THE

SILENT FRIEND:

A MEDICAL WORK,

ON THE DISORDERS PRODUCED BY THE DANGEROUS EFFECTS OF

ONANISM,

ALL ITS DREADFUL CONSEQUENCES CONSIDERED;

INCLUDING

NERVOUS AND SEXUAL DEBILITY, IMPOTENCY, &c.

AND ON

VENEREAL AND SYPHILITIC DISEASES,

WITH

PLAIN DIRECTIONS FOR THE REMOVAL OF

SECONDARY SYMPTOMS, GONORRHŒA OR CLAP, GLEETS, STRICTURES, WHITES, AND ALL DISEASES OF THE URINARY PASSAGES,

Without the use of Mercury, Confinement, or Hinderance from Business;

FOLLOWED BY

General Instructions for the perfect restoration of those who are incapacitated from entering into the holy state of

MARRIAGE;

BY THE EVIL CONSEQUENCES ARISING FROM EARLY ABUSE, OR SYPHILITIC INFECTION;

ILLUSTRATED BY ENGRAVINGS.

BY R. AND L. PERRY AND CO.,

CONSULTING SURGEONS,

4, Great Charles-street, Birmingham, and 44, Albion-street, Leeds.

BIRMINGHAM: 1841.

PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHORS,

AND SOLD BY STRANGE, 21, PATERNOSTER-ROW; WILSON, 18, BISHOPGATE-STREET; PURKESS, COMPTON-STREET, SOHO; JACKSON & CO, 130, NEW BOND-STREET, LONDON; AND BY ALL BOOKSELLERS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

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INTRODUCTION.

In commencing our remarks on the highly important subject of Self-Pollution, we cannot impress too strongly on our readers the Divine ordinance, "increase and multiply;" for by constantly bearing in mind the object for which we were sent into this world, it will at once be seen how sinful must be the practices of those, who, by fatally anticipating the purposes of Nature, are incapable of procreation, and entail everlasting misery, shame, and ignominy on themselves here and hereafter. The seminal liquor, it must be observed, is the richest and most powerful of all the animal secretions; it is, in fact, the very essence of life; it is the fluid that strengthens our bodies, and, by rendering our nervous system powerful, enables us to exercise our memory, imagination, and judgment for our worldly benefit and happiness. Now, if this important fluid is wasted, what results must follow? In the first place the nervous system of the masturbator becomes impaired, the brain, the heart, and lungs become impoverished, and hence arise melancholy, impotency, a bewildered mind, nervousness, and a general decay of the system; 'tis then! that the truth flashes across his mind, and he becomes aware of the extreme wretchedness of his situation, and that he is no longer a proper object of society; a complete im-

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becile, incapable of sexual intercourse; a man only in form, but not in substance, without the power of exercising his functions either of mind or body: the former participating in the disease, becomes morbidly affected, and distrust, fear, extreme sensitiveness, and frequently madness ensues.

Here then arises a proof of the importance and necessity of the arrangement whereby some well informed members of the medical profession, should devote their exclusive attention to the Diseases arising from the undue excitement of the generative system, together with those incidental forms of acute disorder, which, if neglected, terminate in the horribly wasting forms of constitutional disorganization.

To this part of the subject we have paid the most anxious and untiring attention from a very early period of our professional career. It is one, in fact, in which not a day passes in which we are not consulted either by professional visit, or by correspondents in different parts of the kingdom, and we feel that we are not exceeding the limits of truth, or transgressing the bounds of professional etiquette, in asserting that our mode of practice, suggested and improved by long and multiplied experience, has been productive of the happiest and most successful results in the treatment of sexual debility in both sexes; and during our practice we have too frequently marked the great extent of constitutional disease, primarily springing from neglect or mal-treatment of syphilitic diseases. Every medical man who will make it his study, as it has

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been ours, to investigate as far as possible in every case, the original channel through which disease or constitutional disorder first found its entry into the system, will be astonished at the mass of human suffering which may be traced up to a *venereal* origin, although its primary symptoms may have been for years, apparently, eradicated from the frame. Nor do the sources of this misfortune lie very deep from observation. The malady generally commences its attack in early life, before experience has overcome the short-sighted heedlessness of youth, and taught it to look beyond the pains and pleasures of the passing moment. Delicacy or shame will not allow him to seek assistance, until the poison has acquired strength and virulence too alarming to be neglected; and the patient then, instead of applying to his usual professional friend, flies to some unskilful practitioner, who temporarily arrests the external symptoms, and discharges him as cured. Thus matters go on until the malady becomes constitutional; and the patient is at last compelled to place himself under the treatment of those, who, at an earlier period, might have preserved his constitution untainted, and his body comparatively uninjured by the ravages of this insidious disease.

It is some years since the idea first occurred to us that a popular treatise, divested as much as possible of technical language, would be of much avail in counteracting the effects of the complaint, resulting from mal-treatment or neglect. Under these impressions we have ventured to submit the following pages, and trust their utility may be acknowledged; we are desirous of explaining that they are not intended to

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supersede medical aid in any stage of the disorder, but that, on the contrary, we would impress upon the reader, if he need it, the prudence of having immediate recourse to it, in the earliest stages of the disease. But where, from circumstances which in venereal complaints very frequently occur, the party cannot have recourse to professional aid, the next best step is certainly to place in his hands those medicines which are most likely to be successful with himself.

In the following pages we have as briefly as possible brought under the notice of the reader the *causes*, *varieties*, *symptoms*, and peculiarities of those disorders of the generative organs, which either partially or totally obstruct them in the due discharge of those important functions which they are ordained to perform in the human economy, and on the proper discharge of which, not only rests the happiness of individuals in families, but also the welfare of empires; for it is not to be disputed that on the degree of vigour and healthy action of those organs in the parents, depends in a great measure the health of their offspring: daily experience presents to our notice painful and not unfrequently loathsome evidence of this fact. Hence it behoves us, before entering the marriage state, to enquire whether or not we are in such bodily health as may ensure that our marriage bed shall not become a *hot-bed of disease*, from whence nought but weak and puny offspring shall be produced—living evidences of our follies and brutally selfish passions. How degraded, and utterly lost to all the finer feelings which alone ennoble us, must that man be, who, knowing himself to be tainted by disease, or so debili-

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tated by early and guilty excesses, that it is next to impossible that he should give life to any but tainted and doomed progeny—doomed in their mother's womb! yet dares to offer his polluted and shattered frame at the pure shrine of female love.

To these causes may be traced much of that domestic unhappiness we daily see, and many of the serious diseases under which we suffer from one generation to another; therefore, reader, if you be still unmarried, let us beg of you, well to ponder on these *truths—truths*, which if you neglect now, may at some future time *painfully* and *vividly* be *recalled* in *your own families.*

Our attention for many years past has been exclusively directed to the treatment of syphilitic diseases, loss of sexual power, and such complaints as arise more immediately from a disorganization of the generative system, whether constitutional or acquired; and we now point out to suffering humanity the SILENT FRIEND, as a medical adviser, to be consulted with assured confidence of success.

R. & L. PERRY & Co.

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THE

SILENT FRIEND,

ON

ONANISM

AND

GENERATIVE INCAPACITY, &c. &c.

ONANISM is a practice denounced in various parts of the sacred writings, and is recorded in the 38th chapter of Genesis, as the crime of ONAN, the son of Judah, with a view, no doubt, of transmitting to posterity his chastisement. In scripture, besides the instance of Onan, we find self-polluters termed 'effeminate,' 'filthy,' and 'abominable.'

Of all the varied causes by which diseases of debility and nervous relaxation are solicited and maintained, none are more common than too great evacuations of any character, and certainly of all evacuations, that of the semen is most to be feared, when carried beyond the period of natural excitement: and it forms a very interesting feature in this investigation, but experience attests the fact, that though an unguarded excess in sexual energy may be the fruitful parent of numerous derangements, yet the fact stands on the basis of physical experience, that an equal loss of semen by self-pollution is far more productive of dis-

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ease, and still more to be dreaded in its final developement, than regular intercourse.

From a knowledge of these circumstances, it appears evident, that those individuals who suffer themselves to be governed by passion rather than reason, and whose vivid imagination propels them into sensual habits earlier than Nature destined, anticipate the ability of manhood ere vigour has established her empire; thus demolishing the delicate groundwork of physical energy, and soliciting a manhood of disgraceful imbecility. This maniacal act of delusion not only abridges the system of its salutary and essential support, but also obstructs the power of seminal excitement; and, by stimulating the organs to transient vigour, brings, ere middle life breaks on the summer of manhood, all the sensitive infirmities and foibles of age; producing, in its impetuous current, such an assemblage of morbid irritation, that even on trivial occasions its excitement is of so high and inflammable a character, and its endurance beyond the power of reason to sustain: and when the lucid interval breaks through the dark clouds, what is the retrospection? what lights upon the mind's eye?—all that is at antipodes with every honourable and honest feeling! because the more that reflection consolidates itself on this surreptitious act, the more derogatory to every thing manly appears this singular and extraordinary deviation from correct deportment.

By the repeated excitements of this act, the constitution is left in a deplorable state of health, and that nervous mentality kept up which places the individual in a state of anxiety for the remainder of life,—a kind

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of contingency, which it is difficult for language adequately to describe: he vegetates, but lives not: hence the consequences arising out of the ashes of this dangerous Phœnix are not confined to its pure physical result, but branch to moral ones, leading the excited deviating mind into a fertile field of seductive error—into a gradual and fatal degradation of manhood—into a pernicious and disgraceful application of those inherent rights which nature wisely instituted for the preservation of her species. When once this destructive practice is established, down falls the barrier of intellectual controul; for the mind, that changling of social cultivated man, by a singular adjunction, becomes not the corrector, but the exciter and co-operator in defiance of culture, moral feeling, moral obligation, and religious sensibility: thus the man, who, in the attitude of youth and genius was endowed with gaiety and sociality, becomes, ere twenty-five summers shed their lustre on him, a misanthrope, and a nadir-point of discontent! What moral region does that man live in? what moral feeling does he cherish, that would not unite all the energies of his nature to stem the torrent of so fatal a cataract? Is it nothing to give license and tacit approbation to a weakness and predilection that break through all the barriers of nature, and give to the individual a callous insensibility, foreign to the native texture of his heart, by darkening all the brilliant and enthusiastic prospects of the future? Is it nothing to surrender up all the refined and manly enjoyments of social and conjugal intercourse, and substitute in their places a deep and barren misery? Is it nothing to light the solemn torch

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that guides, by slow and melancholy steps, to the sepulchre of manhood, in the gay and fascinating spring of youth and ardent desire; when the brilliant fire of passion, genius, and sentiment, ought to electrify the whole frame? Is it nothing to raise a host of sensations, all hostile to the natural ardency of youthful passions?

To begin the career of manhood by the abuse of Nature's functions, and that at a moment when the system has not completed its organization, and abounds with energy and passion, appears contrary to all the rules of health and happiness: exclusively absorbed by this principle, all the powers of mind and system are wasted in delusive illusions, and an age of care and anxiety follows; for as it keeps the individual in a state of perpetual effervescence, it is the worst of all delusions; and, under the varied forms of its peculiar excitement, it produces morbid sensibility, erratic imagination, and their consequent results—hypochondriasm, hysteria, indigestion, &c.—which, on their first approach, are considered of too slight a character to merit attention: and thus day succeeds day, till the whole system is environed with relative or positive disease. That the dangerous consequences of those delusive acts are not early felt, does not prove they never will: and if, in some iron constitutions, its future results produce no physical consequences, it still leaves upon the mind a painful impression, and produces doubt, anxiety, and a dissatisfied future: in fact, it has no counterbalancing advantage, no redeeming quality; it is equally against physical and moral purity; and, however modified by strength of constitution or mind, ought not to be regarded with

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indifference: it is a catastrophe too fertile, indeed, to be looked upon with indifference; and we hesitate not to say, that, in its mischievous progress, it is the herald of every baneful vice: and when the individual, overwhelmed with disgrace, contempt, and odium, can no longer sustain the excitement, the mind, revolting against an existence that assimilates to it nothing but unhappy aberrations, seeks peace from its errors in *suicide*: it gradually diminishes the sensibility of the organs; and generally produces emaciation, which ends either in *tabes* or *atrophy*, for this act sooner or later weakens the powers of digestion: the bile, the gastric and pancreatic juices, all become vitiated. In some habits, a few weeks' indulgence in this infatuated propensity will induce these diseases, either by sympathy or connection; and where a predisposition to insanity exists, that derangement follows: it not only occasions impotency, by producing a paralysis of the muscles concerned in sexual energy, but it here destroys the excitement itself.

An act so outrageously at variance with all the established laws of the animal economy, cannot, with any reference to moral conduct, be at all countenanced: feeling and principle are equally uniform against it. Hence it is a bandage against social, moral, and scientific harmony; and every stimulus should be produced that is likely to contend with and overcome the folly of this hostile excitement; as nature, principle, and every correct feeling are hostile to this fearful practice. In its rolling demonology, it allures gradually from one stage of degradation to another; and the painful impression

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it leaves on the mind stimulates on the individual through all the excitements of unmanly pusillanimity.

It is an abandonment of the essential position that he should occupy in society: look at it, indeed, under any aspect, and the plainest facts demonstrate its pernicious tendency. Appeal to nature; ask her the character of this horrid act; and in the pure, calm, reflecting language of simplicity and truth, she replies, that the deed is only in unison with every thing that is injurious to physical, intellectual, and moral operation; draining the constitution of its vigour and vitality, and of every manly and virtuous feeling! It is a vampire, feeding on the vitals of its victims: it renders them for ever ambiguous beings, in the scale of manhood: they present the complex idea of animal energy, without the corresponding reaction of animal vitality.

By this practice a constant irritation is kept up in the system, which, by its perpetual influence, renders the delicate fibres of those organs callous to the act of coition: for, by its repetition, the organs of these parts are so familiarized to the dictates of the imagination, that they are more readily excited into action by this morbid and vitiated influence than by the effect of their natural stimuli; and produce that debility which must ever result from excessive action, and that general weakness which is the morbid consequence of power exerted beyond its natural limits. Thus the foundation of an aversion to Paphian pleasures is laid, and nocturnal emissions follow. Some slight local irritation of the parts agitates the first link of that chain of ideas which has been artifi-

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cially associated with the action of these organs; uninterrupted by external impressions, the chain continues; and the organs, undisturbed, continue to perform their functions in compliance to this excitement. These repetitions are more than the natural stimuli can bear, and appear to produce that insensibility to erection in the male which lays the foundation of impotency, and which produces in the female an aversion to sexual intercourse: the mind, by becoming interested in the performance of this act, grows debilitated; and silently tortured by the bitterest agonies of remorse, produces a general lassitude of the nervous action, in which the whole system participates, but more particularly the organs of reproduction: for such is the sympathy of these parts to the act of impression, that all the physical and moral sensibilities are directed to them, as to one common focus. A stronger illustration of this fact cannot be met with than in Dr. Darwin's Zoönomia, where, treating of that hallucination of mind produced by the predominance of one particular impression, he mentions the circumstance of a man who shot himself, leaving upon the table a slip of paper containing these words only, 'I am impotent, and not fit to live.'

Returning to the immediate object of our investigation, let us inquire, in the first place, if there is no moral turpitude attached to an act that counteracts the end for which we were designed? secondly, has the constant repetition of this act no effect on the animal mechanism? thirdly, will not the seminal vessels, by being emptied too often, fill with greater abundance but less vigour? Agreeably to the laws of the animal

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economy, as this elaborate secretion becomes very great, all the rest of the secretions must be impoverished; which effect confines its operation not to muscular energy alone, but also to the intellectual one. Galen says, "that every pore is full of semen, with those who refrain from sexual intercourse; that it has excellent virtues, and very speedily communicates some of its power and energy to all parts of the body." "Nature," says an eloquent writer, "has given us hunger for the preservation of the individual, and lust for the support of the species:" reasonable creatures correct these incentives, and make them conducive to the purposes of friendship and society, by placing over them moral sentiment and superior intellect. In fact, this practice not only fatigues the body, but the mind also, and that at a period when it is full of genius and wild sensibility: even at that moment when the passions are developing themselves into the zenith of their bloom and the energy of their action, this spreads through the whole fabric, uniting itself with the mind, and rendering the individual unqualified for the necessary avocations of social life: reducing him to a state of childish imbecility and premature decrepitude, and bringing on all the habitudes of premature age, ere the middle of life: he carries with him the form and aspect of other men, but without the vigour and energy of that season which his early youth bade him hope to attain. Buffon observes: "How many men cease to be men; or, at least, cease to enjoy manhood, at thirty? How many at eighteen receive the impression of the seeds of a disgraceful discase itself, which it is impossible

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afterwards to eradicate?" For an abuse of sexual impulse powerfully accelerates old age; and unfortunately, as the season of life advances, to its imbecility is added all the errors that approximate to youthful sensuality: thus the desire of venery is either transient, or totally annihilated, producing a debility little short of death. In the generative system, it forces and weakens the vessels of these organs to such a baneful extent, that when the gay luxuriance of youthful passions prompts to the lively intercourse of sexual bliss, they feel, they burn, with all the ardour of those endearing blandishments, yet want the energy necessary for their gratification.

Many individuals scarcely turned of forty years of age, and sometimes even earlier, who have lived rather freely, are not unfrequently, about that period, greatly altered in their powers of sexual intercourse. They may, indeed, in general health, be stout, and, for several years, not very sensible of their powers degenerating, but the frequency of their inclination for such duties, gradually becomes much less, and that symptom is at all times portentous of approaching impotence; for the inclination gradually and entirely ceasing, the power soon follows. In others, about the same time of life, the physical power ceases first, (which occasions a most farcical catastrophe,) and the inclination continuing, often for many years after, they are obliged to gratify themselves in amusements which are the mere *pantomime of amorous indulgences!*—such individuals, otherwise in tolerable health, are recoverable.

From actual observation, we are convinced, that all

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these different states owe their origin, and even their immediate existence, to nearly the same cause, and may, in almost every instance, be removed by nearly similar treatment.

Hippocrates, the most ancient and just observer, has already described the ills that are occasioned by self-abuse, under the title of *Tabes dorsalis:* "This disorder arises from the spinal marrow; and those of a lascivious disposition are afflicted with it. They have no fever, and though they eat well they fall away and become consumptive. They feel as if a sting or stitch descended from the head along the spinal marrow. Every time they go to stool, or have occasion to urine, they shed a great quantity of thin seminal liquor. They are incapable of procreation, and they frequently dream of the act of coition. Walking, particularly in rugged paths, puts them out of breath and weakens them; occasioning a heaviness in the head and noise in the ears, which are succeeded by a violent fever, (lypiria,) that terminates their days." There can be nothing more dreadful than the picture which Aetius has left us of the ills that are produced by too great a discharge of the semen. "Young people," says he, "have the air and appearance of old age; they become pale, effeminate, benumbed, lazy, base, stupid, and even imbecile; their bodies become bent, their legs are no longer able to carry them; they have an utter distaste for every thing, are totally incapacitated, and many become paralytic." "The stomach is disordered," says Aetius, "all the body is weakened; paleness, bodily decay, and emaciation succeed, and the eyes sink into the head." These

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testimonies of the most respectable ancients, are confirmed by innumerable modern writers. Sanctorius, who has examined with the greatest attention all the causes which actuate our bodies, has observed that it weakens the stomach, destroys digestion, obstructs that insensible perspiration, the irregularity of which produces the most fatal consequences, occasions the liver and reins to be over-heated, gives a disposition for the stone in the kidneys, diminishes the natural heat, and usually occasions the loss of, or at least weakens, the sight. Lommius, in his beautiful commentaries upon the passages of Celsus which we have quoted, supports the testimony of this author, with his own just observations. "Frequent emissions of the seed relax, dry up, weaken, enervate, and produce a crowd of evils; apoplexies, lethargies, epilepsies, faintings, the loss of sight, tremors, palsy, spasms, and every species of the most racking gout."

The description which Tulpius, that celebrated physician of Amsterdam, has left us, cannot be read without horror. "The spinal marrow does not only waste, but the body and mind both equally languish, and the man perishes a miserable victim. Samuel Verspretius was seized with a flux of humour extremely sharp, which immediately affected the hind part of the head and nape of the neck; from thence it communicated to the spinal marrow, the loins, the buttocks, and the thigh; which made this unfortunate man suffer such excruciating pain, that his countenance was entirely distorted, and he was seized with a slow fever, which by degrees consumed him, but not so fast as he desired; and he was in such a situation, that he frequently

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invoked death before it snatched him from his misery." "Nothing," says that renowned physician, De Louvain, "weakens the stomach and abridges life so soon." Blanchard has been an eye-witness to a simple gonorrhœa, to consumptions, and dropsies, which have flowed from this source.

Too great a dissipation of the animal spirits weakens the stomach, destroys the appetite, and nutrition having no longer a place, the motion of the heart is weakened, all the parts languish, and an epilepsy succeeds. M. Hoffman has seen the most fatal accidents flow from a dissipation of the seed. "After frequent nocturnal pollutions," says he, "not only the powers are lost, the body falls away, and the face turns pale; but moreover, the memory fails, a cold sensation seizes the limbs, the sight is clouded and the voice becomes hoarse; all the body languishes by degrees; disturbing dreams prevent sleep administering any relief." In a consultation which was held for a young man, who among other ills which he had drawn upon himself by masturbation, was afflicted with a great weakness of sight, he says, "that he had seen several examples of people even in an advanced age, that is to say, after the body had attained its full vigour, who had not only brought on redness and acute pains in the eyes, but also such a weakness of sight that they could neither read nor write anything whatever." An account of the disorder which gave rise to this consultation, will doubtless be agreeable to the reader. "A young man at the age of fifteen, having given way to masturbation, and having frequently practised it till he was twenty-three, was, at that period seized with

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such a weakness in his head and eyes, that the latter were frequently afflicted with violent spasms at the time of his seminal emissions. When he wanted to read any thing, he was taken with such a kind of stupor as intoxication creates: the pupil was very much dilated, and he suffered exquisite pain in his eyes; the lids were very heavy, and shut themselves at night; he was constantly shedding tears; and a great quantity of whitish matter gathered in the two corners, which were very painful. Though he ate with pleasure, he was reduced almost to a skeleton, and as soon as he had done eating, he was in a kind of intoxication." The same author has communicated to us another observation, of which he was an eye-witness, and which we think should find a place here. "A young man, eighteen years of age, who had frequently practised self-pollution, was on a sudden seized with a weakness, and a general tremor in all his members; his face became red, and his pulse very weak. He was relieved from this state in an hour's time, but an incessant languor continued upon him. The fit frequently returned, and threw him into great agonies, which at the end of eight days, occasioned a contraction and tumour in the right arm, with a pain in the elbow, which was greatly increased with the fit." The disorder continued increasing for a long time, notwithstanding many remedies were prescribed: at length a cure was performed.

The eloquent Tissot also remarks, that "all the intellectual functions participate in this derangement: the memory loses its retentive power; the ideas are connected with no solidity; caprice rather than reflec-

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tion governs every action, and, in fact, partial insanity invades the whole system; while inward terror, restlessness, and constant anguish, are never absent from the hapless sufferer, if this state of system is long allowed to predominate." Most of such individuals become hypochondriacal or hysterical, with all the ills attendant on these tedious complaints: some are affected with coughs, slow fevers, and lingering consumptions: the most acute pains pervade different parts of the body; which frequently have been referred to imaginary sensibility, but which sensations, we contend, are actually present, and produce a change of organization equally as hostile to the mind as to the constitution, and which are called into action on the slightest impression. There are not only to be seen pimples on the face, which is a common symptom, but even blotches there, as well as on the nose, breast, and thighs; and, occasionally, fleshy excrescences arise on the forehead. Amid this mighty ravage of silent disease, the generative organs are also affected: the semen is evacuated on the slightest irritation, even on going to stool: numbers are affected with habitual gonorrhœa, which entirely destroys the energy and vigour of the constitution, the discharge assuming the appearance of that which flows from old ulcers in the legs: impotence more or less exists: the functions of the intestines are sometimes totally destroyed; and some individuals complain of costiveness, others of diarrhoea, piles, and a discharge of a fœtid mucus from the intestines; thus constituting a class of disease, calamitous indeed, which perhaps at its first approach may arise without producing any organic alteration, but ultimately assists in

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nourishing those changes that become combined with the affections produced. We are of opinion that they not only occasion impotency in the one sex, and sterility in the other, but that they lay the foundation of those tedious discharges which sometimes assume the character of seminal, and at other times of mucal, gleets.

The first object of medical treatment, in this state of things, is to endeavour to convince our patient of the impropriety of this act; which, if timely abandoned, requires only the remedies hereinafter enumerated. An idea may be formed of the importance of the seminal liquor, by observing the effects it produces as soon as it begins to be formed; the voice, the physiognomy, and the features of the face change; the beard grows, and the whole body often takes another appearance, because the muscles acquire a thickness and firmness, which form a sensible difference between the body of an adult person and that of a youth not yet arrived at the age of puberty; these changes are prevented by destroying that organ which serves to separate the liquor that produces it; and just observations evince that the amputation of the testicles, at the age of virility, has made the beard fall and a puerile voice return.

After this, can the power of its operation upon the body be questioned, or can any one doubt of the various ills that must necessarily flow from a profuse evacuation of a humour that is so precious? Its destination determines the only proper method of its being evacuated, certain distempers cause it sometimes to run off. It may be involuntarily lost in lascivious dreams.

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If the dangerous effects of the too abundant discharge of this humour depended only upon the *quantity*, or were the same when the quantities were equal, it would be of little importance, in a physical sense, whether this evacuation was occasioned by either of the methods mentioned; but the *manner* is in this respect equal to the substance. Too great a quantity of semen being lost in the natural course, produces very direful effects: but they are more dreadful, when the same quantity has been dissipated in an unnatural manner. The accidents which happen to such as waste themselves, in a natural way, are very terrible; those which are occasioned by masturbation are still more so.

Sanctorius furnishes us in his own Observations with the primary cause of this peculiar danger. "Moderate coition" says he "is useful when nature solicits for it; when it is solicited by the imagination, it weakens all the faculties, and particularly the memory." This is easily explained. Nature in a state of health, does not inspire desires; but when the *vesiculæ seminales* are replete with a quantity of liquor, which has acquired such a degree of thickness as to render its return into the mass of blood difficult; in these circumstances, when an evacuation follows, we may be assured that the body will not be thereby sensibly weakened. But such is the organization of the genital parts, that their action and the desires which succeed are put into play, not only by the presence of a superabundant seminal humour, but also the imagination having great influence upon these parts, it may, by being occupied with desires, put them into such a situation as serves reciprocally to excite them; and

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desire leads to the act, which is more pernicious in proportion as it is unnecessary. This organ of convenience is like all others, which are never properly actuated, but when nature stimulates them. Hunger and thirst indicate the want of food and drink; if a greater quantity of either is taken than these sensations require, the surplus prejudices and weakens the body. The necessity of going to stool and voiding urine, is signified by certain physical conditions; but a bad habit may so far pervert the constitution of the organs, that the necessity of these evacuations may no longer depend upon the quantity of matter to be evacuated. We subject ourselves to want without being in want; and such is the case of masturbators. It is imagination, habit, and not nature, that importune them. They drain nature of that which is necessary, and also of that which she herself would have taken care to dispose of. At length, in consequence of that law of animal economy, whereby humours are attracted by irritation, there is a continued conflux of humours upon these parts, and what Hippocrates formerly observed occurs, "when a man practises coition, the seminal vessels are dilated and attract the semen."

We shall range, under seven heads, the ills of which patients complain.

I.—Involuntary nocturnal emissions; pains in the back, and often in the head; formication of the spine; weakness of the memory and sight; and a mucous discharge from the urethra, especially after straining at the discharge of the excrements; an aching pain,

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rolling, and dependency of the testicles. The testicles being the secretory organs of the genital juice, are furnished with arteries, veins, lymphatics, and nerves, like other glands, and suspended by the cremaster muscle. When, therefore, from any cause, their texture is weakened, a pain will be felt, and this is increased by their hanging down, which is derived from that general relaxation of fibres that attends the whole body, the cremaster muscle in particular.

II.—All the intellectual faculties are weakened, loss of memory ensues, the ideas are clouded, the patients sometimes fall into a slight madness: they have an incessant irksome uneasiness, continued anguish, and so keen a remorse of conscience that they frequently shed tears. They are subject to vertigoes; all their senses, but particularly their sight and hearing, are weakened; their sleep, if they can obtain any, is disturbed with frightful dreams.

III.—The powers of their bodies decay, the growth of such as abandon themselves to these abominable practices before it is accomplished, is greatly prevented. Some cannot sleep at all; others are in a perpetual state of drowsiness. They are all affected with hysterical or hypochondriac complaints, and are overcome with the accidents that accompany those grievous disorders—melancholy, sighing, tears, palpitations, suffocations, and faintings. Some emit a calcarious saliva; coughs, slow fevers, and consumptions are chastisements which others meet with in their own crimes.

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IV.—The most acute pains form another object of patients' complaints; some are thus affected in their heads, others in their breast, stomach, and intestines; others have external rheumatic pains; aching numbness in parts of their body, when they are slightly pressed.

V.—Pimples not only appear in the face, (this is one of the most common symptoms,) but even real suppurating blisters upon the nose, the breast, and the thighs; and painful itchings in the same parts. One patient complained even of fleshy excrescences upon his forehead.

VI.—The organs of generation also participate in that misery of which they are the primary cause. Many patients are incapable of erection; others discharge their seminal liquor upon the slightest titilation and the most feeble erection, or in the efforts they make when at stool. Many are affected with a constant gonorrhœa, which entirely destroys their powers, and the discharge resembles fœtid matter or mucus. Others are tormented with painful priapisms, dysuriæ, stranguries, heat of urine, and a difficulty in rendering it, which greatly torments many patients. Some have painful tumours upon their testicles, penis, bladder, and spermatic cord. In a word, either the impracticability of coition, or a depravation of the genital liquor, renders every one imbecile who has for any length of time given way to this crime.

VII.—The functions of the intestines are sometimes

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quite disordered; and some patients complain of stubborn constipations; others of the hœmorrhoids, of a fœtid matter from the fundament.

The physiognomy, that faithful mirror of the state of soul and body, gives the first indications of the internal disorder. The complexion and plumpness, which jointly confer a youthful look, and which is the sole substitute of beauty (for without this even beauty produces no other effect than cold admiration,) this complexion and plumpness are the first things that disappear; then a leanness succeeds, and the skin becomes rough, and tinged of a lead colour; the eyes lose their brilliancy and deaden, and by their langour express that of the whole frame; (*see engraving*); the lips loose their



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vermillion hue, the teeth their whiteness; and in a word it is no uncommon thing for the whole body to receive such a shock as for the shape to be entirely distorted.

The increase of dangerous consequences flowing from masturbation, is too obvious to need comment; they are too sensible of it themselves, from the shocking remorse with which it is followed. When illness has opened the criminal's eyes, he sees his crimes and dangers, and feels

"The sting of pleasure which remorse succeeds.

When the mask is dropt, and the real picture of their conduct appears in its most hideous colours, they find themselves guilty of a crime, the punishment for which divine justice ordained nothing less than instant death!

These various consequences are so completely illustrated and embodied in the following case, that it would be wrong to omit quoting it:—

L. D. was by profession a watch maker; he had lived prudently and enjoyed a good state of health till he was about seventeen years of age. At this period he gave himself up to self-pollution, which he repeated every day, sometimes even to the third time, and the evacuation was always preceeded by a slight insensibility and a convulsive motion in the extending muscles of the head, which drew it very much back, whilst the neck was extremely swelled. A year had not yet elapsed before he began to feel a great weakness after every act. This notification was not sufficient to rescue him from his filthy practices—his soul

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already devoted to these odours was incapable of forming any other idea, and the repetition of his crime became every day more frequent, till such time as he was in a state to apprehend his death. Too late grown wise, the evil had already made so great a progress that he was incurable, and the genital parts were become so easily irritated and were so weak, that it was no longer necessary that this unhappy youth should be an agent in order to shed his own seed: the slightest irritation immediately procured an imperfect erection, which was followed by an evacuation of this liquor, which daily increased his weakness. The spasm, of which he was not before sensible but in consummating the act, and which ceased therewith, was now become habitual, and frequently attacked him without any apparent cause, in so violent a manner, that during the whole period of the fit, which sometimes lasted fifteen hours and never less than eight, he felt such violent pain in the hinder part of the neck, that he did not scream out but absolutely howled, and all this while it was impossible for him to swallow either solids or fluids. His voice was become hoarse, he entirely lost his strength and was obliged to give up his proffession, .being altogether incapacitated. Thus overwhelmed in misery, he languished almost without any assistance for some months, and was the more to be pitied, for what memory he had remaining, and which he was at length entirely bereft of, only served him to take an incessant retrospect of the cause of his misfortunes, which were increased by the aggravating horrors of remorse; he less resembled a living creature than a corpse; lying upon straw, meagre,

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pale, and filthy, casting forth an infectious stench, almost incapable of motion, a watery palish blood issued from the nose, his tongue was frightfully swelled, and saliva constantly flowed from his mouth. (*See engraving of the case,*) Having a diarrhœa, he voided his excrement in



the bed without knowing it, he had continued flux of semen, his sore watery eyes were deadened to that degree that he could not move them, his pulse was very small, quick, and frequent. It was with great difficulty he breathed, reduced almost to a skeleton in every part except his feet, which became dropsical; the disorder of his mind was equal to that of his body, devoid of ideas and memory, incapable of connecting two sentences without being afflicted at his fate, without any

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sensation than pain which returned with every fit, at least every third day:—far below the brute creation, he was a spectacle, the horrible sight of which cannot be conceived, and it was difficult to discover that he had formerly made part of the human species. He died at the end of a few weeks, his whole body having become dropsical.

All who give themselves up to this odious and criminal habit, are not so severely punished; but there are none who are not so more or less. The frequency of the pollution, the variety of temperaments, several circumstances independent of either, occasion considerable differences. The symptoms we have the most frequently witnessed, are a total derangement of the stomach, which in some announces itself by loss of appetite or by irregular appetite; in others acute pains, above all during the time of digestion, by habitual vomitings, which resist every remedy, so long as they continue their vicious habits. A weakness of the organs of respiration, whence frequently result dry coughs, almost always hoarseness, weakness of voice, shortness of breath upon making any short violent exertion. A total relaxation of the nervous system.

"I plainly feel," wrote one patient, "that this bad practice has diminished the strength of my faculties, and above all of the memory." Let us here be permitted to insert fragments of some letters, which united will form a sufficiently complete picture of the physical disorders, produced by masturbation. "I, like many other young persons (at the date of his letter, the patient was of a ripe age,) had the misfortune to

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give way to a habit as pernicious to the body as to the soul: age, assisted by reason, has for some time since cured me of that wretched penchant, but the evil is done. To an affection and extraordinary sensitiveness of the nervous system, and the accidents it occasions, are added a weakness, an uneasiness, an ennui, a distress of mind, which seems pertinaciously to adhere to me, I am worn out by an almost continual loss of semen; my countenance is become pale and almost cadaverous. The weakness of my body renders all motion a trouble to me; that of my legs is frequently such that I have great difficulty in keeping myself on my feet, and I dare not venture to leave my room. My digestion is so bad, that my food passes through me almost unchanged, three or four hours after taking it. My breast is loaded with phlegm, which keeps me in continual pain, and the expectoration wears me out. This is a brief description of my miseries, which are still more aggravated by the mournful certitude I have acquired, that each succeeding day will be more painful than the previous one; in a word, I don't believe that ever a human being was so afflicted as I am."

"Should Providence not afford me some special succour, I shall have much difficulty in supporting so heavy a load."

"Did not religion restrain me," says another, "I should already have put an end to a life so much the more cruel, as it is so by my own fault."

In fact, there is no situation in the world worse than that of mental affliction: pain is nothing in comparison with it, and when joined to a crowd of physical evils, it is not astonishing that the sufferer should wish for

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death, as the greatest blessing, and consider life,—if so wretched a state can be called life—as a real misfortune.

The following description is more brief and less terrible:—

"I had the misfortune to contract that pernicious habit, which soon ruined my temperament; but above all of late years, my state is truly pitiable: my nerves are extremely weak, my hands are always trembling, without power, and continually clammy with perspiration; I am subject to violent spasms in the stomach, pains in the arms, the legs, sometimes in the loins and breast, frequently to cough; my appetite is voracious, yet I fall away considerably, and my face every day becomes more cadaverous."

"Nature," has written a third, "discovered to me the cause of the debility I had fallen into, and the danger of the abyss where I was precipitating myself, both by the pimples and bladders which showed themselves in the part which was the instrument of my crime, and by the weakness I felt in the commission of the crime itself, and which did not permit me to doubt of its being the cause of it."

We might here add a great number of relations of similar diseases for which we have been consulted, but they would only be useless repetitions.

Nothing, perhaps, weakens the mind so much as these pernicious practices, which take possession of the whole mind and attention, and prevent its votaries from following their respective vocations, by engrossing their ideas, even when they should be employed in devotion or business; rendering them stupid, dull,

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and thoughtful, and destroying their vivacity, cheerfulness, and health; by bringing on consumption, weakness, barrenness, and all that dreadful train of complaints which make them timid, whimsical, and ridiculous. The mind is agitated with frightful ideas and horrid dreams, which ultimately render them fearful of being left alone for a few minutes. Surely such a train of miseries might be sufficient to deter young persons from entering into such courses! They should take time to consider, that every act of this kind strikes deep at the root of the constitution, inevitably hastens many alarming diseases, and brings on all the languishing infirmities of old age, and finally premature dissolution.

How imbecile then, must be their imagination, who seek for pleasure by delusive and deceitful means. True felicity and earthly happiness can never attend those whose faculties of mind and body are corrupted and buried in the vortex of imaginary enjoyment and desires. If those then, who labour under the mental infatuation of such poisonous principles, would only let reason resume its sway, and nature her prerogative, how sudden would be the transition from all *ideal* to real and substantial bliss? for if life's nature, in all its various forms, conditions and demands, becomes invalid, and the passions and sensibility of the frame corrupted, how can you possibly look for that attainment of reciprocal love and conjugal regard, when the basis is destroyed, and you yourselves have violated its organs and perverted its source and influence? But another all powerful claim hangs over you; a sacred debt, an awful responsibility and duty which

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you owe to your own inheritance, your forefathers, and above all to your Creator, who ordained you for the propagation of mankind, and that you should not destroy the powers bestowed upon you by following a destructive habit of so immoral a tendency, of so heart-rending a description, and of so degrading a condition.

Then let it be conjured that the victims of such deadly self-intemperance will no longer continue to dwell in the purgatory of such sin, but by self-castigation throw off the bitter infatuation, and by a persevering endeavour regain the blessings of mankind.

It it chiefly on the *youth* of both sexes that self-pollution commits most ravages. This is so much the more mischievous, and so much more to be deplored, as it thus strikes at the very root of society, and has a direct and immediate tendency to destroy it, by enervating and debilitating, almost from their very cradle, those individuals whom nature and nature's God intended as best adapted to preserve and adorn it. How many of these debilitated and emaciated objects do now daily present themselves to our view, with pallid and haggard countenances and eyes sunk, who are indebted solely to the abominable practice of masturbation for this wretched state of debility and exhaustion! Disabled from rendering any service either to themselves or friends, they drag a life totally useless to others and a burden to themselves, in the midst of society in which they are despised.

It were needless to expatiate more upon the dangers peculiar to masturbation; they are but too real, and too well demonstrated.

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Having now described the dreadful effects resulting from the practice of self-pollution, we shall now enter upon the

METHOD OF TREATMENT AND CURE;

and, in the first place must observe, that before any remedy can be administered with any prospect of success, the patient must determine on abstaining entirely from the practice of this heinous crime, this abominable sin, condemned by God and man; and here we may observe, that this in general is the most difficult point to get over, for when it is habitual it holds such a powerful sway over the mind, that the most determined mental energy is required to overcome this dreadful propensity.

Let Reason then resume her seat, and become a convert to chastity and honour, for the debility of nature can be completely reinstated by the celebrated

CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM,

which has restored strength and vigour to hundreds of debilitated individuals, of both sexes, deemed past recovery by professional men of the first eminence and respectability, and numbers of whom for the purpose of benefitting mankind, have come forward and personally attested upon oath, their wonderful release from acute pains, and speedy recovery from inveterate complaints; for its re-animating powers exceed almost credibility; its fine rich stimulating balsamic stomachic qualities; its purification of the blood; and,

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above all, its complete invigoration of the nervous system, whereby the whole faculties become restored to their proper power and functions, and the fallen fabric of life is raised up to beauty, consistency, and duration, upon the ruins of an emaciated and premature decay, to sound and pristine health.

In that part of our practice in particular where the Cordial Balm of Syriacum requires to be employed, it were unreasonable in us not to expect the most determined opposition, party spirit being exerted exactly in proportion to the good effects of any newly proposed remedy in cure of disease; and the proposer, together with the remedy, without giving either the opinions of the one, or the powers of the other, a fair trial, are often overpowered by that concentrated mass of stupidity and influence, through which the light of science can never penetrate. Their contracted views are calculated solely for the comfort and happiness of themselves, not, except in mere form, for the alleviation of that mass of human misery, which, while it perpetually surrounds us, calls aloud for our interference and relief.

Since our former publication appeared on the use of this wonderful medicine, we have had numerous opportunities, not only of confirming the doctrines there advanced, but of extending our views to a much greater extent than we ever expected. Our experience on that subject, is now not only general, but, on the principles we then hastily delivered, uniformly successful; and the numerous favourable communications, which we daily receive from every part of the United Kingdom, convince us, that in a much shorter time than

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important improvements in the practical part of our art commonly meet with public sanction, this practice will, when under proper regulations, at once become still more general, and more extensively successful.

No diseases, to which the human frame is liable, are treated more by stubborn, general, and hackneyed rules, than those of the generative system; and, excepting in their very mildest form, none seem to require nicer attention. This generalizing plan, or total neglect; sometimes on the part of the patient, sometimes on the part of the physician, and not unfrequently on the part of both, or even injudious treatment, which must solely be owing to the medical attendant, has often reduced an once healthy and robust constitution to the greatest possible degree of lingering misery. The various effects that urethral discharges have upon the animal frame, depend greatly on the influence they have on the mind: in some, nocturnal emissions lay the foundation of seminal weakness and gleet, and cases occur where the system having long laboured under the influence of nocturnal emissions, feels more powerfully than others all that nervous irritation which usually accompanies a profuse discharge of the semen; proving, beyond doubt, the existence of chronic debility: for what has little effect on one constitution, produces symptoms in another extremely harassing both to the body and mind; and thus a complex derangement arises, the combined result of a concatenation of events that may be traced, even to mathematical precision, to this debilitating cause: for we are led to infer that seminal weakness precedes this nervous derangement: and to us it is

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evident, that when nervous debility exists, the nocturnal emissions are increased; and the repetition of them unquestionably weakens the vital energy, and, after an indefinite period, predisposes the sensibility of the cerebral organ to morbid irritation: thus, from intercourse with the nerves, the general system is disturbed, and body and mind rendered susceptible to the caprice of that vicissitude of irritation whose universality of influence can only be described by those who have felt its agency: nor is the effect of this influence the offspring of a fervid or depressed imagination: on the contrary, a class of painful and distressing diseases are originated, which, in their progress, have a great effect on organization; and this morbid irritability more frequently attends on constitutions previously debilitated by venereal excesses, or, more frequently still, by the baneful habit of onanism, by which the parts are not only so weakened, but are also rendered so irritable, and so easily, from habit, excited by mental influences, that the slightest stimulus is sufficient to call them into action, and thereby produce a discharge of semen.

This disease arises from a spontaneous erection of the penis, and a discharge of semen unsolicited by the patient, who frequently is unconscious of it till awakened by the act of emission: this arises either from the plenitude of the vessels, or is the consequence of dreams. Of this act men are mostly unconscious, if however it arrest attention, its *frequency* and its *consequences* are the circumstances that rouse the proper and natural fears of the sufferer. Frequently occurring nocturnal emissions are a decided proof of debility,

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and the certain harbingers of approaching impotence. Our ample experience warrants the conclusion that the debility is more obviously confirmed, and absolute impotence more certainly follows in those instances where emissions occur pretty frequently, and on waking suddenly in the night, at the moment of the discharge. In many instances the sleep is not broken, and it is comparatively difficult to ascertain how often the evacuation occurs, the consequences of the loss of the seminal fluid are however sufficiently evident. Occurring more frequently than can be fairly ascribable to the distention of *healthy* vessels, the most energetic measures are instantly requisite to avert the identical mischief which would arise if the loss of the seminal secretion were solicited and voluntary. The only remedy, perhaps, of *real* efficacy, and from which, by *perseverance*, a permanent cure will be obtained, is "THE CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM," which is possessed of this admirable quality, in preference to any other ever yet discovered, that with little or no stimulus, it restores the tone of the system, in a manner incredible to those who have not observed its effects.

It is from a strong impression that no cure can be effected, that this disease has increased; and hence has arisen that melancholy train of diseases connected with general debility. With this prejudice is connected the fear of not being able to perform the grand function of nature; for, next to the necessaries connected with the preservation of the individual, the most imperious is that which is subservient to the propagation of our species; every one feeling proudly solicitous to exhibit proofs of his manly prowess, in

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this mysterious and most important act of the sex. This emission of semen is produced towards day-break, arising from a renewal of that general excitability which takes place during the first sleep: the interval between, rendering the system more susceptible of every new impression, and the debility of a sensitive mind favouring the impression, repetition succeeding repetition, the above-described association is further confirmed, and, of course, the difficulty of destroying the habit rendered more tedious and doubtful, while the power and desire of performing the natural functions are of course proportionally impaired. The mind encroaching upon the prerogatives of the natural stimuli, the organs of generation, either from a morbid rapidity of action, or from being long accustomed to obey the dictates of the imagination on the slightest irritation, are no longer capable of the excitement produced on a healthy subject by the opposite sex. As a disease of the mind, called into action by all the possible causes that produce physical and moral irritation, the first object is, to destroy the acquired association of ideas existing between the mental and organic action, and to prevent the mind from recurring to its former associations; else the stimulating power will exhaust its excitability to such a degree, as to bring on direct debility: for the exciting power being disturbed, the natural functions of the body gradually grow more and more languid. The constitution thus breaks, as it were, before the ravage of the disease, and thus exhibits a most hopeless state of exhaustion; all its powers become drained, all its energies evaporated; and the disease eventually riots upon a hapless imbecility, which no

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physical nor moral remedy can reach—an imbecility closely united to mania. But what the indescribable process is that precedes this mania, we have no actual theory to guide us: the immediate cause we cannot trace of this most afflicting but most obscure of all human maladies, as none but the miserable sufferer can describe the tension and pain of those hallucinations, morosities, and burning sensibilities, that, by a gradual but certain action, drive Reason from her throne: medical inquiry is alone confined to external symptoms, and, of course, possesses no means of following the inward progress of the disease. The existence of it is generally indicated by great debility, listlessness, want of resolution and activity, a great disposition to sadness, an idea of future evil, and a long train of similar sensations, which powerfully contribute to debilitate the general system: this effect is manifested by the body becoming feeble and meagre, the appetite voracious, the organs of generation so flaccid and enfeebled, that the slightest titillation produces erection, which is succeeded either by an emission of a portion of the natural mucus of the glands of the urethra, or a secretion of the prostrate gland and the vesiculæ seminales (but not of semen,) and a depression of spirits: these symptoms, by constant repetition, become very unpleasant during night. A constant discharge of a thin, clear, and slimy liquid, is at last produced; attended by that nervous irritability, which, in delicate constitutions, lays the foundation of more serious consequences, and, if persisted in, will reduce the patient to the last stage of a confirmed consumption.

The prominent character of seminal weakness is

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general, not *partial* debility; and is very frequently combined with a venereal affection, very often accompanies gleet, and may occasionally precede it. A seminal gleet is invariably attended by a weakness of the whole body, loss of appetite, and a heavy pain round the region of the bladder and the loins; the semen comes away insensibly on coughing, going to stool, and the slightest irritation of the penis, whose erection, though constant, is feeble, and ejects the semen easily, but without the force requisite for its expulsion in health; and this discharge is of a humid, thin, and bluish cast, slightly staining the linen.

We shall treat this disease as solely arising from the operation of Onanism; for here the secreting power of the testicles is too rapid for the penis, which, wanting a corresponding erection, scarcely participates in the act of emission; hence it follows, that the erection of that member depends more on the mind than on the secretion of semen.

It is in this stage we are to consider seminal weakness of a dangerous tendency; we generally find no particular affection of the organs of generation; the semen here flows from an involuntary action; while in the other two, the action of friction or titillation produces the discharge.

This malady is not a disease of health and repletion, but of ill health and depletion; a disease of exhaustion and direct debility, induced by a morbid action, producing too general an excitement of the animal machine. In the former stages, copulation is recommended, because Nature herself dictates it: but in this we have a different object to obtain; for here we

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have to supply a superabundant waste of the semen—we have to replete, not deplete; and however salutary sexual intercourse may be to a person in perfect health, here it must be used with considerable prudence. *Sexual ability in man* is a mysterious compound power, requiring a perfect association in the action of the secretory organ of the seminal secretion, and the instrument of its ejaculation and discharge. Any functional irregularity, or want of correspondency between the action of the testicles and penis, is therefore an unquestionable state of disease; for since both are so closely and intimately dependant on each other, the least want of exactness in their adaptation might be the cause of *Impotence.* Whatever be the mode in which this deviation from the healthy and natural action of the parts is first induced, it is not difficult to trace its inevitable effect in the production of *Seminal Debility* and the ultimate destruction of sexual power. Irritation, however engendered, rapidly propagates itself along the urethra, and chronic inflammation of the prostatic and most sensitive portion of that canal is rapidly established, and the muscles surrounding the membraneous division of the urinary passage are sympathetically affected with irregular spasm. The irritation extends itself by continuity of surface to the seminal vesicles, and even to the testicles, producing in the former unnatural evacuations, and in the latter an exaggerated thin secretion, too rapidly elaborated, and therefore for all the purposes of generation, worthless. Among individuals so affected, *the emission* (even on attempting intercourse with the sex,) *is too quickly discharged,* nocturnal pollutions are frequent,

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(indeed these are often the immediate precursors of seminal weakness,) or the semen is expelled during the evacuation of the bladder and bowels. With some there is more or less complete extinction of venereal desire, then the erections become few and feeble, incomplete, or absolutely impossible.

This condition of the sexual organs has its appropriate general character, analogous to those which are attributable to the wilful and determinate pollutions of earlier youth; the sufferer now perhaps too late, sensibly alive to the origin of his weakness, becomes timid, fearful, careless of the world around him, his mind absorbed in the consideration of his malady, until the continual presence and recurrence of the same train of painful thought involves him in the worst form of *monomania*, or rather the premature childishness of age. All the functions of the body languish, and are deranged, until a complete and general degradation sweeps with uncontrolled dominion over every power and faculty both of body and soul. *The seminal fluid may dribble away without pleasure, without erection, without the natural ejaculation*, and its loss, when occurring in this manner, gives rise to the same or infinitely greater evils than those which arise from mere sexual excess, or what is worse, from self-pollution. There have not been wanting some writers who have contended that not the semen, but only the mucus of the canal or the prostatic fluid, furnishes the discharge in these deplorable cases. But *we know* that this is far from being a correct view of the pathology of the disease. Mere chronic inflammation, arising from common causes, may be accom-

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panied with simple mucus discharge; but *Seminal Weakness* is in the majority of instances the ultimate consequence of self-pollution, which in the first instance brings about that irritability *which evinces itself in nocturnal discharges; and subsequently in complete debility of the whole generative system.* The seminal fluid, such indeed as it is, weak, thin, effete, and devoid of all fructifying agency, is undoubtedly the fluid which the organs suffer to escape, and to prevent its further flow, as well as to give healthy tone to the secretory and retentive vessels, ought to form our first care. The shock to the nervous system, its repeated excitation and disturbance, is not the only avenue to disease and powerless prostration consequent upon loss of the seminal secretion. For where the debility is great, and the dribbling loss of thin semen, draining involuntarily from irritable vessels, occurs daily, there is progressive weakness not referrible to mere orgasm or voluptuous excitement. Self-pollution is a very general source of this distressing malady. Few constitutions are capable of bearing the loss of this fluid in excess, even in a natural manner, without the probability of inducing the same kind of debility; but when recourse is had to such preternatural excitement, dismal is the train of suffering which surely follows. In the early stage of seminal weakness, different persons are variously affected; some are incapable of procuring a discharge of semen into the cavity of the female genitals in a natural way, though they may effect temporary erection; whilst others cannot perform the act of copulation from emission taking place too quickly, and before the

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requisite firmness of the male organ has enabled it to effect the requisite penetration.

Then let no illusion force your thoughts and inclinations contrary to their natural dictates: for if by self-exterminating power you annihilate the grace bestowed upon you from above, in vain shall you seek to partake of that ethereal abode prepared for those who leave the path of error for righteousness and life. But if this malady is still pursued, (to the certain destruction of its disciples), celibacy should for ever separate those who have rendered themselves unfit to be united in the bands of affection and the ties of nature; for in the holy state of matrimony—where you are called upon, as you shall answer for it at the dreadful day of judgment, if you know "any impediment," &c., &c.,—what impediment can equal that of self-insufficiency or impotency? Perjury here arises; and the unhappy partner of your fate, whom you swear to love and cherish, becomes linked to unfruitfulness, disappointment, and contempt: the bright dawn of hope becomes obscured; discontent, jarring, and reproaches invade the heart: and what should be a life of joy becomes a life of pain; for without the fond endearments of wedded life, vainly may you hope to number your years by a reciprocity of regard, feeling and sensibility.

Conceive the situation of a youth so unhappily situated, when circumstances lead him to the formation of a matrimonial connexion, and he is called upon to exchange his habit of filthy propensities for the pure enjoyments of the nuptial couch! In this case, how forlorn is the situation of both individuals.

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The husband perhaps experiencing an excitation of a new but extremely powerful description, essays to fulfil the chief end of his union. His passions are inflamed to the highest degree; every faculty appears alive to a sensation of exquisite rapture; but alas! at the moment when he is about to unloose the virgin zone of his expecting bride, a spontaneous emission takes place, the excitement retires, all the lively emotions prematurely decay, and the animal functions suddenly become palsied, and utterly incompetent to fulfil the end to which they were excited.

The nuptial bed, instead of teeming with a hallowed, extatic, and undefinable delight, is converted into a scene of blended mortification, disappointment, and suppressed anger; and it is now that the mistaken bride is first penetrated with those suspicions, which are too soon corroborated by subsequent experience; and if, under such circumstances, the unfortunate female falls a prey to some artful seducer, her offence is not altogether without a justification, and the injured husband may accuse himself as the cause of her unhappy deviation.

In some instances the power of the male genitals is not altogether destroyed, nay, impregnation may occur in a healthy female, from the laborious embraces of one whose constitutional vigour is almost entirely destroyed. But the offspring—can it be rationally expected that the child of such a father should be otherwise than puny, feeble, and predisposed to those diseases which under the most favourable circumstances destroy so large a proportion of children.

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Instances of this deplorable description come too frequently under the eyes of medical men: sometimes the infant dies before the birth; at others, it expires immediately on entering the world.

It therefore follows that there are and may be varieties of seminal weakness, which though not absolutely precluding the performance of the sexual act, may render that act unfruitful, or terminate in the production of progeny to whom a sickly short-lived existence is rather a curse than a blessing.

Although seminal weakness and gleet are sometimes to be found existing, in one person, at the same time, yet they are not necessarily connected with each other, as we have often found them separately. When they do exist together, one of the most obstinate forms of gleet is that which arises from such a state of the parts; for the individual being conscious of moral turpitude, and at the same time allured by this singular gratification, perseveres in his bad practices, and conceals long the malady which entirely deranges the action of the seminal vessels, gradually exhausts his frame, and destroys every mental faculty; till at length the interference of relations and friends, who are alarmed at the progress of emaciation and decay, his own intolerable weakness and dread of death, induce him to apply for medical advice.

This state of disease may sometimes be the combined effect of self-pollution and venereal infection, although such a state may arise from the long continued debilitating effects of mercury.

We also know that the habit of self-pollution, indu-

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ces such a distressing state of the organs of generation, that titillation of the parts, the slightest exertion, or even the operations of the mind, cause a copious involuntary discharge; and the same may be said of excess of venery, however pure the connexion.

While there are perhaps no complaints to which the human body is liable, so tedious of cure, it is fortunate that the principal medicine by which they are removable, can, under proper regulations, be taken to *any extent*, or for *any length of time*, and even then with the most beneficial effects. No instance, indeed, of such complaints, has yet come under our observation, which has not, by patient perseverance, been completely and permanently removed.

The Cordial Balm of Syriacum differs from every other Medicine with which we are acquainted, in respect to the length of time it can be used. All other medicines lose their effects by use, and, if we expect benefit from them, they must be increased, in proportion to the time they are used, while they at length assist, in a greater or less degree, in injuring the constitution of the person who employs them. The Cordial Balm of Syriacum, on the contrary, the longer we employ it, the more it improves every faculty, both of body and mind; while instead of increasing the doses, which is indispensable in all other medicines, we are obliged to continue the last dose in exact proportion to the first, while it produces equally and frequently more powerful effects on the general system; thus, even were it found advisable to use medicine during the remainder of life, a circumstance we never yet met with, it

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can produce no bad effects, and would certainly be much less troublesome than the presence of the complaint for the removal of which it was employed.

We have lately met with various cases, where the patients, although they applied to us, scarcely entertained a hope of relief, their misery was so immovably fixed—that no argument could convince them of their progressive cure, till the complete re-establishment of their health left them no room to doubt.

Many females are generally or partially affected with fluor albus or whites; even a partial flow of this discharge weakens the genital system, but especially in those of a weakly habit: and wherever a languid condition of the body follows after any peculiar disease, it is commonly accompanied by this discharge. An early attention to these symptoms is of the most essential consequence, and it is frequently removed without much injury; but if permitted to exhaust itself, (a favourite mode with some;) if then, the disease do not increase, it at least exhausts the animal spirits, and produces general debility and protracted lassitude; causing heat of urine, now and then ulcers, great pain in the back and joints, a pale and sickly colour in the face, indigestion, swelling of the legs, extreme irregularity in the menstrual discharge: and, if these symptoms yield not to the remedies applied, the patient gradually sinks into a hectic decline, attended with universal lassitude, till some chronic disease closes the melancholy scene. Some, indeed, have this discharge so very moderately at its first approach, and perhaps then only at intervals, that they are aware

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of no remarkable detriment for two or three years, and pay no attention to it—considering it a mere nothing: too many, however, have suffered from this mere nothing; for it is to be borne in recollection, that during all this period the disease is gaining strength; and, unless its progress be stopped, will of course increase.

Though the disease in its primary stage is neither dangerous nor difficult, unless accompanied with other diseases, yet even in that simple state it may cause incurable sterility: and though the discharge is often at its commencement so mild as to excite little suspicion of its ulterior consequences, yet by its continuance, it soon acquires an acrid and irritating principle, rendering the parts susceptible even to the passing of the water; which so erodes the tender surface over which it passes, as not only to induce very unpleasing sensations, but lay the foundation of such various disorders, as to render the best efforts of science abortive in attempting their removal, and the noblest functions of nature useless: for in some patients, though the effects produced on the whole body may apparently be slight, yet we are decidedly of opinion it may very much debilitate the organs of reproduction; so much so, that we have been led to believe that the continuance of this discharge has produced not only barrenness, but even a complete aversion to sexual intercourse. This discharge follows no certain rule with regard to time or duration. The disposition the uterus and vagina have to these discharges, are not only very numerous, but unaccountable

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to the wisest of us. Its continuance will always be influenced by the habit of body and constitution of the patient: and again, we must always bear in recollection, that during the continuance of this discharge, sterility frequently exists; for while the uterus labours under debility, the power of conception and retention is lost. All diseases are liable to a recurrence, and none more than the one under consideration, therefore, its return must be prevented, by an active and regular course of the CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM.

IMPOTENCY

May arise from a deficiency of vital heat, a weakness of the solids, profuse venery, ill cured claps, gleets of long continuance, &c., &c., but the most frequent cause of impotency, at that period of existence when man should be in the zenith of his procreative power, is in a general weakness of the generative organs, induced by too early an indulgence in coition, the pernicious and demoralizing crime of masturbation, or the abuse of venereal pleasures. In these cases, erection will not take place, or but feebly, although the mind be highly excited hy lascivious ideas. The erector muscles are paralysed from over-use, and the semen if any is secreted, from the lax and withered state of the testes, is clear, serous, without consistence, and consequently deficient of prolific virtue. Sometimes there is a want of consent between the immediate and secondary organs of generation; thus, the penis acts without the testicles,

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and becomes erected where there is no semen to be evacuated; while the testicles secrete too quickly, and an evacuation takes place without any erection of the penis.

Impotency is sometimes occasioned by particular diseases during their continuance, such as nervous and malignant fevers; while, strange to relate, an opposite effect is sometimes produced by other diseases, such as gout and rheumatism, hœmorrhoids, &c.; and instances are on record, that others produce such a change in the constitution that an impotent man may find himself cured of his impotency on their cessation.

Copulation should never be an act of effort: we have known many serious results arise from a fruitless perseverance in an attempt *in coitu;* and it is not long since, that at an inquest holden upon an aged person, it was given in evidence that the deceased fell a victim at the shrine of his own presumption. Where there exists an inaptitude, and that probably a temporary one, it is better at once to desist, and await a happier season.

As excess in sexual indulgences impairs the generative power, no less injurious may be considered entire abstinence. The due exercise of an organ tends to its perfection, as the neglect or misuse of it, to its impairment. Besides, there is not any wonderful virtue in abstaining from the proper use of the sexes. Why, in the name of morality, were such powerful impulses and desires bestowed upon us? Why were such wonderful organizations given to us?—if they were not originally designed to be used by every one who is possessed of

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them? Society, in its present form, is not perhaps constructed with a philosophical regard to our own natural instincts, and our own original rights.

Impotence in the male, may arise then from a wide diversity of conditions. Incapacity of erection, generally referrible to self-pollution;—Impotence arising from a want of power of retention in the seminal vessels, induced by a morbid susceptibility of those vessels, and brought about in like manner by a persistance in the same vicious practice;—Impotence from inability of retention resulting from repletion of these vessels;—Impotence from mental influences. Exclusive of this, the generative infirmity under consideration, though occasionally arising from simple disease, is ascribable in by far the greater majority of instances to the delusive and mentally annihilating propensity of Onanism.

Next to *Self-pollution*, excessive venery is a frequent cause of Impotency, as well as of sterility among the male sex. This is a frequent cause of want of offspring in young married persons. In these cases the semen may escape without the aid of the ejaculatory muscles, is imperfect in quality, devoid of power until the health is improved, or if impregnation ensue, the child undoubtedly partakes of the debility of the parent, soon to be consigned to a premature grave, the victim of that *nameless atrophy*, or wasting decay, which hurries thousands of infants annually to the tomb. In these cases, the male parent generally suffers from inflammation of the seminal vesicles, or there is seminal weakness with more or less involuntary discharge.

Impotent persons are permanently cured by the

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use of the CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM, with the assistance of cold bathing, which strengthens the constitution, invigorates the general health, and favours the reproduction of the semen.

In one of the novels of Kotzebue, there is a remark to the following effect:—"That Nature in the union of the sexes, having the multiplication of the species in view as her principal object, never fails, whenever an opportunity occurs, to urge them on to the accomplishment of that object." Be this as it may, it was the positive command of Heaven, that Man and Woman should go forth, after the fall, to multiply and people the earth; and the proper means for that desirable end were given to them before the command. But the All-wise did not stay here: aware that something more was requisite to induce man to render obedience even to his Creator than a simple command, with a view to enforce obedience to the decree, he connected *ecstacy* with *obedience*, thus subduing, by the spell of pleasure, that natural disinclination to bend, even to the will of Providence, which exists, even to this moment, in the depraved mind of man.

> "Our Maker bids increase; who bids abstain
> "But our destroyer, foe to God and man?
>
> MILTON, Book iv.

The penalty of disobedience to this command is the loss of that ecstatic enjoyment; a penalty so heavy, that few are disposed to incur it. Nature has implanted in us a powerful disposition to perform the duty, rather than to hazard the total loss of the delight with

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which it is accompanied; and every feeling of the human heart revolts from the surrender of that moral obligation enforced by Heaven, and the relinquishment of which must inevitably lead to a deprivation of so considerable a portion of the enjoyment of life.

Sterility, or barrenness, was of old recorded among the curses with which the Almighty punished tribes, families, and individuals; and although, in this advanced age of society, the curse may appear somewhat qualified in a religious sense, yet, that it is a real curse is evident from the discontents, anxieties, and even discords, which accompany it in the married state. There is nothing which seems to console us so effectually, that we must quit this brief and chequered state of being, as the prospect of perpetuating our professions, names, and, in some degree, even our lineaments. We seem thus to triumph over oblivion; to possess a strong guarantee that we shall, although in our own transitory forms resolved into common dust, still survive in those images which have sprung from our bodies, and partake not inconsiderably of our character, likeness, and disposition. As we approach the confines of the grave, we feel a greater necessity for some reliance of this sort. The mind, in its increasing imbecility, as it loses sight of life, loves to cling more closely to the progeny in which it is to revive and continue the scenes of existence. Then it is that the curse of sterility is felt in its full force, when the desolate and infirm wanderer is tottering over the tomb, and discovers that there will be left behind no memorial of name and being—then is the full affliction of a childless parent found in the dread of an oblivion never to be broken.

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On marriage, the wife relies on the hope of children, to relieve the many tedious hours caused by the necessary absence of her husband. In their presence she looks for an ample relief from the gloom of loneliness; for those endearing companions, who, in maturer life, may in some measure, become the substitutes of her husband, and, in the event of the marriage tie being separated by death, who may become the solace and support of widowhood. In proportion as the female disposition has been habituated to dwell on these anticipations, must be the regret and sorrow which will ensue from a disappointment of hope. She cannot look for relief in those active employments, which, for many years, may blunt the disappointment in the husband. The only remedy she can find will be in the resources of her own mind; and the character and extent of these resources depend mainly on the education and examples of her early life.

The causes of sterility in woman are numerous.—One of the most frequent, however, is the existence of the malady called leucorrhœa, or whites. Barrenness is also very often caused by a retention, irregularity, or profusion of the menstrual secretion, thereby giving rise to the diseases known by the names of chlorosis, or green sickness, amenorrhœa, or obstructed menstruation, menorrhagia, or excessive menstruation and flooding. It may also proceed from a natural frigidity of temperament or from aversion, reserve, or indifference, instead of an appetency and pleasure, in short from an irrespondence in the feelings of the female to those of the male.

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How much domestic unhappiness is hence induced. What scenes of dissension, sorrow and remorse, do we not find to result from this indifference. How fruitful a source is it of unfaitfulness to the marriage bed. And when it is accompanied by sterility on the part of the female, what reproaches, and even disgust does it not give rise to,—converting love to hatred,—making the nuptial couch a bed of thorns, instead of roses,—marriage a curse rather than a blessing.

We are, indeed, aware, that by many men of high attainment in the less enlightened period of medical information, *relief* has been deemed impracticable. But we are also perfectly aware of the possibility of a *cure; and that even where the disease of sterility* appears to have taken the firmest hold of the female constitution, assistance can be given to the suffering patient, not through the application of transitory *stimulants*, to the destruction of all constitutional vigour, and ultimately of life; nor yet by speculative remedies, which, by changing the symptoms and appearance of disease, may induce hope, and lead to ardent expectations—only to destroy them. But simply by the softening tonic and prolific qualities of the CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM, which will warm and purify the blood and juices, increase the animal spirits, invigorate and revive the whole human machine, and remove the usual impediments to fertility.

Nature has assigned to females a class of diseases from which the other sex has been exempted, and no care or attention will enable woman entirely to escape from their influence. From the very character and construction of the female organs, there are peculiar

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crises in their lives when every solicitude is attracted to them. And we come now to speak of a most important period of female life, viz.: that period when the menstrual flow, by its gradual disappearance, warns the party of an eventual change. It is usually known as the *turn of life*, and takes place from about the 40th to the 45th year; though it is sometimes delayed longer.

The diseases that spring up at this time are numerous and formidable; and it behoves all women undergoing the change in question, to reflect seriously on their situation. Let them not suppose, that because many have passed through the turn of life with little difficulty, it is therefore to be neglected; for, though a safe conduct through it is ensured by the use of the CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM, yet, such is the fatal effect of neglect, that we are assured more women are carried off during the cessation of the menses, than at any other period of life.

At the time this fluctuating change is going on, the constitution should be most carefully regulated, for the menstrual vessels do not suddenly surrender their secretive power, but usually a distressing irregularity torments the patient, attended with internal pains, sometimes actual enlargement of the womb, which may be mistaken for pregnancy, &c.; indeed, many are the presumed disorders that the sufferer attaches to herself, often unwilling to allow the important truth; and, it is to be lamented that habitual dropsy is not unfrequently the penalty of concealment. Some are afflicted with the well-known symptoms of plethora, heat, flushings, restless nights, troublesome

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dreams, and unequal spirits; others are attacked with spasmodic affections, stiffness of the limbs, swelled ancles, piles, and other indications of plentitude. When the menstrual discharge is about to disappear, it becomes irregular both in *time*, *quantity*, and *quality;* sometimes sparing, sometimes profuse. Women, however, must be sensible of the peculiar influence this secretion has upon their frame, and we have only strenuously to advise them, as soon as any symptoms of constitutional derangement shall begin to display themselves, to commence a course of the CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM, which must be taken according to the general directions.

This medicine has been uncommonly successful with young people who have the appearance and air of old age; who are pale, effeminate, benumbed, stupid, and even imbecile; whose bodies are become bent, whose legs are no longer able to support them, who have an utter distaste for every thing, or are totally incapacitated for the performance of its natural functions. When the stomach is frequently disordered, the body is weakened; paleness, bodily decay, and emaciation succeed, and the eyes sink into the head. The virtues of the CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM, are daily demonstrated in eradicating the worst symptoms of nervous debility. Nothing has tended so much to establish the fame of this Medicine, as its certain success in those complaints which strike their roots so deep in the constitution, and are so fatal to the happiness of mankind.

As there may be some of our readers who may think the description given in this little work, of the gross enormity and terrific consequences of indulging

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in the vicious habit of self-pollution, has been exaggerated by us, we shall take the liberty of adducing a few passages from Holy Writ itself, in corroboration of the sentiments expressed by us. The validity of an appeal to such an authority is irrefragable and undeniable, inasmuch as its truth is above impeachment, and its purity above suspicion. Nor shall we allow ourselves to be deterred from appealing to such a tribunal by the sneer of the infidel. The object we have proposed to ourselves in the composition of this work, is, we trust, good; and every legitimate means which we can employ to enhance its value, and recommend its perusal to youth and adults we are determined to avail ourselves of. We all know that to different individuals, different species of proof bring different degrees of conviction: but in the present case, wherein we adduce, observed, established, and authenticated facts and results, and when we trace these facts and results by the process of analytical reasoning, and by the laws of induction to their causes, and when we make it manifest that such causes are adequate to produce such and such effects; when, in addition to all this human demonstration, we bring to our aid the word of God himself, who neither "can deceive nor be deceived," unwieldy and obdurate indeed must that man be, who can resist the combined force of such overwhelming authorities! We shall now without further apology, adduce our proofs from Scripture of the enormity of the sin of self-pollution.

St. Paul in his *Epistle to the Ephesians*, chap. v., v. 6, says—"Let no man deceive you with vain

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words; for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience." "Keep thyself pure," says the same apostle:—1 *Tim.* chap. v., v. 22. And again, "Unto the pure all things are pure; but unto them that are defiled, nothing is pure; but even their mind and their consciences are defiled." *St. Paul's first Epistle to the Thessalonians*, chap. iv., v. 3, 4, 5, and 7,—"For this is the will of God, even your sanctification that ye should abstain from fornication. That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour. Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles who know not God: for God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness." *Epistle to the Romans*, chap. xiii., v. 13.—"Not in chambering and wantonness." "Walk not," says he, "as other Gentiles walk, who being past feeling, have given themselves over to lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness."—*Ephesians* iv., 17, 19, chap. vi., v. 15. Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of an harlot? God forbid!" 1 *Cor.* chap. iii., v. 16.—"Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?" And in the same to the *Corinthians*, chap. iii., v. 17,—"If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy, for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are."

But if it was not revealed to us that God is highly offended at all manner of uncleanness, when we re-

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flect on the end of marriage in all countries, and in all societies, and the manner after which God has ordained that our species should be continued, natural religion and our own reason would instruct us, that to destroy that end must be very offensive to God; *that the crime in itself is monstrous and unnatural; in its practice filthy and odious to extremity; its guilt is crying, and its consequences ruinous; it destroys conjugal affection, prevents natural inclination, and tends to extinguish the hopes of posterity.*

In the foregoing pages, it has been proved that the hurt which either sex may receive from self-pollution, is corporeal as well as spiritual; because those who once committed this act have in a grievous manner offended God, and many of strong constitutions may for some time have been guilty of this sin, without any perceptible harm to their bodies, yet how to redress the spiritual injury received, shall be our first and chiefest care. There is no Christian who can be ignorant that no pardon can be obtained for this as well as other sins, without repentance in general; but many are apt to deceive themselves concerning the nature of repentance, as not well knowing in what it consists; wherefore it is requisite something should be said of the manner after which this duty ought to be performed, as well as the necessity of it.

The repentance of those who are polluted by this sin, should remain with them to their lives end. These are not sins which a man can forget, and the memory of them ought to be always fresh, that the penitent may

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truly say with David, "*My sins are ever before me.*" Not only the time that has passed since the commission of it, but even the amendment of life, does not take away the sense of so great a fault; but, on the contrary, he becomes more and more sensible of it. Even this thought, that the sinner has had the happiness to obtain the pardon of his guilt, will render the remembrance of it the more bitter; and the greater progress he makes in holiness, the more abominable will his wickedness appear. The greater experience he has had of God's goodness, the more he will accuse and loath himself; and the more hope he has of salvation through God's goodness, the more will he be affected with the danger of being excluded from it, to which he had exposed himself.

Another great duty that belongs to repentance, is conversion and amendment: the guilty must forsake their sin, and continue no longer in it. When our blessed Saviour pardoned the woman taken in adultery, he said to her: "*Go, and sin no more.*" The crime must, therefore, be totally renounced; and they which do not this, but relapse into it, have not repented of it. Every act, and every repetition of their sin, is an aggravation of both their guilt and punishment.

Before concluding, we think it right to mention, that, in many instances, patients who have in early life indulged in the habit of self-pollution, are frequently, many years after they have abandoned the pernicious habit, annoyed and rendered wretched by the consequences which it has left behind it. Such persons are troubled with involuntary discharges, pains in the

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back and limbs, and several other anomalous symptoms, which the experienced practitioner will at once refer to their true origin. To such persons we would earnestly recommend an immediate recourse to the CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM. The success which is to be derived from its use, is of such a nature as to insure to the patient a restoration to strength and vigour.

It is of course, unnecessary to state, that the success of the treatment herein recommended, as well as the celerity of the cure, are, in all cases, invariably proportioned according to the attention with which the directions, contained in this Work, are complied with.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS,

To be observed by those labouring under Generative Debility, Seminal Weakness, Impotency, Nocturnal Emissions, or Deficiency of Natural Strength, while under a course of the CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM.

ADVICE AND PLAIN RULES FOR PATIENTS.

The first step that should be taken with regard to the cure, is, to leave off those practices that have occasioned the disease, though it may appear to be a difficult matter, as the very soul itself is generally so much polluted that it can dwell on no other idea. However, by a sincere repentance, and fixed determination to desist before it is too late, there is not the least doubt but that the irritability may be subdued, provided the following rules be attended to.

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Although the efficacy of the CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM is such, that in most cases no assistance is required from any thing else, yet a due attention to air, exercise, sleep, and regimen, is in all cases proper, and in a few absolutely necessary. A few words on each of these heads will be sufficient.

Wherever the patient is, he must not neglect exercise; it should be moderate at first and augmented by degrees, being always left off before too great fatigue takes place. All exercise is best fasting, and with regard to the kind of exercise most conducive to health, none is preferable to walking.

Much depends on a due regulation of sleep, especially as the want or disturbance of that great restorative is one of the most distressing symptoms of the disease. To contribute effectually to the cure, it should be sound and not too long; the best way of procuring sleep is upon a hard bed or mattress; to rise early, take sufficient exercise and proper food during the day, and sup lightly. The greatest attention should be paid by the patient both to the quantity and quality of his food: he should rather eat a little and often, than gorge himself with a full meal at any one time: and this rule is the more necessary as a preturnatural voracity of appetite is a frequent symptom in this and every other species of decay. Animal food should be taken once a day.

Roots, as potatoes, turnips, parsnips, carrots, &c., afford much nourishment; and, at dinner and supper, drink good pure water, discoloured with a little wine, or very good table beer, &c. Spirituous liquors in any form are destructive; some malt liquors are

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not a little injurious. From two to three glasses of port wine or claret may be taken, especially after or during dinner.

For weakness, deficiency of natural strength, and relaxation of the vessels, by too frequent indulgence of the passions, the CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM with the PURIFYING SPECIFIC PILLS, is a safe, certain, and invaluable remedy; and, if, during the time the patient is under a course of these medicines, he were to accustom himself to the use of sponging the whole body with cold water, every morning on first getting out of bed, it would be highly beneficial; it should be done quickly, and followed with a rough towel. It has considerable effect in giving tone to the skin, and maintaining a proper action in it, and thus proves a safeguard in the injurious influence of cold and sudden changes of temperature; therefore, a person who is in the habit of thus fortifying the skin, will be much less likely to suffer injury from heated rooms, and the change from a hot room to the cold air.

The cold bath recommends itself in a variety of cases; and is peculiarly beneficial to the inhabitants of populous cities, who indulge in voluptuousness, or lead sedentary lives. In persons of this description the action of the solids is always too weak, which induces a languid circulation, a crude indigested mass of humours, and obstruction in the capillary vessels and glandular system. Cold water, from its gravity, as well as its tonic power, is well calculated either to obviate or remove these symptoms. It accelerates the motion of the blood, promotes the different secretions, and gives permanent vigour to the solids.—

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These important purposes are always most essentially answered by sea-bathing; for salt water ought to be preferred, not only on account of its superior gravity, but likewise for its greater power of stimulating the skin, which promotes the perspiration, and prevents the patient from catching cold.

The use of the CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM, and sponging the body regularly every morning on first getting out of bed, is pointed out by the nature of their virtues; they produce the same effects; and being combined, will cure disorders which every other remedy would only have increased. Being strengthening, sedative, and febrifugal, they reinvigorate, diminish the feverish and nervous heat: they calm the irregular motions produced by the spasmodic disposition of the nervous system; they fortify a weak stomach, and quickly dissipate its attendant pains; they restore appetite, they facilitate digestion and nutrition, they promote all the functions, and particularly perspiration, which renders them so efficacious in all catarrhous and cutaneous disorders. In a word, they remove all the disorders occasioned by weakness, provided the patient is not afflicted with indissoluble obstructions, inflammations, nor internal ulcerous abscesses, which conditions almost necessarily exclude the operation.

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In consequence of the high repute and extensive Sale of Messrs. Perry's Medicines, it has induced many unprincipled individuals to foist upon the public illicit and spurious Compositions of their own preparation, Messrs. Perry therefore beg to inform personspurchasing their Medicines, that none are genuine unless the underneath Label,(in coloured ink) containing the signature of R.& L. PERRY & Co. is affixed on the outside of each Bottle of the CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM.



And the following Label (in black ink) on each box of PERRY'S PURIFYING SPECIFIC PILLS.



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THE CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM,

Is sold in Bottles at 11*s.*, *or four quantities in one Bottle for* 33*s.*, *whereby one* 11*s. Bottle is saved.*

May be had of all Medicine Venders in Town and Country, America, and the Continent of Europe.

PREPARED ONLY BY

MESSRS. PERRY & CO., SURGEONS,

4, GREAT CHARLES-STREET, FOUR DOORS FROM EASY ROW, BIRMINGHAM, AND 44, ALBION-STREET, LEEDS.

MESSRS. PERRY EXPECT WHEN CONSULTED PERSONALLY OR BY LETTER, THE USUAL FEE OF ONE POUND,

LETTERS MUST BE PRE-PAID.

Patients are requested to be as minute as possible in the detail of their cases,—as to the duration of the complaint, the symptoms, age, habit of living, and general occupation.

MESSRS. PERRY & CO.

MAY BE PERSONALLY CONSULTED AT THEIR ESTABLISHMENTS,

No. 4, GREAT CHARLES STREET,

FOUR DOORS FROM EASY ROW, BIRMINGHAM,

AND No. 44, ALBION STREET, LEEDS.

PUNCTUALLY FROM ELEVEN IN THE MORNING UNTIL EIGHT IN THE EVENING,

AND ON SUNDAYS FROM ELEVEN TILL ONE.

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Some disorders have been many years in proceeding to such a degree of malignancy as cannot be eradicated in a few weeks; therefore it is in order to encourage steady perseverance in the use of proper means, that Messrs. Perry have adopted the plan of packing into boxes, THREE LARGE BOTTLES, containing the quantity of twelve at 11s. for Five Pounds, by which £1. 12s. are saved.

Those who wish to have the £5. cases of medicine direct from Messrs. Perry, can (as the most safe way of remittance) obtain a Post Office order for £5., or any sum under that amount; or, if more convenient, the money may be enclosed in a letter, and upon payment of *one shilling* at the Post Office, the same will be registered, so that persons sending any amount will be indemnified against loss.

Patients who correspond with Messrs. Perry, should always preserve the same signature to prevent trouble and delay, as the letters are carefully arranged *alphabetically*, and must be examined previous to any medicine being prepared; and this is important, not only to the patient's recovery, but to facilitate and expedite the process of the medicine intended to be sent, as reference must be had to the former letters upon every occasion.

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GENERAL DIRECTIONS FOR TAKING THE CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM.

In all cases where the CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM is administered, the Patient should take one table spoonful half an hour before breakfast; about eleven o'clock; five in the evening; and about an hour after supper; by itself, or in a wine-glassfull of water, until health is perfectly renewed. And when the Cordial Balm of Syriacum is taken for the cure of weaknesses, debility, deficiency of natural strength, and relaxation of the vessels, by too frequent indulgence of the passions, PERRY'S PURIFYING SPECIFIC PILLS should be administered also, in doses of two Pills at night, and one in the morning.

In respect to the Cordial Balm of Syriacum, it should be understood, that its effects on the various complicated diseases are as surprising and singular as the means by which we became acquainted with it; we therefore wish to impress upon the minds of patients taking the same, not only is perseverance necessary, as it corrects and purifies the whole mass of blood and juices, but because it is not at all uncommon for the patient to take half the quantity for a radical cure, before he *perceives* ANY material benefit.

There is a very important observation to be made respecting a Public Medicine, that unless its operation be gentle, safe, and efficacious, it must and will speedily sink into oblivion; and it requires the strongest conviction of their intrinsic worth and physical excellence, by long and great experience, to induce an in-

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ventor or proprietor of any Medicine to incur the serious and certain expense of making it known by advertisements; an expense of no less than £5,000 annually to Messrs. Perry & Co., independent of £6,000 a year paid for Government Stamps affixed to their Medicines, which a very great and general demand can only defray; and which nothing short of fatuity could induce any one to enter upon without such previous conviction; for it were of no avail to enter upon the task and vast expense of making known that remedy, whose merits will not support its character when known.

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THE SILENT FRIEND.

PART II.

A PRACTICAL TREATISE
ON VENEREAL AND SYPHILITIC DISEASES,

IN THEIR MILD AND MOST ALARMING FORMS,

INCLUDING

SECONDARY SYMPTOMS, GONORRHŒA, GLEET, STRICTURE,

AND A VARIETY OF INCIDENTAL DISEASES;

WITH INTERESTING REMARKS OCCURRING IN A MOST EXTENSIVE PRACTICE, AND OBSERVATIONS

ON THE ABUSE OF MERCURY.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON THE VENEREAL DISEASE.

THE nature of the specific contagion, which constitutes the disease we are now treating upon, and which has the property of inducing, in the individual, a secretion possessing the same character, presents to us, on all sides, a variety of difficulties, springing principally from the various shapes it assumes, according to the constitution of the patient, the malignity and virulence of the poison, its duration, the

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length of that duration, and many other, perhaps occult, causes. We know that it arises from the absorption of a specific morbid poison, generally imbibed during the action of coition with a person actually infected; and that thus produced, it is capable of receiving that variety of forms which it exhibits in different constitutions, and which, depending on the nature of the virus, and the constitution receiving that virus, gives rise to that multiplicity of symptoms, which in some constitutions are slight and in others malignant. This pre-disposition to contagion is powerfully manifested in some constitutions, while in others the power of repulsion or an inaptitude to the contagion is equally exhibited; for how frequently do we find, that one individual shall transgress with a female actually infected, and no symptoms of disease follow; while another less fortunate, under similar circumstances, and even in some cases with the same female, shall have the disease in all its violence; in short it is an indisputable fact, that every venereal case, is a case *sui generis*, for in no class of disease do we meet with cases less similar to each other, either in regard to the period the disease takes to develope its action, or the character it shall display; which contrarieties appear to be greatly influenced, by the existing state of the individual system at the moment of contagion; a knowledge of these facts, however, points out the necessity of the adoption of an early and unequivocal line of conduct in the first stage of our fears, so that we may not afterwards regret, that the want of more decisive symptoms betrayed us into an indifference that leads to future embarrass-

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ment. We would here impress on the mind of the patient, that during the early days of infection, it is generally easy of eradication.

To the medical philosopher, no subject admits of greater field for observation, and we may add improvement also, than the diseases arising from, and dependent on this: for though the terms gonorrhœa, gleet, and stricture, in their general acceptation, may be well understood, yet these terms appear too vague; accordingly it is necessary that our general instructions should be perfectly explicit, so as to direct all classes of society to their mode of treatment and cure.

This disease may be introduced into the system, either in the natural and most common way, through the medium of the absorbent vessels, or by transplanting a tooth of one venereally affected, into a sound person. In the first, it is necessary that the virus should pass through the absorbent vessels into the blood, while in the latter, the absorbent vessels are less necessary to the virus being applied to the blood. In the former, the disease is generally slow in its progress, in the latter, it is rapid and violent. The infecting matter cannot act through the medium of the air, but only through the medium of a fluid, as it cannot be communicated, except by immediate contact of a sound, with a diseased, person. And, although, for the most evident reasons, it commonly appears on the genitals, particularly on the delicate surface of the glans penis, &c., the same virus is capable of occasioning morbid appearances on any other part or organ of the body.

Both sexes are equally exposed to venereal infection,

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but, from the different structure of the parts, the symptoms in the female are scarcely ever so violent as in the male. This has been attributed to the simplicity of structure of the female organs of generation, but we are of opinion, that it arises more commonly either from the natural or from the morbid flow of fluids to these parts, washing off the infecting matter.

When the infection takes place, the poison is conveyed into the system by the lymphatic or absorbent vessels. It is in consequence of their dispersion over the whole body, that the virus may be absorbed on any part to which it is applied, and, by means of their infinite connections, that it may be diffused, often very rapidly, over the whole system.

This poison, however, is absorbed more or less quickly, according to the structure of the part to which it is applied, and the existing peculiarity of the constitution, health, &c. of the person exposed to its effects. If, for instance, from the same connexion, virus be lodged on any of the parts beneath the prepuce, and upon the external skin of the penis, and if such virus act effectually on both these parts, there will be a distance of many days between the appearance of the disease; the virus lodged beneath the prepuce acting before that upon the external skin.

Like every other infectious quality causing disease, the venereal poison undoubtedly possesses greater virulence at one time than at another, and even, in certain intervals, may be almost quiescent, though not entirely injured, in its powers. There can be no doubt, that the same circumstances attend every contagious disease.

The infection received in the usual way, soon after

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produces small ulcers termed chancres, and afterwards, by irritating and inflaming the inguinal glands, in its passage through them to the system, produces bubo in the groin.

The immense labour some authors have displayed, in minutely tracing the different periods, from the time the infection was caught, to the exact moment when the disease made its appearance externally, in the many hundred forms which it is said sometimes to assume, is more curious than useful. Some of their more general remarks may be applied to use, but the attempt to establish a general doctrine, upon a multitude of anomalous and uncertain occurrences, is, at once, unprofitable and unnecessary.

Although it be from external appearances, such as chancre, bubo, or other affections of different parts, that we are usually guided in our opinions respecting the existence of this disease, yet the system is sometimes affected by it, independently of the occurrence of either of these symptoms. In these cases, the glands of the groin are frequently more or less enlarged. By this single mark, when we have no other leading symptom, we may, in general, ascertain whether or not the patient be really affected with lues venerea: yet, sometimes the venereal virus passes into the system, even without producing either chancres, enlargement of these glands, or any other external sign of disease, but afterwards, blotches on the skin, ulcers on the tonsils, &c., will convince us of its actual existence.

The recent symptoms are chancre, with or without bubo, and either or both of these, with or without

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phymosis or paraphymosis. It is always an uncommon occurrence for this disease to be introduced into the system without one or the other of these appearances. But should this happen, it may continue in the system for years without exhibiting one external symptom of its existence. Under this circumstance, or should the affection be imperfectly cured, it will, in some form or other make its appearance, at some future period, no doubt greatly influenced by various circumstances. In such instances, it most commonly first affects the fauces with inflammation, which speedily proceeds to ulceration, or appears in the form of eruptions or blotches, of various kinds, on different parts of the body. On other occasions, though less commonly, sensations somewhat similar to rheumatism affect different parts, which at length settle in some or other of the bones. These are the most common secondary symptoms, although many others occur in practice, and are to be found described by writers on this disease. These, however, we decline enumerating, as we wish principally to confine ourselves to the more common and more important occurrences; and when other symptoms appear, which are neither common nor important, they may, together with their treatment, be found enumerated in some books, where they are described and dwelt upon with such intolerable minuteness, as if they were daily occurrences.

The order, then, in which the venereal symptoms generally appear, after the virus has been absorbed, and before they have been checked, are, first, in the form of chancre, next, bubo, then eruptions or ulcers on the skin, ulcers in the throat, and affections of the

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bones. The first two symptoms are not so apt to vary in the order of their appearance as the four last, which, with the affection of the bones, (almost always last, or at least in them the pains are last felt) are extremely different in different individuals, both in regard to time and severity.

Thus, however circumscribed the first appearance of this disease may be, unless arrested in its progress, it gradually proceeds to affect other parts of the body, at length completely contaminating the whole living system, and finally even terminating existence, having previously reduced the whole body to a complete mass of ulceration and almost of putridity.

Perhaps there is no appearance to which human nature is capable of being reduced, which renders it a more horrible spectacle, than the accumulated evils of confirmed pox. We often have the misfortune to see the once most manly and elegant form reduced to a complete mass of deformity. The eyes become tender, one or both squinting and considerably protruded from their sockets—the nose flat, and the nostrils discharging fetid matter in considerable profusion—the gums consumed—the teeth rotten—the sockets exfoliating—the breath horribly fetid and disgusting—the neck stiff—the joints either large and decrepid, or absolutely rigid, and totally unfit for their common offices—ulcers of the very worst kind appear on various parts of the body—a ghastly and haggard appearance—and the mind a complete and irrecoverable wreck.

On the first appearance of this disorder in the Italian provinces, the horrid lacerations of the human frame,

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and the attendant excruciating tortures which it inflicted upon its victims, repelled, like a plague, the approach of pity, and deterred those whom nature and affection prompted to lend consolation and assistance. Even those afflicted with leprosy counted themselves fortunate in their escape from this more tremendous evil, and shunned the unhappy victims of this disease as they would the bite of a venomous serpent or the shaft of unerring destruction. The poor were compelled to fly from their habitations as soon as any symptoms of the disorder manifested themselves, and take refuge in the abodes of the brute creation, in dens and caverns, and trackless forests. Physicians, friends, relations, and even parents forsook them; the ties of nature were rent asunder and all social compact was annihilated—so predominant was the fear of infection!

Many of the ancient authors give most disgusting details of the fearful appearance which the disease assumed in different subjects, but into these evils it is unnecessary to enter now, when the disorder is so well understood by those practitioners who make it their whole study. It will suffice to remark, that in many instances the symptoms closely approximate to those of *Elephantiasis;* in others to those of *Leprosy;* that the disorder frequently corroded the *septum nasi*, levelling it with the face; that it fed upon the lips; sometimes destroyed the *uvula;* at others perforated the *palate,* and completely changed the tones and properties of the voice. These symptoms experienced multitudinous variations, with change of years, many

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of the old ones becoming greatly qualified, and new ones developing themselves, to the great alarm of those who groaned under their influence, as well as the extreme perplexity of the medical practitioners, who were yet in a state of comparative ignorance with respect to the real nature of the disease; and whose endeavours to repress its tremendous ravages were consequently directed rather with a view to speculative results, than by any of those positive rules of practice, which the industrious application of subsequent ages has rendered successful.

Yet, increased as our knowledge of the nature of this malady is, and improved as is our mode of treatment, it is by no means to be assumed that the disease has become of trifling influence, or that it carries no menace of consequence to the human frame; for with all its modifications, it is still a disorder of that subtle and malignant disposition, which requires to be watched at its commencement and in its progress with sedulous attention, and to be arrested with all the force of medicine, without putting in peril the constitution itself.

Our attention, for many years past, has been exclusively directed to the treatment of venereal diseases, and such complaints as arise more immediately from a disorganization of the generative system, whether constitutional or acquired. In this statement we must not be understood to cast the slightest imputation upon the skill of the authorized members of our profession, in the treatment of such complaints; on the contrary, we mean simply to infer, that, as in all

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important undertakings much can be effected by a division of labour, so it may reasonably be assumed on our own part, that no less can be the result of an unwearied attention to that particular branch of study, wherein we now offer to the public, the knowledge and experience of a long and extensive practice.

We shall now enter into details of its various forms, with a view to render the whole subject clear and intelligible to all degrees of human capacity.

GONORRHŒA, OR CLAP.

Gonorrhœa is a contagious inflammatory disease of the mucous membrane of the urethra, or urinary canal, produced by the contact of infectious matter during sexual intercourse. The symptoms are a discharge of purulent matter from the orifice of the urethra, with a sensation of burning felt in the act of making water, more or less severe according to the virulence of the disease. These are the first and ordinary symptoms; and in many cases the disease stops here: but in others, and, indeed, in the greater number of persons attacked, it is found much more severe. The discharge increases, the pain and burning sensation in making water become much more intense, the penis is excited to frequent and violent involuntary erections, particularly in the night when warm in bed, during which state it is bent into a curve, constituting that painful and well known condition called CHORDEE.

The absorbent glands in the groin sympathize with the adjacent disturbance, and become slightly inflamed;

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but, fortunately, rarely suppurate. The swellings produced by gonorrhœa, are denominated SYMPATHETIC BUBOES.

Under certain circumstances, an inflammation of the foreskin occurs, whether when drawn forward on the nut of the penis, or drawn back. In the former case, it constitutes a particular affection, designated by medical men, PHYMOSIS; in the latter PARA-PHYMOSIS.

In cases of mismanagement or carelessness, or in consequence of a sudden suppression of the purulent discharge, an active inflammation of one or both testicles will arise, accompanied with much pain and swelling, called SWELLED TESTICLE.

When the inflammation is severe, it will happen that, at the time of making water, owing to the rupture of some small blood-vessel, a quantity of blood will be voided; but this is rather beneficial than otherwise.

The inflammation sometimes extends to the bladder; in which case the bladder becomes exceedingly irritable, inducing a constant desire to make water, and occasionally ulceration is produced, when a quantity of muco-purulent matter is discharged, which mingling with the urine, gives it the appearance of whey.

When a gonorrhœa is often repeated or improperly treated, as by the imprudent use of astringent injections during the inflammatory stage, or by intemperance in living, strictures will ensue—the most distressing, painful, and fatal disease the urethra is subject to, creative at all times of a difficulty of voiding the urine, and not unfrequently inducing a total suppression.

When the inflammatory gonorrhœa is subdued, and

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all the bad symptoms are removed, there sometimes remains a discharge from the urethra, of a pale yellow or whitish colour, unaccompanied by pain, or scalding, or chordee, and lasting for an indefinite time—for months, sometimes for years. This discharge is called GLEET.

Among the minor consequences of gonorrhœa, we should not omit to mention WARTS. They spring up round the glans and prepuce in great numbers. In some habits, they are always increased by, and often owe their origin to want of cleanliness; and are accordingly found in all localities where that point is neglected.

Another unpleasant consequence of gonorrhæa, is excoriation; which is an eruption of small vesicles on the nut of the penis. They break, leaving the membrane red and excoriated—hence its name. They will arise from any irritation, as well as that of gonorrhœa. In this state the membrane of the nut and foreskin will pour out a purulent or muco-purulent discharge; and, in some instances, where the foreskin is tightly contracted before the nut, it will assume the appearance of clap.

To the foregoing dreadful symptomatical catalogue might be added many others; for this dreadful malady frequently puts on the appearance of other disorders; and many unfortunate persons may labour for years under afflictions, originating from a venereal cause, mistaking them for gouty or bilious affections, rheumatic pains, palsies, convulsions, asthmas, king's evil, leprosy, &c., all of which may arise from a venereal taint; for there

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is scarcely any distemper that has put on so many different shapes, or been attended with such a variety of symptoms; and if these PILLS be not timely obtained, the vital as well as natural animal functions are depraved, the body becomes emaciated and unfit for motion, and the unfortunate victim awaits with impatience the kind messenger, Death, to put a period to his miserable existence.

This disease has been described as one of the most surprising phenomena in the history of medicine, whether as it regards the newness of its origin, the malignant inveteracy of its symptoms, or the singular mode in which it is produced and propagated. Its consequences travel out of the ordinary track of bodily ailment, covering the frame with disgusting evidences of its ruthless nature, and impregnating the wholesome stream of life with mortal poison. It conveys into families the seeds of disunion and unhappiness, undermining domestic harmony, and striking at the very soul of human intercourse.

We shall proceed now to the preventive means; and then give a brief description of the different species of these diseases as they rise in succession, with a general mode of treatment for the same; and we wish here to be understood, that in our description of these diseases, we have confined ourselves to the essential and most probable symptoms that usually appear, rather than those that occasionally arise.

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TREATMENT OF GONORRHŒA, OR CLAP, &c.

In the cases just described, it will be found that by a strict adherence to PERRY'S PURIFYING SPECIFIC PILLS, of which two are to be taken at night and two in the morning, that a safe and speedy cure will be obtained without the slightest fear of the disorder returning, provided the patient continues to take them some time after every symptom has subsided, and which (if combined with the CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM,) will invigorate the debilitated system, after the contraction of venereal complaints, and thoroughly purify the blood from this troublesome and often serious disorder.

These Pills are mild in their nature, powerful and effectual even in the most stubborn cases; and the most happy effects having constantly resulted from their use, during a long and very extensive practice, has induced Messrs. Perry & Co., Surgeons, to publish them in England, as well as to prevent the fatal consequences daily arising from the injudicious treatment of practitioners in general.

As the disorder is sometimes violent, and attended with a variety of symptoms—such as buboes, ulcers, inflammations, &c., it will be necessary for the patient to be acquainted with the nature of his complaint, which may sometimes require outward applications, which may be had for a trifle from any druggist, being pointed out in the following GENERAL DIRECTIONS:—

GONORRHŒA, OR CLAP.

A violent clap is an involuntary discharge of cor-

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rupted mucus from the glands of the urethra in men, or from the vagina in women, and is caused by connexion with an infected person. The quantity of the discharge is in proportion to the degrees of stimulus, and its quality to the malignity of the infectious matter received in impure copulation. The first symptom of this disorder is general uneasiness about the parts of generation, with titillation at the end of the penis; to this succeed the appearance of a little whitish matter at the orifice of the urethra, a slight swelling, and sometimes a redness, on the *glands* or the head of the penis, and a trifling pungency on the evacuation of the urine. The discharge soon increases; the inflammation at the orifice of the urethra becomes more palpable; the parts begin to burn, and the evacuation of the urine is attended with a scalding heat which greatly torments the parts affected; besides which there is also a swelling of the *lucunæ* or the mouths of the internal glands of the urethra, with a manifest and painful rigidity on the erection of the penis. The discharge still becomes more copious, grows thinner, loses its adhesiveness, and becomes of a yellowish, or rather a greenish complexion: the mouth of the penis begins to exhibit an increasing redness, the passing of the urine is accompanied by excruciating pains from the distension of the urethra, and such general symptoms of inflammation, as to prevent the extension of the penis in erection, curving it downwards with agonizing torture, which is rendered still more intolerable if the member be raised towards the belly. The torture of this situation is greatly exaggerated by the influence of that inseparable stimulus which causes

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frequent erections of the diseased member, especially when warm in bed, attended with a degree of anguish which prevents sleep, or awakens the patient, and not uncommonly produces involuntary emissions of the semen.

This is the usual type of the virulent gonorrhœa, but all the diseases of this unhappy class are of a complicated and varied nature: they embrace in their consequences so many painful diseases, that we never consider them, however slight in appearance, as mere local effects, but always dread their approach to a constitutional character; for by a deplorable fatality, to which limit is unknown, the most trivial cases of these diseases, in their prolific energy, become the fruitful mine of a thousand discordant feelings and symptoms, that harass their devoted victim for an indefinite period: therefore we strongly recommend, in all cases, an immediate recourse to our applications, in order that the remedies may be effective at their onset. In diseases of this kind, large evacuations, of any character, are to be carefully guarded against: for in all the cases we have seen, where they have been used, they have done injury, by producing either irritability of the stomach or the bowels, and thus rendering the system unequal to the retention of the necessary remedies.

The period of its appearance is generally from four to eight days after connexion: though in this there is no certain rule; for the symptoms will, with some individuals, discover themselves so early as twenty-four hours, and in other cases not for some weeks.

Suppuration and ulcer occur from neglect in the earlier stage of this disorder; or from an improper

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mode of treatment, engendering various other genital disorders, of which mention will be hereafter made. In fact, some medical practitioners of eminence have laid it down that neglect and maltreatment will mature gonorrhœa into general syphilis; and that when the original symptoms are suffered to continue, or the infection is extremely virulent, chancres display themselves upon the head or upon the foreskin of the penis; the mucus increases, and is discharged in larger quantities, tinging the linen with a yellow or greenish stain.

The duration of gonorrhœa depends much on the constitution and regimen of the patient, but far more on the treatment to which it is subject. Numerous examples have fallen under our practice; patients, who, after labouring for three or four months under this malady, have in less than a fortnight after taking the PURIFYING SPECIFIC PILLS, and CORDIAL BALM of SYRIACUM, received the most effectual relief. This period is, in fact, amply sufficient for the cure of ten persons out of every twelve; and where the constitution has never been degraded by acquired or hereditary injuries, health and vigour are not unusually the immediate effects of a few days care and attention.

The first stage of this disease has been frequently mistaken in women, by experienced persons, for fluor albus, and treated as such; but the matter discharged in that complaint is larger in quantity, generally less yellow, and of a more consistent nature, than what accompanies a virulent gonorrhœa. Independent of this distinction, however, a venereal infection is at-

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tended with peculiar heat, inflammation, and pain, which are not the general concomitants of a white flux. It is to be admitted, however, that a vitiated case of fluor albus may bring on, by sexual intercourse, a disease in men hardly to be equalled by the most obdurate gonorrhœa.

In cases of gonorrhœa or clap in both sexes, the patient must take two of PERRY'S PURIFYING SPECIFIC PILLS at night, and two in the morning, and one tea-spoonful of the following mixture three times a day, which can be made up by any druggist :

R. Bals. Copaib, ℥*j.*
Liq: Potas. S. C. ℥*j.*
misce probe et adde
Aq: Anise ℥ *ij M.*

Fiat Mistura cujus capiat coch, parvum unam ter in die.

Where the patient is particularly desirous for a *speedy* recovery, the addition of the CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM in the proportion of one tablespoonful mixed with each dose of the above mixture, will wonderfully facilitate and expedite the cure.

The bowels are here to be regularly opened, but not violently. Immerging the penis in warm water will not only abate the symptoms, but tend to keep it clean—an object of importance, and by which much future inconvenience may be avoided. Purging would be very hurtful, produce debility, and keep up the discharge, by the irritation produced, and thus, by the

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effort of relaxation favouring absorption, accelerate the introduction of the contagion into the general system.

Should symptoms of inflammation appear, the Mixture ordered, and the CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM *must be entirely discontinued until the inflammatory state is abated*; and the bowels must be kept open by the following Senna mixture:—

Senna leaves	1½ *ounce,*
Epsom salts	½ *pound,*
Coriander seeds	1 *drachm,*
Caraway seeds	1 *drachm,*
Ginger	2 *drachm,*

Pour upon these ingredients one pint of boiling water, and let it stand for several hours in an oven, or on the hob of a fire-place. Strain, and then add

Tincture of senna	4 *ounces,*
Sal volatile	2 *drachms.*

Dose—from three to four table-spoonsful every other morning, fasting.

This mixture, which loses none of its virtue by keeping, if preserved in a well-stopped bottle, we can recommend as a most valuable domestic medicine.

Where the patient is late in applying for assistance, and symptoms of strangury, or difficulty in making urine, come on, and which passes only in drops, with much pain, the inflammation must be subdued *by the senna mixture,* before any other plan is attempted; which then must be taken in doses of *three table-spoon-*

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ful every morning. When the strangury is relieved by the above means, then the plan formerly directed must be had recourse to.

During the progress of gonorrhœa, an attention to cleanliness cannot be too much recommended, by frequently washing the parts with warm milk-and-water, to prevent the acrimony of the discharge, which is apt to fret the skin where it touches; and to prevent this, it may also be proper to cover the point of the penis with a small bit of lint, to absorb the matter. Nor is regimen to be considered less necessary in the cure of gonorrhœa than in the other heads of treatment: every thing which heats and stimulates the body, increases the inflammation of the part, and promotes the discharge. A mild nutritious diet must be adopted, consisting chiefly of vegetable matter, pudding, and other light dishes; and when animal food is used, it should be boiled. The drink should consist of weak lemonade, linseed tea, barley-water, or toast-and-water; avoiding wine, spirits, and malt liquors. The restriction of diet will be more necessary in the first stage than afterwards: as the symptoms of inflammation abate, the patient might indulge with a little more freedom, but should still be cautious to avoid excess; for no disease is so apt to suffer from irregularities in this respect as gonorrhœa. In enforcing regimen, some regard, however, must be paid to the habit and constitution of the person. When the habit is delicate and nervous, the restriction recommended would be apt to affect the general health, therefore it cannot be so *rigorously* enforced: it must

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be left to the judgment of the patient what he can bear; and in these cases a due medium will be the best rule.

Sexual intercourse is particularly prohibited. In the progress of the disease when the discharge has become thin and watery and devoid of pain and inflammation, the following slight injection may be used:—

Sulphate of lead ..... 8 *grains*,
Sulphate of zinc ..... 5 *grains*,
Rose water ..... 8 *ounces*,
Tincture of opium ..... 1 *drachm*,

Mix well together; a little is to be put into a tea-cup, from which a syringe is to be filled, and injected four times a day. In injecting, a finger should be applied on each side the orifice of the passage, to confine the point of the syringe, and prevent the fluid escaping; and after being retained a few seconds, the instrument is to be withdrawn. The effect of the injection will shew the propriety of its use to the patient in a few days.

A CHORDEE

Is a spasmodic contraction of the nerves inserted into the cavernous body of the penis and the *frænum* or bridle of the member, by which the penis is bent down in the form of an arch, as if pulled with a cord.

The contraction is attended with the most excruciating pain, and is most severely felt when the patient is warm in bed. It is one of the symptoms of

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virulent gonorrhœa, abating as the inflammation subsides, but sometimes it will continue after the heat and other virulent *symptoms have disappeared.*

If this symptom should be troublesome, the most certain remedy is *fifteen drops of laudanum in a wine glassful of water, which must be taken the last thing on going to bed:* it must *not* be taken more than for *two or three nights* together, which will be found sufficient to remove this painful and unpleasant symptom.

After the pains and inflammation are abated, the running will gradually diminish, and when the parts have had time to recover their natural strength, entirely disappear, the patient may go into the cold bath every other day. The penis may now be kept clean with cold water, when the discharge has become thick, sticky, and ropy, and can be pulled out in strings between the fingers, which are certain signs of the taint being subdued; in this case one table spoonful of the CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM, four times a day, in half a pint of cold water, will be highly beneficial, with two of the PURIFYING SPECIFIC PILLS at night, and two in the morning.

PHYMOSIS AND PARAPHYMOSIS.

When the nut of the yard is swelled and inflamed, the fomentation ordered for *a swelled testicle* will soon reduce it, if used for half an hour together; after which a warm poultice of bread and milk must be applied. Sometimes the foreskin is so much swelled, that it

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cannot get back to uncover the nut: this is called a PHYMOSIS, and is to be treated as just mentioned. The patient should frequently endeavour to get the foreskin back very gently while using the fomentation, but never use the least force. When it goes back the parts affected should be smeared with the ointment ordered to disperse the *swelled groin*, afterwards letting the foreskin go over the nut again; this and the fomentation should be repeated several times a day, till the swelling and inflammation are subdued. Sometimes the foreskin swells and inflames behind the nut, and cannot be got over it; this is called a PARAPHYMOSIS, and requires the same treatment as the Phymosis, always endeavouring to get the foreskin over the nut with the greatest gentleness, as the least force will be very injurious.

The PURIFYING SPECIFIC PILLS must be taken at least six weeks after all symptoms have disappeared. Leeches are sometimes necessary in these cases; if they are obstinate, it would be as well to apply six to the foreskin.

SWELLED TESTICLE

Is generally occasioned by great exercise as jumping, running, riding or walking too briskly, or by cold bathing while a clap continues: or by exposing the private parts to cold more than necessary, or by drinking inflaming liquor; sometimes by strong purges. It being the most painful and dangerous symptom attending the disease, the greatest care should be observed to remove it. The testicles should be supported

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or bound up with a linen truss or bandage; if the patient is of full habit of body, bleeding will be proper; the diet in this case should be as low as possible. No exercise whatever should be used, even sitting up is hurtful; it will be requisite to lie down as much as possible. The following fomentation will be requisite:—

Take of extract of lead a table spoonful, of vinegar four table spoonsful, of water a quart: shake them together, and foment (as warm as the patient can bear with ease) the swelled parts with flannel frequently for some time together; after each time of fomenting, apply a warm poultice of white bread and milk under the whole private parts, and take the PILLS regularly. Should the swelling not go down, it will then be proper to apply eight or ten leeches to the testicle, and repeat them for two or three days.

If the patient in a former complaint has been troubled with this symptom, he should not neglect to keep the testicles supported while the clap continues, as swelling is apt to return. If he cannot conveniently procure a linen truss, a slip of linen or handkerchief may be tied round the waist, and another brought underneath, so as to support it.

BUBOES OR SWELLING IN THE GROIN.

If a bubo should not have arisen much, it may be dispersed by rubbing well into the thickest part of the thigh, under the bubo, (the size of a large horsebean of) the following ointment, for ten or fifteen minutes every night and morning, taking the PILLS regularly a fort-

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night or for a longer time, after it is dispersed:—

Of strong mercurial ointment half an ounce, extract of lead thirty drops, mix them well together.

If it should not decrease by this method, let it come to a head by discontinuing the ointment. A warm poultice of bread and milk applied two or three times a day, will tend to hasten the suppuration, and produce ease. When it is sufficiently ripe, it will burst itself: then gently press out the matter, and endeavour to enlarge the orifice by distending the skin, put a warm poultice over it, or foment it with warm water, and apply a little mercurial ointment, spread on lint, to the opening twice a day. Always before it is dressed, press the matter out, and wipe it very clean. The same poultice must never be used but once in any case. The poultice need only be used a few days after it bursts: or, if it is not convenient, four or five folds of clean linen may be put over in its stead, first applying the ointment. If proud flesh sprout up, a very little red precipitate put into the ointment will consume it. After it has been open about a fortnight a little of the ointment ordered to disperse the swelling may be used to heal it. The PILLS must be used during the time as follows; *two Pills at night, and two in the morning*, and should this quantity not quickly relieve the symptoms, the dose must be increased to *three at night, and two in the morning*. The patient has only to follow the directions and take the PILLS, and he may rely on obtaining a perfect restoration to health,

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as they have never been known to fail in effecting a cure, however violent the symptoms may be.

After a bubo has discharged its contents, the strength should be supported, an improved diet should be allowed, port or other wines should be taken, and the CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM taken regularly in doses of *one table spoonful four times a day.*

During the cure of venereal complaints, if the patient catches cold, a soreness of the mouth and gums will sometimes happen, which may be purged off by taking *a dose of salts every morning, or* 20 *grains of jalap* instead of the PILLS, while the soreness of the mouth continues; if while rubbing in the ointment, *a swelled groin* arises, it must be discontinued; but the chancres, inflammation, &c., must continue to be dressed as before directed. When the mouth and gums are well, the PILLS must be taken again and the purging left off, only *two Pills every other night*, are then to be taken.

GLEET.

A morbid or diseased excitement of the urethra may induce gleet, which is a discharge of mucous fluid: when the existence of this discharge owes its origin to causes which have no connexion with venereal disease, we distinguish it by the name of a constitutional gleet, as will be subsequently shown. It is, however, more commonly a disease growing out of an ill-cured gonorrhœa, or a sequence of that disorder, in which it loses its irritable malignity, becoming simple in its appearance but of alarming consequence in its duration, because it may and does often induce seminal weak-

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ness and several other complaints; it is especially dangerous as being an auxiliary to the formation of stricture of the urethra, a distressing complaint.

Gleet will remain a *chronic*, or continual disease, for weeks, months, nay even years; and, under the changes incident to habit and regimen, the symptoms will *vary*—a circumstance which has not unfrequently led medical men into the error of supposing such changes to arise from *fresh infection*: in these cases the patient has over and over again submitted to the routine of pharmaceutical doubts, and not until his painful anxiety has become insupportable has an appeal to further assistance extricated him from error, anguish and uncertainty.

The discharge in gleet, however, is very much regulated by the habit and diet of the patient; if he is accustomed to indulge freely in the luxuries of the table and bottle, or in violent exercise, the discharge will be increased both in quantity and acrimony; while on the other hand temperance and regularity of diet and exercise will materially assist the effect of our medicines, by gradually diminishing the discharge and ultimately relieving the patient of his long continued torment. Premature mortality has been the consequence of a neglected gleet; for it is a reasonable inference that the constant waste will exhaust and lead to an untimely extinction of the bodily faculties.

The patient should abstain from all vegetables, acid, and sugar; he should rise early in the morning, take gentle exercise, use the cold bath, first plunging in the water overhead, and coming out immediately, without

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taking the second dip, or remaining one moment in the water. The private parts and testicles should be frequently washed in cold water.

Take half a tea-spoonful of the mixture ordered for clap, mixed with one table spoonful of the CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM, at least *four times a day*, using the following injection, and taking *one of the* PURIFYING SPECIFIC PILLS *three times a day*, till health is perfectly restored.

Obtain a syringe, and inject up the urinary passage the following injection, *three or four times a day*:

Sulphate of Zinc ten grains, Rose Water four ounces, mixed together.

If this should cause any pain up the passage, it must be diluted with a little water.

MUCOUS GLEET.

This usually arises from causes independant of gonorrhœa, and is characterized by peculiar symptoms,—the subject does not, therefore, fall under consideration in this part of the work, but may be found discussed in the first part, "On Onanism, or Self Pollution," which treats on a variety of disorders arising from nervous debility and seminal weakness, which lead to the compromise, if not to the extinction, of sexual power.

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STRICTURE.

Stricture is a disease that obstructs the free passage of the urine, and causes it either to come in a small forked or twisted stream, or drop by drop, with considerable pain: if the urethral canal be not much lessened by the stricture, it may exist many years without any great degree of inconvenience: but though this may be the case respecting the urine, we are led to conceive that the semen in the act of coition may not properly be directed into the vagina; for not issuing at the moment of ejaculation from the urethra, it afterwards falls merely by the effect of its gravity: of course, attention to this stage of the disease becomes requisite; and more particularly in the advanced period of life, as the expelling powers for evacuating the urine and ejection of the semen become weaker.

Although stricture may arise from constitutional causes, from malformation or spasm, or from other accidental circumstances, the cure of which must depend upon minute reference to the particular origin, yet the source of this distressing complaint is in nineteen cases out of twenty to be traced to venereal disease, or to an improper method of treating a gonorrhœa. We may look upon the matter of gonorrhœa, (after it has continued a long time,) as producing a new action in the absorbents of the urethra at the particular point, which forms a sort of membraneous band around the internal urethra, the circle of which being hard, and situated within the natural space, is denominated a stricture.

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It may be considered that the urethra being hollow, muscular, and membraneous, and naturally predisposed to contraction, is readily so affected by inflammation or violence of any kind; but the progress of stricture is variable in different habits. Tropical climate, sedentary pursuits, excessive indulgence in—or unnaturally protracted—sexual intercourse, are sometimes the causes of stricture; and in irritable habits will excite the disease, without the intervention of any venereal complaint.

Spasmodic stricture is generally seated at the neck of the bladder, and may occur to persons in good health, from exposure to wet or cold, from some digestive derangement, from long retention of urine, particularly when walking, (owing to the absence of public urinals,) or to violent horse exercise: but more frequently does it happen to those young men, who, when suffering from gleet or gonorrhœa, imperfectly or only partially cured, are tempted to commit an excess in wine, spirits, or other strong drinks. Surrounded by jovial society, glassful after glassful is swallowed, each one to be the last. The patient, with his bladder full to repletion, scarcely able to retain his water, yet probably "*going*" every moment, represses his desire until the party breaks up, when, on encountering the cold air, he finds himself unable to void even a drop, or if so but with extreme difficulty. The greater the effort, and the more determined the straining, the greater is the impossibility; and unless relief should be afforded, the most alarming consequences may ensue.

Notwithstanding the danger attendant upon a neg-

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lected or severe case of spasmodic stricture, when judiciously treated none need be apprehended. The patient should instantly send for a surgeon to draw off the urine—there will seldom be any difficulty in passing the catheter, especially if the operator be not too hasty, and be at all dexterous in the use of his instrument. Force should never be employed; but as this part devolves on the surgeon, the patient need be under no apprehension: a constant use of the CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM and PURIFYING SPECIFIC PILLS, for a few weeks, will remove this unpleasant disorder.

INCIDENTAL DISEASES.

There are many other complaints to which the urinary as well as generative parts are subject, viz, *Fistulas*, *Disease of the Prostrate Gland*, and some other affections of the *Testicles*, *Bladder*, *&c*: but as to enumerate them would only be to swell these pages, we have mentioned such as are most important, and of most general occurrence. If, however, the patient should find any symptoms of disorder not previously or hereafter enumerated, he should, *without delay*, describe minutely the symptoms, referring them (as far as he is competent) to the proper source; but no time should in any case be lost, as changes go on very rapidly, and the views of a just practitioner being always directed to the protection of nature, he should have an opportunity of preventing the intrusion of disease upon one of her most important systems.

When the organs of generation are infested with pediculi or crab-lice, the most efficacous and agreeable

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remedy is the application of strong Mercurial Ointment, which must be well rubbed in the parts. Such a practice is seldom ineffectual: even powdering them with Calomel, will at once destroy the insects, and thereby remove itching. The PURIFYING SPECIFIC PILLS, and CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM should be taken according to the 'General Directions,' and continued for some time in order to purify the blood.

SYPHILIS OR POX, AND SECONDARY SYMPTOMS.

Syphilis, or Pox, is another and more violent form of the Venereal Disease, and is divided into two forms, the primary and secondary. The former consists of a chancre or ulcer, which forms on the foreskin and nut of the penis, of an irritated and red appearance, which gradually spreads, and if not speedily arrested, ends in the total destruction of the penis. After the disease has appeared in the form of a chancre, in a few days a bubo or abscess of the groin follows, which inflames, enlarges, and suppurates or bursts, when a quantity of matter escapes; and, in severe cases, instances have occurred where the abscess has extended to deep parts and exposed the femoral artery, which has ulcerated, and the patient has lost his life from hemorrhage. When the disease is uninterrupted, the constitution becomes affected, and hence arise what are called secondary symptoms, which at first affect the nose and throat, secondly the skin and the surface of the body, and lastly the bones.

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When the venereal virus attacks the throat or palate, the membrane of the roof of the mouth becomes red and inflamed, a pimple forms upon it, which opens, ulcerates, and exposes the bony palate, which may be felt by the probe; this is the first stage. The exposed bone soon exfoliates, and communication is thereby formed between the mouth and nose, the fluids return through it, the voice is changed into a nasal twang, and a most offensive discharge is secreted.

When the tonsil glands are attacked, ulcers appear precisely similar in character to chancres—hollow in the centre, with raised ragged edges, yellow on the surface, with a livid colour on the surrounding margin. A sense of dryness is perceived, extending up the Eustachian tube to the ear. Sometimes the tongue is attacked. Extending its course, it next attacks the larynx, or



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top of the windpipe, when if not arrested it will soon destroy life. Attending this affection of the larynx, there is always loss of voice; the patient speaks in a low whisper. It is more fatal than any other form of the venereal disease.

The mucous membrane of the nose stands next in order, as subject to the influence of Syphilis. The patient's attention is first directed to it by an incrustation which forms in the nostril. On this being removed, a quantity of blood mixed with purulent matter is discharged, which frequently lays bare the bone, and occasions it to exfoliate, and horrible deformity is the result, which is illustrated by the engraving, recently drawn from a case UNDER THE CARE OF MESSRS. PERRY.

CHANCRES, OR ULCERS.

The first appearance of syphilis is commonly in the form of a chancre on the glans of the *penis*, or on the foreskin, in men—and on the *labia pudendi*, or *nymphæ*, in women. It will appear in other parts, however, as the back of the *penis*, and on the *scrotum*, in men; and the *perineum* of women will sometimes be the seat of the disease.

The precursor of chancre is a slight inflammation, followed by a little pimple; this gradually exposes a small pustule, the fluid in which is first transparent, then white; it breaks, and a small but spreading ulcer is formed, sometimes painful—generally sore; it has hard protuberant ash-colour edges, covered with a white slough, and is difficult of cure. It seldom happens that there is more than one chancre, although instances

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occur where there are two, three, or four; this, however, is usually the case with females; Dr. Hunter says, from the surface on which the chancres act being so much larger. These chancres or ulcers are often confounded with little excoriations and ulcers produced by friction, or by irritable sebacious matter in men; and with sores on the labia and thighs of women, arising from the fluor albus; these, when they arise from coition, appear immediately, are easy of cure, or go off in a few days, without the necessity of professional interference.

Dr. Cullen asserts that chancre is one of the local affections of syphilis, at the same time adding his belief that it never appears in any degree without immediately communicating to the blood more or less of the venereal poison—"for," says he, "I have constantly, whenever chancre appeared found symptoms of a general syphilis come on afterwards."

If chancre be seated in the urethra, it may be mistaken for gonorrhœa, but is distinguished by the smallness of the discharge, and the pain during erection being in the extremity of the penis, or at a particular spot in the urethra, but chiefly by examining, with the touch of a probe or bougie, whether it is callous or not. The lips of these ulcers never appear swollen, but contracted, and of a pale colour; the pus of them shines like melted tallow: it sinks no further than into the cellular membrane, which it destroys; and when these ulcers heal, the skin then adheres to the subjacent muscle, forming a cavity of a livid red colour.

Chancres are of various kinds. The most remarkable are—

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1st. That characterized by its circular form, its excavated surface covered by a layer of tenacious and adherent matter, and its hard cartilaginous base and margin.

2nd. Another form of chancre, unaccompanied by induration, but with a very high margin, appearing often on the outside of the prepuce, and seldom existing alone, called, from the preceding description, the "superficial chancre with raised edges." These kinds of ulcers are sometimes very tedious, neither getting better nor worse, but resisting every plan of treatment for their removal. We have known instances where they have existed for several months.

3rd. The phagedenic chancre, a "corroding ulcer without granulations," and distinguished by its circumference being of a livid red colour. Cases have occurred where, from injudicious treatment, the whole of the penis has been destroyed.

4th. A most formidable kind of chancre, denominated the sloughing ulcer. It first appears as a black spot, which spreads and becomes detached, leaving a deepened and unhealthy-looking surface. The sore is very painful, and encircled with a dark purple areola. If neglected or improperly treated, the process of mortification goes on until all the parts of generation are destroyed.

The last-named chancre is more often the consequence of neglect on the part of the patient, than the natural progress of the disease.

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Venereal poison does not produce ulceration immediately, but obtains *silent admission* into the system.

When a chancre or sore is perceived on the yard, *two pills are to be taken at night and two in the morning*, for a month after they are healed to secure a sound and permanent cure. It will be proper to dress the chancres three times a day with the following wash, which may be had at any druggist's shop:—

Calomel ..... 1 *scruple*,
Lime-water ..... 3 *ounces*. *Mix.*

Always before the sores are dressed, the matter must be wiped clean off with a bit of lint, afterwards washed with warm water; dip the whole penis in a basin of water for a minute, then take off the moisture with a piece of linen rag, and apply the black wash on a piece of linen or lint, to be kept wetted as much as possible.

Where at the expiration of a week, the chancre neither recedes nor advances, discontinue the *black* wash, and use the *blue* wash as underneath: should the pain be very great in applying it, it may be diluted with a little water:—

Sulphate of Copper..... 5 *grains*
Distilled Water..... 1 *ounce*
Mix and strain.

Where the chancre is situated under the prepuce, or skin, and the latter covering is so inflamed and swollen as to prevent its being drawn back to exhibit the sore, the discharge should be carefully washed out by any of the lotions already recommended, by means of a syringe, several times in the twenty-four hours. *Much good is often done by varying the local remedies, occasionally filling up the ulcer with blue*

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ointment, or in fact any substance which alters the morbid action of the part; but, as a general rule, the lotions will be found sufficient if persevered in.

WARTS.

A wart may be very properly considered a disease of the skin, covered with a diseased cuticle, commonly of a cylindrical shape. It appears on the foreskin and glands of the penis, in *men;* on the labia pudendi, in the angle between the labia and the inner part of the thigh, and about the perineum in *women*: in *negroes* the wart is black, like the rest of the skin.

Warts follow chancres, and sometimes gonorrhœa, but frequently appear when no local symptoms are present, the injudicious use of violent means often produces ulcerations:—the warts to be frequently smeared with a feather or hair pencil with the following lotion:

Nitrate of Silver ..... 1 *scruple*
Distilled Water ..... 1 *ounce*
Mix and strain.

Two Purifying Pills to be taken at night, and two in the morning.

VENEREAL ERUPTIONS OF THE FACE & SKIN.

These eruptive diseases are the production of a specific irritation, or a peculiar disposition of the constitution, which sooner or later gives rise to a series of obscure phenomena, singular in their character, and very tedious in their cure, repeatedly going and coming: and yet, though they assume a mixed and doubtful origin, they appear not to possess a contagious principle, and, like all cutaneous diseases, spontaneously terminate.

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These eruptions make the skin thick, rough, and unequal; the countenance acquires a livid hue; and the whole face exhibits an unnatural and unpleasing aspect, being sometimes covered with spots of a reddish, brownish, or copper colour, spreading themselves on the forehead and breast, and even extending their action to the palms of the hand: the breath becomes offensive; and the teeth also suffer. The general appearance of the eruption is that of hard scorbutic spots, about the size of spangles, of a livid, brown, or copper cast, not raised above the skin: their surface, soon after their appearance, becomes very rough, and falls off, in the form of white scales, leaving a slight pit.

The manner of the eruption occasionally varies; and, instead of displaying this kind of character, we find the face and nose covered with real pimples, tetters, and sebaceous concretions, which in their progress, become very troublesome, and often suppurate; and they con-

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tinue to display, to the great annoyance of the individual, this kind of indefinite action for a great length of time: even the larger spots occasionally continue to pit, till the pit loses its covering, and degenerates into an actual ulcer, which discharges a thin acrid matter mixed with blood; and at other periods throws out ragged warty excrescences, with itching, and even deep-scaled ulceration. With these appearances the face has been known to be completely covered: (*See engravings*,) and not only is the breath offensive, but



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the other excretions become also affected by this putrid action, exhaling a very unpleasant effluvia. Prior to the re-appearance of these eruptions, scales, and discolorations, the individual is frequently sick and faint. There is an unaccountable languor and depression of spirits—prostration of strength—restless nights, pain in the various bones, or rather a sort of tightness, as if they were bound with a cord. Although about this period the bones are evidently affected, the pain is never so acute as in confirmed venereal affections principally affecting these parts.

From the feeling of the patient, the pain about this time seems rather lodged about their external surface than in the body of the bone. Sleep yields neither comfort nor refreshment—a disagreeable sensation pervades the body, which is almost always accompanied by emaciation.

It will be necessary to avoid warm liquids, to dress cool and light, and to take moderate exercise in the open air, with nourishing diet.

The PILLS must be taken regularly, *two at night and two in the morning*, and a half pint of the following decoction morning and afternoon until the eruptions have entirely disappeared:—

Take of Sarsaparilla four ounces, of water two quarts, boil it down to three pints, and strain it off for use; the addition of two table spoonsful of the Cordial Balm of Syriacum, taken with each dose of the Sarsaparilla, will assist nature in producing a reaction of the System and greatly facilitate the cure.

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When the venereal eruptions are dry and scaly the following lotion must be applied twice a day—

Oxymuriate of Mercury ..... 2 *grains*,
Muriatic Acid ..... 4 *drops*,
Emulsion of Bitter Almonds .. 7½ *ounces*,
Simple Spirits of Lavender .... ½ *ounce*.

VENEREAL SORE THROAT

Begins with little or no pain: at first there is felt only a slight pricking, on swallowing food: when the throat is examined, ulceration is perceptible, and these ulcers have a particular appearance, they are of a conical shape, often of considerable depth, and generally attack that part of the throat called the almonds: on each side they are covered with a foul crust of thick white matter, resembling hog's lard: their effects, in the end, are, to produce hoarseness, stinking breath, &c.

Besides the throat, every part of the mouth may occasionally be the seat of venereal ulcers, though they are most frequent on the palate of the tongue. A deep copper-coloured spot, somewhere between the pap and middle of the palate, is the first appearance: this spot at last becomes ulcerated, and advances rapidly, both in breadth and depth. The cure of the venereal sore throat is only to be accomplished by the proper and gradual administration of the PURIFYING SPECIFIC PILLS, in doses of *two at night* and *two in the morning*, which should be continued for at least two months after the throat is quite well; but to assist their operation, check the progress of the ulceration, and

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prevent its destroying the soft palate, it is necessary to make applications to the throat, in the form of gargle; of which the following will be found one of the most successful:

Tincture of Cayenne Pepper ..	30	*drops*
Muriatic Acid	15	*drops*
Infusion of Roses	6	*ounces*

The throat to be gargled three or four times a day, *and be careful none passes down the throat.*

AFFECTIONS OF THE BONES.

Affections of the bones in syphilis, (or after the primary symptoms have disappeared,) are often mistaken for Rheumatism, Gout or Lumbago, and is often the indication of syphilitic action after not merely the healing of local sores, but even after ulceration in the throat and eruptive blotches upon the skin have entirely passed away; it would seem that there is an order of parts mostly but not always attacked in succession, of which the solid structure of the bones, as well as their fibrous investment, are usually the last to suffer.

The symptoms which mark the disease are as follows:—The patient experiences in the evening a sensation of pain in the bone, which is afterwards the seat of the node. In the course of a few days a swelling appears in the evening, which disappears again on the following morning; it is excessively painful and tender at night, but in the morning it is hardly per-

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ceptible, and the tenderness is almost gone. At this particular period the periosteum is only affected; but when the inflammation has continued some time longer, the bone is diseased and becomes enlarged.

The following treatment should be resorted to:—One table spoonful of CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM *four times a day*, with *one of the* PURIFYING SPECIFIC PILLS at each dose, and bathe the parts affected frequently with the following embrocation:—

Sulphuric Æther..... 1 *ounce*,
Compound Camphor Liniment 1 *ounce*,
Acetate of Morphine ..... 2 *grains*.

VENEREAL ULCERS AND SORES

Must be dressed frequently with the *Black Wash* ordered for chancres, or, if more convenient, the *ointment prescribed for buboes* may be applied, on a little lint twice a day.

In the use of all these local applications to syphilitic eruptions, it should be borne in mind that they are but of secondary utility; for without the use of the PURIFYING PILLS, and, in most cases, the CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM, the applications are next to useless.

Venereal infection may be conveyed to the embryo-infant, which in such case is said to be hereditarily affected.

These infants, at their birth, or at an early period, exhibit symptoms which, in their progress, blossom with all the apparent character of syphilitic excitement: some are covered with dark-copper specks and spots

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about various parts of the organs of generation: some are excoriated, and have small angry-looking but not deep-seated ulcerations: others are troubled with ulcers about the mouth, lips, and nose: *(see engraving,)* the



eyes are affected with an ophthalmic discharge, the ears suffer, &c.: in fact, it is not one symptom or one organ which suffers, but the whole system: the child snuffles very much in breathing, is fretful and weakly, wasting daily; day after day its cheeks become more pallid, and it looks anything but healthy, suffering in its stomach, bowels, and the alimentary canal generally; the mesenteric glands, the lungs, the liver, all are deranged; no part or organ performs its functions with energy; and the animal system is totally out of order:

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the child, it is true, lives, but lives to misery and increased disease. If the animal strength be sufficient to conquer these affections, and the child gain on the period of infancy, then the excitement retreats into its lingering and chronic type; and should this sweeping leviathan pass over the lungs, mesentery, and the internal viscera, with their tributary dependencies, it then fixes with Goliath strength on the spine or large joints, and there assumes its not less certain but more modulated character of scrofula.

Thus this dreadful malady passes from one stage to another, till the unhappy sufferer, weakened and wearied by such repeated and incessant attacks, falls, in the prime of age and intellect, the victim of its parent's error.

PERRY'S PURIFYING SPECIFIC PILLS AND CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM are particularly recommended to be taken before persons enter into the *matrimonial state*, lest the indiscretions of a parent prove the source of vexation the remainder of existence, by afflicting his innocent but unfortunate offspring with the evil eruptions of a malignant tendency, and a variety of other complaints that are most assuredly introduced by the same neglect and imprudence.

CLEANLINESS.

Throughout the whole treatment of every species of venereal complaints, a strict observance of cleanliness ought to be our first and constant object. Without this, we have not only to bear with the filthiness, naturally arising from such complaints; but it has been

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believed, that the absorbtion of matter which, on such occasions, must take place, greatly aggravates the very disease for the removal of which our other remedies are applied.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE EFFECTS OF MERCURY WHEN EMPLOYED IN SYPHILIS OR POX, WITH DIRECTIONS FOR PROPER TREATMENT.

Of all the disorders of the human frame, there is none which has baffled the skill of medical men more than Syphilis; and when we look to the general treatment of this disease in all its various forms, we cannot but deplore the great loss of life, which is daily occurring from the use of that deadly poison, Mercury, which is constantly administered by medical men, in cases of the venereal disease; the blood in the system is *poisoned*, and by being so, it conveys, wherever it travels in the arteries and veins, the seeds of disease. The blood thus poisoned goes to the heart, and diseases of this organ are the consequence: it goes to the lungs, and this organ becomes morbidly deranged: in fact, to whatever organ it travels, there it lays the foundation of disease. In cases like these, it has hitherto been the custom of the faculty, not to rid the system of the poison which is destroying the unhappy sufferer by inches, and preying upon his vitals, but they have pursued a course of treatment as incorrect with sound theory, as it is repugnant to humanity and common sense.

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One would naturally suppose that some drug would be administered to counteract the effects of the poison circulating in the veins. Not so ! Instead of so doing, *other poisons* have been thrown into the system, in the shape of Mercury, Arsenic, and other mineral poisons ; so that the unfortunate sufferer, instead of being benefited, is doomed to pass years of misery and unhappiness. In the Venereal Disease, it used to be the practise always to throw into the system immense quantities of mercury. And what were the consequences of this unnatural and inhuman mode of treatment? The unfortunate being had caries of his bones, copper coloured eruptions made their appearance all over his body, with running sores in the neck, and distorted features. *(See engravings.)*



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Yes, *the rotten skulls which are to be found in anatomical museums*—with all the other beautiful specimens of diseased bones, which in our younger days were so abundant in hospitals, in the great majority of cases *were the production of long and harrassing courses of mercury.* The rash, indiscriminate, and unqualified abuse of MERCURY has been productive of infinite mischief. Under the notion of its being an antidote for a certain disease, the untutored think they have only to saturate their system with Mercury, and the business is accomplished. Fatal error! Thousands are annually either mercurialized out of existence, or their constitutions so broken, and the functions of nature so impaired, as to render the residue of life miserable.

The disorder which we have in view, owes its fatal results either to neglect or ignorance. In the first stage it is always local, and easy to be extinguished, without the smallest injury to the constitution; but when neglected or improperly treated, a mere local affection will be converted into an incurable and fatal malady. What a pity that a young man, the hope of his country and the darling of his parents, should be snatched from all the prospects and enjoyments of life by the consequences of one unguarded moment, and by a disease which is not, in its own nature, fatal, and which never proves so if properly treated! To do ample justice to the case, a man must devote his entire attention to investigate diseases, to detect their occult indications, and promptly to apply a safe and radical remedy.

The blood being poisoned in scrofula, leprosy, and

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the Venereal Disease and its consequences, it is necessary to introduce into the stomach, medicines which will have the effect of immediately counteracting the destructive effects of the poison circulating in the veins; for this purpose the

PURIFYING SPECIFIC PILLS,
AND
CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM,

have been invented and used for many years by Messrs. Perry with the most unprecedented success. The Cordial Balm of Syriacum effectually destroys any poison which may exist in the blood, and thereby cures disease. How can health exist, when the very life of the body is poisoned? And is it natural to expect that one poison in the body can be removed by introducing another? The Pills, by coming immediately in contact with the coat of the stomach, are carried directly to the blood, which they purify; and in consequence of which, cure those distressing diseases to which the human frame is liable, as scurvy, scrofula, venereal disease, leprosy, &c.

It is only by purifying the vital stream from insidious disease, that the body can be preserved in health and vigour. Hence the infinite variety of complaints an infected state of the blood induces, and hence the new and deceptive forms a tainted habit puts on, which often deceive the most eminent of the faculty, and baffle the best intentions towards a cure.

These Pills are mild and effectual in their operation, without Mercury, or Mineral, and require no restraint in diet, loss of time, or hinderance from business;

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possessing the power of eradicating every symptom of the disease in its worst stage, without the least exposure to the patient; and in those disorders wherein SALIVATION has left the patient uncured, weak, and disheartened, and when no other remedy can restore the unhappy sufferer to that health which he unfortunately lost, the PURIFYING SPECIFIC PILLS will be found the only effectual and radical remedy.

Many persons that have imagined themselves cured of the venereal disease, have had the misfortune to break out six or seven years afterwards. A proof happened in our practice the other day. A gentleman was afflicted with the same complaint, and cured as he thought, by the advice and prescription of an eminent surgeon. He afterwards entered on the state of matrimony, four months after which he caught a violent cold, that terminated in a sore throat. At this crisis we were applied to, and acquainted him that it proceeded from an old venereal complaint. He then called in an apothecary, who treated his complaint as a common sore throat, until he became so bad, that he was compelled to call in a medical man, who confirmed the truth of what we had told him, but too late for his recovery, the venereal complaint having eaten away part of his throat and nose, the ravages of which could not be stopped during his life, so that he fell a sacrifice to his obstinacy. Persons, therefore, should be extremely cautious in eradicating the above complaint, for which there is nothing more beneficial than PERRY'S PURIFYING SPECIFIC PILLS, which are a certain remedy without subjecting the patient to the dangers attending a course of mercury.

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But it is necessary to state that it will be in vain to expect relief from this remedy without punctuality: for taking a box or two properly, then leaving off for some days and beginning again, will be of no service. They must be taken regularly.

Patients who reside in the country, at whatever distance, can have the remedies applicable to their several disorders forwarded to any part of the United Kingdom, carefully secured in a portable compass, and in every respect of convenient use. They are requested to be as minute as possible in the detail of their cases, as to the duration of the complaint, the symptoms, age, habits of living, and general occupation.

ON MARRIAGE.

Having duly considered the diseases pertaining to the reproductive powers of both sexes, from early indulgence or infection, we now offer a few remarks on that sacred condition which the late "Invalid" when convalescent, will probably be most anxious to adopt.

Conjugal society is a perpetual compact between man and woman to live together in mutual love and friendship, for the procreation, conservation, and education of children, and to aid each other by mutual succour for the course of life. The diversity of the sexes was instituted for this purpose; and there is an innate desire implanted in both to perpetuate their species, their names, and to transfer their property to their children.

Of all the social institutions, there is none which

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exercise so great an influence upon states as marriage.

The prosperity of a nation depends upon the strength and vigour of its inhabitants, which are powerfully influenced by the comparative perfection of the marriage laws.

It was therefore wisely ordained that marriage should be a sacred compact, for which those engaging in it should forsake their nearest relations and friends. The parties contracting it form the strictest union and nearest relation that can be established between two individuals; their temporal concerns are identical, and consequently marriage is universally considered the source of the greatest comfort and most perfect enjoyment on earth, securing all the advantages of sincere friendship, and the reciprocal offices of true and tender affection. The parties entering into this state, vow mutual love, fidelity, and friendship. It was therefore most wisely ordained in the beginning of time, that "a man shall leave his father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife, and they two shall be one flesh."

Marriage was originally instituted between the first of the human species, as a religious, political, civil, and moral contract of Divine ordinance, the origin of society, the law for the reproduction of the species,—a contract for the transmission of property, a guarantee for obligations the most interesting to mankind. It is therefore universally respected.

Man is a rational and social being, deriving his chief of earthly happiness from the delights of society, and the interchange of thought. It is the interchange of the charities and sympathies of

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of life, which gives to human existence its real and only value. Hence, man in a state of solitude, or even isolated luxury or affluence, would be the most pitiable and miserable of creatures.

Exposed to the corroding cares, sorrows, bitter disappointments, and misfortunes of life, man cannot brave alone, and unbefriended, the ingratitude, envy, and malevolence of the world.

The perfection and sincerity of friendship can only be found in the marriage state, where an indentity of interest shuts out all petty jealousies and vexations, and a unity of thought, sentiment, feeling, and conduct, exists. The qualities essential to conjugal happiness are chiefly of a mental or moral nature, and not merely of a physical kind, as is unfortunately too generally the case.

The proper age for marriage, according to the law of this country, is twenty-one for the male, and eighteen for the female; but many physiologists are of opinion that the ages of twenty-five and twenty one would more accord with the complete developement of adults. Buffon held this position, "the natural state of man after puberty is marriage;" but this is evidently untenable, because the human body is not fully developed at this period of life, the different functions are not perfect, and as the organs are only in the progress of their growth, the offspring would be infirm and delicate; and the sexes totally incompetent to perform the various important duties of parents. It is at, or rather after the adult age, that the mind and body have arrived at perfection; and therefore moral-

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ists and legislators have fixed this age as the best for marriage.

It is universally known, that premature or excessive exertion of any part of the body is succeeded by fatigue or decay of such part; and more especially before complete developement has taken place. Hence it follows, that the premature exertion of the genital functions, or marriage at too early an age, must not only be highly injurious to the parents in most cases, but also to the constitution of the offspring. It is also a moral and medical precept, that both male and female should observe the strictest continence until the adult age, so that the great end of marriage, the propagation of healthful infants, may be accomplished.

Persons of strong and sound constitutions beget healthful infants, while those who make excessive mental or corporeal exertion have generally feeble offspring. It is for this reason that simple, stupid villagers generally beget infants of high physical and moral powers; while men of the greatest genius, who over-exert their mental faculties, often engender only idiots or pusillanimous infants. Thus, by a protracted continence or a purity of morals, the species are improved and strengthened both in mind and body.

It is manifest that individuals resulting from a love which is languid, or in old age, enfeebled by the destructive habit of self-pollution, are not only feeble and debilitated, but without any remarkable faculties. It is also well known that parents contaminated with ill-cured syphilis, often beget infants which are born dead and decomposed between the seventh and eighth

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month of pregnancy; and that the disease in question is a common cause of premature parturition. It does not, however, follow that every man infected with syphilis in a secondary or chronic form, begets infants that perish in the last months of pregnancy, for it requires a certain degree of contamination to cause this result; for when the taint is slighter, infants are born alive, but weak and delicate, and either covered with a copper or dark-coloured eruption about the genitals and thighs, at birth, or this appears soon afterwards. We have fully described this disease in infants, in another part of this Treatise.

During the last few years we have known numerous instances where men, having laboured under local debility, have been disappointed in begetting offspring, but who, upon their recovering, have rendered fruitful the marriage-bed. Impuissance in the male, then, may be considered, as far as our judgment carries us, the most frequent cause of fruitless marriages.

The absence of offspring to married couples is a source of much domestic infelicity. We do not mean to imply that family jars are engendered in lieu thereof; but there is necessarily a want, appreciated best by those who are fortunately blessed with a family. How common is the expression with heirless people, "I would give anything to have a child."

If it is in the power of medicine to further that object, the Cordial Balm of Syriacum can alone afford assistance; it favours the reproduction of the semen, and strengthens at the same time the secretory vessels and the reservoirs, so as to insure at once a due ela-

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boration and sufficient retention of that liquor; and by that means removes radically all the affections of the genital parts in both sexes; substituting vigour for impotence, and fecundity in place of barrenness.

Marriage was instituted by the divine Creator in the time of man's primitive innocence, as the means of his happiness, and the perpetuation of his race. The wisdom of its institution has been felt and acknowledged in every age; but before undertaking that important and prudent step, we would suggest the necessity of the patient first thoroughly convincing himself of his perfect recovery, and of obtaining the sanction of his medical attendant, ere he embark his happiness, by a process which he cannot afterwards honourably annul, and from which will be entailed physical deformity and mental misery on the innocent and helpless.

Among the disqualifications of marriage are various diseases,—congenital, that is to say, those which are born with us—accidental—and those which proceed from infection, all of which have been treated upon in their several places; but of all causes of the impairment of the virile powers, excess of indulgence is the reigning one. They may be injured in more ways than one—the mixture with the world offers many; but that has its restrictions: the most poisonous one is the one indulged alone, where the sanctity of the closet is invaded by the most heart-rending of all misappropriations, namely:—what is understood by the name 'Onanism,' which has been fully discussed in the foregoing pages, containing the necessary instructions for treatment and cure.

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CASES.

The following communications are made public, at the earnest desire of the parties who have been the subjects of our care, some of whom have intimated a wish to have their names attached, and others have objected from motives of secrecy. To prevent any unpleasant feeling on so delicate a subject, we have substituted the general initials of A.B., C.D., &c.; nor do we intend at a future period to adopt any other plan, nor to publish any case or communication, but such as we may be entitled to make public, at the *request* of the parties themselves to whom such cases refer.

L. O. B. aged 20, apparently stout, was about six years ago, while at school, initiated in baneful practises. It was not, till after three years continuance in these habits, that he felt the least inconvenience from them. Then, however, he was suddenly affected with frequent emissions while in bed; but as they proved only troublesome for the moment, he was not in the least intimidated by them, and for a year after, he continued his habits more frequently than ever. About two years ago, these involuntary emissions became more frequent, occurring four and often six times every week. These were now followed by cold shiverings, which lasted for an hour or two each time, with complete inability to sleep during the remainder of the night. He was also affected with frequent cold perspiration all over his body, coldness of his extremities, shrinking of his penis, and great pain of his stomach; sometimes with a voracious appetite for food, but more frequently a disgust to all victuals for several days. On such occasions, if he swallowed anything but liquids, the sensations he felt in his stomach were not actually painful, but indescribably irksome. From the difficulty, too, which he felt in being obliged to perform the act of respiration, almost entirely by his voluntary powers, he believed he should die suddenly while in bed. About that time, he felt an irregular swelling in one testicle; and he began, for the first time, to suspect the real cause of his complaint. To prevent his relations becoming acquainted with it, he exerted his ingenuity to prevent them applying for medical assistance. He at first thought, that, by abstaining from his former practises, which he now resolved to do, he should recover without being obliged to have recourse to any other expedient; but this would not do; now, in addition to his other dis-

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tresses, his bowels became obstinately costive, and he could procure no evacuation, without the assistance of cathartic medicines. These with the cold bath, and the internal use of Bark and wine, and occasionally mineral waters, were the only medicines he used till he commenced taking the CORDIAL BALM of SYRIACUM.

In October following, this gentleman had enjoyed much better health than he had done for about three years before; his appetite was more regular, and the state of his bowels more natural; his sleep was undisturbed by frightful dreams, and the emissions only occurred once a week, and were unattended by the sensations formerly so distressing to him. We desired him to continue the medicine a few weeks longer.

On the 2d of June in the succeeding year, we were glad to be informed by our patient, that his health was perfectly good, and he was capable of exercising all his functions, and seldom had an emission.

Gentlemen, *Plymouth, Aug. 2nd.* 1841.

Through a destructive secret practice which I have given way to from a very early period, I have greatly impaired my body and mind. A dizziness comes over my eyes, a singing and sometimes a dull noise in my ears; with dejection of spirits. I am very nervous, and upon the least irritation, such a trembling comes over me that I can scarcely stand; with a frequent sense of cold water running from the crown of my head down my back. I have now scarcely any desire for venereal pleasures; and very seldom an erection. When I speak with a female, I am seized with such a trembling that my legs will hardly support me; my teeth chatter, my mouth becomes parched and dry, a thin, clear, and slimy liquid runs from the penis, which seems likewise so chilly and flabby, that at times I cannot produce an erection sufficiently strong to perform the action. Upon taking any familiarities with a female, though it may produce a faint desire or sensation, I have no erection, but a little titillation, and the same thin clear water comes from me, without leaving any stain on my linen.

My stools leave at times a slimy substance after them. My mind is so overpowered with the thoughts of this complication of symptoms, that scarcely any thing affords me pleasure; the least exercise fatigues; and I frequently sit thinking of my misfortunes, till the idea of having brought them on myself almost distracts me.

I am induced to apply to you for advice having read a case similar to my own in your invaluable work entitled the "Silent Friend."

In consequence of having practised the detestable vice of Onanism, my constitution is so reduced, and the parts are rendered so imbecile by continued repetitions of that solitary gratification, that frequently in the act of coition the penis suddenly drops, nor will erection ever so slight take place for hours afterwards. I

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am twenty-five years of age; and have pursued this vicious habit for many years

Inclosed is your usual consultation Fee; your early attention to my unfortunate situation will much oblige, Yours, respectfully, *W. H.*

The following extract from this gentleman's ninth letter will show the wonderful efficacy of the Cordial Balm of Syriacum, under another course of which the party determined to enter upon.

"After this favourable report, if you think necessary, pray send it; but I am satisfied of my recovery, &c."

Nov. 20th., 1841. *W. H.*

Glasgow.

Dear Sirs,—I do not find in your Silent Friend any case similar to my own, I shall, therefore, without reserve, state my case, and if you are of opinion that the Cordial Balm of Syriacum will cure me, I will commence a course willingly. I have had one or two gonorrhœas, and since I had the last, about three years ago, I have been suffering somewhat under that state described as morbid irritability, and an inability to retain the fluid in the secreting organs. Before the period stated, my powers were quite equal, I believe, to those of the generality of men. My age is forty-three, and I am in excellent general health and spirits. Since the period above stated, I do not think the penis has ever had the capacity it formerly had, when in bed. I constantly have erections, but seldom if ever seminal emissions. On these occasions, the erections go down, without any emission; but when I address a female, with an intent to cohabitation, the penis immediately becomes half erected, and fluid oozes out, without any sensation whatever. This, however, does not quench the desire. When I come to the point with a female, I feel all the desire I ever did, but the watery oozing out continues, and the penis does not expand to anything near the size it does when I am by myself in bed. When I commence the act of cohabitation, I frequently emit *before* I penetrate, and *invariably the instant* after penetration. I presume it must be a weakness in the vessels containing the fluid. I have now waved all delicacy, and fully explain to you my case, and I hope you will excuse the freedom with which I have done so. I should say my case came under the head of nervous debility, but that I am in excellent health and spirits. If, gentlemen, you think, on this full statement, that you see my case clearly and can cure it, I shall be happy to place myself under your care as soon as possible. You will of course be pleased to consider this as strictly private.

I am, dear Sirs, yours truly, K. R. C.

Extract.

"With great pleasure I announce my complete recovery. I have now arrived at as good a state of health and strength as ever; the medicine has been long finished, and my delay in writing was, that I wished to see if there would be any return of my disorder." K. R. C.

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TO MESSRS. PERRY.

When an individual has experienced any particular mark of kindness, in which his welfare and happiness have been considerably promoted, nothing is more natural than to seek out the person by whom we have been served, for the purpose of expressing our grateful sense of the favour bestowed: but in case of health, where we have been recovered from the last deplorable stage of debilitated nature and restored to the full enjoyment of all the various blessings of life, we are forcibly called on by every consideration, to acknowledge it in the most public manner; we owe this equally to our own feelings, which must be sensibly awakened on the occasion, to your skill and talents, which merit every encomium of the public at large, in order that those who may stand in need of similar benefits may know where to receive them.

Having made these general observations, I shall proceed to state the particular case that has occasioned them, and to lay before the public the salutary effects that I have experienced under the greatest affliction that can possibly befall us.

I was born and educated at Northampton, and at sixteen years of age, went to the University of Oxford. Prior to my leaving Northampton, and more particularly at College, I was reduced to the most grievous state, by those horrid and unnatural practices too incident to youth, and which are not more baneful to our health than sinful in the eye of God.

I was at first afflicted with a dimness of sight, and a weakness in my loins, and a depression of spirits; in this situation I applied to Mr. Ware, a famous occulist, who informed me that it proceeded from the optic nerves. I for some time followed his advice, till one day returning from shooting, I was seized with a numbness in my limbs to such a degree as to lead me to conclude that I should entirely lose the use of them; this induced me to put myself under the care of Dr. Letsom, of London, but neither his aid nor the waters of Bath, which place I visited, afforded me the least relief; my spirits at length were so severely depressed, with violent palpitation of the heart, and my flesh so much decayed, that I became a mere skeleton. Observing however in the newspapers an advertisement respecting Messrs. Perry's Cordial Balm of Syriacum, I was induced to try the same, when I fortunately discovered in a pamphlet which it was wrapped in, the complaint I had so long laboured under.

I have the happiness to add, that by following the advice contained therein, and going through a complete course of Messrs. Perry's invaluable Balm of Syriacum, I am now, thank Heaven, perfectly recovered, and as well as ever I was in my life.

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant, P. S. W.

A young gentleman of the age of sixteen had contracted a certain habit, which he continued until he was twenty-five. At this period he experienced

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extreme weakness of the optic nerves, and a very great dimness of sight: his memory was much impaired; he had also violent head aches, and sometimes excruciating pains in his forehead and temples. On endeavouring to read he frequently found himself seized with a species of giddiness, similar to that resulting from a state of inebriation, the pupils of his eyes were extremely dilated, and often pained him most acutely: the eyelids were extremely inflamed, and on rising in the morning he was unable to open them without the application of some warm fluid. He often shed tears involuntarily, and a quantity of corrosive pus continually issued from the corners of his eyes. But certainly one of the worst and most debilitating symptoms, was an infirmity to which he was subject, almost every night in his sleep, which had reduced him to a most deplorable state of debility and emaciation.

This was an extremely obstinate and protracted case, but in the course of a few months he was restored to himself, if we may use the expression, and to society, of which he is now a respectable and useful member.

To MESSRS. PERRY & Co., SURGEONS.

Dear Sirs,—I return you my sincere thanks and most grateful acknowledgments, for the wonderful cure I have experienced, and am extremely desirous of annexing my remarkable case to your list of cures for the good of society. I am forty years of age, and about 18 months ago was afflicted in the following distressing manner:—a disordered stomach, dry consumptive cough, weakness in the voice, hoarseness, shortness of breath on the least exercise, and relaxation of the whole system, paleness, languor of the eyes, weakness of sight and memory, proceeding no doubt, from that baneful and solitary vice which is early acquired at school, before reason has asserted her right over the mind. I applied to several of the faculty, and was treated according to the best of their abilities but received no benefit. I was in consequence prevented from entering into the marriage state. I was at last recommended by a friend of mine who had derived great benefit from taking your Medicine for a similar complaint, to write to the Medical Establishment for some.—You will bear in recollection, that I received of you three distinct packages, and before I had finished the last, I found myself completely recovered. I have now entered into the matrimonial state, having a son to crown my happiness.

Castle Gate, Norwich. Yours, with great esteem and regard, J. F.

To MESSRS. PERRY, SURGEONS.

Worcester, July 6, 1838.

Dear Sirs,—A few months ago I called at your Establishment for your advice, when you recommended a course of the Balm of Syriacum. I am at

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last, with much shame, induced to address you on the miserable situation I was in, when I commenced taking your blessed Medicine. I am convinced the disease I was afflicted with, was solely occasioned by my having contracted, in my early youth a most infamous habit, the continual practice of which had totally destroyed my constitution. The health of my body was not only affected, but the powers of the mind were much weakened; my judgment had lost its solidity, and my memory its retentive faculties, my head was confused, and subject to frequent swimmings, and I had been much troubled with an oppression at my breast, which occasioned a constant perspiration; I had pains in my stomach, and weakness and a general debility all over me, with constant yawning, and sleepiness; my appetite was fluctuating, my spirits greatly depressed, so that at times I could scarcely refrain from sighing and involuntary weeping; my eyes were inflamed, and frequently emitted a watery humour; in a word I was an object of misery. I paid a strict attention to your advice, and continued taking the Medicine according to your directions for about three months. I am now perfectly recovered; therefore I think it not only my duty to acknowledge the service you have done me, but to inform the Public for the benefit of others, who labour under the same, or any disease similar to those from which I was happily recovered.

I am, dear Sirs, your most obliged humble servant, J. C. J.

CASE OF MR. G. M.

Having in my youth, I confess it with shame, been subject to the henious offence of Self-Pollution, I brought upon myself a running, which neither the cold bath nor any thing that I was advised to apply, could remove. Thus circumstanced, no one suspected me of labouring under any bodily complaint but my Doctor, which I accounted for from my being naturally robust, and always preserving my colour. At this crisis I was induced to pay my addresses to a young lady of great personal accomplishments, and soon obtaining her consent, was united to her in the bands of wedlock. This I must acknowledge was highly imprudent in me, who knew from my debilitated state, that I was utterly incapable of consummating my nuptials. A seminal discharge always preceeded a perfect erection, which at first I was weak enough to attribute to a strong desire of possession, but the same disappointment continuing, I had recourse to drinking, which instead of remedying the evil, only increased it; no kind of erection could I procure, and positively emitted the seed always before the connexion took place. The distress of my being in this unfortunate predicament was greatly heightened by the fear that my wife had dropped some hints to my mother of my incapability of performing matrimonial duty, and I looked upon a divorce as inevitable, when I was advised by a friend, whom I acquainted with my truly critical situation, to purchase some bottles of your Cordial Balm of Syriacum. Persevering in

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taking this excellent medicine has given a stamina to my constitution, of which I thought my youthful excesses had entirely bereft me; in about five months it accomplished a cure, and it is with pleasure I inform you, that my wife is pregnant with her first child, of which I think I should never have been the father, had it not been for your precious medicine.

To MESSRS. PERRY.

Dear Sirs, Coventry.

On the 20th of last month, I received from you the last box of medicine and have since punctually followed the directions it contained. I write now to inform you that the medicine is nearly expended, and that for this last month there has not been any appearance of venereal infection. The only thing which now gives me uneasiness, is the continued weakness of the seminal organs, which appears to have increased, and I am sorry to say, that involuntary emissions have been more frequent and copious, taking place every four or five nights, and there is often a discharge of clear adhesive matter like semen. I am tolerably well in health, and do not feel any diminution of strength. I must now beg your consideration in my case, and inform you that I shall be obliged to go abroad in the beginning of next week; therefore pray have the goodness to send me medicine for as long a time as you can, and copious directions for my guidance, both during the time it lasts, and afterwards. I shall most probably be stationary, and at liberty to follow any plan of living. Pray let me know on what occasions I must increase or diminish the dose of the Cordial Balm of Syriacum, and what diet and plan of life I must follow. However, I leave all this to you, not doubting that you will kindly feel for my situation, and wish to bring the work you have taken in hand, and so ably carried on, to a happy conclusion.

With many thanks for the kindness and attention you have shewn me, I am, dear sirs, yours, sincerely and obliged, K. L.

[The above gentleman's case was one of the most complicated that ever came under our knowledge; the virile power had been nearly destroyed by the effects of Onanism—his habit was scorbutic, and he laboured under an irritable gleet. He has since acquainted us by letter of his complete recovery.]

To MESSRS. PERRY & CO., SURGEONS.

Gentlemen, Kilkenny.

I was sent to school not far from London, where I was very early initiated into the baneful practice of Self-Pollution, which with shame I confess I have followed with very little interruption till a short time ago, when I, fortunately

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for myself, saw your invaluable little Treatise. It was then for the first time, (though I had before often suspected that I was not doing right,) I became fully sensible of the madness of my conduct, and the certain misery I was entailing upon myself; and though I have now determined never to recommence the practice, and do not think my case so bad as very many of those you have cured, yet I do want some of your assistance, and shall give you a short statement of my case. My age is nearly twenty—I am thin and not tall—my habits are sedentary, my manner of living regular, and my diet plain—I rise generally between six and seven, breakfast at eight, dine at four, and have my tea at eight—Supper I hardly ever eat. I eat heartily of animal food at dinner, and drink nothing but small beer, and very little wine—Spirits I seldom touch. I am not, thank God, now so much troubled with nocturnal emissions, but the semen which I used to void in my wretched practice, was always thin and watery, and I found at last that after one act, I had great difficulty in obtaining another. In the few connexions I have had with women, I have always had emissions before I wished it, and afterwards found myself unable to obtain a sufficient erection at another time, all appetite being gone. On the whole I am afraid that I have materially injured myself, and now I trust entirely to you for a cure.

I had forgot to state, that for the four or five days last, I have been, and am now still, troubled with a pain in the right testicle, which I think is rather swollen; I am also troubled with a pain in my thigh, and under part of my groin. These, I believe, are all the parts of my case. I enclose you a note, and shall be glad to receive a letter of advice, and also some medicine from you as soon as possible, and at the same time I will thank you to let me know whether I shall be obliged to take any large quantity, and what the probable expense will be.

Please to direct the letter to me, marked "private."

I am, gentlemen, your very obedient servant, Mc. C.

*** Cured by a course of the Cordial Balm of Syriacum.

CASE OF MR. D. M., OF CHESTER.

I was subject to a venereal disorder nineteen years, and during that period was under the hands of the first men in the science of physic, who adopted every method wherein the smallest probability of success could be formed, and apparently the disease was entirely expelled; but the alleviation was but for a moment, and then returned with redoubled force; the want of success, the assertions of entire restoration, by those who undertook the cure, entirely dissipated those sanguine hopes I entertained of the infallibility of medical skill. The natural consequences resulting from the inefficacy of the various methods adopted, and the violent operation of astringent minerals coming in contact with the disease, produced an ulcer on the lungs. Then

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the horrors of existence were experienced, a description of which would be an attempt vague and inconsistent; those only who have felt that degree of misery can be sensible of its effects.

During this period, my dissolution was the only subject of my prayers, when I received from a friend a pamphlet of Messrs. Perry's, recommending a medicine called the PURIFYING SPECIFIC PILLS, and CORDIAL BALM of SYRIACUM, in which was pointed out several cases of a nature strongly similar to my own; through the importunity of my friend and being conscious I could not be in a worse situation, I sent to Messrs. PERRY, and went under a regular course of their medicine, and in four months, was astonishingly recovered.

[Mr. D. M. is entirely restored since the above statement, and has recommended the Syriacum and Pills, with that zeal which he is sensible they merit.]

To Messrs. PERRY & Co.,

Gentlemen,—With heartfelt gratitude, I return you sincere thanks, for the wonderful benefit I have experienced from your salutary advice and highly valued medicine. About three months since, having unfortunately contracted the venereal disease, and not regarding it at the time as anything material; till at length, I suddenly found myself plunged into the deepest misery; for I at last discovered that my blood was impregnated with that distressing disorder: nodes on my shin bones, ulcerated throat, diseased nose, with pains in my head, till at length a general debility and decay of the constitution ensued, and had I not persevered in the use of your Purifying Specific Pills and Cordial Balm of Syriacum, death would have put an end to my miserable existence long ere this. But, happily for me, receiving one of your publications, I applied, if you recollect, at the Establishment in Birmingham, and you immediately prescribed a course of Syriacum, (which to speak plainly, I put very little faith in, having tried so many patent medicines in vain). After taking one bottle at 33s. I perceived little or no benefit; however I did not despair, but continued to proceed according to the directions, but how great was the surprise of my friends, and my own astonishment, when in the course of a short time, I discovered wonderful improvement, and an entire alteration in my whole person. Nothing could exceed my joy, as my prospects in life are great, I continued the Cordial Balm for two months, with the Purifying Specific Pills, and was restored to health and strength, which I had long been a stranger to; and those unhappy persons who may be labouring under this destructive disease, should take time to consider the dreadful consequences arising therefrom, and make immediate application for your superior advice, and much esteemed medicines.

I remain, dear Sirs,

Norwich. Your ever grateful and obliged, R. P.

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NOTICE TO PATIENTS.

For a series of years past a great portion of our practice has been carried on in EPISTOLARY CORRESPONDENCE. Since, however, the alteration in the postage regulations, the number of our correspondents have increased *many* fold. It will be apparent, with what facility advice can be sought for, and obtained within a few hours, suiting alike persons abroad and at home. By the present postage arrangements, distance is no hinderance or additional expense to invalids resident in the Highlands, the limits of the Welch mountains, the Eastern coast, or the 'Land's End;' and by them also, some of the severest infirmities of mental and physical life can be revealed and assuaged. We have alluded to the diffidence besetting individuals, suffering under many of the calamities enumerated, the diffidence that encourages them to bear the ills they have, rather than, with a view to their relief or mitigation, take into their confidence a professional neighbour, even as a relative or friend; we have adduced the foregoing cases to shew with what promptness and quietude the difficulties may be overcome, and what probable success may follow. Letters may be addressed A. B. or any other initials.

Patients are requested to be as minute and exact as possible in the detail of their cases, as to the duration of their complaint, the symptoms, age, habits of living, and occupation. The communication must be accompanied with the usual CONSULTATION FEE of ONE

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POUND; or a Post-office order to that amount, to ensure its safety; without which, no notice whatever can be taken of their application; and in all cases the MOST INVIOLABLE SECRECY may be relied on.

MESSRS. PERRY & CO.

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FOUR DOORS FROM EASY ROW,

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