

vis vitæ. As Mr. C. has conducted his remarks on the whole in a fair manner, and avoided those personal reflections too frequent in controversial discourses, I am happy to elucidate his enquiries, and willing at all times to answer any reasonable doubts, when conducted in a liberal manner. Shielded by the irresistible banner of truth, I can bid defiance to the shafts of malevolence, and oppose with safety the language of experience to missile weapons, that will only recoil on their authors. Happily for mankind these important facts have been long known, and will eventually be in general esteem; but, like all introductions into the science of medicine, it will have an host of enemies to contend with. So much does mercenary inclination on the one hand, and bigotry on the other, retard the progress of information.

Having no more desire than Mr. C. to intrude on your attention, I shall take my leave of this subject, concluding in the words of Montaigne: "I have here a nosegay of culled flowers, and have brought nothing of my own but the thread that ties them."

I have the honour to be, &c.

Windsor, Feb. 9, 1801.

J. H. GROSE.

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Mr. Potts, on the Means of supplying the Loss of  
amputated Limbs.

A Patent has been obtained for a contrivance, which, in point of ingenuity, elegance, and utility, surpasses every thing which has yet been attempted of a similar nature. It is known, that where amputation has been performed above the knee, any artificial leg which has yet been invented to supply the loss, is very imperfect, as the person using it is obliged to make a semi-circular motion with it in walking, and as the genuflexion or movement at the knee is so imperfect as to make the motion very awkward, inconvenient, and unnatural.

Mr. Potts, the patentee, whose attention was drawn to the subject by the loss of his own leg, has constructed an artificial one, which he himself has worn for years, and which is possessed of the following superior advantages: The knee and ankle joints are entirely at the command of the wearer; and the appearance of their motions is so natural, as very nearly to conceal the loss of the extremity: The leg is made of light materials, and indeed of such as imitate both the bony and fleshy parts. It is worn with ease and perfect safety; it does not injure the dress, which other artificial legs are observed to do.

do. The wearer can kneel and rise up; can sit down and rise up; can pull on a boot, and permit it to be drawn off by a boot-jack; he can turn the anterior part of the foot outwards and inwards; ride on horse-back with perfect safety, and imitate almost every natural motion without any assistance of his hands. The patentee, who has suffered an amputation above the knee, can walk eight or ten miles with his leg of this construction without fatigue.

(Signed)

JAMES POTTS.

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To Dr. BRADLEY.

Dear Sir,

Being convinced that the above invention is far superior to any thing I have hitherto seen, (and I have had frequent opportunities of examining the inventions of others) I take the liberty of recommending it to the readers of your very popular Journal, and sincerely hope the ingenious inventor will meet that encouragement which his merit entitles him to expect.

I am, &amp;c.

Parliament Street, Feb. 21, 1801.

W. LYNN.

P. S. I have the satisfaction to add, that I have introduced this invention to many of the principal surgeons in London, all of whom coincide in opinion with myself.

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*To the Editors of the Medical and Physical Journal.*

GENTLEMEN,

**I**F the following few remarks on the external use of the inner bark of the *Daphne Mezereum*, may be thought worthy a place in the *Medical and Physical Journal*, I beg that you will insert them.

Linnaeus classes several species of *Daphne*, but as I am acquainted with only two of them, the *Daphne Mezereum*, and *Daphne Thymelæa*, I shall confine myself to these only.

When, about thirty years ago, I first went to Russia, I heard of the bark of the *Daphne Thymelæa* being used as a substitute for issues, and was advised to try it.

Happy to hear that any method had been thought of to produce