

**PRACTICAL OBSERVATIONS ON THE
PRESERVATION OF HEALTH, AND THE
PREVENTION OF DISEASES: COMPRISING THE
AUTHOR'S EXPERIENCE ON THE DISORDERS OF
CHILDHOOD AND OLD AGE, ON SCROFULA,
AND ON THE EFFICACY OF CATHARTIC
MEDICINES**

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Practical Observations on the Preservation of Health, and the Prevention of Diseases:
Comprising the Author's Experience on the Disorders of Childhood and Old Age, on Scrofula,
and on the Efficacy of Cathartic Medicines by Sir Anthony Carlisle

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SIR ANTHONY CARLISLE

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THE EFFICACY OF CATHARTIC MEDICINES.

BY

SIR ANTHONY CARLISLE, F.R.S.

PROFESSOR OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, AND SURGEON TO THE WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL.

"PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE."



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613.

TO THE
DOWAGER COUNTESS OF CORK
AND ORRERY.

MADAM,

Your high talent and venerable age demand my respectful homage, and the dedication of this work in particular is due to your enlightened opinion of the Medical Profession; since you are pleased to attribute your prolonged life, and your extraordinary health, to the continued care of that Profession, notwithstanding your frame and constitution have been delicate from infancy.

That your superior faculties may long continue unimpaired, to grace the elevated circle in which you move, is the sincere wish of

Your Ladyship's faithful servant,

ANTHONY CARLISLE.

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE following pages have been written at a mature age, and they record the assured convictions of extensive personal experience.

The work might have been expanded into a huge volume had the author adopted the book-making plan of ransacking medical libraries; but his knowledge of the invalidity of untested quotations, whether from ancient or modern books, and of the great evils which arise from repeating and accumulating inaccurate statements, induces him to rely on his own resources, and on those unquestionable evidences which have been proved.

The work is addressed to a class of readers, unknown in preceding ages—to well-educated persons, who have discovered the deficiencies of classical learning in physic, and who begin to doubt the mysteries involved in dead languages.

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INTRODUCTORY EXPOSITION.

THIS book does not pretend to instruct unprofessional readers, in anatomy, in medical science, in the various uses and services of drugs, or in the other branches of knowledge properly belonging to physic or surgery.

It does not pretend to make domestic doctors, nor to justify the chance-medley employment of medicines, whose operations are ill understood, even among philosophers. It is especially designed to shew that the healing art is progressively becoming more certain, and that it possesses many claims to be ranked with the rational arts; that its well-instructed and experienced practitioners, more especially in surgery, have arrived at a state of exactness,