

An error, either typographical or in the MS. transmitted, has met with censure. The slightest reflection might have discovered, that the second NOT in line 8, page 94, was inadvertently inserted; and on this account it was certainly below any man, much more a man of *candor*, to have taken the advantage of it.

I take leave of this subject, requesting that my readers will pardon any appearance of *egotism* that may appear in this reply, since it is not easy to talk of oneself without giving offence. I am,

GENTLEMEN,

Your much obliged servant,

Paisley, Oct. 21, 1800.

R. WATT.

* * In a private letter from Mr. Watt, he says, "In consequence of my former communication, I have had many applications of late from different parts of the kingdom, and have at present under my care a great many cases of distortion. I have, since my last communication, invented another machine, which I apply when there is only one foot distorted, and when the patient is so old as to be able to walk. This machine retains the limb in a proper position, while at the same time the patient can walk about with tolerable ease. By making a little alteration, I have also applied it with great advantage to debility of the knee and ankle joint, and for removing stiffness of the knee-joint, occasioned by contraction of the muscles and tendons on the posterior side of the limb: An account of this will probably form the subject of a future communication. I believe, in a former letter I informed you, that I had invented a machine for curing distortions of the spine, shoulders, and neck; upwards of twenty of which have now been made, and applied with great advantage.

"In a letter a few days ago, which I had from Mr. Moyes, of Edinburgh, he informs me, that he has lately had orders from York for two of the instruments for Lithotomy, (published in No. XIII. of your Journal) one to Aberdeen, and two to two medical gentlemen in Edinburgh. I have myself, within these three months, had orders for one to Manchester, one to Liverpool, one to Glasgow, and one to Philadelphia. From which demands, I flatter myself, that some time or other it may come into general use.

To the Editors of the Medical and Physical Journal.

GENTLEMEN,

THE result of the following case I hope will not be deemed unworthy your attention, and a place in your valuable Journal; desirous of showing the junior practitioner the propriety of his attempting to afford relief even in those cases where the endea-

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yours

vours of the more experienced in the profession have been defeated. I am,

GENTLEMEN,

Your's, very respectfully,

J. COWLEY.

St. Thomas's Hospital,
Oct. 16, 1800.

James Flocker, aged 29, of low stature, but of robust make, was admitted into St. Thomas's Hospital on Sept. 25, 1800, with a luxation of the jaw. Said, on the 27th of August last, he retired to bed at his usual hour, in health; but at three o'clock the next morning, he awoke with a violent pain in the face, attended with much stiffness, and the mouth in an open, fixed state. The same day he applied to two surgeons for advice, who both agreeing that it was a luxation of the jaw, attempted its reduction repeatedly, without success: the patient remained under their care three weeks; but receiving no relief, he left the country for town, and on the above day applied at St. Thomas's Hospital, with an evident luxation of the jaw; yet, in other respects, apparently in health. His appetite good; pulse full and regular; the muscles of the face in a state of rigidity; and his mouth sore from the treatment he had received; so that the introduction of the finger was attended with much pain. Under these circumstances, I considered much depended on my first attempt; and Mr. Birch (the surgeon under whose care he was admitted) having advised me to effect as complete a relaxation of the parts as possible, before any means were used for its replacement, I applied five leeches on each side of the face, in the direction of the masseter and temporal muscles, which having dropped off, the after hæmorrhage was much increased by placing the patient in the warm bath at 98°, which was gradually increased to 106 degrees of heat of Fahrenheit's thermometer. After the patient had been in twenty minutes, his pulse sunk, became irregular, and shewed symptoms of syncope; at this juncture (the patient remaining in the bath) I attempted to press on the jaw with my thumbs covered, but finding it impossible to act with advantage in this manner, I removed the incumbrance, and introduced them unarmed and pressing on the jaw as far back as possible, beginning with a slight pressure, slowly adding the force requisite, I continued the extension downward, with a slight inclination forward, for ten minutes; at this time I tried to force back the jaw, and evidently perceived it to be altered in its situation; but on its producing some pain, the patient forced himself from my hands, and the fossæ receiving the condyles of the jaw, being in a great measure filled up with an extravasated substance, (this I consider

consider to be the fact, from the jaw not slipping into its place suddenly, as is generally expected in these accidents) it resumed its wrong situation with the greatest facility: At this time his pulse began to encrease, both in size and fulness; I therefore immediately renewed my extension as before, and having continued it for ten minutes, again pressed backward, and had the satisfaction to see it properly reduced. The parts were now secured by a bandage, and the patient retired to bed. 26th. He complains of pain in the direction of the temporal muscles, his pulse weak, soft, and slow; the symptoms of irritation are not however so great as expected, so that a confinement to bed is unnecessary; he took an aperient draught this afternoon. 27th. His pulse is increased in strength and fulness; the draught procured him three motions, which gave great relief; from this time he may be considered as in perfect health, capable of masticating solid food, and in every other respect as well as before the accident. October 9, he was presented out of the Hospital, cured.

To the Editors of the Medical and Physical Journal.

GENTLEMEN,

CASES are, I believe, no longer requisite to prove the efficacy of the Cow-pox in preventing the Small-pox; and hence it is probable, the circumstances hereafter to be stated may not be worthy of your insertion: I shall however communicate the facts, leaving you to decide on the propriety of making them public.

On the 6th of September, I inserted the vaccine lymph, which had been suffered to dry on the lancets, into the arms of an healthy child, about eight months old, who had been inoculated for the same disease a few months previous, by another practitioner, without success; this insertion also failed, and I repeated the inoculation on the eighth day, immediately from the arm of another infant. The usual appearances taking place in each arm, the patient went regularly through the disease. Now, there was a sister some months older, the inoculation of whom, the parents were desirous to defer till lymph might be obtained from the brother; but on the sixth day from the successful inoculation of the latter, the former had a plentiful eruption, which proved to be variolous. The disease of each
proceeded