I gave him the *Diet-Drink* for near three Weeks,  
by



by which the Shankers were heal'd without any Relapse.—— He afterwards left Town, and went to his Father's Country-Seat in *Huntingtonshire*, where I heard that he languish'd several Months, and being wore away to a Skeleton, at last sunk under the *Spitting of Blood* and his other consumptive Ailments.

#### C A S E XIV.

Of Four Years Continuance, with *Swelling* of the *Testicles*, *Excrescences* on the Glans and Prepuce, and *Blotches* on the Head and Body.

A Gentleman of a Plethoric Habit, and somewhat corpulent, aged Thirty-two, near four Years ago contracted a virulent Gonorrhæa with *Shankers* on the Glans and Prepuce, which by rubbing in the mercurial Ointment, and the Use of internal Medicines disappeared ; but in a short Time returned again : Upon repeating the Medicines and mercurial Ointment, the Symptoms went off as before, and the Patient seem'd very well for some Time, though by the Event, 'twas plain his Cure was only palliative.——In a few Months after, the Disease broke out with all the Symptoms of a confirm'd Pox, the



the Patient being constantly troubled with *nocturnal Pains*, particularly in his Shins; and also with *Eruptions* on his Head, Arms, and other Parts of the Body, which in a little Time turn'd to deep crusty Scabs, destroying the Skin and cellular Membrane down to the Muscles, and leaving the Part with hard unequal Lumps, or Cicatrices of a livid bluish Colour.

THE *Testicles* were enormously enlarg'd, particularly the Left, which was increas'd to the Bulk of a Goose-Egg; the Swelling of the other, though not so large, was of a whole Years standing, and so extremely hard, as strictly to be call'd a *perfect Schirrus*.—There was some Running, though but little, and the Glans and Prepuce were beset with *Warts*, or rather fleshy Excrescencies, which I extirpated, though some of them began to waste away by the Effect of the Medicine; one in particular, so exactly resembling a *Raspberry*, as hardly at a Distance to be distinguish'd from it.

BEING recommended to me by a Gentleman, which was a near Relation of his; *April* the 10th, 1760, he began a Course of



of the *Lisbon* Diet-Drink, which sweated him gently, and generally procur'd him two or three lax Stools a Day. On the 22d of the same Month, on his being disappointed of seeing me, I received a Line from him with the following Account, *viz.* “ That his Symptoms were  
 “ much abated, and every Thing chang'd  
 “ for the better ; that the hard Lumps  
 “ which lay under the discolour'd Places  
 “ on the Arm, &c. were vanish'd, and  
 “ that the Testicles were gradually falling  
 “ in Size ”, though the Swelling on one of them, was of a whole Years standing, and in a Manner schirrous.—He thus continued daily growing better, and in less than a Month, the Skin was perfectly smooth, and his Head clear of the Eruptions, the Testicles free from all Pain and Hardness, and reduced to their natural Size.

DURING the Course, the Scrotum was suspended in a Bag-Truss, and for his greater Security, the Diet-Drink was continued a while longer, and he is now perfectly well.

THIS



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THIS succinct Account I thought necessary to subjoin, as a farther Confirmation of what I have previously advanc'd on the Efficacy of the *Diet-Drink* ; but should any Doubts arise relative to the Authenticity of the preceding Cases, because the Names of the Patients, &c. are omitted ; I shall, whenever necessary, have Recourse to Gentlemen of *Veracity* and *Credit*, who know the Particulars of the very worst Cases here stated, and were likewise well acquainted both with the *Patients* and their *Cure*.

I COULD easily have doubled the Number of Cases, but as many of them were similar to those already mentioned, have omitted them as superfluous or unnecessary : Several Gentlemen, indeed, have apply'd to me, whose Complaints were not *Venereal*, yet some of them who had liv'd with great Freedom, and had occasion to change their Condition for a *married State*, were doubtful and uneasy, for Fear of the least Remains of the Disease, and chose to undergo a *Course* of



of this *Medicine* for their own future Satisfaction and Security.

AFTER the Reader has perused the *Appendix* with Attention, I shall leave him to determine, whether the Intention of a *Salivation*, as well as that of giving *Mercury* according to the common Practice, is not as effectually answer'd from an Enlargement of the *Secretions* by a Course of the *Lisbon Diet-Drink*, and with very considerable Advantages to the Patient; since by the first Method he suffers both *Confinement* and *Loss of Strength*; but by the last is restored to Health at full Liberty, without either *Waste of Body* or *Injury* to his Constitution.

## FINIS.

## ERRATA.

Page 8. for Supperation read Suppuration. p. 23. for Dilutents r. Diluents. p. 42. for of Secretions r. of the Secretions. p. 52. for from r. form. p. 61. for Bugée r. Bougée.