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# THE METHOD OF TREATING GUN-SHOT WOUNDS.

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# THE METHOD OF TREATING GUN-SHOT WOUNDS.

SECOND EDITION.

By JOHN RANBY,

Principal Serjeant-Surgeon to His MAJESTY, &c.

*LONDON:*

Printed for ROBERT HORSFIELD, at the Crown, in *Ludgate-street*, 1760.

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TO THE

# KING.

*SIR,*

PERMIT me, in all possible humility, to approach Your royal presence; not with a panegyric on Your great actions, but with my sentiments on an interesting, though less exalted, subject.

A May

May I be allowed, Sir, to ſay, that the unwearied care taken by Your MAJESTY of the gallant ſufferers at the ſignal battle of *Dettingen*, is often conſidered by me with that juſt admiration and reſpect, which ſuch goodneſs naturally excites. The ſtate and condition of every individual, afflicted either

with

with ſickneſs or wounds, incurred in that engagement, was very particularly enquired into by Your MAJESTY every morning; a condeſcention which had ſo happy an effect, that all poſſible eaſe and convenience were procured to the diſtreſſed. Such was Your Majeſty's concern for Your ſoldiers of every rank, at a time when the world might

have naturally expected to ſee Your ſollicitude confined to the perſon of Your own illuſtrious offspring; who was then actually labouring under the painful effects of a courage inſeparable from the high blood from which he deſcends. I beg leave, Sir, on this occaſion, to declare, that the truſt placed in me, by Your MAJESTY, filled

my

my mind with a ſatis-faction which was never exceeded by any thing but the joy I afterwards felt on His Royal High-neſs's recovery.

Induced by the con-ſideration of the remark-able attention and tender-neſs which Your Majeſty thus ſhowed towards every ſuffering perſon in Your army, I flatter my-ſelf,

ſelf, that a plain and eaſy method of relieving incidents, which unavoidably attend even victorious arms, will prove no unacceptable offering to Your Majeſty. Should my deſign in publiſhing the following treatiſe, and my duty herein, humbly expreſſed, be agreeable to Your Majeſty, I ſhall obtain the full accompliſhment of my wiſhes;

wiſhes; it being the greateſt ambition that can enter my heart, to be allowed the honour, upon this occaſion, to ſubſcribe myſelf,

*May it pleaſe your Majeſty,*

*Your Majeſty's moſt dutiful,*

*and moſt faithful,*

*Subject and Servant,*

John Ranby.

Aug^t 18-1821. (Eg Ch^a



# THE METHOD OF TREATING GUN-SHOT WOUNDS.

THOUGH it might ſeem very reaſonable to have ſuppoſed, that no Surgeon, who was well verſed in his profeſſion, could have been much at a loſs in the management of Gun-ſhot Wounds; yet, either from the want of due attention, or from the prejudice of cuſtom, it has been found, that they have frequently declined exerting their own reſpective abilities on

 theſe

theſe occaſions; and have acquieſced too implicitly in methods of practice, which neither reaſon nor experience ſufficiently authorized.

In regard to the following pages, upon this very intereſting ſubject, it is to be obſerved, that the ſubſtance of them was penned in a camp, and communicated, in an epiſtolary correſpondence, to ſome particular friends in England, while I had the honour of attending his Majeſty to the army in Germany. I had then no thoughts of offering theſe ſentiments to the public; but ſome very worthy gentlemen, both in Phyſic and Surgery, frequently inſinuating the uſe they might be

of

of to young practitioners, I could not help being influenced by their ſuggeſtions, which muſt always command from me the greateſt deference. I collected, therefore, my ſcattered papers, and without attempting any critical exactneſs of ſtile, or obſerving any ſtrict regularity of method, I endeavoured to communicate at large the reſult of much experience, which the nature of my employment neceſſarily preſented to me.

I have purpoſely avoided entering into any hypothetical reaſonings on the ſubject; and have alſo declined drawing any quotations from the ſeveral authors who have wrote upon it; not through an arrogant

ſelf-ſufficiency, and a preſumption, that there is nothing in them worthy to be cited; but a method of that nature would carry me beyond the bounds I had fixed to myſelf: At the ſame time, it could be of no moment in regard to the principal deſign of this treatiſe; which was, to recommend plentiful bleeding very early in the treatment of Gun-ſhot wounds; to adviſe, likewiſe, the the application of light, eaſy, dreſſings to them; and, particularly, to introduce the ſignal uſe of the Bark.

In regard to the firſt accidents, cauſed by a muſket or piſtol-ball, the moſt immediate conſiderations are, to extract the ball or any other

extra-

extraneous body which may have lodged in the wounded part; and to ſtop the hæmorrhage, if there is an effuſion of blood from the rupture of ſome conſiderable artery.

As to the firſt, the extraction of the ball; it is frequently neceſſary to enlarge the wound, in order to anſwer this purpoſe; and if the ball has gone quite through, both orifices are to be dilated (provided the ſituation of the part wounded will admit of it's being done with ſafety); and particular care is to be taken to preſerve both openings, eſpecially that which is the moſt depending.

In order to get at the ball, or any other foreign matter, I would advise probing to be used as sparingly as possible: having constantly experienced, through the whole course of my attendance in these cases, that such a conduct is highly detrimental to the patient. And this must evidently appear to any one, who will only consider the nature of the symptoms attendent on penetrating wounds of the breast or belly, either from a bullet or sharp instrument: the thrusting in a probe to parts under such circumstances, being unavoidably a fresh stab on every repetition of such practice. In wounds of the joints, likewise, poking into them must

be

be equally condemned; as it can never be uſed without very miſchievous and pernicious conſequences. And, indeed, where probing is neceſſary, I would always prefer the finger, as the beſt and trueſt probe, where it is practicable to do ſo. That nature is contented with a little, is an axiom, which not only reſpects the retrenching of ſuperfluities, in regard of the common exigencies of life; but may alſo be extended to the management, which theſe kinds of wounds, generally ſpeaking, ſtand in need of.

If a ball, or any other foreign body, happens to be lodged near the orifice, or can be perceived by

the finger to lie under the ſkin, though at ſome diſtance from the mouth of the wound; in the firſt caſe 'tis requiſite immediately to remove ſuch extraneous matter: and, on the other occaſion, to cut upon it and take it out. But, when it is ſunk deep, and lies abſolutely beyond the reach of the finger, I could never bring myſelf to thruſt a pair of long forceps the Lord knows where, with ſcarce any probability of ſucceſs.

To put this matter in as clear a light as poſſible, we will ſuppoſe a ball to be lodged in any part, beyond the reach of the finger; entirely out of the way of being marked by the external touch. Now it will appear

evident,

evident, upon the leaſt reflection, that thruſting, firſt, a long probe, in queſt of the bullet; and then, as has been practiſed likewiſe, a longer pair of forceps, either with or without teeth, into a wound of that kind, though with a ſort of certainty to extract it, muſt either contuſe, or irritate and inflame, the parts to a great degree: and, conſequently, do as much and perchance more miſchief, than the ball did at firſt, by forcing it's paſſage ſuch a length of way. And ſhould they at the ſame time lay hold of any nerve, artery, or even common membrane of a muſcle, together with the ball, (which I think muſt ſcarce ever fail of being the caſe) what ſhocking

con-

conſequences would attend ſuch a proceeding! Nor would attempts of this ſort be leſs injurious, in caſe a bullet ſhould happen to be lodged in the cavity of the belly, or breaſt: whereas lead, 'tis well known, will lie a long time in ſeveral parts of the body, without any material hurt, or even inconveniency.

A great number of inſtances have occurred to me, where balls have been quietly lodged in ſeveral parts of the body; 'till after many years, they have worked themſelves a paſſage towards the ſurface, and were very eaſily extracted: and ſeveral very lately, where balls have been left behind: three particularly, wherein the

the ordinary Surgeons were concerned. One of the wounded was a foreigner of very great diſtinction; another a commanding officer, of ſingular honour and humanity, in our own army. The firſt received a ſhot in the breaſt from a muſket; the other was wounded in the upper part of the thigh with a piſtol-ball. The repeated attempts made in ſearching for the bullets gave to both great pain; and brought on, in the former, a ſeries of very untoward inflammatory ſymptoms. But that ſort of treatment being at length deſiſted from, and the track of the ball, which went under the pectoral muſcle, laid open about three inches, a foundation was begun for a cure,

which

which was ſoon after effectually completed. Various were the opinions of the foreign Surgeons concerning the management of this caſe. Some pretended to an infallible cure by injections: others propoſed great advantage, by applying a certain machine, and thereby preſſing the part. But the laſt determination preferred the knife to all other expedients. After bleeding twice in the arm, the wound healed: and the ball remains behind, without the leaſt diſagreeable ſenſation, or any inconvenience: as the bullet did likewiſe in regard of the other gentleman, whoſe ſore regularly healed; though not without bleeding, and the uſe of the Bark.

The

The like affair happened to a Captain of Dragoons, a perſon of great worth, who was ſhot in the upper part of the breaſt with a muſket bullet, which lodged itſelf under the ſcapula. The unſuccceſsful eſſay, in poking for the ball, produced a fever. But, by giving over probing, and by reſtraining the feveriſh ſymptoms, the wound healed, and no more was heard of the ball.

In caſe the wound be occaſioned by a muſket or piſtol-ſhot, and of courſe but ſmall, it will be neceſſary to dilate it without delay, provided the nature of the part (as was before obſerved)

obſerved) will admit of this with ſafety; for in wounds near a joint, or in very membranous or tendinous parts, the knife, as well as forceps, ſhould be put under ſome reſtraint; nor ſhould any more opening be made, than what is abſolutely requiſite for the free diſcharge of the matter lodged within. Wounds in the joints are always dangerous, from whatever cauſe they proceed, whether from a bullet, or any cutting inſtrument: and membranous or tendinous parts, whatever ſenſe of feeling they may be allowed, are yet known, paſt diſpute, to ſuffer much from their being thus expoſed to the impreſſions of the air.

I could

I could produce many inſtances of balls going through muſcular parts, and the wounds being healed with very little trouble. And I have known wounds of the ſcull, from a broad ſword, (where both tables have been cut through, and a conſiderable piece looſened) which after being ſuffered to bleed for ſeveral hours, did well; nor were attended, or at leaſt very ſeldom, with any feveriſh complaint, a circumſtance which I am apt to attribute to the great quantity of blood loſt immediately after the parts had been injured.

A Colonel

FDMB 8th Aug.t 19. A.S.C.



A Colonel of Dragoons received a cut, from a broad-ſword, on the fore part of the head, upon the edge of the hairy ſcalp, about four inches in length. This wound divided both tables of the ſcull, a piece of which, of about an inch broad, and very near two inches long, was quite looſened from the main bone. He had two or three more cuts on the head, a wound on one ſide of the belly, made by a muſket-ball, that went aſlant the lower part of the belly, through the abdominal muſcles, and carried in a piece of his ſaſh along with it; and ſome more cuts and ſtabs in other places of the body. This young gentleman, thus early diſ-

playing

playing undoubted proofs of great intrepidity, lay, under these wounds, without any Chirurgical help, 'till the next day. He must, considering the nature of his wounds, and that he received the greatest share of them in the heat of action, indisputably have lost a considerable quantity of blood. Neither the least attack of a fever, nor the appearance of any bad symptom, was, from first to last, any interruption to the cure: in the course of which several shivers of bones were, from time to time, discharged from the wound in the head.

A Lieutenant of Horse, possessed of many engaging qualities, received

a cut in the head, juſt as his horſe, which was ſhot, was falling. It had taken the ſkin, part of the temporal muſcle, and a portion of the outer table of the ſcull, as big as a crown-piece, quite off. He had beſides two very large wounds on the back part of the head, which laid the bone bare. Theſe he received as he lay upon the ground: and was left on the field of battle for many hours. Yet he recovered, without any ſupervening accident, in as ſhort a time, as the nature of the caſe could poſſibly admit of. The immediate loſs of a great quantity of blood, when the hurt is firſt received, oftentimes prevents, no doubt, the ſymptoms, that would otherwiſe accrue, and paves

the

the way for theſe favourable iſſues on ſuch occaſions *.

Whenever the wound is attended with a great effuſion of blood, from the rupture of ſome conſiderable artery, it will be abſolutely neceſſary, with all imaginable diſpatch, to reſtrain the bleeding with the needle; and, at the ſame time, to be particularly careful that your hold be not eluſive. From the rupture, I ſay, of ſome conſiderable artery:

* Though the two preceding caſes do not, ſtrictly ſpeaking, belong to this ſubject; yet I have inſerted them, out of a good number: in order to point out the great uſe of immediate bleeding on ſuch like accidents.

for the bleedings from the ſmaller ones, in all contuſed wounds, are of real ſervice, by unloading the clogged parts, cutting off the main ſources of cuſtomary inflammations, and by that means either totally preventing a fever, or at leaſt rendering it a ſymptom of no threatning tendency; an event, on which, in an eſpecial manner, depends the the future laudable digeſtion. As for ſtyptic applications, there is no truſting to any of them, where the larger arteries are concerned. Beſides, all ſuch rather retard, than promote, the cure. For, by obſtructing the diſcharge of the ſanies, which in all large wounds precedes digeſtion, the digeſtion is of courſe ſuſpen-

ded,

ded, while the pent-up ſanies becomes a conſtant additional fuel to the fever.

Where the wounded perſon has not ſuffered any great loſs of blood, it will be adviſeable to open a vein immediately, and take from the arm a good large quantity: and to repeat bleeding, as circumſtances may require, the ſecond, and even the third, day. Repeated bleedings in the beginning draw after them many advantages. They prevent a good deal of pain and inflammation, leſſen any feveriſh aſſaults, forward the digeſtion, and ſeldom fail to obviate impoſtumations, and a long train of complicated ſymptoms, that are wont

otherwiſe to interrupt the cure, miſerably harraſs the poor patient, and too often endanger his life. And even where the feveriſh ſymptoms run high, and there is almoſt a certainty that matter is forming, bleeding, in that ſtate, is very frequently of great advantage; the matter will be made the ſooner for it, and the quantity of it will be leſs. The following inſtance, as well as the two preceding caſes, I think, in ſome meaſure, demonſtrates the neceſſity of bleeding freely as ſoon as poſſible.

A young gentleman, a Cornet of Dragoons, was wounded by a muſket-bullet juſt below the knee, on the inſide.

inſide. The ball had made a great laceration in the ſkin, and laid the membranes bare about four inches in length. I did not ſee him, 'till two days after the injury. He was then very feveriſh, quite parched up with thirſt, and had a full pulſe, with great pain, ſwelling, and inflammation all round the joint. I ordered immediate bleeding, a cooling regimen, made uſe of a fomentation, dreſſed the wound with digeſtive warmed, and laid the bread and milk pultice over the whole; preſcribing an emollient clyſter, and an opiate. The next day his pain rather increaſed: wherefore he was let blood a ſecond, and after that, a third, time. Six days were now elapſed

when a *miliary* eruption ſeized him, with frequent bleedings at the noſe, and a *diarrhœa*, which laſted about ten days. Mean while, matter was formed in ſeveral places about the knee; which, on being let out, flowed in prodigious quantities. The fever declining, the Bark was given him: but, as that, though joined with an opiate, ran through him, it was judged neceſſary to lay it aſide. Notwithſtanding he was now very weak and low, it was thought, in a conſultation, that the only chance, which remained of his ſurviving, was the cutting off his leg. The operation was accordingly performed, but without ſucceſs.—Upon examining the knee, there appeared

ſeveral

ſeveral cells, full of matter communicating with the joint; which had in many places eroded the cartilages of both the great bones.

For the firſt twelve days it will be proper to obſerve a cooling regimen, both in reſpect of the medicines, that may be preſcribed, and the diet requiſite for the ſupport of nature. It is abſolutely neceſſary, likewiſe, that the body be conſtantly kept open. Unleſs, therefore, Nature does this office of herſelf, a ſtool ſhould be every day procured, either by emollient clyſters, or ſome gentle laxative taken at the mouth; and whenever there is much pain in the wounded parts, immediate recourſe

muſt

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muſt be had to the ſovereign, and almoſt divine, powers of opium.

In reſpect to external applications, whatever is of a hot, ſpirituous nature, I find remarkably injurious on theſe occaſions; and what no wounded part can in any degree bear. Let the firſt dreſſing be with digeſtive, or lint moiſtened, with a little oil, and a very light bandage made, if it can be readily got, with thin flannel; the next with a digeſtive warmed, and over it the bread and milk pultice, mixed with a ſufficient quantity of oil to keep it moiſt: and, where there is great tenſion, and the wound large, a fomentation ſhould be uſed. This

courſe

courſe is to be continued, 'till the ſore is clean, and then it is to be healed according to art.

This method will commonly promote a conſtant, eaſy perſpiration, abate the pain, very much facilitate the digeſtion, and remove all apprehenſions of any approaching inflammation. What induces me to moiſten the lint with oil, is the eaſe that is procured to a contuſed wound from ſuch an application, in compariſon of one of an abſorbent, drying, diſpoſition: which, inſtead of giving free liberty to the ſanious blood to diſcharge itſelf, and, conſequently, preventing an inflammation, by unloading the part, would poſſibly obſtruct the

mouths

mouths of the capillary veſſels, and hinder nature from getting rid of that incumbrance, which 'tis obſervable ſhe very much affects to throw off. I muſt add here, that tents are never to be made uſe of where they can be poſſibly avoided.

Should an inflammation ſeize any part, through the lodgment of a bullet, or any other foreign body, that could with ſafety have been more immediately extracted; all attempts of diſlodging ſuch extraneous matter ſhould be poſtponed, 'till the ſwelling has in ſome meaſure ſubſided, and the inflammatory diſpoſition of the fibres is nearly vaniſhed: unleſs the ball, or other extraneous body,

body, lies at no great diſtance from the orifice; and there is, on that account, a certainty of removing this incumbrance without any material trouble to the patient.

If a wound be of ſuch a deſperate nature, as to require amputation, (which is always the caſe, when it happens in any principal joint) it would certainly be of conſequence, could the operation be performed on the ſpot, even in the field of battle: leaſt by deferring it an inflammation, which one may very reaſonably expect, ſhould obſtruct a work, that ought rarely to be entered upon during the continuance of ſo calamitous a circumſtance. The neglecting this

critical

critical juncture of taking off a limb, frequently reduces the patient to ſo low a ſtate, and ſubjects the blood and juices to ſuch an alteration, as muſt unavoidably render the ſubſequent operation, if not entirely unſucceſsful, at leaſt exceedingly dubious. And in wounds, even where no amputation is required, 'tis equally adviſeable not to defer the care neceſſary to be taken of them: leſt, by the parts being expoſed to the air, there might ariſe a ſeries of very dangerous ſymptoms.

In order to make that practicable, which I here adviſe, I could wiſh to be indulged in offering a ſcheme, which might, I think, be put

put in execution with all the facility imaginable. It is this: When the army is forming for an engagement, let the Surgeons, with their respective mates, of the three or four regiments, that are posted next each other, collect themselves into a body, (the same method being observed throughout the whole line) and take their station in the rear, according to the command of the General. Here let the wounded be put under their immediate care and management. By this means they will be enabled mutually to assist each other, and to perform their duty both with more exactness, and dispatch.

Now

Now let any perſon of common humanity reflect on the conſequences naturally flowing from this manner of treating the wounded on the ſpot; having firſt formed an idea of poor creatures being actually conveying, tho' with all conceivable tenderneſs, from place to place, under the extreme miſery of large, lacerated wounds, bleeding arteries, or fractured limbs; and this abrupt, prepoſterous, removal attended with the moſt fatal ſymptoms, of which there was not, perhaps, at firſt, the leaſt appearance, or apprehenſion. I am apt to think ſuch a one will not heſitate a moment in preferring this my ſcheme to that ſcene of terrible diſtreſs, which I look

upon

upon as one of the moſt moving that can be preſented to the human eye.

Wounds that border on any conſiderable artery, are very apt to bleed afreſh upon motion, or the return of a free circulation of the blood into the part, which was interrupted at firſt by the violence of the injury offered it: and this is almoſt always the caſe, when the ſlough begins to ſeparate. For which reaſon, one ſhould never attempt to remove it by force; but wait with patience, 'till there be a perfect ſeparation of this ſlough: nor be in the leaſtwiſe ſhocked at the accident of arteries thus opening themſelves, which a very

moderate experience will convince one to be almoſt inevitable. The patient frequently gives warning of what is coming upon him, by complaining of great weight and fulneſs in the limb, which are ever accompanied with more or leſs pulſation in it: an infallible prognoſtic of the conſequences. Let the wound afflict whatſoever part, if theſe complaints attend it, I inſtantly injoin bleeding, and the Bark.

I have known ſeveral inſtances of perſons loſing their lives from the ſtarting of an artery, before the Surgeon could reach them; particularly, where an amputation has preceded. And I dare affirm, the quan-

tity

tity of blood loſt, eſpecially in the caſe laſt mentioned, has not amounted to twelve ounces: I do not know how to account for this otherwiſe, than by the drain which had been made from the maſs of blood both before, and during the operation, whence a ſudden guſh (though but a moderate one) of blood, after the great quantity already loſt, gives a check to the circulation, and cauſes immediate death. This reflection, I think, ought to be a leſſon of inſtruction to every practitioner, to be particularly intent on the faithful diſcharge of his duty in regard to tying the veſſels.

The method I have preſcribed to myſelf in penning this ſmall treatiſe,

Sept 16. 1824



leads me in this place to ſpeak of the Bark: a medicine, which no human eloquence can deck with panegyric, proportionable to it's virtues. Of ſuch incomparable benefit it is to mankind!

I have for a long time been ſucceſsful, from the liberal uſe of this noble drug, in large ſores of every kind: and have often experienced, that, in thoſe painful circumſtances, it would procure reſt, if given in large doſes, when even *opium* had been taken without any manner of effect.

Though I am aware, that a very ingenious Surgeon recommends the

Bark

Bark * against hæmorrhages in external wounds in general; yet the prescribing it in Gun-Shot Wounds, in the manner I introduced it, in the campaign of forty-three, is a practice, as I conceive, no where left us on record. And this I did with extraordinary success: of which I shall give some few of the many examples, that occurred to me in practice.

In all large wounds, especially those made by a cannon-ball, there is constantly a great laceration of the parts endued with an exquisite sensation. These are ever attended with



* See Phil. Trans. No. 426.

an excruciating pain, and a diſcharge of a gleety matter; which, if not reſtrained, proves often of the worſt conſequence, by reducing the patient almoſt to a ſkeleton: there being no poſſibility of receiving a ſupply of nouriſhment proportioned to the diſcharge. In this unhappy ſtate, the Bark (in doſes of a drachm each, and repeated every three hours; or oftener, if the ſtomach will bear it) with ſurprizing efficacy repairs the breach made in the conſtitution, by this terrible havock. In whatever form it be adminiſtred, whether in tincture, extract, or reſin, we muſt ever have an eye to the proportion. For the preſcribing it in leſs quantity is one reaſon why our expectations

are

are often fruſtrated, and the medicine brought unreaſonably into diſgrace: the failure, in point of ſucceſs, being generally owing to ſome irregularity in the giving of it, either by under-doing it, or not ſufficiently perſiſting in it's uſe. Nor need we be under apprehenſions of any miſchievous effects from ſo liberal a diſpenſation of it, ſhould it really diſappoint us in our views. For I can ſacredly aver, that, even in ſuch caſes, I never, in my whole practice, met with a ſingle inſtance of it's leaving behind it the leaſt trace of any hurtful quality. *Elixir* of *vitriol*, taken three times a day, in a glaſs of water, I find to be of ſingular benefit; and to prove a very good aſſiſtant to

the virtues of the Bark. And, if the body be coſtive, to each doſe of the Bark I add four or five grains of *rhubarb*, 'till that inconveniency is remedied. Should the Bark run off by more than four or five ſucceſſive ſtools, I take care to check this effect of it, by ordering a few drops of *laudanum*, or two ſpoonfuls of the *diaſcordium* mixture along with it, every time it is given.

Where the ſore diſcharges a conſiderable quantity of gleety matter, is flabby, looks pale and gloſſy, (which appearances are often conſequent to a loſs of ſubſtance) the Bark continually relieves the pain, that is predominant in this caſe, and quite

changes

changes the complexion of the wound. And, though the patient has a dry tongue, great heat, a quick, low, pulſe, and a head hardly clear; yet, even in this ſituation, I have known the Bark to do miracles. Nor (I freely own, when the neceſſity for it is evident from ſymptoms) have I, in adminiſtring it, the leaſt attention to the quickneſs of the pulſe. And in wounds, where, upon every dreſſing, there has been an ouzing from the capillary arteries, like water ſqueezed from a ſponge, ſubjecting, of courſe, the patient to no little hazard; I have frequently remarked the Bark, by thickening the matter, and leſſening it's quantity, to procure the moſt ſurprizing good effects.

How-

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However, I would not be understood to insinuate, that the Bark will stop the bleeding of any considerable artery. Nevertheless, though this efficacious property is not to be expected from it, the vitiated texture and state of the blood (which, from too great a degree of fluidity, forces thus it's way through the arterial passages) will be altered more effectually from the exhibition of it, than from any thing I know in the whole *Materia Medica*. From whence, I think, is plainly pointed out to us the basis, we are to erect our future superstructure upon. The Bark, on these occasions, I constantly advise, together with *opiates*, more or less,

in

in proportion to the urgency of the ſupervening ſymptoms.

Nor is the virtue of this medicine leſs conſpicuous in thoſe extended ſores, which are very frequently conſequent to amputations. If it be taken from the fourth day after an operation of that kind, in the manner above directed, I can with the ſtricteſt truth aver, that it will not only greatly forward the healing the ſtump; but, likewiſe, give an effectual check to thoſe profuſe ſweats, which are apt to accompany patients under ſuch circumſtances.

I muſt not cloſe theſe hints without taking notice of it's peculiar efficacy

efficacy alſo in venereal ſores, particularly buboes. It is no uncommon thing for theſe to remain obſtinate ſores, though the malignity or venomous taint in the habit has been perfectly extirpated, by a proper mercurial courſe. Now, in this ſituation, and where the ſore is become foul, and it's lips hard, with a gleety diſcharge, of ſuch an acrimonious nature, as to erode the neighbouring parts; this drug, by it's ſpecific property, will ſcarce ever miſs promoting the healing of the ulcer. Whereas, on the contrary, the purſuing a mercurial courſe, anſwers no other end, than that of reducing the patient; and daily rendering the bad condition of the malady conſiderably worſe.

So

So that, though I do not aſſert the Bark is an adequate remedy for a venereal ſore, yet, in the deſperate ſtate I have mentioned, it will become a powerful auxiliary; and give the finiſhing ſtroke to thoſe perverſe remains of the diſorder; which, without it's aſſiſtance, would perſiſt to undermine the conſtitution, and not end but in the deſtruction of the patient.

In order to exemplify the method laid down in the preceding pages, relative to Gun-ſhot Wounds, I ſhall begin by giving a detail of a very extraordinary caſe, that centered in the perſon of a young prince, no leſs diſtinguiſhed for his martial proweſs, than high birth. This illu-

ſtrious

ſtrious perſonage received a wound from a grape-ſhot, diſcharged from a cannon, which went quite through the calf of his leg. It entered on the outſide, cloſe to the *fibula*; a little above where the *gaſtrocnemius* muſcle begins to grow tendinous. Part of this muſcle, together with the common membrane, that inveſts all the muſcles of the leg, appeared jagged at the mouth of the wound: which was ſo exceedingly wide, that I believe it's orifice might have very well admitted a large hen-egg. The ſhot made it's exit cloſe by the *tibia*: nor were the dimenſions of this orifice a jot leſs conſiderable, than what I have been reciting of the other. It had drove the extremities

of

of ſome of the muſcles, which it had tore aſunder in it's paſſage, quite out of the wound: which, as no conſiderable artery was burſt, bled rather more, than what is uſual for this ſort of wounds to do at firſt; eſpecially, as I had not omitted the neceſſary precaution of taking away from the arm, in the field of action, very little leſs than twenty ounces of blood. I applied a very eaſy, light dreſſing; and juſt ſupplied bandage enough to keep it on the part. That night was not paſſed without much inquietude. Next morning things were ſo circumſtanced, that there was an unavoidable neceſſity for removing him to ſome diſtance from that ſituation. Accordingly, he was

conveyed

conveyed in a coach, under great uneaſineſs (though through no fault of the vehicle) about fifteen *Engliſh* miles to quarters: which, though ſufficiently remote from any hoſtile alarms, were, nevertheleſs, but very indifferent ones; and, in no degree ſuitable either to his high quality, or the circumſtances his early valour had laid him under. Some few hours after the fatigue of the journey, I repeated the bleeding, and gave directions for an emollient clyſter: ordering, at the ſame time, ſome *Gaſcoign*'s powder to be taken every four hours, with a proportionable addition of *nitre*. The nature of the wound conſidered, the quiet he enjoyed that night far exceeded

my

my expectations. Notwithſtanding which, the next evening, I bled him for the third time, and repeated the clyſter. To the ſores I applied warm digeſtive, and wrapped the whole limb in a bread and milk pultice, in which was juſt oil enough to prevent it's growing dry. A bloody ichor, which is a conſtant fore-runner of matter, and, in the beginning, carries with it a good prognoſtic, made now a plentiful diſcharge. The ſwelling was not very great, and the inflammation but little. Care was taken to keep the body open, and the courſe of the cooling powders continued to the fifth day. He had now ſome complaints of a little heat: but, as thoſe were very tranſient,

and he afterwards tolerably eaſy, they were not much attended to. I think this day, the King's Phyſician, Dr Werlhoff, made him the firſt viſit. It was judged proper to go on with the cooling regimen preſcribed, both as to his medicines, and diet. The wound now began to make a good, and regular, diſcharge of matter: no ways exceeding in quantity what is expected from ſores of that nature. There was no abſceſs, no lodgment of matter, nor any extraneous body, from the beginning to the end, to obſtruct our endeavours; though the ſwelling was rather ſomewhat increaſed, as was likewiſe the diſcharge, on the eighth day. To-

wards

wards noon he complained of being chilly; and was ſoon after attacked with a ſevere ſhivering, which continued haraſſing him for the ſpace of four or five hours. Then ſucceeded a heat, which did not in the leaſt abate during the greateſt part of the night. Towards the return of morning he began to fall into a ſweat, that ſoon became profuſe. We attended very early, and agreed to give him better than a drachm of the Bark in a doſe every two hours. But, as this gave him ſeveral ſtools in a ſhort time, we added to every doſe three drops of *laudanum*, 'till that effect of it was prevented. I muſt remark, that the ſweat had been on him, when the Bark was

firſt preſcribed, about three hours. When the ſweat, which continued about twelve hours, was entirely off, he took *elixir* of *vitriol* twice or thrice a day. From this period, there was an abatement both of the ſwelling, and of the diſcharge: nor had we the leaſt return of any feveriſh appearances. On the twelfth day a ſlough came away in one intire piece, without either force or pain, near the whole length of the *tendo Achillis*. The Bark we thought proper to continue for ſome time. The wound, indeed, healed but ſlowly: which I conceive to be altogether owing to his being conſtantly on his legs, and ſcarce ever without his boots on. There is no

great

Selma Roos - Q.



great matter of ſtiffneſs now remaining in the limb: not even ſo much as one would naturally ſuppoſe muſt be neceſſarily conſequent to a wound among a cluſter of muſcles; where the fibres, that ought to be looſe and free, are too much confined and reſtrained by the unavoidable adheſion of the parts that were wounded.

I have been a little more circumſtantial in my relation of this caſe, than, perhaps, was abſolutely requiſite. But, as the behaviour of my royal patient on that day was carried to the higheſt pitch of heroiſm; all the world, animated with any degree of virtue, or honour,

were attentive to the event, and became deeply interefted in his recovery: an event, which I efteem the happieft of my life. And the more fo, as a confidence, even to an excefs, was repofed on the little abilities I am mafter of: which, indeed, were employed with unwearied diligence, not only through a motive of duty, but of inclination, arifing from an inviolable attachment to his great, and engaging, qualities.— I muft obferve, that the fuccefs I met with in the foregoing cafe was, no doubt, to be attributed to the plentiful bleeding in the beginning, and the free ufe of the Bark. And here I muft add, what was accidentally omitted to be remarked amongft the other

other directions for adminiſtering the Bark, that the ſucceſs of this medicine will be generally much ſecured by bleeding and gentle purging before the uſe of it. It is obſervable, likewiſe, that when the two or three firſt doſes of the Bark occaſion three or four ſtools, this evacuation is of advantage to the patient, and makes the ſucceſs of this powerful medicine more certain; but where the ſtools are more numerous, it will be neceſſary, by the means before directed, to reſtrain them. But, to proceed,

A General officer in our own army (whoſe ſingular good properties in domeſtic life are not leſs

conſpicuous, than his great talents in military affairs) received a ſhot from a muſket, that went obliquely quite through the *os calcis*. The orifice, where the ball entered, had been dilated before I ſaw him, which was not 'till the third day from the accident. I obſerved the part, which is very membranous, to be terribly lacerated, the lacerated membranes to hang out at both orifices, and the bone itſelf ſhivered. The whole foot, on which he ſtood for two entire hours after the ſhot had pierced it, was much ſwollen, though without any great degree of inflammation, or pain. I took from the wound ſeveral ſmall pieces of bone, applied warm digeſtive, and laid

laid the bread and milk pultice over the whole; did not omit bleeding, and injoined the cooling regimen: which method was purſued for two or three days; when the diſcharge, inflammation, and pain increaſed, with a quick pulſe, and a general uneaſineſs. Theſe appearances determined me to repeat the bleeding, and to adminiſter the Bark: the benefits from which were ſoon very evident, by an abatement of the heat, and a leſſening of the diſcharge. A very inconſiderable portion of matter now ouzed from the more depending orifice. It almoſt all came out of the upper mouth of the wound. There was nothing I ſo much wiſhed the accompliſhment

of,

of, as to have theſe two orifices laid into one. But as the ball, the whole length of it's paſſage, had formed a bony arch, of no ſmall thickneſs, and the texture of the part beſides was very membranous; I deſiſted from the attempt for the preſent: contenting myſelf with the hopes, that the matter would very ſoon find it's way to the lower orifice. Things thus circumſtanced, I put a ſindon through the wound, of a very fine piece of Holland cloth, moiſtened in digeſtive, which with great eaſe I changed every dreſſing: and perſiſted in this method for ſeven or eight days, 'till the matter, not much in quantity, was determined to the opening below. When this

was

was effected, I laid the ſindon aſide. The cure henceforward was no ways retarded by any manner of lodgment; which, indeed, before was very inconſiderable. Numberleſs ſmall ſhivers of bone were conſtantly brought out with the ſindon; which, at the ſame time, put the matter on making it's exit along with it at the inferior orifice. Not long after, I diſcontinued the application of the pultice, and deſiſted from the uſe of the Bark: but, pain increaſing, I found myſelf under a neceſſity of recurring to both again; and I did ſo the next dreſſing, which was that ſame evening. For I never failed, particularly as it was very hot and ſultry, to dreſs wounds of this ſort

twice

twice a day. Upon our decampment from this place, my attendance on this Gentleman was of courſe interrupted for four or five days: after which time he followed the army by water. The fatigue, he underwent by this removal, brought on a ſlight inflammation, augmented the pain, and increaſed the diſcharge of matter. I then determined with myſelf, as ſoon as theſe ſymptoms ſhould ceaſe, and the preſent ruffle be a little over, to lay both orifices into one. This, accordingly, I did, ſtill continuing the uſe both of the Bark, and pultice. Every thing appeared now with a good aſpect. But, as the ſeaſon of the year began to advance, and there was no poſſibility

of

of his accompanying the army with any tolerable conveniency, or without prejudicing his health, I adviſed him to repair to *England:* which counſel, though not without ſome reluctance, he ſhortly after put in execution. He went on in the courſe of the Bark for ſome months after his arrival at *London:* nor did he ever return to the uſe of it, when it had been at any time intermitted, without finding himſelf relieved by it's ſingular virtues.

The next inſtance I ſhall bring, of the great efficacy of the Bark, will be that of a Major of Horſe, whoſe foot was ſhot off by a cannon-ball, except juſt where it hung, ſuſpended

ſuſpended only by a piece of ſkin. The firſt Surgeon he met with cut that ſkin aſunder, and applied his dreſſings: but, upon motion, and the return of a free circulation, the limb bled a-freſh. The Surgeon of the Troop, in attending him, propoſed taking off the remaining part of the leg; which advice was immediately complied with. But, I do not know by what means, a large portion of the muſcles, robbed of the ſkin, was left naked; which, on the leaſt motion imaginable, or accidental touch, even of the ſofteſt ſubſtance, cauſed a moſt exquiſite pain. And, if I remember right, the great artery was the only veſſel, that was regularly tied. Round the raw

ſtump

ſtump was rolled a fillet more than ordinarily tight. Such was the method of dreſſing made uſe of on that occaſion. This brave, though unfortunate, officer, lay the reſt of the day, and all the ſubſequent night, in a waggon, which had ſcarce any covering, miſerably expoſed to the inclemency of the rain, that poured from the Heavens in continual floods. The next day, after dinner, he applied for my aſſiſtance. On my attending him, he complained of great pain in the ſtump, and a pulſation in it, that was utterly intolerable. I immediately ſet about opening it, removed that circular band, which, from it's tightneſs, had rendered thoſe naked muſcles very full and turgid,

turgid, and brought on a conſiderable ſwelling above the knee. Upon removing this band, the blood ruſhed out from ſeveral arteries, and particularly from one that was very important. When, after a great deal of anguiſh to the patient, and no ſmall trouble and perplexity to myſelf, I had fortunately tied the veſſels, I applied a very light and ſoft dreſſing; and over all a flannel cap, (which I would ever recommend) with no more rolling, than what juſt aſſiſted in keeping on the dreſſing. I directed beſides, a courſe of *teſtaceous* powders with ſome *nitre*, and ordered ſome drops of *laudanum* to be taken occaſionally, as the neceſſity might offer itſelf of procuring ſleep. In

ſpite

ſpite of all my endeavours he got no reſt that night, nor the ſucceeding day and night. His pulſe was very quick and low, his tongue dry, and he was ſomewhat inclined to a *delirium*: the ſtump diſcovering a great tendency to bleed. This was his ſituation, when I gave him the Bark, having firſt bled him about ten ounces. Every doſe, almoſt of this, as his body was apt to be coſtive, I accompanied with a few grains of *rhubarb*. He alſo took thrice a day twenty drops of *elixir* of *vitriol* in a glaſs of water. This regulation he was under both before, and ſome months after, his return to *England*. He is poſſeſſed, at preſent, of a tolerably good ſhare of health: but,

through the ſhortneſs and tenderneſs of the ſtump, and it's being very much ſubjected to crack, he but ſeldom, as yet, can enjoy the uſe of his wooden leg. I can venture to affirm, that he took at leaſt five pounds of the Bark. The omiſſions hinted at in the above relation, might probably be owing to the almoſt continual alarms from *Huſſars*, during the operation.

I cannot but mention here, what I have often remarked to be the caſe in amputated limbs, eſpecially in the leg and thigh: where the habit of body has been previouſly bad, or elſe made ſo, by deferring the operation, and very commonly in ſcorbutick

conſtitutions.

conſtitutions. The ſore, for the firſt eight or ten days after taking off the limb, ſhall promiſe all imaginable ſucceſs: from which time it frequently begins to gleet prodigiouſly, looks pale, gloſſy, and flabby; and, this gleeting, if not checked, in a little while runs the patient out of the world. In exigencies of this kind the Bark hardly ever fails to procure relief; and works an apparent change in a very ſhort ſpace of time: ſometimes in twelve hours. This I can atteſt for abſolute truth, in the caſe of a very worthy gentleman, about fifty miles from *London*, who broke his leg by a fall from his horſe. I took it off the ſecond day from the accident, and,

after the firſt dreſſing, reſigned him to the care of his neighbouring Surgeons: not in the leaſt afterwards ſuſpecting, but that every thing was ſucceeding agreeable to our wiſhes. But the ſcene was quite reverſed. For, about ſixteen days after, I received a letter from the gentlemen who had the management of him, intimating, that a ſmall artery, near the ſkin, bled very freely, on their removing the dreſſings. In anſwer, I adviſed a vein to be opened in the arm, and the Bark to be taken inſtantly. But, as the ſymptom of the arterial opening ceaſed, and the patient was without any ſign of a fever, my advice of trying the Bark was poſtponed. The ſeven and

twentieth

twentieth day, another Surgeon, eminent in the profeſſion, and myſelf were hurried out of town to his aſſiſtance. On our arrival, we found him very much emaciated, a great gleet inceſſantly ouzing from the ſtump: which, on the removal of the dreſſings, bled from every pore, like water preſſed from a ſpunge. We immediately gave him the Bark, and repeated it every two hours. The next morning the diſcharge was conſiderably leſſened, nor was there the leaſt appearance of bleeding. If he accidentally at any time neglected taking it, only for a day, or even leſſened the doſes, the wound plainly pointed out the omiſſion by the change of it's complexion. He

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perſiſted in the method of taking the Bark every two or three hours, 'till he came to town: when it was thought proper to give him a larger reſpite. He now enjoys a perfect ſtate of health, and has done ſo, ever ſince the ſtump was healed. But, before this was accompliſhed, he took near nine pounds of the Bark.

In the caſe, I ſhall next recount, the reader will very readily perceive the inconveniencies and obſtructions of cure, that ſucceeded a ſtrong antipathy to the Bark.

A gentleman deſervedly eſteemed, being ſurrounded by the enemy, and fighting

fighting his way, ſingly, through ſeveral ſquadrons of *French* Horſe, was ſhot in the back with a piſtol, the ball entered by the lower edge of the *ſcapula*, (a ſmall portion of which it broke off) and came out juſt below the ſhort ribs on the oppoſite ſide. I have often wondered, how the bullet could paſs over the *vertebræ* of the back without hurting them: which, in the ſubject before us, it indiſputably did. Bleeding and the cooling regimen were preſcribed him: and the wound was properly dilated. Every thing was now in ſo good a way, that he walked abroad ſeveral times: though, I muſt confeſs, not altogether with my conſent. One of the orifices healed in a ſhort

time: and ſo the other ſeemed diſpoſed to do, had the cloſing of it been judged conſiſtent with the patient's ſafety. But, ſome very indifferent ſymptoms ariſing, it was adviſable by all means to keep it open. For on the twelfth day he grew very feveriſh, and ſpit a little blood: which determined me to bleed him freely, and to continue the cooling courſe of medicines; to which I would willingly have joined the Bark: but he abſolutely refuſed to liſten to that propoſal. The next day, I found him not at all better; ſo repeated the bleeding. That evening, notwithſtanding, he diſcharged a great quantity of blood, both from his ſtomach and lungs; whereupon

I opened

I opened a vein for the third time. He ſtill continued to turn a deaf ear to all I could ſay in recommendation of the Bark. However, at length, he was induced to take ſome extract of it; which immediately wrought an apparent amendment in him. But his averſion to this drug was of ſuch an obſtinate nature, that he ſoon deſiſted from the uſe of it, even in this form. The veſſels perſiſting to open, and the blood frequently to ruſh out, I was forced to recur ſo often to the expedient of the lancet, that I really grew weary of keeping an account of my operations on thoſe emergent occaſions. Theſe evacuations neceſſarily reduced him to a very low ebb: and yet his antipathy

to

to the Bark remained in him as inveterate as ever. It was from the conſideration of theſe incidents, that I was reſolved to keep the wound open; which was not effected without ſome difficulty. In this uncertain ſtate I was obliged to leave him: but, as the bleeding often returned, there was as often a neceſſity of taking away blood. About a month after, he came to me at *Mentz*, in ſuch a debilitated condition, that I could ſcarce ever hope to ſee him more. From thence he immediately ſet forward for *England*; where, on his arrival, he put himſelf under the care of a Phyſician and Surgeon, (both eminently diſtinguiſhed in their reſpective profeſſions) who were altogether

together at a loſs how to account for the extraordinary circumſtances of his caſe. However, the ſymptoms frequently returning, the lancet was as often made uſe of. At length he was prevailed upon to take the Bark, with *opiates*; which abated the bleeding, though they did not entirely prevent it. As his Phyſician had obſerved, that the veſſels, for the moſt part, made a freer diſcharge after bleeding in the arm, he was determined to open a vein in the foot. Upon repeating this operation, and accompanying the Bark with the *royal ſtyptic*, thoſe ſymptoms in a very little time entirely left him. It is very juſt I ſhould, on this occaſion, communicate to the reader a remark,

which

which the ſame Phyſician, in his extenſive practice, has frequently made in reſpect of hæmorrages iſſuing either from the noſe or lungs: *viz.* that bleeding in the foot has proved of great efficacy towards ſtopping thoſe diſcharges, when taking blood from the arm has not afforded any manner of check to them. But to return. From that time the patient began to get the better of his diſorders; and at preſent, though far from being re-eſtabliſhed in his former health and ſtrength, yet, he enjoys a great portion of both, than I once could imagine would have ever come to his ſhare. Theſe gentlemen attempted, as I had done, to keep the wound running; but that,

they

they perceived, was attended with no little difficulty; and, therefore, they laid aſide all thoughts of ſtriving to accompliſh that expedient, and left the ſore thenceforward at full liberty to heal.

It has ever ſeemed very myſterious to me, from what cauſe this ſeries of ſurprizing ſymptoms could ſpring. Had there been but one orifice, it would then have been evident, that they would have been owing to the ball's remaining in the body. Indeed, as piſtols are generally charged with a brace of balls, 'tis poſſible they might have both entered at the ſame orifice; one finding it's way out again, the other lodging in the

cavity

cavity of the breaſt; though this, I think, is highly improbable.

The reader will draw what conclusions he pleaſes from the following caſe with reſpect to the uſe of the Bark. An *Auſtrian* officer, who had his hand miſerably ſhattered by a cannon-ball, was, by ſome accident, left in a wood near the field of battle, deſtitute of any manner of help, from *Thurſday* (the day of action) 'till the *Sunday* following; when he was brought to *Hanau*. The next morning, I was carried to ſee him, and to aſſiſt in taking off his arm. On viewing it, I found it mortified almoſt to the elbow, with a great ſwelling and inflammation

quite

quite up to the ſhoulder. As it was by no means adviſable to attempt an amputation in ſuch circumſtances, I propoſed giving him the Bark; which, being no ways objected to, he entered upon immediately. The next day he was rather better: but, on the third, was evidently ſo. The inflammation was leſs, the ſwelling began to ſubſide, and the edges of the mortification were ſeparating. This ſucceſs, from the Bark, was matter of great ſurprize to the Surgeons who attended him: the practice of adminiſtring it on theſe occaſions being altogether new to them, and unprecedented. As to the Phyſician, he was not unapprized of it's uſe in mortifications. The arm was fo-

mented.

mented and wrapped up in the oat-meal and ſtale-beer pultice with *theriaca:* and the dreadful ſymptoms, that forbad the operation, were now ſo much abated, that his Surgeons did not at all heſitate to take it off. But this was done to very little purpoſe; for three or four days after the amputation (his jaw being fixed by a convulſive attack, and his countenance greatly diſtorted) he expired.

I have ſeen two more inſtances of perſons being ſeized with this ſort of convulſion, who both died. And (what adds to the melancholy circumſtances) though they laboured under an impotency of ſpeech, yet their

their ſenſes were no ways impaired. I believe this convulſive ſymptom not to be uncommon in Gun-ſhot wounds; nor indeed in any other, where there is a conſiderable laceration of parts, thick interwoven with membranes.

Now, though I have the higheſt ideas imaginable of the virtues of the Bark on occaſions, ſimilar to thoſe I have been deſcribing; yet, I conceive it but equitable to give likewiſe an inſtance or two where it was not attended with it's accuſtomed ſucceſs. The preceding caſe may, perhaps, be thought to leave the matter doubtful as to any benefit received by it: and from what I ſhall

next relate, it will be very certain, that the taking of it produced no advantage whatever. A proper judgment, in theſe matters, is ever to be formed by comparing events; and weighing, with the greateſt exactneſs, the good effects againſt thoſe that have been of a contrary nature. By this means we ſhall be enabled, like judicious pilots, to ſhape our courſe aright; nor touch upon a ſand a ſecond time, that had once endangered the veſſel. Whatever favourable conceptions the reader may entertain of the Bark, from the foregoing relations, they muſt reſult from the artleſs recital of real matter of fact, and experience.

A General

A General of the *Hanoverian* forces, an officer of eſtabliſhed merit, of about ſeventy years of age, had his ancle, with the neighbouring parts, all terribly ſhattered by a cannon-bullet, and lay under the management of his own Surgeon. My aſſiſtance was applied for, the third evening after the accident. On examining the wound, I judged it a caſe that plainly required an immediate amputation. Accordingly, at the ſollicitations of the gentleman, who attended him, I inſtantly cut off the leg. That night he reſted tolerably well: and, on the next dreſſing, every thing ſeemed to carry ſo good a face, that I began now, notwith-

ſtanding his advanced age, and the circumſtances of the operation's not being performed ſooner, to indulge ſome hopes of a favourable iſſue in the affair. The King's Phyſician, likewiſe, paid him regular viſits. My rule was to ſee him every third or fourth dreſſing. But, as he was about the ſixteenth day attacked by a *diarrhœa*, (which is no obſtruction to the giving of the Bark, provided each doſe be accompanied with three or four drops of *laudanum*) I was requeſted to give my attendance at that morning's dreſſing. I muſt own, the unexpected alteration, I found wrought in him, perfectly ſurprized me. The ſtump look'd pale, and the fleſh was beginning to

quit

quit the ends of the bone: which ſymptom, even in youth, affords but a very indifferent prognoſtic, and, in old age, I believe, ſeldom fails to prove fatal. However, we dreſſed the ſore with pledgets of digeſtive, being firſt dipped in *oil* of *turpentine* warm, and agreed to his taking the Bark. From this time he grew worſe and worſe, 'till he breathed his laſt. I ſhall not interrupt the reader in making what reflections he pleaſes on this exact narrative. But I muſt not omit to do juſtice to the doctor, by declaring, that the Bark could not ſtand in any one's opinion in higher eſteem, than in his.

The

The reader will eafily recollect, that wherever, in the foregoing relations, I have made mention of dreffings, they were from the firft of a foft, eafy, fupple nature, fuch as lint moiftened with oil, or pledgets of digeftive; and the bandage light: hot, dry, and fpirituous applications being what I never found to anfwer the expected fuccefs, but, on the contrary, productive frequently of great inconveniences. And, I confefs, the hopes I had of familiarizing thefe to the young practitioner, was one main motive for my thus launching at once into the publick, intirely unconcerned for the plainnefs of the drefs, in which my thoughts appear.

As

As to the Bark, the inſtances I have brought in ſupport of it's efficacy plainly demonſtrate, I think, it's ſpecific properties, on the invaſion of thoſe ſymptoms which I have ſo frequently made mention of in the courſe of this treatiſe. And I flatter myſelf, that, for the future, this powerful production of *Peru* will in ſuch caſes be held in proper eſteem by every perſon, diveſted of partiality and prejudices, into whoſe hands this well-intended ſketch of mine may happen to fall. In a word, I ſolemnly proteſt (what I promiſed in my introductory part of this ſmall eſſay) that I have given an hiſtorical account of no Chirurgical proceſs,

but what is, in every reſpect, and circumſtance, according to the beſt of my remembrance, exactly conformable to truth.

APPENDIX.

# APPENDIX.

*The following particulars having been formerly put together by order of* His Royal Highneſs the Duke of CUMBERLAND, *as directions to the Regimental-Surgeons, they are added in this place on account of the connection they have with the ſubject that has preceded.*

IT cannot be denied, that it is abſolutely neceſſary to eſtabliſh an hoſpital in every country where an army is ſituated; but every gentleman who has made a campaign muſt have obſerved, that thoſe ſoldiers who have been admitted into the hoſpital

hoſpital have remained there, uſeleſs to the army, during the greateſt part if not the whole ſeaſon; and are commonly called Malingerers.—For this reaſon none ought to be ſent thither for ſlight complaints; but ſuch only whoſe caſes are dangerous, or where the conveniences of an hoſpital are abſolutely neceſſary for the recovery of the patient.

Neither can any one that has attended an army, be ignorant what difficulties are thrown in the way of the perſon, who is appointed to fix and have the direction of an hoſpital.—Amongſt others, is the want of room; an inconvenience which obliges him to crowd the place

place with twice the number it ought to contain. And, whenever numbers of ſick are put into ſuch confined places, the want of a free circulation of freſh air, together with the careleſſneſs of the patients themſelves, ſeldom fail of changing common fevers, and ſlight fevers attendant upon wounds, into thoſe of a malignant nature; which, when once begun, ſpread through the whole hoſpital, few eſcaping the contagion. So that, by this miſerable confinement, abundance of valuable lives are loſt, which might otherwiſe be ſaved, if proper and mature precautions were taken to prevent their being expoſed to ſuch extreme dangers. Therefore, whenever the confining perſons to

an

an hoſpital can be avoided, it ſhould; as it often may be, immediately after a battle, by the care of the Regimental-Surgeons.

This rule may be particularly proper in regard to the management of venereal caſes; for as the campaigns are generally made in the ſummer, when the pores are open and the perſpiration free, recent caſes may be, and no doubt often are, cured, and the ſoldier kept either in the camp or quarters. Mercury uſed in ſmall quantities internally, or moderate mercurial frictions made on the legs, in proportion to the ſtrength of the patient, will both forward, and often compleat, the cure;

cure; obſerving, if the mouth ſhould be affected, to let the patient take ſome gentle purge, and deſiſt from the mercurial courſe 'till that effect of the Mercury is gone off.

I would likewiſe adviſe, that the patient ſhould drink daily a quart or three pints of a ſtrong decoction of ſarſaparilla; *viz.* four ounces of ſarſa to make a quart of the decoction, which will greatly forward the cure, and agrees very well with a mercurial courſe. This method purſued, ſeldom fails of curing all the leſſer tribe of venereal complaints, as buboes, ſlight ſhankers, phimoſes, paraphimoſes; and certainly does not ſhake the conſtitution as a ſalivation too often does. It will prevent,

prevent, likewiſe, thoſe of the worſe kind from getting ſuch root in the habit, as might endanger the recovery of the patient; ſo that, during the campaign, no hazard, or any ill conſequence, is to be feared from it. On the contrary, the patient may often do his duty; but it is to be obſerved, that temperance muſt be enjoined as a part of military diſcipline.

As to ſoldiers afflicted with ruptures, many of whom are diſcharged on that account, which is undoubtedly a hurt to the ſervice.—To remedy this inconvenience, I would recommend to your R - - - - H - - - - - - -, that every ſoldier afflicted with that complaint, and whoſe rupture is capable

capable of being reduced, may be ſupplied with a well-fitted truſs; after which, that ſoldier will be able to do his duty, or to go through any other labour with as much eaſe to himſelf as if he had not that complaint. The expence of a truſs is under twenty ſhillings.

The paragraph relating to ruptures was particularly recommended by H. R. H. as ſeveral of the ſoldiers had undergone a very ſevere, and painful experiment, under the cure of one Ramſay, a Rupture-Monger at that time, whoſe pretences were as much encouraged, and his cures as ſtrongly vouched, as thoſe of a Rupture-Monger of a later date, and

and with the like ſucceſs; for after having an hoſpital formed for him, on purpoſe for the reception of ruptured patients, which was done in the laſt war, in Flanders, at the deſire of a very principal officer in the army; and after a variety of experiments had been tried, the general want of ſucceſs, and the dangerous ſeverities which the patient ſuffered, made it neceſſary to diſcharge this Pretender from his new employment. After this was done, the truſs was again recurred to, which is ſtill, and ever muſt be, the only remedy that can be honeſtly and judiciouſly uſed for a rupture.

*FINIS.*

Marks 42.
B.P.L. 1b-2b-3b-53-70-8-