

TO THE PUBLIC.

(Concluded from Thursday's Gaz.)

Dr. Currie goes on to state the following gross misrepresentation from popular report: "That his mind was elevated to a state of enthusiasm bordering on phrenzy, I had frequent opportunity of observing—and I have heard from popular report, that in passing through Kensington one day with his black man on the seat of his chair along side of him, he cried out with vociferation, 'bleed and purge all Kensington! Drive on boy!'"

As the Dr. has not given us a single instance in proof of his assertion of the elevation of Dr. Rush's mind "to a state of enthusiasm bordering on phrenzy," I must be permitted to look upon it as the creature of his own fertile imagination.

In many of the visits which Dr. Rush made to Kensington in the year 1793, I accompanied him. In one of those visits, (in which I was with him,) he was requested by a gentleman in Kensington to attend a number of poor families in his neighbourhood. The Dr. excused himself, on account of his numerous engagements; upon being urged a second time to visit them, he requested the gentleman to bleed and purge them according to the printed directions; and added in a jocular manner, that he might apply that advice to the whole village.—There was nothing extravagant in the doctor's manner upon this occasion. I much doubt if the gentleman to whom the advice was given, has any recollection of it; nor would it have ever been known, had not Dr. R. upon his return to town mentioned it to his pupils, by way of impressing upon them, the simplicity and uniformity of the practice which experience proved to be proper in the disease.

Did Dr. Currie, by introducing this, and other malevolent stories against Dr. R. mean to determine the question, whether Dr. R. is entitled or not, to the credit of the important discoveries in the healing art, to which he is said to lay claim, &c. &c. Dr. Currie has told the world in his declaration on the 20th of October, that the "inviolable regard" he had for truth, was his motive for publishing his account of Dr. R.'s conduct in 1793—and yet but a few days have elapsed since he told Dr. Mease "that he meant to do Dr. R. no harm by it, but intended it only as news-paper fun."

Dr. Currie proceeds thus: "Dr. W. he said was an assassin, because he expressed some doubts of the superior efficacy of mercurial purges to those of a less drastic kind."

"In his letter to Dr. Rodgers, after treating the opinions of all his fellow practitioners with the most insulting contempt, and declaring that he believes himself the unworthy instrument in the hands of a kind providence of recovering more than 99 of an hundred patients, he adds, 'it was extremely unfortunate that the new remedies were ever connected with my name,' and that he claimed no other merit than that of having early adopted and extended a mode of treating the disorder which he had learned from his first preceptor in medicine Dr. Redman, and which is strongly recommended by Hillary, Moseley, Mitchell, Kirby, and many other writers on the fever."

"The doctor certainly intended to write a romance, for there is no mention in any of the authors he refers to of mercurial purges, or of resting the cure of the disease on copious bleeding and purging, or that God had blessed copious bleeding and purging in their hands, as any person that can read may satisfy himself. Moseley indeed depends much on copious bleeding in cases where the inflammatory symptoms are manifest, but all the rest inculcate sparing bleeding and the most mild purges. The recollection of these things were not to his purpose, hence the convenience of having a good memory at forgetting what would prove obstacles to our schemes—All good democrats acquire this kind of memory."

I have Dr. Rush's authority to deny that he ever used the epithet of assassin in speaking of Dr. Wistar. Upon reading Dr. Wistar's publication, Dr. R. expressed his surprise by quoting the following lines from Shakespeare.

"This was the most unkindest cut of all; For Brutus as you know was Caesar's angel." The words were as expressive of ancient friendship and esteem, as they were of a supposed act of unkindness. Dr. Rush means to lay the correspondence that passed between him and Dr. W. in 1793, before the public—in which it will appear that no injury was done, or intended to be done, to Dr. W.

I have already noticed Dr. Rush's letter to Dr. Rodgers. All that I have to say upon the extract which Dr. C. has here introduced, is that he has evinced a considerable share of malevolence by not finishing the sentence; which would have considerably altered the appearance of the paragraph which he has animadverted on.

Dr. R. expressly says, after mentioning that he had "early adopted and extended a mode of treating the disorder, &c. &c." In my first address to the public, I acknowledged that I received the first hints of the safety and efficacy of jalap and mercury, in this disorder in the military hospitals in the year 1777, &c. Any person less disposed to misrepresent than Dr. C. appears to be, would at once have perceived that Dr. R. never meant to say that he learnt the use of mercurial purges from the gentlemen he has named.

I shall in this place resume my observations upon the following paragraph in Dr. Currie's piece, respecting blood-letting—"He also remembered to forget to mention,

that he adopted his sanguinary code not from Draco but from Moseley, who was a mere empiric that practised in Jamaica some years ago."

With what face does Dr. Currie dare to speak of blood-letting in such opprobrious language, after telling the public, that he had lately drawn from 90 to 100 ounces of the "vital fluid" from two of his patients in the yellow fever, at 9 and 11 bleedings? What epithet is bad enough for the man who dares to make these observations on blood-letting after the terms employed in his second pamphlet to recommend it. These are his words—p. 40. 41. "Blood-letting generally afforded relief in all cases, when the activity of the arterial system was evident; and the head and epigastrium were at the same time much affected; and this operation was found serviceable when repeated every six or eight hours, for the first 24 or 36 hours after the establishment of the prostration; and in every subsequent exacerbation so long as those symptoms continued in any considerable degree. To those who condemn bleeding under such circumstances, we may say with Sydenham, when speaking of the plague, 'they either did not bleed early enough, or too sparingly.'"

In calling for respectable authority as Dr. Moseley, a "mere empiric"—Dr. Currie unfortunately "remembered to forget" (to use his favorite but borrowed expressions) the terms which he has himself used in speaking of that gentleman's practice in the yellow fever. "Blanc and Jackson have given a more accurate description of the disease; but Moseley certainly understood its nature and treatment better than either, though he may perhaps sometimes have carried his plan too far for the constitutions of the generalty of citizens."—See his 2d pamphlet, p. 60.—He has "remembered to forget" that he has quoted him as an authority in a letter signed by him and Dr. Cathart, which appeared in the American Daily Advertiser of December 20th, 1793. He has "remembered to forget," in bestowing the epithet of empiric, his own entry into Philadelphia by handbills pasted on the corners of our streets, and other public places of our city. He has "remembered to forget" that Dr. Moseley stands high in his profession in the city of London, and that he has opposed those from whom he differed in his history and treatment of the yellow fever—not anonymously—but with his own name;—not in a vindictive, malevolent style, but like a gentleman;—not from a desire to find fault, but from a desire of bringing truth to light.

Dr. Currie proceeds thus "He also, in a most extraordinary manner, remembered to forget the victims that were falling by the hands of his apostles, at the very time that he was boasting of recovering more than ninety-nine of a hundred."

"To crown all his extravagancies, he has lately threatened to prosecute Dr. Hodge for telling Dr. Way, on the second day of his fever, that he thought he might recover without any more bleeding. The case of Dr. Way is briefly this:—He was attacked on Sunday with the usual symptoms of the prevailing fever; bled himself in the night, about 12 ounces; next day was bled by advice of Dr. Rush three times; took mercurial purges, which operated very copiously; on Tuesday had an intermission; was again bled once and purged several times. On Wednesday he took, without advice, eight grains of mercurius dulcis; had all along since the attack observed the most abstemious and cooling regimen. By whose direction he was bled on Wednesday, I do not know, for Dr. Rush did not visit him after dinner that day. The mercury that he took of his own accord on Wednesday morning, brought on pain, sickness and spasms in his bowels, and occasioned such extreme debility that he sunk under it, and expired on Friday evening. The account of the treatment till Wednesday morning, the writer had from Dr. Way himself."

From this statement, I think Dr. Rush exempt from blame in the case of Dr. Way; and that there are cases of high inflammation in which the patient sometimes recovers, under the most herculean discipline, his most inveterate enemies must acknowledge."

This is certainly extraordinary language to come from a person who professes such an "inviolable regard" for truth!—Dr. Currie certainly "remembered to forget" whilst writing the above, that in spite of himself he was obliged to become one of the apostles of Dr. Rush! How many "victims" fell by his hands, I know not, but I will venture to assert that they were less numerous after he began the use of calomel, jalap and the lancet, than whilst he was prescribing bark and wine.

The narrative which Dr. Currie has given of the sickness and death of Dr. Way, is commenced with a falsehood. Dr. Rush did not threaten to prosecute Dr. Hodge for "telling Dr. Way, on the 2d day of his fever, that he thought he might recover without any more bleeding."—Dr. Rush had heard from respectable authority, that Dr. H. had said Dr. Way died in consequence of being bled too copiously by Dr. R. The Dr. demanded, in a letter to Dr. H. whether he had propagated that calumny. To this Dr. H. replied that he never interfered with the practice of any physician. This not being an answer to the question proposed, Dr. R. wrote a second letter to Dr. H.—to which the latter made no reply. I shall only notice further on this head—that after Dr. Way's death, Dr. H. called at his house and enquired of his black servant (from whose own mouth I heard the fact) how often her master had been bled.

The black servant informed him, and he left the house with the charitable ejaculation of "God damn his soul!"

Dr. Currie supposes Dr. Way sunk under the operation of eight grains of calomel. It appears extraordinary that he should dare

* This was the practice of that "mere empiric" Dr. Moseley, in the West-Indies.

to insult the public with such an opinion, after having lately given five grains of the same medicine every two hours to a patient in the same disease;—and after having spoken of this remedy in the following terms—(see his 2d pamphlet, p. 41, 42, 43.)—"In conjunction with blood-letting, mercurial purges were found more certain in their effects and more serviceable than any other kind; especially when exhibited in doses from six to twelve grains, and repeated every six or eight hours, till a copious discharge by stool took place; and more especially when their operation was promoted by mild laxative enemata, administered three or four hours after each dose of the mercurial purge. Those who have not had an opportunity of observing the good effects of this practice, will perhaps think it a very hazardous one." But he adds afterwards, "they will change their sentiments; for notwithstanding the inflamed and irritable state of those parts, calomel, in large doses, palliated the pyrosis, and occasioned less irritation till it had reached the intestines, and was less liable to be cast up, than any other purgative."

With respect to the following assertion, which ought to have been introduced upon the subject of blood-letting, I have already shewn that it is false. "Dr. Rush with that precipitation for which he has always been noted, instantly adopted the practice in its utmost latitude, without reflecting that difference of climate and constitution made a difference in the disease." I shall only add that in all probability Dr. Currie would be extremely happy if his precipitation in publishing his account of Dr. Rush's conduct had not been greater than that which Dr. R. employed in the adoption of blood-letting.

I shall now refresh Dr. Currie's memory with certain instances of his extraordinary forgetfulness.

He has forgotten his obligations to Dr. Rush, for his early patronage of him when he had not a friend in Philadelphia!

He has forgotten, in calling Dr. Rush's medical character in question, the high opinion he once expressed of it in the following dedication of a treatise upon the "Autumnal Remitting Fever" in the year 1789.

"TO BENJAMIN RUSH, M. D. Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physic in the College of Philadelphia; Censor of the College of Physicians, &c.—This Dissertation is respectfully dedicated, as a testimony of the very exalted opinion which the author entertains of his amiable and engaging manners, as a gentleman, and of his distinguished abilities in the several departments of science, and especially in that of medicine."

The Title of the Book. "A Dissertation on the Autumnal Remitting Fever. By William Currie, Fellow of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. Philadelphia: Printed by Peter Stewart, 1789."

Also, in the following extract from his publication in the Federal Gazette of September 21st, 1793.

"I know Dr. Rush's liberality too well to suppose that any animadversions on his opinions, where truth is the object of enquiry, can give him offence; especially when they come from one whose intentions he knows to be well meant, who acknowledges himself under particular obligations to him for past services, and still remains his, and the public's most grateful and devoted servant, W. M. CURRIE."

He has forgotten the respectful terms in which he mentions his name in his treatise on the diseases of the United States; and how many extracts he has taken from Dr. Rush's publications, to assist in filling up that work! He has forgotten the readiness with which Dr. Rush forgave his abuse of him in 1793, and the cheerfulness with which he has met him in consultation ever since!

He has forgotten in composing his account of Dr. R.'s conduct in 1793, all his own absurdities, contradictions and falsehoods, by which he distracted the citizens of Philadelphia!

He has forgotten the disgrace he has incurred by deserting his patients in the late epidemic, and skulking from danger alternately in the country and behind a printing press!

He has forgotten that his ideas upon the subject of duelling were not always the same as they are at present, as has been shewn lately in the public prints; it "affords" (says Dr. C. in his publication of the 20th October) to every reflecting mind the strongest argument that he is deficient in common sense, or that his cause is unjust, and will not bear a fair and rational discussion. Instead, therefore, of being considered as a mark of courage, a challenge ought to be considered as a proof of guilt and the challenger branded with infamy." Accept then Dr. C. these terms of your own, in reference to the challenges you sent to Mr. Theodore Willson and to Dr. Foulke.

In viewing Dr. Currie as the tool, and ostensible author of the publication which has been the subject of these remarks,—his mind may be regarded as a sink into which a number of filthy streams have flowed, which after rankling and putrifying for four years in his bosom, have at last emitted a noxious vapour, offensive to every body, but fatal to himself alone.

I shall conclude my reply to Dr. Currie's publication of the 6th of October, by remarking, that the most interesting spectacle I saw in the year 1793, was my respected preceptor, in a scene of business and distress for nine weeks, such as few men probably were ever engaged in. Living almost without sleep—intent chiefly in developing the nature and changes of the fever, and in attending to the poor; afflicted by sickness, grief and calamity; and yet under all these circumstances, firm, patient and

* The greatest part of Dr. Currie's publication was written in 1793.

even cheerful. I have however, lived to see a spectacle of a more interesting and affecting nature, viz: This same man whilst performing similar services to his fellow-citizens in the year 1797, insulted and traduced with as much virulence, as if he had been the author of our late calamity; and that too in one instance by a man whom he never injured, and who owes more to him than to any other man in Philadelphia."

Dr. Currie, in his publication of the 20th October, although he professes truth to be the object of his researches, says, "no notice will be taken of any thing that comes from the pen of any person but Dr. Rush himself on the present occasion."

He ought to have known long ago from the silence with which Dr. Rush treated his indecent observations upon his account of the origin of the yellow fever of 1793, that nothing he writes would command the notice of Dr. R. Truth however is the same from whatever source it comes.—He may answer these remarks or not as he thinks proper. Had I not committed myself by my declaration that his publication was false or misrepresented, I would not have troubled the public with this reply to it. Dr. C. cannot deny what has been advanced; I therefore leave it to the public to judge if my declaration was too harsh. Hereafter any publication with Dr. Currie's name to it will be his own refutation.

Dr. C. has attempted to be witty upon me for wearing a Spencer; I think it probable that Dr. Currie would esteem himself happy if the peculiar cut of his Coat was the only thing that now attracted the attention of the public. He has by his publication set a mark upon himself. From this time forward he must be viewed with horror and contempt.

JOHN REDMAN COXE.

* This man whilst practising in Chester county had a fever fever, which in all probability would have terminated his existence, but for the exertions of Dr. Rush, who visited him in the country, and by his prescriptions preserved his life.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE, OF September 2.

Admiralty Office, September 2, 1797.

Captain Waller, of his Majesty's ship Emerald, arrived here yesterday with dispatches from Admiral Lord St. Vincent, to Evan Nepean, Esq. Secretary of the Admiralty, of which the following are extracts:

Ville de Paris, off Cadix, August 16, 1797.

SIR,

I Desire you will acquaint the lords commissioners of the admiralty, that I detached rear-admiral Nelson, and the squadron named in the margin, with orders to make an attempt upon the town of Santa Cruz, in the island of Teneriffe, which, from a variety of intelligence, I conceived was vulnerable. On Saturday, the 15th of July, the Rear Admiral parted company, and on Tuesday the 18th, the Leander having joined from Lisbon, I sent her after the rear-admiral, under instructions left by him.

The Emerald joined yesterday, with the inclosed dispatch and reports from the rear-admiral; and although the enterprise has not succeeded, his Majesty's arms have acquired a very great degree of lustre: Nothing from my pen can add to the eulogy the rear-admiral gives of the gallantry of the officers and men employed under him. I have greatly to lament the heavy loss the country has sustained in the severe wound of rear-admiral Nelson, and the death of captain Bowen, lieutenant Gibson, and the other brave men who fell in this vigorous and persevering assault.

The moment the rear-admiral joins, it is my intention to send the Sea-Horse to England with him, the wound capt. Freemantle has received in his arm also requiring change of climate; and I hope that both of them will live to render important services to their king and country.

I am Sir,

Your obedient humble servant, ST. VINCENT.

Theseus, off Santa Cruz, July 27.

SIR,

In obedience to your orders to make a vigorous attack on the town of Santa Cruz in the island of Teneriffe, I directed from the ships under my command, one thousand men, including marines, to be prepared for landing, under the direction of captain Tronbridge, of his Majesty's ship Culloden, and captains Hood, Thompson, Fremantle, Bowen, Miller, and Waller, who very handsomely volunteered their services, and although I am under the painful necessity of acquainting you that we have not been able to succeed in our attack, yet it is my duty to state, that I believe more daring intrepidity never was shewn than by the captains, officers and men you did me the honour to place under my command.

Inclosed I transmit you a list of killed and wounded; and amongst the former it is with the deepest sorrow I have to place the name of captain Richard Bowen, of his Majesty's ship Terpsichore, than whom a more enterprising, able and gallant officer does not grace his Majesty's naval service; and with great regret I have to mention the loss of lieutenant John Gibson, commander of the Fox cutter, and a great number of gallant officers and men.

I have the honour to be, &c. HORATIO NELSON.

Sir John Jervis, K. B. &c. &c. &c.

List of Killed, Wounded, Drowned and Missing, of his Majesty's Ships undermentioned, in storming Santa Cruz, in the Island of Teneriffe, on the night of the 24th of July, 1797.

Theseus—8 Sailors, 1 marine; killed; 25 seamen wounded; 34 seamen and marines drowned.

Culloden—1 seaman, 2 marines; killed; 12 seamen, 6 marines wounded; 36 seamen and marines drowned.

Zealous—3 seamen, 2 marines, killed; 12 seamen, 2 marines wounded; 1 ditto missing.

Leander—1 seaman, 5 marines, killed; 1 seaman, 4 marines wounded; 1 do. missing.

Seahorse—2 seamen killed; 13 seamen, 1 marine, wounded.

Terpsichore—8 seamen killed; 9 seamen, 2 marines, wounded; 4 seamen and marines missing.

Emerald—5 seamen, 3 marines, killed; 11 seamen wounded; 10 seamen and marines drowned.

Fox cutter—17 seamen and marines drowned.

Total, 28 seamen, 16 marines, killed; 90 seamen, 15 marines, wounded; 97 seamen and marines drowned; 5 seamen and marines, missing.

Officers killed.

Richard Bowen, captain of the Terpsichore. George Thorpe, first lieutenant of ditto. John Weatherhead, lieutenant of the Thefeus.

William Fanshawe, second lieutenant of the Leander.

Raby Robinson, lieutenant of marines, of do. Lieutenant Baltham, marines, of the Emerald.

Lieutenant John Gibson, of the Fox cutter drowned.

Officers wounded.

Rear-admiral Nelson, his right arm shot off. Captain Thompson, of the Leander, slightly. Captain Freemantle, of the Seahorse, in the arm.

Lieutenant J. Douglas, of ditto, in the hand.

Mr. Waits, midshipman of the Zealous.

HORATIO NELSON.

PARIS, September 5.

Extract of a letter from Mr. Bignon to Mr. Wickham, Ambassador of England to Switzerland.

"You had yesterday the goodness to speak to me of a letter which his Highness the Prince de Condé wrote to M. Imbert Colomes, principal agent of the King at Lyons, &c. &c."

The same, to the Marquis de Montesson, November 2.

"I received, Sir, your letter, which you did me the honour to write to me on the 31st ult.; but I must own that I have found it too short. It confines itself to referring me to Mr. Wickham, Ambassador from England to Switzerland to obtain from him the letter from M. Imbert Colomes."

The same, to the Prince de Condé.

"My lord, what I had so much reason to apprehend, has taken place; your royal highness will recollect the various scenes which have been played off at Mulheim in this respect. But your lordship could not have expected that Mr. Wickham, after having told you that all was arranged—after I had consented to serve under the orders of Messrs Ray and de Chavennes, he saw no inconvenience in sending him to Lyons; that he had written to prepare the minds of men for my reception; your Lordship did not, I say, expect that this M. Wickham would afterwards tell me that terror prevailed at Lyons, and that M. Imbert Colomes and others had been obliged to retreat themselves, &c."

"But in every event, I dare to hope that your highness will not leave me any longer without a letter from M. Imbert Colomes, in order to put me in possession of the money expended by me, amounting to 2568 livres."

"It appears that M. Imbert Colomes was, at Lyons, the treasurer of the king."

ROSS & SIMSON,

HAVE FOR SALE,

A few bales Baftas, Coffas, and a quantity of Bengal COTTON Bengal SUGAR, in bags and boxes Jamaica, St. Vincents, RUM, and Bengal 300 casks RICE, and A parcel of ship building RED CEDAR. Oct. 27.

For Sale by the Subscriber, White Platillas Brown Hollands White Sheetings Dowlaties Sileffa bordered Handkerchiefs Striped Siamoules Black Ribbons, No. 3 and 4 Glass Tumblers, and Looking Glasses, in all calcs, &c. &c.

George Pennock.

november 6. cad3w

FOR SALE,

By BENJAMIN CLARK,

No. 55, the corner of Chestnut and Front Streets, A large quantity of Clocks and Watches. Also, a general assortment of Fools, Ecles and Materials, consisting of Clock Movements, eight day and thirty hour brass pinions and large work; Bells, clock and watch Dials, Springs, Hands, Glasses, Punc Stone, Emery, Rotten Stone, Car Out; bench, Hand and tail Vices; Turns, Pliers, Chisels, Neals, Keys, &c. &c. Apprentices Wanted.

november 3. skruif

NOTICE.

All persons concerned are hereby notified, that the subscriber intends to apply for a renewal of the undermentioned lost certificates of Stock in the Bank of the United States—He forwarded them under cover of a letter addressed to John Anley of London, by the ship Bacchus, capt. George, which left this port in June last for London. But that ship having been captured on her passage and sent to France, the above letter and inclosure have failed in their destination.

Three certificates, viz. Nos. 26325, 26326, 26327, each for four shares, dated January 1st, 1797, and issued in the name of Henry Grace, of Tottenham Highroads, Great Britain.

ZACCHEUS COLLINS. Philadelphia, november 8. 2aw6w

Teas of superior quality. 80 chests fine Hyfon 25 chests young Hyfon 2 chests Imperial

For Sale, corner of Second and Pine Streets, by C. HAIGHT.

november 11. 3aw6w