THE STOMACH AND ITS DIFFICULTIES

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The Stomach and its Difficulties by James Eyre

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JAMES EYRE

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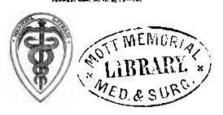
BY

SIR JAMES $\underline{\underline{\mathbf{F}}}$ YRE, M.D. Edin.

EXCENSIVE OF THE ESTAL DOLLEGE OF PRINCIPE OF LOWDON;
COMMUNION OF "PLACTICL REVAILE BY BY ST. JANUAR DEPOMPLET;
DESCRIPE"

"In primis todous bend; hadn vanim ros
Us appeard hamini, credas, memor illus esom,
Quas, simplex, olim tible sederit at simul assis
Mismeria elika, simul conclyila turdia,
Dulois es in bilem vertent, stomatologue tumulitum
Lenta foret pikusiu."

Howat. Sat. L. ii, 2, 71—75.



LONDON:

JOHN CHURCHILL, PRINCES STREET, SOHO.

MDCCCLII.

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In affectionate Remembrance

OF

JOHN ABERNETHY,

THE PROFOUND PRILOSOPHER,

THE HIGHLY-GIFTED INSTRUCTOR,

THE REVERED AND BELOYED OF HIS PUPILS

IN LIFE AS IN DRATE,

THE FOLLOWING CURSORY REMARKS

ON HIS PAVOURITE SUBJECT,

FOUNDED ON HIS BRUIGHTENED PRINCIPLES,

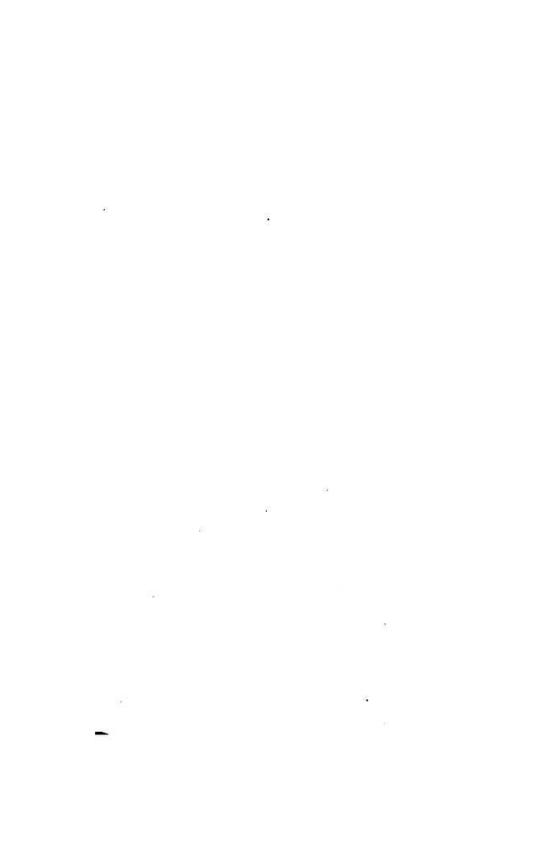
AND CONFIRMED

BY THE BROULTS OF EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE,

Are batffally Enseribeb

BY A MEMBER OF HIS* CLASS OF 1812—13.

^{*} See Appendix.



F885 F887

PREFACE.

IT is long since I promised to give to the public the result of my long continued observations on the Digestive Organs; the study of which has been always, to me, replete with interest; and now that I have renounced nocturnal professional avocations, I am the more qualified, by calm reflection and undisturbed consideration, to watch the ever-varying phases of that most important viscus, the Stomach; which, when it duly furnishes its pure functional secretions, is, like the fire, invaluable,—as a Slave, but otherwise becomes a mischievous and dangerous, because powerful Despot! It is either, like the "vernal airs" which move the teeming clouds that usher "gentle Spring," mildly, but munificently, by the soft-stealing showers, refreshing and vivifying the earth; or, on the contrary, it resembles the rude and turbulent violence of elemental strife,-disrobing and devastating, by its impetuous fury, all that arrests its violent course. Be it, then, henceforth, my daily study to minister to "The Difficulties of the Stomach"—that Pandora's Box-the fons et origo-the source of so many of our corporeal and some of our mental susceptibilities! Understand me not, however, as meaning to herald these Practical Remarks in deprecation of severe criticism-by declarations of modest, but unfelt, unfitness for the task I have undertaken. contrary, I come forward, with all due but not superfluous humility, to offer some of the results of a long life of diligent inquiry to the consideration of the Profession to which I have the honour to belong, totally free from any anxious misgivings as to the result; for I anticipate a third kind and cordial welcome from my brethren, -- founding my expectation on the full assurance that they love Truth for its own sake; and will be pleased to see, in this undertaking, not merely the lucubrations of others, dapperly arranged and paraded for display, but those which have been seized, digested; and carefully hoarded up for use-being the fruits

of my own occasional gleanings at the bed-side or in the consulting-room-following therein, though passibus non aquis, the example of the Surgical Instructor of my very earliest years, Sir Benjamin Brodie; to whom, on my having expressed (in a note, two or three years ago) my opinion that his Lectures were greatly prized by my fellow-pupils so long back as forty years ago, says (and this I have his full permission here to publish), "I have myself wondered that, with so little experience as I then had, my Lectures should have been popular with the students. I believe that the explanation is, that, although I had not much information to give, what I did give was drawn chiefly from my own written notes of cases, so that I communicated myown knowledge, and not that copied from books." Some may think that the style of my work is not sufficiently grave; and that the introduction occasionally of a lively anecdote is hardly defensible when treating on the serious subject of Disease. Others, again, may say that the rules which are here laid down for the preservation of health are so stringent, that it is impossible to carry them out