

Werk

Titel: A dissertation on the extraordinary attributes and inherent virtues of fixed phlo

Untertitel: first discovered at Venice by Doctor Innoc. della Lena

Verlag: Glindon

Ort: London

Jahr: 1801

Kollektion: Varia; Bucherhaltung

Digitalisiert: Niedersächsische Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Göttingen

Werk Id: PPN664121438

PURL: <http://resolver.sub.uni-goettingen.de/purl?PPN664121438>

OPAC: <http://opac.sub.uni-goettingen.de/DB=1/PPN?PPN=664121438>

Terms and Conditions

The Goettingen State and University Library provides access to digitized documents strictly for noncommercial educational, research and private purposes and makes no warranty with regard to their use for other purposes. Some of our collections are protected by copyright. Publication and/or broadcast in any form (including electronic) requires prior written permission from the Goettingen State- and University Library.

Each copy of any part of this document must contain there Terms and Conditions. With the usage of the library's online system to access or download a digitized document you accept the Terms and Conditions.

Reproductions of material on the web site may not be made for or donated to other repositories, nor may be further reproduced without written permission from the Goettingen State- and University Library.

For reproduction requests and permissions, please contact us. If citing materials, please give proper attribution of the source.

Contact

Niedersächsische Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Göttingen
Georg-August-Universität Göttingen
Platz der Göttinger Sieben 1
37073 Göttingen
Germany
Email: gdz@sub.uni-goettingen.de

A
DISSERTATION,
ON THE

Extraordinary Attributes, and Inherent Virtues
OF

Fixed Phlogistic Earth,

FIRST DISCOVERED AT VENICE

BY

DOCTOR INNOCENZO DELLA LENA

Of Lucca:

BUT NEITHER FELLOW OR MEMBER OF ANY ACADEMY.

~~AND~~ SUBMITTED TO THE

Royal Society of Arts, and Sciences

OF LONDON,

For the Purpose of undergoing a chymical Analysis and public Trial,
as an universal and infallible Remedy in every Distemper,
External or Internal, Acute, or Chronic, incident

TO

THE HUMAN FRAME.

To which is added,

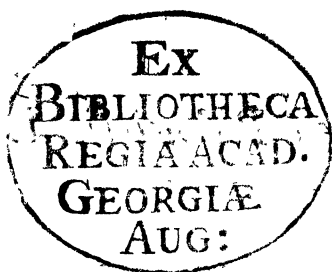
A succinct Memorandum,

PRESENTED TO THE MEDICAL SOCIETY, ON THE SAME
SUBJECT,

*With the necessary Rules and Instructions to be observed in the Use
and Application of this incomparable Specific, for the
Treatment and Cure of the Disorders
therein specified.*

L O N D O N :

Printed by W. GLINDON, RUPERT-STREET, Hay-Market.



Credidi, quæsi, tentavi, et inveni.



PREFACE.

THE object of the following DISSERTATION, being one of the greatest, and most desirable benefits that can be dispensed to mankind, namely, the promulgation of the discovery, and the diffusion of a knowledge of the only *simple, safe, and certain remedy* for every disease, however inveterate, difficult, or desperate, incident to human nature, necessarily becomes interesting, in the highest degree to every family, every public society, to the whole human race, collectively and individually. Under considerations so weighty, so extensive, so sacred, it were, surely, not just longer to withhold such a precious gift from the light; and I should, therefore, feel myself to be sinning against my fellow-creatures, did I further delay this publication. For, although the RIGHT HONORABLE PRESIDENT of the ROYAL SOCIETY, to whom an epitome of it in manuscript was delivered by a person of the first distinction in the state, may have declined to lay it before that assembly; such a refusal, is surely no competent motive for defrauding the public of its contents: or if the respectable President of the Medical Society, into whose hands I had myself the pleasure of putting a succinct memorandum, on the same subject; though treating chiefly of those acute

disorders, which generally terminate in death, did not think proper, notwithstanding the polite and obliging manner in which he received it, to present that memorandum to the society, or to obtain the permission which was therein solicited, for the public performance of experiments, although a private performance was in reality consented to ; even this double repulse, from two such enlightened bodies, only encreases the urgency of the demand on me, that the public at large should be immediately made acquainted with those very facts ; and know, that nothing, which has depended on my exertions, has been wanting to enable mankind to reap the fruits of my labors ; and to prevent, as far as possible, private interest and partial views, from depriving the world of the inestimable advantages, which so manifestly result from such an extraordinary discovery.

TAUGHT, however, in the school of contention, against the leagued confederacies of *self-interest*, and *incredulity*, I am well aware of the arduous and difficult task which I undertake, in endeavoring to gain credit to *great and useful innovation* ; and to force, as it were, into universal practice, a remedy altogether unknown, possessing inconceivable properties and efficacy, and hold myself thoroughly prepared to combat opposition accordingly.

For although truth, corroborated and supported by incontrovertible facts, as is every thing which I affirm, relative to the properties and qualities of PHLOGISTIC EARTH, *ought*, it might be expected, to silence at once all contradiction, and sweep away every particle of doubt before it, that, alas ! is far from being the case ; the learned, more particularly bound to set the example

of docility, and prove themselves the patrons of laudable research and investigation, for the discovery of what yet remains in the hidden ways of nature to be disclosed, are frequently the most obstinate, in wilfully shutting their eyes against the light. Especially when the effect of that light, is thought in many respects, to cast an unwelcome glare on their *own* pride, prejudices, or self-interest, when it may tend to dispel the delusive charms of scholastic sophistry, and pedantic practice, and render, in a great measure, illusory the fruits of studies and labor, bestowed from infancy to age, in the hacknied course of *academic science*. This terrifying conception of real discovery, with the consequent persuasion, that subscription to the new tenets must involve the indispensable renunciation of all the ideas and notions generally received and sanctioned by time, and of seeing every principle and foundation of their own supposed exclusive knowledge, in a moment demolished, are, what unquestionably render many of the learned—especially of the professional learned—enemies, and powerful antagonists, against every thing to which the name of innovation can in any way be applied.—What fierce opponents must not therefore the man prepare to encounter, who like myself has—not with dogmatic systems—not with visionary opinion, and vain theories; but, with incontrovertible facts, and actual experiments, overturned the whole edifice of *therapeutic* and *pharmaceutic* medicine?—What deadly foes must he not expect to meet from the alarmed phalanx of physicians, who, to a man, as is proverbially notorious, are ever, in professional controversy, proud, imperious, and implacable?

PREFACE.

All this, and more than this, I am fully prepared to meet face to face, and to combat in the cause of truth.

Hence, to begin with guarding so far as that may be practicable, against the effects of inveterate prejudices, and the rooted prepossessions, of scientific establishments, I here offer the *entity of a fixed phlogistic vegetable substance*, possessing peculiar physical, chymical and medicinal qualities and virtues, indestructible and unalterable, by the most violent action of fire, which, as is well known—with the exception almost only of gold—alters, consumes, and destroys or disperses every substance in nature.

I also here offer to treat and cure publicly, such and such particular *external* maladies, by the internal application of this *phlogistic substance*, without applying it externally to the parts affected: to cure with the same substance, and in the shortest space of time, inflammations of every description, without letting blood: and every kind of chronic disorders, be they from the diversity of their respective causes, ever so opposite or dissimilar in their natures.

I have already proposed, and do now here propose, to diminish and extinguish by the application of the same substance, all motion and effect that is contrary to a state of sound health in the human body: *i. e.* to operate on all the excretions, and secretions, general, and particular; and in the same manner to awaken and promote the actions of those excretions, and secretions, where, and when the state of the body may require it.

PREFACE.

v

I have already proposed, and do now here propose, to produce with the same substance, similar and contrary effects:--as for example, to re-produce, promote, and increase vital motion, and to check, diminish, and still it; and in the same manner to calm, assuage, and remove heat, pain, restlessness, cough, &c. with other symptoms, the usual concomitants of the divers maladies here alluded to. All effects, unknown and unheard of hitherto in medicine; as will be fully shown in the following dissertation. And having thus endeavored to reduce a subject hitherto deemed paradoxical, or impossible in medicine, to incontrovertible proof, and matter of fact, and offered to consign the substance itself to the hands of competent professors, in order to its passing the ordeal of a chymical analysis which is the *non plus ultra* of every trial and evidence, that can be offered to the professional enquirer, it only remains for me to submit to the public the same proofs and experiments which were offered to be made under the inspection of the two illustrious societies.

To those however who, moved by the spirit of obstinacy and contradiction, are determined against all proof to reject or attempt to deny this invaluable discovery, I address myself particularly, and call on them to stand forth and do their utmost; they shall find me ever ready, and even solicitous to satisfy the most scrupulous and minute enquiry, exclaiming

Define novitate exterritus ipsa
Expuere ex animo rationem: sed magis acri
Judicio perpende, et si tibi vera videtur,
Bede manus, aut si falsa est, accingere contra.

The primary and essential object of all medical science being the safe and certain cure of those maladies, to which, by our nature we are exposed, it is surely the positive and indispensable duty of every conscientious physician to labor for the attainment of that object, by an intimate acquaintance with the properties and virtues of all remedies, that may be discovered, and recommended by unquestionable facts and experiments: and having here so fully declared and explained what is the individual and peculiar nature of *phlogistic earth*, and described its chymical, physical, and medicinal qualities, in such a manner, as that they may be with the greatest facility ascertained and known by every one; it were surely to be hoped, that every physician, into whose hands this small publication may fall, and who, consequently, will thereby become fully acquainted with the method of applying the remedy, will feel the indispensable obligation of prescribing it; at least, in all those cases of doubt, imminent danger, or what is deemed impossible cure, and wherein all other known remedies or pretended specifics are unanimously acknowledged to be inadequate, either to the removal of the complaint, or the relief of the patient: and this, as well for the physicians' own credit, and reputation, as for that of the science which he professes. And the patients who require nothing more from the faculty than the re-establishment of health, be that effected by the operation of a known and reputed remedy, or the happy result of the timely application of one, till then, unknown to them, will hold themselves equally obliged to the physician who has prescribed the healing specific, and feel themselves bound to bless both that, and him, to the end of their lives.

But were it possible for physicians, impelled by an ostentatious pretention to the exclusive knowledge of the means of cure, and by obstinate opposition to one only faithful and sedulous investigator of the most recondite and secret operations of nature and art, to deprive their patients of the inestimable advantages of so precious and useful a discovery, a conduct so cruel would be most assuredly a heinous dereliction from the real duties of so noble a profession, and a just cause of severe animadversion and reproach, not only on a professor of physic, but on any man who lays claim to the reputation of possessing the common feelings of humanity.

Notwithstanding, that the general and particular properties of the *phlogistic* substance in question, are enumerated and explained in the following dissertation, it will not be superfluous to state here compendiously the mode and manner of its application for the treatment and cure of all chronic or acute diseases, and of the cancer.

In order to render complete afterwards the second part of this treatise, I propose to add the principal cases of extraordinary cures performed by me in London, but for want of leisure this cannot take place for some time to come.

*No. 16, Gerrard-Street,
Soho, Feb. 1801.*



A

DISSERTATION

ON THE

Phlogistic fixed Earth.

AS PRESENTED TO THE ROYAL SOCIETY

1. **I**F the preservation of life and health be one of the greatest and most estimable blessings attainable on earth; and, if the discovery and investigation of the *means* of that attainment, have, in every age and country, claimed the attention, and exercised the labours of men, in all the various classes and conditions of society, It becomes necessarily a primary object of every human institution, and consequently of every scientific and literary establishment, to interest itself with solicitude, in the discovery and intimate knowledge of those *means*; more especially when they are of the most useful and efficacious kinds, established by unquestionable proof, derived from actual experiments.

2. DOCTOR DELLA LENA, the discoverer and inventor of the *active principle*, which, by a certain peculiar chymical process, he extracts from the three kingdoms of nature, and which he, without contending about names, denominates *volatile phlogiston*, when in a volatile state; and *fixed phlogiston*, when in a fixed state, as it frequently is under various forms, especially the vegetable and mineral, applicable to the purposes of medicine, in the cure of inveterate, and hitherto, so far as the whole known *materia medica* extends, incurable diseases, feels it a duty incumbent on him (while in London) to address himself to the Royal Society, with the offer to prove, incontrovertibly by the evidence of facts, and the experiments which he pledges himself to perform, the extreme consequence, and great utility of his chymical discoveries.

3. Under the denomination of what he terms the *active principle*, are comprized *mineral phlogistic fixed earth*, as well as the *fixed phlogistic vegetable earth*, which is here particularly alluded to, as endowed with those extraordinary properties and specific virtues, for the radical cure of all diseases, acute or chronic, internal or external, though of the most inveterate and hitherto deemed incurable kinds; excepting, however, the cases of very serious organic dissolutions, which, it is needless to observe, can only be treated with palliatives.

4. The properties of *phlogistic fixed vegetable earth*, hitherto unknown in physics or chemistry are, 1st. that if calcined in an open or reverberating furnace, it can never be reduced to real ashes, nor ever lose its light yellowish color, which it even preserves in a higher degree when so calcined in a covered crucible, into which the air is admitted, than when calcined in an open crucible, where it becomes of rather a fainter yellow, verging towards a grey.—2nd. If lixiviated or boiled for any time that may be thought proper, with distilled rain water, it can never be converted into alkaline salt, a property distinct from all other earths and ashes, nor can any alkaline substance be extracted from the water, either by evaporation, or distillation.—3d. If exposed to a degree of heat, equal to vitrification, it will never vitrify, as all vegetable ashes must do.—4th. When reduced to its natural fixed state, after having undergone the violent action of the fire, it retains all its viscid, saponaceous, and glutinous properties entire, be it washed or boiled ever so much; or even if exposed again to the action of the most violent heat; it will adhere easily to the smoothest and most slippery surfaces of glass or porcelain.—5th. It does not mix either with water, oil, or the highest rectified spirit. It never loses any of its individual physical properties, nor any of its medicinal virtues by the action of the most violent fire, from which it invariably comes fixed and unal-

tated. It may be kept, as has been frequently done, forty, fifty, or more days, at a reverberating fire, in a vitrifying furnace, without the least sign of mutability, or of the loss of its medicinal virtues, for the purposes of either internal or external use. This *fixed phlogistic earth* is justly characterised by its 2d, 3d, 4th, and 6th, properties; and it is hitherto unknown by the chymists, who, led astray by the effects of fallacious and insufficient experiments, have fallen into the error, of denying altogether the existence of *fixed phlogiston*.—6th. If the earth be kept under the action of the focus of a burning-glass, as it has been of one twelve inches in diameter, it melts completely, and is converted into a vitrified mass, of a transparent yellow, with a surface of a blackish hue. 7th. Being afterwards pulverized very fine in a porphyry mortar, it recovers its yellowish color; and, what is very extraordinary, is found to have lost none of its qualities alluded to Nos. 2, 4, 5, and 6. This experiment was performed in London. (a)

5. Although the analysis of the substances of bodies is nearly useless with respect to physic, and solely an object of curiosity, since the respective virtues of remedies are discoverable only by the effects, resulting from their application and use in the disorders which afflict mankind; yet Doctor DELLA LENA wishes to submit

his *earth* to a public analysis, under the direction and superintendence of the Royal Society, in order to the removal of all doubt from the minds of persons, respecting the individual, physical, and chymical properties, hitherto unknown in any other remedy or substance, which ever has been or is employed in medicine or surgery, as alluded to in N^o. 4. The earth extracted from the mineral kingdom, and radically decomposed without corrosive acid, or alkaline menstruums, being reduced to a vegetable nature, and no longer mineral, has, with very little exception, the same physical, chymical, and medical properties and virtues, as the real *vegetable phlogistic earth*.

6. The man who presents himself, with the offer to convince by actual experiment, an assembly of persons, versed in every branch of knowledge and science, may well dispense with the endeavour to persuade by verbal discussion, and quietly rest his expectations on the evidence of the fact, that being, as BACON has it “*the demonstration of demonstrations.*” And might say himself, “*quid verbis agam dum facta video?*” yet, as men, especially the learned, require that even facts should be corroborated by the powers of ratiocination and argument, Doctor DELLA LENA thinks it adviseable to describe, and explain *briefly* here how *fixed phlogiston*, or *fixed*

phlogistic earth operates when applied, in any form whatever to the human, or any other living animal body: a more dilated or circumstantial description, not being admissible in this place (b)

I. *Fixed phlogiston* or *fixed phlogistic earth*, extracted from the mineral or vegetable kingdom, when reduced to the natural state peculiar to its essence, containing the properties enumerated in Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, hitherto unknown, and generally denied by the chymists, if applied either externally or internally to animal bodies, promotes, by its inherent and specific virtue in all the parts endowed with sensibility and motion: i. e. in every series and order of fibres and vessels, their respective natural and vital strength. This fact is incontrovertible.

II. *Fixed phlogiston*, promoting the natural inherent vital strength by its own specific inherent virtue, with a constant irresistible effect, always acts, and operates on all living bodies, generally and particularly; on the whole, and on the parts, i. e. on the whole, exclusively of the parts, and on the parts exclusively of the whole.

III. *Fixed phlogiston*, in all diseases hitherto deemed curable or incurable, promoting the natural vital strength or activity, by its inherent

irresistible effect on the whole, or on the parts, as in N^o. II. checks, moderates, or even extinguishes the vital activity where it is raised to a violent degree, and where enfeebled or extinct, revives and excites it : wherefore the *phlogiston*, by one operation, produces at the same time distinct natural effects ; adapting its salutary aid to all the wants of nature : that is, reinflating her by its sole vital operation, in a condition to resume, and exercise all her general and particular functions, with equal and regular movements, where these may have been enfeebled, suspended or deranged ; as the different organs in their particular structure and offices, and the various disposition of the fluids, and texture of the solids may require ; restoring the whole to its pristine healthful equilibrium.

IV. *Phlogiston*, by promoting the inherent natural vital strength in the fibres and vessels, N^o. I. enables nature to recover the exercise of her functions, N^o. III. encreases or diminishes motion, in the whole or in the parts, is accommodated always to her wants, and assists her to re-establish the lost equilibrium—promoting, exciting, checking, or diminishing the particular or general secretions, i. e. insensible perspiration—sweat—urine—stool—saliva, &c. where she is inactive in her functions, the necessary consequence of every diseased state.

V. *Phlogiston*, by its action, when applied to any living animal body, especially the human, is a certain universal remedy, without any exception, but that of organic dissolutions, which may have deranged or destroyed the substance of the principal or vital viscera: it also removes and completely extinguishes all morbid effects, as *cold, heat, pain, coughing, vomiting, diarrhea, convulsions, restlessness, debility, dizziness, delirium, insomnia or watching, drowsiness*, and every other symptom that can be produced from any cause or infirmity of the human body.

VI. *Phlogiston* is a certain universal remedy (No. V.) adapted by its inherent virtue to the cure of all diseases, external or internal, acute or chronic; but especially pleurisy, peripneumonies, rheumatism, flying gout, confirmed gout, nervous sciatica, slow fever of every description, the most inveterate quartan, and tertian agues—the commencement of phthisic—some symptomatic phthisics, cachexies, cacochymies, chlorosis, leucophlegmacies, dropsy, gravel, venereal affections in all their stages, scurvy, melancholy, palsy, and many other internal, as well as external diseases, the enumeration of which, it would be here too tedious to make.

VII. Among all the created beings, there is no other but *fixed phlogiston*, of the first or second

species, or, of a still higher degree of perfection, to which the Doctor has brought it since his first discovery, adapted by their *inherent virtue*, to enable nature when applied to a living animal body, to resume the exercise of her functions, motions, operations, secretions, and excretions, where those are obstructed or deranged, nor capable of re-establishing her, according to the laws prescribed by the Creator, in a perfect sound equilibrium; and it thence necessarily follows, that no physician can be denominated perfect, or even capable, be he ever so well endowed with acquired knowledge or science, without being thoroughly acquainted with the use, and actually possessed of *fixed phlogiston*, or the *active principle* here alluded to, extracted from all the three kingdoms of nature. For the whole farrago of known medicines to a physical certainty, are fallible and inefficacious, in so much as they are not extracted by radical decompositions, and are hence heterogeneous and can ever operate on the immediate cause of the disease, or remove, diminish, or increase activity in the whole, or in the parts, either generally or particularly (No. III. IV.) to assuage for instance, or re-extinguish, or promote, as nature may require, sweat, insensible perspiration, stool, cold, heat, pain, vomiting, fever, and every other symptom of ailment. Nor will it ever be in the physician's power to cure effectually the disease

where nature is not led to complete the operation herself, or where she has been too much debilitated by murderous phlebotomy, stimulants, purgatives, &c. and rendered feeble in the action, and operations of life, on which every cure depends, and even where nature has not been obstructed, a cure cannot be effected in many cases, without the increase of motion or activity, in the symptoms of the disease. Nature may cure in intermitting fevers, that are not flow, and in acute diseases; but never in chronic, where the vital action and the motion of the fluids and solids, being in a natural state without fever or increase of motion, are never in a state susceptible of cure. And hence it follows that all chronic disorders of a serious and severe complexion, are always incurable from the operations of nature alone, and physic in general is found to be defective, fallacious, and uncertain.

7. Long accustomed to contend with the opposition, contradiction, prejudice and obstinacy of men, who, though pretending to be intent, and earnest on the investigation, and discovery of truth, whenever that is offered by another in any form dissimilar from what they have been taught to expect, from their own training in the trammels of systematic error, and, consequently not recognizable by them, persecute, misrepresent, and endeavour, with all their power and influence, to cry it down, or rather than

allow themselves to be convinced, deny its existence altogether ; and well aware also, of the obstacles, attending innovation wherever it clashes with received opinions, and habitual ideas, from that incredulity, to which self-sufficiency, with an irresistible bias, inclines mankind, and of which men of science and learning, divest themselves with still more difficulty than others ; Doctor Della Lena far from wishing to make impressions, or engage the attention of any one by mere words, but solicitous only to convince by the evidence of facts, offers to perform experiments when and wherever it may be required : beginning with the most simple chronic complaints, of whatever nature they be, and proceeding to the most inveterate and desperate diseases, and *vice versa*, in acute cases of every description, but more especially, inflammations of all kinds, beginning also, if required, with the most simple, and so proceeding to the desperate and mortal, in which the patients will be seen to return immediately, as it were from death to life.

On this head he feels it necessary to observe, that the constant effect of his remedy in delaying, and staying off the approaches of death in all those acute, or chronic diseases, when the patient is near that fatal period, particularly inflammations of all kinds, and without ever letting blood, is so efficacious and so surprising,

that it would surpass all belief were it not continually ascertained by the fact. For frequently, with the application of only two or three doses of the *phlogistic earth*, in a few minutes---sometimes in a few hours, and, at most, in the space of half a day, death is apparently overcome, and the patient relieved; and where the mortification has actually taken place, and the patient is in the extremity of agony, when the disease is truly incurable, even then the earth prolongs wonderfully the last moments of life, re-animating and exciting again the vital heat, motion, and spirits, which were all at the last gasp, diminishing the oppressed respiration, and, at any rate, rendering dissolution itself less painful, which no other palliative in nature can ever be expected to effect.

8. Since there cannot exist any universal remedy, without possessing the certain inherent virtue of operating on the immediate cause of all disorders, in the same manner, as the ACTIVE PRINCIPLE (extracted without fire and without corrosive menstrooms, by a radical decomposition from the bodies which contain it) operates by its individual and innate virtue: in order not to be wanting in any thing incumbent on him, Doctor Della Lena offers to all those, who may not clearly comprehend the whole scope of his explanations, and who are

sometimes inclined to treat slightly, and even to deny the existence of a specific, endowed with the extraordinary, and surprising qualities here above enumerated, to convince them collectively and individually, by facts and experiments, of the irrefragable truth of all his assertions : i. e.

I. To apply the remedy either in a liquid or fixed and concrete form, vegetable or mineral, and without ever letting blood, for the cure of a peripneumony, or dropsy, pleurisy, or any other inflammatory complaint whatever, on any patient whatever, of any age or description, be the constitution hot, sanguine, dry, or bilious. Or for the cure of any cold, chronic, or slow complaint, or cachexy, whether cold scorbutic, melancholic, or venereal; dropsy, or leucophlegmacy of any kind whatsoever, and in any patient, of every age and description.

II. To apply the same remedy externally for the resolution and cure of any external inflammation, cold edema, or lymphatic congestion in any part of the body, and internally, without any external application, for the resolution and cure of the same diseases.

III. To apply the same remedy externally for the immediate cure of a wound, or any kind of sore in the always very irritable membranous, muscular, or tendinous parts, even if inflamed, and painful to an extreme degree : to employ it in the cure of any fresh or old sore, though covered with thick, and viscid matter of the most degenerate and deleterious quality, and on which the strongest digestives, and the escharotics have been found of little or no avail, and to shew how the earth will immediately deterge and cleanse it : and *vice versa* to alter in an astonishing manner from a morbose, to a sound state, and finally in a convenient time to a perfect cicatrization, any ulcer, of the most inveterate kind, and in its extreme stage, by the inward application of the remedy, without using it externally ; all which will take place in the most speedy manner, and with a visible and sensible alteration for the better, immediately upon each application.

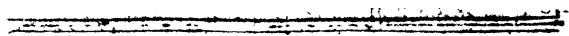
IV. To apply the same remedy externally for the cure of a phlegmon, or any other tumor produced by heat, and dissolve it quickly, if in the gathering state, or should the vessels be already broken, and the matter be extravasated, bring it to a favorable suppuration : To apply the same remedy for the resolution and

9. Chronic disorders requiring time for the completion of their cure, and inflammations being quickly overcome, it would be always preferable, more easy, and more expeditious, to make such experiments as conviction may require, first, on inflammations, or diseases generally leading to an immediate mortal termination.

10. *Fixed vegetable phlogistic earth*, as well as the mineral, possessing the virtue of effecting a certain cure in a very short time, and without bleeding, as has been said above, of all inflammations, external or internal, an effect never yet produced by any other means, since physic has been studied, and practised; it is surely of the utmost consequence, for the benefit of mankind, to publish and make known such an inestimable, and extraordinary discovery, by the most unequivocal, and incontrovertible experiments.

11. Dr. Della Lena having thus complied with the duty, and obligation which he felt to be incumbent upon him, proposed to the **ROYAL SOCIETY**, to evince by facts, and experiments, the extraordinary nature, and extreme utility of his discovery, now only waits the determination and commands of that illustrious body, to proceed to the trial and proof of his assertions, and is prepared accordingly.

should the society approve of it, to publish the result of such investigation, for the benefit of these kingdoms, and of mankind in general. Until this proof, and publication shall be accomplished, he trusts, the society and its associates will suspend their judgment, and withhold all unfavourable or premature prepossession against a man, who has chiefly the public good in view, and who is always ready to give every explanatory satisfaction, that the truth shall require.



SUBSTANCE
OF
A MEMORANDUM,

DELIVERED TO DR. SIMS,
PRESIDENT OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON,

BY

Dr. Innocenzo Della Lena.



DR. INNOCENZO DELLA LENA, *Physician to the Marquis de las Casas, His Catholic Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary, at the British Court*, previous to the late unhappy rupture between England and Spain, having discovered *a fixed phlogistic earth*, possessing very extraordinary qualities, and endowed with the exalted virtue, of effecting a radical cure in diseases of every possible description, acute, chronic, external or internal, the most inveterate, stubborn, and hitherto deemed incurable, confines himself here to the mention only of the more acute and perilous sort, that is, of inflammations of every denomination, which frequently terminate by immediate death, (or where that is for the moment delayed, degenerate through

the inefficacy, and want of dissolvent power in the remedies applied, into a state of lingering, painful, and hopeless malady) all of which he cures radically in a very short time, as is fully attested by a long course of successful practice, and experiments, both in the primary and ultimate stages of the various disorders, without even once letting blood; an attainment certainly not possessed by any other professor of physic, since the first epoch of the study and profession of physical knowledge. But the Doctor preferring the enjoyment of peace, and tranquillity in London, to accompanying the Marquis de las Casas in his journey through France and Italy—by which he must have been exposed to the immediate sight, and contemplation of all the horrors, and calamities of the French Revolution, which has desolated, and ruined his own country, and is more odious and detestable in his eyes, than even death itself—feels it to be a duty that he owes to mankind in general, and a particular obligation incumbent upon him here, to address himself to that illustrious body, the Medical Society of London, with the offer to verify, and prove by public experiments, the efficacy, and virtues of his specific, in the resolution and speedy cure of every species of inflammatory disorder; with the sole exception of those cases, wherein mortification may have anticipated the application of the remedy; and

for the most ample fulfilment of his offer, he waits only the Society's approbation and commands. Should the proposal here made of verifying by public experiments, the truth of the discovery of the cure, of every species of inflammation without the assistance of phlebotomy be approved of, and directed by the Society, Dr. Della Lena, after having proved his assertions, will, if the Society require it, cure *under their inspection*, with the specific above alluded to, every kind of chronic, inveterate, and desperate diseases; in order also to convince the reasoning investigator, and satisfy the curious chymist, the Doctor will likewise shew, and demonstrate, that his *phlogistic fixed earth*—which he likewise denominates—*active principle*—is, besides its medical, endowed with the most rare, and extraordinary physical, and chymical properties, not to be found in any other substance appertaining to the three extensive kingdoms of nature.

INNOCENZO DELLA LENA,

Of Lucca,

Professor of Physic and Surgery.

THE personal intercourse which I had the honor of holding with Doctor Sims, president of the Medical Society, constituting one of the principal epochs in the history of my exertions, to obtain a public and professional trial of the *phlogistic earth* in England, it will not be amiss to state here briefly the chief circumstances of that intercourse, and which literally took place in the following manner.

—The Doctor, on my first visit to him at his own house, received the memorandum I had prepared—a copy of which is here inserted—and politely invited me to the *sessions* of the society, that are held every Saturday in Bolt-Court, Fleet-Street. On my attendance there, the Doctor signified to me that he was desirous to see an experiment made with the *phlogistic earth*—not in cases of the inflammatory class, but rather on venereal complaints—and requested me to attend the following sessions, when the person to whom he wished to entrust the trial would be there. Accordingly the next Saturday, the president gave the commission to the chief surgeon at the Lock Hospital, Mr. Blair, who, on the day appointed, introduced me to the hospital, and shewed me all the patients; but as those had every one of them

already taken mercury, or were under the preparatory regimen for that remedy, he requested me to return the following week, as he wished to have the experiment made on some patient who should not have been subjected to that regimen. On my attendance again at the time appointed, Mr. Blair was not to be found; and on my third visit to the hospital, I was not admitted to his visitation of the patients, but made to wait, and had word sent out to me, that if I chose to entrust my remedy to him, or to his assistant, it should be applied, but that the governors did not allow of any medicine being administered in the hospital by a *foreign physician*. Even after this repulse, I offered to make the experiments on patients who might be about to go to the hospital, but who, in case of taking the *earth* should remain at their own homes. I attended twice more in the following fortnight, with this proposal, but never had the pleasure of seeing Mr. Blair more: and finally, received a message, acquainting me that the governors could not allow of my administering the *earth* at all, even to those patients who did not enter the hospital.

I went again, and gave an account of what had passed to Doctor Sims; who, as before invited me to the sessions of the society, and told me, that he would give the commission respecting my experiment, to another person, who, however, would not be there till the next session, when I might attend again. I accordingly

did so, and Dr. Hooper, Secretary to the Society itself, and Physician of Mary-le-Bone Hospital, was charged with the superintendence and direction of my proposed experiment. On my attendance there, and having been very courteously shewn all the patients, I offered to undertake three of the most hopeless cases in the hospital, viz. *the ascitis, or dropsy of the belly*, by which the patient was already reduced to the most perilous condition, the swelling continual—the thirst perpetual—and the suspension of urine almost total.—An *icteric complaint*, attended with obstructions of the belly, threatening *tympany*, and oppressions and pains; under which it was lamentable to hear the patient's groans.—A woman, in the *last stage of a consumption*, emaciated to the bone, with continual *sweat, diarrhoea, &c.* I offered Dr. Hooper to administer the same remedy to all those three patients; and to foretell and previously write down the different symptoms and effects that would be produced by it, during the respective cures. It was agreed that this should be done; but after having made me attend twice at the hospital, without finding him there, and after refusing to give me the certificate, which common sense dictated that I should require, of the real state in which the patients were at the time of undertaking their respective cases, I became disgusted with the treatment which I had met with, and felt it needless to trou-

ble Dr. Sims further for the removal of the obstacles, which I clearly foresaw would be placed in the way of every thing like public professional experiment ; even when tending so notoriously to the credit of the medical science, and to the benefit of our fellow creatures.

GENERAL and PARTICULAR
R U L E S,
for the Use of
FIXED PHLOGISTIC EARTH,
OR,
Dr. Della Lena's universal Specific Powders,
IN
All External, or Internal, Acute or Chronic
D I S O R D E R S.

THIS sovereign and universal remedy was discovered, by the Doctor, at Venice, the astonishing cures performed by it, during his long course of practice in Italy—subsequently at Vienna, and Berlin, and latterly in this metropolis, so abundantly evince the efficacy and virtues of the *phlogistic earth*, that it were superfluous, here to attempt the removal of scepticism, by reasoning, or to recommend the medicine itself, by writing. A series of successful experiments, best demonstrates to what extent its salutary use may be carried, in the cure of every disease.

This earth, possesses besides the quality of restoring the natural and vital motions; three

properties, which in no other medicine can ever be found re-united at the same time, and in the same operation ; viz. To *resolve, assuage, and corroborate*. It is a specific remedy for inveterate nervous affections ; of all maladies the most difficult to cure ; but, in which if this earth be applied, in strong doses during convulsion, though it may not have time to eradicate the cause, speedily removes the symptoms, and that even in habitual epileptic cases.

INSTRUCTIONS and RULES for the Application of the Phlogistic Earth, in Inflammations of the Breast, &c.

I. It is to be taken in a dose of two grains, every other day, and continued till the cure is effected. Three doses are generally sufficient, to rescue the patient from all danger ; four or five, or at most six doses, cure every inflammation of the breast, however dangerous, or violent, even when attended with the spitting of blood, or any other dangerous symptom, provided mortification has not taken place.—In pleuretic cases and inflammations of other parts of the body, this earth effects the cure by copious discharges, either of perspiration or urine.

It promotes expectoration, and where the spittle or phlegm are obstructed, it quickly restores, corrects, and gives them a certain coc-

tion, which, speedily dissipates all appearance of the complaint. Where the discharge of saliva is excessive, the powders mitigate, diminish, and finally carry it off. If on the contrary, either through want of vital activity, or the toughness and visciditv of the matter to be discharged, the patient finds difficulty in expelling it, the application of this earth furnishes a speedy and effectual remedy.

What hath been here observed, with regard to expectoration, in disorders of the breast, is equally applicable to coughs, usually resulting from disorders in the lungs: this earth calms their irritation, and even re-excites them, where their convulsive action is requisite for the expulsion of viscous and tenacious matter.—Where they are dry and troublesome, it renders them humid and expectorating.

It rarely happens in pleuretic cases, that the pain is encreased by the application of these powders: but when that doth take place, it indicates the existence of matter that is too fixed and tenacious to be easily removed, or of a thin membranous obstruction, that hath been some time formed. In these cases, however, no dangerous consequence need be apprehended from the encrease of pain, because the medicine will never augment the fever, and the painful sensation will undergo, as it

were, four successive stages ; of commence-
ment, exacerbation, permanency, and decrease,
the latter more or less rapid, until the comple-
tion of the cure.

These stages of increment, and decrease of
pain, can however, only occur, immediately
subsequent to the application of the remedy ;
and, the only exception to the rule can be
found in maladies which attack the very sub-
stance of the bones, wherein pain is often more
excruciatingly felt.

II. The effect produced by the *phlogistic*
earth, especially in pleuritic inflammations, is
so speedy, that three or four applications, are
sufficient to stop the progress of the most vio-
lent attacks ; five or six usually complete a
radical cure. Indeed it rarely occurs that a
fifth, or sixth dose is requisite to remove pleu-
ritic complaints, and then only, in cases of
peculiar malignancy, where the malady is at-
tended with bilious discharges of a dark and
footy colour, or attacks subjects between sixty
and seventy ; even then, seven or eight doses
accomplish the cure.

When inflammatory disorders are compli-
cated with chronic complaints, and the breast
is not thoroughly recovered from the relics of
former indisposition, the use of this earth should

be continued, in doses of *a grain and a half*, or a grain and three quarters, if the patient be of a plethoric and corpulent habit ; and this treatment should be concluded by administering first, a dose every three ; and then, a dose every fourth day.

III. This earth being an admirable *antiphlogistic* remedy, possessing the virtue of resolving every kind of inflammation, to whatever stage it may have reached, short of gangrene, it of consequence supercedes all necessity of venesection, and offers a certain cure, even, where patients have been copiously bled : —whether beneficially or injuriously.

IV. Here it is proper to observe, that, if the symptoms be such as indicate the case to be very dangerous, the earth ought to be administered oftener than every other day, and even several times in the twenty-four hours.

Where circumstances of extreme danger render it advisable to administer a second dose before the end of the two days, that dose should be reduced to *a grain and three quarters*, or a grain and a half ; and from that, the dose should return to the first quantity of two grains every other day.

In very violent inflammation, if the fever, pain, heat and restlessness, be not evidently diminished, the dose may be repeated every twelve or twenty-four hours, and then again continued every other day, as before prescribed in No. I. In cases of extreme danger, if no alleviation of the symptoms appear, it may be proper to repeat the application oftener still, even every six, five, four, three, or two hours, according to the urgency of the case.

As it has been observed that three doses ought to place the patient out of danger—even where the inflammation is very great—there will rarely be any occasion to repeat the dose more than once or twice in the space of twelve or twenty-four hours.

If, however, the inflammation should have attained that height, that a cure is in a manner despaired of, and the patient be as it were on the verge of dissolution, a fourth dose not being found sufficient to effect any sensible diminution of the pain, fever, restlessness, and other symptoms, it will then become requisite to repeat the application in doses of *a grain and an half* every six or twelve hours, then once in the twenty-four hours, and, finally, when the eminent danger shall be removed to return again to the regular dose every other day, till the cure is effected.

In all cases where mortification has not actually taken place, the second or third dose will be found sufficient to remove all apprehensions for the life of the patient.

Where mortification has actually taken place, the administration of the earth tends to diminish, in a very considerable degree, all the mortal symptoms; and as the vital powers decrease, and the pulse subsides, frequently when opportunely administered in a dose of *a grain and an half*, or a grain and three quarters every ten or twelve hours, retards the fatal moment in an astonishing manner, and even renders death itself less painful. It has also been invariably observed, that in mortal cases, the patient, to whom the *earth* has been administered, has thereby retained his faculties clear to the last moment.

V. In every case, however perilous, where the treatment is conformable to the rule prescribed in No. IV, viz. by repeating the dose as often as the symptoms require, the patient is recovered from the verge of death, with a rapidity truly astonishing, the salutary revolution being frequently effected within a few hours, and, at the longest, in the space of half a day.

In those cases where patients are reduced to the last extremity, the application of this *earth* may save many, who, without it, would inevitably perish, and consequently in every country where the use of it has been introduced, the number of deaths have, to a certainty, much diminished.

VI. These acute disorders, in which it may be necessary to repeat the dose of this *earth* several times within the space of a day, half a day, or a few hours, are syncope, profuse hæmorrhagies, violent convulsions before or after lying-in, dangerous or alarming symptoms in surgical operations, such as amputations, &c. severe and deep wounds, apoplexy, catalepsy, hemiplegia, and all malignant diseases which become mortal through the want of crisis: in all cases of extreme pain, the powder may likewise be necessary to be repeated.

In every other species of medicine, even the most simple, the administration of a double, triple, or quadruple dose, may be attended with pernicious and dangerous consequences; but it is quite otherwise with the *phlogistic earth*, which being simple and homogeneous, accommodates itself directly to all the wants of nature.

Where it is necessary to administer it more frequently, or to increase the dose in urgent cases, as this has only the effect of accelerating the cure, or recovering the patient from a hopeless situation.

We could here enumerate numberless instances of patients given over, and gone beyond all hope, restored by this powerful specific, were they not circumstantiated for the most part in a work already published on this same subject, under the title of "*Chymical Discovery, &c.*"

VII. The inflammatory disorders which this *earth* cures, with astonishing celerity, are pleurifies, flying gout, attended with acute fever, and rheumatism: it speedily removes all dangerous symptoms in the small-pox, as well as in pleurifies, by a quick and certain resolution. Malignant and intermitting fevers, which lead to a fatal conclusion, through the want of necessary crisis, come also under this description, but the remedy immediately produces this crisis, and consequently a cure.

In the above, and other acute disorders, where this medicine is so efficacious, it is not necessary to employ any other active remedy,

and all stimulants, and aromatics, must be carefully avoided.

The patient's beverage in the above cases, and under the application of this *earth*, may be infusions or teas of emollient flowers, pectoral herbs, water-gruel or barley-water, sweetened with honey.

Where inflammations of the breast are treated with the application of the *phlogistic earth*, the patient may drink decoctions of the herbs, denominated *pectorals*, to which may be added, the syrup of the five aperitive roots, or that of atthea, violet leaves, male veronica, pellitory of the wall, ground ivy, and maiden hair.

On those days when the dose of *earth* is not taken, the oil of sweet almonds or linseed may be given in the quantity of three ounces and an half, which will at the same time operate as a purgative. And in general, when evacuation may be necessary in the treatment of the above disorders, these oils or manna, with some syrup, or a clyster of emollient herbs, broth, and oil, will be found to be the most favorable and efficacious aperitives.

INSTRUCTIONS

FOR ADMINISTERING THE FIXED PHLOGISTIC
EARTH IN CHRONIC DISORDERS.

There is no complaint of this description, however severe, desperate, or dangerous, which will not yield to the *phlogistic earth*, properly administered and continued with perseverance, except only in organic affections, that is to say, in disorders which arise from the total derangement or destruction of the substances, and constituent parts of the vital organs.

The *fixed phlogistic earth*, which is a specific remedy for acute diseases, is equally so for all chronic complaints.

I. Those disorders, in the cure of which this *earth* is particularly efficacious and more speedy, are flying gout, or arthritic pains, rheumatism, nervous affections of whatever nature they may be, the relics of venereal complaints, gonorrheas of the first and second species, buboes, and ulcers in the parts of generation, and in the throat, scorbutic and venereal cachexies, slow fevers produced by the acrimony of the humors, when not attended with schirrous obstructions, or dissolution of the organs.

II. In chronic disorders, the *phlogistic earth* ought to be taken in a dose of a grain and an half every three days, till the symptoms shall have nearly disappeared, then once every four days, and as the cure draws towards a conclusion, every fifth day will be sufficient. For valetudinarians of a plethoric habit, especially if there be an abundance of humors, the dose ought to consist of one grain and three quarters, that is to say, seven grains divided into four doses.

III. In dropfies of the belly, where the extravasated water hath filled the cavities of the abdomen, or lower belly, or in external dropfies, with a great flow of humors, into the cellular tissue, or attended with edematose swellings in the thighs and abdomen, the dose should consist of two grains. But when the waters and swellings are something subsided, the quantity may be reduced again to a grain and three quarters, and as the cure proceeds, to a grain and a half.

IV. It is difficult to determine with precision, the quantity requisite for any particular chronic case; the only method of computing it, is by approximation. Inveterate cases of several years standing, usually require a longer application of the remedy. The same analogy will be found in all maladies produced by morbid mat-

ter of a fixed nature, dispersed through the capillary vessels in different parts of the body.

VI. Several chronic disorders require as many months for their cure as they count years from their origin: others take only fourteen or fifteen days for every year of their date—this, under the supposition that the remedy be taken every other day. An old complaint of ten years standing, may however, be completely cured in the space of five, six, or at most, eight months. If, however, it be of a longer date, that is, of twelve or fifteen years, the cure will generally require eight or ten months, and ten or twelve months where the complaint is from fifteen to twenty years old. In administering the remedy every third day only, the duration of the cure may be computed at the rate of fifteen or twenty days for every year of the date of the malady: supposing it to be of no very recent origin—where it dates only from four, five, or six years, the term of cure may be computed at one month for every year, under the supposition that the remedy be taken every third day during that time.

VI. GOUT—venereal complaints in the fourth degree—scurvy in the third and fourth degrees—melancholy—mania—dropsy, especially, that called the dry dropsy of the belly, and breast—asthma—paralysis—hemiplegia—catalepsy—and

gravel, all require a greater length of time for their radical cure, than other chronic disorders.

VII. THE complaints which require in general less time for their cure, are flow fevers when they do not proceed from any organic affection—intermittent fevers—tertian and quartan, though they have resisted the bark—rheumatism—flying gout—chlorotic complaints—all scorbutic and venereal cachexies—acrimonies of the blood, and humors of every species, and all cutaneous disorders, except the tinea, or scald head—the elephantiasis and the itch. The venereal disease in its first and second stage—and the scurvy belong also to this catalogue of quick and easy cures; as doth likewise the consequences of venereal taints, recent gonorrheas of all sorts, buboes, simple ulcers in the organs of generation, or in the larynx and throat — slight rheumatism — flying gouts — chlorosis, &c. for all which, fifteen, twenty, or twenty-five doses are at the most fully sufficient. —Gonorrheas of the first and second class, recently contracted, are cured with six, eight, ten, or twelve doses at most, taken every third day: those of the third and fourth classes, take twelve, fifteen, twenty, or even twenty-four doses. For the cure of buboes, ten or twelve doses are quite sufficient. Ulcers in the parts of generation, o

in the mouth and throat, may require fifteen, twenty, or even twenty-five doses. For venereal or scorbutic cachexies, twenty, twenty-five, or thirty doses are sufficient. Scurvy, and the venereal disease in the second degree, and melancholy, require twenty-five thirty, thirty-five, and even forty doses. The two first of these maladies in the third and fourth degrees, may sometimes take forty-five, fifty, sixty-five, seventy, and even eighty doses, where the bones are generally attacked; the same analogy obtains in crises of inveterate palsy, epilepsy, catalepsy, and dropy. These general observations and data, are, however susceptible of distinction and exceptions according to the age and constitution of the patient, the climate, the season of the year, and the greater or lesser tenacity of morbid matter to be resolved and expelled.

VIII. As the *phlogistic earth* produces no physical derangement whatever, that can be injurious to health, since its operation tends to restore the equilibrium of the machine, it may be taken with perfect safety through every stage of pregnancy, and even during child-bed confinement. In those cases it should be taken once every three days, as prescribed above. Nos. I. II. and III, and chronic, or acute disorders may be treated and cured during these

periods, without the least danger. What is said here respecting pregnancy, is also applicable to the case of the menstrual discharges, and the treatment of this remedy may be began or continued through every period of them, nor will there be any necessity for its discontinuance, on the appearance of those evacuations.

IX. In difficult births, there is no remedy more efficacious, nor more specific, for reanimating immediately the strength of a patient, or for reproducing the true labor pains, and accelerating the delivery, than this medicine. This, however, is to be understood of natural and regular births, and not of cases which require the assistance of the able *accoucheur*. Where the patient is extremely debilitated, the dose should be *a grain and three quarters*, and if requisite, the application must be repeated at the intervals of two, three, four, five, and six hours.

X. If this earth be taken immediately after delivery, and continued once every three days, during the whole period of child-bed confinement, and convalescence, it never fails of producing the most favorable effect, and prevents all possibility of gatherings in the breast, corrects the lochia, facilitates the expulsion when defective, moderates their flow when too copious,

obviates the milk fever, or cures it when that disorder may have acquired a certain degree of alarming malignancy. Where coagulations, or hardneſſes may have formed in the breast, three or four doſes will render the application of every other remedy unnecessary, by quickly resolving the obſtructions; and removing the inflammation. Should any other remedy have been externally applied to the breast previous to the adminiſtration of the earth, that remedy muſt be immediately removed, as the internal operation of the earth will effect a certain cure, without the concurrence of any external application whatever.

XI. During the application of the earth, in all chronic diſorders, the patient ſhould abſtain from wine, and every other kind of fermented liquor. In nervous caſes, tea and coffee ſhould be preſcribed, eſpecially if the patient has been accuſtomed to an immoderate uſe of thoſe beverages; and during the whole courſe of cure, water is the only drink that ſhould be made uſe of.

XII. When the earth is taken in the morning, faſting, it may be accompanied with light apſicums, or infuſions of emollient and aperient roots and herbs, ſuitable to the nature of the malady: as for example, in caſes of ſcurvy, melancholy, paralysis, different ſpecies of ca-

cachexies, and venereal affections, decoctions of scurvy grass, burdock, dog-grass, &c. will be found most suitable. In hot scorbutic cachexies, the simples known in the *materia medica*, under the denomination of the cold antiscorbutics will be proper: such as dandelion taraxacon, wild succory, lettuce, &c. and in cold cachexies, the herbs of the warm class, such as cresses, &c.

117

XIII. There can be no occasion for the use of any purgative, when the *phlogistic earth* is applied, because, if the disorder proceed from any affection of the abdomen, the earth itself operates as a purgative, since nature requires it; and it has been observed before, that this specific in an admirable and astonishing manner accommodates itself to all her wants. Independent of this, however, in cases where patients may feel a predilection to undergo a gentle purging, that may be complied with to a certain degree, during the application of the earth, on the days of interval, between the doses, and a few days after the commencement of its application. In those cases, simple purgatives, that have nothing of stimulant or irritating in them, must be adopted, e. g. manna, cassia, senna, or erem. tartar, with some kind of syrup. Nevertheless it must be observed here, that in no case where the *phlogistic earth* had been applied, were purgatives ever found

to be of the least use or efficacy. The earth, in a decoction of manna or fenna, or any suitable syrup, is, we may affirm, the most favorable purgative that can be found in the whole *materia medica*; the earth giving that gentle and friendly quality to the purge, which is so congenial to nature.

XIV. This remedy, being the powerful solvent which has been already shewn, and promoting in most cases a considerable degree of sensible, and insensible perspiration, great precaution is to be observed, more especially in a climate various and ever tending to damp, like that of England, against the danger of catching cold, during its immediate application. The effects of the night air must be carefully guarded against; and the patient should retire, rather earlier than usual to rest: nor is it of less importance for him to remain something longer than usual in bed, for the purpose of promoting perspiration; and should the remedy have produced a general, or any local or perceptible sweating, it will be proper for him to continue there untill that shall have subsided. Whenever the remedy may have produced sensible perspiration in the course of the day, which is frequently the case when the humors are dissolved, confinement in bed becomes necessary, to promote that discharge, which in this, as in every

other secretion, is a crisis produced by the remedy, for the resolution and radical cure of the disorder.

In a scorbutic case of more than fifteen years standing, the sudorific tendency, after having continued without intermission above five months, terminated in a complete cure.

In obstinate venereal complaints of the fourth degree, this sudorific resolution continues for the space of several months, and effects the cure, without leaving the least debility, from the length of its continuance.

XV. In scorbutic cachexies, cutaneous distempers, rheumatic affections, flying gout, scurvy, and venereal complaints in all their degrees, perspiration frequently takes place in great abundance, and continues for several days, weeks, and even whole months. In those cases, it must be kept up and sedulously promoted, inasmuch as the cure depends principally upon this crisis.

XVI. The sweat excited and promoted by the *phlogistic earth*, being always critical, and a salutary effort of nature, however abundant, can never be attended with either fever or agitation of the pulse, red and scalding urine, or thirst or dryness of the throat, unless it should

have been obstructed or thrown in again by any neglect, or imprudent exposure in catching cold.

XVII. Sweat, as well as insensible perspiration, the effect of this remedy, being always critical, if obstructed by neglect of the necessary precautions, or by any sudden alteration in the temperature of the air, may produce pains, rheumatism, and even fever, and occasion a relapse, with an increase of the morbid symptoms, so as to render it necessary to recur to a new application of the remedy.

By whatever means such a relapse may have been occasioned, the re-application of the *phlogistic earth*, after the patient has taken to his bed, quickly re-excites the above symptoms of perspiration, and soon effects a cure. If the constipation from the cold be not violent, the first dose of the earth will reinstate the malady, in its pristine state. If the derangement, however occasioned by the cold, be more considerable, two doses may be requisite, and the patient must be kept in bed. Three doses will, at any rate, be sufficient, let the relapse be ever so severe.

XVIII. This remedy may sometimes effect a cure, without any other sensible operation than that which it produces by urine: but in

such cases, it acts also by promoting a degree of imperceptible perspiration.

A patient in Italy, labouring under a complicated complaint, venereal and paralytic, and another with the scurvy, in its fourth degree, attended with an hemorrhoidal hemorrhage, or bleeding piles, which had reduced him to the last extremity, were both cured in the above manner.

XIX. The earth may be taken either in the morning or evening; as well after eating or drinking, as on an empty stomach. Food or drink may be taken upon it without the least injury or impediment to its salutary operation. Patients who have no fever, and are not obliged to keep their beds, and upon whom the remedy does not exert its sudorific power in any great degree, will do well to take the dose at night, immediately before or after supper:—or before or after retiring to rest, just as they find it most convenient:—provided, however, that they on no account quit their rooms after taking the powders. Patients more severely afflicted, and who are confined to their beds, should take the dose in the morning.

In cases of intermittent fevers—tertians, and quartans, the remedy should be administered one hour previous to the access, or first paroxysm

of the disorder. If the fever be of the class of continued intermittents, the remedy should be taken one hour before the paroxysm, and repeated during the fit, untill a cure is effected. In permanent or continued fevers, the remedy should be applied every three days, as said before No. VII.

In convulsions, violent pain and vomiting, the remedy should be applied as soon as possible upon the attack of the symptoms, whether these originate in any other chronic or acute malady, or whether in any morbid cause peculiar to themselves. Where the first dose is not sufficient to remove or allay the symptoms, it is to be repeated as directed above, No. 5, until this removal shall be completely effected.

XX. This remedy being in the form of a powder, should be taken in a morsel of paste, bread, &c. or any other substance that will hold it compact, and prevent the dispersion or loss of any of the particles about the mouth, &c. It may also be taken in fruits either dressed, or raw.

XXI. For infants as well as adolescents, the dose of this remedy should be regulated in the following manner: From the age of fifteen to eighteen, one grain and an half, divided into sixteen equal parts, of which one will be the

competent dose for the infant of a year old ;— thus, for a child of two years old, two sixteenths, and so on the proportion may be followed up to the sixteenth and eighteenth year, regulating the sixteenth parts according to the patient's age.

From the first month, till the infant is a year old, the sixteenth part of a grain and an half is to be taken, subdivided into twelve equal parts, and of those be administered to the infant, as many months as he may be old,

For the cure of disorders in infants, as well the acute as the chronic, the same rules are to be observed as those prescribed for adults, No. I, II, IV, and II and III,

In order thus to divide the powders into almost imperceptible portions, it should be mixed with some conserve or neuter substance, and that divided into the sixteen doses ; and then to divide one of those sixteenths into twelve parts, which may be, for example, the weight of a dram or a scruple, that may be mixed again with a suitable quantity of the same conserve, and then that divided in equal proportions—are of which may be given to a child of a month or six weeks old.

For adults, men or women, of corpulent habits, and large stature, especially if of moist or phlegmatic constitution, with the lymphatics full and sanguine, the dose of this remedy should be increased to *a grain and three quarters*; and if the stature of the patient surpasses considerably the common size, the dose should be raised to *two grains*.

In some constitutions of extreme humidity, or in cold disorders, such as green sickness or jaundice in young women, is frequently requisite, though the stature or corpulence of the patient may not be extraordinary.

Patients of small stature, are liable to all the above observations in an inverse ratio, and should be treated accordingly. In such cases, the grain and one quarter, should not be exceeded.

On some occasions, independent of the stature, a constitution excessively warm, fiery, sanguine, or bilious, may require that the dose be reduced to a grain and a quarter; or instead of diminishing the dose, the time of application may be prolonged to once every four days.

DIRECTIONS

FOR THE CURE OF A CANCER, BY

Phlogistic Earth,

XXII. A cancer, proceeding from an internal cause, is an incurable chronic malady, for though amputation by expert surgeons, has sometimes been attended with success; experience nevertheless shews, that the evil recurs with even more violence than before, and that this sort of operation, is by no means a certain cure.

For a cancer, the patient must take the remedy every third day, under the directions, and with the precautions prescribed for chronic complaints, N^o. I, II, III, IV. And when the pains shall have been in part or altogether assuaged, then we may venture on amputation.

Before we proceed to this operation, the patient should have taken thirty or forty doses of the earth, under the directions above described. Immediately after the performance of the operation, the patient should take another dose, and one or two more in the course of twenty-four hours. If the pain or convulsions should not be in a great manner assuaged, or should

they recur with violence, the patient must take a third dose. After that, he may continue to take one every third day, till the cure shall be effected.

XXIII. When the first dressing shall be removed from the wound, an application of the earth, without mixture, must be made, in a quantity sufficient to cover the whole surface, and that be continued carefully in the same way, once a day, till the wound be completely cicatrized, which will take place in a short time, without leaving room for the apprehension of accident or further danger; but it should be observed, that in general the wounds will be healed with a degree of expedition, proportioned to the quantity of earth employed in their daily treatment and dressing.

XXIV. In pursuing the method prescribed in N^o. XXI and XXII, that is to say, beginning with the application of the medicine internally, and then using it internally and externally, the cancer may be cured, even when it shall be in a state of very considerable inveteracy, and amputation may be resorted to with confidence of a cure; although in the above cases, every axiom established in medicine, declares a successful operation to be impracticable.

In adopting the use of this remedy, we may be confident of succeeding in the radical cure,

although the cancer be ulcerated and adherent: except in cases of advanced age, or where the glands of the *arm-pits* are indurated, adherent, and violently affected with the same disorder. In those cases, the successful operation is no longer practicable, and the malady can only be treated with palliatives,

XXV. The *phlogistic earth* is to be successfully applied, not only in acute and chronic maladies of every description, as has been above asserted, but in all those external complaints, which properly belong to surgery. Its efficacy on wounds, sores, ulcers of every degree and kind, even the most inveterate and hitherto deemed incurable, is so great and so extraordinary, that nothing but experience and ocular demonstration, can convey an adequate idea of it. It is sufficient to suggest on this head, that when the cancer is moveable, the earth frequently cures it without recurrence to the operation, merely by the external application of its substance, unmixed and suitable treatment, with confident perseverance.

An ulcer, or wound, which would require six weeks or two months for the cure, under a treatment of the medicine most in repute, may be completely cured in five, six, or eight days, by the *phlogistic earth*. The experience of this fact was shewn at Vienna, on a servant

belonging to the duke of Polignac, he had been two months under the hands of a surgeon, without success, for the cure of an ulcer, on the tibia, or shin bone, the size was an inch in diameter, and was reduced to complete cicatrization in three days, during the severe weather, in the month of January.

XXVI. If the earth be applied in the pure powder to ulcers or wounds, it operates quicker, and more efficaciously, than when moistened with water, or mixed with any other substance. This remedy, however being dear, it can only be used by the opulent, or in cases of extreme severity and danger, in that manner.

Being so applied, that is to say, pure and unmixed, there is no kind of hypercarcossys, or proud flesh excrecence, viscosity, or obstruction in an ulcer, which it does not resolve, destroy, and bring to suppuration in a very short time, even in the cases where the most powerful caustic, such as the lapis infernalis, spirit of vitriol, alums, oil of camphor, butter of antimony, &c. would have all failed.

XXVII. The *phlogistic earth* is applied in pure powder, by spreading it over the whole surface of the wound, or ulcer, and then placing a certain quantity on the lint, which is to cover

it. Then over that a plaister of *red lead*, and some lint, for the gentle compression of the whole, and to prevent the action of the air.

XXVIII. This remedy may be applied to fores and ulcers, moistened with a decoction of the flowers of hypericum, or of any other balsamic simple. But as the *earth* is in its nature, indissoluble by water, it must be kept continually stirred in the fluid, and the lint well soaked at the time of its application. And if the wound or sore be deep, it must be filled up to the surface of the skin, and then the ointment applied, as said above in N^o . III.

The earth itself may also be applied externally, in the form of an ointment, by mixing it with the beef suet, or hog's-lard from the kidneys: and this not only for dressing and curing fores, but for severe bruises, and contusions, and for the resolution and cure of all other inveterate disorders of the skin. The efficacy of this remedy is, however, always in proportion to the mixture with which it is applied, that is, the less the quantity of extraneous matter, the more speedy will be the cure. A grain and an half of powder will generally be sufficient to compose a medicament of half an ounce of liquid, and even with two grains, an ounce of liquid may be mixed: but where we would hasten the effect, we must proportionably

reduce the liquid, or increase the quantity of powder. With the quantity above prescribed, the most inveterate and stubborn ulcers are cured. The remedy is to be applied to sores and ulcers, once only in twenty-four hours; but if the dressing be applied twice in that time with water, in which there is an infusion of the *earth*, that will accelerate the cure. When the balsamic simples above alluded to may not be at hand: the powder may be moistened with clear water.

XXX. Where the *phlogistic earth* is applied to wounds, sores, or ulcers, they never can become mortal, either by inflammation, extreme pain, corruption, or by the excess or defect of suppuration. This has invariably been demonstrated by experience.

In the application of the *earth* to scorbutic and venereal ulcers, it cicatrizes them completely, even where their causes have not been eradicated: and in those cases, recourse must be had to the internal application, for the destruction of those causes.

XXXI. The remedy must always be applied pure, and without mixture, for the cure of a cancer, especially where the disorder has attacked the lips, the nostrils, or any other parts of the face. It must be applied in the same

manner where the substance of the bones is carious in cancerous ulcers, corrosive herpes, and the wounds occasioned by the extirpation of the polypus, and for preventing the re-production of this latter disorder.

In applying this *earth* to gangrenes, which take place in wounds, it must be well moistened with water, but still the latter must not be over abundant in these cases; the remedy stops the gangrenous affection in the course of six hours, even when proceeding from an internal cause.

XXXII. Ulcers attended with encysted tumors, must be treated with the earth quite pure, without any liquid mixture.

XXXIII. Many scorbutic and venereal ulcers which are not deep—even the corrosive herpes, may be cured by the internal application only of this remedy, without any external application whatever.

XXXIV. Taken internally, it perfectly resolves all external tumors, hot or cold, without the necessity of external application, provided that it be applied before the rupture of the vessels, and that no extravasation hath taken place. It has the same effect on the king's evil, the

schirrus, and even on encysted tumors, if taken at an early period of their existence.

XXXV. By the internal application only of this remedy, all external tumors, hot or cold, not excepting the encysted, are brought to perfect suppuration, without the necessity of any external application.



DIRECTIONS AND RULES

For the Application of

The Phlogistic Earth, in Organic Disorders.

XXXVI. Incurable organic disorders, which can only be treated with palliatives, have all their symptoms assuaged and diminished by this remedy; the most potent of all possible palliations, since it calms, and totally removes pain, cough, vomiting, convulsions, diarrhea, sweating, gleets, hemorrhages: insomuch, that although these organic disorders, are in their nature incurable, it may prolong life many days—sometimes months—and even several years.

XXXVII. In some of these organic disorders deemed incurable, as for example, *hætics*, the efficacy of the *earth* is such, that it may some-

times render the palliative a radical cure, which, however, in such a case would happen, contrary to all expectation, and without its being possible to prescribe any rule or instruction on the subject. Those cases of phtisis where the palliative treatment may become a radical cure, are such as are symptomatic, and proceed from other previous maladies : such as scorbutic and venereal phtisis, and those which originate in acute disorders, where the crisis has not been complete, and the peccant matter has been thrown upon some of the nobler and vital parts.

XXXVIII. The operation of this *earth* on the adherent cancer is so powerful, that in many cases, all pain is completely removed by its internal application only ; it removes pain also, if the use of it be continued in ulcers of the womb, where opium in the strongest doses may have entirely failed. There are cases wherein this remedy effects a radical cure of an ulcer in the womb, attended with hemorrhages, as well as of ulcers in the intestines, or in the external passage of the womb. With regard to the male sex, it may cure inveterate ulcers, proceeding from gonorrheas of the third and fourth degree, situated either in the urethra, in the neck of the bladder, in the prostates, or the cowperian glands.

XXXIX. The rule to be observed for the application of this *earth* in the palliative treatment of organic disorders, is the same as that prescribed above No. I, II, III, IV, for chronic, and No. III, V, VI, for acute disorders. The dose must be encreased and repeated when necessary, especially where the complaint is attended with violent convulsions, vomiting, and extreme pain.

XL. In the palliative cure of the adherent cancer in the breast, when the pain has been to a certain degree assuaged, and the humors corrected, which in general cannot take place 'till after the application of the remedy twenty or thirty times, it must be continued to be taken twice a week only. If the patient is in a condition to live a year and a half, without counting from the beginning of the applications, these must be reduced to once in four days, and if she should hold out beyond two years, the application once in five will be sufficient: and finally, once a week, should the patient survive several years.

When persons, laboring under organic disorders, are attacked by other maladies, independent of the former, the application of the remedy must be made conformably to the instructions, prescribed for the treatment of the latter complaints, and when these shall be re-

moved, the regimen relative to the former is to be resumed.

Though organic disorders, which injure the viscera, or parts essential to the functions of life, by affecting those viscera with callosity, schirrus, or cancer, or with very inveterate ulcers, and destructive suppurations, such as I have before stated to be exceptions to the general rule of cure, of all chronic maladies. I yet feel myself justified in affirming, that many of these very organic complaints, so affecting the viscera, and nobler parts, may be radically cured by the constant and persevering application of the *phlogistic earth*. I could cite here many cases of these particular cures, some of them certainly of a most extraordinary nature, performed by this remedy, in Italy, and Germany, as well as in England. I compute, from an approximated statement, founded on long experiences, that the cure of rather more than one half the number of such disorders, to which the *earth* is applied, may be confidently relied on. The proportion results as five to ten, in general it is true, but under favorable circumstances, it is frequently, as seven, and even eight to ten.

By the timely application of the *earth*, life will in all cases, be at least prolonged, and with the diminution of those distressing symp-

toms, which are inevitably attended with dejection, universal debility, and eventually terminate in destruction.

It must be allowed, that the preservation of the lives of even five out of ten, but more so of seven or eight out of ten patients, who would otherwise inevitably perish. By such inveterate organic disorders, is a very extraordinary attainment, and surely claims the attention of every individual, who shall have the opportunity of being acquainted with this publication.

Those organic maladies, of which something more than one half the number undertaken, may be confidently expected to be cured, even to the proportion of six, seven, and eight, to ten, are all schirrus complaints of the mesentery—of the liver—and of the viscera of the lower belly—of the uterus, and the other organs of generation in both sexes—the commencement of phthisis, and every symptomatic phthisis proceeding from the effects of other disorders—and finally, the cancerous ulcer of the uterus, or any other exulcerated cancer of the same part, even if attended with violent hemorrhagies.

Those rather more unpromising in their natures, that is to say, of which the half, or something less may be expected to be cured,

are phtisis, originating from the hæmoptoes, and already advanced to the last stage by excessive perspiration, total emaciation, and incessant diarrhea—cancerated ulcers in the intestines—cancers attacking the substance of the stomach, and intestines attended with canine appetite and vomiting—a very rare case indeed, and ultimately, cancers of the uterus not exulcerated.

(a) In the few favourable days of August and September, 1796, I have never been able, with a 12 inch burning glass, by means of the solar heat at London, to melt lead, which requires a lesser degree of heat than any other metal; and with the same glass, I was afterwards able to melt completely, and vitrify *fixed phlogistic earth*, which does not melt, nor vitrify at a reverberating fire of a furnace, for vitrification, nor kept in an earthen retort in a stove, for fusion and vitrification, increased in strength by the free communication of air by means of an iron tube, four feet high, to the degree of force for melting iron, as was done at Berlin, without fusion, though four hours in that state.

This is not the place for explaining the reason of this phenomenon which I intend doing at another opportunity. Being at Berlin on the 17th of August, 1794, I submitted to a public analysis the *phlogistic earth* in the Royal Laboratory near the palace, to the celebrated KLAPROTH and HERMSTEDTS, in the presence of the Baron de REDE, then Envoy from the United Provinces, of Dr. PELLISSON, of Berlin, and Monsieur ROSENSTIEL, Privy Counsellor for the Department of Mines; in the analysis were discovered the properties mentioned at No. 1, 2, 3. 4, and many others by the mixture of several substances, which I shall omit relating.

As Doctor Della L's memorial had been very politely received by the president of the Medical Society, he could not doubt that his proposal was accepted, or that the experiments he wished to shew, would be quickly made: but having been admitted to visit the hospital, Doctor H. undeceived him, by information that the society had refused their consent to making any public experiment on the patients under cure: Doctor L. upon this, informed Doctor H. that as his stay in London was to be but short, he would intrust a quantity of *phlogistic earth* with him, for the cure of any of the most desperate maladies; and in order that the experiment should be properly made, he would remain till its conclusion, instructing, and directing Doctor H. in the application and use of the remedy, for every possible case. To obviate all doubt respecting the identity of the earth, and the certainty of its efficacy in the cure, without the assistance of any other means, he proposed to deposite it with any confidential third person who might occasionally deliver it for application to the patients, on whom the experiments should be tried. Now, Doctor L. perceiving that Doctor H. entertained an idea that the earth probably contained some portion of Mercury, offered to submit it to the test of the strongest heat of a reverberating or vitrifying furnace, to which it should be exposed, for the space of forty days, in order to remove all doubts of its containing the least particle of that mineral. He even proposed, that the same earth, which had undergone this unheard of and extraordinary trial, should be administered to the patients with equal assurance of the certainty of its efficacy in effecting the proposed cures.—This discourse, and offer, took place the same morning on which Doctor L. first visited the hospital. While Doctor L. remained alone in a room, in Doctor H's house, Doctor H. was joined in another apartment, by two physicians, to whom it seems he related the proposal just made, of submitting the medicine to the trial of the reverberatory furnace, and afterwards performing such and such cures with it, asking them what they thought of such a medicine. Doctor L. though then but little acquainted with the language, overheard, and distinctly understood, that the principal part of their reply was—"quack! quack! quack!" and when Doctor H. returned, told him in French, with some degree of warmth, what he had thus overheard, and that he felt he had just as good a right to retort upon them the terms—"charlatans and ignorants," as they had to use the indecent language, to which he had been a witness, since they contemptuously refused to try an experiment on a medicine, fairly offered, by a professional man like themselves, who modestly submitted his discovery to their inspection, by an experiment the most decisive and convincing ever made from the beginning of the world, and who had employed a long life in chymical and medicinal pursuits, not for mere amusement, but the benefit of his fellow-creatures.

(Glendon, Priater, Rupert-Street.