

**CANCER EXTIRPATED WITHOUT  
THE KNIFE; BEING A NEW, MILD,  
AND EFFICACIOUS MODE OF  
TREATING SCIRRHOUS AND  
GLANDULAR DISEASES**

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Cancer Extirpated without the Knife; Being a New, Mild, and Efficacious Mode of Treating Scirrhus and Glandular Diseases by T. Battye

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**T. BATTYE**

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BY T. BATTYE, M.R.C.S.

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" Convenons donc franchement que les maladies qui portent le nom de Cancer ne sont réellement pas incurables dans tous les cas, surtout lorsque les moyens appropriés sont employés à temps."—*Bouillaud*.

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609.



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## P R E F A C E.

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IN the treatment of the Disease, to the consideration of which the following pages are chiefly devoted, a wide field for discovery has been left open, the limits of which it is the object of the writer to narrow and confine. The possibility of cure has been hitherto occasionally asserted, but oftener denied. May he be allowed to hope, that it will no longer admit of reasonable doubt.

*July 15th, 1837.*

13, *Golden Square.*

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## INTRODUCTION.

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THE writer of the following pages has long hesitated before he could resolve to publish. The mode of treatment now brought forward had had a long and searching trial, its efficacy had been fully tested, and its success proved; yet he shrank from making the result public. The coldness with which the medical profession invariably receives an innovation on the established practice, the suspicion with which a secret remedy is ever viewed, and a natural repugnance to run counter to the prejudices of his brethren, all combined to render him reluctant to take the present step. That this betrays a want of

moral courage he will not deny ; still, such were his feelings, and it has required the prompting of very strong motives to enable him to overcome them. Not, however, that there were either precedents or arguments wanting to justify him in the resolution he has at length embraced. There is scarcely a principle in the practice of the day which has not been bitterly decried and violently opposed, ere it became authority ; and many of the most universally used and valuable medicines in our *Materia Medica* either once were, or still are, secrets. To a certain extent, indeed, all practice is secret. It is a common position to say, that were the patient aware of the contents of the prescription, it would lose its effect ; and hence the retention of the barbarous jargon in which these mandates of life or death are yet writ-

ten. Nay, more, scarcely two writers agree in their estimate of the effects and value of any given drug; and of the mode in which most medicines act, we can but speak hypothetically. An effect may be obvious, yet its cause ever escape our scrutiny.

It were easy to extend the above line of argument, and to give in detail what is now advanced summarily. To go no further than the disease of which I am about to treat, there is not a point involving either its nature or its treatment, that is not a subject of controversy. A reference to medical literature will prove the truth of this assertion: indeed, the reader will find ample evidence of it in the course of the present work. The knife is all in all with some, is utterly and justly reprobated by others. Mercury is liberally