PRACTICAL REMARKS UPON INDIGESTION;
PARTICULARLY AD CONNECTED WITH BILIOUS
AND NERVOUS AFFECTIONS OF THE HEAD,
AND OTHER PARTS; INCLUDING
OBSERVATIONS UPON THE DISORDERS AND
DISEASES OF THE STOMACH; AND SUPERIOR
PARTS OF THE ALIMENTARY CANAL

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Practical Remarks upon Indigestion; Particularly Ad Connected with Bilious and Nervous Affections of the Head, and Other Parts; Including Observations upon the Disorders and Diseases of the Stomach; And Superior Parts of the Alimentary Canal by John Howship

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JOHN HOWSHIP

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PRACTICAL REMARKS

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OF

THE STOMACH;

AND SUPERIOR PARTS OF THE ALIMENTARY CANAL.

ILLUSTRATED BY CASES.

By JOHN HOWSHIP,

ASSISTANT SURGEON TO THE ST. CEORGE'S INFIRMARY;
MYMBER OF THE BOTAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, AND MEDICO-CHIBURGICAL
SOCIETY, OF LONDON; ROYAL MEDICAL SOCIETY, OF EDINAUROH; SOCIETÉ
MEDICALE D'EMULATION, FARIS; MENDER D'HONNEUR DE LA SOCIETÉ
FOUR LES SCHENGES NATURELLES ET MEDICALES, A DERBOR; ACADEMIA
CABARRA HATURE CURIOSORUM, BONN; AFD SOCIETATES REGLE MEDICE,
COPENHAGIN. AUTHOR OF PRACTICAL OBSERVATIONS IN SURGERY AND MORRID
ANATOMY; FRACTICAL OBSERVATIONS ON THE DISPASES THAT AFFECT THE
BEGINTION AND EXCRETION OF URINE; AND FRACTICAL OBSERVATIONS ON
THE DISPASES OF THE LOWER INTESTITUE, &C.

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1825.

ROBERT HOOPER, M.D. F.L.S.

MEMBER OF THE BOYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS; PHYSICIAN TO THE MARYLEBONNE INFIRMARY, &c. &c. &c.

MY DEAR SIR,

The particular kindness you have shewn me, upon this and many other occasions, demands my warmest thanks; although it is only a continuation of the same even line of regard, with which you have now for very many years been pleased to honour me.

In the present Essay I fear that You, who have so long and so successfully trodden in the steps of that universally respected friend of Truth, of Science, and Humanity, the late Dr. Baillie; will see little, very little, deserving of attention. I could wish it were otherwise; and shall rejoice, should circumstances at some future time enable

me to render it less unworthy of your good opinion.

One happiness, however, is not denied me in placing this little work under your patronage; it is that of assuring you in the grateful acknowledgment of numerous flattering memorials of personal attention, and professional confidence, that

I remain,

Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

JOHN HOWSHIP.

George-Street, Hanover-Square, May, 2, 1825.

INTRODUCTION.

THE object of the following work is to present the reader with a concise and practical account of some of the most frequent disorders of the stomach, as connected with indigestion, or dyspepsia; including a few preceding remarks upon the occasional deviations from health, to which the throat and cesophagus are exposed.

In reference to each of its departments, perhaps, Science may be said to be still progressive; but this is particularly true as regards the wide field of Pathological research, in which there are many paths not yet satisfactorily explored, and not a few the course and termination of which may be con-

sidered as absolutely unknown.

The clear discrimination of the various complaints to which every particular organ may be liable, is upon many occasions not less difficult than important. The occasional uncertainty of symptoms is a fruitful source of doubt and error; such also, is the sympathetic disturbance and mischief often excited in distant parts, which frequently exhibit their symptoms evidently enough, while

those that might direct the attention to the seat of the primary or principal malady, are scarcely discernible. Upon some occasions, the patient's own opinion of his complaint leads him to state his feelings incorrectly; while, upon others, we are ourselves subject to be led into error by attachment to some favourite doctrine. These, which are some few of the difficulties that oppose our progress at every step will, I hope, plead in apology for the defects that may, perhaps, be found in the present essay.

The following remarks were, in the first instance, intended to include only such as I have myself had the opportunity of making; but these means were too scanty, and occasional recourse has therefore been had to the experience of others, with a view to give continuity, as well as additional value, to the series.

The natural order of the subject appeared to require that affections of the throat should have the first place; these, therefore, are included in the first Part of the Series. The second Part is devoted to the consideration of the various complaints that more immediately regard the stomach, whether confined to disorder, or going on to disease.

The commencing portion of each Part enumerates the symptoms, specifies the causes, and states the appearances, that occur in each particular affection; the concluding remarks being appropriated to the treatment.

For many favourable opportunities of observing the progress of disorder, or learning its results, I am proud to acknowledge my continued obligations to the kindness, friendship, and patronage of Mr. Heaviside; the interesting contents of whose invaluable Museum, together with other important sources of information, have been freely and most liberally laid open to me. Neither can I forget, that for many important observations upon this, as well as upon other occasions, I am indebted to the kindness of my respected friend Mr. Barrow, with whom the perpetual fatigue and anxiety of incessant and extensive occupation are forgotten, the moment an opportunity presents for making any inquiry likely to advance the progress of science, or conduce to the benefit of society.

I may, perhaps, venture to hope, that in what relates to the influence of intemperance upon the brain, in what regards the condition of the brain in some dyspeptic affections, in what respects violent attacks of spasmodic pain at the stomach, in reference to certain complicated bilious and hepatic complaints, and in some other particulars; the following remarks may not be found entirely devoid of interest.

ERRATUM

Page 88. - bottom line, for 235. read 225.