

William Warrford Smith

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T H E
Craft and Frauds
And O F *Tutty,*
P H Y S I C
E X P O S ' D.

The very low Prices of the best Medicins Discover'd.
The Costly Medicins; now in greatest Esteem, such
as *Bezoar, Pearl, &c.* As also the *Distill'd Waters,*
Censur'd.

And the too frequent Use of Physic prov'd destru-
ctive to Health.

W I T H
Instructions to Prevent being cheated and destroy'd
by the prevailing Practice.

By *R. Pitt*, M. D. Fellow and Censor of the
College of Physicians, and Fellow of the
Royal Society.

*Æquè Pauperibus prodest, Locupletibus æquè,
Æquè neglectum Pueris, Senibusq; nocebit. Hor.*

*The Third Edition, with a new Preface explaining to the
meanest Capacities, the Controversy between the Physi-
cians of the Dispensary, and the Quacks supported by
their Physicians, and Others who serv under them.*

L O N D O N:

Printed for *Tim. Childe*, at the *White-Hart*
in *St. Paul's Church-yard*, 1703.

To the Right Worshipful
Sir William Prichard,

Knight and Alderman, President.

The Worshipful *John Nicolls*, Esq;

The Treasurer.

Mr. *William Pleahill*, } the present
Mr. *George Peck*, } Almoners.

And the other Governours
Of *St. Bartholomew's Hospital*.

Gentlemen,

I Cannot Address this Apology for the late Reformation of the Practice of Physic (growing more and more Oppressive and Destructive) to any Patrons, who are either more willing or more capable, to Protect and Recommend it. Your Zeal and Application in the excellent Government of your very Antient and Famous Hospital, and the generous Benefactions to it by many of you, demonstrate, that you are affected with the Calamities of the Sick and Maim'd. Those true Objects of Charity,

DEDICATION.

city, whom you receive in your two very spacious Courts, and the Presidents Building for Cutting for the Stone, and your House in *Kent-street, Southwark*, and that at *King's-land*: Besides the large numbers of Out-Patients, on whom you bestow the Charity of your Medicins.

The World may be justly esteem'd a larger Hospital, in which Providence by the Hands of Physicians, or other Charitable Advice gives its Simples to all Conditions of Mankind, when afflicted with Sicknes.

But the great Bounty of Providence is in this Nation miserably perverted. The Medicins it affords in great Plenty, are with-held from the Poor by the exorbitant Prices, and their wonderful Powers to Cure Diseases, are not Beneficial to the Rich, from their being either vitiously prepar'd, or given for Gain in Quantities, to the apparent Detriment and Danger of the Sick.

But to you the Poor flock at the Days appointed, to lay their Distress before you, and implore your Relief from the Exactions of the ignorant and oppressive Pretenders. You receive them into your Hospital,

DEDICATION.

tal, as a Sanctuary from the unmerciful Usages, they had been treated with abroad.

The Pleasure and Satisfaction you have, in communicating the Bounties of your own and Predecessors Charity, is as visible, as you observe the grateful Sense of your Munificence in your languishing Patients.

When you shall inform your numerous Friends, that your Hospital and the College Act in the same generous Design of preserving the Poor from the Cruelties of private Profit, which knows no Bounds: And that the College has discover'd the only Method of preventing the certain Ruin of the more Wealthy; the only Objection, which equally affects both Societies, That we are injurious to the Gains of the Apothecary, will be disregarded, and you will have the Applause of the Kingdom, as well as of your Fellow Citizens, with the most sincere Acknowledgment of the Favours confer'd on

*Your most Faithful
and Obedient Servant,*

NO 59 Rob. Pitt.

T H E
P R E F A C E.

T H E two former Impressions of this Apology, and the present ill State of Physic in this Nation truly represented, and some Remedies thereof humbly propos'd to the two Houses of Parliament, have had so good Success, that the People begin to doubt, that they are unfaithfully treated in Sickness. The more Intelligent applaud the generous Design of restoring Physic to its Innocence and Usefulness: and of saving to themselves an exorbitant oppressive Expence, and their Life, which is expos'd for the purpose of that Gain. The Gentlemen of the larger Capacities and deeper Penetration acknowledg, that this present Reformation is the greatest Benefaction, which can be given to the Public in an Affair, which affects every Person in the Nation, in the most tender Concerns of Estate and Life. Many of them carry their Thoughts yet further, and observe, That every honest Physician has in his Power a more extensive Charity to the Poor, than any private Estate can give, of curing their Diseases and preventing their being undone in every Sickness:
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P R E F A C E.

Besides that all above them must depend on his Conduct in the preservation of Health, and when they are under the greatest Calamities in the more violent Diseases.

We had a great number of the Gentlemen of this sort, who by Acts of Parliament provided, that no ignorant unqualify'd Pretender, should hazard the Killing and Destroying the People for his private Profit; that the Instruments of Life and Death should be examin'd by the proper Judges appointed; that all corrupt Medicins should be destroy'd: the Arts of Collusion, of selling the cheap Remedies at more than fifty times their value, being then not Practis'd and unsuspected. But Custom, the most powerful of Tyrants, has many Years since repeal'd and abrogated all those Laws. Out of its Anarchy and Confusion, have sprung those Decrees supported by the public Clamour and Violence: That none are to be consulted in Sicknes, who have the allowance of public Authority, that it is slavish to regard its Reasons or our own, that it is an abject decree of subjection, to submit to the Information of our most experienc'd and wiser Friends, or to have the trouble of examining any of the Calumnies forg'd to prevent any Reformation of the Abuses put upon us.

You will observ, That the College in this Controversy pretends to assert the public Interest by supporting the Honour and Wisdom of the Founders of those Laws, by which the Subject is secur'd from oppression and loss of Life by the corrupt Practice of Physic.

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P R E F A C E.

But a great part of the People have not been able to distinguish who are the Parties contending. The true Apothecaries have no part in it. They were form'd into a Company by King James the first, at the request of the Physicians to his Royal Person. But that Employment is now lost and extinct. They were appointed to collect and preserv carefully the best Drugs and Simples, to make the Compositions with the most sedulous Care by the Receipts in the Pharmacopœa from the College, that the Prescript for the Patient should be deliver'd to the Messenger, without the least suspicion of one Medicin for another, or of the fatal mistakes of more Grains or Drops of the more violent Remedies. They are exempted (to answer this great Purpose) from all Public Offices, that the Lives of many Subjects may be preserv'd by their exact performance of their Business, and keeping their station in the Shops. But they have been very industrious in leaving and being absent from their Shops at all Hours, which obliges them to buy the greatest part of the Medicins of the Chymist and the Wholesale, and lose the knowlge of so much of the Trade. They fancy the Trade is one of the parts of Physic: They assume the Title, and, as in the Fable, catch at the shadow and lose the substance. They are not Shop-keepers, being only transitorily in it jew Minutes at a time, but leav the Business to the Boy, who also is sent out to porter all the Medicins to the Families at all the distances. But the Trade is only of the mechanic kind, to employ the hand in the Powdering, Boyling and Mixing of the Drugs. The Pharmaceutic or that part of the Science

P R E F A C E.

Science of Physic, which considers the Medicins, requires great Learning, Judgment and Application; to remark the Qualities of the Plants, which invite us to use them; the recorded Experiences of all Physicians of their great Powers and Success; how their Vertues are to be exalted and improv'd to be taken in smaller quantities, or made more dull and unactive, if of too fierce an Operation for the more tender Constitutions. It must be carefully remark'd, how they agree in Composition, whether they are Correcters or Destroyers of one the other, if the Dose is not made very ungrateful by a false Mixture, or sometimes deadly, when a hidden poysonous Quality shall be let loose. The Apothecaries are the Hands which put these together according to the rules of the Prescript, and are subservient to that part of Physic, as the Instruments it uses. The Printer sets the Letters one after the other, but is not an Author, an Orator or Poet. The Mason hues the Stone to the Figure given him in the Draught: 'Tis the Architect who orders the place of the Stone in the Building, and can only judge to what end it serves. The Engineer appoints the Pioneers to sink the Ditch and cast up the Bank, who are not solicitous of the design of the Angles of the Bastion. If you treat your Friends after the Turkish or Indian Manners of Eating, you only have the Complements for introducing their Modes amongst us. The Apothecaries therefore are truly the Cooks of Medicins; their Character is given from a just and solicitous Observance of the manners of Preparing directed in the Receipt. When therefore the Physician

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P R E F A C E.

fician (on whose Fidelity you know you rely, if you reflect on your Thoughts, when you are surpriz'd with Sickness) shall not doubt, that the Medicins are prepar'd by the Apothecaries themselves, and deliver'd to the Messenger at the usual Prices of the Shop: The College cannot fail to applaud their Diligence in the just performance of their Duty.

Can you yet apprehend, from what kind of Enemies the College endeavours to secure the Public in so important a Concern? They are only the *Quacks* of all the various and very different Figures and Distinctions, who unite in the Expeditions of Plundering, with the hazard of the Life of the Prey they can seiz on. They are the Scandal of the English Nation, in the opinion of many forein Physicians and all the Travellers from abroad. They are the more dangerous to the Estate and Life, because they assault you under the disguise of your dearest and most obliging Friends. The Word may surprize you, but laying aside the now odious Appellations of Ignorant and Illegal, this Description may appear to you very faithful and exact. A *Quack* is a Practiser in Physic, who takes no Fee in specie, but makes the deluded Patient pay very extravagant Fees by the intolerable Prices he puts on all the cheap Medicins, and by passing upon him very many more Doses, than the Disease requires or the Constitution can bear, or by the over-plus thrown away at the same Prices, if Weakness, or Sleep or Death, prevent their Use. You cannot, tho' you raise your Thought to its greatest Power of Invention, discover the Weakness and Folly of Mankind in any other instance equal

P R E F A C E.

to this of saving the Fee, with those remarkable Terms and Conditions tacitly agreed on between the Parties. We will suppose you are impatient to see the Triumphant Entry after the War shall be happily ended. You treat with the Master of the Cyder-House for a stand in his Balcony. He refuses the half Piece you offer him, but bargains, you shall drink for your standing ten or fifteen Bottles of his Liquor, and eat as many Cheescakes, &c. as the Drawer shall bring up to you. If it is a Salemans House, you shall take as many Coats and Wastcoats, and Caps for the Head, as he is willing to part with to one Customer, at his own Rates. The Quack, Quos perdere vult, prius dementat, disarms his Patient of his Understanding, to manage him as he pleases. Tell the People, you'll never take a Fee for all the Advice and Attendance: You shall instantly observ 'em without any Use of their Reason or their Senses. They will never debate against the vast number of the Doses, or the weighty Prices of every one of them. The tender Mother, to avoid the great evil of a Fee, forgets the Fruit of her Womb, sends for the Master, or Partner, or Prentice to the new-born Child; she sees that and all the others destroy'd by the unskilful Application of much Physic; but is blinded by the saving of a Fee from discerning, that she is guilty of every Death, having expos'd 'em to a certain hazard on that design. For this reason, the greatest number of Families at this time, never consult a Physician, neither to prevent nor cure the most grievous Distempers. They send in great confusion for the Quack, whose Visits they

P R E F A C E.

imagine can cost them nothing : Oh ! save us from a Doctor, to whom a Fee must be given. He was observ'd some Years past to start back with horror at the sight of a dangerous and doubtful Case, but is at last hardned by often hearing : we'l venture the Life of any thing here, and if you refuse, there are others (who see not the difficulty by knowing less) who will undertake any Diseases what'oever. There are others who stifle the Guilt of the Murther, as by an Opiate, by calling in a Physician at the last extremity, and by shifting off the Crime upon him. The People plead in excuse, that the Expence of the Medicins is beyond their Ability, they are not able by the Fee to heighten the Charge. The Quack very cunningly makes that necessity of using himself as the Doctor in the Family, by making the yearly Tax above the Condition of the Estate to bear, and therefore necessitates the Patient to stick the closer to him. Is any one wavering ? A long and heavy Bill at Christmas confirms him for the Year to come, to resolv to lay no other load of Fees upon himself.

But, (which is the second Branch of the Description of our Quack) how can he set the Remedies at a high Price, when almost all the Simples and Preparations, even in the largest Doses to the riper Ages, are not above one or two or three Pence, at the usual Rates of the Shop. You cannot fail to observe, that this is done by the most impudent Collusion and Prevarication. The two or three hundred Medicins are of that Price, but Bezoar is vow'd to be added to every Composition (as Copper is added to harden Gold to prevent the soft
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P R E F A C E.

Metal wearing too fast) to harden the Price of every Bole and Fulep. One Gallon of Lisbon and Port Wine is sometimes mixt with a Hoghead of French Wine, to swear off the Duty of the Custom. The Perjury of the Bezoar and Pearl are often observ'd in the Articles of the Boles, Powders, Waters, and all the Cordial Forms: and might have gone (if a check had not been given by the College) to Plaisters, Oyntments, and Vomits and Purges, in the time to come. The Bezoar is form'd in the Stomach of the Goat, from the Dust he licks from the Earth or the Leavs in the burning Climates, which cemented with the slimy Humor increase makes it gradual by Flakes lying over one another. The Stone lies undisturb'd many Years in the Stomach of that hungry Goat. And lately a true oriental Bezoar, from which some Drams had been scrap't, and the Flakes lay open, was given to a Dog of a truly canine Appetite. It had past from the Stomach into the Pylorus, but had not suffer'd from the digestive ferment any the least diminution in its weight. The Lecture on this Subject before the Royal Society, demonstrated, that many of the most vehement Chymical Spirits were not able to dissolv it. Shall these indissoluble Stones be given instead of the Bread of Life, when the languishing Patient cannot digest the softest Aliment? Beside the Authority of the most faithful and most experienc'd Physicians of the Age, you may refer the Controversy to the very Learned Sir Thomas Brown, who observes in his Vulgar Errors, that our being daily gull'd with Bezoar is one of our most intolerable Delusions. The Party

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P R E E A C E.

Champions of the Stone, never dare give it by itself. They will not hazard the exposing the Patients with themselves from the want of any visible Operation. It is put sometimes into the Company of the powerful volatile Salts, and extract of Saffron, to forge a Pretence to revive its sinking Credit. Its Reputation or its use to inflame the Cheat of the Price, cannot be any longer maintain'd, when two Grains of it usually cost not above one Penny, and the Dose of the Gascon Powder has no more. But this and the Pearl must submit to be plac'd in the lowest rank of all the Medicins: which move, if taken very often and in large Doses, a little moisture on the Skin, and soften the sour Humors of the Stomach. In both which the Crabs Eyes (not so Salt as Pearl from a Sea Fish) and Coral, and Chalk, will demand to be prefer'd before them. Mr. Boyl from one Ounce of Pearl could only draw off by Distillation a few drops of a sorry Spirit, the remaining part was an insipid and unactive Earth. But you may justly admire the Policy and refin'd Cunning of our cheating Physicians and Quacks, who rob their Patients with these two modish Curiosities. If they had play'd their Pranks with an active Preparation or Simple, one Dose might satisfy the Patient for the Day, or the brisk Operation might make the People fearful to dabble too often with it, or an ill Event might have alarm'd the public Suspicion. They have wisely made choice of these two, which may be taken every Hour, and by every Patient without the hazard of any surprize, but from the Detection of the infamous Profit.

P R E F A C E,

Will you then resolv to assert your self, and separate, as by Chymistry, the many great Fees, which ly hid in the Sum total of the Bill, and discover the collusive modest Pretence of attending you for nothing. Let the Faculty and the Quack, on whom you freely bestow the Title, act together upon the Square and above Board, and be plac'd by this method upon equal terms. To do this justice to your self and us, you are oblig'd to examine and state the Rates of the most efficacious and generous Medicins of the present Practice. You may in two Pages bring the Collection under the heads of Profit and Loss. You shall not fail to discern, that the Quack has Eighty in the Hundred for his Fees for his Visits and Attendance. But when the Remedies are sent you at a distance, his Fee may be eight or ten Guineas for his Advice. The very Poor and Necessitous may pay this way in Fee one Guinea by the Day. This shall appear to you, from many Bills of Parcels we have collected, and your own (which you keep by you of the later Years) may probably justify these, or very near Proportions. You may be affected at the instance of the Poor.

But a compassionate Bill to them would lay open the gainful Mystery, and without grinding the Faces of the Poor, it would not be allow'd to wipe the Faces of the Wealthy. In this Nation the Poor are treated in Sicknes without Pity, with Cruelty the most refin'd and improv'd. While they dread Death in common with all others, they are sure to be undone. Their Souls are broken between the two dismal Reflections. The Quacks come not to cure,

P R E F A C E.

but rob and pillage the Objects of Charity. He rends open their Wounds, and breaks their Hearts with the Cordials, which consume all their Substance. Shall all the Servants, and all the industrious Manufacturers, and the Labourers of the Field be expos'd to utter Ruin, and the cautious Trades-Man lose the vital part of his Stock, by the vilest pretence of the dearness of the Drugs and Medicins, which Providence, the Preserver of Men, has bestow'd as the most wholesome Food, and whatever is necessary or usejful to Life, in common to all Mankind. Shall not the Gentlemen of the more public Spirit instruct themselves, and the Indigent, of the very low Prices of all the Medicins, or shall these neglected Crimes go unpunish'd with encouragement to an endless Increase? A late Prince very unwillingly passed the Warrant for the Execution of a Pick-Pocket, because (says he) the silly People may take better care of their Pockets. Now when they are plainly shewn that the Bole at two Shillings and six Pence is the twelvth part of an Electuary of half a Crown value, and a Cordial Draught of two Shillings is the eighth part of a Julep worth two Shillings: Does not commonSense instruct them to weigh this Affair, as they do the Guineas at home in their own Scales, to detect the want of two or three Grains? Will they not bestow one Thought to discover, that, when of the best Medicins they buy of the Druggist or the Whole Sale, the Patient cannot want, or support, or be able to take to two or three Shillings value in the Day, how the Tricks of subdividing into little Parcels, and the great Prices of these little Doses,

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Surprizingly improve the Tax of every Day.

When you have made these Reductions, You may proceed to the third Ingredient of our Quack, the putting off very much Physic to raise his dayly Fee to one or two Guineas, with the hazard of his Patients Life. That Nature exerts it self (as Water and Wine to recover themselves) to expel very many Distempers, as the usual Fevers, Small Pox and Measles, &c. You are sufficiently convinc'd by your own Observations, that very many recover by the assistance of one or two Remedies, and the Kitchen or Chamber Physic and Cordials. The Families of the greatest Figure, have applauded the only Physician, as they imagin'd, who advises ten times less Physic, than the Others cry'd up by the Venders of Medicin. But you must allow, that the Collegiates of the Dispensary have the justest Claim with him to that Character, who have been persecuted with him by the Utterers of much Physic, for that only reason, that the Shop might not be transfus'd into the Patient's Stomach. How many have you seen of the Children, who sputter out the Dose, of the more wary or more sleepy, who have left three parts in four of it on the Table, and of the oversurfeited with Doses, (who chose rather to dy the natural Death,) who furnish the frequent Examples of Natures Power, directed or assisted by the honest and cautious Physician. But in the more difficult Cases, if the Physician cannot presently discern, what is the Distemper, or which way Nature works and would be supported: if after two or three Days he observes, that Nature operates truly and firmly to its own Preservation, and therefore gives but two or three Medicins, can you absolu
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P R E F A C E.

the Quack from the willful Murther of the Patient, who puts into him his Boles and Cordials every second or third Hour, to make up to himself the Salary of his often Attendance. You are therefore to doubt, (till this Argument shall be more fully treated, as it deserves) that the largest number of the Sick in the common Disorders, are uselessly loaded and opprest with many Doses, and vilely cheated of their Mony: Their Recovery being certain, because they are not capable of being kill'd by all the Boles and Cordials. These Escapes make the Families admire his Skill. We have had so many under his Care, who did not dy. We remember all the several Cures from the great Sums, we were oblig'd to disburse for every Recovery. If the Disease (of the second Degree) is more perplex, and Nature more feeble, the Distemper is made every day more malignant and dangerous. Its impossible that Nature should support it self, when its assaulted in the hurry on all sides by a violent Disease, and all the Medicins which act with great force in all the Circumstances of this kind. The many Cordials wast the Spirits by the profuse continued Sweats. Many Acids and Coolers chill and freez the Spirits and Blood, and make the cold colliquative Sweats. Many expectorating Doses improve the Catarrh to a Flood. The many Incrassating and the Opiates lock up all the Secretions. The Lubricating force a violent Loosness. A generous Remedy may be given to move the Blood and raise it self a Sweat of many Hours. A Tisane or Tincture, or Mixture, of that sort of Medicin, may be frequently taken to support that Motion. But if you recover that way the Quack cannot live, (when
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P R E F A C E.

the Trade is twenty times too numerous, and the number to be doubled in few Years,) to whom you give no other Reward, than from the number of the Doses he brings in to you. He sometimes pities his hard fate and your own in the present Trade of putting off much Physic, and is greatly pleas'd, when one half or more is heapt up in the Closet or the Side Board, and the Patient had providentially escap'd taking that overplus not less profitable to him.

It may propably surprize you, that the People send to the Shop for Advice in all the Cases of Health and Life. The Families do not, as in the last Age, consult their experienc'd and wiser Friends, how they formerly secur'd the Integrity of the Physicians, who acquainted them with the Arts of treating the more common Indispositions, but are seiz'd with the first appearances, which dazle them not to be able to discern the most certain Consequences. He is near and comes at all times, when he pleases, without a Fee. He has the opportunities of indearing himself to every Member of the House. But the most engaging Service is the saving by himself or Servant, the trouble or expence of going for or bringing home the Physic. The Porter would have serv'd that purpose at the twentieth part of the Charge. This Undertaker for Advice and the other Service, has the Supream Direction in all the Houses. If a Physician is wanting, he is sent for by one of his own recommendation. He gives him his Instructions, to justify the most unhappy Method, to applaud the large Quantities of Medicins, to maintain the Prices of every particular, with possibly a strain of wonder, that they are so reasonable. He chooses the Gentleman he thinks most
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P R E F A C E.

adapted to his purpose, Old or Young, Grave or Foppish, Learned or Ignorant. This Complaisance recommends to their Favour in the place of all other Qualifications. One lately styl'd his filling up his Bill with many superfluous Prescripts, by the proper Name of the Tar Practice. Tarif is a word of the Arabic Language, signifying the Tax and Duty on Merchandize for the Service of the Prince. The long Bills are the Tarif to the Quack, who brought him in, at one or two Guineas a Day Contribution rais'd on the Patient.

You may remember the League Offensive and Defensive between one of the Potentates in Physic, and the Hawkers of Medicins ratify'd and exchange'd at several Entertainments of twenty Guineas, to be paid by the next Patients. The Drums and Trumpets inflam'd the Zeal on one side, to raise twenty, thirty, in every Acute Case, and one, or two, or three Hundred Pounds in the Chronical, and on the other side, the impetuous hast to recommend him, and by him to raise the Imagination in all the better Families at once, of having more Physic than was ever given before. When they have been ask'd by other Physitians, why they persist to abuse and destroy their Patients. The Old usually Answer, that they are asham'd to own the Villany of their long former Bills, by reforming that Practice now; and that it is not worth the while to begin to be Honest, at the end of ones Practice and Life. Others tell you, that They'll leav Physick, as they found it, not give themselves the trouble to treat the Sick more faithfully, which may bring all the Quacks, who may be discover'd or prejudic'd by it, as so many Wasps and Hornets about

P R E F A C E.

about their Ears. There are of the Confederates, who have said, that their Scandalous Profession would not last above four Years, being every day more and more suspected, that They must make hast by venturing largely to secure something by that time. They stifle the sense of the Crime, that, if they did not hazard the Life of the Patient by the long Prescript, there are others ready to be brought in to prescribe much more. This Example is follow'd by many, who never think, if the Practice is liable to any Exception, but write after the flourishing Copies before'em. 'Tis the way to come into the greatest Business. There's Wealth, and Equipage, and Fame, the Reward of opposing any kind of Reformation. The Paricide and enormity of the Fact have only hitherto protected and made it difficult to suspect them. They have had the Fortune to escape the hands of the private Justice. The Remedy must be applied to this Evil by every Particular, watching carefully to preserv himself, with a Reward much greater than is given to the Seizers of the Robbers of the Road. You may at the present urge them to answer any one of the Articles of the Impeachments of the two Felonies of Robbery and oppressing the Patient's Life. If they are mute, they confess the Allegations, and must have the private Sentence past upon them: You cannot be too severe, whatever kind of Execution you award. The better part of the College have many Years past by their Statutes admonisht their Members, not to joyn with the Quack, and destroy by it the Honor of the Profession, as well as the Patient. The other Party have eluded all the Arts to bring them to a sense of their Duty and Interest. To rail at the College and refuse

P R E F A C E.

to come into the Society (upon frivolous pretences of an Expence, which all Corporations exact of their Bodies, and which has been comply'd with by all the present Members) or to design to act with it to preserve the Publick and the Profession, are the Badge to distinguish them ready to accept of Service under the Quacks for the present Subsistence or expectation of Preferment. But the Affair is now laid clearly before you; in your Judgment of it, you are not capable of any Error or Fallacy. You see by the Prices of the Dispensary, which are the just Prices of the best Medicins of the Shop. You may observe by their Practice, and more certain Success, that two or three Medicins every day, at the value of as many Shillings, overcome those Diseases, which the more numerous aggravate to the Death of the Patient in all the difficult and dangerous Cases. You may conclude from the whole, that this is the greatest Instance and degree of Madness, to rely on any Advice, when the Fee is procur'd by the multitude of Medicins obtruded on all the Diseases in all the Constitutions. The Reforming part of the College may demand your Gratitude, that you are not now impoverisht, and that you have outliv'd your last Sickness. The Contest has at least given a great Check to the increasing Evil, and aw'd all the Advisers from thrusting in a much larger proportion of the Doses. You would have had a Bole and Draught every Hour, instead of the third or fourth Hour; if the Opposers of the College and the People's Interest had not dreaded the fatal Discovery and Prosecution.

It must be own'd, that the Art of Physic cannot maintain its Credit with the People, when its Rival
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P R E F A C E.

shall advise and visit often, and bring in all the varieties of Remedies himself, as it appears, at no Expence to the Family, being to be paid on Trust many Months after. Especially when all the natural Recoveries are assum'd to be his own Performance, and all the Errors of his Practice, and all the Incurable shall be laid on the Profession on purpose to destroy it. You cannot but be assur'd, either from your Reason, or natural Instinct, when you are surpris'd with Sickness, that there are Remedies furnish'd by Providence able to relieve you: The generous or vinous Aromatics to raise the Spirits, and give a stronger Motion to the Heart. Acidulate and cooling Plants or Spirits to allay the burning Thirst, and temperate and abate the inflaming Heat: You know the Pains may be laid with your self asleep. Yet the greatest Numbers suffer the Disorders of the Head, Breast, Stomach, and Bowels; till the want of Sense and Motion, or the greatest Extremities of Pain affright the Spectators or themselves, when frequently the opportunities of Relief are lost. The Profession is suspected to have lost its Value, its Gravity, Learning, and Concern for the Patient. The Tree bears Fruit in proportion to the Soil it is planted in, and the Accidents it is expos'd to; when the Causes are discover'd, it will be easie for you to apply the Remedies.

1. All the Professions and Arts adapt themselves to the Humours of the Customers. The Comedians are now debasing themselves to Farce and Grimace. The Gown is required to be laid aside in many Conversations. The Physicians are applauded, when they assume the Air of the Mountebank or his Attendants. They are made to value themselves from all the imper-

tinences

P R E F A C E.

to come into the Society (upon frivolous pretences of an Expence, which all Corporations exact of their Bodies, and which has been comply'd with by all the present Members) or to design to act with it to preserve the Publick and the Profession, are the Badge to distinguish them ready to accept of Service under the Quacks for the present Subsistence or expectation of Preferment. But the Affair is now laid clearly before you; in your Judgment of it, you are not capable of any Error or Fallacy. You see by the Prices of the Dispensary, which are the just Prices of the best Medicins of the Shop. You may observe by their Practice, and more certain Success, that two or three Medicins every day, at the value of as many Shillings, overcome those Diseases, which the more numerous aggravate to the Death of the Patient in all the difficult and dangerous Cases. You may conclude from the whole, that this is the greatest Instance and degree of Madness, to rely on any Advice, when the Fee is procur'd by the multitude of Medicins obtruded on all the Diseases in all the Constitutions. The Reforming part of the College may demand your Gratitude, that you are not now impoverisht, and that you have outliv'd your last Sickness. The Contest has at least given a great Check to the increasing Evil, and aw'd all the Advisers from thrusting in a much larger proportion of the Doses. You would have had a Bole and Draught every Hour, instead of the third or fourth Hour; if the Opposers of the College and the People's Interest had not dreaded the fatal Discovery and Prosecution.

It must be own'd, that the Art of Physic cannot maintain its Credit with the People, when its Rival shall

P R E F A C E.

shall advise and visit often, and bring in all the varieties of Remedies himself, as it appears, at no Expence to the Family, being to be paid on Trust many Months after. Especially when all the natural Recoveries are assum'd to be his own Performance, and all the Errors of his Practice, and all the Incurable shall be laid on the Profession on purpose to destroy it. You cannot but be assur'd, either from your Reason, or natural Instinct, when you are surpris'd with Sickness, that there are Remedies furnish'd by Providence able to relieve you: The generous or vinous Aromatics to raise the Spirits, and give a stronger Motion to the Heart. Acidulate and cooling Plants or Spirits to allay the burning Thirst, and temperate and abate the inflaming Heat: You know the Pains may be laid with your self asleep. Yet the greatest Numbers suffer the Disorders of the Head, Breast, Stomach, and Bowels; till the want of Sense and Motion, or the greatest Extremities of Pain affright the Spectators or themselves, when frequently the opportunities of Relief are lost. The Profession is suspected to have lost its Value, its Gravity, Learning, and Concern for the Patient. The Tree bears Fruit in proportion to the Soil it is planted in, and the Accidents it is expos'd to; when the Causes are discover'd, it will be easie for you to apply the Remedies.

I. All the Professions and Arts adapt themselves to the Humours of the Customers. The Comedians are now debasing themselves to Farce and Grimace. The Gown is required to be laid aside in many Conversations. The Physicians are applauded, when they assume the Air of the Mountebank or his Attendants. They are made to value themselves from all the imper-

tinences

P R E F A C E.

tinences of Learning, or divert the Healthy and Fovial instead of the severe and difficult Studies of the Arts of curing the most violent and dangerous Diseases.

2. *Why shall they inquire into the Uses and Affections of the Humors and Parts of the Body by Philosophy or Anatomy, or consider in their Authors the infinite Cases of the Causes, Progress of the Dissenters, or the methods of Cure, when they can have no opportunity of bringing their Enquiries into Practice. The Quack has been many Days feeling the Pulse, and looking on the Symptoms of the Patient, which he does not understand; and jeeing himself by very many Boles and Cordial Draughts, of the inflaming sort. The Physicians are call'd to aggravate the Death Symptoms, and confirm the Families (by the impudent assurance, that every thing was admirably manag'd) to be willing to be destroy'd in all the subsequent Diseases.*

3. *The Physicians are negligent and regardless of the Life of the Patient, when they do not visit in the Evening in every dangerous Fever. It is certain, that is the only time of observing the manners of the assaults of Life in the then approaching Paroxysm: And that by a sudden shifting of the Motions of the Humors, the Dose appointed in the Morning for that time, may aggravate or stop the Ebullition, which may not the next day be capable of being agen alter'd or retriev'd. They are privately command-ed by the Quack not to appear, who invades that season to prattle to every Member of the House, and play his Pranks of bringing in more, or changing the Remedies, and thence fix the opinion of the necessity of his Attendance. The Doctors are admonish*

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P R E F A C E.

night by him to pass their time at the Taverns, and make themselves incapable of seeing or thinking on any Patient, till late in the Morning. 4. The late Visits, the first from the Bed at Noon, are resented by the Patients. The Excuse is ready, from many Visits to Persons of Quality; or Business of the greatest Importunity. The Quack infinitely obliges (and therefore bids the Physicians not to give themselves the early trouble) by calling in at six or seven in the Morning, tho' the Patient rob'd of the Sleep always then succeeding the unquiet Night, almost in all Fevers, loses the greatest Cordial, which Nature can give, fourteen Days together, and his Life in consequence, if the Disease thus assisted is able to destroy. 5. The Physicians are suspected of great Cruelty, from the affrighting Prognostic of the greatest Danger. The assurance of Relief in many Cases strengthens and raises the Spirits beyond the force of any Cordial. But the Quack commands him to denounce Malignity and the blackest Prospect, that all the Doses may be more greedily call'd for by the Patient, or forc'd on him by the Attendants, to raise his Fee equal to the Consultation, by the Rations of so many Guineas in the Bill. 5. The Physicians are whisper'd to come no more; he himself appoints it. I will have the conduct left to me, and will alter upon the occasions. If he recovers, I will have the Credit; if I fear there can be no Escape, you shall be sent for, and have an entire fresh Fee, and be excus'd by me from the multiplicity of your Business.

P R E F A C E.

The Physicians of the last Age, were very much more valuable than those of the Present, who pretend to raise their Name by being under subjection to the Quack, and the Prejudices and Prepossessions of the People. The best Understanding of the Family did them take the Care of his own Preservation, and of every Member of his little Government. His Judgment and Vigilance had the same Influence, as the Eye of the Prince on his Ministers, deter'd and preserv'd them from being diverted from the regard of the Patient's Welfare. The Crimes of the Practice were hardly discernable, or worth his Notice, compar'd with the modern, grown formidable from the Emulation of so many of the Faculty to improve them. They were Learned and Skill'd in all the Authors of all the Languages and Ages, who treat of Diseases. They were consulted in the Approaches of Distempers, the more easy at their Houses, and cautiously reserv'd an Hour for the Attendance of the Difficult and Dangerous. They could observ carefully the first Appearances and the Progress, and note with exactness, when Nature wanted, and shew'd the Methods, by which it crav'd to be reliev'd. The Visits were proportion'd to the importance of the Case of every Patient. Their Apothecary was in their House or near it, and every Medicin of the greater force was observ'd by them prepar'd, and made up into the Dose, and deliver'd to the Porter to be convey'd. Their Care and Diligence wer' justly esteem'd by all the Patients of the various Ranks, who could discover no other Interest or pursuit, but to preserv them. There were no Rival

P R E F A C E.

Rival Quacks to be fear'd, either from their slighting a Medicin not well understood by them, or purposely opposing it to make their greater Judgments admir'd, or to be oblig'd by a long pernicious half Sheet Prescript in every Visit.

In this Practice the Junior Domestic Physician, acquainted the Senior in Consultation of every Observation he had made from the beginning of the Complaints. They both improv'd one the other in the following Consultations, communicating their Judgments on every remarkable Occurrence. The present Physicians never inform themselves, by what Method the Quacks (when they bring them to the House) had rais'd so much Profit by the Day, but suppose many Boles, and white and red Juleps of the heating Cordial kind. They never ask the name of the Disease or the Cause, or the Symptoms, for fear of disobliging and seeming to design to trap into a Discovery of their never reading any Authors, who might give a speedier way of Cure by fewer Remedies.

What will be then your Judgment of the Physicians of the Dispensary, who endeavour to recover the Merit of the most useful Profession, when compar'd with the Confederates, who pretend only to serv the Interest of the Practicers by dear Physic without a Fee? They have as much more Learning, as they have more Honesty and Integrity to the Patient. The mist of Calumny is rais'd before your Eyes, that you are not able to discern the difference. They furnish you with the magnifying Glasses to view the Stupid and the Fops, who either never pretended to Philosophy or Anatomy,

P R E F A C E.

or the Vertues of the Drugs, but have wasted their time in other pursuits or the laborious Task of plying all Companies over the Bottle. Will you compare our Machaon and Celsus, or any of the Society with the Writers of Odes and Sonnets, or the tedious Rymes, or the Others, who cannot pretend to Latin or common Sense? But, if they had the natural Capacity, and the best Education and Instruction, and had not lost the Improvement in the daily pursuits of Entertainment and Pleasure, and of Preferment from the Electors into the Practising Promotions: It is impossible, they can consult their Authors with any satisfaction, or make any valuable Observations themselves, having but few Cases of each Disease before them. No Artist can arrive to any degree of perfection, if he changes his hand from one piece to another every Day. The Physician's Library in the last Age was an Hospital, which presented to him in the Morning (when the Patients in the Bed were falling into Sleep, which is naturally given them only at that time) and when return'd from the Care of the more Acute and Severe, with the various Cases of the infinite Irregularities of Diseases of the Poor, the middle Sort and the Wealthy, who observ'd them more capable of receiving the Narrative of the Chronical Disorder, and of returning his Methods of Cure, then now in the Confusion of many Visits at great distances. Your Physicians of the present fashion, amuse the People with the noisy Prattle of the Atomical Hypotheses, the Acid and Alkali; the Romantic Stories of the Quarrels and the Courtships of the
Spi-

P R E F A C E.

Spirits and Humors, which are plac'd by Nature too remote from the view of our Sences and Reason. Because they have not the opportunities of giving the true and instructive History of Diseases, from being present at the first Motions of the War, and the consequent disturbances of the Parties acting with more or less violence in human Bodies.

1. They cannot pretend to understand any one of the various kinds of Fevers, having never remarkt the first Symptoms, being call'd in, when the Quack despairs, and Life is almost brought to its Period.

2. They have not any competent knowledg of the Apoplexy, Epilepsy, Convulsions, Consumptions, Colics or the Nephritic Distempers. These and the warning, and aboding Symptoms employing the Practicers by the gain of the Physic: The Physicians cannot comprehend those great Diseases, having rarely been consulted in the less dangerous and more common Cases, by which only the others can be measur'd and truly understood.

3. They cannot discern the Seasons of assisting the natural Motions, or ever observ the critical and stated times of expelling the morbid Humors, being oblig'd by the Combination and the Prepossessions of the Family, to huddle many Doses on the Patient all the Days from the beginning to the End.

4. Those Physicians finding it their Interest not to displease in any kind the obliging Patron, who brings them into Business, direct the common and now few Medicins of the Shop, and dare not venture to give an unusual Trouble by appointing a more approv'd and more experienc'd Remedy: Or they dare not

P R E F A C E.

trust the little Boy, who Keeps the Shop, with a Preparation or Composition out of the common Road. Besides, would it not, think you, be highly resent-ed, when a Fulep is as readily put together of the simple and compound Waters, as Milk and Tea, or Water and Wine, to order an Infusion, which would take ten times the time in preparing, and must be rated (by Custom) but at the fourth or sixth part of the price of the Fulep?

If then its worth Thought, to save the Poor from being ruin'd in every Sickness; and if you will suppose, that your self or your Posterity may want the same Protection, from the effects of Vanity and Luxury, or Decay and uncertainty of Trade, from the extravagant living of the Debtors: If you would in the less difficult Disorders not be oppress'd with superfluous Doses, nor hazard your Life in the more dangerous with the multitude of Medicins, You must acknowledge, that the Dispensary, erected by the major Part of the College, is the only and surest Remedy of the greatest oppressions this Nation suffers and complains of. It presents the Public a Pattern or Standard, by which the low Prices of all the useful Medicins may be known, by which the goodness of all the Preparations, and the just moderate Proportions necessary to effect the Cure of the respective Diseases may be discovered. It gives a certain Rule to the People, to judge and distinguish the two opposite Factions of the Practicers of Physic. The Prices of the best Medicins of the choicest Drugs (which the Drugsters will assert) are not rated to the Sick at more than one, two, or three Shillings in the Day. They are prepared at the College by a very skilful Artist.

P R E F A C E.

Artist, and the Others, at the two other Dispensaries, who are constantly attending this Service, and are therefore the only true Apothecaries of the Town. Their Goodness may be easily examin'd by comparing them with those bought of the wholesale, by whom the Shops are usually furnisht. Nor can they be suspected by any one, who will believ, that the Physitians and the Operators have no Profit, beyond the value of the Ingredients, and the charge of preparing them. And you may be inform'd, that the Patients have been preserv'd, and four parts in five with the Fees sav'd in the Expence in the many Acute Diseases, but in the Chronical in a much larger Proportion. The College may recover its discipline, and revive the monthly Lectures of the greatest Use, to raise an Emulation of improving the Art, and direct and instruct in the first Studies of it. These Exercises will inform the Auditors, and by them, the Town; if one or two have ingroft all the Knowledge, by a Monopoly, to themselves, and of the Characters of the Members of the Society, distributed by the Quacks into the Families, are exactly drawn. The great Affairs will be there debated, of the best manners of preparing the Simples, and joyning them together in the Compositions. The most rational Method will be carefully examin'd of using them often, or with the greatest Caution in the reigning Distempers. But in the present, you must own, that the Dispensary Physitians may retrieve the value and esteem of the Art, and demand therefore from you the Preference, who shall attend the Patient from the first rise of the Disease, who have beside at the six meetings of the Week (as in an Hospital) the opportunity of observ-

P R E F A C E.

ing a very large Variety of the Chronical Cases, and are using the best and the surest Remedies in their most just Proportions, and are consulting with one the other on the Improvements of all the Parts of the Profession. And it may be added, that they are observing the Differences and Powers of the Drugs, and appointing the best forms of Preparation and Composition, of which the others are accus'd to be wholly ignorant by their own Associates, the new declar'd Enemies of the Faculty. When they shall have examin'd the Virtues of the Simples, and directed their Preparations from their own Observations, or of the most celebrated Practicers of the Age, the Physicians will not rely on five or six violent Medicins in all Diseases, which has given a just Reflection on the modern Practice. You observe, that more than four parts of five of the Receipts of the London Pharmacopœa have been despis'd and are now disus'd. It was compos'd in the reign of King James the first. The great application of many Physicians to advance and redress the Pharmaceutical Part, have since invented more rational Methods of Preparation and Composition. The purging Electuaries and Powders are too bulkey in the Dose: Many others are compounded of an extravagant medley of many Simples. The very fierce Contests of the Galenists and Chymists, strictly examining one the others Medicins, have at last instructed the Physicians, that very many of each Party are absurd and useless, and the others are beyond exception or doubt of their Goodness. The Galenists (to mention only the Alteratives) object against the Chymists volatile and acid Spirits, and distill'd Oyls and Elixirs, that they act on the Humors

P R E F A C E.

mors and the Membranes with too much violence, that no Constitution can bear them many days without the most sensible Detriment and Complaints. The Chymists assert, that the greatest part of the simple Waters are insupportable to the Stomach by their deadness and insipidness. That the Waters drawn from the fragrant aromatic have a little Scent of the Flavors of the Herbs, but are beneath the Virtues of a Tincture of the Herbs in the proportion of a Farthing to a Guinea, as your Smell and Taste will demonstrate to you in every one of them; the not Compound Waters are disturbing to the Stomach from their Mixture, and in the frequent use as pernicious as Brandy or Ratafia, from which they only differ, that these are less compounded: That they never cure any Distemper, but which Brandy or a Tincture of it from the Plants would have much better effected, without the inflaming ungrateful Oyls of the Plants, which can only be rais'd in the Distillation. They declare with great Vehemence against the simple and compound Syrups, that they are greivoussy offensive to the Stomach, always fermenting, and therefore flatulent, that the Virtues of the Ingredients are lost in the boiling, that they soon corrupt and turn sower.

It may be asserted (to support the Preparations of the Divine Art) that the Plants (whose wonderful various Mixtures of Flavors, Tastes, discover so many different Powers) by being taken in Powder, and mixt in a proper Vehicle, or extracted in Infusions and Tinctures, are able to cure all the Diseases of the Spirits, all the Discracies of the Blood, to strengthen the Brain, fortify the Digestion, move and restrain all the glandulous Secretions, cleanse all the Viscera,
the

P R E F A C E.

the Liver, Spleen, Kidneys &c. with the assistance of Bleeding, the Evacuations, and the Externals in some Diseases. These have in all Ages perform'd the greatest Cures, and at this time make the greatest Recoveries of the Rich and Poor, especially in the greatest Distempers, when the Confusions of the Compositions, and the hot or violent Chymical Preparations had vitiated the Stomach, irritated all the Humors, and rais'd the greatest aversion and abhorrence. But you cannot have these Improvements, but from the public Dispensary at the College, or the Physicians directing them to be made by their Servants at their Houses. There are no Apothecaries to serv in this great Affair. The Master is never in his Shop, and the Lad has not skill to make a Prescript, new and surprizing to him. Both are imploy'd in the place of Porters, to go with the Medicins into every House, to call a Nurse, then to do her office in the giving of Glysters for one Sex, and in dressing of the Blisters, to fetch a Docter at last, and afterward to fix a consultation of two or three, when the Patient is given over. And you cannot expect, that the Physicians shall communicate any Medicin to the Rivals of the Faculty, to be apply'd by chance to every Customer, with success to their Prejudice; or without effect to the Disgrace and Contempt of the most specific and excellent Remedies, if often basled by misapplication. This Part of the Art was rais'd and cultivated till this Age, by every Physician employing a Servant in his own House, or an Apothecary near him. If it is scandalous in the Physicians to know the Scents, the Taste, and all the Qualities of the Simples they use, when it is so to direct and inspect the Preparations of them

P R E F A C E.

them. As no Book or Discourse can give you the Color or Taste of any Wine, it is impossible for the Physicians to know certainly the Qualities of Medicins, without comparing the Sentiments of the Authors, and their own with the Drugs themselves in the Preparations. The Ladies, who advise their distressed Neighbours cannot think the Patients safe, or be themselves easy, unless the Medicins are made by themselves, or Servants by their Order under their View. The Princes of the former Ages, and all the Physicians, and lately King Charles, Prince Rupert, Mr. Boyl, Dr. Bates, Dr. Goddard, Dr. Willis made and communicated many excellent Preparations. The Physicians of the Dispensary, by imitating those great Examples, will greatly advance that part of the Art, and will more effectually cure the Distempers of the Body and Mind, by removing the senseless prejudices of the weaker sort of the People. The low Prices, and the just Proportions of the Medicins are stated by the Practice of the Dispensary, to prevent and expose any Jealousy on that Part, as by an Assurance or Obligation made to the Public. They may please themselves, that they have almost brought this great Design to perfection, (by making the People suspect, they have been fraudulently and unfaithfully treated in their Sickness,) which they have many Years past endeavour'd by the more private methods of Statutes, and the tedious Prosecutions of the Empirics. They were above the temptations of serving the Quacks Interest, to betray at once the Life of the Patient, and give up insensibly the Profession to them. The Author had the fortune to be form'd into these Sentiments by an early Conversation with that part of the Society,

P R E F A C E.

Society, who have, since the first Corruptions of the Practice of Physic, constantly apply'd themselves to find out the most probable Methods of restoring it to the healthful State, its Usefulness and Sincerity. Besides He had the Examples and Instructions from the Genius or Manners of that Town (which was the Title of the late Marcellus, Son to the greatest Conqueror of this War) which had the Honor to be known to the late King, of ever glorious Memory, to have tax'd themselves by the Letter of the Act, and was observ'd by Him, to have given the only Test of their Zeal to the Church, Love to their Country, and Loyalty to Himself. The Society will steadily pursue the Commissions the Acts of Parliament have given them in their Turns, to be Censors and Correctors of the illegal and destructive Practice on the Life of the Subject; and in the discharge of their Duty will neglect and despise the impudent Lyes forg'd and spread by Villans, and greedily heard and believ'd by Fools. They have this only trouble of observing the angry peevishness of the deluded People, which they are accusom'd to in the treatment of a Child. The little Patient cries out for Help, but rejects the Medicus with crying out more loudly. The tender Mother weeps at his Folly, and smiles in hope, he will grow more wise in time, when He shall be more advanc'd in Years.

9 NO 59

T H E

The Physicians who Subscrib'd to the Dispensary, on design to demonstrate, by their Charitable Advice to the Poor, the Cheapness of all the best Medicins, and the just Proportions of them necessary in all Diseases.

SIR Tho. Millington, Dr. Charlton, Dr. Collins, Dr. Brown, Dr. Torless, Dr. Hulse, Dr. Fowke, Dr. Goodall, Dr. Alvey, Dr. Bateman, Dr. Gill, Dr. Harris, Dr. Mills, Dr. Daws, Dr. Briggs, Dr. Cox, Dr. Gibson, Dr. Richd. Robinson, Dr. Pitt, Sir Edmund King, Sir Theod. Colladon, Dr. Lister, Dr. Harrel, Dr. Gray, Dr. le Feure, Dr. Hutton, Dr. Sloan, Dr. Hawys, Dr. Garth, Dr. Nicholas, Dr. Gaylard, Dr. Wolaston, Dr. Rich. Morton, Dr. Wright, Dr. Drake, Dr. Woodward, Dr. Norris, Dr. Colbrook, Dr. Harvey, Dr. Branthwait, Sir David Hamilton, Dr. Ch. Morton, Dr. Hunt, Dr. Morelli, Dr. Horseman, Dr. Cockburn, Dr. Silvester, Dr. Short, Dr. Guide.

Errata in the Preface.

PAge 2. Line 22. read *abject degree*. *ibid.* l. 23: r. *wisest Friends*. p. 8. l. 14. r. *makes it's gradual increase*. p. 11. l. 14. r. *said be*. p. 19. l. 7. r. *Progress of the Distempers*.

The

The CONTENTS.

PHY^SIC a most useful Profession, page 1. Enquiry why now less valued, p. 2. Answer, It is charg'd with oppressing the Sick with too many Medicins, and thereby Destroying instead of Curing, p. 3. The majority of the Colledge Detest that Practice, p. 3. The Peoples own folly one great cause, p. 5. The too much increase of Apothecaries the first and chief Reason of it, p. 6, 7, &c. The number of Apothecaries restrain'd in other Countries, p. 6, 7. The Character of the True and Pretended Apothecary, p. 8. By the Apothecary's Visiting the Sick, the Compounding Medicins is left to the care of raw unskilful Servants, whereby many deadly Accidents ensue, p. 8. The Apothecary imitates the Physician but by his unskilfulness preposterously applys the Cordials, Blisters, &c. p. 11, 12. The Apothecary having the Power in the Family, has the Liberty of naming what Physician he pleases and therefore Introduces only such as will countenance his Practice, and make large Prescriptions, p. 12. The Colledge have endeavour'd to Reform the Practice, but have been hindred by those of their own Members, who being in the Combination, oppos'd it with all vehemence, p. 17, 18. The Colledge therefore apply'd to the Magistrates to settle a Table of Prices, &c. which produced the Dispensary, p. 18. 19. The Benefit of the Dispensary, and the Advantage the Physicians of it have over others, p. 19, 20, 21, &c. Medicins often Sophisticated, Corrupted or Negligently made up in the Apothecary's Shop, p. 21. The Physician tho' sensible of it dare not discover it, p. 22. The careful viewing and choosing the best Medicins, is of the greatest benefit to the People, and this is done at the Dispensary, p. 23. The Dispensary Prices of Medicines, the same as in the Shop, but without the Extortion for little Parcels, p. 27. 'Tis safer to pay the Apothecary for his Attendance, than to let him pay himself by giving too much Physick, p. 29. Useful Medicines freely bestow'd by Nature, p. 30. Bezoar-Stone, prov'd to have little or no Vertue, p. 32, 33, 34. Pearl no Cordial, p. 36, 37. Gold, Silver, and Precious Stones are of no virtue in Medicin, p. 38. Whether Sarsaparilla be
of