













Rymer (Jas.)

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A

# SHORT ACCOUNT

OF THE

METHOD OF TREATING SCROFULA,

AND OTHER

GLANDULAR AFFECTIONS;

THE

Inveterate cutaneous Diseases, commonly called  
SCURVY and LEPROSY:

ALSO

RING-WORMS, TETTERS, SYPHYLITIC SCURFS,  
SCABS, BLOTCHES, ULCERATIONS, &c.

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By JAMES RYMER, SURGEON.

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## ADVERTISEMENT.

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SOME frequent diseases, whose nature, causes, and cure, are either not at all, or but imperfectly understood; having been objects of my particular attention many years; and having had satisfactory opportunities of ascertaining the powers of various articles of the *materia medica*; both vegetable and mineral, in my attempts to relieve and cure such diseases; and having been so fortunate as to succeed in repeated instances of difficult cases, I have concluded it to be my duty to adopt methods of extending whatever relief might be in my power to persons in states of bodily affliction and misery.

With respect to scrofulous cases, &c. I thought it proper to invite persons, who might be desirous of trying the means of relief in a fine country air, to do me the honour to place themselves under my care, at Reigate: accordingly I ordered the following advertisement to be inserted in the news-papers:

“ Cure of King’s Evil, Leprosy, inveterate  
“ Scurvy, &c.

“ THE Struma, Scrofula, or King’s Evil, dis-  
“ eased Mesenteric Glands, derangements of the  
“ Lymphatic and Glandular Systems; the Le-  
“ prosy, Scurvy, and other obstinate glandular  
“ and cutaneous disorders, being successfully  
“ treated by Mr. RYMER, Surgeon, at Reigate,  
“ in Surrey, he desires respectfully to acquaint the  
“ public, that persons of character may be placed  
“ under his immediate care at Reigate. Letters,  
“ addressed to Mr. Rymer, for particulars, post  
“ paid, will be answered.”

In consequence of which I have been favoured with repeated applications. But finding it to be imagined that I designed to conceal \* the means I made use of; and that my intention of

\* Mr. Rymer most respectfully begs leave to assure the public, that he has no secrets in whatever regards the health of mankind, or of any of God’s creatures, which he wishes to conceal from the public, or from gentlemen who do him the honour to consult him, and desire to know the nature of the medicines which he prescribes. Mr. Rymer, cordially disapproving of every kind of mystery, deception, and imposture, in the science of medicine, is never happier than when, upon occasions of mutual confidence, he satisfies gentlemen, by communicating whatever knowledge he possesses which he conceives to be profitable.

rendering

rendering service would be confined within too narrow bounds, I resolved to publish, with as much expedition as possible, the general outlines of the means which I pursue in the relief and cure of the diseases specified in the title.

With respect to the *febrifuge, detergent, alterative pill*; the *antiasthmatic pill*; and the *pectorat medicine* spoken of in the anomalous cases, I shall humbly beg the indulgence of the reader, while I state the following facts.

Many years ago I began to use in my practice a powerfully tonic tincture in the cure of dyspepsy, the atonic gout, and hypochondriac complaints, from the proper use of which my patients received immediate and lasting benefit. In the year 1784, by desire of gentlemen and advice of my friends, I published this tincture for sale. The following is the advertifement :

“ The Cardiac Tincture so remarkably strength-  
 “ ens the stomach and nerves, corrects putrid  
 “ bile, and is so eminently cordial and anti-  
 “ spasmodic, that it is with truth esteemed a  
 “ specific for the gout in the stomach and  
 “ head.

“ Mr. RYMER’S Cardiac Tincture for real  
 “ dyspepsia, or loss of appetite and indigestion,  
 “ with consequent declension of the powers and  
 “ faculties

“ faculties of life ; debility of the nervous,  
“ muscular, and vascular systems, accompanied  
“ with lassitude, dejection, and faintness ; for  
“ the hypochondriasis, and the atonic, or  
“ anomalous gout and rheumatism ; for that  
“ kind of nervous head-ach which is connected  
“ with disorders of the stomach, such as wind,  
“ heartburn, cramp, and spasm ; in broken  
“ habits, and in constitutions impaired by hot  
“ and unhealthy climates, by chronic or acute  
“ diseases, and by excess, this Cardiac and Ner-  
“ vous Tincture is a most excellent medicine.

“ The dyspeptic, the bilious, the melancholic,  
“ and cachectic ; the nervous, the aged, and in-  
“ firm ; the gouty and rheumatic, will experience  
“ most essential benefit from the use of this tincture.

“ Sold only, in London, by Messrs. Armi-  
“ tage and Moore, Stationers, No. 63, Bishopf-  
“ gate-street Within ; Mr. Geo. Kearsley,  
“ Bookseller, No. 47, Fleet-street ; and by  
“ Mr. Fred. Smith, Chymist, No. 29, Haymar-  
“ ket, in bottles, with stamps, at 2s. 9d. 5s. 5d.  
“ and 11s. 6d. each. Orders for the country  
“ and abroad are requested to be sent to Mr.  
“ Rymer, Surgeon, Reigate, Surrey, who an-  
“ swers all cases sent for advice.

“ N. B. The customary allowance to corre-  
“ spondents, country orders, and for exportation.”

From

From that time to this it has been my earnest wish, that all persons who desired to make trial of the cardiac tincture, might do me the favour to consult me by letter or personally, in the way most convenient, that with advice adapted to the circumstances of the case, the tincture might be taken with the best prospect of success.

To promote this purpose, and to prevent errors and remove doubts as much as possible, and at the same time support the credit of the medicine, I published a tract upon Indigestion, the Gout and Hypochondriasis, wherein I gave such general and particular directions, as might be safely followed by persons, who either could not consult me, or who declined to correspond. The tract went through four editions, each of which was improved by the addition of whatever useful particulars occurred in the course of time, and further experience. The fifth edition is just published, with upwards of sixty complicated anomalous cases, with the treatment of each, for the guidance of persons similarly afflicted, which, besides the cardiac tincture, required other medicines as adjuvantia. In the course of an extensive correspondence, many cases were from time to time sent me, for the relief and cure of which the cardiac tincture was not adapted, but for which, by persons of

both sexes, of great respectability, I was pressed to send such other medicines as I should judge to be most proper; so that in the course of transacting the business of my cardiac tincture, it has necessarily happened that I have made use of the following medicines in a variety of cases, and now compose them for public sale. It is but fair to add, that many of the cases for which they were calculated, and which they either greatly relieved or cured, were difficult, intricate, complicated, and embarrassing in the extreme, and had been in the hands of some of the ablest physicians, eminent for learning, skill, and intuitive talents.

That the public may understand the nature of the correspondence relative to Mr. Rymer's medicines, he begs leave to subjoin the following letters :

#### L E T T E R I.

Mr. Pendock Neale to Mr. Rymer, Apothecary,  
Reigate, Surrey.

“ S I R,

“ I have lately bought and perused the fifth edition of your Treatise upon Indigestion, which has given me greater pleasure than any medical book I have ever read ; and as the 48th case in  
the

the said treatise is in some measure similar to my own, I will relate my particular complaints, after stating my age, constitution, and way of life for many years past. I am now in my 68th year, and never knew any illness excepting a fever which I caught at Nova Scotia in 1750, when master of a ship there. I afterwards used the sea in various capacities for many years; but for the last twenty-nine years of my life I have enjoyed a place under the East India company, which obliges me to be on the water at this place in an open boat every day, for six or eight hours. In the summer of 1784 I had a paralytic stroke which deprived me of the use of my right side; but by proper treatment I have so far recovered that I can walk several miles without any fatigue, but cannot make use of my right-hand so as to write. I have a very good appetite, and eat all kinds of provisions moderately; drink port wine, porter, and table beer, moderately; sometimes rather more than a pint of wine a day, but in general about three or four glasses. My sleep is pretty good, though sometimes troubled with frightful dreams; great quantities of wind in my bowels and stomach, with spasms in my feet and great toes in the night; have frequent sensations of numbness in various parts, with instantaneous shootings in my lips and at the extre-

mity

mity of my tongue; frequent head-ach, with heat and fulness in my eyes, and a great deal of saliva in my mouth, which often makes me speak with hesitation. I am of a costive habit of body, and never thirsty; have no nausea in my mouth, and entirely free from cough or phlegm. I think some of your excellent remedies would be of great service to me, if, after considering my case, you will take the trouble to give me your advice, and to supply me with such a quantity as may perform a cure. I must observe, that though my right side is yet weak, I am enabled to get up the largest ship's side the East India company employs, without difficulty, though corpulent. Till this misfortune happened to me, I took much exercise with the gun, &c. which I now am unable to do. If you will favour me with your advice, and the necessary medicines, directed for me at Gravesend, to the White Hart Inn in the Borough, I will thankfully pay you, though not in affluent circumstances; and could I be so happy as to know when you come to London, and where you are to be found, I would wait on you, though I cannot come to town on any other days save Sunday or Monday, and then only to the White Hart in the Borough. I hope you'll excuse this long detail, and

and my left-handed signature, and believe me to be,

“ S I R,

“ Your most humble servant,

“ PENDOCK NEALE.

“ Gravesend, Dec. 25, 1789.

“ P. S. Although my right side is weak, I do not perceive either my hand or leg to have wasted in the least; and I have not the least shaking or unsteadiness in any part of my body; of a fresh complexion, and my eye-sight clear and good, having never used glasses.”

Mr. Rymer's advice to Mr. Neale.

“ Reigate, 26th Dec. 1789.

“ S I R,

“ Take one table-spoonful of the cardiac tincture, in a cup of camomile-tea, every morning fasting, and one table-spoonful, in a glass of wine an hour or two before and after dinner; and when pretty well, and you cannot conveniently take the tincture regularly, use it occasionally when complaints are more urgent, and at any time when troubled with wind. Use mustard at meals plentifully. Horfe-radish, celery, and other warm vegetables, are proper. Sometimes at night take one tea-spoonful of volatile tincture of

guaiacum

guaiacum in a glass of wine. If, when you take one detergent pill at bed-time, you find it operates three or four times by stool the following day, and your head relieved thereby, you need not take another for eight or ten days or more afterwards : but you may keep your body open with the other pills at discretion. The powders mentioned in the 48th case of my Treatise may at any time be tried. In cold or damp air, while in the open boat, you may take occasionally one or two table-spoonfuls of the tincture by itself, which you can carry with you in a small phial.

“ I shall be very glad to hear you receive benefit, and it will always afford me pleasure to give you any further advice in my power.”

## L E T T E R II.

Mr. Pendock Neale to Mr. Rymer.

“ S I R,

“ I beg your pardon for not acknowledging the receipt of your favour and medicines sooner. I have taken them, but not very regular, owing to a multiplicity of business on the water, which rendered it impossible ; but I hope now to give your tincture a fair trial. I have found great benefit from it, as it has entirely removed  
the

the shootings at the extremity of my tongue, and taken away the quantity of wind that used to oppress my head and bowels, and the spasms and little convulsions so frequent in various parts of my body ; but yet I have an oppression in my head and over my eyes, with some small pains now and then in the bowels, and shootings in my great toes, which don't continue long, without any swelling. I find rather more use of my right arm, but don't perceive my leg to be much better ; my appetite continues good, but I am disturbed in the night by dreams which I never thought of. The tincture and pills agreed with me very well, and I have of the latter sufficient for some time : as the detergent pills are very strong, one taken at a time had very great effects, and the aperient pills, one of them is sufficient to keep the body open. I would have you send me two more bottles of the tincture, but not any pills. If on a review of my case, and what I now have wrote, you find any alteration necessary, I shall be glad you will make it. I recommended to Mr. Thomas Dundas, chief mate of the Henry-Dundas, an East India ship, the cardiac tincture, which he purchased in town, which entirely relieved him from a bilious complaint, with four belchings and

nausea in a morning. You will please to send the two bottles of tincture to the White Hart Inn, in the Borough, directed for me at Gravesend.

“ I am, SIR,

“ Your most humble servant,

“ PENDOCK NEALE.

“ Gravesend, 28th March, 1790.”

A D V I C E.

“ The medicines to be continued as before directed.”

And to shew how such correspondence becomes miscellaneous, the following letter is inserted :

L E T T E R III.

Mrs. Heard to Mr. Rymer.

“ SIR,

“ Mr. Neale, of Gravesend, having received great benefit from your advice and medicines, I am induced to apply to you in behalf of a poor woman who is in great affliction from a stroke of the palsy. Her age is sixty; she has always lived abstemiously. The disorder came on her in the  
night.

night. When she awoke, she found that her left hand was useless, and it has continued so ever since the attack. Her left leg and foot were affected in the same way; but she has recovered the use of that limb, so far as to be able to walk about her room. It is five weeks since she was taken ill. Please to send the medicines by the stage, directed for Mrs. Brinckly; and I will send to the coach at Stonefend in the Borough for them. Please to send a bill with the parcel, and the coachman shall bring the money. An answer to this, directed to Mrs. Heard, No. 5, near the two-mile-stone, Kennington-lane, will greatly oblige,

“ S I R,

“ Your humble servant,

“ I. HEARD.

“ March 22, 1790.”

Mr. Rymer's answer

Consisted of directions how to use the medicines, which he sent for the relief of the paralytic case, as above described by Mrs. Heard.

Although, for the accommodation of gentlemen who have consulted Mr. Rymer, parcels of his medicines are lodged in the hands of trusty persons in London, yet he begs leave humbly

to

to suggest to strangers the propriety of stating their cases to himself, or of an interview, when the quantity of medicines necessary for a trial will be forwarded. Nothing can be more uncomfortable to Mr. Rymer than trusting his medicines in the hands of agents for indiscriminate use. These gentlemen being continually engaged in pursuits of a very different nature, in the prosecution of their own professions, cannot be supposed adequate to the task of giving advice to persons who wish to try the effects of medicines.

The *Febrifuge, Detergent and Alterative Pills* are calculated for diseases of the liver and spleen, attended with yellow eyes and skin, bloated countenance and melancholy; for complaints arising from diseased visceral glands; worms of all kinds in the stomach and intestines; offending viscid matter; costiveness and hardness of excrement, &c.

The *Antiasthmatic Pills* are designed for the phlegmatic and spasmodic asthma, attended with stuffing and wheezing from viscid phlegm and mucus pent up in the bronchiæ, shortness of breath, anasarcaous symptoms, &c.

The *Pectoral Medicine* is expressly contrived for severe catarrhs, hoarseness, cough, &c. both  
in

in the incipient acute states, and in their more advanced and dangerous stages.

I embrace this opportunity to inform the public, that I have used the cardiac tincture with the greatest success in the Devonshire colic, dry gripes, or distressing colic which workers in lead are so subject to, combined and given as follows :

℞ Tinct. cardiac. ℥i.

— asæ foetid. ℥i.

Æther. vitriolic. gutt. lx.

vel

Ol. vini, gutt. xl.

Aquæ menth. pip. simpl. ℥i.

M. fiat haust. secunda quæque hora sumend.

The patient should drink after each draught a gill or half a pint of warm and strong camomile tea. And in some cases of this kind with extreme costiveness, and excrement like sheep's dung, the detergent pills, used with the above draught, will in general be found effectual. Persons subject to this alarming disease should prevent costiveness by the use of such opening pills as those for which I have given a prescription in the bill of directions for the cardiac tincture.

With respect to the treatment of Scrofula, &c. in the hands of judicious professional men, the methods of cure mentioned in the following pages will be altogether safe, in general efficacious, and in many instances successful. Gentlemen of experience, penetration, and prudence, from duly considering all the leading circumstances of age, sex, constitution, disease, and effects of the medicines, will be able to determine what part of the general treatment promises to be most beneficial; the adequate proportion, and frequency of repetition of particulars; the propriety of discontinuing one part of the general treatment, and commencing with another; and how to blend, modify, proportion, and manage the whole.

Patients are earnestly entreated to commit themselves to the care of steady, skilful, and discreet practitioners throughout the entire course of the medicines and means recommended. Whatever liberties I might be inclined to allow prudent persons in the use of the saline and tonic treatment, and electricity, I must particularly recommend caution in the use of the alterative medicines, which should only be taken by the directions of men of talents

lents and skill, and never prepared but by the hands of some able, judicious, and discriminating apothecary, who is at the same time well versed in chemistry, and a neat compounder.

REIGATE, April 23d, 1790.

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ERRATA.

Page 10, l. 6, for *detergent pill*, read *anti-asthmatic pill*.

Page 19, l. 6 from bottom, for *is* read *are*.

Appendix, p. 27, No. VI. after, *Take of the Decoction of Barley*, read, *two pints*.

leas and fill, and never prepared but by the  
hands of some able, judicious, and discrimi-  
nating apothecary, who is at the same time  
well versed in chemistry, and a neat coun-  
terpoisoner.

RANDALL, April 23d, 1790.

R R R A T A

Page 10, l. 6, for highest part read circumference of  
Page 10, l. 6 from bottom, for a read an  
Appendix, p. 27, No. VI. after, State of the Diseases of  
Italy, read, two times.

TREATISE OF THE SCROFULA

A

**SHORT ACCOUNT, &c.**

**F**OR the history of Scrofula, I beg leave to refer the reader to Dr. Cullen's First Lines, vol. iv; Mr. Bell's Treatise on Ulcers; Mr. White's Treatise on Struma; &c.

The lymphatic system being chiefly affected in scrofula, gentlemen not of the medical profession, nor versed in anatomy and physiology, who desire to acquire knowledge upon the subject, may consult the works of Dr. William Hunter, Dr. Monro, Mr. John Hunter, Mr. Hewson, Mr. Sheldon, and Mr. Cruikshank. The last-named gentleman has published an excellent and hitherto the most complete system upon the absorbing vessels and glands, enriched with beautiful engravings, which, by all good judges, are allowed to be very correct.

B

TREAT-

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TREATMENT OF THE SCROFULA.

The medicines and means which I employ in the cure of Scrofula are,

1. The saline treatment.
2. The saline treatment, with electricity.
3. The tonic treatment, with electricity.
4. The saline and tonic treatment.
5. The saline and tonic treatment, with electricity.
6. The saline, tonic, and alterative treatment, with electricity.
7. The saline and alterative treatment.

THE SALINE TREATMENT CONSISTS,

1. Of neutral salts.

*Natron vitriolatum.*

——— *tartarifatum.*

*Kali vitriolatum.*

——— *tartarifatum.*

2. Of Alkaline Salts.

*Natron præparatum.*

Of *natron vitriolatum*, Glauber's salts, I give from one drachm to half an ounce, every morning,

ing, or every other morning, fasting, dissolved in from a gill to half a pint of the compound decoction of sarsaparilla, No. I. See Appendix.

Of *natron tartarifatum*, Rochelle salt, I give from two drachms to one ounce, in the manner as above.

Of *kali vitriolatum*, vitriolated tartar, I give from half a drachm to half an ounce, as above.

Of *kali tartarifatum*, soluble tartar, I give from one drachm to half an ounce, likewise as above\*.

*Natron præparatum*, mineral fixed alkaline salt. Of *natron præparatum* I give from ten grains to half a drachm, generally some time after dinner, in four or six ounces of the decoction, No. I.

In habits where the acid diathesis, or disposition to acidity remarkably prevails, I give the *natron* sometimes three times in the day, as above.

#### THE TONIC TREATMENT.

The tonics which I make use of, are,

1. Preparations of iron.
2. The Peruvian bark.

\* The doses of the neutral salts must be so managed as just to keep the body moderately lax, seldom to more than two stools in the twenty-four hours.

3. The elixir of vitriol.  
 4. Bitters, as colombo root, and extract. chamæmel.

*Preparations of Iron.*

1. *Ferrum vitriolatum*, vitriolated iron, salt of steel. Of this I give from half a grain to five or six grains, dissolved in from a gill to half a pint or more of distilled or spring water, in the morning fasting, and sometimes at noon.

2. *Vinum ferri*, wine of iron. Of this I give from one tea-spoonful to one table-spoonful as above.

3. *Rubigo ferri*, rust of iron. Of this I give from three to ten grains in a bolus, or pills twice or three times in the day. While the patient takes preparations of iron, let his body be kept moderately open.

*Cortex Peruvianus*, Peruvian bark. Of the Peruvian bark, in powder, I give from one scruple to one drachm, mixed in a glass of water, generally three times in the day in habits of great debility. In common cases, I give it but once in the day, before dinner, often in a glass of red port. I also give bark in other forms—the watery and vinous infusions, tincture and extract. I give the extract of bark, as in the

the electuary, No. II. and the powder frequently, as in No. III.

*Elixir vitrioli.* Of the elixir of vitriol I give from ten to thirty drops, in a glass of water or wine, in the morning fasting, and at noon; and very often I give it in the bark draught.

**Bitters.** See Appendix, No. II. III.

#### THE ALTERATIVE TREATMENT.

The Alteratives which I generally use, are preparations of antimony and mercury.

*Vinum antimonii tartarificati*, wine of tartarified antimony. Of this I commonly give from ten to sixty drops, in a cup of the decoction, in wine and water, whey, or gruel, at bed-time, often adding, if given in the decoction, from one tea-spoonful to one table-spoonful of treacle or melleasses.

The preparations of mercury which I commonly use, are

#### I. Solutio hydrargyr. muriat. No. IV.

Of this I give from one tea-spoonful to four tea-spoonfuls, in a cup of the decoction, every night, or every other night, at bed time, and often add some treacle to each draught. Of hydrargyr. muriat. thus dissolved, I never give

more than one eighth, and generally not more than one sixteenth, of a grain at a time.

2. *Calomelas*, calomel. Of this I give from one to three grains, with the like quantity of pulvis antimonialis, in a pill, at bed-time\*.

#### ELECTRICITY.

In Scrofula I use electricity in the following manner: I insulate the patient five, ten, fifteen, and sometimes twenty minutes at a time, or till a sensible glow and perspiration or gentle sweating come on. In the course of this operation I take sparks from indolent swelled glands, through silk or flannel, or draw the electric fluid silently off, or use friction.

From many instances of the dispersion of glandular swellings externally, by the application of electricity in this way, I have great reason to hope that it is beneficial in diseased mesenteric glands, and those of other viscera.

In very delicate habits, where debility is considerable, and the scrofulous diathesis diffused throughout the system, the doses of the medicines, and repetition of them, must be managed with great nicety and discretion.

The diet should be mild and nourishing, and consist of milk, vegetables, and the farinacea.

\* The mercurial alteratives are to be administered so as not to affect the salivary glands.

If mild fresh animal food, and its more bland preparations, as simple mutton broth, with bread crumbled into it, and the like, agree, and particularly if the patient longs for such things, he should be indulged.

In general, excepting such articles as are manifestly gross, glutinous, and viscid, I recommend a nourishing diet, consisting of fresh animal food, chiefly boiled, and all the variety of wholesome aliments which are light, and yield considerable nutriment. I allow wine and water for common drink at table, and wine unmixed, in such moderate quantities as may neither heat nor oppress.

The patient should not get into habits of drinking. He should not drink common drink but when really thirsty, and even then not a large draught. Excess in the use of watery drink debilitates, gives the animal œconomy unnecessary labour, lessens the tone, contractility and vigour of the solids, and ultimately tends to wear out the vascular system.

Patients, even the most tender and debilitated, must be exposed in the open air for a considerable time daily; and if children, unable to walk, should be carried in the arms of the nurse; or, young or old, under the same unfortunate predicament, take air and exercise in a carriage.

Riding on horseback, in a fine, dry, salubrious country air, is always an essential thing.

The cold bath is very useful ; and where persons cannot immerse the whole body, cold water may be poured upon the body, in the form of a heavy shower, from a garden watering pot, if no better machine be at hand. The person performing this business should be elevated considerably above the patient. Sea bathing is a preferable thing. Those who cannot conveniently go to bathe in the sea, may make an artificial salt-water, by adding one or two ounces of common salt to every gallon of fresh water.

#### *Anomalous Cases.*

The lymphatic system, being particularly concerned in the Small Pox, the conglobate or lymphatic glands, especially in young subjects, are often affected after that disease. These glands are also frequently diseased after the Measles, especially the bronchial glands.— These cases are to be treated as above ; and occasional purging with jalap and calomel is beneficial. And in the latter case, with cough and stuffing, I use the pectoral medicine.

Such glandular affections happen in the foudest habits, both after the pure benign kind of the  
Small

Small Pox in the natural way, and after that by inoculation with the most homogeneous variolous matter. If, indeed, the matter used had been taken from a suspicious subject, parents very reasonably might entertain doubts; notwithstanding, from late ingenious doctrines of secretion, a conclusion is drawn, that variolous matter, taken from a person labouring at the same time under any other distemper, will produce no other disease than the small pox; and that confluent matter is just as good for the purpose of inoculation, as matter taken from a fine pustule of the distinct sort. However plausible and true this may be, fathers and mothers will scarcely be prevailed upon to believe it; and till the affair be more clearly ascertained, I presume few surgeons will take pains to persuade their patients that it is so. What reasonable man, having the choice of a sound and unsound person, would prefer or equally value variolous matter taken from the latter? If I inoculated a child with variolous matter taken from a patient labouring at the same time under *lues venerea*, I should not think it a miracle if the child proved to be infected with the siphylitic virus.

In affections of the bronchial glands of long standing, with, as it were, an habitual hoarseness, wheezing,

wheezing, stuffing, and cough, originally occasioned by inflammation, &c. from cold, and always increased upon catching a fresh cold, I have found nothing more beneficial than the pectoral medicine hereafter mentioned; and in gross, full habits, one detergent pill at bed-time, once or twice in the week, with a dose of Sal Glaub. the morning after each pill. Persons so affected, especially while labouring under an aggravation of the complaint from a fresh cold, should also drink one quart or three pints daily of the compound decoction of barley, No. VI. or of the compound decoction of sarsaparilla; and occasionally, if thirsty and feverish, some of the cooling drinks mentioned in the directions for the pectoral medicine.

In affections of the joints, called white swellings, all the plans of internal medicines may be tried, with a purgative of calomel and jalap, once in the week or so, at bed-time, and a dose of Sal Glauber. next morning; and in the incipient stages, especially in that kind of white swelling more manifestly rheumatic, the swelling should be kept pretty constantly wet with cloths, saturated with the solution or embrocation, No. V. Upon failure of this refrigerant discutient application, use rubefacients as blisters, cataplasms composed of the flour of mustard-seed, soft soap

soap and oatmeal moistened with liniment. sapon. spirit. camphorat. or ol. camphor. Cataplasms of tobacco leaves, cut, bruised, and just sufficiently moistened with water. Also use volatile oils, camphorated saponaceous liniments, mercurial ointment, cataplasms of bruised cabbage leaves and common salt; ol. terebinth. tinct. cantharid. ol. palm. laurin. liniment. sapon. spirit. camphor. *olea blanda*, &c. using with each ointment, liniment, oil, or spirit, long and continued friction for an hour at least. Cupping and scarifying, and the application of leeches, may also be tried. After bathing, fomenting, anointing, and rubbing, the joint may be enveloped in a covering of soft oiled silk, including a considerable portion of the limb both above and below the affected joint; or it may be wrapped up in soft flannel, or in any fresh, soft, pliant, oily, membranaceous covering, that is proof against transpiration of vapour, as cauls and stomachs of animals slaughtered by the butchers, so as to keep the diseased parts in a warm, comfortable, sweating state; observing so to secure such coverings, both above and below the joint, as not to impede cutaneous circulation.

On white swellings, see Mr. Bell's Treatise upon Ulcers.

In white swellings insulate the patient once or twice daily ; take strong sparks, and draw off the fluid by a wooden point from all parts of the swelling. In some cases, where matter lodged in the diseased cellular membrane points out convenient parts (and even where matter lodged deeper does so) for openings, apply caustics, and introduce setons. If the disease be in the knee, the propriety of retaining the limb in an extended situation, is left to the judgment of the surgeon.

In ulcerations of long standing, affecting the bones of the tarsus and metatarsus, the carpus and metacarpus, and other bones, the bark must be given largely in the most effectual and convenient manner. The diet should be nourishing, and consist of fresh animal food, milk, vegetables, &c. and port wine.

The hard, painful, difficult swelling, situated over the inferior edge of either side of the lower jaw, progressively inflaming and increasing, occasions frequently swellings, and hardness of the conglobate glands under the ear and upon the sides of the neck. Such hard tumours of the lower jaw often become soft, and evidently contain matter which ought to be discharged by the lancet or caustic.

At the beginning of such a swelling, if the most suspicious tooth in the neighbourhood had been timely extracted, the succeeding distress and mischief in all probability would have been prevented. But it is never too late to remove an evil thing.

In obstinate glandular swellings of the breasts of menstruating women, and neck of either sex, which are neither scirrhus nor cancerous, nor truly scrofulous, but which may have some siphylitic taint, or other unknown cause of swelling and induration, I have found much benefit and satisfaction from the above plans, and from a febrifuge detergent pill taken at bed-time once or twice in the week, and by electricity.

In simple indurations and swellings of the glands of women's breasts, child-bearing women, even of some standing, anointing the parts with a little mercurial ointment, night and morning, having previously bathed and fomented them with infusions of the herbs commonly used for such purposes, soapy warm water, warm milk and water, or the sea water, and the like, covering the parts, when they have been so treated, with soft linen and flannel, and taking, once or twice in the week, at bed-time, one of the above pills, and a dose of Sal Glauber. the following morning, generally performs the cure.

Glandular

Glandular affections, scabs, and blotches, which certainly proceed from *siphylis*, are cured by the following means :

Drink the decoction, to the quantity of a quart or three pints daily. Take of the siphylitic syrup or balsam, No. VII. one table-spoonful, in four, six, or eight ounces of the decoction, every night at bed-time : and every sixth or eighth morning fasting, take a dose of Sal Glauber.

The same treatment is to be employed in the cure of siphylitic ulcers in the throat, nose, and eyes.

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IMPETIGINES, RING-WORMS, TETTERS,  
SCURVY, LEPROSY, &c.

In ring-worms and tetter, use the alterative syrup or balsam, No. VIII. in the quantity of from one tea-spoonful to one table-spoonful, in a cup of the decoction, every night at bed-time. Drink the decoction in the quantity of from one to three pints daily. Once in eight or ten days take a dose of Sal Glaub. in the morning fasting, on the evening of which day omit the syrup.

Scabs, blotches, and ulcerations of this kind, may be slightly bathed with the solution or  
lotion,

lotion, No. IX. or may be just moistened with acid. vitriolic. dilut. while under a course of the medicines.

Cutaneous disorders of a simular nature, affecting the head, face, eyes, eye-lashes, and other parts of the body and extremities, with angry pimples which itch and discharge an acrid, scalding, watery humour; scurfy blotches, tettery ulcerations, &c. may be treated thus:

In the spring season especially, take the following alterative drink, in the quantity of from one gill to half a pint, morning, noon, and night; namely,

Pour one gallon of the decoction, No. I. boiling hot upon two ounces of cream of tartar, and four ounces of prepared or crude antimony, put into a proper vessel; and when it has stood forty-eight hours, strain off the liquor for use.

If the above fail, recourse may be had to the alterative syrup, decoction, and salts, which will perform the cure.

In some cases, where the humour shews itself in small angry pimples, which itch and discharge the thin humour as above, the bark and elixir of vitriol do great service.

When such pimples and scurfy humour appear upon the face chiefly, the repellent cosmetics should never be used, unless the lady at the  
same

same time strictly pursue the alterative plan: for otherwise such as are most effectual cosmetics, containing active chemical ingredients, craftily disguised, in removing the humour from the face, never fail to drive it into the system, where it lurks, and ultimately, having taken possession of essential vital organs, often proves fatal.

Persons subject to periodical eruptions upon the face, ought to be assured, that nature recurs to this method of throwing out of the system a matter pernicious to health; and that the business of the physician is not to combat nature, by repelling the humour, but to assist her operation, by using such means as open the pores and emunctories, and favour the discharge of a matter so noxious to the constitution: such means are those medicines commonly called alterants and evacuants.

If ladies would but be pleased to consider how much more valuable a blessing health is than beauty, and how dangerous a thing it is to endeavour to favour and preserve the latter at the certain expence of the former, by using repellent cosmetics, which counteract the wise intentions of nature, it is humbly presumed they will be induced to act with prudence and discretion in a matter of so great importance.

The peculiar humour, acrimony, or depravity

vity of the fluids attending these complaints; is in many cases constitutional, and not to be totally eradicated by any known means, although apparently perfectly cured for a time. At certain seasons, as the spring and autumn, the scorbutic humour is apt to shew itself more than at other times: and when it happens that it does not appear at the usual time, the person's health is frequently much deranged: he has febrile complaints, disordered head, stomach, bowels, or pains flying about him, like rheumatism and gout: whenever this occurs, the person should, without delay, have recourse to the saline and alterative medicines.

In some lusty men such humours often invade the scrotum and neighbouring parts, attended with heat, itching, watery discharge, scurf, scales, ulcerations, and oftentimes little hard tumours in the dartos, which suppurate. The whole scrotum is frequently encrusted with scabs and scales, which causing an intolerable itching with heat, are often so rubbed off by scratching, that the parts sometimes bleed a little, and discharge copiously the acrid fluid, which drying again covers the parts as before. When the scrotum is cleared of these scurfs and scabs, by bathing or washing with warm or cold water, and become dry, it often looks like a piece of

fine flesh-coloured silk, satin, or shining pellucid membrane, in folds and wrinkles, pendent and flaccid.

I have observed, that persons of this description are liable to periodical attacks of erysipelas, ushered in for the most part with violent pyrexia, when sooner or later the leg, or other part of the body, is affected with erysipelatous inflammation.

The stomach and head suffer greatly upon the first attack of the fever. The nervous and sanguiferous systems are violently deranged. The pulse is hard, full, frequent, and often intermittent. The lips, mouth and fauces are dry, clammy and uncomfortable. There are rigors succeeded by burning heat, anxiety, restlessness, and sometimes delirium. In this case, where the patient is very plethoric, of high tone and contractility, and where the inflammatory diathesis is powerful, phlebotomy is immediately necessary. Soon after this operation the patient should take an emetic draught consisting of one, two, or three ounces of vin. ipecac. or half an ounce, or one ounce of vin. antimon. tartarifat. and work it off with occasional draughts of warm water, camomile tea, thin gruel, or the like. Then the stomach being settled of its own accord, or by some cordial anodyne draught, he should

take saline draughts, draughts of aqua ammoniacæ acetatæ, or draughts in which the active febrifuge is vin. antimon. tartarifat. every hour or fo, till sweating comes on ; and every third, fourth, or fixth hour, in a cup of warm common drink, fuch a powder as the following :

*R. Nitri purificat. gr. x. vel xv. vel xx.*

*Magnes. uft. gr. xv. vel xx.*

*Pulv. Rhei, gr. v. vel x.*

*M. ft. pulv.*

If the eryfipelas be feated in an extremity, as the leg, refrigerating, difcutient embrocations and poultices of every kind, and all greafy applications, are improper. Keeping the limb in a comfortable, perfpirable ftate, will be very proper.

The body ought throughout this difeafe to be kept lax, but not purged : and when the febrile fymptoms are gone, tonics, with moderate exercife in a carriage, on horfeback, and laftly on foot, in a fine dry air, is advifable daily.

Such perfons fhould at all times prevent cof-tivenefs, and more efpecially fo at the approach of fpring and winter ; and fhould occasionally take the alterative fyrup and drink the decoction.

Washing the scrotum and neighbouring parts frequently with warm or cold water will be always pleasant and beneficial.

Persons inclined to try these means under Mr. Rymer's care, at Reigate, are respectfully informed, that they may depend upon receiving due attention and proper treatment.

Various persons from time to time having expressed an earnest desire to converse with Mr. Rymer in London; and having had it but rarely in his power hitherto to enjoy such gratification; he is happy to give notice, that he has purposely so arranged his business at Reigate as to enable him to propose being in London occasionally: wherefore, gentlemen placing confidence in Mr. Rymer, who wish to consult him, are respectfully requested to favour him with a line, mentioning their address, &c. upon receipt of which, information will be given of the time when, and place where, Mr. Rymer may be met with in London. And persons who require to be waited upon by Mr. Rymer, will please to state their places of abode.

# A P P E N D I X.

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## FORMULÆ MEDICAMENTORUM.

No. I.

### *Decoctum Sarsaparillæ compositum.*

℞ Radicis sarsaparillæ incisæ et contusæ  
pond. uncias sex,  
Corticis radicis sassaf. *viij.*  
Ligni guaiaci rasi, *ss.*  
Radicis glycyrrhizæ contusæ, singulo-  
rum, P. unciam unam,  
Corticis radicis mezerei P. drachmas  
tres,  
Aquæ distillatæ mensur. libras decem.  
Macera leni calore per horas sex ; dein  
decoque ad mensuram librarum  
quinque, sub finem coctionis addens  
corticem radicis mezerei. Cola li-  
quorem.

*Pharm. Lond. 1788.*

No. II.

℞ Extract. cort. Peruv. cum resina,  
—— chamæmel, ā ð i.

C 3

Extract.

Extract. glycyrrhiz. ℥ss.  
Syrup. simpl. q. f. ut fiat bol.

No. III.

℞ Pulv. cort. Peruv. ℥i. vel ℥ss.  
— rad. colomb. gr. xv. vel ℥i.  
Magnes. ust. ℥i. vel ℥ss.  
Misce.

No. IV.

℞ Hydrargyr. muriat. gr. iv.  
Aquæ distillat. fervent. uncias duas,  
Vini albi Hispanic. vel *brandy*, un-  
cias sex.  
Solve hydrargyr. muriat. in aqua dis-  
tillata ferventi, et adde vinum, vel  
*brandy*; dein digere per triduum,  
et per chartam cola.

No. V.

℞ Sal. ammoniac. ℥ss. vel ℥i.  
Spir. vin. rectificat.  
Acet. distillat. ā ℥i.  
Solve.

VEL

℞ Aq. ammon. acetat.  
Spir. camphorat. ā ā ℥i.  
Misce, et cola.

*Decoctum Hordei.*

℞ Hordei perlati. P. uncias duas,  
Aquæ distillatæ M. libras quatuor.  
Res alienas, hordeo adherentes, aqua  
frigida primum ablue; deinde, af-  
fusa aquæ libra circiter dimidia,  
hordeum paulisper coque. Hac  
aqua abjecta, hordeo aquam distil-  
latam ferventem adde; decoque ad  
libras duas, et cola.

*Pharm. Lond.*

No. VI.

*Decoctum Hordei Compositum.*

℞ Decocti hordei M. libras duas,  
Uvarum passarum, acinis exemptis,  
Caricarum incisarum, singulorum P.  
uncias duas,  
Radici glycyrrhizæ incisæ et contu-  
sæ, P. unciam dimidiam,  
Aquæ distillatæ M. libram unam.  
Decoque ad libras duas, et cola.

*Pharm. Lond.*

No. VII.

℞ Solut. hydrargyr. muriat. No. IV.  
 $\frac{3}{4}$  viii.

C 4

Syrup.

Syrup. simpl.

vel

Sirup de capillaire,

vel

Syrup. croci, ℥ii.

Misce in vase vitreo.

*Vinum Antimonii Tartarificati.*

℞ Antimonii tartarificati P. scrupulos duos,  
Aquæ distillatæ ferventis M. uncias  
duas,

Vini albi Hispanici M. uncias octo.

Solve antimonium tartarificatum in aqua  
distillata ferventi, et adde vinum.

*Pharm. Lond.*

No. VIII,

℞ Vin. antimon. tartarificat. ℥i.

Solut. hydragy. muriat. ℥viii.

*Of treacle or melasses, ℥ii.*

Misce accuratissime.

No. IX,

*Lotio.*

℞ Hydragy. muriat. ℥i.

Sal. ammoniac. ℥ii.

Aquæ distillatæ ferventis ℥ii.

Solve.

# A P P E N D I X.

---

## No. I.

*Compound Decoction of Sarsaparilla.* Lond. Phar.

### Take of

The root of sarsaparilla, sliced and  
bruised, six ounces ;

Bark of the root of saffaras,

Shavings of guaiacum wood,

Liquorice root, bruised, of each one  
ounce ;

Bark of the root of mezereon, three  
drachms ;

Distilled water, ten pints.

Macerate with a gentle heat, for six  
hours ; then boil it down to five  
pints, adding towards the end of  
the boiling the bark of the root of  
mezereon, and strain the liquor.

## No. II.

### Take of

The extract of Peruvian bark, with  
the resin,

The

The extract of camomile, of each one  
scruple ;

The extract of liquorice, half a drachm ;  
Simple fyrup, enough to make a bolus.

---

No. III.

Take of

The powder of Peruvian bark, one  
scruple, or half a drachm ;

Powder of colombo root, fifteen or  
twenty grains ;

Calcined magnesia, one scruple, or half  
a drachm.

Mix them.

No. IV.

Take of

Muriated quicksilver, four grains ;

Boiling distilled water, two ounces ;

Spanish white-wine, or brandy, six  
ounces.

Diffolve the muriated quicksilver in  
the boiling water, and add the wine  
or brandy. Let it stand three days,  
and then filtre it through paper.

No. V.

Take of

Sal ammoniac two drachms, half an  
ounce, or one ounce ;

Rectified

Rectified spirit of wine,  
Distilled vinegar, of each one pint.  
Mix the rectified spirit of wine and  
vinegar; then dissolve the sal am-  
moniac.

O R,

Take of  
Water of acetated ammonia,  
Camphorated spirit, of each one pint.  
Mix them. If the camphor separates,  
strain.

*Decoction of Barley.* Lond. Pharm.

Take of  
Pearl-barley, two ounces;  
Distilled water, four pints.  
The barley being first washed with cold  
water from the adhering impurities,  
pour upon it about half a pint of  
water, and boil the barley a little  
time. This water being thrown  
away, add the distilled water, boil-  
ing, to the barley; boil it to two  
pints, and strain.

No. VI.

*Compound Decoction of Barley.* Lond. Pharm.

Take of  
The decoction of barley,  
Raisins,

Raisins stoned,

Figs, sliced, each two ounces,

Liquorice-root, sliced and bruised, half  
an ounce ;

Distilled water, one pint.

Boil to two pints, and strain.

No. VII.

Take of

The solution of muriated quicksilver,  
(No. IV.) eight ounces ;

Simple syrup, or

Syrup of capillaire, or

Syrup of saffron, two pounds,

Mix them in a glass vessel.

*Wine of tartarised Antimony.* Lond. Pharm.

Take of

Tartarised antimony, two scruples ;

Boiling distilled water, two ounces ;

Spanish white wine, eight ounces.

Dissolve the tartarised antimony in the  
boiling distilled water, and add to  
it the wine.

No. VIII.

Take of

Wine of tartarised antimony, one  
ounce ;

Solution

Solution of muriated quicksilver,  
eight ounces ;  
Treacle, or melasses, two pounds.  
Mix them accurately.

No. IX.

*The Lotion.*

Take of

Muriated quicksilver, one drachm ;  
Sal ammoniac, two drachms ;  
Boiling distilled water, two pints.  
Dissolve the muriated quicksilver  
and sal ammoniac in the boiling  
distilled water.

The following are some of the principal external applications which Mr. Rymer uses in cases of indolent swellings of glands, &c.

Emplastrum ammoniaci cum hydrargyro,  
—— lithargyri,  
—— —— cum gummi,  
—— —— cum hydrargyro,  
—— saponis.

Spread upon thin leather, linen, or silk.

For ulcers and ulcerations he uses the following ointments and cerates, viz.

Unguentum

## Unguentum adipis fuillæ,

———— ceræ,

———— ceruffæ acetatæ,

———— calcis hydrargyri albæ,

———— hydrargyri fortius et mitius,

———— refinæ flavæ,

———— ſpermatis ceti,

———— ſulphuris,

———— ex æruginè,

Ceratum lapidis calaminaris,

———— lithargyri acetati,

———— ſpermatis ceti.

These he ſpreads upon lint, and ſometimes covers them with ſlices of ſoft ſponge, wrung out of ſpring water, or ſea water, or a ſolution of common ſalt in water.

## CONCLUSION.

IT is humbly preſumed, that in all the cutaneous affections which I have mentioned, ſcorbutic\*, ſiphylitic and leprous; in tetterſ and *yaws*; in obſtinate and indolent ſwellings of glands, and in various ulcerations, and acrimonious eruptions, the numbers IV. VII. and VIII. with the daily uſe of numbers I. and VI. according to the nature of the caſe, taken with

\* No alluſion is here intended to the ſea, or marine, ſcurvy, which is a diſeaſe of a very different nature.

diſcretion

discretion and propriety, under the management of skilful professional men, will be found altogether safe, beneficial and effectual. Our two alteratives consist of metals united with acids; one of mercury, combined with the marine or muriatic acid, an universal deobstruent; the other of the reguline part of antimony combined with the acid of tartar, a famous aperient and alterative. They are both very active medicines: in skilful, judicious hands they are perfectly safe and efficacious; but in the hands of the inconsiderate and unskilful, are weapons of very great danger.

Persons who may choose to decline the use of the above deobstruents and alteratives, and prefer taking medicines of this quality, in the form of pills, will find every intention answered by the use of the febrifuge alterative pills above spoken of, as used in my practice very generally. They principally consist of an union of the calx of antimony with a calx of mercury, and contain no acid whatsoever.

F I N I S.

T H E

# PECTORAL MEDICINE,

Invented, prepared, and used many Years, with the  
greatest Success,

By Mr. JAMES RYMER,  
Surgeon and Apothecary, at Reigate, in Surrey ;

**F**OR the cure of alarming colds and dangerous coughs ; in sneezing, running of a hot, sharp, acrimonious mucus or rheum from the membranes and glands of the nose, eyes, and fauces ; stuffing and buzzing noise in the head, together with deafness, loss of taste and smelling ; soreness or sense of rawness of the throat and breast ; hoarseness, distressing cough, stuffing from phlegm ; anxiety and shortness of breath ; pains in the limbs, and stiffness or soreness of the muscles and fleshy parts ; rigors or shiverings, followed by flushings ; thirst, nausea, loss of appetite, head-ach, stupor, and general restlessness : for the hooping cough and the measles ; and for all those coughs of children and infants attended with wheezing, stuffing, rattling, and difficult respiration from phlegm pent up in the bronchiæ, which complaints carry off annually thousands of children.

In

In harassing coughs, stuffing, rattling, wheezing, difficult expectoration, and oppressed breathing, with swelled or œdematous feet, ancles, legs, and thighs of elderly persons, this pectoral medicine always gives the greatest relief, and oftentimes cures. The Pectoral Medicine is also of eminent service in all anasaruous or dropical swellings, and more especially in those attended with water in the chest.

*Directions for taking the Pectoral Medicine.*

IN common recent colds it is generally taken without any restrictions of diet or confinement. But every deviation from health requires care and strict attention.—It is given to children three or four times in the day and night, from one to two or more tea-spoonfuls at a time, either by itself, or mixed in a little barley water, balm or common tea, whey, or other simple drink. Grown persons may take from half to one table-spoonful every three, four, or six hours. Some take it fasting, at noon, at six in the evening, and at bed-time. Others take it at bed-time only, and drink after it a basin of white-wine whey, gruel, or barley-water, or other warm drink, when they go to bed, and try to get into a sweat.

In very severe colds of some standing, hoarseness, and distressing coughs, with thirst and fever, threatening death, it is to be taken as above, only always at bed-time, in greater quantity, and mixed in a cup of any drink very moderately warm—not more so than milk from the cow: then the patient should go to bed, and endeavour to sweat. The diet, in such cases, should consist of milk and vegetables, gruel with a little white-wine, sago, light puddings, weak broths, beef tea, baked or roasted apples, pears, &c. Figs are proper. The drink in recent cases should be lemonade and barley water, with nitre; two drachms of nitre to one quart—a quarter of a pint at a time; weak Lisbon and water, tamarind water, or cream of tartar and water. Currant jellies are good.

Persons having severe colds, dangerous complaints in these kingdoms! should remain in warm chambers, or lie in bed till better, and when they venture abroad, be warmly clothed.

Sold by Mr. Rymer, at his house in *Reigate, Surrey*; and in *London* only by *F. Smith*, Chemist to the Prince of Wales, No. 29, Haymarket

ket; *G. Kearsley*, No 46, Fleet-street; and by Messrs. *Armitage and Moore*, No. 63, Bishopsgate-street, in bottles at 2s. 9d. and 5s. 5d. each.

\* \* \* Letters and cases sent to Mr. *Rymer*, post paid, for advice, will be answered, and medicines sent if required.

By JAMES RYMER.

THE FIFTH EDITION.

Sold by the Booksellers in London.

*This Day is published, price 4s. in boards.*

A TREATISE upon INDIGESTION, and the Hypochondriac Disease; and upon the Inflammatory and Atonic Gout; with the methods of cure: together with above fifty-six selected cases, chiefly anomalous, of Dyspepsy, Hysteria, Hypochondriasis, the Inflammatory and Atonic Gout, Vertigo, Apoplexy, Palsy, &c. with the treatment of each case; including both medicine and regimen. Together with efficacious prescriptions adapted to the various complicated symptoms. With observations on the use and abuse of the Cardiac Tincture in the above diseases, and full directions for taking it in other nervous affections, in broken constitutions, and habits impaired by hot climates, &c.

By JAMES RYMER.

THE FIFTH EDITION.

— *Vides ut pallidus omnis*

*Cena desurgat dubia.*

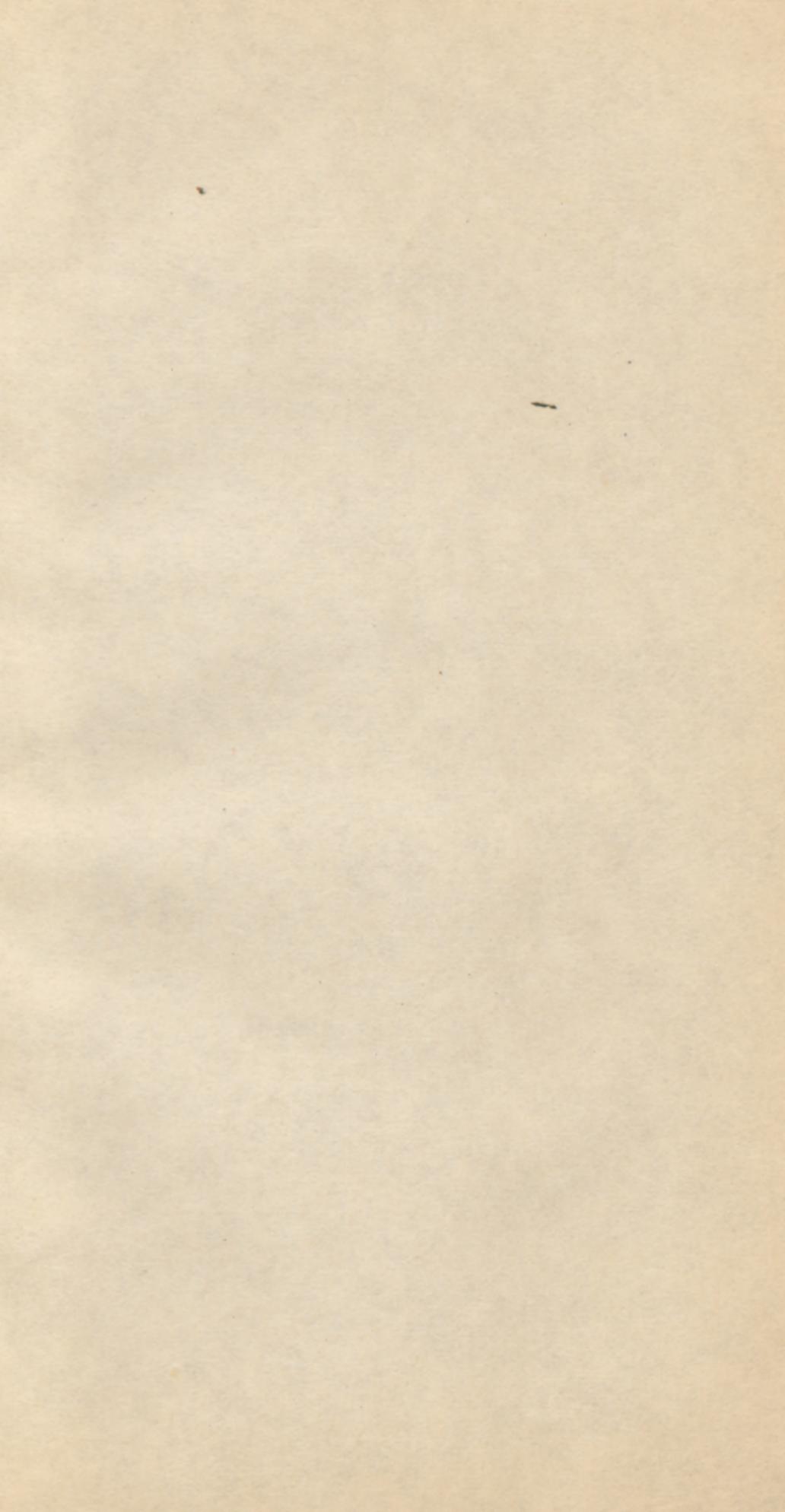
— *Victus tenuis quæ quantaque secum*

*Adferat.*

HOR.

Sold by the Booksellers as above,









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