

**A COMPARATIVE VIEW OF
THE STATE AND FACULTIES
OF MAN WITH THOSE OF
THE ANIMAL WORLD. VOL. I**

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A Comparative View of the State and Faculties of Man with Those of the Animal World. Vol. I
by John Gregory

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M A N, &c. &c.

V O L. I.

A
COMPARATIVE VIEW
OF THE
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OF
M A N
WITH THOSE OF THE
ANIMAL WORLD.

By JOHN GREGORY, M.D. F.R.S.
Professor of Medicine in the University of Edinburgh,
and First Physician to His Majesty in Scotland.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

THE SIXTH EDITION.

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P R E F A C E.

BY an advertisement prefixed to the first edition of this book, the public was informed that it consisted of some discourses originally read in a private literary society, without the most distant view to their publication. The loose and careless manner in which they are written, is too strong an internal evidence that they never were intended for the

VOL. I. a public

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public inspection. But, for what purpose they were originally composed, and how they came into the world, are questions which a reader will never ask: he has an undoubted right to censure them with all the severity which their faults deserve, and to censure likewise the author of them, unless he could pretend they were published without his knowledge. The unexpected favor he has met with from the public has encouraged him to correct and enlarge this edition; but when he attempted to treat his subject with that fullness and accuracy which its importance required, he found it run into so great an extent, that he was obliged to abandon it, being necessarily engaged in business

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ness and studies of a very different nature. He would gladly have suppressed some sentiments carelessly thrown out in the confidence of private friendship, which may be liable to misconstruction; but he was afraid that, by too anxious an attention to guard against every objection, he should deprive the book of that appearance of ease and freedom in which its only merit consisted. When we unbosom ourselves to our friends on a subject that interests us, there is sometimes a glow of sentiment and warmth of expression that pleases, tho' it conveys nothing particularly ingenious or original.

The title of the book does not well express its contents. The public

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is too well accustomed to books that have not much correspondence with their titles, to be surprized at this. But it would have been an imposition of a worse kind to have changed the title in this new edition. The truth is, the subjects here treated, are so different, that it was impossible to find any title, that could fully comprehend them. Yet unconnected as they seem to be, there was a certain train of ideas that led to them, which it may not be improper to explain.

When we attend to the many advantages which Mankind possess above the inferior Animals, it is natural to enquire into the use we make of those advantages. This leads to the consideration

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deration of Man in his savage state, and through the progressive stages of human society.

Man in his savage state is, in some respects, in a worse condition than any other animal. He has indeed superior faculties, but as he does not possess, in so great a degree as other animals, the internal principle of instinct to direct these faculties to his greatest good, they are often perverted in such a manner as to render him more unhappy. He possesses bodily strength, agility, health, and what are called the animal faculties, in greater perfection, than Men in the more advanced states of society; but the nobler and more distinguishing prin-