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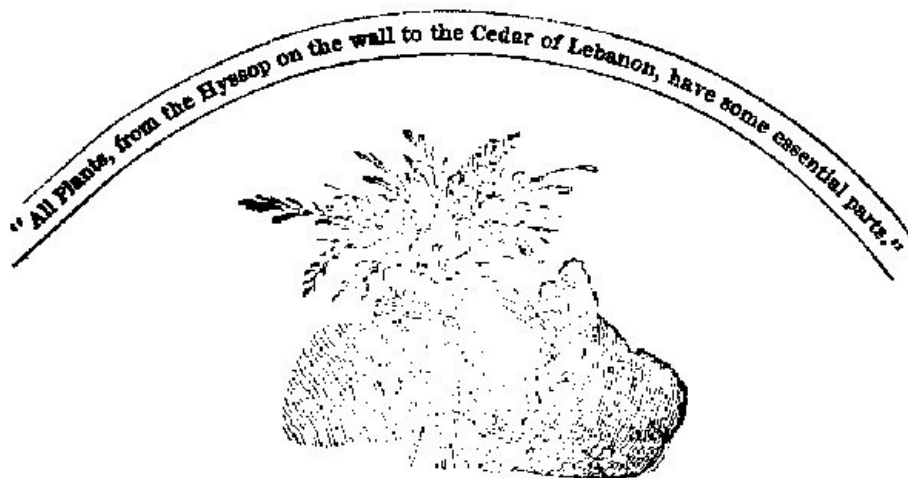
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OBSERVATIONS
ON THE
CAUSES, SYMPTOMS, AND NATURE
OF
SCROFULA OR KING'S EVIL,
SCURVY, AND CANCER;
WITH
CASES ILLUSTRATIVE OF A PECULIAR MODE OF TREATMENT.



BY J. KENT,

Stanton, Suffolk.

Eighth Edition.



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PREFACE.

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In consequence of the extreme prevalence of Scrofulous, Scorbutic, and Cancerous Diseases, and the ignorance which exists on the part of the public, as to their causes, symptoms, and nature, I have been induced to reprint my observations on those subjects, and to send forth an Eighth Edition for the information of the afflicted.

To these remarks, I have appended a relation of several cases, which have been cured by a peculiar mode of treatment which I have been in the habit of employing for twenty-six years; during which long period I have seen and treated an immense number of cases of the above description.

These cases I have rendered very concise, preferring the main points in each to a verbose and tiresome description of the minutiae; and although the number might have been extended to many hundreds, I trust a sufficiency have been detailed to establish the success of my practice, and to show the afflicted the nature and modes of attack of the diseases above mentioned.

I have confined myself to a simple relation of the facts of each case, and on those facts such case must stand or fall. I have not resorted to those *artificial props* which some men are in the habit of employing because the cases themselves are too lame to stand alone; I allude to the practice of soliciting the attestations of the patients, and decoying the simple, the ignorant, well-intentioned, but deceived neighbours, to add their signatures to cases of which they know nothing, and of which the details are a series of bombast, falsehood, ignorance, and humbug. There are many of the cases which I have related to which I could have obtained the signatures of clergymen, Members of Parliament, magistrates, and other persons high in rank and station in life, without saying a word about overseers, churchwardens, and parishioners, the signatures of whom might be obtained at all times; but, established as my practice is, I would scorn to importune those gentlemen, and impertinently to place their names before the public in a position which every sensible man must declare to be that of extreme negligence, ignorance, or unbecoming officiousness.

It may be readily supposed, that from the long career of success which I have had in the treatment of scrofulous diseases, some impudent individuals should have attempted to imitate my mode of proceeding, and to foist themselves and their spurious *remedies* upon the public; of this I should have cared nothing had they not done it at my expense; because these inventions will find their proper level in the estimation of the public, notwithstanding their props and delusions. But these men are absolutely so ignorant, that they are compelled to copy my cases and observations *verbatim*; and I have little doubt that this edition will have issued from the press but a very few months, before one or other of them will be purloining such parts of it as their hired scribes may

consider to answer their purpose. Not that these imposters *understand* the observations which I have made on scrofula or cancer, their heads are too empty—their ignorance too profound—and their pretensions consequently too barefaced. Relying upon the credulity of the public, they make no scruple in being guilty of glaring plagiarism; they thus strut about in borrowed plumes, and their presumption keeps pace with their want of information.

As a proof of the grossest ignorance, I have seen it asserted that sixty cases of *confirmed* (or constitutional) cancer in the mouth or throat, have been treated with complete success; while, in reality, the cases, *if they ever existed*, (of which I have considerable doubt) were either of a scrofulous nature, or the remains of a certain disease. I am confident the pretender NEVER saw a *real case* of cancer of the mouth and throat; and the very assertion that portions of bone have been exfoliated in these cases, gives the lie direct to the whole, for it is a fact that cancer never causes bone to *exfoliate*, and in this I am borne out by every medical authority. It may cause the long bones to become fragile, so that the patient may have a fractured limb from a very slight cause, or it may convert bone into a dense carcinomatous structure; but *exfoliation will never take place*. Then as to the occurrence of *confirmed* cancer in the mouth and throat, I have no hesitation in stating that it *rarely if ever occurs*, and that if it ever did, it was a perfectly incurable disease; and I could cite a host of authorities to prove my assertion. And who is to oppose these great authorities? What man with experience so extensive—with knowledge so profound—with sagacity so searching—with learning so deep—shall declare that he himself has seen and treated sixty cases of *true carcinomatous disease* of the mouth and throat? Who is this Goliath of Surgery? Who is the judge in this matter to whose opinion he commands us to bow? Reader! the fact is, that the assertion is so glaringly false, that if only a particle of shame enter into his composition, it must betray its existence.

This, however, is only one part of the fabricated statements which have been delusively put forth to deceive and misguide the public; but I presume it would be a waste of time to attempt to prove the abominable practices of these empirics; not that it would be a difficult matter to do so, for were I so disposed I could adduce such a body of evidence as would demolish their empty pretensions with as much ease as the sun dispels the morning vapours. But I think my readers will agree with me that I have displayed enough of their charlatantry to satisfy any man who lays claim to anything like common sense.

Leaving, then, these literary delinquents to their HONEST *reflections*, I have merely to observe, that the medicines and applications which I am in the habit of using, are principally selected from indigenous plants; and I cannot but regret that the medical botany of our own country should have been so much neglected; and I am not singular in this opinion, as many eminent medical men have expressed themselves to the same effect; and, indeed, many of the plants which I use are now frequently resorted to by the faculty. I claim *no specific* in the treatment of those diseases which come under my cognizance; I merely state that my mode of managing those cases has been extremely successful, and refer the reader to the following cases as a proof of my assertion.

It will be seen that many of these cases have been of long standing. This has been done for the purpose of showing that the medicines and treatment generally exert a permanent effect on the constitution of the patient, thus allaying the scruples of many persons, that although they may be successful for a certain period, they may not prevent a relapse. This may be perfectly true in some cases; all the patients in these cases were perfectly well when this pamphlet went to press; yet I will not positively assert that they shall always continue so. This assurance would be foolish and indiscreet, because there is scarcely one disease to which the human frame is subject, which may not, on some peculiar exciting cause being applied, be again brought into action, although the person may have been perfectly relieved from the first attack. Instances of this description frequently occur in secondary attacks of measles, small-pox, scarlet fever, &c.; and surely it may occur in a disease like scrofula, the nature and treatment of which has "*perplexed the researches and baffled the efforts of the most eminent writers and practitioners of Europe.*" At any rate, when we see cases of twenty years' standing, and upwards, there is but little room for suspicion of a relapse.

In conclusion, I have to beg that the reader will attentively peruse the observations on Scrofula and Cancer; as I consider it highly important that every individual should be fully acquainted with the symptoms of these, too often, intractable diseases, and that their approaches should be crushed at the onset. As to the cases, the reader is at full liberty to make every inquiry; and being based upon the foundation of truth, I have no apprehension as to the result proving perfectly satisfactory, whether such inquiry be directed by an honest impulse, or by feelings of a more questionable description.

JOHN KENT

Stanton, Aug. 10, 1833.

ON

STRUMA, SCROFULA, OR KING'S EVIL.

Scrofula, at every time of life, is the most formidable enemy of the human race, and, under various shapes, it occasions more deaths than all other chronic diseases whatever.

—M. POILROUX.

This disease is extremely prevalent in this country; so much so that scarcely any family can claim an exemption from its attacks. It is technically called *Struma*, or *Scrofula*, which are synonymous terms; but in common language it is called the King's Evil. The latter appellation is derived from the circumstance of Edward the Confessor, touching persons afflicted with it; and it is said they were miraculously cured thereby. This practice was continued down to the reign of Charles the Second, who touched 92,000 persons afflicted with the disease; and it appears that Queen Anne was the last Sovereign who practised such a ridiculous and superstitious imposition. Having thus disposed of the origin of the name of the disease, I may observe that it is more particularly prevalent in those countries where there are great vicissitudes of weather; hence it prevails in Scotland, and the northern parts of Germany and France, as well as in Great Britain; in fact, a cold atmosphere, in almost any country, powerfully predisposes to, or excites an attack of scrofula. It is on this well-known principle that we are enabled to explain the frequent occurrence of the disease in this country during the changeable state of the Spring and Autumn seasons; for it is perfectly true, that it frequently makes its first appearance at one or other of those periods; or where it may be already in existence it becomes excessively aggravated. This disease cannot be propagated by contact or contagion; it exists in individuals in whom there is a peculiarity of constitution which predisposes them to its attacks; and this brings me to the consideration of one of the most important causes of the disease, namely, *an hereditary taint*. It is a well ascertained fact that 99 cases out of 100 arise from this cause, and the result of my practice corroborates it. It is, however, very remarkable that it may appear in one generation, pass over the second, and appear again in the third. The other causes of this disease are bad and unwholesome diet, insufficient clothing, neglect of exercise, and want of proper cleanliness. I may also observe, that it frequently makes its first appearance after an attack of measles, small-pox, rheumatic fever, or other debilitating affections; and it is often excited into obvious existence by blows, sprains, bruises, or other accidents.

This disease may attack any part of the human body; but in general commences in the *glandular* structures, such as the glands in the arm-pits, in the neck, &c.; it often also attacks the joints, as the knee, the elbow, the hip, the wrist, the ankle, and likewise the fingers and toes. Too often it does not confine its ravages to the external parts, but it attacks the vital parts; when it affects the lungs it is called consumption, and I wish this to be particularly understood, that *consumption is neither more nor less than scrofula of the lungs*. When it attacks the glands of the mesentery, the belly becomes large and hard, while the legs and arms waste; the patient is voracious, yet his food fails in affording sufficient nourishment, and he gradually loses his strength and dies. Then the liver, the heart, the spleen, and even the brain itself, may become the seats of this dreadful disease. Lastly, we may mention that the bones are very commonly affected, and even destroyed, from the attacks and long continuance of the disease. Hence it will be seen, that both internal and external parts of the human body are equally liable to the ravages of scrofula; and it is proper to remark, that it often commences externally, and after an uncertain time, it leaves the surface and attacks the internal parts, in which case it almost invariably terminates fatally. Many times have I seen the disease commence in the joints, or in the glandular parts, and go on for a considerable length of time; it has then left these parts, and the unhappy patient has been carried off by consumption, or scrofula of the lungs. In the same manner have I often remarked, that after limbs have been amputated for scrofula, the operation has evidently hastened the death of the patient, by the disease immediately attacking the more important parts. It is for this reason that I have a decided objection to all operations for scrofula, because the experience which I have had in scrofula for the last 26 years, has proved to me that such operations are worse than useless; I consider them as positively dangerous, inasmuch as they hasten an event which in all probability might have been prevented.—Scrofula is not a *local* disease which may be remedied by the knife or any other local remedy; but it is a *constitutional* disease, which must be treated by constitutional means.

Now scrofula is so insidious in its approach, and so distressing, and often fatal, in its consequences, that the form of its commencement ought to be known to all individuals who are liable to its attacks, either from an hereditary tendency, or other causes. When it commences in the glands about the neck, behind the ears, in the arm-pits, hams, &c., it appears as hard and indolent swellings, somewhat moveable under the skin, the colour of which is little changed; these tumours or swellings gradually increase in number and size till they form one large hard tumour, which often continues for a long time without breaking, and when it does break it only discharges a thin *sanies* or watery humour from one or more small apertures. The disease even then maintains its indolent character; the ulcerated parts become languid and inactive, and the constitution begins to be affected; the patient complains of weakness—there is a want of appetite; there are frequently profuse night sweats, and feeling of languor and lassitude.

When from blows, bruises, sprains, or other causes, the joints of the elbows, wrists, ankles, knees, fingers or toes, become affected, the disease proceeds in the same slow manner, frequently destroying the ligaments or tendons; the matter insinuating itself between the bones till they become carious, and ultimately destroyed. What is commonly termed *white swelling* is of

this description; it may continue for a great length of time, and yet the patient may recover, excepting a stiffness or contraction of the affected joint. I may also remark that in Scrofulous constitutions there is frequently a thickness of the upper lip, or swelling of the lower part of the nose; the eyes are also peculiarly liable to attacks of scrofula, in which case the light is remarkably offensive to those organs. The skin and muscles are loose and flabby; and the mental powers of children so affected are often prematurely displayed.

Having thus described the nature and symptoms of scrofula, I shall now proceed to make some observations on the treatment of that disease.

The cure of scrofula is generally so difficult that it has become an *opprobrium* of surgery. There is not *one* specific remedy for it; even the medicines and applications which I am in the habit of employing, will not be equally efficacious in persons of different constitutions, nor in the same person at all times; and as such, some little alteration frequently becomes necessary to adapt the remedies to the present state of the disease. It is from this difficulty of cure that so many remedies have been proposed in scrofula; and yet the same difficulty continues, plainly shewing that the greater part of these *nostra* are mere deceptions, imposing upon the sufferer, both in mind and pocket. Hence the proposers of these fictitious remedies become more bold and impudent than ever; nothing is too barefaced for them to publish; not even that they can extract carious bone without any other aid than "*the power of their medicines*,"—than which nothing can be more impudently false. These deceptions, however, find their proper level, and they then rapidly sink into oblivion. The botanical medicines and applications which I have had the honour to bring before the public as remedies for scrofula have stood the test of *twenty-six years'* experience; during which period many hundreds of cures have been effected solely by their agency. They still maintain their unrivalled efficacy; scrofula has yielded its stubbornness and its malignity to their powers in a vast variety of instances, and they may be fairly considered as established in the opinion of the public. Yet, notwithstanding this success, I do not publish them as specifics; I am not vain enough to challenge the world, like a mountebank; I am aware that they do, in some constitutions, sometimes fail of effecting a cure; yet the great majority of instances in which they have succeeded after every other means had been tried, fully entitle them to superior consideration; more especially, as in those cases where they may have failed of complete success, they have evidently been of essential service in retarding the progress and alleviating the pain of the disease. I would also remark that they exert a permanent effect on the constitution; the patient is not cured to-day and his case published to-morrow; but most of the cures which I have published have been of from *two to twenty years'* standing.

I would now particularly direct the attention of patients to the nature, causes, and symptoms of scrofula, as detailed above, the more especially as I have patients daily coming to me who do not know what disease they are really labouring under, and express their astonishment on being told its real nature. By attending to the symptoms they might then attack the disease before it becomes fully developed, when it "often produces the most miserable objects of human wretchedness;" and when it frequently becomes impossible to say, "Thus far shalt thou go, and no further."

CANCER,

ITS NATURE AND SYMPTOMS.

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CANCER is, unfortunately, one of those desperate diseases to which the human frame is liable, and more to be dreaded than any other, inasmuch as it is insidious in its approach, and destructive to the greatest degree when it is perfectly developed. It is so intractable and malignant in its nature that it is generally considered an incurable disease; and not without reason, as notwithstanding the great increase of knowledge amongst that valuable portion of the community, the medical profession, yet it baffles all their efforts to subdue it, and sets at defiance all the triumphs of science. This disease rarely occurs in young subjects. An eminent surgeon states, that in the course of nearly forty years' extensive practice, he has seen but two instances of its occurring under 30 years of age; most usually it commences at the age of between forty and fifty years. Like many other diseases it is frequently hereditary, many members of the same family having become the subjects of cancer. It most usually attacks the female breast, the lips, particularly the lower one, the tongue, the skin, and the glandular parts about the neck and arm-pits; the stomach, the liver, the lungs, and the brain, may also become affected with this terrible malady. Sometimes it commences without any ostensible cause, and the attention of the patient is frequently directed to the case by mere accident; at other times, blows, bruises, or continued pressure upon a part, may often be traced as the exciting cause. In either case, however, it is generally found in the state of a hard lump or knot, varying in its size, it is loose and moveable, without pain or discolouration of the skin. It may continue in this state for many months, or even years; it then enlarges, the surface of the tumour becomes more or less knotty or uneven; it becomes hot and painful, and the pain is of a peculiar darting, piercing nature, or what the faculty technically call *lancinating*; and the patient's health, which had hitherto continued tolerably well, now begins to suffer from the irritation of the disease. In process of time the part

ulcerates, a discharge of fetid ichorous matter issues from it; sometimes it bleeds freely, and there is a burning pain in the part. The ulcer becomes of considerable size, and assumes a frightful aspect. The patient becomes dejected in his spirits, his countenance is sallow and woe worn, his appetite fails, his days and nights are full of sorrow and pain, the disease still progresses, till, finally, death comes to the aid of the unhappy sufferer, and closes the scene of anguish and misery.

Such is the progress of this appalling malady. It commences apparently in a trifling way, it terminates in destruction of life.

I have said that the patients' spirits are usually dejected in this disease, and I wish this to be particularly noticed, as it points out how cautious a medical man ought to be in stating positively to the sufferer the real nature of his complaint. The mind is so depressed by the disease, that the simple communication of the fact to the patient often produces such a shock to the feelings as he rarely recovers from; indeed, it often accelerates the death of the patient, and such being the case, I am quite certain that no man of experience, judgment, or common sense, would ever commit himself so seriously. Whenever it is done, it is usually committed by some daring unprincipled empiric, who often finds it to his interest to pronounce a case cancerous when in 99 cases out of 100 it is really not so. Now, with respect to the cure of cancer, I can confidently assert, that when the disease is really cancer, when it occurs as a constitutional disease, (as it almost always does) and when it is perfectly developed, no known remedy is in existence which has the power of destroying it. It sets even the knife at defiance, for I have repeatedly seen that when the disease has been scientifically extirpated, it either returns to the same part, or to the neighbourhood of the same part, and in such cases the disease has generally proceeded in its second attack with extraordinary rapidity. I am strengthened in this assertion by the observations of Professor Monro—he says, "*Of nearly sixty cancers which I have been present at the extirpation of, only four patients remained free of the disease for two years. Three of these lucky people had occult cancers in the breast, and the fourth had an ulcerated cancer of the lip. The disease does not always return to the part where the former tumour was taken away, but more frequently in the neighbourhood, and sometimes at a considerable distance. Upon a relapse, the disease in those I saw was more violent, and made a much quicker progress than it did in others on whom no operation had been performed.*"—I believe the whole medical profession are of the same opinion; in fact, those gentlemen are candid enough to acknowledge that cancer is a disease over which their art has no control. This is much to be deplored, inasmuch as it has enabled the most unprincipled characters to practise their impositions upon the unhappy sufferers with the greatest impunity. What but the most consummate impudence can allow a man to assert that he has cured a genuine cancer, when that very man does not know the nature of cancer, or point out what is, or what is not, a malignant disease?

Having thus described the nature and symptoms of cancer; and having adverted to the effect of medicine upon this disease, I shall make some remarks on the treatment of the same. I have stated there is no specific remedy known for this disease; and that those who pretend to such specific are IMPOSTERS of the most dangerous description; such men will boast of "*great discoveries;*" they will sound their own trumpet and tell you that they are men of "*great skill;*" they will flourish a "*challenge to the world;*" and, in fact resort to every means to entrap the unhappy sufferer, which great impudence, unbounded ignorance, and glaring falsehoods, will enable them to do. I may also allude to the indiscretion of those who are induced, by repeated solicitations from such imposters, to allow their names to be appended to cases which are false in fact, and only calculated to promote the sordid motives of such characters. The attestators are thus led to countenance an infamous species of deception; and are equally responsible to the community for any injury which such men may inflict. Hence they ought to be extremely careful in allowing this use to be made of their names, as I cannot believe it to be their wish to countenance such practices intentionally. I have thus exposed the fallacy of such a specific for cancer, and in these remarks I am sure I shall be supported by the whole medical profession.

I may now observe, that with regard to the treatment which I have adopted in cancers for the last 26 years, I am ready to confess, that it has often proved ineffectual as to a cure. During that period I have seen an immense number of cancerous cases, and I candidly avow that they have frequently disappointed my wishes, and the hopes of the patients; I, therefore, do not publish to the world a specific, because in that case I know I should be stating that which is notoriously untrue; I should be guilty of a great moral sin, blasting the hopes of those who might entrust themselves to my care, and hurrying them to their graves, full of anger, grief, and disappointment. All I can say is, that my mode of treatment is simple, and that if it do not produce a cure it will at least mitigate the sufferings of the patient. Many have left me in consequence of not getting well, they have resorted to other means, and at last returned to me again, because my mode of treatment appeared to be most suitable to the disease. When I have failed in a cure, I have succeeded in alleviating the pain and misery attendant upon such a dreadful disease, and frequently retarded its progress.

I have thought proper to be thus explicit on the nature and cure of cancer, and instead of vainly boasting of my success, I have candidly expressed my opinions on the subject.

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These generally originate in the use of unwholesome food, want of cleanliness, and want of exercise; and sometimes from an hereditary predisposition. They are also frequently dependent on a disordered or deranged state of the stomach, liver, and bowels, and are often attended with great debility and depression of spirits. They generally appear most evident in cold and moist seasons; and, I may add, that since the introduction of vaccination, I think cutaneous cases have increased in number. The scurvy, by neglect or improper treatment, may advance to such an alarming degree, in some constitutions, as to endanger the patient's life; and I have seen and treated other cutaneous diseases which were very closely allied to leprosy—the legs, arms, thighs, and, in fact, the whole body, being covered with scales, and the necessary movements of the patient would cause the diseased parts to crack, and discharge blood, or a thin, acrid, and burning ichor; yet, under all these circumstances, I have been particularly successful in the treatment of these cases; a great variety of them having yielded to the mode which I have suggested to the sufferers, after many other means had been tried in vain.

CASES.

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"Facts are stubborn things."

1.

Mr. WILLIAM WELHAM, of Culford, Suffolk, about 47 years of age, was afflicted for several years with a violent scorbutic eruption, which covered the whole face, accompanied with redness and chronic inflammation; white scales or thin scabs frequently formed, and after they had dropped off others formed successively. He had had the advice of several respectable practitioners, and had used the preparations of two chemists, without producing any good effect. In this state he applied to J. Kent, Stanton, under whose treatment Mr. Welham perfectly recovered. It is now ELEVEN YEARS since, and he has had no return of the disease.

2.

In consequence of the benefit which Mr. Welham had received from the treatment adopted by J. Kent, he placed his son Joseph under his care. He was about 19 years of age, and had a scrofulous tumour in the left arm-pit; it had been about twelve months standing before he discovered the nature of the complaint; and time had thus been allowed for the arm to become considerably affected. However, under the system pursued by J. Kent a perfect cure took place; and Mr. Welham and his son are still living at Culford in good health, and free from any remains of the disease.

3.

Mr. JOSEPH ADAMS GODFREY, of the Ferry House, West Row, Mildenhall, Suffolk, from an hereditary taint had been subject to scrofula about the face and glands of the neck for a considerable time; and, from the unabated progress of the disease, his health was materially affected. All the usual means had been resorted to in order to check its progress; but the disease still increased, and became more and more formidable. He then applied to J. Kent; the progress of the complaint was soon arrested; and a permanent cure was accomplished. This was 20 years ago, and Mr. G. has had no relapse. Mr. G. resides as above; and from his own sufferings, and from observation of the disease in others, he has acquired some little judgment in discriminating scrofulous cases.

4.

JAMES BENNETT was placed under the care of J. Kent, by the churchwardens and overseers of Buxhall, Suffolk. He was afflicted with scrofulous disease of the left side of the lower jaw, neck, and face. The jaw was rendered immovable, so that he could not take any solid food; and the liquid nourishment he was compelled to suck through an opening left from the extraction of a tooth. He had become remarkably weak and low, and his constitution was daily giving way under the severity of the attack. However, by attending to the rules recommended by J. Kent, the jaw was soon set at liberty, and he perfectly recovered. This was *twelve* years ago, and he is still living at Buxhall in the enjoyment of good health.

5.

Upwards of two years since the friends of a young Lady, about 13 years of age, became exceedingly alarmed in consequence of her left breast having become very much enlarged, with an ulcer of considerable size situated in the centre. She suffered much from darting, piercing pains in the part affected, and which extended into the arm-pit; and from its continuance and gradually getting worse, her friends were afraid it was of a cancerous nature. They then applied to J. Kent, who dispelled their fears by candidly telling them it was not cancer, although the symptoms were sufficiently alarming. She strictly attended to the system prescribed by J. Kent, and in less than three months was perfectly well, and is still enjoying good health, and free from any vestige of the complaint—Any person wishing for further information may have the name and address of the patient on application to J. Kent.

6.

ELIZABETH TAYLOR, of Haveningham, Suffolk, about 30 years of age, was severely afflicted with scrofulous disease of the left side of the face; the eye was completely closed—the jaw set fast—and the whole side of the face much discoloured. She had been suffering a length of time in great pain and misery, not being able to take sufficient food scarcely to support nature; and from this cause, and the ravages of the disease, her constitution had suffered material injury. All the usual means were tried without avail, and J. Kent was requested, by a highly respectable clergyman in the neighbourhood, to visit her. He did so; and found her in the condition above described. J. K. immediately commenced his peculiar mode of treatment, and in a very short time the sight of the eye was restored, the jaw-bone became released, and the face perfectly sound and well.—J. Kent understands she is since married, and living near Norwich; but her friends are still residing at Haveningham, and will satisfactorily answer any inquirer.

7.

SARAH WILLIAMS, daughter-in-law of Mr. Abraham Harvey, bricklayer, Long Brackland, Bury St. Edmund's, aged about nine years, had been afflicted for upwards of five years with a violent scorbutic humour on the head and behind the ears; and both the eyes were so much affected with scrofulous inflammation, that she could not bear the light upon them, and the discharge and irritation rendered her situation quite miserable. After the best advice had been procured in vain, she was perfectly cured by J. Kent in a very short period of time; and, although two years have elapsed, she has had no return of the complaint. Her friends will furnish any further information which may be required, with great pleasure.

8.

JOHN GOODING, Gent., Brook Street, Ipswich, now about 70 years of age, had a severe attack of scrofula on the right thigh; he was brought over from Ipswich to Stanton, when J. Kent found the thigh swollen to an enormous size, attended with considerable inflammation, and with a large quantity of matter formed between the muscles and integuments. The pain was excruciating, and his health had declined extremely; and it was with the greatest difficulty that he was moved about. He had had the very best medical attention, without producing any good effect; but by taking the medicines, and using the applications prepared by J. Kent, and paying strict attention to the injunctions laid down by him, suppuration soon took place, and the discharge was excessive. The health soon began to improve, the parts affected assumed a favourable aspect, and in three months he was perfectly well; and although 20 years have passed over, Mr. G. has had no return of the disease. Mr. G. is still residing as above, and always communicative on the happy termination of his case.

9.

PHILIP MORLEY, of Mildenhall, Suffolk, about 17 years of age, applied to J. Kent, at the Half Moon Inn, Bury, in consequence of scrofulous disease of the back. It was hereditary, and he complained of much weakness in the back, and had a very languid appearance. On examining the back, there was an ulcer situated on the spine, just below the shoulder, which discharged a thin whitish ichor. It had been about 12 months' standing, and had rendered him nearly incapable of following his business as a tailor; and it appeared to be fast bringing him to the grave. However, by a steady attention to the means prescribed by J. Kent, he soon found himself better, and a perfect cure was the result. He is now living in London; several of his connexions are very respectable, and reference may be had by applying to J. Kent.

10.

THOMAS HUNT, aged 18 years, was placed under the care of J. Kent by the churchwardens and overseers of the parish of Norton, Suffolk. He had been for 12 months labouring under an attack of scrofula; there were two scrofulous ulcers on the right side the neck, and a large tumour under the chin. By attending strictly to the plan ordered by J. Kent, a change soon took place for the better, and in a short time the lad was perfectly well. Three years have elapsed, and he has had no return of the disease, continuing well, and in service. Any further inquiries may be made of the parish-officers or of the patient.

11.

In 1811, Mr. GEORGE ROSBROOK, Saddler, of Barrow, near Bury, Suffolk, was attacked with a scrofulous complaint in his left thumb, from whence it removed to his left hip and thigh; from thence to the left knee, and then into his face and the glands of his throat; from whence issued a clear water, insomuch that he was under the necessity of keeping a piece of sponge constantly applied to it, especially at meal times. In this disagreeable situation, he continued for more than two years, during which time he had taken the best medical advice the country and London could afford, without experiencing any material benefit; and, in April, 1814, he applied to J. Kent. Not many weeks had elapsed, before he perceived such an alteration, as induced him to persevere in the use of the Botanical Medicines and Applications till the following September, when he was perfectly cured. And although *nineteen* years have intervened, no relapse has taken place.

12.

In 1811, RICHARD WHITBY, of Ipswich applied to J. Kent, afflicted with scrofula in the right side of the face, attended with great swelling, and the jaw-bone was entirely set fast. The pain he endured deprived him of rest, and rendered him incapable of work. At length a place broke in the inside of the mouth, and discharged very offensive matter, and several tumours also gathered under the jaw, and on the same side of the neck, and terminated in wounds. However, by the use of the Botanical Medicines, he soon obtained relief, and in a short time was perfectly well, and continues so to the present time (1833.) *Twenty-two* years have elapsed since the cure was effected. Residence—near the Rose Inn, St. Peter's Street, Ipswich.

13.

In 1826, Mr. WILLIAM RUFFELL, farmer, Cockfield, Suffolk, about 21 years of age, applied to J. Kent, grievously afflicted with an extensive scrofulous wound, in the right arm-pit. The effect of the Botanical Medicines may be learned from a perusal of the following extract of a letter, which Mr. R. publicly addressed to J. K. in 1817:—

"I now enjoy a good state of health, and the perfect use of all my limbs, which I attribute, under Providence, to your superior skill and judgment. And surely I have great reason to do so, for it was not till after I had tried every means in my power, and expended large sums of money to no good purpose; it was not till my life was despaired of, that I applied to you. I soon experienced the good effects of your advice, and the wonderful efficacy of your incomparable Medicines, and I think myself in duty bound, for the good of the country at large, and in justice to your well-merited reputation, to give this public testimony."

Mr. Ruffell has now been well more than *fifteen* years.

14.

[\[return\]](#)

In 1820, JOHN FAIERS, of Badwell Ash, Suffolk, aged about 45, was placed under the care of J. Kent, by the parishioners of that parish, afflicted with a violent scorbutic humour on the upper lip and face; several tumours were also formed on and about the glands of the neck. The case had been some time standing, and had hitherto resisted the usual remedies; however, by a steady perseverance in the use of the Botanical Medicines and Applications, the tumour dispersed, and the virulence of the scorbutic humour was completely subdued; he speedily recovered, and continues well to the present time.

15.

JOHN HAWES, of Badwell Ash, Suffolk, was placed under the care of J. Kent, by the Parishioners of that Parish, in 1812, when he was afflicted with Scrofula in his thigh, the left foot, the arm, and other parts of his body, and his constitution was much impaired by the severity and long continuance of the disease. In a short time his health improved, by the use of the Botanical Medicines—by a steady perseverance he ultimately recovered, and since that period, he has been capable of laborious employment. During the cure, 23 pieces of bone were extracted from the ulcerated parts, viz. three from the thigh, five from the arm, and fifteen from the foot.

The said J. Hawes still continues well.

16.

To Mr. John Kent, Stanton, Suffolk.

SIR,—The great benefit which I have received,—from your invaluable Medicines and Applications, induces me to lay my own case before the public. In October, 1826, I applied to you, in consequence of being afflicted with a scrofulous disease of the left side of the glands of the neck. I am about 30 years of age, and for a considerable time I suffered severely with the above complaint. There was an ulcer on the left side of the neck—the glands were much enlarged—and there was much discharge into the mouth from an ulcer on the jaw. Every means which regular

aid could suggest were tried in vain, and the part was opened, but as no visible improvement took place, and finding my health began to decline very rapidly, I resolved to try the effect of your Medicines. In a very short time I got better, my health improved, and by proper perseverance in the use of the Medicines, the ulcers in my neck healed, the swelling dispersed, and I got perfectly well, and I am glad to say that I continue so to the present time. I shall be happy to furnish further particulars of this case to any enquirer.

Z. MEADOWS, Cooper.

Walsham-le-Willows, June, 19, 1827.

P.S.—Mr. Meadows still continues well.—*J. K.*

17.

Mrs. SMITH, wife of Thomas Smith, ostler at the Suffolk Hotel Inn, Ipswich; and her brother, Mr. William Freeman, of Stonham Aspal, Suffolk, were both afflicted with Scrofula: Mr. Freeman had suffered for several years with two scrofulous wounds on his face; and Mrs. Smith with scrofulous enlargement of the glands of the neck: after trying all the usual means for a considerable time without any good effect, they both applied to J. Kent, who effected a permanent cure in both cases.

18.

WILLIAM THOROUGHGOOD, of Great Ashfield, Suffolk, aged about 46 years, applied to J. Kent in October 1830, in consequence of having *nineteen* scrofulous ulcers on the throat and chest, which had been a considerable time standing; by a steady attention to the directions laid down by J. K. for a few months, he was perfectly cured; and has continued so to the present time—July 1833.

19.

Miss EMILY MURTON, of Sandy Downham, near Brandon, Norfolk, about 23 years of age, applied to J. Kent, at the Half Moon Inn, Bury; she was afflicted with several scrofulous enlargements of the glands of the neck; and a very extensive tumour on the lower part of the body; she had endured the complaint for two years, and had received no relief from any of the means which had been used for its removal; but by a persevering attention to the treatment ordered by J. K. the tumours were dispersed, and she got perfectly well. She is since married, and, I understand, is living in London.—*J. K.*

20.

GEORGE SARGENT, of Buxhall, Suffolk, about 14 years of age, had been some time afflicted with Scrofula on the right side of the neck; and the collar bone was much diseased: he applied to J. Kent in March, 1833, and in the latter part of the following May, J. K. extracted an exfoliated portion of the collar-bone, $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches in length; and on the 12th of July 1833, his mother came with him to J. Kent to show that he was quite well, and able to go after his employment. She expressed herself extremely grateful for the services J. K. had rendered her child.

21.

In July, 1824, WILLIAM, the Son of Mr. SIMPSON, mariner, near the Porto Bello, Upper Orwell Street, Ipswich, about 11 years of age, applied to J. Kent, having been for 4 years afflicted with a scrofulous Ulcer on the right side of the face. He had been in the Dispensary at Ipswich, and every medical means had been employed for four years without producing any good effect, and from the long continuance of the disease, his health became materially affected. He then applied to J. Kent, and by a steady perseverance in the use of the Botanical Medicines, he rapidly recovered, and has been *perfectly well for seven years*.

N.B. Any further particulars that may be required respecting this case, may be had by applying to the Patient, or to Mr. and Mrs. Simpson, who will be happy to satisfy enquirers.

22.

A respectable female, in the neighbourhood of Eye, Suffolk, had been afflicted with scrofulous disease of the glands of the neck, for a considerable time: she had tried a variety of remedies without the desired effect; but the disease yielded to the treatment ordered by J. Kent. J. K. saw her a few weeks since, when she was quite well; and is since married. Reference may be had by applying to J. Kent.

July 21, 1833.

23.

SHADRACH SIMPSON, near the Welcome Sailor Inn, St. Clement's, Ipswich, when about 10 years of age was afflicted with several scrofulous tumours and ulcers on and about the neck; and his health had become materially affected. After trying various remedies for a considerable time without any good effect, his friends placed him under the care of J. Kent, and by a steady attention to the treatment ordered, he soon got perfectly well. J. K. saw his mother on the 14th of July, 1833, when she said—"It's now 16 years ago since you cured my son, and he continues quite well; he is a bookbinder, and now lives at Newmarket."

24.

JEMIMA BLAKE, of Wetherden, Suffolk, about 18 years of age, had been for three years afflicted with scrofulous disease of the left ankle; there was a large ulcer, and the whole foot and ankle much enlarged, and attended with so much pain that she was quite a cripple; and her constitution had become exceedingly debilitated. She had had suitable attention, but she derived no benefit; she then applied to J. Kent, and by attending to his instructions, her health was re-established, and the ulcer is now quite healed, and she can walk extremely well, and free from pain.—*July 1833.*

25.

ADAM WRIGHT, of Wickhambrook, Suffolk, about 22 years of age, had been afflicted with a scrofulous ulcer on the right side of the mouth for a considerable time; it was so bad as to render it exceedingly difficult for him to eat any food, except such as he took with a tea-spoon; in this state he applied to J. Kent, and very soon received considerable benefit; and in a letter to J. Kent, dated May 1833, he says, "I received a perfect cure, and for the space of eleven years have continued well."

26.

Some time since, GEORGE GOODCHILD, of Straddishall, near Newmarket, was placed under the care of J. Kent, by the officers of that parish, in consequence of being afflicted with Scrofula, or King's Evil. He was about thirteen years of age, and the disease had been three years standing, and the usual means for his recovery had been resorted to in vain. There were two or three scrofulous ulcers on his left leg, which was much enlarged; the bone was considerably diseased; his constitution began to give way from the long continuance of the disease, and he was incapable of labour. In this state he commenced the treatment ordered by J. Kent; in a short time his constitution became corrected and established, the leg improved, and a piece of exfoliated bone was extracted, five inches and a half in length and an inch in breadth, and he is now capable of following laborious employment. In this case it is seen how prone Scrofula is to attack the bones, which in many instances it completely destroys; here a large piece of bone was removed before the parts got well, but this bone was not removed simply "by the power of the Medicines alone," as some persons would impudently and ignorantly assert, but nature, a little mechanical assistance, and the *aid* of suitable Medicines and Applications, all contributed to remove this extensive exfoliation of the tibia, or large bone of the leg.

27.

JACOB GORRARD, of Troston, in this county, had been suffering from Scrofula for nearly two years; the right arm and left knee were very much enlarged; there were three or four extensive wounds, and the knee was very much contracted. He had been attended by two surgeons and a physician, but the disease set their combined efforts at defiance, and when J. Kent was requested to attend, the patient had been confined to his bed for nine months, his appetite was destroyed, there were profuse nocturnal perspirations, a hectic flush upon the countenance, the arm, leg, and thigh, enlarged to a frightful degree, and the wounds poured forth a copious discharge; in fact, there appeared so little chance of doing any good, that it was with considerable reluctance that J. Kent undertook the case. J. K. however, commenced his peculiar mode of treatment in September, 1824, and the result was, that a perfect cure was effected, and Gorrard is still living at Troston, enjoying an excellent state of health, the perfect use of all his limbs, and capable of any laborious exertion. This remarkable case merits the attention of all those who, unfortunately, are subjects of Scrofula. It affords a distinct proof that this unsightly and dangerous disease may be controlled and arrested in its progress by the use of those means so long pursued by J. Kent with unequalled success; means which are so simple in their nature that our fields, our hedges, and our way-sides, contribute to their composition without resorting to metallic formulations.

28.

In 1807, JOHN PAKE, of Rickinghall, Suffolk, was placed under the care of J. Kent, by the parishioners of that parish, having been, for nearly all his life, subject to Scrofula. In June of that year, it violently attacked his left knee, which was excessively painful, swelled very much, and soon became so contracted, as to render it useless to him. He had procured all the assistance which regular practice could afford, but all proved ineffectual, and he was pronounced incurable,

unless amputation took place. In November following, he began the treatment directed by J. Kent, and very soon found relief, and by August, 1808, he was so well as to engage himself for harvest work. *Twenty-five* years have elapsed, and he still continues perfectly well, and is still residing at Rickinghall.

29.

Mrs. MARY HOWLETT, wife of Mr. Thomas Howlett, farmer, of Soham, Cambridgeshire, had been from an early period of her life, afflicted with Scrofula; and, in 1807, the disorder violently attacked her back, just below the blade-bone, and produced a tumour that exceeded twenty-two inches in circumference. She was totally incapable of any employment, the pain was excessive, and the case truly alarming. Having had the best advice that could be procured for her, without producing any good effect, she committed herself wholly to the care of J. Kent, under whose treatment the tumour soon suppurated, and discharged upwards of *three quarts* of matter the first time, and not less than *two gallons* before the cure was completed. Since then, more than *twenty-four* years have elapsed, and she continues perfectly sound and well.

30.

A professional inhabitant of Bury had suffered severely from a scorbutic eruption, affecting nearly the whole body; after trying a great number of remedies for a considerable time without deriving any benefit, he applied to J. Kent; by attending to whose instructions, he was perfectly cured. Reference may be had on a personal application to J. Kent.

31.

About twelve months ago, Mr. ADAMS, (Park-keeper to his Grace the Duke of Grafton) of Euston, Suffolk, placed his daughter under the care of J. Kent, in consequence of her having been for some time afflicted with a scrofulous enlargement of the left knee; indeed, the knee was so much diseased and contracted that she could not walk without the assistance of crutches. Her friends closely attended to the directions of J. Kent, who a few days since saw her father, when he said that his daughter had thrown away her crutches, and was running about in good health.

August 1, 1833.

32.

In March, 1826, MARY ANN BAKER, of Rattlesden, Suffolk, about 11 years of age, was brought to J. Kent by the order of the Churchwardens and Overseers of that parish. She was hereditarily predisposed to Scrofula, and at this period had a tumour about the size of a hen's egg on each breast; she had also *twenty* ulcers on the breast and neck, besides *twelve* ulcers on the right arm: she had been in this state upwards of two years; but by a steady perseverance in the use of the medicines, and under the directions of J. Kent, she received a perfect cure.

I saw her September 14, 1833, when I found she continued perfectly well; in good health and spirits.—J. KENT.

33.

[In case 14](#), page 24, of this pamphlet, the case of JOHN FAIERS of Great Ashfield, Suffolk, is described; and it is again adverted to in order to shew the hereditary nature of Scrofula, which is remarkably developed in several members of his family; no less than four of his children having been attacked with the disease: 1. His son *John* suffered from it in the groin and on the thigh; 2. His daughter *Sophia* about the neck and windpipe; 3. *Sarah* was also afflicted with it; 4. *Mary* had several Scrofulous ulcers on the leg; these were all patients of J. Kent, and received a perfect cure from the treatment adopted by him.

34.

WILLIAM NUNN, of Lawshall, near Bury St. Edmund's, about eighteen years of age, applied to J. Kent, in May, 1832, in consequence of having a Scrofulous enlargement on the left side the lower jaw: the part affected had assumed an alarming appearance; but by steadily attending to the directions ordered, a perfect cure was the result; and his father informed J. Kent about three weeks since that he continued quite well.

July 27, 1833.

35.

A young lady belonging to one of the most respectable families in the vicinity of Stanton, had suffered for some time from scrofulous disease of the left hand; and as her parents were in affluent circumstances, no expense was spared in procuring the best surgical advice in the

kingdom; this, however, was to no effect, and she was placed under the care of J. Kent, under whose treatment twenty-five pieces of bone were extracted from the diseased part; and although her health had become much impaired, she speedily improved, and ultimately a perfect cure took place. Seventeen years have now elapsed, and she has not had the least symptom of a relapse.

N.B.—Any respectable person may have reference to the family, on a personal application to J. Kent.

36.

JOHN STEBBINGS, Gardener, Rickingham, Suffolk, in February 1830, took his son James, about 4 years of age, to J. Kent. The child had two scrofulous tumours on the left fore-arm; a large one on the right thigh; and one on the calf of the right leg: the disease had been about 9 months standing, and his health was much impaired. He had not been under the care of J. K. but a short time before his health was materially improved; and the tumours suppurated, healed, and got completely well. He is now in good health and has had no return of the disease.

July 30, 1833.

After the reader has candidly and attentively perused the above cases, I trust it will not appear to be necessary for me to extend the number any farther, although it would be perfectly easy to do so. I presume enough has been stated to show the superiority of my mode of treatment; and if there be any who can rise from the perusal of these cases, and doubt that superiority, they "would not be persuaded though one rose from the dead."

In conclusion, I would beg to state that many who have experienced the good effects of my treatment of scrofulous diseases, frequently have recourse to some of the medicine every spring and autumn, as an alterative and a preventive. This prudent, cautious conduct, I would strongly recommend to all parents, guardians, and heads of families, who have any reason to apprehend the disorders of their children, or those under their care, to arise from a scrofulous predisposition; and by such timely care they may prevent those dreadful consequences which too frequently arise from neglect or improper treatment.

J. KENT.

N.B.J. KENT thinks it necessary to inform the public that he has no connection with any person in Stanton, or elsewhere, and that he may be consulted at his own house in Stanton, *every Tuesday*; at the Half Moon Inn, Bury St. Edmund's, *every Wednesday*; at the Suffolk Hotel Inn, Ipswich, and at the King's Head Inn, Stowmarket, once a month; and frequently at the Bell Inn, Thetford; and at the White Lion Inn, Eye.

P.S. J. K. requests that all Letters intended for him may be *post paid*, and addressed to *J. Kent, Stanton, near Ixworth, Suffolk*.

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