

A critical edition of the text of
The Dispensary, 1699, by Sir Samuel Garth, 1661-1719,
with introduction and notes.

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A List of Abbreviations Used.

Manuscript sources;

- Annals = Manuscript Annals of the Royal College of Physicians, London. (References are given by date of entry in a translation of the original Latin Annals collated with contemporary transcripts, which is in the possession of the College)
- and folio or page number/
- Bod. MS. Ball. = MS. Ballard, Bodleian library, Oxford.
- Bod. MS. Rawl. = MS. Rawlinson, Bodleian library, Oxford.
- Bod. MS. Tanner = MS. Tanner, Bodleian library, Oxford.
- BM. Add. MSS. = British Museum, Additional Manuscripts.
- Farre = F.J. Farre, Short History of the Royal College of Physicians from 1518 to 1824. 3 vols. Holograph MS. in the possession of the College.
- Guildhall MS. 8208/2 = Rough Court Minute Books, 1661-1783, of the Society of Apothecaries. 13 vols. vol. II.
- VA Dyce = The Victoria and Albert Museum, London; Dyce collection.
- VA Forster = The Victoria and Albert Museum, London; Forster collection.

Printed sources; unless otherwise stated, the place of publication is in England.

- Boileau = Oevres, Éditions Garnier Frères. Paris, 1961.
- Boys = R.C. Boys, Sir Richard Blackmore and the Wits. Univ. of Michigan contrib. ~~to~~ Modern Philology, XIII, June 1949.
- Boys PQ. = R.C. Boys, 'The Authorship of Poems in Commendatory Verses.' Phil. Quart. 30, II, 1951, 221-2.

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Brewer *lib* = Brewer's Dictionary of Phrase and Fable. *lib*
 Rev. ed. Cassell 1963. *lib*

Brief Account = A brief Account of the Dispensary, erected
 at the College of Physicians in Warwick-lane,
 London, for the Relief of the Sick Poor.
 (1698?) *lib*

Chalmers = A. Chalmers, The Works of the English Poets,
 from Chaucer to Cowper; 21 vols. 1810.

A.F.B. Clark = Boileau and the French Classical critics in
 England 1660-1830. Paris, 1925.

Clark *lib* = G.N. Clark, A History of the Royal College
 of Physicians of London. Vol. 1. 1964.

↪ Cunningham-Wheatley = H.B. Wheatley, London, Past and Present...
 the late / *lib* Based upon the Handbook of London by
 P. Cunningham. 3 vols. 1891.

DNB = Dictionary of National Biography. *lib*

Dryden, Essays = Essays, selected and edited by W.P. Ker.
 2 vols, 1900.

Dryden, Letters = ed. C.E. Ward. Durham N.C., 1942. *lib*

Dryden, Poems = ed. J. Kinsley. 4 vols. 1958.

EC = The Works of Pope, ed W. Elwin and W.J. Court-
 hope. 10 vols. 1871-89. *lib*

Foster = J. Foster, Alumni Oxonienses. Part One
 (to 1714) 4 vols. 1891-2. *lib*

Garrod = H.W. Garrod, 'Phalaris and Phalarism.' In
 Seventeenth Century Studies presented to ...
 Grierson. 1938. *lib*

Gay, Poems = Works ed. G.C. Faber. 1926.

GEC = The Complete Peerage. By G.E.C. Rev. and
 enlarged by the Hon. Vicary Gibbs. Ed.
 H.A. Doubleday, D. Warrand and Lord Howard
 de Walden. 13 vols. 1912. *lib*

Hist. MSS. Comm. = Historical Manuscripts Commission.
lib

- Homer, Iliad = Homer, The Iliad with an English Translation by A.T. Murray. Loeb classical library, 2 vols. 1924.
- Hooker = Critical Works of John Dennis. ed. E.N. Hooker 2 vols. Baltimore, 1939-43.
- Horace = Satires, Epistles and Ars Poetica, transl. H.R. Fairclough. Loeb classical library, 1961.
- Hudibras = annotated Z. Grey et al. 2 vols. 3rd ed. 1772.
- Johnson, Dictionary = S. Johnson, A Dictionary of the English Language... 2 vols. 1755.
- Jebb = R.C. Jebb, Richard Bentley. 1882.
- Juvenal, Juvenal = Juvenal and Persius transl. G.G. Ramsay. Loeb classical library, 1961.
- Leicht = W.J. Leicht, Garth's Dispensary. Kritische Ausgabe mit Einleitung und Anmerkungen. Heidelberg 1905.
- Lewis & Short = A Latin Dictionary. C.T. Lewis and C. Short. 1962.
- Munk = W. Munk, Roll of the Royal College of Physicians, London. 3 vols. 1861-78.
- N&Q = Notes and Queries.
- OCEL = Sir Paul Harvey, Oxford Companion to English Literature. 1960.
- OCCL = Sir Paul Harvey, Oxford Companion to Classical Literature. 1962.
- OED = Oxford English Dictionary.
- Ovid = Metamorphoses, transl. F.J. Miller. 2 vols. Loeb classical library, 1960.
- Pope, Poems = The Twickenham Edition of the Poems of Alexander Pope. General Editor, John Butt. Vol. I. ed. E. Audra and A. Williams. Vol. II. ed. G. Tillotson.

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- Vol. III i ed. M. Mack.
 Vol. III ii ed. F.W. Bateson.
 Vol. IV. ed. J. Butt.
 Vol. V. ed. J.R. Sutherland.
 Vol. VI. ed. N. Ault and J. Butt.
 The Iliad of Homer. Translated by Mr. Pope.
 6 vols. 1715-20.
- caps*
- Pope, Corres. = The Correspondence of Alexander Pope ed.
 G. Sherburn. 5 vols. 1956.
- Prior, Poems = The Literary Works of M. Prior ed. H.B.
 Wright and M.K. Spears. 2 vols. 1959.
- RCP = Royal College of Physicians, London.
- RES = Review of English Studies.
- Rosenberg, Journal = A. Rosenberg, 'The London Dispensary for the
 Sick-Poor!' Journ. of the Hist. of Medicine
 XIV, Jan. 1959, 41-56.
- Rosenberg = A. Rosenberg, Sir Richard Blackmore.
 Lincoln, Nebraska. 1953.
- Spectator = ed. D.F. Bond. 5 vols. 1965.
- Spence = J. Spence, Anecdotes, observations, and
 characters, of Books and Men. ed. S.W. Singer,
 1820.
- caps*
- Spingarn = Critical Essays of the Seventeenth Century
 ed. J.E. Spingarn. 3 vols. 1908
- 9 | Tatler and Guardian = The Spectator, The Tatler and the Guardian.
 14 vols. 1797.
- Underwood = A History of the Worshipful Society of
 Apothecaries of London. Rev., annot., and
 ed. by E.A. Underwood, 1963.
- Venn = Alumni Cantabrigienses. J. Venn and J.A. Venn.
 Part One (to 1751). 4 vols. 1922-7.
- Virgil, Aeneid = Virgil with an English Translation by
 H.R. Fairclough. 2 vols. Loeb classical
 library, 1927.
- 2* ~~Wakefield = Works of Alexander Pope ed. G. Wakefield. 1794.~~

Introduction Part OneThe Medical Background to the Poem

s | The Dispensary was written with two specific purposes in mind; the ridiculing of the apothecaries' pretension to medical competence and in order, as Garth put it in his Preface, 'to Rally some of our disaffected Members into a sense of their Duty, who have hitherto most obstinately oppos'd all manner of Union;' (50-2) The quarrel over the erection of dispensaries to provide treatment gratis for the sick-poor of London at the end of the seventeenth century was not a local and a temporary issue. The animosity aroused by it, not only between physician and apothecary, but also between physician and physician, represents and is a culminating part of a struggle which had existed from the date of the apothecaries' severance from the grocers in 1617. On obtaining a separate charter, although continually under the surveillance of the College of Physicians of London, the apothecaries also obtained an independence which led finally to their being granted the legal right to prescribe medicine in addition to their established right of compounding drugs. The dispute in the latter decades of the seventeenth century revolved around defining medical boundaries, as to who should practise which part of the medical profession. The members of the College of Physicians possessed the sole legal right in London to practise medicine by prescribing treatment; the apothecary's duties lay in making up prescriptions. This distinction was largely accepted by physicians and ignored by many apothecaries, who took it upon themselves both to prescribe and compound medicine, thus leading to Garth's contemptuous description of them as 'amphibious Fry' (II, 118) The evolution of medical practice in the second half of the seventeenth century has to do with the physicians' efforts to maintain the distinction and with the apothecaries' steady attempts to ignore it. In order to fit the dispensary quarrel into a context of larger significance,

it is necessary to glance briefly at certain factors which enabled the apothecaries to challenge the supremacy of the College of Physicians. It will later be seen that the proposals to erect dispensaries, though clearly having as a main aim the charitable relief of London sick-poor, had also an underlying aim of suppressing the apothecaries and forcing them to revert to their original status of dispensing chemists. In this, these proposals form one of a lengthy series of attempts to combat the threat to the established medical hierarchy.

At the Restoration in 1660, the Fellows of the College of Physicians numbered less than thirty, (Underwood, 93), whereas the Company of Apothecaries had gone from strength to strength; 'Although nominally at the head of the medical profession, the College had been unable to exercise its authority for the twenty years of civil war and usurpation. In that time uncontrolled practice of all sorts had established itself and flourished. The apothecaries especially had made great headway in the affection of the common people, who had come to look upon them as their mainstay in time of sickness.' (ibid. 108) Although the College obtained a new charter on 26 March 1663, with increased powers to control the lesser medical bodies, the advent of the Great Plague further advanced the apothecaries in the esteem of the common people. This seems mainly because most physicians left London during the Plague, whereas most apothecaries, for whatever motive, remained in London. Officially only two physicians, Hodges and Witherley, were accepted by the City for plague-duty; however an entry in the College Exhibition Catalogues, 1929-55 for 7 April 1952, ('The College and the Great Plague'), lists the names of twenty-four physicians who are thought to have remained in London. Nevertheless, anger would doubtless be aimed in this case at the College as a body for its inaction, as opposed to admiration for a few physicians who chose to remain. Writers supporting the apothecaries made much of the fact that members of the College quitted London when most needed. As late as 1885, the plague-year was seen to be significant.

'The legal right <of the apothecary> to visit the sick in their own houses or prescribe for them, was never disputed after the last

great plague in London... during this scourge a great majority of the regular Physicians died, and many of the survivors fled into the country, thus the friends of the sick were forced to implore the aid of the Apothecaries, who thus left their counter and came for the first time to the bedside of the sick.' (G. Corfe M.D., The Apothecary, Ancient and Modern... 1885, 19-20) Apart from the fact that the apothecaries' legal right to practise was severely disputed by the College, it is clear, contrary to Corfe's statement, that the apothecaries had been encroaching upon the physicians' legal preserve for a considerable period prior to the Plague. (See Underwood, 6) Corfe is more accurate perhaps in his charge that the College abandoned the case of 'the infirm poor' to the apothecaries' care after the Plague. (20) As regards the plight of the poor at this time, there existed what L.S. King calls a 'medical vacuum', which the apothecaries rushed to fill. (The Medical World of the Eighteenth Century. Chicago 1958, 12) It was to remedy this state of affairs and to alleviate the suffering of the poor that the College undertook the erection of the dispensaries at the end of the century.

During the early years subsequent to the Restoration, the College, though alarmed at the increase in unlicensed practice, was faced with other matters and seemed to have temporarily shelved the issue. The matter had been broached before the Restoration. On the 9 April 1655: 'There was a discussion concerning the restraint of the daring practices of apothecaries... But since that former might be pressed with not inconsiderable difficulties... it seemed proper for the present to refrain....' (Annals vol. IV, See abbreviations) On the 31 March 1656, a meeting was arranged to deal with illegal practice for each Friday until 'this business should have been completed.' (ibid.) The College's optimism was not justified. On 2 May 1656, 'the matter of the empirics began to be discussed, and it was decided that at the next meeting something definite would be determined against them.' (ibid.) The matter was summarised on 7 May 1657; 'Certainly among the different troubles of the Commonwealth our profession was reduced no little in its authority, while, the fear of the law having been set aside..., crafty knaves, mountebanks, quacks, barbers, old women, fortune-tellers and others of that kind of bullcalf, with the gold of hoped for immunity

Transl. f. 64a |

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Transl. f. 87a | glinting, laid hold upon our solemn mysteries.' (ibid.) Even more explicit is the entry for the 21 and 25 April 1664, 'The apothecaries.. entirely forgetful of benefits received from us, claimed that it was clearly unjust, and thought that it was proper and just that they should practise medicine and advise the sick in the middle of the night and in our absence. Yea, after we had experienced their filthy designs

Transl. f. 122a | and slavish warfare!' (ibid.) Since the College's new charter had not at the time been confirmed by Parliament, 'they overbore us with their pride and wanton haughtiness, and delayed with all sorts of insults and lies a thing that would be no less useful to them than to us.' (ibid.) The College perhaps did not perceive that the increased stature and wealth of the Apothecaries' Company had established for them a position, whereby apothecaries were a subsidiary part of the medical profession only in the eyes of the law and the College itself. The Company's prosperity increased to a point where, at the end of 1664, it contributed £1000 towards a loan of £10,000 to the King by the City of London; the whole sum was at once subscribed by nine members. (Underwood, 110-11) In a curious sense, the issue initially subsisted not upon the basis of whether the apothecaries were competent to treat the sick, but more upon a wave of indignation from the College for the apothecaries' temerity in placing themselves upon the same elevated level. The apothecaries' 'competence' was only one of the factors which enraged the College. The years immediately following the Restoration thus provide a focal point from which to gauge the nature of the two bodies who were to struggle against each other for the rest of the century; the apothecaries emerge as too powerful to be ignored, too wealthy to be dismissed and the reason is thus put by Underwood: 'For long it was upon their services during times of plague, in the "willing absence" of physicians, that the apothecaries based their claim that they were not merely dispensers of medicines prescribed by physicians, but despite all regulations to the contrary were in fact the regular attendants of the common people in sickness.' (3) The apothecary was established and resisted frequent attempts to disestablish him; as Everitt colourfully puts it: 'If the physicians grumbled, we are not inclined to pity him. He had created

Company of Apothecaries was in 1659 had elected him a Freeman. (Underwood,

his Frankenstein; he had tried to kill the monster whom he had at least materially assisted in calling into being, and Frankenstein ... objected to be got rid of after this summary fashion.' (G. Everitt, Doctors and Doctors : Some Curious Chapters in Medical History and Quackery. 1888, 61-2)

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A concerted effort to reduce the apothecary in status is seen in a spate of pamphlets, published between 1669 and 1671. One aspect of the dispensary project, that of its use as an effective agent against apothecaries, has its roots in the pleas of certain writers that physicians should compound their own medicines, thus eliminating the necessity for an apothecary and the accompanying danger of extortion and overcharging for prescriptions. Such a remedy had been proposed within the College. On 25 June 1664, Dr. Clarke on behalf of the Candidates of the College urged that they be allowed to practise pharmacy, because of the weakening of the profession by the apothecaries. The proposal was carried unanimously and the Candidates were thanked. (Annals vol. IV) However, such demands reached a greater intensity in the three years referred to. On the 28 March 1670, representatives of the Company of Apothecaries asked at the College of Physicians whether 'the books written recently with our deepest disapprobation, were sent to press by your order or consent.' The College evaded the challenge; 'As regards the books mentioned, and called infamous by you, however, since they were published signed with the authors' names, we do not think that it becomes you to ask us anything about that affair, nor us to reply to any questions.' Mr. Rosewell, for the Company, desired continued friendship between the two bodies, so long as each confined himself to his own business 'and not rashly put his scythe to another's harvest,' while another apothecary, John Chase, hoped that since the College denied responsibility for the books, they would not be offended if any replies should be forthcoming. (Annals vol. IV).

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The books were by Thomas Coxe, Christopher Merrett and Jonathan Goddard. Merrett's A Short View of the Frauds, and Abuses committed by Apothecaries; ... And of the only Remedy thereof by Physicians making their own Medicines. (1669), was a particularly violent attack on the Company of Apothecaries who in 1659 had elected him a Freeman. (Underwood,

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 115-116) Merrett's avowed aim was one of 'restoring my profession to its ancient and deserved honours.' (16) He attributes the cause of present troubles to the fact that apothecaries were employed to compound medicines to physicians' prescriptions. (7) The apothecaries are accused of falsifying medicines, multiplying the number of bills, and with charging excessive prices. (X) The root of Merrett's objection is thus stated; 'They <the apothecaries> have always endeavoured and aimed at the depression and ruine of the Colledg of Physicians, ... considering rightly, that the depression of the Colledg is their interest and rise, and the total subversion of it will make them absolute Masters in Physick, and Physicians their Servants.' (19) Clearly for Merrett, the danger was one of loss of status. He petulantly cites as an example of disrespect the placing of the College Censors at the second table during the Company's dinner, 'whereas always heretofore they were seated at the first Table, next to the Master of the Company.' (23) If, says Merrett, physicians prepare their own medicines, they will 'preserve their Art from being prostituted to illiterate persons, the Apothecaries becoming now their Competitors.' (26) Although much of the pamphlet is trivial, on the level of Merrett's objection that the apothecaries call the sick their 'Patients' (24), it is an interesting indication of one approach to a solution; for Merrett the cure is simply to cut off the supply of bills to the apothecary. He ignores the popularity of the apothecary amongst ordinary people, though he admits that the apothecary has become a competitor. He is unaware, or chooses not to see, the real entrenchment of the practising apothecary. It seems, moreover, that a genuine distrust of certain physicians did exist. 'Or if you are minded to go to the Colledg of Physitians, you may : But be sure you carry Money with you, for Balaam's Ass will not speak unless he see an Angel.' (N. Culpeper, A Physicall Directory;... 3rd ed. 1651. 'To the Reader. X) Culpeper, though himself biased, gives the receipe to make a physician; 'Make a couple of Crutches of the Apothecaries and Chyrurgions; Be as proud as Lucifer; Ride in state with a Foot-Cloth; Love the sight of Angels; Cheat the Rich; Neglect the Poor; Do nothing without Money; Be Self-conceited; Be Angry;' (ibid. 'Preface to the Colledg X) Out of this squabbling and seesawing of accusations does

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emerge the fact that the apothecaries could not simply be treated as a minor order to be crushed by physicians preparing their own medicines.

Merrett incidentally pinpoints reasons for the apothecary's emergence; 'But in process of time Physicians in acute diseases having taught them somewhat, sent them <the apothecaries> to visit their Patients, to give them the best account they could of the estate of their health, and effect of their Medicines.' (43) The apothecary's gradual insinuation by means of the physician is thus admitted by Merrett, who also attacks the 'greater familiarity of conversation with younger Physicians.' (44) Towards the close of the century, these 'younger Physicians' included eminent physicians, such as Radcliffe and Mead, who managed a working arrangement with apothecaries. (See Underwood, 124-5) Finally Merrett is aware of the importance of the plague year. 'And in the Plague time (most Physicians being out of Town), they took upon them the whole Practice of Physick, which ever since they have continued...' (44) It was hardly to be expected that the apothecaries would relinquish their advantage, once physicians chose to return to London.

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Jonathan Goddard in A Discourse Setting forth the Unhappy Condition of the Practice of Physick in London... (1670), gives another reason for the establishment of the apothecaries, in that they became known while serving their apprenticeship; physicians were less well known, being out of the city and at university. (11-12) Goddard feels that the original status quo of the apothecary as druggist was acceptable since this liberated the physician 'from some troublesom and inferior employment;' (10). While the apothecary may not always succeed with the rich, 'yet how far it may, amongst others, who are the great number and bulk, is not hard to conceive by what hath been experienced.' (12) Here again, albeit in a more soder mood, is an analysis of the apothecary's position. Yet Goddard is not above a querulous annoyance. Physicians 'in regard of the charges of their Education, and the use and consequence of their Profession, deserve to get as great Estates, as are gotten in any Profession or way of Trading... as their Predecessors, who thirty or forty years ago, got great Estates, when the Apothecaries kept within their own bounds, or inconsiderably incroached upon the Physician.' (18-19) Though aimed at the extortion of apothecaries, this last would appear to

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justify Culpeper's accusation. (see supra) Goddard follows Merrett in advocating that physicians prepare their own medicines, although it would be unnecessary 'that any Physician should be put to the drudgery or trouble of making, or overseeing the making of every Medicine...' (24) Goddard appears to want to retain consultant status, and also to control pharmacy. The dispensary scheme is foreshadowed by his suggestion of a private physicians' stock, stored with effective remedies, (24), although this refers to an individual, rather than a general, storehouse. Goddard states that a number of physicians work amicably with apothecaries, 'some being in full practice in combination or conjunction with Apothecaries, from whom it is not to be expected they should trouble themselves about preparing Medicines; and some depending upon Apothecaries to bring them into notice and acquaintance; who must therefore comply with them not only in writing Bills to their best advantage, but also, as occasion serves, enter on their leavings of Practice, and perhaps consult with them.' (49) It was physicians of this kind, who worked with an apothecary, who enraged Garth and other dispensarians. Garth, in satirising the anti-dispensarians, was trying, vainly, to dislodge the practical arrangements which had existed for a considerable number of years.

The apothecaries' view was contained in two pamphlets; Lex Talionis; sive Vindicae Pharmacoporum; or a Short Reply to Dr. Merrett's Book; and Others...: wherein may be discovered The Frauds and Abuses committed by Doctors Professing and Practising Pharmacy. (1670), and Medice Cura Teipsum/ or the Apothecaries Plea... (1671) Lex Talionis accurately catches the tone of Merrett's diatribe, and is more commonsensical in distinguishing between quacks and mountebanks who use 'Shifts and Devices how to deceive the people.' (3), and the trained apothecary. Such a distinction was rarely made, especially by physicians. Garth characterises all apothecaries, and particularly young ones newly-trained, as murderers. (see III, 128 ff.) Between the retaliatory passages, the author occasionally makes a cogent point. He states bluntly that the College's legal right to search apothecaries' shops for inferior medicines is ridiculous, 'those Censors for the most part not understanding the Tith of the Medicines and Drugs in the... Shops.' (4)

The strength of the apothecaries' position is stated, 'for doubtless the discreet Apothecary being learned, may make a far abler Physitian than he an Apothecary; for it's but joining the Theory of Physick with his Practick, and he may be compleat. The Physitian cannot so easily attain to Pharmacy, it being a Mystery:' (9; see II, 182) The conflict frequently lies between the physician's reservation of legal and traditional privileges and the rational demands of the apothecary; 'But good Mr. Doctor, what if the Patient desire the Visits of the Apothecary his Friend, having withall some Confidence of his Parts and Abilities, I hope you have no reason to be angry, but give him his freedom in this.' (9) The charge against physicians of leaving London during the plague is renewed with great emphasis, since the apothecaries 'in the Plague time, took upon them the whole Practice of Physick;.. or else it's well known the Kings Subjects (then much distressed) had been in a worse and more deplorable condition : The Doctors, with their Worships Greatness, being fled : May the wisdom of our Nation, the Parliament, never forget to encourage such Men; neither the Citizens of London to value their friends:' (18).

those (Medice Cura Teipsum specifically states that the author takes no sides and wishes to vindicate both College and Company 'from ~~t~~he Criminations of the Worthy Doctor <Merrett> , and to invalidate his Allegations and Arguments, together with his Only Remedy.' (4) The very fact of refuting Merrett involves a view which supports apothecaries more than physicians. The author pleads for a rational balance of judgement; 'shall the whole Profession with the honest Professors thereof suffer therefore? and their good Name Trade and Livelyhood, shall they be taken away because there are Knaves of the same Profession?' (12) The stalemate is fortified by the author's applying many of Merrett's arguments against apothecaries with equal validity to physicians, who are as prone to overcharging as a dishonest apothecary; 'To this I answer, that if gain will tempt most men to dishonest actions, especially when they may act undiscovered, the Worthy Doctor is a man, and a man that loves gain as appears, and why may not he more easily be tempted to dishonest actions?' (13) Such reverse application of Merrett's accusations are significant only in so far as they show that a remedy for the situation

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could not be provided by physicians preparing their own medicines. The present writer after remarking apropos of Merrett that 'Honest Men, and Conscientious Physicians look more principally at the curing their Patients, than doubling their Honour.' (31), reiterates the fault of physicians during the plague; 'Was here a public spirit? a design to do Mankind good, or rather a self Interest? Where was the good Doctor's Charity?' (34).

Other physicians advocated the appropriation of pharmacy to the College. Everard Maynwaring in Praxis Medicorum Antiqua et Nova : (1671), stressed the importance of the practical side of medical knowledge, and in so doing inadvertently creates a strong case for knowledge by experience of the apothecary. (15) In his zeal he almost certainly offended some of his fellow physicians; 'for this is a plain truth, he that does not handle medicines is not fit to touch the sick:' (18) Physicians who do not dispense are equated with a ship's captain ignorant of the workings of a compass; 'the old Woman is as safe a Practiser as you,...' (19) Physicians such as Merrett and Maynwaring swam with no avail against the growing tide of public habit. Maynwaring attacks those who consider themselves above pharmacy (40), and rails against those who prescribe to apothecaries, 'biassed from right reason, by pride, self interest, ignorance, and misinformation;' (41) At the time of the dispensaries, the same charges were levelled against such distinguished physicians as Radcliffe, Tyson and Blackmore. The author's distinction between the pharmacopoeian and the prescribing physician (51), indicates that then, as at the end of the century, the quarrel was as much between members of the College as between physician and apothecary.

An early instance of a proposal for a dispensary is found in Some Papers Writ in the Year 1664. In Answer to a Letter, concerning the Practice of Physick in England. By Dr. C.T. (1670) The author refers prophetically to what would ensue; 'The Charity there designed to supply all the poor of the Cities of London and Westminster with advice, and some of them with medicines gratis,..would but be looked upon as a decoy to bring in benefactors, whose bounty and Charity might be perverted to luxurious uses, and the care that is offered at to provide against the slaughters every day made by ignorant Quacks and Mountebanks... would be

looked upon but as a design to Monopolise physick to the College, and to invest the Physitians with a power to enslave Chyrurgeons and Apothecaries.' (1-2) Dr. C.T. accurately anticipates some of the main objections of the anti-dispensarians. However his prophecy later comes awry; 'and truly I think a very little consideration may serve a man to forsee, that the next age will scarce know, what an Apothecarie is;' (37) Other projects of a similar nature were suggested in 1667 by 'A true lover of his country', whose aim was to establish a hospital for foundlings and poor pregnant women. Later in 1689, Chamberlen proposed a scheme of medical care not limited to the poor. (Rosenberg, Journal, 43) However the first concrete proposals for a dispensary scheme were raised in the College on 29 July 1675; 'There was discussion about liberal treatment and free cure of the poor. Thursday of each week at 5 p.m. in the College House were the time and place chosen for dealing with this matter for as many Fellows as wished to be present.' (Annals, vol. IV) On 21 January 1675-6, there was further discussion about the poor, but nothing was decided except the necessity for further consideration about the method to be used. (ibid.) Rosenberg attributes the failure to reach an agreement between the College and the Company partially to the bitter controversy over the pamphlets discussed above. The ill-feeling generated by these books inevitably made relations difficult. (Rosenberg, Journal, 44) The action of the College in attempting a solution of this problem perhaps links with their awareness of the complaint that they had neglected the poor at the time of the plague. A scheme for a dispensary was sent to the Company of Apothecaries in August 1675, whereby facilities would be available daily at the College under the supervision of two or more Fellows. Since the documents were unsigned and since a Company deputation to the College was met by none but Dr. Frankland, 'who had the worst of reputations', it probably occurred to the deputation 'that the Committee of Physicians had acted without formal sanction and that there was a schism in the College over the proposals.' (Underwood, 125-6). It is noted by Underwood that the apothecaries agreed to furnishing medicines 'att the lowest ~~and~~ most reasonable rates.' (126) Yet the scheme proved abortive and twelve years passed before it was again proposed. Meanwhile the problem of the

Transl. ff. 174a-175a

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sick poor increased in the metropolis. The Elizabethan Poor Law of 1601 administered the provision of the poor by parishes; since many of London's inhabitants were not living in the parish of their birth, they were not eligible for medical aid in cases which did not require hospitalisation. (Rosenberg, Journal, 41).

On 27 July 1687, the College ordered 'that whenever any pauper in any parish within London and for seven miles outside it shall present himself at some convenient hour before any one of us living near him... and ask for medical advice, it shall be given him upon request, readily and fully.' (Annals vol V) A pauper, in reply to the Lord Mayor's query, was defined as one who brought a certificate from a rector, vicar or curate of a parish. (Underwood, 126) Nevertheless, relations between the College and the Company were strained, since the College's actions against the apothecaries increased. On the same day as the proposals for the poor were advocated, the College established new statutes, 'Since it has been found by experience that the apothecaries are aiming to acquire, from physicians' prescriptions, some form and semblance of a false learning, which they turn to their own advantage, ingratiating themselves with patients every where, not without risk to others...' The directions for the use of medicine were to be left with the patient and not appended to the prescription; the instructions for compounding the medicine were to be indicated only by the appropriate symbols. Secondly, any surgeon or apothecary wishing to apply for admittance to the College must release himself from any other body before he might do so. On 23 August 1687, the President ordered that decisions reached about apothecaries be kept entirely secret. (Annals vol. V) Statutes such as these indicate both a general gathering of forces and an attempt to unite the rank and file of the College. It is hardly surprising perhaps that the apothecaries would feel the dispensary project to be one of several repressive College measures. On 23 August 1687, College members were instructed to do their duty, 'laying aside all personal feeling and respect', and to report the names 'of any such apothecary they discover having practised medicine;' The entry in the Annals (vol V) notes also the rumour that certain physicians are distributing medical bills to the people 'after the fashion of empirics and

, Transl. f. 55a

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(Annals vol. V, Transl. f. 55a)

, Transl. f. 57a

(Ibid.)

, Transl. f. 57a

for the sake of snatching a mean and sordid practice'. There are signs of a growing antagonism in the College over the nature of the proceedings against apothecaries. On 22 December 1687, the order was given that if an apothecary refused to show his bills to College officials, the bills may be reported to the College and if necessary rejected as incompetent; 'But some heats arising between some of the Members of the College, fitter to be forgott than registred, nothing concerning this Order was done.' (Annals. vol V).

f. 57a |

The dispensary project, however, moved slowly forward. On 13 August 1688, there was a unanimous vote within the College to set up a repository for medicines for the poor, since the former resolve to give advice gratis had failed because of the excessive prices charged by apothecaries. (ibid.) It was apparently expected that the apothecaries would concur but 'several amongst them set themselves by all the art and industry they were capable of, to frustrate the whole design... they fell to intriguing with several of our own Members, who were too easily lured off to serve the Apothecaries interest, for their own private advantage. And from this cause... have chiefly sprung the unhappy Differences that are still fomented amongst us.' (A Short Account, 3f; See Preface to The Dispensary, 66 ff.) Garth's poem attacks those physicians who are concerned only for their own gain. (See III, 296-301) And these members included physicians who repeatedly defied College attempts to stifle business between physician and apothecary. (see Commend. verses by Codrington, 37 n. & IV, 108 n.) Quite apart from the economic sense involved in a harmonious relationship with an apothecary, J.B. Nias remarks that Radcliffe's reputation was secure amongst apothecaries. His prescriptions 'show Radcliffe to have been a safe and, for the time, an elegant and refined prescriber; which probably was the reason why he was such a favourite with the apothecaries, generally good judges in such matters.' (Dr. John Radcliffe... 1918, 22) Tyson's biographer also justifies the attitude of the eminent anatomist; 'It is possible that he considered that such dispensaries would work too sudden and too great a hardship upon the apothecaries, but whatever his reasons... we may be sure that they were of the most generous nature.' (M.F.A. Montagu, Edward Tyson... Philad. 1943, 317) Montagu later characterises Tyson's reasons as being 'of the most disinterested kind.' (214).

f. 79b |

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Negotiations again lapsed until after the report to the College of the Apothecaries' Bill, then in Parliament, to relieve them of certain civic duties. (see II, 170-1) On 18 March 1695, it was related in the College how Counsel for the apothecaries accused the physicians of negligence, carelessness and uncharitable behaviour, while characterising the apothecaries as possessing great knowledge, skill and consideration, who 'took Care of all the sick poor, and servants in, and about London, who must otherwise perish, without their assistance, for the Doctors would not come to the poor... whilst they <the apothecaries> came at all times, and gave their advice and physick to the poor for nothing'. (Annals., vol. (for 1691-5)) However inaccurate the generalisation may have been, its effect was instant. The College revived the 1687 order for the repository and formed a committee to manage it, this being an indication of the political acrimony involved in the dispensary project. The College reiterated the order both to rebut the charge of negligence and also to refute the growing assertion of the apothecaries that the latter alone were the guardians of the poor. In so doing, the College attempted to atone for several decades of inactivity, even though it is clear that the apothecaries, through self-interest, were not always helpful. The Company, for example, persuaded some forty apothecaries, who had agreed to furnish medicines at cost price under the dispensary scheme, to retract their promise. (Underwood, 128); or as A Short Account puts it, 'tending wholly to frustrate the charitable ends of our design... affrighted most of these Apothecaries from this undertaking, as if their Oath obliged them, Not to do any thing charitably.' (5-6; See Preface to The Dispensary, 66 ff.) There was on both sides as much self-interest as charitable design. The College wished both to curtail the activities of practising apothecaries and to regain their position as head of the medical profession in everyone's eyes; 'Without a doubt many of the physicians who countenanced this scheme gave it their support from purely charitable motives; but it cannot be questioned that as a body the dispensarians were actuated in their humanitarian exertions by a desire to lower the apothecaries, and raise themselves in the eyes of the world.' (J.C. Jeaffreson, A Book about Doctors. 2 vols.

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VI, p 194)

1860, I, 82) On the other hand, the apothecaries wished to preserve their trade and their prescribing advantage with the people of London.

On 12 August 1695, fifty-eight members of the College, including Samuel Garth, signed the declaration for a subscription towards furnishing a chest with drugs and ingredients for the preparation of the rarer medicines. When the vote was taken, 'there were some fellows threw up their Balls, and refused to ballot' (Annals. vol. ~~for 1691-5~~) A resolution was passed on 22 December 1696 'proposing to establish a fund to be expended upon preparing and delivering medicines to the poor at their intrinsic value. The College had decided, cost what it might, in this matter to act independently of the Apothecaries.' (Underwood, 128) This declaration was printed in the second and subsequent editions of The Dispensary. A lease was granted to the subscribers of the laboratory and adjoining room, of Dr. Burwell's coach-house and stable and of the College hall and Candidates' rooms in order to make up and deliver the medicines. On 26 January 1697, the charity was again proposed; the danger to the apothecaries' trade is summarised by Jeaffreson: 'This measure of the College was impolitic and unjustifiable. It was unjust to that important division of the trade who were ready to vend the medicines at rates to be fixed by the College authorities - for it took altogether out of their hands the small amount of profit which they, as dealers, could have realised on these terms.' (J.C. Jeaffreson, A Book about Doctors. 2 vols. 1860, I, 85) The proposal was again opposed by those physicians who had refused to sign the subscription list and who had also refused funds to help the College officers stand by their duties. (Annals vol. ~~for 1695-1710~~ : 23 December 1695) Of these men, four, Tyson, Blackmore, Chamberlen and Howe, found a place in The Dispensary. (see IV 108 n.; IV 175 n.; V 277 n. & IV 100 n. respectively) At the same time, several of the dissenters addressed a petition to the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench, the Chief Justice of Common Pleas, and the Chief Baron of the Exchequer, for a visitation of the College because of the recent statutes. (Rosenberg, Journal, 49) Those who signed the petition called the statutes impracticable; in addition to the physicians already mentioned, one of the signatories was Dr. Gibbons, another object of Garth's satire. (see IV 37n.)

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VI, p. 224.

VI, p. 13

Later that year, on 17 September 1697, Samuel Garth delivered the annual Harveian Oration before the President and Fellows of the College, 'to the great satisfaction of the auditors, and to his own honour' (Annals vol. for 1695-1710). Garth, the son of William Garth, was born in 1661, at Bolam in Durham (Venn, Alum. Cantab.; Munk I, 498). He attended school at Ingleton, in the parish of Staindrop, about a quarter of a mile south of Bolam, which is in Gainford parish (W.H. Cornog, 'Sir Samuel Garth...' Isis XXIX, 1938,30). Garth was admitted as a pensioner to Peterhouse College, Cambridge, aged sixteen, on 27 May 1676, (Venn, Alum. Cantab.), and matriculated 6 July. He graduated B.A. in 1679 and M.A. in 1684. He received his M.D. from Peterhouse on 7 July 1691 and was incorporated at Oxford in 1694

(ibid.). Between taking his M.A. and M.D., Garth entered on the physic-line at Leyden on 4 September 1687 (R.W. Innes Smith, English-Speaking Students of Medicine at the University of Leyden. 1932,92) Garth was examined before the College of Physicians on 12 March 1692 and admitted a Fellow on 26 June 1693. He appears to have made a favourable impression immediately. On 28 December 1692, a letter was read in the College from the Lords of the Admiralty, requesting the College to name three or four physicians that they might choose one to aid the sick and wounded at Portsmouth. The College, after debate, chose Garth, who was recommended as a candidate 'of good learning...having spent some years in foreign Campaigns and Hospitals' (Annals vol. VI, p.45; 2 January 1693). In 1695, Garth was chosen to deliver the Gulstonian lecture, which he only began on 1 March, under the title of 'De Respiratione', occupying three days and concluding with a speech in Latin. The President and Censors desired Garth to print his lecture, which he promised to do (ibid., pp. 191-2). Cushing states that the lecture was never actually published (H. Cushing, 'Dr. Garth: The Kit-Kat Poet'. Bull. of the Johns Hopkins Hosp. XVII, Jan. 1906,2). Despite the success attending him, Garth's position altered radically with his Harveian Oration, which established him as a champion of the dispensary project, a position that was further to be enhanced after the publication of The Dispensary in May 1699.

(Garth's life and career subsequent to 1699 are discussed in part two of this introduction).

y| In the Oration, delivered in Latin, Garth insists urgently on the necessity for a united College in the face of the danger threatening; 'The <the dispensarians> have provided a Repositorie well furnished with Druggs for the help of the Poor. If therefore so great Pietie, so much Charitie may be of force to move you, if not in other things, yet in this I beseech you be conformable; unlesse things... be come to this passe, that our keenest enemies are to be found at home... Therefore I earnestly intreat you to return again to unitie and concord; so all differences amongst us being buried, we may jointly seek the advantage of our Societie.' (the original English MS. in F.H. Ellis, 'Garth's Harveian Oration', Journal of the Hist. of Med. 18 (1), Jan. 1963, 19) Quite apart from the schism within the College, Garth sees the practice of medicine generally as being in a critical condition; 'But we are faln into those times and places in which Physick it self is grown sick. This Art most profitable unto others, scarce knows now how to preserve it self, whilst England suffers more by Quacks than distempers. How many and of what sort of these are <sic>, the Bills upon every Poste dayly give you notice... These Homicides... invade this Citty, with an impunitie equal to their own ignorance.' (ibid. 13). The oration ends with an appeal; 'The thing it self, the time and necessitie exhort you more than my oration. Are we not come to that passe that we fear those unto whom we ought to be a terror;... who haveing neither Learning nor Good Manners, but a Stock of confidence<,> attempt to Subvert this Fabrick; Who take it ill, that we are well : but though they be more happy by our Divisions than their own conduct : let them know that wee'l watch more vigilantly for the Safety of this Colledge and the people, than for their ruine.' (ibid. 19). Though Garth had been involved in the work prior to the dispensary subscription, (see Underwood, 382, n. 68, 384 n. 68), this exhortation placed the relatively new Fellow of the College in the forefront of the dispensary quarrel.

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The first dispensary was opened in 1698 in Warwick-lane. (see II, 118-19 n. for a probable date) Two other dispensaries were opened, one in Gracechurch Street and another near St. Martin-in-the-Fields. In each case they were open on two days of the week and two physicians attended. (Underwood, 129) Although Robert Pitt claimed an annual total of 20,000 prescriptions filled at cost, (The Craft and Frauds of Physic Expos'd. 3rd. ed. 1703, 19), a more conservative estimate gives 13,192 bills made up for the first three years and a total of 71,999 for the last three years and ten months of the operation of the dispensaries. (A Short Answer to a late book, entitled, Tentamen Medicinale. 1705, 33-4) Apart from its literary success, it cannot be said that Garth's poem succeeded in his attempt to reunite the College and to ridicule the apothecaries to the extent of preventing their practising, or to diminish the habitual recourse of the people to apothecaries for advice. Underwood remarks that the poem 'poured very effective ridicule on the Apothecaries and the Antidispensarians, and after its publication the active opposition to the Dispensary virtually subsided...' (387-8), but also states, (129), that 'The dispensaries were never very successful.' Yet if the poem was successful in its ridicule of certain prominent anti-dispensarians, it could not defeat the combined weight of time and circumstance; some few years later a physician such as Mead could lay aside the quarrel and accept the right of apothecaries to practise; by inviting apothecaries to coffee-houses to discuss treatment, the physicians established themselves 'in their true role as consultants'. (Underwood, 4)

The controversy did continue after the erection of the dispensaries, despite Barrett's contention that the dispute, 'prolonged and undignified as it had been, was now at an end. It was killed by the efforts of Dr., afterwards Sir Samuel, Garth.' (C.R.B. Barrett, History of the Society of Apothecaries ... 1905, 117); or the misleading statement of Allibone that 'the poor apothecaries were placed completely hors du combat.' (S.A. Allibone, Critical Dictionary of English Literature. 3 vols. 1877, I, 653) One writer produced in 1700 A Satyr against Satyrs, in order to show the futility of trying to reform the town by ridicule; the writer cites as evidence of this futility, Blackmore's failure to reform the

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pp. 233-4 / Wits (see App. A), and Garth's failure to settle the dispensary quarrel.
 (Rosenberg, 64) Some satirical pieces revolved around the dispute,
 caps including Tom Brown's Physick lies a Bleeding, or the Apothecary turned
 p. 233 / Doctor (see App. A), and an anonymous satiric broadside, Spite and
 & Spleen : Or, the Doctor Run Mad, aimed at Robert Pitt, who changed
 sides to join the dispensarians and who added a new preface to the third
 & caps edition (1703) of his Crafts and Frauds of Physic Expos'd, attempting to
 explain his conversion. (the broadside is reprinted in M.F.A. Montague's
Edward Tyson.... Philad. 1943, 427) Such prolific writers as Ned Ward
 chose to satirise both sides. In The Infernal Vision. A Satyr :
 (originally called A Journey to H-- : or, A Visit paid to the D--) 1699,
 Ward attacks Blackmore who was thought to have obtained his knighthood
 for his praise of William III in his King Arthur (1697) and ridicules
 Garth whom he says hoped for similar honours;

Some with two Talents were profusely blest,
 And seem'd to study least what they profest,
 In earnest Poetry, and Physick but in jest.
 One hop'd by Satyr, he himself should raise
 To the same Honour some had done by Praise,
 (in vol. III of Ward's Works. 2nd ed. 1712, 32) Ward's opinion of the
 dispensaries is merely cynical;

If to our Wrong Physicians stoop so low,
 To keep a Med'cine Warehouse, let 'em know,
 We'll practice Physick till we kill and slay
 As many Thousands in a Year as they.
 The Poor they promis'd should have Med'cines free.
 Instead of that the Upper-World may see,
 They make 'em pay great Rates for as bad Goods as we. }
 (ibid. 34)

If the project provided light ammunition for the lesser writers,
 there were also criticisms by those more immediately concerned. The
 apothecary author of Tentamen Medicinale (1704) attacked the dispensaries
 and the College zealously defended their project. The writer of The
 caps Necessity and Usefulness of the Dispensaries... (1702) states the reason

for their erection to be a dual one. Apart from providing for the poor, 'The Physicians being thus unjustly calumniated before the whole Nation, 'twas high time for them to think of an effectual remedy.'

(3) Garth pictures the arrangement of the dispensary project as the means of banishing Sloth from the College and of revitalising medicine. (see I, 91 ff.) Moreover the author of the pamphlet, should the apothecaries threaten those dispensaries already in existence, envisages other similar facilities 'for the use of the Rich as well as the Poor.'

(9) The quarrel is clearly still alive three years after Garth's poem, for the author refers to the anti-dispensarians; 'Only I must here expect two or three Physicians (not concerned in the Dispensaries) who have got a way (under the specious pretence of being careful Men) to visit their Patients twice or thrice a day, when once would serve, only to Multiply their Fees. I am not writing an Apology for such; but am content they should fall under the same censure with the Apothecaries, of being unreasonable and oppressive.' (11) He does state that the rich attend the dispensaries, an indication perhaps of their use as a weapon against the apothecaries, although it is claimed that less than one in thirty that attend are wealthy. (12-13) The claims of the earlier physicians, such as Merrett and Maynwaring, are incidentally refuted; 'Preparing of Medicins is but one, and that the meanest and most mechanick part of Physick.' (16)

ccps Robert Pitt's sudden conversion to the dispensarians makes his sincerity questionable; however in The Craft and Frauds of Physic Expos'd, (3rd. ed. 1703), he does uncover the apothecaries' strength in hoping that the success of the dispensaries will remove 'the senceless prejudices of the weaker sort of the People.' (Preface Sig. b6^a); again, 'The People have lost their Common Sense, and cannot see the obvious Causes of their Complaints, that tho' they can Buy all the Medicins at low Rates at the Shop, yet they pay for the Mixtures very dearly in the Bill;' (5) Pitt accords with Garth's picture of the prevailing torpor of physicians. (see Disp. I, 68 ff.; VI, 311 ff.) The new physician is shown the extent of the apothecaries' power; 'They are commanded to read the fam'd Dispensary Poem, and remark the Favourites there describ'd, Mirmillo, Querpo, Carus, the Bard, who...

have been rais'd by their entire Obedience to us, and Writing as much as we are willing to put off in the respective Families. He is bid to take notice, how readily they lift themselves every Day to fill up the Troops, to be led by them to insult the College, as you observ describ'd in that Historical Poem.' (14; see also 17-19) That the dispute remains is shown in one of his parting comments; 'And they <the dispensarians> are, in this at least, infallible, that the growing numbers of the Apothecaries here and in all Parts of the Kingdom cannot be prevented...' (173)

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A more sober orator in The Present ill State of the Practice of Physick In this Nation... (1702), after having accurately diagnosed the situation when the dispensaries were initially created, is still obliged to admit that they do not function to capacity; 'And this Error of the Poor is so rooted and inveterate, that they still continue to do thus, notwithstanding they have these five or six Years been publickly invited by the Subscribers to the Dispensary to consult them gratis, and to have their Physick at a third of the price they pay the Apothecary.' (33) It seems clear that the original function of the dispensaries to relieve the poor was extended to wealthier patients as an inevitable development of the battle against the apothecaries. One writer states for the physicians that the dispensaries 'were erected on purpose to relieve people of all Ranks and Conditions from the Oppression and Exactions which the Method of practising Physick then unavoidably submitted them to.' (Observations upon the Case of William Rose an Apothecary... 1704, 26) The use of the dispensaries as a weapon to subdue the apothecaries is reiterated by another pamphlet of Robert Pitt's, The Antidote : Or, The Preservative of Health and Life... (1704). Pitt's 'antidote' is the dispensary by which he hopes apothecaries will be forced to resume their status as druggists, a somewhat optimistic

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belief in circumstances which threatened the loss of the apothecaries' trade altogether. Indeed, it may be that the erection of the dispensaries drove an even larger number of apothecaries into practising medicine in order to make up the profit they lost as druggists. Pitt can see that the time of the Restoration was significant in the development of this struggle; addressing the Royal Society, he feels, ambiguously, that 'The Morals and Practice of Physick began to be corrupted about the same time, your Society dates its Original.' (ibid. 'To the Royal Society.' Sig. A3^a) Pitt remembers that during the Great Plague, since many physicians left town, 'The Apothecaries... were applied to in the sudden Disorders.' (97) What Pitt does not see is that the apothecaries were thereby reaping the benefit of an historical accident.

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The quarrel appears to have subsided in intensity after 1705, although there were intermittent pamphlets subsequent to this date, including in 1708 The Dispensarians are the Patriots of Britain, in which the humbler physicians are represented as being little better than the slaves of opulent apothecaries. (J.C. Jeaffreson, A Book about Doctors. 2 vols. 1860, I, 210) In 1721, Medicina Flagellata: or, the Doctor scarify'd, looked satirically at the chaotic state of medicine. It may be that the dispensaries, given the hold of the apothecaries over the ordinary people, lost their force as an effective weapon with the judgement of the House of Lords on the College v. William Rose. Rose, an apothecary, lost the judgement for illegal practice of medicine, since it was ruled that 'the defendant, taking upon himself to send physic to a patient as proper for his distemper even without taking a fee for his advice, is plainly taking upon himself to judge the disease and fitness of remedy, as also the execution or directory part.' (quoted Underwood, 133) The College was successful on a point of law, but the Attorney General 'recommended an application for a writ of error in the House of Lords,...' (ibid. 133) The case was heard in the Lords on 15 March 1704. The apothecaries argued that the judgement would ruin all apothecaries and that the Charter should be interpreted in the light of 'constant usage and practice, which had always been with the apothecary;' (quoted Underwood, 133), while the College stated

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that the dispensaries were established to by-pass the high charges of apothecaries. (ibid. 134) Nevertheless, the judgement was reversed, the Lords 'holding that it was not only contrary to custom but also against the public interest to prevent the giving of advice and treatment by apothecaries.' (ibid. 135; see also 389-402, notes 82-90) Thus towards the close of the initial acrimony of the dispute, the apothecaries established their legal right to practise.

The dispensaries remained until 1725; in June the matter was discussed, since the lease was due to expire. It was resolved that the dispensary room should be given over to the use of the Licentiates. (Underwood, 388) According to James Caulfield, the dispensaries died 'for want of that patronage which is often so lavishly bestowed in cases of far less moment and utility.' (Memoirs of the Celebrated Persons composing the Kit-Cat Club; ... 1821, 152) A more cogent reason may be that the dispensaries had outlived their usefulness as a method of attacking apothecaries and as a vehicle for restoring College prestige. The dispute had been long and complex and was by no means settled. It is insufficient merely to take sides, since this in no way does adequate justice to the concern and the abuses which existed in the parties concerned. Boyce's statement that the dispensary 'was a laudable effort by about fifty members of the College of Physicians to combat the greed and dishonesty increasingly evident among the apothecaries.' (B. Boyce, Tom Brown of Facetious Memory. Harvard 1939, 59), is only slightly more ingenuous than Johnson's opinion, which characterised The Dispensary as 'on the side of charity against the intrigues of interest, and of regular learning against licentious usurpation of medical authority, ...' (Life of Garth. Lives ed. G.B. Hill. 3 vols. 1905, II, 57-60,60) A later writer is more accurate; 'and, thus, what the College of Physicians, and Dr. Johnson after them, have attributed to the malignity of the apothecaries, was, in a great measure, at least, the natural and necessary effects of circumstances.' (E. Sandford, Works of the British Poets. Philad. 1819, XIV, 232) Although the same writer blandly remarks that 'whatever may be the liberality of charitable institutions, there will always be more beggars

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than alms.' (ibid. 233), his main supposition would seem accurate. Neither the efforts of the College nor those of Garth could prevail against the inevitable encroachment of circumstance.

The Man and the Poet

In this section, a brief biographical survey is followed by some indication of the reputation gained by The Dispensary. Garth's early life and career are summarized in part one of this introduction and deal with the years up to the publication of the first edition of The Dispensary. From this point there is increasing evidence of Garth's dual role as man of letters and physician.

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 Despite an illness at Tuckridge in August 1699, recorded by Gibson (Roll. ME. Ballard V. 169), Garth recovered sufficiently to take a prominent part in the burial of Dryden. (see Boyle's Comm. verses to The Dispensary, 20c.) Malone records (that Garth's oration over Dryden's corpse was attended by a large crowd and 'it was requisite the orator should be elevated, that he might be heard; but as it unluckily happened, there was nothing at hand but an old beer-barrel, which the Doctor with such good-nature mounted; and in the midst of his oration, besting time to the accent with his foot, the head broke in, and his feet sunk to the bottom; which occasioned the malicious report of his enemies, that he was turned a tub-preacher. However, he finished the oration with a superiour grace and genius, to the loud acclamations of aith, which inspired the mixed or rather mob-auditors.' (R. Malone, Critical and Miscellaneous Prose Works of John Dryden. 3 vols. in 4, 1809, I, pt. 1, 360-1.)

From 1699, Garth lived on the east side of the Baymarket, the sixth door from the top. (Samuel Pepys's Diary, under 'The Baymarket'.) In 1703, Garth moved house to St. James' and married Martha, daughter of Sir Henry Boswell. There was one daughter, Martha, whose name is mentioned in the title of Godolphin's poem to Garth in 1711, where she is called 'Miss Dingle'. (see below) Lady Garth died on 1 May, 1711. (R. Cushing, 'Dr. Garth: The Kit-Kat Poet.' Bull. of the Johns Hopkins Hosp. XVII, Jan. 1906, 140) In 1707, the Essex Papers record that the Duke of Devonshire

Introduction Part Two

The Man and the Poem

In this section, a brief biographical survey is followed by some indication of the reputation gained by The Dispensary. Garth's early life and career are summarised in part one of this introduction and deal with the years up to the publication of the first edition of The Dispensary. From this point there is increasing evidence of Garth's dual role as man of letters and physician.

170 | Despite an illness at Tunbridge in August 1699, recorded by Gibson
 the story that | (Bod. MS. Ballard V. 104), Garth recovered sufficiently to take a prominent part in the burial of Dryden. (see Boyle's Comm. verses to The Dispensary, 20n.) Malone records that Garth's oration over Dryden's corpse was attended by a large crowd and 'it was requisite the orator should be elevated, that he might be heard : but as it unluckily happened, there was nothing at hand but an old beer-barrel, which the Doctor with much good-nature mounted; and in the midst of his oration, beating time to the accent with his foot, the head broke in, and his feet sunk to the bottom; which occasioned the malicious report of his enemies, that he was turned a tub-preacher. However, he finished the oration with a superiour grace and genius, to the loud acclamations of mirth, which inspired the mixed or rather mob-auditors.' (E. Malone, Critical and Miscellaneous Prose Works of John Dryden. 3 vols. in 4, 1800, I, pt. 1, 360-1)

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'The praises bestowed on this poem are more than have been given to any other; but our approbation at present is cooler, for it owed part of its fame to party' (Collected Works of Oliver Goldsmith ed. A. Friedman. 5 vols. 1966, V, 324).

gave Garth a ring from his finger (Hist. MSS. Comm. VI, 507), which indicates perhaps Garth's steady advancement in the higher echelons of contemporary society, while Ralph Palmer's letters from Chelsea twice mention Garth. (ibid. 434) But perhaps the most important single event of Garth's early career was his being elected a member of the Kit-Cat club. Oliver Goldsmith linked The Dispensary with contemporary political issues; ~~'Our approbation of The Dispensary at present is cooler, for it owed part of its fame to party.'~~ (Quoted G.B. Hill, Johnson's Lives of the Poets. 3 vols. 1905, II, 63 n. 5) Cushing remarks that the declaration in Garth's Harveian Oration of 1697, praising William III, would have been attractive to those who supported the Hanoverian succession, and that it may well have been the oration as much as The Dispensary which was instrumental in Garth's becoming a member of a club which comprised the principal Whig noblemen of the day. (H. Cushing, 'Dr. Garth: The Kit-Kat Poet.' Bull. of the Johns Hopkins Hosp XVII, Jan. 1906, 10) As a member of the club, which was established around 1700, Garth would have come into contact with some of the most influential Whigs of the time. James Caulfield lists 48 memoirs of the club's members, including Kneller, Marlborough, Godolphin, Walpole, Vanbrugh, Steele, Addison, Walsh, Congreve and Tonson. (Memoirs of the Celebrated Persons composing the Kit-Cat Club, 1821) In company with Addison, Maynwaring, Halifax, Dorset and Wharton, Garth contributed verses to be inscribed upon the toasting glasses of the club; Caulfield prints Garth's verses to Lady Carlisle, Lady Essex, Lady Hyde and Lady Wharton. (ibid. 156) Garth is early connected with the club and with the Whigs by William Shippen in Faction Display'd (1704). At a meeting of the Whigs, Bathillo (Halifax?) is made to boast;

I help'd to Polish G-th's rough, awkward Lays,

Taught him in Tuneful Lines to Sound our Party's praise/ (13)

Evidence of Garth's political activities increases after 1710, when the fortunes of the Whig party began to ebb. There is a record of the Duke of Argyll's anger at the possibility of appointing the Duke of Hamilton Governor of Edinburgh Castle. Argyll wrote a letter which he wanted published and sent a copy to Garth, who read the letter in and about the London coffee-houses. (Letter of Stratford to Harley; Hist. MSS. Comm. XXIX,

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pt. 7, 17. 6 Sept. 1710) In 1710, Garth was involved in a dispute with Prior and was defended by Addison over the doctor's poem to Godolphin on his dismissal from office. (see IV, 222 n. for the details) The poem of Garth's, says Johnson, was 'so successfully either defended or excused by Mr. Addison that, for the sake of the vindication, it ought to be preserved.' ('Life of Garth'; Lives ed. G.B. Hill. 3 vols. 1905, II, 61) Pope, always favourably inclined towards Garth, was ready to accept a critic's opinion of Garth's poem; 'Dr. Garth's Poem I have not yet seen, but believe I shall be of that Criticks opinion you mention at Will's, who swore it was Good' (Pope to Cromwell. 28 Oct. 1710. Corres. I, 101). Godolphin replied to Garth in 1711 with The E-l of G-d-n to D-ct-r G-th, upon the loss of Miss Dingle : In return for the D-ct-r's Consolatory Verses to Him, upon the loss of his Rod., in which poem he defended Garth from Prior;

Thou, who the Pangs of my embitter'd Rage
 Coud'st, with thy never-dying Verse, assuage;
 Immortal Verse, secure to live as long
 As that curs'd Prose that did Condemn thy Song: (1-4)

Later in 1710, the Whigs tried 'to win over Dr. Garth to share in the responsibilities of editorship, <of the Medley, which succeeded the Whig Examiner> but he wisely declined;' (C.K. Eves, Matthew Prior, Poet and Diplomatist. Colum. Univ. Press 1939, 266-7) Garth did however contribute to the Medley for 5 Oct. 1710. (A. Andrews, History of British Journalism. 2 vols. 1859, I, 110)

Garth, as may be seen from the annotation to II, 78, was on intimate terms with the Duke of Marlborough and visited him in July 1711; the visit was recorded by General Hamilton in a letter to the Earl of Oxford;

'Dr. Garth made a short visit here of three days; the morning after his arrival he was locked up about two hours with 73 <Marlborough> when no one else had admittance; he would willingly have stayed to see tomorrow's march, but was hastened away, and for more expedition goes to Ostend.' (Hist. MSS. Comm. XXIX, pt. 5, 54) Watkins reported on the same visit in a letter to John Drummond of July 1711;

'I cannot find he <Garth> has been very lavish with his tongue, but dare venture to assure you, my Lord Duke has trusted him with nothing but

what may be safely proclaimed at Charing Cross. I dined with his Grace the day after the doctor's arrival, and he told us very merrily of the letters the doctor brought him from Lady Duchess, Lord Godolphin and Mr. Craggs.' (ibid. 56-7) In the same year, Garth was concerned in the organisation of a procession by the Whigs to celebrate the anniversary of the birthday of Elizabeth I. In the procession, effigies of the Pope, the devil, cardinals and Sacheverell were designed with a view to burning them. Swift, who aided the government in denouncing the motives of the organisers, remarked that 'Garth gave five guineas, Dr. Garth I mean, if ever you heard of him.' (Journal to Stella. ed. H. Williams. 2 vols. 1948, II, 415; see also H. Craik, Life of Swift. 2 vols. 1894, I, 305-6) Garth appears to have been on good terms with Swift in 1710, since the Journal to Stella records their dining together three times in the autumn of that year. (ed. H. Williams. 2 vols. 1948, I 48-9; 51; 75) Dobrée notes that the procession included 'a figure of Harley as the devil (the property of Dr. Garth).' (B. Dobrée, Essays in Biography, 1680-1726. 1925, 135-6) 1711 also saw Garth's Dedication to a proposed edition of Lucretius to the Elector of Brunswick, later George I. The Dedication was translated from the Latin by Oldmixon and published in 1714. An amusing instance of party feud occurred on the date of the first performance of Addison's Cato (1713), for which Pope wrote a Prologue and Garth an Epilogue. The Tories gave the player, Booth, fifty guineas and the Whigs hastened to do the same; 'so betwixt them, 'tis probable that Cato (as Dr. Garth expressed it) may have something to live upon, after he dies.' (Pope to Caryll, 30 April 1713. Corres. I, 175)

Garth obtained his reward as a supporter of the Hanoverian succession with the accession in 1714 of George I. He was knighted with Marlborough's sword (see II, 78n), made a physician-in-ordinary to the king and physician-general to the army. In 1718, Garth was again active, but sufficiently forthright to express a blunt opinion of the king's son;

'Dr. Garth is there, <Paris> whom my brother saw. He speaks with respect of his master George, but says the Prince, his son, is such a scoundrel that he is despised by everybody, and has very few partisans, and that he will never be able to hold the reins, if he should ever come to govern.' (Sir T. Higgons, to the Duke of Mar. Hist. MSS. Comm. LVI,

pt. 6, 556) Garth was in Paris to see Bolingbroke, the Tory minister of the last years of Queen Anne's reign. Menzies reports to the Duke of Mar;

'We hear that Staires comes away from Paris and Craggs remains, with Garth and some assistants.' (*ibid.* pt. 2, 422. Aug. 1716) Two letters of Inese to the Duke of Mar, the leader of the Jacobites, report on the Whigs' activity;

'I am told by two persons that Boynton <Bolingbroke> has had private meetings lately with some of Williamson's family. <the Whigs> We have here of that gang Craggs, Garth, Addison and other smart men, but I know not who it was that saw Boynton.' (*ibid.* 469. 24 Sept. 1716); and 'It is no more to be doubted that Boynton has of late had several private meetings and suppers with the chief persons of Williamson's family here, especially with Dr. Garth, who is now returned to England, and Mr. Craggs, both Mildmay's <Marlborough's> creatures.' (*ibid.* 488. 29 Sept. 1716) Both letters expressed concern that Bolingbroke will be won over by the Whigs. Garth is reported as saying that Bolingbroke was 'one of the best subjects K<ing> Geo<rge> has. He found him so.' (Menzies to Fribourg. *ibid.* pt. 3, 25) In the year of the Jacobite rising, 1716, Garth wrote a brief poem, On the new Conspiracy, which defended the Brunswick succession. There is a contemporary tribute to Garth which appeals to him to aid the king in his verse. (BM. Add. MSS. 33954. 69-74) It is interesting to note that one of the obituary writers in 1719 praised Garth even though a Whig;

'Tho' it is not usual with Whigs to give Merit of any Kind its due, if it belongs to a Person of a Party opposite to themselves; yet, tho' this Gentleman was a Whig, I wish Peace to his Ashes; I will do Honour to his Merit both as a Physician and a Poet,...' (The Weekly Medley. Jan. 17-24, 1719)

Garth's career as a physician was aided considerably by his success as a literary figure, despite Winslow's contention to the contrary that he 'never succeeded to any great extent... in the metropolis; he had a little practice, but not at all commensurate with his great abilities... When a physician is thrown into such society, it is, to a certain extent, a bar against his advancement as a professional man.' (F.B. Winslow, Physic and Physicians... 2 vols. 1839, I, 211) James Caulfield on the other

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hand cites Garth and Radcliffe as the most fashionable physicians of the day, one Whig, the other Tory; when Radcliffe died, Garth 'amassed a very considerable property.' (Memoirs of the Celebrated Persons composing the Kit-Cat Club. 1821, 154) Jeaffreson talks of 'his numerous patients' who 'prized his bon-mots more than his prescriptions.' (J.C. Jeaffreson, A Book about Doctors. 2 vols. 1860, I, 86) The truth, inevitably, lies between the two extremes and may perhaps be resolved by the stress of the obituarists upon Garth's charity. The Original Weekly Journal for 24 Jan. 1719 styles Garth as 'one of the most celebrated Physicians of the Age. He is universally regretted, being a Gentleman of extraordinary Charity:', while the Weekly Packet for Jan. 17-24, 1719 states; 'The moderate Estate which he has left behind him, shews at once the Greatness and Goodness of his Heart, since, considering the Esteem he was in, and the Opportunities he had, it is obvious he might have made himself wealthy, had he not made many others happy. Many of his Profession have grown rich by receiving fewer Fees than Sir Samuel has refus'd.' Thus if Garth did not amass a fortune, it was not due, as Winslow feels, to a lack of opportunity. Garth's financial state in 1716 seems to have been comfortable. There is a record of a repayment to Garth of £1000 under an Act of Parliament for a Land Tax (Nat. Lib. of Scotland. MS. 585. 111), and in 1715, Garth had signed a South Sea warrant for £200, in a document witnessed by Congreve and Lee. (Bod. MS. Montague. d.i. 91. 8 Jan. 1715) Garth had established himself as a physician of repute at the beginning of his career. In July 1699, he had testified with Dr. Hans Sloane at the trial of four men at Hertford assizes for the murder of one Sarah Stout. The evidence of the two physicians contributed towards a verdict of 'Not guilty'. (A. Rosenberg, 'The Sarah Stout Murder Case : An Early Example of the Doctor as an Expert Witness.' Journ. of Hist. of Med. XII, 1957, 61-70) The fact that Garth was called with Sloane suggests that his medical reputation had grown considerably six years after being elected a Fellow of the College of Physicians. Three years later, on 3 October 1702, Garth, together with Drs. Charleton, Pitt and Brook, was chosen Censor of the College. (Hist. MSS. Comm. App. to 8th report, 231) There are reports at intermittent intervals of Garth's medical career. St. John wrote to Harley on 2 October 1705

to inform him of his journey into the country for a few days 'by Dr. Garth's direction.' (ibid. XXIX. pt. 4, 256) Bromley writes to the Earl of Oxford that Lieut-General Webb was dying; 'One of his servants overtook me on the road as I came from Windsor, riding post to town to carry Dr. Garth and Busière to him;' (ibid. pt. 5, 368) In 1708, Garth and other physicians attended Prince George of Denmark. There are letters of 1712 from Garth, Maynwaring's sister and Craggs to the Duke of Marlborough referring to the illness of Arthur Maynwaring, whom with Blackmore, Garth tried to save. (ibid. VII, 54) The Duchess of Marlborough refers in a letter to the serious illness of the Duchess of Newcastle, whom Garth and Sloane are expected to attend. (ibid. VII, 473) Garth was on familiar terms with the Duke of Newcastle, as witness several letters from Garth to the Duke in 1716. (BM. Add. MSS. 32, 685, 2-12) In 1714, Garth with Blackmore attended the Marquis of Wharton. (see IV, 175n.) In addition to being Addison's physician (see IV, 215n.), there is a report of Garth's attending Count Kilmanseck in November 1717. (Hist. MSS. Comm. XXIX, pt. 5, 538), and of his waiting on the Princess of Wales in December 1717, when 'Earl Grantham sent for Dr. Mead, Duchess St. Albans for Dr. Garth, and some sent for Sloane.' (ibid. 546) Hearne retails the aftermath of this;

'My great friend, Dr. Richard Mead, hath recovered the princess of Wales (as she is called) when the other physicians had certainly killed her, had their prescriptions been followed. This hath gained Dr. Mead a great reputation at prince George's court, and Dr. Garth and Dr. Sloane are now out of favour, as well as others.' (Reliquae Hearnianae : The Remains of Thomas Hearne... 2 vols. 1857, I, 382) It is perhaps as well to add that Mead, 'Uninfluenced by prejudices of party, ... was equally the intimate of Garth, Arbuthnot, and Friend.' (John Nichols, Literary Anecdotes of the Eighteenth Century. 9 vols. 1812-15, VI, 213) Evidence of Garth's activities are seen in a series of twelve undated letters by him to Sloane, requesting his advice and help in medical matters. (BM. MS. Sloane 4059. 27-47p)

Garth's abrupt manner with his patients is satirised in Arbuthnot's The History of John Bull... (G.A. Aitken, Life and Works of Arbuthnot. 1892, 250 ff.), where Garth is made to report on the 'old woman' (the

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Church of England).

'In no manner of danger, I vow to Gad, quoth Garth, the old woman is hysterical, fanciful, Sir, I vow to Gad...' And in Notes and Memorandums of the Six Days (Preceding the Death of a Late Right Reverend -/ (ibid. 460ff.), Garth again features as a physician;

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'Hear G-h coming up stairs : now for my last sentence : how shall I receive it? What shall I say to him? Order my servant to give ten pieces : that may soften him perhaps. He comes in singing : looks with a bad aspect : recommends an undertaker to me. Sighs often. The doctor smiles; hows, and says, no good can be done! sad words!' J. Timbs records another anecdote of Garth's forgetting over wine to go to his patients. Upon Steele's urging him to go, Garth is supposed to have said;

'It's no great matter whether I see them to-night, or not, for nine of them have such bad constitutions that all the physicians in the world can't save them; and the other six have such good constitutions that all the physicians in the world can't kill them.' (Clubs and Club Life in London. 1872, 52) Steele gives another picture of Garth in the Dedication of The Lover (1715); 'we forgive You that our Mirth is often insipid to You, while You sit absent to what passes amongst us from your Care of such as languish in Sickness.'

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The success attendant upon The Dispensary led to other literary ventures. B. Boyce notes Garth's part in a translation of Don Quixote, announced in February, 1699; the first two volumes were published in November 1700, and the last two in 1703. The translation was published by Peter Motteux, 'and to his support in this ambitious effort he called a number of likely authors, including Wycherley, Garth, Congreve, Savage and Brown.' (Tom Brown of facetious memory. Harvard, 1939, 112) Motteux in the translator's preface (to vol. I) owns his debt to 'some other Gentlemen, who are not only Masters of the Spanish, but of the Delicacies of our Tongue. I have also Acknowledgments to pay to Mr. Wycherley, Mr. Congreve, Dr. Garth...' (The History Of the Renown'd Don Quixote...4 vols. 1700-1703.) Garth was also involved in another translation. Plutarch's Lives. Translated from the Greek by Several Hands, appeared in five volumes from 1683-86. The life of Otho (V, 739. 1686) was in the first and second editions (1693) translated by

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Thomas Beaumont, but in the third edition (1700) Garth provides a new version of the life of Otho. (V, 735-61) If we are to accept Abel Boyer's evidence, Garth wrote two letters 'to my Lady - at the Bath', dated September 6 and 13, 1692. (pub. in Letters of Wit, Politicks and Morality. 1701, 377-80) It is possible that Garth was the author of Uraniae Metamorphosis in Sydus : OR, THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR Late Glorious Sovereign Queen MARY Written by a Doctor of Physick. This Latin poem was dedicated to Montague and is dated 7 March 1694-5; the writer in the Preface insists that he composes only very occasionally. (BM. Press-mark 11630 g. 41 (17) under 'Garth') Williams notes that Garth contributed verses to a quarto periodical, The Muses Mercury: or the Monthly Miscellany, edited by Oldmixon, which appeared from January 1707 to January 1708. (H. Williams, Poems of Swift. 3 vols. 2nd ed. 1958, III, 911)

Garth's friendship with Pope is another indication of the physician's prominence in the literary and social world. Later Pope was to refer to Garth's early encouragement of his work, when 'Well-natur'd Garth inflam'd with early praise,' (Epistle to Dr. Arbuthnot, 137) The friendship is noted by Sherburn; 'Granville and Garth, although less influential friends, were persons of importance in Pope's early work...Garth... touched Pope's orbit for a rather longer time.' Sherburn thinks it doubtful if Pope knew Garth as early as 1703, but their friendship is certain and lasted until Garth's death in 1719. (G. Sherburn, The Early Career of Alexander Pope. 1934, 60) Since Pope annotated a copy of the fifth edition of The Dispensary (1703) and a copy of the sixth (1706), it is clear that he knew of Garth's work and followed its revisions carefully. (see notes to lines omitted between IV 213 and 214) Pope dedicated his pastoral, Summer, to Garth;

Accept, O Garth, the Muse's early Lays,

That adds this Wreath of Ivy to thy Bays; (9-10)

On the fly-leaf, opposite the first page of the original MS. of the Pastorals, Pope notes; 'This Copy is that wch. past thro ye hands of Mr. Walsh, Mr. Congreve, Mr. Mainwaring, Dr. Garth....' (Sherburn, op.cit. 52) Pope remarks elsewhere that he was 'early acquainted with Lord Lansdown, Garth, Betterton, and Wycherley, and, not long after, with St. John.' (Spence, 194)

Spence also records Garth's partial influence on the additions to The Rape of the Lock;

'The machinery was added afterwards, to make it look a little more considerable, and the scheme of adding it was much liked and approved of by several of my friends, and particularly by Dr. Garth : who, as he was one of the best-natured men in the world, was very fond of it.' (195) Later, in May 1715, Garth's poem Claremont praised Pope's Windsor Forest over Cooper's Hill, because, says Sherburn, of Pope's defence of Garth in Essay on Criticism, 618-19. (see initial note to Cheek's Comm. verses to The Dispensary) Garth's praise in 1715 came at a time when the wits at Button's were hostile to Pope. In 1716, Garth tried to make peace between Pope and Burnet and persuaded them to dine together. (Sherburn, op.cit. 60 ff. and 155) On the occasion of Garth's gathering support for his edition of Ovid's Metamorphoses in 1717, Pope noted Garth's efforts with wry amusement;

Garth at St James's, and at White's,

Beats up for Volunteers. (Sandy's Ghost, 47-8)

Pope nevertheless supported the edition; 'Dr. Garth has published a translation of Ovid's Metamorphoses by several hands, with a preface and dedication of a new fashion. Folio. Price 20s. I advertise (sic) you to borrow it.' (To Caryll. 6 Aug. 1717. Corres. I, 418) Garth was also concerned in the reception of Pope's translation of the Iliad; 'I have just set down Sir Samuel Garth at the opera. He bid me tell you, that everybody is pleased with your translation, but a few at Button's; and that Sir Richard Steele told him, that Mr. Addison said Tickel's translation was the best that ever was in any language.' (Letter of Gay's dated 8 July 1715. Pope, Corres. I, 30)

Pope gives an account of reading part of his translation to Halifax and of marking passages queried by the latter. Garth's advice to Pope on leaving Halifax was to read the same passages later to Halifax as if they had been revised. Halifax duly approved the 'revisions'. (Spence, 134-6) Although it is possible that Pope's companion was Congreve, it is more generally thought to have been Garth. Pope in his Preface to the translation records his thanks to Garth; 'the humanity and frankness of Sir Samuel Garth are what I never knew wanting on any occasion.' There

seems to have been a very real friendship between Garth and Pope. The latter informs Teresa and Martha Blount in a letter of 23 July 1715 that Garth's proposed journey to Italy has been postponed for three days (Corres. I, 309), and refers familiarly to Garth in a letter to Lady Mary Wortley Montagu; 'Dr. Garth makes Epigrams in prose when he speaks of you' (Oct. 1717; Corres. I, 442). Lady Mary praised Garth;

'It was my fate to be much with the wits; my father was acquainted with all of them - Addison was the best company in the world. - I never knew any body that had so much wit as Congreve. - Sir Richard Steele was a very good-natured man: - And Dr. Garth a very worthy one' (Spence, 232). After Garth's death, Pope praised and mourned him, and in 1729, still retained his memory; 'so I live; so I shall die; and hope one day to meet you, Bishop Atterbury, poor Craggs, Dr. Garth, Dean Berkley, and Mr. Hutchenson, in that place, To which God of his infinite mercy bring us, and every body' (To Swift. 28 Nov. 1729. Corres. III, 81). The last record of Pope's connection with Garth is his letter to Tonson of 7 June 1732, thanking him for a portrait of Garth; 'You oblige me in the copy of my old friend Dr. Garth;' (Corres. III, 291).

The major production of the last years of Garth's life was his edition of Ovid's Metamorphoses. It was advertised in the London Gazette, 5552, for July 2-6 1717 as 'This Day is Published', but the beginnings of it are recorded in a letter of Tonson's to Garth of 22 November 1715, referring to the proposed translation (BM. MS. Stowe 155. 97). Some eighteen writers aided in the translation, including Addison, Gay, Pope, Congreve, Ozell, Row and Welsted. Parts of Dryden's translations of Ovid were also utilised. Garth translated Book XIV and the story of Cippus in Book XV. In 1732, the same translation was again published in folio together with the Latin text. Johnson censures Garth's Preface as being written 'with more ostentation than ability:' ('Life of Garth'; Lives ed. G.B. Hill. 3 vols. 1905, II, 62), and elsewhere remarks on 'the Ignorance of themselves, that Garth attempted Criticism, and that Congreve waved his Title to dramattick Reputation, and desired to be considered only as a Gentleman' (Rambler 24). Garth's last two literary efforts were of a minor order. The Post-Boy for January 9-11

1717 advertised for Lintot Poems on Several Occasions by Buckingham, Wycherley, Winchelsea, Garth, Rowe, etc., and the same newspaper for April 24-6 1718 read that 'On Monday next will be deliver'd to the Subscribers,' a volume of Familiar letters of Love, Gallantry... in two volumes, to which Garth was a contributor.

Garth died on 18 January, 1719. The Original Weekly Journal for January 17 1719, The Weekly Packet for January 10-17, and The Weekly Medley for January 10-17, all carried reports that Garth was dangerously ill. His death was reported in the Post-Boy for January 17-20 1719; the White-Hall Evening Post for January 20-22 records that 'Early this Morning the Corps of Sir Samuel Garth was privately carried to Harrow on the Hill, to be interr'd in a new Vault made for that purpose.' The Flying-Post for January 22-24 notes that a Dr. Gibson had been appointed to replace Garth as physician-general to the army. Garth was accorded large praise at his death, part of which is already noted. The Weekly Packet for January 17-24 characterised him as 'a Gentleman justly celebrated for his Wit and Humanity. It is said of him, that he never did an ill-natur'd Thing to any Person, nor ever refus'd a good One, when it lay within his Power: He has, on the contrary, done numberless Acts of Benevolence and Liberality, that were unsought, and even shunn'd.' This tribute is reinforced by Bolingbroke's description of Garth as 'the best-natured ingenious wild man I ever knew.' (Quoted G.B. Hill, Johnson's Lives of the Poets. 3 vols. 1905, II, 62 n. 3) If tributes to Garth's humanity were widespread, some writers were at pains to stress other aspects of his character, particularly his apparent indifference to matters of religion. Some of these comments are related by EC (VIII, 28-9 n.3) and Garth's last days are recounted by A. Rosenberg. ('The Last Days of Sir Samuel Garth: A Footnote to a Pope Letter.' N&Q CCIV, July-August 1959, 272-4) At first, attacks on Garth's 'atheism' were linked with his membership of the Kit-Cat club. Charles Leslie's Rehearsal (12 May 1705) quotes from the Prologue Spoken at the First Opening of the Queen's New Theatre in the Hay-Market, which was 'said to be Written by Dr. G-th, Chaplain to Kit-Kat, an Open and Profess'd Enemy to all Religion.' (R.J. Allen, 'The Kit-Cat club and the Theatre.' RES VII, 1931, 56-61, 58) Allen elsewhere notes contemporary objections to the 'godlessness of the

Kit-Cats.' The charges were based 'upon the known indifference of many individual members to matters of religion and upon the open atheism of such men as Dr. Garth.' (R.J. Allen, Clubs of Augustan London. Harvard 1933, 49) William Shippen's Faction Display'd (1704) accuses the club of irreligion;

'Twas there we first instructed all our Youth,
To talk Prophane and Laugh at Sacred Truth. (p.15)

4/ Doctor. (quoted Allen, 43/4) Similarly, Mary Astell's Bart'lemy Fair : or, an Enquiry after Wit, accused the club, among other things, of blasphemy and treason. (ibid. 48) Part of the provocation for such comment was perhaps stimulated by Garth's funeral address over the body of Dryden, (see Comm. verses by Boyle to The Dispensary, 20 n.), which had consisted of an apostrophe to Apollo and the singing of an Horation ode. This drew remarks in The Apparition (1710);

J-n D-n, with his Brethren of the Bays,
His Love to G-h, Blaspheming G-h conveys;
And Thanks him for his Pagan Funeral Praise.

cap (quoted H. Macdonald, John Dryden. A bibliography of Early Editions and of Drydeniana. 1939, 292, n.3) The author of The Story of the St. Alban's Ghost, or the Apparition of Mother Haggy (1712) remarks sardonically of Garth that 'however he may have been abused by those who deny him to be the author of the Dispensary, and taxed by others with principles and practices unbecoming a man of his sense and probity, yet I will be bold to say in his defence, that I believe he is as good as a christian as he is a poet...' (In Works of Swift ed. W. Scott. 19 vols. 1814. VI, 194). It is reported by Atterbury that Garth wrote an epitaph on St. Evremond for Westminster Abbey, in which the Frenchman was commended for his indifference to all religion. (Addison's Works ed. R. Hurd, 6 vols. 1856 VI, 736) This kind of report would seem to justify the censure of EC of Garth as 'lax and epicurean, and he himself informed Mr. Towneley, that he had two veins opened with the intention of committing suicide after he had ascertained that he could not recover from his disease, but might survive for some years. The loss of blood relieved his pains, and he then said that "if it would continue so he could be content to live on."' (VIII, 28-9 n. 3)

Added to this indication of Garth's religious disinterest is a more humorous picture of him in Notes and Memorandums of the Six Days preceding the Death of a Late Right Reverend - (in G.A. Aitken, Life and Works of Arbuthnot, 1892, 455) Garth attends the dying clergyman;
Patient. 'I will, I will; - but prithee don't be so irreligious, Doctor; I have a great respect for your constancy in a good cause, and your name has done us service in verse and prose.

Doctor. Why, Sir, have you the vanity to think that religion ever did our cause any service! If that comes into your head, and you squeak at last, it is time for me to bid you good night.

Patient. I will do anything you order me; but I must confess, that I begin to think a man can't die easily without repentance.

Doctor. Farewell then; my time is past; there can be no hopes if you talk at this rate : I'll tell the Kit-Cat Club of you, and it shall be known to every man at C<our>t that you die like a pedant.'

Pope defended Garth with great energy and stated that the poet-physician died a Catholic, (Spence, 2, 380), as did James Caulfield.

caps (Memoirs of the Celebrated Persons composing the Kit-Cat Club. 1821, 155)
 Despite Johnson's feeling that Garth was 'accused of voluptuousness and irreligion; and Pope,...seems not able to deny what he is angry to hear and loath to confess.' ('Life of Garth.' in Lives ed. G.B. Hill. 3 vols. 1905, II, 62-3), Pope carefully stresses Garth's disinterest rather than antagonism to religious affairs. (see Spence, 380 and Pope's A Farewell to London. 1715, 15-16) This is perhaps borne out by a remark of Hearne's;

cap &/ cap 'I am told Dr. Garth, who writ that famous English Poem called The Dispensary, was a man of no Religion, that when he was upon his Death-bed, and the subject of another Life mentioned to him, he said, he had done what good he could, and he did not trouble himself about what was to come.'
 (Hearne's Diary. Bod. MS. Hearne CIV, 66; entry for 24 July 1724)

The relative oblivion in which Garth lies at the moment should not obscure the fact that as man and poet he enjoyed a considerable reputation both during his life and for a number of years after his death. However, on the publication of The Dispensary, William Adams struck a cautious note in his judgement of it;

'As to the Satyr you mention of Dr\ Garth's, I've seen it : but understand it not perfectly. you must in your next letter give me a kind of a Key etc. There are good whims in it, and the man seems to have a genius for poetry, but not overmuch judgment in the management of it' (Letter to Tanner, 21 May 1699. Bod. MS. Tanner 21.63). Steele was anxious to read the poem : 'I long to see Dr. Garth's Nine days Wonder; of that date I think you say was the Edition\ (Letter to Mrs. De La Rivière Manley. Corres. ed. R. Blanchard. 1941, 436). Later, in 1715, Steele was to dedicate The Lover to Garth; 'and it is as common with Garth to supply Indigent Patients with Money for Food, as to receive it from Wealthy ones for Physick' (Dedication A4^a).

By some writers, Garth was hailed as Dryden's successor. In Luctus Britannici : Or The Tears Of The British Muses; For The Death Of John Dryden, Esq; (1700), Congreve, Addison and Garth are all cited as possible poetic heirs. B.K. of Trinity, Cambridge, looks to Congreve (p.12), while Hall hopes;

'Tis to engaging Garth, and Addison,

The fittest now to fill thy Vacant Throne. (p.19)

The anonymous 'Elegy on the much Lamented Death...' in the same collection feels that Dryden's qualities will live on;

In Garth, or Congreve, shall his Genius shine, (p.46)

The concluding poem appeals to Garth to take Dryden's place;

As we with Sighs unfeign'd the Task persue,

And Weep him Dead, who still must Live in You. (p.51)

In a more ironical vein, Daniel Kenrick assesses Garth's potential in

A New Session Of The Poets, Occasion'd by the Death of Mr. Dryden (1700).

'All-pleasing Garth' (p.8) is shown as an imitator of Boileau and a follower of Dryden;

Just at the Word, a Brawny Bard came in,

Cheerful his Look, and manly was his Mien;

The Jolly Muse, attended by the Nine,

Came into Court, reading Boileau's Lutrin;

While to our wonder (how good Wits agree!)

'Twas strait transform'd to the Dispensary.

Apollo finally pronounces on Garth's poem;

Others by many Works have sought that Crown,
 Which you much more have merited by one.
 How much the World does to thy Genius owe,
 Who not Translate, but can Improve D'Espreaux!
 Your beauteous Turns your wondrous Sence express;
 While all your Thoughts in Dryden's Garb you dress.
 And would you but some fulsome Couplets raze,
 Full of low Flatt'ry, and of partial Praise,
 Believe your God, you might demand the Bays. (pp.8-9)

A Miscellany of 1701 chooses to praise Garth's double function as poet and physician. In A New Miscellany Of Original Poems, On Several Occasions, Garth is attributed with 'The double charge of Health and Wit' and 'living Verse, and healing Arts'. (Henry St. John, A Pindarick Ode... Miscellany, 103, stanza V) By 1701, Garth is accepted by some as being firmly entrenched in the world of letters;

n.p. 'The Company which now generally meets at Will's, may be divided into two Classes; the first of which contains the Wits, justly so call'd, and the other the Would-be-Wits. [Among the first are Men of distinguish'd Merit and Abilities, such as Mr. Wicherley, Dr. Garth, Mr. Congreve, the Honourable Mr. Boyle... Mr. Vanbruk, Mr. Cheek, Mr. Walsh.... Mr. Rowe, ... ' (A. Boyer, Letters of Wit, Politicks and Morality, 1701, 216) Boyer delivers extended appreciation of Garth;

s. 'Dr. Garth is an eminent Physician, of universal Learning and polite Literature; his Looks is smiling and cheerful; his Conversation free and entertaining; he admires the Ancients no farther than they are to be admired; and understands and values our best French writers, especially Mons. Despreaux. He has writ a Poem in English, call'd the Dispensary; wherein he has equall'd, if not exceeded the Lutrin, which he had propos'd to himself as a Model. His Diction is pure and correct; his Verses numerous; his Satyr genteel and nice; and his Praises delicate and natural; in a word, this little Piece is worth an Epick Poem. The only difference I find between him and Boileau is, that our French Poet got a good Pension for commending his King, whereas Dr. Garth has got nothing

for the just Praises he has bestow'd on his.' (ibid. 217-18).

Returning to his second category, the 'Would-be-Wits', Boyer defends the 'Wits' from such slanders that 'Dryden <was> little more than a good Versifier; Congreve a laborious unnatural Writer; and Garth a Copier!' (ibid. 221) There had been several accusations of this nature. (see Commendatory verses to The Dispensary by Cheek, initial note)

Garth's immediate poetic influence was beginning to be seen in other productions. William King's The Furmetary (1699) had noticeably imitated Garth's poem, (see King's Preface, and pp. 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11), and another poem, The Dissertator in Burlesque (1701), in octosyllabic couplets, had acknowledged Garth's satire;

When flowing numbers, Verse Polite,
Is labour'd to describe a fight,
Betwixt Apothecaries Boys
Engaging with Heroic Noise;
Their Colours, Aprons blue display'd,
Their Ammunition, Drugs decay'd;
With Phyal broke, and Galley-pot,
Instead of Gunpowder and Shot:
Are the dire Warlike Arms they carry,
So sung in famous Dispensary,
Which in the Canto following Sings,
The praises of the best of Kings.
Epic Burlesque, and Satyr keen
Dancing i' th' same Heroic mein,
Laughter at once affords, and loathing,

a/ Like Shakespear's Tincture in Lord's clothing. (pp. 7-8; quoted R.P. Bond, English Burlesque Poetry. 1700-1750. Harvard, 1932 243-4)
cap Abel Boyer returned to the attack on the 'Would-be-Wits' in The English Theophrastus : or, The Manners of the Age... (1702; Augustan Reprint Soc.I., 3. 1947) He advises Blackmore bluntly not to write so much in his endeavour to gain a reputation. The image in Boyer's passage probably follows Blackmore's suggestion in A Satyr against Wit (1700) for a bank of wit to refine and cleanse the poetry of the day. (for the influence of The Dispensary on the Satyr against Wit, see app. A);

'No, B-re, we judge of Poetry as we do of Metals, not by the Lump, but the intrinsic Value. New cast your Poems, purge 'em of their Dross, reduce 'em to the Bulk of the Dispensary, and if then they weigh in the Balance with that, we will allow you a Place among the First-Rate Heroick Poets.' (2) Boyer extravagantly places Garth in a genealogy of poets including Virgil, Terence, Corneille and Shakespeare (2), and defends him, amongst others, from the protestations of the 'Fop-Poet' (9) Even Samuel Wesley, whom Garth had satirised (see V, 71 ff. and n.), admitted, albeit grudgingly, Garth's justifiable fame;

And G-h, tho barren in his Theme and mean,

By this has reach'd at least the fame Lutrine. (An Epistle to a Friend concerning Poetry. 1700. Augustan Reprint Soc. Series II, 2, 1947, lines 821-2) The anonymous panegyrist of L'Estrange in 1705, ranks Garth with Addison and Congreve:

Since then great Dryden and L'Estrange are gone,
The Pleasing Talent Congrieve is thine own,

Unless you will allow a share to Garth or Addison. (Luctus

Britannici, A Poem, to the Memory of Sir Roger L'Estrange, (1) Garth's reputation was allowed by Ozell in his translation of Le Lutrin (1708);

And Thou who painted in a deathless Strain
The Licens'd Homicides of Warwick-Lane!

(Phoebus to thee his double Blessing gives;

Thy Musick charms us, and thy Art relieves) (3rd ed. 1714,

44) William Coward, somewhat prematurely, praises Garth for resisting the temptation to repeat his performance;

In this the Dispensarian Poet's wise,
Once He wrote well, and lets that once suffice:
Provokes no Critics in a second Muse,

Establish'd Fame, by new Attempts to lose. (Licentia Poetica

discuss'd : or, the True Test of Poetry. 1709, 25) Coward links Garth with Waller in asking the Muse to ;

Spy out a WALLER, or a G-TH inspire,

Find a fit Object for thy Heavenly Fire; (ibid. 84)

Garth's poem attained a status whereby more than fifty passages from The Dispensary were included in Edward Bysshe's The Art of English Poetry. (4th ed. 1710) The poem was eulogised by Gay in Lesser Epistles, On a Miscellany of Poems to Bernard Lintott;

Whenever Garth shall raise his sprightly song,
Sense flows in easie numbers from his tongue;
Great Phoebus in his learned son we see,
Alike in physick, as in poetry. (76-9)

Poems, p. 113/

Tatler 78 had accorded similar praise to Garth under the name of Hippocrates 'who shows as much liberality in his practice as he does within his conversation, and skill in his profession.' Garth's poem came to be included in many discussions as to the nature of burlesque. Thus Addison employs The Dispensary in order to distinguish two kinds of burlesque; 'It is a Dispute among the Criticks, whether Burlesque Poetry runs best in Heroic Verse, like that of the Dispensary, or in Doggerel, like that of Hudibras. I think where the low Character is to be raised the Heroic is the proper Measure, but when an Hero is to be pulled down and degraded, it is done best in Doggerel.' (Spectator 249) Again, with references to allegory, Addison cites Garth;

'We find in Mock-Heroic Poems, particularly in the Dispensary and the Lutrin, several Allegorical Persons of this Nature, which are very beautiful in these Compositions, and may, perhaps, be used as an Argument, that the Authors of them were of Opinion, such Characters might have a Place in an Epic Work.' (Spectator 273) Garth's poem is held up as a good example of satire in the epic vein by the translator of Boileau's L'Art Poétique, in the course of attacking 'low' burlesque;

Let not so mean a Stile your Muse debase;
But learn from Garth the true Satiric grace:
And let Burlesque in Ballads be employ'd;

(in Works of M. Boileau. 2 vols. 1712, I, 89)

Charles Gildon's attack on The Rape of the Lock links Le Lutrin and The Dispensary as mock-heroic poems; 'Ah, Sir, that won't do; Boileau and Garth have treated of little things with Magnificence of Verse, as Homer did of the Frogs; but that is now Old, we must have something New;'

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(A New Rehearsal, or Bays the Younger. 1714; quoted R.P. Bond, English



Burlesque Poetry 1700-1750. Harvard 1932, 75). Richardson Pack chose 1719 to praise The Dispensary;

'The DISPENSARY of Sir SAMUEL GARTH hath lost and gain'd in every Edition. Almost every Thing he left out was a Robbery from the Publick: Every Thing he added hath been an Embellishment to his Poem' (Miscellanies in Verse and Prose, 96-7). John Dennis is more sceptical of the poem's worth:

'We have since had Libels which have pass'd for Satires, as Absalom and Achitophel, the Medal, Mac Fleckno, and the Dispensary. They are indeed... beautiful Libels, but they are every where full of Flattery or Slander, and a just Satire admits of neither... The business of Sir Samuel Garth in his Dispensary was to expose much better Physicians than himself, for no other reason but because they were not of his Opinion in the affair of the Dispensary' (The Characters and Conduct of Sir John Edgar... 1720; Hooker II, 201; see also Boyle's Comm. verses to The Dispensary, 20 n.).

Walter Harte praised Garth as a true successor of Dryden;

His Spirit ceas'd not (in strict truth) to be:

For dying Dryden breath'd, O Garth! on thee,

Bade thee keep alive his genuine Rage, (An Essay On Satire 1730,

20). Joseph Spence's unpublished poem 'The Charliad' (BM. Add. MSS. 25897) describes a region where the spirits of 'Satyrogelists' sit, including Brown, Butler, Dryden, Garth, Pope, Prior and Swift (in Something instead of a Preface f.5). J.T. Hillhouse notes a tribute to Garth in the Grub-Street Journal, in the course of an analysis of James Miller's Harlequin Horace (The Grub-Street Journal. Duke Univ. Press, 1928, 29). An anonymous poem, Studley Royal : the Seat of John Aislable Esq;, praises Garth's Claremont;

Shall Waller's verse St. James's groves refine,

And Windsor's Pope, out-charm themselves in thine?

Shall Denham's muse bloom Cooper's hill with bays,

And Claremont shine in Garth's immortal Lays? (The Gentleman's

Magazine II, 1732, 1122). From the same magazine, during the course of a piece entitled The Apotheosis of Milton : A vision., Garth's position in letters is estimated;

'While I was attentive to the Genius, I perceiv'd a Member who had entered unobserved by me, ... He had a most engaging Smile, and a winning Deportment, and his Dress was composed of a very rich French Brocade made up in the English Fashion, of an uncommon Pattern, on which the medicinal and poetic Ensigns of Phoebus were enigmatically represented. While he talked to Butler he was shaking Hands with Dryden; he nodded to Addison, but blushed when he saw Prior observing him, and seem'd industrious to avoid meeting the Eyes of the Bishop of Rochester. The Genius then informed me that the Person I saw was Sir Samuel Garth, more eminent for the productions of his Genius, than his Dignity of Knighthood.' (The Gentleman's Magazine IX, 1739, 74) The writer wittily suggests Garth's use of Le Lutrin as a model for The Dispensary, notes his service of Apollo both as a poet and physician, his similarity in poetic type to Butler and Dryden, his animosity subsequent to The Dispensary towards Prior (see IV, 222 and note), and his satiric portrait of Atterbury. (see I, 143, ff.)

In 1751, R.O. Cambridge comically mistakes the point of early mock-heroics in decrying their trivial origins. After stating that Le Lutrin, The Dispensary, The Rape of the Lock and The Dunciad do not 'come up to the true idea of a Mock-Heroic poem.', Cambridge selects Garth and Pope as further objects of censure;

'The comic humor of Garth, was strongly excited by the factious divisions in his own profession, and would probably have vented itself in prose, but that the admir'd performance of Boileau invited his imitation. And Pope wrote his first essay of this kind to put an end, by ridicule, to a quarrel between two families... and not from any form'd design to write a true Mock-Heroic Poem.' (The Scribleriad: An Heroic Poem. In Six Books. 1751. Preface, VI)

On the whole, Joseph Warton praises The Dispensary. Although he styles it 'a palpable imitation of the LUTRIN...' (Essays on the Genius and Writings of Pope. 3rd ed. corr. 1772, 221), Warton notes that 'Garth's versification is flowing and musical; his style perspicuous, and neat; and the poem in general abounds with sallies of wit, and nervous satire.' (ibid. 224) In Adventurer 133 (12 Feb. 1754), Warton cites The Dispensary as a modern production; 'Above all, the Lutrin, the Rape

caps

of the Lock, the Dispensary, and the Dunciad, cannot be paralleled by any works that the wittiest of the ancients can boast of: Charles Churchill in 1763, took a different view; for him, The Dispensary is remote;

p.143/

Calling to mind, in antient time,
One GARTH who err'd in Wit and Rhime, (The Ghost. IV, 69-70 Works ed. D. Grant 1956) Nevertheless, The Dispensary was still sufficiently well-read for Bonnell Thornton to write in 1768 The Battle of the Wigs, which was styled an additional canto to Garth's poem, although Thornton denies any intention of imitating Garth. Jonathan Richardson also indicates the poem's continuing popularity;

'Nay, a work that has had a great vogue, and which is afterwards altered by the author himself, is generally thought, at first, to be altered for the worse; as was the case with Garth's Dispensary. People had been so accustomed to read it over and over, and even to repeat whole passages by heart of the first edition, that their ear could not bear the change, and they thought it was their judgment. We now see fairly, that every edition was for the better.' (Richardsoniana... 1776, I, 195) He also supports the man; 'and it was a fine character of Garth, that "No physician knew his art more, nor his trade less".' (ibid. 333)

Garth continued to receive critical attention as in G. Campbell's The Philosophy of Rhetoric (2 vols. 1776); after quoting Dispensary VI, 147-50, Campbell comments that 'The wit in these lines doth not so much arise from the comparison they contain of the dropsy to a miser,... as from the union of contraries they present to the imagination, poverty in the midst of opulence, and thirst in one who is already drenched in water.' (I, 53) V. Knox's Cursory Thoughts on Satire and Satirists (1778), whilst attacking Voltaire, praises Garth together with Milton, Dryden and Pope. (Quoted A.F.B. Clark, Boileau and the French Classical Critics in England, 1660-1830. Paris, 1925, 51) William Hayley's An Essay on Epic Poetry (1782) elevates Garth at the expense of Blackmore;

The shame he <Aesculapius> suffer'd from Sir RICHARD's case,
Swift at the word his sprightly GARTH began
To make an helmet of a Close-stool Pan;

An Urinal he for his trumpet takes,

And at each blast he blows see Laughter shakes.

(III, 460-4 .) In 1792, Walpole's opinion of Garth is high; 'Is it not extraordinary, dear Sir, that two of our very best poets, Garth and Darwin, should have been physicians? I believe that they have left all the lawyers wrangling at the turnpike of Parnassus...' (To Barrett, 14 May 1792; Quoted H. Cushing, 'Dr. Garth : The Kit-Kat Poet.' Bull. of the Johns Hopkins Hosp. XVII, Jan. 1906, (16) Thomas Powell of Monmouth in Emma, or the Baculiniad (1805?), states;

'My Lord Orford declared that the Rape of the Lock, the Dispensary, and the Lutrin, were three poems unrivalled for elegance by any antient or modern productions. Every competent reader must set his seal to that testimony.' (Quoted R.P. Bond, English Burlesque Poetry, 1700-1750. Harvard 1932, 72) Hallam considered the poem in detail;

'In the year 1699, a poem was published, Garth's Dispensary, which deserves attention, not so much for its own merit, though it comes nearest to Dryden, at whatever interval, as from its indicating a transitional state in our versification... But, perhaps, it <the couplet> had not been so uniform in any former production as in the Dispensary. The versification of this once famous mock-heroic poem is smooth and regular, but not forcible; the language clear and neat; the parodies and allusions happy. Many lines are excellent in the way of pointed application,... This poem may be called an imitation of the Lutrin, inasmuch as but for the Lutrin, it might probably not have been written, and there are even particular resemblances. The subject... may vie with that of Boileau in want of general interest; yet it seems to afford more diversity to the satiric poet. Garth... is a link of transition between the style and turn of poetry under Charles and William, and that we find in Addison, Prior, Tickell, and Pope, in the reign of Anne.' (H. Hallam, Introduction to the Literature of Europe.... 4 vols. 1837-9, IV, 440-1) Hallam's comments on Garth's versification are echoed by Gosse, as well as a feeling that the appeal of The Dispensary has waned;

'The fun has all faded out of The Dispensary, and Garth is no longer in the least degree attractive. But his didactic verse is the best between Dryden and Pope, though we see beginning in it the degradation of the over-

mannered style of the eighteenth century.' (E. Gosse, History of Eighteenth Century Literature. 1922, 34) Gosse's opinion that The Dispensary is beyond recovery is a fairly representative one in modern criticism. (see, for example, W.M. Dixon, English Epic and Heroic Poetry. 1912, 259; A.C. Baugh, A Literary History of England. New York 1948, 899; and the more modified opinion of H. Walker, English Satire and Satirists. 1925, 167) Nevertheless, it is accurate to say that whatever later opinion may make either of Garth as a person or of the poem as a satire, Garth's contemporaries held him and his work, for the most part, in high esteem.

A Check-List of Garth's Works, apart from the Dispensary :

With the exception of Claremont and the edition of Ovid's Metamorphoses, Garth's verse and prose is occasional and slight.

1692 Sept. 6 and 13. Two letters 'to my Lady - at the Bath.' (?) (in A. Boyer's Letters of Wit, Politicks and Morality. 1701, 377-80)

1693-4. Urania's Metamorphosis in Sydus : or, The Transfiguration of our Late Glorious Sovereign Queen Mary... Written by a Doctor of Physick. (?) (BM. 11630. g. 41. under 'Garth'.)

17 Sept. 1697, the annual Harveian Oration to the College of Physicians, London.

1700. 'The Life of Otho : Translated from the Greek. by SAM. GARTH, M.D.' (vol. V of Plutarch's Lives, Translated from the Greek by Several Hands. 3rd ed. 1700, 735-61)

1700 'To the merry Poetaster at Sadlers-hall, in Cheapside.' (in Commentary Verses, on the Author of the two Arthurs, and the Satyr against Wit;)

1702 Prologue to Tamerlane by Rowe.

1702 Several Orations of Demosthenes, ... English'd from the Greek by several Hands. (The first Philippic translated by Garth, 89-108)

1704 Verses written for the Toasting-Glasses of the Kit-Cat Club.

1704 Prologue to Squire Trelooby by Congreve, Vanbrugh and Walsh.

1705 Prologue spoken at the opening of the Queen's Theatre in the Haymarket.

- 1706 On the King of Spain.
1710 To the Duke of Marlborough on his voluntary Banishment.
1710 To the Earl of Godolphin.
1711 Epitaphium Georgii Comitis de Huntingdon Lucretii Editionis
Dedicatio Designata.
1713 Epilogue to Cato by Addison.
1715 Claremont.
1716 On the New Conspiracy.
1717 Edition of Ovid's Metamorphoses.
1717 Poems on Several Occasions. (Garth et al.)
1718 Familiar Letters of Love, Gallantry... (Garth et al.)

Undated;

- To the Lady Louisa Lenos : with Ovid's Epistles.
To Richard Earl of Burlington, with Ovid's Art of Love.
To the Duchess of Bolton on her staying all the Winter in the Country.
 (1704 ?)
On her Majesty's Statue in St. Paul's Churchyard.
Prologue to the Music-meeting in York-Buildings.
To. Mr. Gay on his Poems.
A Soliloquy out of the Italian.
An imitation of a French Author.

Most of the shorter pieces may be found in an edition of Garth's Works e.g. the edition of 1771 published by Robert and Andrew Foulis. Garth's journalistic writings are noted during the course of this introduction.

Notes on the Text of this Edition :

There were ten editions of The Dispensary published during Garth's life. The first edition was advertised in the Post-Boy for May 6-8, 1699, and appeared in the same month. The second edition was advertised in the Post-Boy for May 25-7, 1699, and the third edition was advertised in the Post-Boy for June 13-15, 1699. The fourth edition was advertised in the Post-Man for April 9-11, 1700. A fifth edition appeared in 1703, a sixth in 1706. In June 1714, under 'Books reprinted this Month', the seventh edition was advertised; 'To this Edition is added, a Cut to each Canto, design'd and engraven by the best Hands.' The price for this edition was 1/6d. (The Monthly Catalogue. 1714-17. English Bibliographical Sources. Series 1, no. 1/)

The eighth edition was advertised as 'Just published... adorned with Cutts.', in the St. James's Post for October 8-10, 1718. Garth died on Sunday, January 18, 1719. (Post-Boy for January 17-20, 1718-19)

The first six editions were printed and sold by John Nutt 'near Stationers-Hall'. (see further H.R. Plomer, Dictionary of Printers and Booksellers at Work in England. 1668-1725. Bib. Soc. 1922, 222)

The seventh and eighth editions were printed for Jacob Tonson 'at Shakespear's Head, over-against Catherine-Street in the Strand.' In addition to these eight anonymous editions, two unauthorised editions were published in 1709, both of which carry on the half-title, 'Dr. GARTH's Dispensary'. The first of these, advertised as 'The Dispensatory' in the Post-Boy for October 4-6, 1709, was 'Printed, by H. Hills, and Sold by the Booksellers of London and Westminster,' and is a reprint of the fifth edition of 1703. Sherburn styles Hills as 'a notorious piratical printer.' (Pope's Corr., I, 56 n. 4)

The second of these 1709 editions was 'Printed by J. Bradford in Fetter-Lane; and Sold by the Booksellers of London and Westminster,'. This copy explains that 'Having seen an Edition of this Poem, printed by H. Hills in Black-Fryars, I had the Curiosity

copy press /
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to Compare it with one I had in my Study, and upon Examination, found near 200 Lines omitted, which had been added by the Author to a later and better Impression;' ('To the READER.' The title-page) This version of the text reprints the sixth edition of 1706. Neither of these two 1709 editions add anything of value and are clearly without authority. They are therefore discounted for the purposes of this critical edition.

The exact date of the composition of The Dispensary cannot be determined. It is possible, however, to establish the approximate date of composition. One writer suggests 1696; ' "The Dispensary", now practically unread, was written in 1696; but the first of its many editions did not appear until 1699;' (G. Everitt, Doctors and Doctors... 1888, 55). Garth in the Preface to his poem states that 'The Description of the Battel is grounded upon a Feud that hapned in the Dispensary, betwixt a Member of the College with his Retinue, and some of the Servants that attended there, to dispence the Medicines; and is so far real:' (85-8) The first of the College dispensaries opened in the spring of 1698 (see II, 118-19 n.), and thus the battle in the poem (Canto V) could not have been composed before 1698. Similarly G.A. Aitken states that 'Garth's Dispensary appeared in 1696.' (Life of Steele. 2 vols. 1889, I, 62 n. 3), but offers no evidence for this. A note on the title-page of Pope's copy of the fifth edition states that the poem was 'first published in 1698' (V.A. Forster 3325; see App. B. for description), which is a more credible date, though there is no factual basis to support such a statement. Allied to the question of the date of composition are a number of statements to the effect that the poem prior to publication circulated in manuscript. B. Boyce remarks that 'Garth's Dispensary was printed in 1699, but it had already circulated in manuscript;' ('The Dispensary, Sir Richard Blackmore, and the Captain of the Wits.' RES Oct. 1938, 458). J.A.W. Bennett duplicates this; the poem 'had circulated in manuscript some time before it was published in 1699.'

(‘Oxford in 1699.’ Oxoniensia IV, 1939, 150 n.2) E.A. Underwood's statement that the poem 'was circulated in manuscript among Garth's friends about the middle of 1699, and the first edition was published shortly afterwards.' (A History of the... Society of Apothecaries. 1963, I, 387), is, he tells me, taken from Norman Moore's life of Garth in DNB. T. Schenk also alludes to this statement of Moore's. (Sir Samuel Garth und Seine Stellung zum Komischen Epos. Heidelberg 1900, 10)

These claims cannot be disproved and may have substance. Other comments are more puzzling. H. Cushing states; 'There appeared in 1699, in broadside paper form after the fashion of the times, an anonymous poem in six cantos... The poem... was soon after printed in book form; (and) went through two other editions before the year was out;' ('Dr. Garth; the Kit-Kat Poet.' Johns Hopkins Hosp. Bull. XVII, Jan. 1906, 5) There is no other reference to a copy of the poem in 'broadside paper form', and I have found no trace of any such. Yale university Medical library, to which Cushing left much of his collection of books, cannot throw light on this matter. James Caulfield connects the poem's initial publication with Dryden; 'Indeed, on recurring to the poem as it is published in the Miscellany edited by Dryden, we notice that it is little more than half the length of the edition printed in 1706.' (Memoirs of the Celebrated Persons composing the Kit-Cat Club. 1821, 153) There is no edition of a Dryden Miscellany which includes a copy of The Dispensary; neither H. Macdonald (John Dryden. A Bibliography of Early Editions and of Drydeniana. 1939), nor A.E. Case (Bibliography of English Poetical Miscellanies. 1521-1750. Bib. Soc. 1935 for 1929), record any evidence which suggests that Dryden was in any way concerned with the poem's publication. Another suggestion is more easily disposed of. Edward Tyson's biographer remarks; 'There is some reason to believe that Garth's manuscript of his poem was circulated privately for almost a year before its eventual

publication, and there is also sure ground for believing that Tyson saw a copy of the manuscript poem, and enjoyed it, before its actual publication' (M.F.A. Montagu, Edward Tyson ... Philad. 1943, 318). Montagu bases these claims on a remark of Tyson's in his treatise, Ourang-outang, sive homo sylvestris, published shortly before the first edition of The Dispensary. Tyson states; 'For I own it... (notwithstanding the ill surmise and suggestion made by a forward gentleman) that tho' our Pygmie has many Advantages above the rest of its Species, yet I still think it but a sort of Ape and a meer Brute' (quoted Montagu, 321). Montagu takes the reference to 'a forward gentleman' as an allusion to Garth's satire of Tyson's treatise at v. 149 ff. (Montagu, 321).

However, the passage alluded to was included for the first time in the sixth edition (1706), and cannot therefore substantiate the claim of manuscript circulation.

I have chosen the second edition as my copy-text for the following reasons, the most important of which is the evidence offered by Garth himself. He states; Since this following Poem in a manner stole into the World, I cou'd not be surpriz'd to find it uncorrect: Tho' I can no more say I was a Stranger to its coming abroad, than that I approv'd of the Publisher's Precipitation in doing it: For a Hurry in the Execution, generally produces a Leisure in Reflection; so when we run the fastest, we stumble the oftnest. However, the errours of the Printer have not been greater than the Candour of the Reader... (Preface, 1-8).

This statement seems to be more than a conventional disclaimer of authorial responsibility for the state of the first edition. Garth is careful to point out both that he had prior knowledge of the publication of the first edition and that he was not satisfied with the result. Neither he nor the publisher could have foreseen the sensation the poem was to create. The rapid succession of editions in 1699 indicates that the satire was a major succes de scandale. It is therefore reasonable to expect that the preparation of the second edition would be undertaken with the knowledge that the demand for the poem was considerable and that the range of readers was clearly to be greater than was at first envisaged. The key phrase in the quotation is 'stole into the World', words which perhaps suggest that the publisher did not realise the commercial possibilities of the work, that the success was unexpected and that Garth's original intention was a private and limited one, of reconciling opposing factions within the College of Physicians.

The first edition might well have been published in small numbers, virtually for private circulation. There is again the possibility that in this phrase, Garth is hinting at the publication of the poem from a manuscript copy which had circulated privately. Though manuscript circulation cannot be proved, it was a common enough practice at the end of the seventeenth century. These are hypotheses, not capable of proof, but Garth is clearly unhappy about the state of the first edition, and an examination of it supports his feelings.

A second reason for choosing the second edition as copy-text is its deliberate attempt to make the poem more intelligible and presentable. The first edition exhibits signs of hasty and careless production. The clearest fault is an overall absence of accurate punctuation. While this absence is arguably attributable to the state of Garth's manuscript, and thus that the first edition, whatever its faults, stands closest to what Garth actually wrote, the revisions of the second edition indicate a clear effort to render the text more coherent. The following selected list indicates cases where the accidentals of the second edition make the poem more easily readable. In all of these examples, except two, punctuation is added where there was none in the first edition. In two cases, punctuation is omitted because unnecessary;

- I, 74 Paeon's
- I, 92 away :
- I, 140 they,
- I, 195 Prince's
- I, 196 there
- II, 43 here
- II, 55 length,
- II, 105 knows,
- II, 107 Charms,
- III, 139 Abortion,
- III, 257 Brothers,...Ascarides,
- III, 304 Champions,...Crack,
- IV, 15 by,
- IV, 40 Variety,
- V, 10 seeks,... Soliloquy,
- V, 69 Owls, unseen,
- VI, 302 view,

The second edition hyphenates compounds at II, 195 ; II, 197 ; III, 73 ; III, 220 ; IV, 29 ; IV, 106 ; VI, 153, but omits a superfluous hyphen at IV, 31 ('Lac'd Coat'). Some of these examples might well come from a compositor, but when added to other examples, their cumulative effect is to suggest that the impulse behind the revisions is authoritative. Another kind of evidence as to the authority of the second edition is provided by the general tendency towards capitalisation, a tendency which seems designed to point up prominent words in a line too carefully

simply to be a matter of printing house practice. In the space of nine lines, for example (I, 11-19), there are ten instances of capitalisation not present in the first edition. These are;

<u>I</u> , 11	Majestick	15	Aim
	Sight	16	Use
12	Height		Noble
13	Skill	18	Propagation
14	Sight	19	Mazes

An analysis of the spelling variants between the first and second editions will reveal regularisation of spelling consistently in the second edition. This again might be the work of a careful compositor, although one should not forget that it is with the second edition that Garth's poem enters the Literary world on a large scale and that he sanctioned such regularisation both by adding the prefatory matter for the first time and by not subsequently altering the accidentals of other editions to any marked degree. Finally the second edition revises substantive readings of the first edition on a large scale.

The problem for an editor in cases of this kind is that he is faced with one of two choices. He can, on the evidence so far given, accept the proposition that, however much these revisions may be attributable to a compositor, Garth himself, by the addition of prefatory matter, together with a number of substantive revisions, was involved and therefore in reasonably close attendance upon the preparation of the second edition. Or an editor can choose to disregard these ideas and revert in a more orthodox manner to the first edition as the immediate descendent of the manuscript. I have made the first of these two choices on the basis of an editor's responsibility to reproduce as far as possible the ideal copy which the author wished to be read. The Dispensary began as a lampoon upon reactionary members of the College of Physicians, but found itself being very quickly considered as literature. This consideration alone should have involved the author in the preparation of better copy.

There are three possibilities regarding the copy from which the second edition was set up. ~~Given~~ the original manuscript corrected, or a corrected copy of the first edition or a fresh manuscript could have provided the basis. If the second edition was set up from a corrected first edition, one would expect some eccentricity common to both to have survived. The absence of any such obvious

peculiarity clouds the issue but perhaps militates against the theory of a corrected first edition as copy. Commonsense would, however, dictate that if possible, a corrected first would be used, if only because it would be easier for a compositor to follow. It is still possible that the second edition was set up from the original manuscript corrected or a fresh manuscript. If this were to prove the case, the claim of the second edition to be considered authoritative in its accidentals would be irrefutable. There are a few occasions where first edition readings have been introduced into this critical edition, on the grounds that they either make better sense, exist in a more satisfactory form or provide a correct reading when the second edition is in error. These occur at II, 13 ; II, 138 ; V, 355 ; VI, 154 ; VI, 228 ; They are recorded in the textual notes, as they occur. All substantive variants between the two editions are recorded in the textual notes. Finally it is worth noting that Garth's consciousness of the wider audience reached by his poem than he may have intended is seen in his feeling it necessary to explain in some detail in the Preface the reasons for and circumstances surrounding the writing of the poem.

The third edition of the poem, 'Corrected by the Author' was announced twenty days after the advertisement of the second edition, just as notice of the second edition had appeared twenty days after the advertisement of the first edition. This small gap reveals the intensity of demand over a total of thirty-nine days. This edition included a small number of substantive revisions, accordingly noted in this critical edition. Parts of the second edition were left standing. These were the preliminary matter, sheet C, outer D and outer E (except E1^a). Sheet B, inner D (except D5^b), inner E (except E5^b), Sheet F and Sheet G (except G2^a and G7^b on the outer forme, and G2^b and G3^a on the inner forme), were reset. E1^a keeps the top three lines standing,; the rest of the page has been reset because the third edition omitted a couplet (IV, 116-117) on this page. When alterations were made to standing type, the minimum of adjustment was made. On a2^a, the second edition misprint 'Chaaritable' is corrected by the surplus 'a' being removed and the line rejustified. There is no other alteration on the page. The process can again be seen on a6^b and a7^a, where, on the former page, 'Mirmil' becomes 'M---' and 'City-Bayd' becomes 'City-B---'. This involved inserting rules of the same length as the excised letters without altering the page in any other respect. In the same way, on a7^a, 'Rotcliffe' is corrected to 'Ratcliffe' and

'Mirmils' becomes 'M---ls' (see textual notes p. 109) . On some pages left standing, the signature and catchword are in a different position from that of the second edition. Page 18 of the second edition has 'Onward' as catchword, where the third edition has 'On---'; on page 30, 'Offici-' is the form of the catchword in the third edition; in the second edition, it is 'Officious'. Since it seems unlikely that these pages were left standing without their signatures and catchwords, it may be that, being in a vulnerable position, the bottom line or type on some pages was damaged and had to be reset. Standing type was carefully examined before imposition. On p. 36 of the third edition, a full stop, absent from the second edition, was inserted after 'Fall' (III, 168). Thus any alterations to standing type need careful consideration. The names of satirised persons in the poem are made more difficult to identify, perhaps for fear of reprisal. Such revisions are given in the textual notes. Two accidental alterations are noted here because they are not obviously attempts to improve the poem. On p. 31, the third edition places a comma after 'call' (III, 70); on p.83, the third omits a comma after 'Excess' (VI, 149). Neither of these results in a preferable reading, but they are made in standing type and thus should be recorded. They are conceivably the work of a zealous compositor. Variants, other than substantive ones, which occur on reset pages, do not seem worth recording, especially with the added chance of compositorial modification during resetting.

The third edition is complicated by a number of variant states, which are the result of press-corrections. There are twenty variants between states of the third edition. The following list sets them out, together with the sheet on which they occur;

	<u>Copy A</u>	<u>Copy B</u>	<u>Second Edition.</u>
<u>Sheet X</u>			
p.24 ^b	Subscriber's	Subscribers	Subscriber's
"	six	Six	six
<u>Sheet C</u>			
p.31	Canto heading <u>III</u>	Canto heading <u>II</u>	Correct heading <u>III</u>
<u>Sheet D</u>			
p.44	Politicians,	Politicians	Politicians) (<u>IV</u> ,25)
"	prate;	prate,	prate,)
p.45	Canto heading <u>IV</u>	Canto heading <u>III</u>	Correct heading <u>IV</u>

Sheet E

p.49 angry stubborn worthless (IV,101)

Sheet F

p.65 Canto heading II Canto heading V Correct heading V
p.76 Woes woes woes (VI,18)
p.77 Imperial imperial imperial (VI,29)
p.80 emulate; emulate, emulate, (VI,94)

Sheet G

p.81 awkward awkward awkward (VI,116)
p.88 Grove. grove, grove, (VI,242)
" Arms arms arms (VI,259)
p.89 Words words words (revised)
p.93 Davastations Devastations Devastations (VI,355)
" Claims claims claims (")

Thus six sheets exist in two variant states. All of these variants, with the exception of that on p.31, occur on the outer forme of their sheet. In addition, there are three other variants, all of which occur on inner G;

Table with 4 columns: Page, Copy A, Copy B, Second Edition. Rows include p.82 Sway; Sway: Sway: (VI,128), p.86 his His His (VI,215), p.87 put on puts on puts on (VI,219)

The variant on p.31 of inner C shows only that the canto number was not altered from II, when this section of Canto IV came to be imposed. It does however suggest that inner C, as well as inner G was printed off at the time when corrections were being made to the outer formes of the other sheets. Thus inner C and inner G are to be associated with the group of outer formes which were subsequently revised. What is noticeable in this list is that a) the majority of the variants occur on the last two sheets and that b) a number of errors common to both states on the inner formes of some sheets remain uncorrected. For example, all states on p. 47 read canto 'III' instead of 'IV' ; on p.79, all states read canto 'V' instead of canto 'VI'. The misprint 'by found' (IV,203) for 'be found' is common to all (p.55). These variant states arise because some parts of some sheets have been corrected, after

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a number of incorrect sheets had been printed off, and corrected and uncorrected sheets have been indiscriminately bound up to make complete copies.

One is left with two problems. Which are the later, corrected formes and what is the significance of the revisions? On sheet a, copy B is later, since a4^b has already been shown to be standing type from the second edition. The alteration of 'Subscriber's' to 'Subscribers' argues little, since both are strictly incorrect; 'six' appears to have been capitalised because the word 'Five' in the same line is already capitalised and thus the line becomes more presentable 'Six' is therefore accepted into the text, while 'Subscribers' is recorded in the textual notes. Corrections such as these two need not, of course, be authorial. Sheet B contains no variants between states. Sheet C contains only the corrections of the heading, discussed above. Sheet D presents slightly clearer evidence. Since here a canto misnumbering is corrected in one state, one can assume that the reading of copy A is the later, corrected version. This reading makes sense in respect of the comma after 'Politicians', since it is easy to misread the sense of the line. Yet the semi-colon after 'prate' is unnecessary and unsightly, as a semi-colon terminates the following line (IV,26). The revision is clearly important when one knows that this page was left standing. However, no edition subsequent to the third (except for the 'fourth' edition of 1699, for which see below), in fact follows this reading. Therefore I have not preferred it in this critical edition, but record it here as a possible authorial revision and in the textual notes. Sheet E contains a single substantive variant. The adjective concerned was subject to frequent revision. Both 'angry' and 'stubborn' appear in variant states of the fourth and fifth editions (see below). In the sixth edition, 'stubborn' is preferred, only to give way to 'zealous' in the seventh and eighth editions. Since the sixth takes 'stubborn', it is reasonable to suppose that the forme containing this word represents a later state than that containing 'angry'. In Sheet F, a corrected canto misnumbering (p.65) indicates which is the revised forme. It follows from this that the readings of copy B are corrections of compositorial modifications of the earlier pages, all of which were reset for the third edition. The corrections revert from readings introduced by the compositor of these pages to the readings of the second and first editions. In sheet G, two clear errors indicate which is the revised forme. On p.88, 'Grove' of copy A makes nonsense of the couplet; on p.93, copy A contains the misprint 'Davastations'. This copy B represents the later state. Again, the revised

readings go back to those of the second and first editions. As regards the three variants between states on inner G, the state which follows the second edition reading (copy B) appears to be the later, since 'puts on' is grammatically correct. This obviously cannot be proved. The three variants appear on pages which were reset for the third edition. Thus an ideal copy of the third edition would consist of sheets C, D and F from copy A, and sheets a, E and G from copy B. Finally, none of these variants, except a4^b 'Six' affects this critical edition, since they consist either of correcting errors or adjusting compositorial alteration (the only substantive revision 'angry/stubborn' is itself revised later). I have no evidence that Garth was concerned in revising accidentals subsequent to the second edition and thus this analysis is important more for an insight into printing house practice than for its bearing upon a critical edition of the text.

Another copy, described on its title-page as 'The Third Edition Corrected by the Author' is actually a new edition and constitutes the fourth edition proper. I have seen only one copy of this edition (in the library of the Royal College of Physicians, London). This copy collates 8^o A-G⁸ pp. [22] 1-90. The edition was set up to fit into seven sheets instead of the seven and a half sheets of the third edition. At the end of canto III, this edition has gained a half sheet on the third, ending the canto on p.38, where the third ends on p.42. The different title-page, together with the condensed format indicates that this edition is later than the third. From canto IV, the typographical format of the third edition is followed line for line, but it has been completely reset. A frequent feature is the use of two upper case 'V's' to make up a 'W'. It seems that, even after the printing of the third edition, the demand was still sufficiently strong for the publisher to bring out another edition, which would have appeared between June 15, 1699 (the advertisement of the third edition), and April 1700 (the advertisement of the fourth). This edition was set up from a copy of the third edition and follows it to the extent of repeating its errors. Thus II,60 reads 'glides' instead of 'gilds', an error (first created in the edition. Occasionally, this edition corrects errors of the third, as when 'by found' of the third edition (IV,203), is a mistake for 'be found'. At III,70, the third edition places a comma after 'call' and omits a comma at VI,149, after 'Excess'. So does this edition.

It has no claim to authorial revision, and bears signs of hasty production.

The carelessness of the printing may be seen from the following, B7^a carries a running-title instead of a canto number; C1^a is misheaded as canto II and E1^a as canto III; F3^a misspells canto as 'Catno'; C4^a omits the signature, while the catchword reads 'And' instead of 'So'; the Preface (31) reads 'Compliment' for 'Complaint'; II,11, 'bleak' becomes 'black'; II,145, 'sodder' becomes 'sodden'. I have discounted this edition as authoritative. It adds nothing and introduces further corruptions. To avoid confusion, I refer in this critical edition to the 1700 text as the 'fourth', so described on the title-page, although it is in reality the fifth.

The fourth edition of 1700 includes a small number of substantive revisions which are incorporated into this text. It was advertised some ten months after the third. The initial excitement surrounding the appearance of the poem having died down, this edition contains on the title-page the added inducement of being 'with Additions'. These consist of a total of two pages. The fourth edition was set up from the third, as a selective analysis of the accidentals demonstrates. In each case, the fourth edition follows the third, rather than the fourth proper of 1699;

	<u>Third Edition</u>	<u>'Fourth' Edition (1699)</u>	<u>Fourth Edition (1700)</u>
<u>I</u> ,25	infant	Infant	infant
<u>I</u> ,41	Floods	floods	Floods
<u>I</u> ,87	Passions	passions	Passions
<u>I</u> ,88	Problems	problems	Problems
<u>II</u> ,129	dri'd	dry'd	dri'd
<u>II</u> ,137	foretels	foretells	foretels
<u>II</u> ,152	Philtres	Philters	Philtres
<u>III</u> ,55	Forests	Forrests	Forests
<u>III</u> ,116	Viper's Hearts	Viper's-Hearts	Vipers Hearts
<u>IV</u> ,29	<u>Hippolito's</u>	<u>Hyppolito's</u>	<u>Hippolito's</u>
<u>IV</u> ,33	Cloister	Cloyster	Cloister
<u>IV</u> ,37	<u>Opifer,</u>	<u>Opifer</u>	<u>Opifer,</u>

There is no standing type in the fourth edition, but there are two variant states. This comes about because the earlier of the two states was set up from a copy of the third edition which contained the earlier version of inner E. This state of the fourth edition reads, for example (p.50), 'angry' (IV,101), a reading already shown with reference to the third edition to be in the earlier state of the sheet. There

gathering was, for some reason, not preserved. The other state of the fifth edition has been completely reset and follows as copy of the revised state of the fourth edition.

The printing history of The Dispensary, after these turbulent beginnings, settled down somewhat. The sixth edition (1706), 'With several DESCRIPTIONS and EPISODES never before Printed', adds a great deal of substantive matter, more so than any other edition. This is an obvious manoeuvre. The dispensary quarrel had subsided to a large extent by 1706 (see p.XXX) and new material is added in order to make the poem commercially viable. It is with the sixth edition, set up from a copy of the reset state of the fifth, that Garth branches out into other kinds of writing. For example, a long satirical portrait of Francis Atterbury is introduced (I,143-62), as is a passage of some 130 lines of natural description to close canto IV (233-363). On other occasions, the material is condensed. Eighteen lines are replaced in the sixth edition by I, 182-6; twenty-three lines are replaced by II, 61-78. The poem moves from particular to more generalised observation. The sixth edition sees Garth emerge as a literary figure, of sufficient importance to warrant two pirated editions in 1709 (see pp. lviii-lix). Garth's reputation grew to the point where he was vying in interest as a mock-heroic poet with Pope, once The Rape of the Lock had been published. The fact that the seventh edition of The Dispensary was published in June 1714, (advertised in Spectator 556 as just published), three months after the advertisement of The Rape of the Lock (Post-Boy, March 2-4 as 'This Day is publish'd'), indicates Tonson's acute business sense and the fact that the poem was thought worth another edition.

The seventh edition appeared after a gap of eight years, and includes a large number of substantive revisions. Certain words in this edition have been edited to conform typographically with this critical text, for there is in the seventh and eighth editions a greater incidence of italics than in the first six editions. This appears on the whole to be a matter of house style and accordingly some words are here set down in roman rather than italic type (see below n.7). The seventh was set up from a copy of the sixth edition and the eighth (1718), from a copy of the revised state of the seventh. Both the seventh and eighth editions repeat, for example, the sixth edition's eccentric spelling of 'huge' (II,124) as 'hugh'. Similarly, the earlier state of the seventh edition repeats the sixth's spelling 'unwholsom' (IV,273); the revised state of the seventh and the eighth editions add an 'e' to the

end of the word.

There are two variant states of the seventh edition, the latter of which corrects the first by the means of nine cancels. These are B3, B7, B8, C4, C6, D1, D4, D10 and E3. The cancels make small alterations, which range from correcting an error to revising the accidentals. The variants are as follows;

	<u>1714 earlier state</u>	<u>1714 revised state</u>		
1.	Thus Place	This Place	I,79)	
2.	Abodes	Abodes,	I,81)	B3
3.	Ⓐway:	away.	I,92)	
4.	enrolls.	enrolls,	II,38	B7
5.	curdling	crudling	II,52)	B8
6.	Embassie	Embassie.	II,58)	
7.	Pity	Piety	III,169)	
8.	end	end.	III,190)	C4
9.	Fase	Ease	IV ,275	C6
10.	unwholsom	unwholsome	IV,273)	
11.	now,	now	IV,279)	
12.	weeeps	weeps	IV,284)	D1
13.	hence,	hence	IV,292)	
14.	Jesmin	Jesmine	IV,316)	
15.	One	one	V,21)	D4
16.	own,	own,	V,28)	
17.	Eyes	Eyes	V,326)	
18.	<u>Osyris</u>	<u>Osiris</u>	V,332)	D10
19.	<u>Nance</u>	<u>Nantz</u>	V,334)	
20.	Mind.	Mind,	V,338)	
21.	See	She	VI,158)	E3
22.	attend;	attend,	VI,187)	

The cancels exist primarily to correct errors (nos. 1, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 16, 21, 22) or eccentricities of spelling (nos. 18, 19). Other variants may be divided into two classes. They are either the result of compositorial modification (nos. 3, 5, 17, 20; no. 17 creates a fresh error through resetting), or they are of a kind

arguably attributable to deliberate corrections (nos. 2, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15). In these cases, either of the two readings would be satisfactory. Since I have no evidence of Garth's concern with the accidentals of the edition, I prefer to record the variants here. If the line concerned existed in the text before 1714, I have transcribed it in the form in which it first appeared. If the line occurs for the first time in 1714, I have, where necessary, taken the later of the two readings. It is incidentally interesting that the spellings 'Osyris' and 'Nance', (nos. 18, 19; V,332,334), may represent Garth's own spelling, since the passage is first inserted in 1714.

The eighth and final edition of The Dispensary in Garth's lifetime was published in 1718. It follows all the revisions of the later state of the seventh edition, except in regard to nos. 3 and 20 of the variants listed, on which occasions it reverts to the reading of the earlier state and indeed all previous editions. This edition makes several minor alterations and two important revisions (see textual note for I,43, III,41-2, pp.110,116 respectively). The only modern edition of The Dispensary reproduces the seventh edition (W.J. Leicht, Garth's Dispensary. Kritische Ausgabe mit Einleitung und Anmerkungen. Heidelberg, 1905).

The frontispiece added to the second edition (see Xerox attached to vol. 2) is an engraving of the Cutlerian Theatre of the College of Physicians; the engraving is signed 'M. Vander Gucht Scul'. This remained until the seventh edition, when it was replaced by an engraving depicting the dispensary battle, one of seven plates by Du Guernier. The beginning of each canto is preceded by a plate signed 'Lud. Du Guernier inv. et sculp'. I have been unable to trace the source of the motto on the title-page, 'quod licet, libet'. In 1714, the motto was altered to 'Hanc veniam petimusque Damusque vicissim' (Horace, Ars Poetica,11).

Notes;

1. Omitted passages quoted in the textual notes are given in the form in which they first appeared. Accidental variants in omitted passages are ignored.
2. Proper names are given in the second edition version; any subsequent variations are recorded in the textual notes.
3. All prefatory matter, the Dedication, the Preface, the Subscribers' List and the Commendatory Verses, is produced in the second edition version. Variants of interest are recorded in the textual notes.
4. Long S is reproduced as the modern 's'.
5. Spelling variations in the text have been ignored, together with obvious misprints.

- (are silently amended. Variations such as 'opening' and 'op'ning' are ignored unless there seems to be an attempt to reduce the number of syllables in a line, e.g. VI, 364, (see textual notes p. 130).
6. A reference to '1699' in the textual notes includes all three editions first published in that year, (i.e. 1699 a, b and c; see below), but does not include the fourth edition proper of 1699.
7. The following words are reproduced without their original italics of the seventh edition;
- | | | | |
|----------|------------------|----------|--------------------|
| Synods | (<u>I</u> ,71) | Drones | (<u>I</u> ,171) |
| Nothings | (<u>I</u> ,72) | Beans | (<u>II</u> ,4) |
| Decorum | (<u>I</u> ,149) | Assembly | (") |
| Villa | (<u>I</u> ,167) | Plebeian | (<u>II</u> ,117) |
| Quietus | (<u>I</u> ,168) | Beauties | (<u>III</u> ,199) |
| Judges | (") | Lovers | (<u>III</u> ,201) |
| Cloyster | (<u>I</u> ,170) | Victors | (<u>V</u> ,331) |
8. At VI,329 'Bate' is supplied for 'Bates'. See textual notes p.129 and annotations p. 225.
9. A reference to '1699 c (1)' or '1699 c (2)' indicates the earlier and later state(s) of that edition. The same holds good for the fourth edition of 1700.

2
Lxp

Collations of Editions 1-8;

- First Edition = 4° 1699 [A]² B-L⁴ M² pp. [4] 1-84
- Second Edition = 8° 1699 [A]⁴ a⁸ B-F⁸ G⁷ pp. [24] 1-94
- Third Edition = 8° 1699 [A]⁴ a⁸ B-F⁸ G⁷ pp. [24] 1-94
- Fourth Edition = 8° 1700 [A]⁴ a⁸ B-G⁸ pp. [24] 1-96
- Fifth Edition = 8° 1703 [A]⁴ a⁸ B-G⁸ pp. [24] 1-96
- Sixth Edition = 8° 1706 A⁸ a⁸ B-H⁸ I⁴ pp. [32] 1-120
- Seventh Edition = 12° 1714 A-D¹² E⁶ pp. [24] 1-84
- Eighth Edition = 12° 1718 A-D¹² E⁶ pp. [24] 1-84

Key to the Critical Apparatus;

- First Edition = 1699a
- Second Edition = 1699b
- Third Edition = 1699c
- Fourth Edition = 1700
- Fifth Edition = 1703
- Sixth Edition = 1706
- Seventh Edition = 1714
- Eighth Edition = 1718

Your humble servant,

TO

A.H. Esq;

A Man of your Character can no more Prevent a Dedication, than he wou'd Encourage one; for Merit, like a Virgin's Blushes, is still most discover'd, when it labours most to be conceal'd. 'Tis hard, that to think well of you, shou'd be but Justice, and to tell you so, shou'd be an Offence: Thus rather than violate your Modesty, I must be wanting to your other Virtues; and to gratifie One good Quality, do wrong to a Thousand. The World generally measures our Esteem by the Ardour of our Pretences; and will scarce believe that so much Zeal in the Heart, can be consistent with so much Faintness in the Expressions; but when They reflect on your Readiness to do Good, and your Industry to hide it; on your Passion to oblige, and your Pain to hear it own'd; They'll conclude, that Acknowledgments wou'd be Ungrateful to a Person, who even seems to receive the Obligations he conferrs.

But tho' I shou'd persuade my self to be silent upon all Occasions; those more Polite Arts, which, till of late, have Languish'd and Decay'd, wou'd appear under their present Advantages, and own you for one of their generous Restorers: Insomuch, that Sculpture now Breaths, Painting Speaks, Musick Ravishes; and as you help to refine Our Taste, you distinguish your Own. Your Approbation of this Poem, is the only Exception to the Opinion the World has of your Judgment, that ought to relish nothing so much, as what you write your self: But you are resolv'd to forget to be a Critick, by remembring you are a Friend. To say more, wou'd be uneasie to you, and to say less, wou'd be unjust in

Your Humble Servant.

Their next Objection is, That I have, perhaps the Intrigue of Monsieur Rolin. I must own I am pleas'd at the Imputation; unless their Quarrel be, that I have not lov'd it enough; but he that will give himself the trouble of examining, will find I have copy'd him in nothing but in two or three Lines in the Complaint of Malaise, Cant. II. and in one in the First Epistle the Sense of which Line is entirely his, and I cou'd wish it were not the only good One in mine.

THE
PREFACE.

Since this following Poem in a manner stole into the World, I cou'd not be surpriz'd to find it uncorrect: Tho' I can no more say I was a Stranger to its coming abroad, than that I approv'd of the Publisher's Precipitation in doing it: For a Hurry in the Execution, generally produces a Leisure in Reflection; so when we run the fastest, we stumble the ofttest. However, the Errours of the Printer have not been greater than the Candour of the Reader: and if I cou'd but say the same of the Defects of the Author, he'd need no Justification against the Cavils of some Furious Criticks, who, I am sure, wou'd have been better pleas'd if they had met with more Faults.

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Their Grand Objection is, That the Fury Disease is an improper Machine to recite Characters, and recommend the Example of present Writers: But tho' I had the Authority of some Greek and Latin Poets, upon parallel Instances, to justifie the Design; yet, that I might not introduce any thing that seem'd inconsistent or hard, I started this Objection my self, to a Gentleman very remarkable in this sort of Criticism, who wou'd by no means allow that the Contrivance was forc'd, or the Conduct incongruous.

15

20

Disease is represented a Fury as well as Envy: She is imagin'd to be forc'd by an Incantation from her Recess; and to be reveng'd on the Exorcist, mortifies him with an Introduction of several Persons eminent in an Accomplishment He has made some Advances in.

25

Nor is the Compliment less to any Great Genius mention'd there; since a very Fiend, who naturally repines at any Excellency, is forc'd to confess how happily They've all succeeded.

30

Their next Objection is, That I have imitated the Lutrin of Monsieur Boileau. I must own I am proud of the Imputation; unless their Quarrel be, That I have not done it enough: But he that will give himself the trouble of examining, will find I have copy'd him in nothing but in two or three Lines in the Complaint of Mollesse, Canto II. and in one in his First Canto; the Sense of which Line is entirely his, and I cou'd wish it were not the only good One in mine.

35

The Preface.

- I have spoke to the most material Objections I have heard of, and shall tell these Gentlemen, That for ev'ry Fault they pretend to find in this Poem, I'll undertake to shew them two. One of these curious Persons does me the Honour to say, He approves of the Conclusion of it; but I suppose 'tis upon no other Reason, but because 'tis the Conclusion. However, I shou'd not be much concern'd not to be thought Excellent in an Amusement I have very little practis'd hitherto, nor perhaps ever shall again. 35 40
- Reputation of this sort is very hard to be got, and very easie to be lost; its Pursuit is painful, and its Possession unfruitful: Nor had I ever attempted any thing in this kind, till finding the Animosities amongst the Members of the College of Physicians encreasing daily (notwithstanding the frequent Exhortations of our Worthy President to the contrary) I was persuaded to attempt something of this nature, and to endeavour to Rally some of our dissaffected Members into a sense of their Duty, who have hitherto most obstinately oppos'd all manner of Union; and have continu'd so unreasonably refractory, that 'twas thought fit by the College, to reinforce the Observance of the Statutes by a Bond, which some of them wou'd not comply with, tho' none of 'em had refus'd the Ceremony of the customary Oath; like some that will trust their Wives with any Body, but their Money with none. I was sorry to find there cou'd be any Constitution that was not to be cur'd without Poison, and that there shou'd be a Prospect of effecting it by a less grateful Method than Reason and Persuasion. 45 50 55 60
- The Original of this Difference has been of some standing, tho' it did not break out to Fury and Excess till the time of Erecting the Dispensary, being an Apartment in the College set up for the Relief of the Sick Poor, and manag'd ever since with an Integrity and Disinterest suitable to so Charitable a Design. 65
- If any Person wou'd be more fully inform'd about the Particulars of so Pious a Work, I refer him to a Treatise set forth by the Authority of the President and Censors, in the Year 97. 'Tis call'd A short Account of the Proceedings of the College of Physicians, London, in relation to the Sick Poor. The Reader may there not only be inform'd of the Rise and Progress of this so Publick an Undertaking, but also of the Concurrence and Encouragement it met with from the most, as well as the most Ancient Members of the Society, notwithstanding the vigorous Opposition of a few Men, who thought it their Interest to defeat so laudable a Design. 70 75

The Preface.

- The Intention of this Preface is not to persuade Mankind to enter into our Quarrels, but to vindicate the Author from being censur'd of taking any indecent Liberty with a Faculty he has the Honour to be a Member of. If the Satyr may appear directed at any particular Person, 'tis at such only as are presum'd to be engag'd in Dishonourable Confederacies for mean and mercenary Ends, against the Dignity of their own Profession. But if there be no such, then these Characters are but imaginary, and by consequence ought to give no body Offence. 80
- The Description of the Battel is grounded upon a Feud that hapned in the Dispensary, betwixt a Member of the College with his Retinue, and some of the Servants that attended there, to dispence the Medicines; and is so far real: tho' the Poetical Relation be fictitious. I hope no body will think the Author Scurrilous thro' the whole, who being too liable to Faults himself, ought to be less severe upon the Miscarriages of others. If I am hard upon any one, 'tis my Reader: But some Worthy Gentlemen, as remarkable for their Humanity as their Extraordinary Parts, have taken care to make him amends for it, by prefixing something of their own. I confess those Ingenious Gentlemen have done me a great Honour; but while they design an imaginary Panegyrick upon me, They have made a real one upon Themselves; and by saying how much this small Performance exceeds some others, They convince the World how far it falls short of theirs. 85
90
95

In Witness whereof we have set this
Twenty Second Day of December,

The. Millington, Printer.
Tho. Burwell, Elect and Censor.
Sam. Collins, Elect.
Edw. Browns, Elect.
Rich. Torless, Elect and Censor.
Edw. Hulse, Elect.
Tho. Gill, Censor.
Will. Dawes, Censor.
Jo. Hutton.
Rob. Brady.
Hans Sloane.
Rich. Morton.
John Navey.
Ch. Harel.

The Copy of an Instrument Subscribed by the President,
Censors, most of the Elects, Senior Fellows, Candidates, etc.
of the College of Physicians, in relation to the Sick Poor.

Dr. Cox.

Henry Sampson.

Thomas Gibson.

Whereas the several Orders of the College of Physicians, London, for prescribing Medicins gratis to the Poor Sick of the Cities of London and Westminster, and parts adjacent, as also the Proposals made by the said College to the Lord Mayor Court of Aldermen and Common Council of London in pursuance thereof, have hitherto been ineffectual for that no method hath been taken to furnish the Poor with Medicines for their Cure at low and reasonable rates: We therefore whose Names are here under written, Fellows or Members of the said College, being willing effectually to promote so great a Charity, by the Counsel and good liking of the President and College declared in their Comitia, hereby (to wit, each of us severally and apart, and not the one for the other of us) do oblige our selves to pay to Dr. Thomas Burwell, Fellow and Elect of the said College, the sum of Ten Pounds a-piece of Lawful Money of England, by such proportions, and at such times as to the major part of the Subscribers hereto shall seem most convenient. Which Money when received by the said Dr. Thomas Burwel, is to be by him expended in preparing and delivering Medicins to the Poor at their intrinsick Value, in such Manner, and at such Times, and by such Orders and Directions, as by the major part of the Subscribers hereto, shall in Writing be hereafter appointed and directed for that purpose. In Witness whereof we have hereunto set our Hands and Seals this Twenty Second Day of December, 1696.

Tho. Millington, Præses.
Tho. Burwell, Elect and Censor.
Sam. Collins, Elect.
Edw. Browne, Elect.
Rich. Torless, Elect and Censor.
Edw. Hulse, Elect.
Tho. Gill, Censor.
Will. Dawes, Censor.
Jo. Hutton.
Rob. Brady.
Hans Sloane.
Rich. Morton.
John Hawys.
Ch. Harel.

Sam. Garth.
Barnh. Soame.
Denton Nicholas.
Joseph Gaylard.
John Woollaston.
Steph. Hunt.
Oliver Horseman.
Rich. Morton, Jun.
David Hamilton.
Hen. Morelli.
Walter Harris.
William Briggs.
Th. Colladon.
Martin Lister.
Jo. Colbatch.

Rich. Robinson.
 Joh. Bateman.
 Walter Mills.
 Dan. Coxe.
 Henry Sampson.
 Thomas Gibson.
 Charles Goodall.
 Edm. King.
 John Wright.
 James Drake.
 Sam. Morris.
 John Woodward.

Bernard Connor.
 W. Cockburn.
 J. le Feure.
 P. Sylvestre.
 Cha. Morton.
 Walt. Charlton.
 Phineas Fowke.
 Tho. Alvery.
 Rob. Gray.
 Norris.
 George Colebrock.
 Gideon Harvey.

ccp
 The Design of Printing the Subscriber's Names, is to shew,
 that the late Undertaking has the Sanction of a College Act;
 and that 'tis not a Project carried on by Five or six Members,
 as those that oppose it, wou'd unjustly insinuate.

Do's only Power, or formal Blackness

Who's gravely dull, insipidly severe

And carry all their Wishes in their Eyes

When they wou'd, thus stirr'd of their Fancies

Show in what Noble Verse Heaven has made

How such a Poet's worthy such a Line

When Somer's Charming Eloquence you praise

15

How loftily your Tuneful Voice you raise

But my poor feeble Muse is as unfit

To praise, as Imitate what you have writ

Artists alone should venture to compare

What I can't Condemn, nor I can't praise

20

What To Dr. G---th, upon the Dispensary.

The Beaver, the London, and the Dispensary.

c.&s.c. Oh that some Genius, whose Poetick Vein,
Like Mountague's, cou'd a just Piece sustain,
Would search the Graecian and the Latin Store,
And thence present thee with the purest Oar.

In lasting Numbers praise thy whole Design,
And Manly Beauty of each Nervous Line.

5

Show how your pointed Satyr's Sterling Wit
Do's only Knaves, or formal Blockheads hit.

Who're gravely Dull, insipidly Serene,
And carry all their Wisdom in their Mien.

10

Whom thus expos'd, thus strip'd of their Disguise,
None will again Admire, most will Despise.

Show in what Noble Verse Nassau you sing,
How such a Poet's worthy such a King.

When Sommer's Charming Eloquence you Praise,
How loftily your Tuneful Voice you raise!

15

But my poor feeble Muse is as unfit
To Praise, as Imitate what you have writ.

Artists alone should venture to Commend
What D-is can't Condemn, nor D-en Mend:

20

What must, writ with that Fire and with that Ease,
The Beaux, the Ladies, and the Criticks please.

Ask me not, Friend, what I Approve or Blame,

Perhaps I know not why I Like, or Deme;

C. Boyle

I can be Pleas'd; and I dare own I am

I read Thee over with a Lover's Eye,

Thou hast no Faults, or I am Hoop'd can say

Thou art all Beauty, or all Pleasur's I,

Criticks, and good Sense of Jeany cease,

Who ne'er had Fire, or else whose Fire is past,

Must judge by Rules what they want Force to Taste.

I wou'd a Poet, like a Mistress, try,

Not by her Hair, her Nose, her Noes, her Eyes;

But by some Nameless Pow'r, to give us Joy.

The Nymph has Grafton's, Cecil's, Churchill's Charms,

If with resistless Fires my Soul she warms

With Balm upon her Lips, and Raptures in her Arms.

Such is thy Genius, and such Art is thine,

Some secret Magick works in ev'ry Line;

We Judge not, but we feel the Power Divine.

Where all is Just, is Beautiful, and is Fair.

Distinctions vanish of peculiar Air.

To my Friend the Author, desiring my
Opinion of his Poem.

Ask me not, Friend, what I Approve or Blame,

Perhaps I know not why I Like, or Damn;

I can be Pleas'd; and I dare own I am.

I read Thee over with a Lover's Eye,

Thou hast no Faults, or I no Faults can spy;

Thou art all Beauty, or all Blindness I.

Criticks, and aged Beaux of Fancy chast,

Who ne'er had Fire, or else whose Fire is past,

Must judge by Rules what they want Force to Taste.

I wou'd a Poet, like a Mistress, try,

Not by her Hair, her Hand, her Nose, her Eye;

But by some Nameless Pow'r, to give me Joy.

The Nymph has Grafton's, Cecil's, Churchill's Charms,

If with resistless Fires my Soul she warms

With Balm upon her Lips, and Raptures in her Arms.

Such is thy Genius, and such Art is thine,

Some secret Magick works in ev'ry Line;

We judge not, but we feel the Pow'r Divine.

Where all is Just, is Beauteous, and is Fair,

Distinctions vanish of peculiar Air.

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Lost in our Pleasure, we Enjoy in you

Lucretius, Horace, Sheffeld, Mountague.

And yet 'tis thought, some Criticks in this Town,

By Rules to all, but to themselves, unknown

Will Damn thy Verse, and Justify their own.

25

Why, let them Damn: Were it not wondrous hard

Facetious Mirmil, and the City-Bard,

So near ally'd in Learning, Wit, and Skill,

Shou'd not have leave to Judge, as well as Kill?

Nay, let them write; Let them their Forces join,

30

And hope the Motly Piece may Rival thine,

Safely despise their Malice, and their Toil,

Which Vulgar Ears alone will reach, and will defile,

Be it thy Gen'rous Pride to please the Best,

Whose Judgment, and whose Friendship is a Test.

35

With Learned Hannes thy healing Cares be join'd,

Search thoughtful Ratcliffe to his inmost Mind:

Unite, restore your Arts, and save Mankind.

Whilst all the busie Mirmils of the Town

Envy our Health, and pine away their own.

40

When e'er thou wou'dst a Tempting Muse engage,

Judicious Walsh can best direct her Rage.

To Sommers, and to Dorset too submit,

And let their Stamp Immortalize thy Wit.

Consenting Phoebus bows, if they Approve,

45

And Ranks thee with the foremost Bards above:

Whilst these of Right the Deathless Laurel send,

Be it my Humble Bus'ness to Commend

The faithful, honest Man, and the well-natur'd Friend.

And I but fill the Charms of the Town.

That let no wags, and only now admire,

Chr. Codrington.

The darling Rays of your Poetical Fire;

Which its diffusive Virtue does diffuse,

In flowing Verses, and elevated Sense.

The Town, which long has swallow'd foolish Verse,

Which Postasters ev'ry where profess;

Will send their Judgment now, before their Test.

And gather up th'Applause they throw in Vests.

The Playhouse shall not Encourage false, or false,

Abortive Thoughts, with Decoration-Rhime.

The Satyr of Vile Scribblers shall appear

In none, except upon the wretched Stage;

While yours Contents the Gall of vulgar Sight;

And when you seem to Dull the most, you hit.

To my Friend Dr. G--th, the Author
of the Dispensary.

To Praise your Healing Art would be in vain,
The Health you give, prevents the Poet's Pen.

Sufficiently confirm'd is your Renown,

And I but fill the Chorus of the Town.

That let me wave, and only now Admire,

5

The dazzling Rays of your Poetick Fire:

Which its diffusive Virtue does dispense,

In flowing Verse, and elevated Sense.

The Town, which long has swallow'd foolish Verse,

Which Poetasters ev'ry where rehearse;

10

Will mend their Judgment now, refine their Tast,

And gather up th'Applause they threw in Waste.

The Playhouse shan't Encourage false, sublime,

Abortive Thoughts, with Decoration-Rhime.

The Satyr of Vile Scribblers shall appear

15

On none, except upon themselves severe:

While yours Contemns the Gall of Vulgar Spight;

And when you seem to Smile the most, you Bite.

Tho. Cheek.

To my Friend, upon the Dispensary.

As when the People of the Northern Zone
Find the Approach of the Revolving Sun,
Pleas'd and reviv'd, They see the new-born Light,
And dread no more Eternity of Night:

Thus We, who lately as of Summers Heat 5
Have felt a Dearth of Poetry and Wit;
Once fear'd, Apollo would return no more
From warmer Climes, to an ungrateful Shore.
But You, the Fav'rite of the Tuneful Nine,
Have made the God in his full Lustre shine; 10
Our Night have chang'd into a Glorious Day,
And reach'd Perfection in your first Essay:
So the young Eagle that his Force would try,
Faces the Sun, and tow'rs it to the Skie.

Others proceed to Art by slow degrees, 15
Awkward at first, at length they faintly Please;
And still whate'er their first Efforts produce,
'Tis an Abortive, or an Infant Muse:
Whilst yours, like Pallas, from the Head of Jove
Steps out full grown, with Noblest Pace to move. 20

What ancient Poets to their Subject owe,
Is here inverted, and this owes to you:
You found it Little, but have made it Great;
They could Describe, but you alone Create.

Now let your Muse rise with Expanded Wings,
To Sing the Fate of Empires, and of Kings;
Great WILLIAM's Victories she'll next rehearse,
And raise a Trophy of Immortal Verse:
Thus to your Art proportion the Design,
And Mighty Things will Mighty Numbers join,
A Second Namur, or a future Boyne.

25

30

H. Blount

THE
Dispensary.

C A N T O I.

C&S.C.

Speak, Goddess! since 'tis Thou that best canst tell,

How ancient Leagues to modern Discord fell;

And why Physicians were so cautious grown

Of others Lives, and lavish of their own;

How by a Journey to th'Elysian Plain

Peace triumph'd, and old Time return'd again.

Not far from that most celebrated Place,

Where angry Justice shews her awful Face;

Where little Villains must submit to Fate,

That great Ones may enjoy the World in state;

There stands a Dome, Majestick to the Sight,

And sumptuous Arches bear its oval Height;

A golden Globe plac'd high with artful Skill,

Seems, to the distant Sight, a gilded Pill:

This Pile was, by the pious Patron's Aim,

Rais'd for a Use as Noble as its Frame;

Nor did the learn'd Society decline

The Propagation of that great Design;

In all her Mazes, Nature's Face they view'd,
 And as she disappear'd, their Search pursu'd. 20
 Wrapt in the Shades of Night the Goddess lyes,
 Yet to the Learn'd unveils her dark Disguise,
 But shuns the gross Access of vulgar Eyes. }
 Now she unfolds the faint, and dawning Strife
 Of infant Atoms kindling into Life: 25
 How ductile Matter new Meanders takes,
 And slender Trains of twisting Fibres makes.
 And how the Viscous seeks a closer Tone,
 By just degrees to harden into Bone;
 While the more Loose flow from the vital Urn, 30
 And in full Tides of Purple Streams return;
 How lambent Flames from life's bright Lamp arise,
 And dart in emanations through the eyes;
 How from each Sluice a gentle Torrent pours,
 To slake a feav'rish Heat with ambient Show'rs. 35
 Whence their Mechanick Pow'rs the Spirits claim,
 How great their Force, how delicate their Frame:
 How the same Nerves are fashion'd to sustain
 The greatest Pleasure, and the greatest Pain.
 Why bileous Juice a golden Light puts on, 40
 And floods of Chyle in Silver Currents run.

How the dim Speck of Entity began
 T'extend its recent Form, and stretch to Man.
 To how minute an Origin we owe
 Young Ammon, Caesar, and the Great Nassau. 45
 Why paler Looks impetuous Rage proclaim,
 And why chill Virgins redden into Flame. 70
 Why Envy oft transforms with wan Disguise,
 And why gay Mirth sits smiling in the Eyes.
 All Ice why Lucrece, or Sempronia, fire, 50
 Why S---- rages to survive Desire.
 Whence Milo's Vigour at Olympick's shown,
 Whence Tropes to F--ch, or Impudence to S----
 How Matter, by the vary'd shape of Pores,
 Or Idiots frames, or solemn Senators. 55

Hence 'tis we wait the wondrous Cause to find,
 How Body acts upon impassive Mind. 60
 How Fumes of Wine the thinking part can fire,
 Past Hopes revive, and present Joys inspire:
 Why our Complexions oft our Soul declare, 60
 And how the Passions in the Features are.
 How Touch and Harmony arise between
 Corporeal Figure, and a Form unseen,
 How quick their Faculties the Limbs fulfil,

And act at ev'ry Summons of the Will. 65
 With mighty Truths, mysterious to descry,
 Which in the Womb of distant Causes lie.
 But now no grand Enquiries are descry'd,
 Mean Faction reigns, where Knowledge shou'd preside,
 Feuds are encreas'd, and Learning laid aside. 70

Thus Synods oft, Concern for Faith conceal;
 And for important Nothings show a Zeal:
 The drooping Sciences neglected pine,
 And Paeon's Beams with fading Lustre shine.
 No Readers here with Hectick looks are found, 75
 Or Eyes in Rheum, thro' midnight-watching drown'd:
 The lonely Edifice in Sweats complains,
 That nothing there but sullen Silence reigns.

This Place so fit for undisturb'd Repose,
 The God of Sloth for his Asylum chose. 80
 Upon a Couch of Down in these Abodes
 Supine with folded Arms he thoughtless nods.
 Indulging Dreams his Godhead lull to Ease,
 With Murmurs of soft Rills, and whisp'ring Trees.

The Poppy and each numming Plant dispense 85
 Their drowzy Virtue, and dull Indolence.
 No Passions interrupt his easie Reign,
 No Problems puzzle his lethargick Brain.
 But dark Oblivion guards his peaceful Bed,
 And lazy Fogs hang ling'ring o'er his Head. 90

As at full length the pamper'd Monarch lay,
 Batt'ning in Ease, and slumb'ring Life away:
 A spiteful Noise his downy Chains unties,
 Hastes forward, and encreases as it flies.

First, some to cleave the stubborn Flint engage, 95
 Till urg'd by Blows, it sparkles into Rage.
 Some temper Lute, some spacious Vessels move;
 These Furnaces erect, and Those approve.
 Here Phials in nice Discipline are set,
 There Gally-pots are rang'd in Alphabet. 100
 In this place, Magazines of Pills you spy;
 In that, like Forrage, Herbs in Bundles lye.
 While lifted Pestles, brandish'd in the Air,
 Descend in Peals, and Civil Wars declare.

Loud Streaks, with pounding Spice, the Fabrick rend, 105
 And Aromatick Clouds in Spires ascend.

So when the Cyclops, o'er their Anvils sweat,
 And swelling Sinews ecchoing Blows repeat;
 From the Vulcano's gross Eruptions rise,
 And curling Sheets of Smoke obscure the Skies. 110

The slumb'ring God amaz'd at this new Din,
 Thrice strove to rise, and thrice sunk down agen.
 Listless he stretch'd, and gaping rubb'd his Eyes,
 And faulter'd thus betwixt half Words and Sighs.

How impotent a Deity am I! 115
 With Godhead born, but curs'd, that cannot die!
 Thro' my Indulgence, Mortals hourly share
 A grateful Negligence, and Ease from Care.
 Lull'd in my Arms, how long have I with-held
 The Northern Monarchs from the dusty Field. 120
 How have I kept the British Fleet at ease,
 From tempting the rough Dangers of the Seas.
Hibernia owns the mildness of my Reign,

And my Divinity's ador'd in Spain. 145
 I Swains to Sylvan Solitudes convey, 125
 Where stretch'd on Mossy Beds, they waste away,
 In gentle Joys the Night, in Vows the Day.
 What marks of wondrous Clemency I've shown,
 Some Rev'rend Worthies of the Gown can own.
 Triumphant Plenty, with a chearful Grace, 130
 Basks in their Eyes, and sparkles in their Face.
 How sleek their Looks, how goodly is their Mien,
 When big they strut behind a double Chin.
 Each Faculty in Blandishments they lull,
 Aspiring to be venerably dull. 135
 No learn'd Debates molest their downy Trance,
 Or discompose their pompous Ignorance:
 But undisturb'd, they loiter Life away,
 So wither Green, and blossom in Decay. 140
 Deep sunk in Down, they, by my gentle Care,
 Avoid th'Inclemencies of Morning Air,
 And leave to tatter'd Crape the Drudgery of Pray'r.
Urim was civil, and not void of Sense,
 Had Humour, and a courteous Confidence.

So spruce he moves, so gracefully he cocks; 145
 The hallow'd Rose declares him Orthodox.
 He pass'd his easie Hours, instead of Pray'r,
 In Madrigals, and Phillising the Fair,
 Constant at Feasts, and each Decorum knew; 150
 And soon as the Desert appear'd, withdrew.
 Always obliging and without Offence,
 And fancy'd for his gay Impertinence.
 But see how ill mistaken Parts succeed;
 He threw off my Dominion, and would read; 155
 Engag'd in Controversie, wrangled well;
 In Convocation-Language cou'd excel.
 In Volumns prov'd the Church without Defence,
 By nothing guarded but by Providence:
 How Grace and Moderation disagree;
 And Violence advances Charity. 160
 Thus writ 'till none would read, becoming soon
 A wretched Scribler, of a rare Buffoon.
~~These Walls were that~~
 Mankind my fond propitious Pow'r has try'd,
 Too oft to own, too much to be deni'd.
 And all I ask are Shades and silent Bow'rs, 165

To pass in soft Forgetfullness my Hours.
 Oft have my Fears some distant Villa chose,
 O'er their Quietus where fat Judges dose,
 And lull their Cough and Conscience to repose: } 170
 Or if some Cloyster's Refuge I implore,
 Where holy Drones o'er dying Tapers snore: } 170
 The Peals of Nassau Arms these Eyes unclose,
 Mine he molests, to give the World Repose.
 That Ease I offer with Contempt He flies,
 His Couch a Trench, his Canopy the Skies. } 175
 Nor Climes nor Seasons his Resolves controul,
 Th'Aequator has no Heat, no Ice the Pole. } 175
 With Arms resistless o're the Globe he flies,
 And leaves to Jove the Empire o' the Skies. } 175
 Tell the bleak Fury what new Projects reign,
 But as the slothful God to yawn begun, } 180
 He shook off the dull Mist, and thus went on.
 'Twas in this rev'rend Dome I sought Repose,
 These Walls were that Asylum I had chose.
 Here have I rul'd long undisturb'd with Broils,
 And laugh'd at Heroes, and their glorious Toils. } 185
 My Annals are in mouldy Mildews wrought,

With easie Insignificance of Thought.

But now some busie, enterprizing Brain

Invents new Fancies to renew my Pain,

And labours to dissolve my easie Reign.

190

With that, the God his darling Phantom calls,
And from his fault'ring Lips this Message falls.

Since Mortals will dispute my Pow'r, I'll try
Who has the greatest Empire, they or I.

Find Envy out, some Prince's Court attend,
Most likely there you'll meet the famish'd Fiend.

195

Or where dull Criticks Author's Fate foretel;
Or where stale Maids, or meager Eunuchs dwell.

Tell the bleak Fury what new Projects reign,

Among the Homicides of Warwick-Lane.

200

And what th'Event, unless she streight enclines
To blast their Hopes, and baffle their Designs.

More he had spoke, but sudden Vapours rise,
And with their silken Cords tie down his Eyes.

THE
Dispensary.

C A N T O II.

And Basilisks save Bredling in her Look.
 C.&G.C. Soon as the Ev'ning veil'd the Mountains Heads,
 And Winds lay hush'd in subterranean Beds;
 Whilst sick'ning Flow'rs drink up the Silver Dew,
 And Beaus, for some Assembly, dress anew;
 The City Saints to Pray'rs and Play-house haste;
 The Rich to Dinner, and the Poor to Rest:
 Officious Phantom then prepar'd with Care
 To slide on tender Pinions through the Air.
 Oft he attempts the Summit of a Rock,
 And oft the Hollow of some blasted Oak;
 At length approaching where bleak Envy lay,
 The hissing of her Snakes proclaim'd the way.
 And sly Hypocritae with fious Lead.

Beneath the gloomy Covert of an Eugh,
 That taints the Grass with sickly Sweats of Dew;
 No verdant Beauty entertains the Sight,
 But baneful Hemlock, and cold Aconite;
 In a dark Grott the baleful Haggard lay,
 Breathing black Vengeance, and infecting Day.

But how deform'd, and worn with spightful Woes, 50
 When Accius has Applause Dorsennus shows. 20
 The cheerful Blood her meager Cheeks forsook,
 And Basilisks sate Brooding in her Look.
 A bald and bloted Toad-stool rais'd her Head;
 The Plumes of boding Ravens were her Bed. 25
 From her chapp'd Nostrils scalding Torrents fall,
 And her sunk Eyes boil o'er in Floods of Gall.
Volcano's labour thus with inward Pains,
 Whilst Seas of melted Ore waste the Plains.
 Around the Fiend in hideous Order sate 30
 Foul bawling Infamy, and bold Debate:
 Gruff Discontent, thro' Ignorance miss-led,
 And clam'rous Faction at her Party's Head:
 Restless Sediton still dissembling Fear,
 And sly Hypocrisie with Pious Leer. 35
 At length, assuming Courage, he convey'd
 His Glouting with sullen Spight the Fury shook
 Her clotted Locks, and blasted with each Look.
 Then tore with canker'd Teeth the pregnant Scrolls,
 Where Fame the Acts of Demi-Gods enrolls.
 And as the rent Records in pieces fell,

Each Scrap did some immortal Action tell. 40

This show'd, how fix'd as Fate Torquatus stood,

That, the fam'd Passage of the Granick Flood.

The Julian Eagles, here their Wings display;

And there, like setting Stars, the Decii lay.

This does Camillus as a God extol, 45

That points at Manlius in the Capitol.

How Cochles did the Tyber's Surges brave,

How Curtius plung'd into the gaping Grave.

Great Cyrus, here, the Medes and Persians join,

And, there, th' immortal Battel of the Boyn. 50

As the light Messenger the Fury spy'd,

A while his curdling Blood forgot to glide.

Confusion on his fainting Vitals hung,

And fault'ring Accents flutter'd on his Tongue.

At length, assuming Courage, he convey'd 55

His Errand, then he shrunk into a Shade.

The Hag lay long revolving what might be

The blest Event of such an Embassy.

Then blazons in dread Smiles her hideous Form,

So Light'ning gilds the unrelenting Storm. 60
 Thus she - Mankind are bless'd, they riot still
 Unbounded in Exorbitance of Ill.
 By Devastation the rough Warrior gains,
 And Farmers fatten most when Famine reigns;
 For sickly Seasons the Physicians wait,
 And Politicians thrive in Boils of State. 65
 The Lover's easie when the Fair One sighs,
 And Gods subsist not but by Sacrifice.
 And, when so dignifi'd, he'll not forbear
 That Each other Being some Indulgence knows,
 Few are my Joys, but infinite my Woes. 70
 My present Pain Brittania's Genius wills,
 And thus the Fates record my future Ills.
 In Aspect grand and proudly he appears,
 Now A Heroine shall Albion's Scepter bear,
 With Arms shall vanquish Earth, and Heav'n with Pray'r.
 She on the World her Clemency shall show'r, 75
 And only to preserve, exert her Pow'r.
 Tyrants shall then their impious Aims forbear,
 And Blenheim's Thunder, more than Aetna's, fear.

Since by no Arts I therefore can defeat 100
 The happy Enterprizes of the Great, 80
 I'll calmly stoop to more inferiour things;
 And try if my lov'd Snakes have Teeth or Stings.

She said; and straight shrill Colon's Person took,
 In Morals loose, but most precise in Look. 105
Black-Fryar's Annals lately pleas'd to call 85
 Him Warden of Apothecaries-Hall.
 And, when so dignifi'd, he'd not forbear
 That Operation which the Learn'd declare
 Gives Cholicks ease, and makes the Ladies fair. 110
 In trifling Show his Tinsel Talent lies, 90
 And Form the want of Intellects supplies.
 In Aspect grand and goodly He appears,
 Rever'd as Patriarchs in primaeval Years.
 Hourly his Learn'd Impertinence affords
 A barren Superfluity of Words. 95
 The Patient's Ears remorseless he assails,
 Murthers with Jargon where his Med'cine fails.
 The Fury thus assuming Colon's Grace,
 So flung her Arms, so shuffl'd in her Pace.

Hold to Prescribe, and busy to apply.

Onward she hastens to the fam'd Abodes, 100
 Where Horoscope invokes th 'infernal Gods;
 And reach'd the Mansion where the Vulgar run,
 For Ruin throng, and pay to be undone.
 And there, the Tortois bids her Feet w' Hall;
 Not This Visionarie various Projects tries,
 And knows, that to be Rich is to be Wise. 105
 By useful Observations he can tell
 The Sacred Charms, that in true Sterling dwell.
 How Gold makes a Patrician of a Slave,
 A Dwarf an Atlas, a Thersites brave.
 It cancels all Defects, and in their Place 110
 Finds Sense in Br--w, Charms in Lady G--ce
 It guides the Fancy, and directs the Mind;
 No Bankrupt ever found a Fair One kind.
 And Planetary Schemes amuse the Eye.
 The So truly Horoscope its Virtue knows,
 To this lov'd Idol 'tis, alone, he bows; 115
 And fancies such bright Heraldry can prove,
 The vile Plebeian but the third from Jove.

Long has he been of that amphibious Fry,
 Bold to Prescribe, and busie to Apply.

His Shop the gazing Vulgar's Eyes employs 120
 With foreign Trinkets, and domestick Toys.

Here, Mummies lay most reverently stale,
 And there, the Tortois hung her Coat o'Mail;
 Not far from some huge Shark's devouring Head,
 The flying Fish their finny Pinions spread. 125
 Aloft in Rows large Poppy Heads were strung,
 And near, a scaly Alligator hung.
 In this place, Drugs in musty Heaps decay'd,
 In that, dri'd Bladders, and drawn Teeth were laid.

Whilst Iris, his domestick Wife, would try, 130
 To An inner Room receives the num'rous Shoals
 Of such as Pay to be reputed Fools.
 Globes stand by Globes, Volumns on Volumns lie,
 And Planetary Schemes amuse the Eye.
 The Sage, in Velvet Chair, here lolls at Ease, 135
 To promise future Health for present Fees.
 Then, as from Tripod, solemn Shams reveals,
 And what the Stars know nothing of, foretels.

Of kidding in cold Weiss the Sparks of Love:
 One asks how soon Panthea may be won,
 And longs to feel the Marriage Fetters on.

Others, convinc'd by melancholy Proof, *Pleasure sees* 140

Enquire when courteous Fates will strike 'em off.

In Calon's Voice see this call out aloud

On Some, by what means they may redress the Wrong,

When Fathers the Possession keep too long.

And some wou'd know the Issue of their Cause,

And whether Gold can sodder up its Flaws. *leave* 145

Poor pregnant Lais his Advice would have,

To lose by Art what fruitful Nature gave: *tell*

And Portia old in Expectation grown,

Laments her barren Curse, and begs a Son.

Whilst Iris, his Cosmetick Wash, wou'd try, 150

To make her Bloom revive, and Lovers dye.

Some ask for Charms, and others Philtres choose

To gain Corinna, and their Quartans loose.

Young Hylas, botch'd with Stains too foul to name

In Cradle here renews his Youthful Frame: 155

Cloy'd with Desire, and surfeited with Charms,

A Hot-house he prefers to Julia's Arms. *thou vast*

And old Lucullus wou'd th'Arcanum prove,

Of kindling in cold Veins the Sparks of Love.

Their Gated each day Ten thousand Night-caps crowd, 160

And Bleak Envy these dull Frauds with Pleasure sees, 160
 And wonders at the senseless Mysteries.
 In Colon's Voice she thus calls out aloud
 On Horoscope environ'd by the Crowd.
 And none, in Complaisance to us, would dye,
 Forbear, forbear, thy vain Amusements cease,
 Thy Wood-Cocks from their Gins a while release; 165
 And to that dire Misfortune listen well,
 Which thou shou'dst fear to know, or I to tell.
 'Tis true, Thou ever wast esteem'd by me
 The Great Alcides of our Company.
 When we with Noble Scorn resolv'd to ease 170
 Our selves from all Parochial Offices;
 And to our Wealthier Patients left the Care,
 And draggl'd Dignity of Scavenger:
 Such Zeal in that Affair thou didst express,
 Nought cou'd be equal, but the great Success. 175
 Now call to mind thy Gen'rous Prowess past,
 Be what thou shou'dst, by thinking what thou wast.
 The Faculty of Warwick-Lane Design,
 If not to Storm, at least to Undermine:
 Their Gates each day Ten thousand Night-caps crowd, 180

Whilst we must steer our Conduct by these Rules,
And Mortars utter their Attempts aloud.

To cheat as Tradesmen, or to starve as Poets,
If they shou'd once unmask our Mystery,

Each Nurse, e're long, wou'd be as Learn'd as We;

Our Art expos'd to ev'ry Vulgar Eye,

And none, in Complaisance to us, would dye.

185

What if We claim their Right t'Assassinate,

Must they needs turn Apothecaries straight?

Prevent it, Gods! all Stratagems we try,

To crowd with new Inhabitants your Sky.

'Tis we who wait the Destinies Command,

190

To purge the troubl'd Air, and weed the Land.

And dare the College insolently aim

To equal our Fraternity in Fame?

Then let Crabs Eyes with Pearl for Virtue try,

Or Highgate-Hill with lofty Pindus vie:

195

So Glow-worms may compare with Titan's Beams,

And Hare-Court Pump with Aganippe's Streams.

An Image of scarce animated Clay;

Our Manufactures now they meanly sell,

And their true Value treacherously tell:

Nay, They discover too, (their spite is such,)

200

That Health, than Crowns more valu'd, costs not much.

The Springs of Life they former Vigour fuel,

Such Zeal he had for that vile Utensil.

Whilst we must steer our Conduct by these Rules,
 To cheat as Tradesmen, or to starve as Fools.

At this, fam'd Horoscope turn'd pale, and straight
 In Silence tumbl'd from his Chair of State. 205
 The Crowd in great Confusion sought the Door,
 And left the Magus fainting on the Floor.
 Whilst in his Breast the Fury breath'd a Storm,
 Then sought her Cell, and reassum'd her Form.
 Thus from the Sore altho' the Insect flies, 210
 It leaves a Brood of Maggots in Disguise.

Officious Squirt in haste forsook his Shop,
 To succour the expiring Horoscope.
 Oft he essay'd the Magus to restore,
 By Salt of Succinum's prevailing Pow'r; 215
 Yet still supine the solid Lumber lay
 An Image of scarce animated Clay;
 Till Fates, indulgent when Disasters call,
 By Squirt's nice Hand apply'd a Urinal;
 The Wight no sooner did the Steam receive, 220
 But rous'd, and bless'd the Stale Restorative.
 The Springs of Life their former Vigour feel,
 Such Zeal he had for that vile Utensil.

So when the Great Pelides, Thetis found,
 He knew the Sea-weed Scent, and th'Azure Goddess own'd. 225

III.
 CANTO III.

CANTO III. All Night the Sage in passive Torments lay,
 Complaining of the slow approach of Day,
 Oft turn'd his round, and strove to think no more,
 Of what shrill Solon said the Day before,
Cowslips and Poppies o'er his Eyes he spread, 5
 And Sage's Works he laid beneath his Head,
 But those bless'd Opiates still in vain he tries,
 Sleep's gentle Image his Embrace flies.
 Tumultuous Cares lay rolling in his Breast,
 And thus his anxious Thoughts the Sage express'd. 10

Oft has this Planet roud's around the Sun,
 Since to consult the Skies, I first began:
 Such my Applause, so mighty my Success,
 Some granted my Predictions more than Guess.
 But, doubtful as I am, I'll entertain
 This Faith, there can be no Mistake in Fate.
 For the dull World must Honour pay to those
 Who on their Understanding most impose.

THE
Dispensary.

C A N T O III.

c. & s. c. All Night the Sage in Pensive Tumults lay,
Complaining of the slow approach of Day;
Oft turn'd him round, and strove to think no more,
Of what shrill Colon said the Day before;
Cowslips and Poppies o'er his Eyes he spread,
And S---nd's Works he laid beneath his Head.
But those bless'd Opiats still in vain he tries,
Sleep's gentle Image his Embraces flies.
Tumultuous Cares lay roul'ing in his Breast,
And thus his anxious Thoughts the Sage express'd.

5

10

Oft has this Planet roul'd around the Sun,
Since to consult the Skies, I first begun:
Such my Applause, so mighty my Success,
Some granted my Predictions more than Guess.
But, doubtful as I am, I'll entertain
This Faith, there can be no Mistake in Gain.
For the dull World most Honour pay to those
Who on their Understanding most impose.

First Man creates, and then he fears the Elf, 40
 Thus others cheat him not, but he himself: 20
 He loaths the Substance, and he loves the Show,
 You'll ne'er convince a Fool, Himself is so:
 He hates Realities, and hugs the Cheat, 25
 And still the only Pleasure's the Deceit.
 So Meteors flatter with a dazzling Dye 25
 Which no Existence has, but in the Eye,
 At distance Prospects please us, but when near,
 We find but desert Rocks, and fleeting Air.
 From Stratagem, to Stratagem we run, 30
 And he knows most, who latest is undone. 30
 That Project, the Disgrace they call,
 Before Mankind one day serene and free appear;
 The next, they're cloudy, sullen, and severe:
 New Passions, new Opinions still excite,
 And what they like at Noon, they leave at Night:
 They gain with Labour, what they quit with Ease, 35
 And Health, for want of Change, becomes Disease.
 Religion's bright Authority they dare,
 And yet are Slaves to Superstitious Fear.
 They Counsel others, but themselves deceive,

And tho' they're Cozen'd still, they still believe. 40
 So false their Censure, fickle their Esteem,
 This Hour they Worship; and the next Blaspheme.

Officious Squint their words had press'd.

Shall I then, who with penetrating Sight
 Inspect the Springs that guide each Appetite:
 Who with unfathom'd Searches hourly pierce 45
 The dark Recesses of the Universe,
 Be aw'd, if puny Emmets wou'd oppress;
 Or fear their Fury, or their Name caress?
 If all the Fiends that in low Darkness reign,
 Be not the Fictions of a sickly Brain; 50
 That Project, the Dispensary they call,
 Before the Moon can blunt her Horns, shall fall.

May the friendly Spirit be sent.

With that, a Glance from mild Aurora's Eyes,
 Shoots thro' the Crystal Kingdoms of the Skies;
 The Savage Kind in Forests cease to roam, 55
 And Sots o'ercharg'd with nauseous Loads reel home.
 Drums, Trumpets, Haut-boys wake the slumbring Pair;
 Whilst Bridegroom sighs, and thinks the Bride less fair.
 Light's chearful Smiles o'er th'Azure Waste are spread,

And Miss from Inns o' Court bolts out unpaid. 60

The Sage transported at th'approaching Hour,
Imperiously thrice thunder'd on the Floor;

Officious Squirt that moment had access,
His Trust was great, his Vigilance no less.

To him thus Horoscope. 65

My kind Companion in this dire Affair,
Which is more Light, since you assume a Share;

Fly with what hast you us'd to do of old,
When Clyster was in danger to be cold:

With Expedition on the Beadle call 70

To summon all the Company to th'Hall.

And Away the friendly Coadjutor hies,
Swift as from Phyal Steams of Harts-horn rise.

The Magus in the int'rim mumbles o'er 75

Vile Terms of Art to some Infernal Pow'r,

And draws Mysterious Circles on the Floor. }

But from the gloomy Vault no glaring Spright
Ascends, to blast the tender Bloom of Light.

No mystick Sounds from Hell's detested Womb,

Whose kind Indulgences he of course shall reap. 100

In dusky Exhalations upwards come. 80
 And now to raise an Altar He decrees,
 To that devouring Harpy call'd Disease;
 Then Flow'rs in Canisters he hastes to bring,
 The wither'd Product of a blighted Spring, 85
 With cold Solanum from the Pontick Shore,
 The Roots of Mandrake and Black Ellebore.
 The Griper Senna, and the Puker Rue,
 The Sweetner Sassafras are added too;
 And on the Structure next he heaps a load 90
 Of Sulphur, Turpentine and Mastick Wood:
 Gums, Fossiles too the Pyramid increas'd,
 A Mummy next, once Monarch of the East.
 Then from the Compter he takes down the File,
 And with Prescriptions lights the solemn File.
 He spoke; and as the Pyramid he laid 95
 Feebly the Flames on clumsy Wings aspire,
 And smoth'ring Fogs of Smoke benight the Fire.
 With Sorrow he beheld the sad Portent,
 Then to the Hag these Orizons he sent.
 So let its Vessels burst, and Blazes fly. 100
 Disease! thou ever most propitious Pow'r,
 Whose kind Indulgence we discern each Hour;

Thou well canst boast thy num'rous Pedigree
 Begot by Sloth, maintain'd by Luxury.
 In gilded Palaces thy Prowess reigns,
 But flies the humble Sheds of Cottage Swains.
 To You such Might and Energy belong, 105
 You nip the Blooming, and unnerve the Strong.
 The Purple Conqueror in Chains you bind,
 And are to us your Vassals only kind.
 If, in return, all Diligence we pay
 To fix your Empire, and confirm your Sway, 110
 Far as the weekly Bills can reach around,
 From Kent-street end to fam'd St. Giles's-Pound;
 Behold this poor Libation with a Smile,
 And let auspicious Light break through the Pile.
 Now Mertha and Althos, Wights no more, 115
 He spoke; and on the Pyramid he laid
 Bay-Leaves and Viper's Hearts, and thus he said;
 As These consume in this mysterious Fire,
 So let the curs'd Dispensary expire;
 And as Those crackle in the Flames, and die, 120
 So let its Vessels burst, and Glasses fly.
 But a sinister Cricket straight was heard,

The Altar fell, the Off'ring disappear'd.
 As the fam'd Wight the Omen did regret,
Squirt brought the News the Company was met.

The Nigh where Fleet-Ditch descends in sable Streams, 125
 To wash his sooty Naiads in the Thames;
 There stands a Structure on a rising Hill,
 Where Tyro's take their Freedom out to kill. 130
 Some Pictures in these dreadful Shambles tell,
 How, by the Delian God, the Pithon fell; 130
 And how Medea did the Philter brew,
 That cou'd in Aeson's Veins young force renew;
 How mournful, Myrrha for her Crimes appears, 135
 And heals hysterick Matrons still with Tears.
 How Mentha and Althea, Nymphs no more, 135
 Revive in sacred Plants, and Health restore.
 How sanguine Swains their am'rous Hours repent,
 When Pleasure's past, and Pains are permanent; 140
 And how frail Nymphs, oft by Abortion, aim
 To lose a Substance, to preserve a Name. 140
 Soon as each Member in his Rank was plac'd,
 Th'Assembly Diasenna thus address'd:

Even Patients chose to die with better will, 145

My kind Confed'rates, if my poor Intent,
 As 'tis sincere, had been but prevalent,
 We here had met on some more safe Design, 145
 And on no other Bus'ness but to Dine;
 The Faculty had still maintain'd their Sway, 170
 And Int'rest then had bid us but obey;
 This only Emulation we had known,
 Who best cou'd fill his Purse, and thin the Town. 150
 But now from gath'ring Clouds Destruction pours,
 Which ruins with mad rage our Halcyon hours: 175
 Mists from black Jealousies the Tempest form,
 Whilst late Divisions reinforce the Storm.
 Know, when these Feuds, like those at Law, are past, 155
 The Winners will be Losers at the last.
 Like Heroes in Sea-Fights we seek Renown, 180
 To Fire some hostile Ship, we burn our own.
 Who-e're throws Dust against the Wind, describes
 He throws it, in effect, but in his Eyes. 160
 That Jugler which another's Slight will show,
 But teaches how the World his own may know. 185
 Thrice happy were those golden Days of old,
 When dear as Burgundy, Ptisans were sold;
 When Patients chose to die with better will, 165

Than breathe, and pay th'Apothecary's Bill.
 And cheaper than for our Assistance call,
 Might go to Aix or Bourbon Spring and Fall.
 Then Priests increas'd, and Piety decay'd,
 Churchmen the Church's Purity betray'd; } 170
 Their Lives and Doctrine, Slaves and Atheists made.
 The Laws were but the hireling Judge's Sense;
 Juries were sway'd by venal Evidence.
 Fools were promoted to the Council-Board,
 Tools to the Bench, and Bullies to the Sword. } 175
 Pensions in private were the Senate's Aim;
 And Patriots for a Place abandon'd Fame.
 But now no influencing Art remains,
 For S--rs has the Seal, and Nassau reigns.
 And we, in spite of our Resolves, must bow, } 180
 And suffer by a Reformation too.
 For now late Jars our Practices detect,
 And Mines, when once discover'd, lose Effect.
 Dissentions, like small Streams, are first begun,
 Scarce seen they rise, but gather as they run: } 185
 So Lines that from their Parallel decline,
 More they proceed, the more they still dis-join.

'Tis therefore my Advice, in haste we send,
 And beg the Faculty to be our Friend. } 190
 Send swarms of Patients, and our Quarrels end. }

So awful Beadles, if the Vagrant treat,
 Strait turn familiar, and their Fasces quit.
 In vain we but contend, that Planet's Pow'r
 Those Vapours can disperse It rais'd before. } 195
 And Bromoches in Staffs and Druggs deal:
 As He prepar'd the Mischief to recite,

Keen Colocynthis paus'd and form'd with Spight,
 Sow'r Ferments on his shining Surface swim,
 Work up to Froth and bubble o'er the Brim: } 200
 Not Beauties fret so much if Freckles come,
 Or Nose shou'd redden in the Drawing-Room;
 Or Lovers that mistake th'appointed Hour,
 Or in the lucky Minute want the Pow'r.

Thus He - Thou Scandal of great Poëan's Art,
 At thy approach, the Springs of Nature start, } 205
 The Nerves unbrace: Nay, at the sight of thee,
 A Scratch turns Cancer, Itch a Leprosie.
 Cou'dst thou propose that we, the Friends o'Fates,
 Who fill Church-yards, and who unpeople States,

Who baffle Nature, and dispose of Lives,
 Whilst Russel, as we please, or starves, or thrives; 210
 Shou'd e'er submit to their despotick Will,
 Who out o' Consultation scarce can kill?
 The tow'ring Alps shall sooner sink to Vales,
 And Leaches, in our Glasses, swell to Whales;
 Or Norwich trade in Implements of Steel, 215
 And Bromingham in Stuffs and Druggets deal: 220
 Allys at Wapping furnish us new Modes,
 And Monmouth street, Versailles with Riding-hoods;
 The Sick to th' Hundreds in pale Throngs repair,
 And change the Gravel-Pits for Kentish Air. 220
 We'll raise our numerous Cohorts, and oppose 240
 Our Properties must on our Arms depend;
 'Tis next to Conquer, bravely to Defend.
 'Tis to the Vulgar, Death too harsh appears;
 The Ill we feel is only in our Fears. 245
Directors still receive the greatest Prize 245
 To Die, is Landing on some silent Shoar, 225
 Where Billows never break, nor Tempests roar:
 E'er well we feel the friendly Stroke, 'tis o'er. }
 The Wise thro' Thought th' Insults of Death defy;

The Fools, thro' bless'd Insensibility,

'Tis what the Guilty fear, the Pious crave; 230

Sought by the Wretch, and vanquish'd by the Brave.

It eases Lovers, sets the Captive free;

And, tho' a Tyrant, offers Liberty.

Sound but to Arms, the Foe shall soon confess

Our Force encreases, as our Funds grow less; 235

And what requir'd such Industry to raise, 235

We'll scatter into nothing as we please.

Thus they'll acknowledge, to Annihilate

Shews no less wondrous Pow'r than to Create.

We'll raise our num'rous Cohorts, and oppose 240

The feeble Forces of our Pigmy Foes; 260

Legions of Quacks shall join us on the Place,

From Great Kirleus down to Doctor Case.

Tho' such vile Rubbish sink, yet we shall rise;

Directors still secure the greatest Prize. 245

Such poor Supports serve only like a Stay;

The Tree once fix'd, its Rest is torn away. 265

Scorn'd by the Base, tho' courted by the Brave,

So Patriots in the time of Peace and Ease,

Forget the Fury of the late Disease:

On Dangers past, serenely think no more; 250

And curse the Hand that heal'd the Wound before.

And therefore 'tis our Duty to be true

To Arm therefore, gallant Friends, 'tis Honour's Call,

Or let us boldly Fight, or bravely Fall.

Resolved to die, we have no Doubt

Now To this the Session seem'd to give consent, 255

Much lik'd the War, but dreaded much th'Event.

255

At length, the growing Diff'rence to compose,

Two Brothers, nam'd Ascarides, arose.

Both had the Volubility of Tongue,

In Meaning faint, but in Opinion strong.

To speak they both assum'd a like Pretence,

260

The Elder gain'd his just Preeminence;

Thought fit to answer to the Youth

So: Thus he: 'Tis true, when Privilege and Right

Are once invaded, Honour bids us Fight.

But e're we once engage in Honour's Cause,

First know what Honour is, and whence it was. 265

265

Scorn'd by the Base, 'tis courted by the Brave,

The Heroe's Tyrant, and the Coward's Slave.

Born in the noisy Camp, it lives on Air;
 And both exists by Hope and by Despair.
 Angry when e're a Moment's Ease we gain, 270
 And reconcil'd at our Returns of Pain.
 It lives, when in Death's Arms the Heroe lies,
 But when his Safety he consults, it dies.
 Bigotted to this Idol, we disclaim
 Rest, Health, and Ease, for nothing but a Name. 275
 Then let us, to the Field before we move,
 Know, if the Gods our Enterprize approve.
 Suppose th'unthinking Faculty unvail
 What we, thro' wiser Conduct, wou'd conceal;
 Is't Reason we shou'd quarrel with the Glass 280
 That shews the monstrous Features of our Face?
 Or grant some grave Pretenders have of late
 Thought fit an Innovation to create; 305
 Soon they'll repent, what rashly they begun,
 Tho' Projects please, Projectors are undone. 285
 All Novelties must this Success expect,
 When good, our Envy; and when bad, Neglect:
 If Reason cou'd direct, e'er now each Gate
 Had born some Trophy of Triumphal State.

Temples had told how Greece and Belgia owe
 290
Troy and Namur to Jove and to Nassau.
 Then since no Veneration is allow'd,
 Or to the real, or th'appearing Good;
 The Project that we vainly apprehend,
 Must, as it blindly rose, as vilely end. 295
 Some Members of the Faculty there are,
 And such Imaginary Words for Bread,
 Who Int'rest prudently to Oaths prefer.
 Our Friendship with feign'd Airs they poorly court,
 And boast their Politicks are our Support.
 Them we'll consult about this Enterprise, 300
 And boldly Execute what they Advise.
 But from below (while such Resolves they took)
 Some Aurum Fulminans the Fabrick shook.
 The Champions, daunted at the Crack, retreat,
 Regard their Safety, and their Rage forget. 305

To preach his Parish to a Lecher;
 So when at Bathos Earth's big Offspring strove
 To scale the Skies, and wage a War with Jove;
 Soon as the Ass of old Silenus bray'd,
 The trembling Rebels in confusion fled.

For Lewdness, Wit, and Gallantry have done

ALL WORDS MUST BE IN ITALICS, BY VANTAGE OF JAMES

THE
Dispensary.

C A N T O I V.

c.&s.c. Not far from that frequented Theater,
 Where wandering Punks each Night at five repair;
 Where Purple Emperors in Buskins tread,
 And Rule imaginary Worlds for Bread;
 Where Bently, by Old Writers, wealthy grew; 5
 And Briscoe lately was undone by New:
 There triumphs a Physician of Renown,
 To none, but such as rust in Health, unknown,
 None e'er was plac'd more fitly to impart
 His known Experience, and his healing Art. 10
 When Bur--ss deafens all the listning press
 With Peals of most Seraphick Emptiness;
 Or when Mysterious F-----n mounts on high, 15
 To preach his Parish to a Lethargy:
 This Aesculapius waits hard by, to ease 15
 The Martyrs of such Christian Cruelties.
 Long has this darling Quarter of the Town,
 For Lewdness, Wit, and Gallantry been known.
 All Sorts meet here, of whatsoe'er Degree,

To blend and justle into Harmony. 20
 The Criticks each advent'rous Author scan,
 And praise or censure as They like the Man.
 The Weeds of Writings for the Flowers They cull; 25
 So nicely Tasteless, so correctly Dull!
 The Politicians of Parnassus prate, 25
 And Poets canvass the Affairs of State;
 The Cits ne'er talk of Trade and Stock, but tell
 How Virgil writ, how bravely Turnus fell.
 The Country-Dames drive to Hippolito's,
 First find a Spark, and after lose a Nose. 30
 The Lawyer for Lac'd Coat the Robe does quit,
 He grows a Mad-man, and then turns a Wit.
 And in the Cloister pensive Strephon waits,
 Till Chloe's Hackney comes, and then retreats; 35
 And if th'ungenerous Nymph a Shaft lets fly
 More fatally than from a sparkling Eye,
Mirmillo, that fam'd Opifer, is nigh. }
 The trading Tribe oft thither throng to Dine,
 And want of Elbow-room supply in Wine.
 Cloy'd with Variety, they surfeit there, 40
 Whilst the wan Patients on thin Gruel fare.

'Twas here the Champions of the Party met,
Of their Heroick Enterprize to treat.

Each Hero a tremendous Air put on,

And stern Mirmillo in these Words begun:

45

'Tis with concern, my Friends, I meet you here;
No Grievance you can know, but I must share.

'Tis plain, my Int'rest you've advanc'd so long,
Each Fee, tho' I was mute, wou'd find a Tongue.

And in return, tho' I have strove to rend

50

Those Statutes, which on Oath I should defend;

Such Arts are Trifles to a gen'rous Mind,

Great Services, as great Returns should find.

And you'll perceive, this Hand, when Glory calls,

Can brandish Arms as well as Urinals.

55

Oxford and all her passing Bells can tell,
By this Right Arm, what mighty Numbers fell.

Whilst others meanly ask'd whole Months to slay,

I oft dispatch'd the Patient in a Day:

With Pen in hand I push'd to that degree,

60

I scarce had left a Wretch to give a Fee.

Some fell by Laudanum, and some by Steel,
And Death in ambush lay in ev'ry Pill.

For save or slay, this Privilege we claim,
Tho' Credit suffers, the Reward's the same.

65

What tho' the Art of Healing we pretend,
He that designs it least, is most a Friend.

Into the Right we err, and must confess,
To Oversights we often owe Success.

Thus Bessus got the Battel in the Play,

70

His glorious Cowardise restor'd the Day.

So the fam'd Grecian Piece ow'd its desert

To Chance, and not the labour'd Stroaks of Art.

Physicians, if they're wise, shou'd never think

Of any Arms but such as Pen and Ink:

75

But th'Enemy, at their expence, shall find,

When Honour calls, I'll scorn to stay behind.

He said; and seal'd th'Engagement with a Kiss,

Which was return'd by Younger Askaris;

Who thus advanc'd: Each Word, Sir, you impart,

80

Has something killing in it, like your Art.

How much we to your boundless Friendship owe,

To this Design sly Burro did agree,

100

A zealous Member of the Faculty

Our Files can speak, and your Prescriptions show.

Your Ink descends in such excessive Show'rs,

His Gift's pretend'd, your Steps he follows.

'Tis plain, you can regard no Health but ours. 85

And were the Doctor false, the Patient's Cur'd.

Whilst poor Pretenders puzzle o'er a Case,

A Conventicle flash'd his green'd Years,

You but appear, and give the Coup de Grace.

And his full age the eight-ous Scepter shew'd.

O that near Xanthus Banks you had but dwelt,

Thus says his own New-Style, under Shade of Tree,

When Ilium first Achaian Fury felt,

To take the Bowl were his first Aim.

The horned River then had curs'd in vain 90

Young Peleus' Arm, that choak'd his Stream with Slain.

Slow Carya was his Tower'd his intent,

No Trophies you had left for Greeks to raise,

With painful Fausces mull'ring what he meant.

Their ten Years Toil, you'd finish'd in ten Days.

His Sparks of Life in spite of Druggs retreat.

Fate smiles on your Attempts, and when you list,

So cold, that only Calenture you heat.

In vain the Cowards fly, or Brave resist. 95

In his chill Veins the sluggish Puddle flows,

Then let us Arm, we need not fear Success,

And loads with lazy Fogs his sable Brows.

No Labours are too hard for Hercules.

Legions of Lunatics about him press,

Our military Ensigns we'll display;

His Province is lost Season to Success.

Conquest pursues, where Courage leads the way.

So when Perfumes their fragrant Scent give o'er,

Naught can their Odour, like a Jakes, restore.

To this Design sly Querpo did agree, 100

A zealous Member of the Faculty;

When for Advice the Vulgar Theory, he's found
 His Sire's pretended pious Steps he treads,
 With lumber of vile Souls besieg'd around.
 And where the Doctor fails, the Saint succeeds.

A Conventicle flesh'd his greener Years,
 And his full age the righteous Rancour shares.

Thus Boys hatch Game-Eggs under Birds o' prey,
 To make the Fowl more furious for the Fray.

So Fools are always most profuse of Words,
 And Courts never fall of honest Sounds.

Slow Carus next discover'd his intent,
 With painful Pauses mutt'ring what he meant.
 His Sparks of Life in spite of Druggs retreat,

So cold, that only Calentures can heat.
 In his chill Veins the sluggish Puddle flows,
 And loads with lazy Fogs his sable Brows.

Legions of Lunaticks about him press,
 His Province is lost Reason to redress.

So when Perfumes their fragrant Scent give o're,
 Nought can their Odour, like a Jakes, restore.

When for Advice the Vulgar throng, he's found
 With lumber of vile Books besieg'd around.
 The gazing Throng acknowledge their Surprize, 120
 And deaf to Reason still consult their Eyes.
 Well he perceives the World will often find,
 To catch the Eye is to convince the Mind.
 Thus a weak State, by wise Distrust, enclines 125
 To num'rous Stores, and Strength in Magazines.
 So Fools are always most profuse of Words,
 And Cowards never fail of longest Swords.
 Abandon'd Authors here a Refuge meet,
 And from the World, to Dust and Worms retreat. 130
 Here Dregs and Sediment of Auctions reign,
 Refuse of Fairs, and Gleanings of Duck-lane;
 And up these Walls, much Gothick Lumber climbs,
 With Swiss Philosophy, and Runick Rhimes.

A Vren an Eagle, a Baboon a Peary

Combat a Lycurgus, and a Phocion, Scipio.

Heroick Ardour now th'Assembly varies,

Each Combatant braves nothing but Arrows.

Hither, retriev'd from Cooks and Grocers, come
M--- Works entire, and endless Rheams of Bloom.

135

Where wou'd the long neglected C-----s fly,
 If bounteous Carus should refuse to buy?
 But each vile Scribler's happy on this score,
 He'll find some Carus still to read him o're.

For Strength of lungs, and Plandy of Tongue.

Nor must we the obsequious Umbra spare,
 Who, soft by Nature, yet declar'd for War.
 But when some Rival Pow'r invades a Right,
 Flies set on Flies, and Turtles Turtles fight.

140

Else courteous Umbra to the last had been
 Demurely meek, insipidly serene.

145

With Him, the present still some Virtues have,
 The Vain are sprightly, and the Stupid, grave.
 The Slothful, negligent; the Foppish, neat;
 The Lewd are airy, and the Sly, discreet.

A Wren an Eagle, a Baboon a Beau; by Charm

150

C-----t a Lycurgus, and a Phocion, R-----.

Ull Omega did the Sacrifice attend,

Nor Heroick Ardour now th'Assembly warms,
 Each Combatant breaths nothing but Alarms.

As Hercules urg'd farther to be heard,

He thus was interrupted by a Bard.

175

For future glory, while the Scheme is laid,
 Fam'd Horoscope thus offers to dissuade; 155

Since of each Enterprise th'Event's unknown,
 We'll quit the Sword, and hearken to the Gown.
 Nigh lives Vagellius, one reputed long,
 For Strength of Lungs, and Pliancy of Tongue.

For Fees, to any Form he moulds a Cause, 160
 The Worst has Merits, and the Best has Flaws.

Five Guinea's make a Criminal to Day,
 And ten to Morrow wipe the Stain away.
 Whatever he affirms is undeny'd,

Milo's the Lecher, Clodius th'Homicide. 165
Cato pernicious, Cataline a Saint,

Or---rd suspected, D---comb innocent.
 To Law then Friends, for 'tis by Fate decreed,
Vagellius, and our Mony, shall succeed.

Know, when I first invok'd Disease by Charms 170
 To prove propitious to our future Arms;

Ill Omens did the Sacrifice attend,
 Nor wou'd the Sybil from her Grott ascend.

As Horoscope urg'd farther to be heard,
 He thus was interrupted by a Bard; 175

In vain your Magick Mysteries you use,
 Such sounds the Sybil's Sacred Ears abuse.
 These Lines the pale Divinity shall raise,
 Such is the Pow'r of Sound, and Force of Lays.

And Arms meet with Arms, Fauchions with Fauchions clash,
 And sparks of Fire struck out from Armour flash.
Thick Clouds of Dust contending Warriours raise,
 And hideous War o're all the Region brays.

Some raging ran with huge Herculean Clubs,
Some massy Balls of Brass, some mighty Tubs
Of Cynders bore.

Naked and half burnt Hulls, with hideous wreck,
Affright the Skies, and fry the Oceans back.

As he went rumbling on, the Fury straight
 Crawl'd in, her Limbs cou'd scarce support her Weight.
 A ruffull Rag her meager Forehead bound,
 And faintly her furr'd Lips these Accents found.

Mortal, how dar'st thou with such Lines address
 My awful Seat, and trouble my Recess?

In Essex Marshy Hundreds is a Cell, 195
 Where lazy Fogs, and drisling Vapours dwell:
 Thither raw Damps on drooping Wings repair,
 And shiv'ring Quartans shake the sickly Air.
 There, when fatigu'd, some silent Hours I pass,
 And substitute Physicians in my place. 200
 Then dare not, for the future, once rehearse
 The Dissonance of such untuneful Verse.
 But in your Lines let Energy be found,
 And learn to rise in Sense, and sink in Sound. 205
 Harsh words, tho' pertinent, uncouth appear,
 None please the Fancy, who offend the Ear.
 In Sense and Numbers if you wou'd excel,
 Read W-----y, consider D---den well.
 In one, what vig'rous Turns of Fancy shine, 210
 In th'other, Syrens warble in each Line. 210
 If D----sets sprightly Muse but touch the Lyre,
 The Smiles and Graces melt in soft desire,
 And little Loves confess their am'rous Fire. }
 The gentle Isis claims the Ivy Crown,
 To bind th'immortal Brows of A-----son. 215
 As tuneful C---greve trys his rural Strains, }

Strait for her Favour to her Court repair,
 Important Embassies claim Wings of Air.

In Whirls they fly, or fall in whirl'd Rail.

Each wond'ring stood, but Horoscope's great Soul
 That Dangers ne'er alarm, nor Doubts control; 240
 Rais'd on the Pinions of the bounding Wind,
 Out-flew the Rack, and left the Hours behind.

Why kinder Circles now to him the Day,

The Ev'ning now with Blushes warms the Air,
 The Steer resigns the Yoke, the Hind his Care.
 The Clouds above with golden Edgings glow, 245
 And falling Dews refresh the Earth below.

The Bat with sooty Wings flits thro' the Grove,
 The Reeds scarce rustle, nor the Aspine move,
 And all the feather'd Folks forbear their Lays of love. }

Thro' the transparent Region of the Skies, 250
 Swift as a Wish the Missionary flies.

With Wonder he surveys the upper Air,
 And the gay gilded Meteors sporting there.
 How lambent Jellies kind'ling in the Night,
 Shoot thro' the Aether in a Trail of Light. 255

How rising Steams in th'azure Fluid blend,

Or sleet in Clouds, or in soft Show'rs descend;

Or if the stubborn Rage of Cold prevail,

In Flakes they fly, or fall in moulded Hail.

How Hony Dews embalm the fragrant Morn,

260

And the fair Oak with luscious Sweats adorn.

How Heat and Moisture mingle in a Mass,

Or belch in Thunder, or in Light'ning blaze.

Why nimble Coruscations strike the Eye,

And bold Tornado's bluster in the Sky.

265

Why a prolifick Aura upwards tends,

Ferments, and in a living Show'r descends.

How Vapours hanging on the tow'ring Hills

In Breezes sigh, or weep in warbling Rills:

Whence Infant Winds their tender Pinions try,

270

And River Gods their thirsty Urns supply.

The wond'ring Sage pursues his airy Flight,

And braves the chill unwholsom Damps of Night;

He views the Tracts where Luminaries rove,

To settle Seasons here, and Fates above.

275

The bleak Arcturus still forbid the Seas,

The stormy Kidds, the weeping Hyades:

The shining Lyre with Strains attracting more
 Heav'n's glitt'ring Mansions now, than Hell's before.
 Glad Cassiopeia circling in the Sky,
 And each brave CHURCHILL of the Galaxy.

Warns the wild Air, and crowns the joyful Year.

From Aurora on Etesian Breezes born,

With blushing Lips breaths out the sprightly Morn;
 Each Flow'r in Dew their short-liv'd Empire weeps,
 And Cynthia with her lov'd Endymion sleeps.

285

As thro' the Gloom the Magus cuts his Way,
 Imperfect Objects tell the doubtful Day.

Dim he discerns Majestick Atlas rise,

And bend beneath the Burthen of the Skies.

His tow'ring Brows aloft no Tempests know,

290

Whilst Light'ning flies, and Thunder rolls below.

The sun-fal Beams on gliding Rivers flow,

And Distant from hence, beyond a Waste of Plains,

Proud Teneriff his Giant Brother reigns;

With breathing Fire his pitchy Nostrils glow,

315

As from his Sides he shakes the fleecy Snow.

295

Around this hoary Prince, from wat'ry Beds,

His Subject Islands raise their verdant Heads;

The Waves so gently wash each rising Hill
 The Land seems floating, and the Ocean still.
 And scart with Sales of the World the smiling Year.

Eternal Spring with smiling Verdure here 300
 Warms the mild Air, and **crowns** the youthful Year.
 From Crystal Rocks transparent Riv'lets flow,
 The Tub'rose ever breathes, and Violets blow.
 The Vine undress'd her swelling Clusters bears, 305
 The lab'ring Hind the mellow Olive cheers; 305
 Blossoms and Fruit at once the Citron shows,
 And as she pays, discovers till she owes.
 The Orange to the Sun her Pride displays,
 And gilds her fragrant Apples with his Rays.
 No Blasts e'er discompose the peaceful Sky, 310
 The Springs but murmur, and the Winds but sigh.
 The tuneful Swans on gliding Rivers float,
 And warbling Dirges, die on ev'ry Note.
 Where Flora treads her Zephyr Garlands flings,
 And scatters Odours from his Purple Wings; 315
 And Birds from Woodbine Bow'rs and Jesmin Groves
 Chaunt their glad Nuptials, and unenvy'd Loves.
 Mild Seasons, rising Hills, and silent Dales,
 The Mortar now, and then the Urinal.

Cool Grotto's, Silver Brooks, and flow'ry Vales, 320
 Groves fill'd with balmy Shrubs in pomp appear,
 And scent with Gales of Sweets the circling Year.

Faith to the Day, Condemns us the Year.

These happy Isles, where endless Pleasures wait,
 Are stil'd, by tuneful Bards - The Fortunate. 325
 On high, where no hoarse Winds nor Clouds resort,
 The hoodwink'd Goddess keeps her partial Court.
 Upon a Wheel of Amethyst she sits,
 Gives and resumes, and smiles and frowns by fits.
 In this still Labyrinth, around her lye
 Spells, Philters, Globes, and Schemes of Palmistry:
 A Sigil in this Hand the Gypsie bears, 330
 In th'other a prophetick Sive and Sheers.

The Dame by Divination knew that soon
 The Magus wou'd appear - and then begun 335
 Hail, sacred Seer! thy Embassie I know,
 Wars must ensue, the Fates will have it so. 335
 Dread Feats shall follow, and Disasters great,
 Pills charge on Pills, and Bolus Bolus meet:
Both Sides shall conquer, and yet Both shall fail;
 The Mortar now, and then the Urinal.

To Thee alone my Influence I owe; 340

Where Nature has deny'd, my Favours flow.

'Tis I that give (so mighty is my Pow'r)

Faith to the Jew, Complexion to the Moor.

I am the Wretch's Wish, the Rook's Pretence,

The Sluggard's Ease, the Coxcomb's Providence. 345

Sir Scrape-Quill, once a supple smiling Slave,

Looks lofty now, and insolently Grave;

Builds, Settles, Purchases, and has each Hour

Caps from the Rich, and Curses from the Poor.

Spadillio, that at Table serv'd o' late, 350

Drinks rich Tockay himself, and eats in Plate;

Has Levees, Villas, Mistresses in store,

And owns the Racers which he rubb'd before.

Souls heav'nly born my faithless Boons defy;

The Brave is to himself a Deity. 355

Tho' bless'd Astrea's gone, some Soil remains

Where Fortune is the Slave, and Merit reigns.

The Tyber boasts his Julian Progeny,

Thames his Nassau, the Nyle his Ptolomy.

Iberia, yet for future Sway design'd,

360

Shall, for a Hess, a greater Mordaunt find.

Thus Ariadne in proud Triumph rode,

She lost a Heroe, and she found a God.

When the still Night, with peaceful Poppies crown'd,

Had spread her shady Pinions o'er the Ground,

And slumbering Chiefs of painted Triumpha drew,

While Groves and Streams try the soft Virgin's Theme,

The Sirens gently heave against the Shore,

Flocks quit the Plains, and Dally-Blowes the Oak

Sleep shakes its downy Wings o'er mortal Eyes,

Spirillo is the only Murch, it flies.

He stabs no reptile from his anxious Grief,

That seeks, from this Silligay, relief.

Long have I design'd verticall'd in the East,

Oppress'd with Feet, and desol'd with Snows,

And starv'd eye with our Solemnity,

But now his knee-part Sore eye supply'd by Me,

My arbitrary Bounty's unbeny'd,

I give severance, and for debts provide.

None could the tedious English State support,

But I, to make it easie, make it short.

I see the dispensary—THE
Dispensary.

And Rotten Households from Captivity.

C A N T O V.

Small One of such Importance was—

c. & c. When the still Night, with peaceful Poppies crown'd,
Had spread her shady Pinions o're the Ground;
And slumbring Chiefs of painted Triumphs dream,
While Groves and Streams are the soft Virgin's Theme.
The Surges gently dash against the Shoar,
Flocks quit the Plains, and Gally-Slaves the Oar.
Sleep shakes its downy Wings o're mortal Eyes,
Mirmillo is the only Wretch, it Flies.

He finds no respite from his anxious Grief,
Then seeks, from this Soliloquy, relief.

Long have I reign'd unrival'd in the Town,
Oppress'd with Fees, and deafen'd with Renown.

None e'er cou'd dye with due Solemnity,
Unless his Pass-port first was sign'd by Me.

My arbitrary Bounty's undeny'd,
I give Reversions, and for Heirs provide.

None cou'd the tedious Nuptial State support;
But I, to make it easie, make it short.

I set the discontented Matrons free,
 And Ransom Husbands from Captivity. 20

Shall One of such Importance now engage
 In noisie Riot, and in Civil Rage?
 No, I'll endeavour straight a Peace, and so
 Preserve my Character, and Person too.

But Discord, that still haunts with hideous Mien 25
 Those dire Abodes where Hymen once has been,
 O'er-heard Mirmillo's Anguish, then begun
 In peevish Accents to express her own.

Have I so often banisht lazy Peace 30
 From her dark Solitude, and lov'd Recess?

Have I made S---th and S---lock disagree,
 And puzzle Truth with learn'd Obscurity?

And does my faithful F---son profess 35
 His Ardour still for Animositities?

Have I, Britannia's Safety to insure, 35
 Expos'd her naked, to be most secure?

Have I made Parties opposite, unite,
 In monstrous Leagues of amicable Spight
 To curse their Country, whilst the common Cry,

Is Freedom, but their Aim, the Ministry? 40
 And shall a Dastard's Cowardise prevent
 The War, so long I've labour'd to foment?
 No, 'tis resolv'd, he either shall comply,
 Or I'll renounce my wan Divinity.

With that, the Hag approach'd Mirmillo's Bed, 45
 And taking Querpo's meager Shape, She said;

At Noon of Night I hasten, to dispel,
 Those Tumults in your pensive Bosom dwell.
 I dreamt but now I heard your heaving Sighs,
 Nay, saw the Tears debating in your Eyes. 50
 O that 'twere but a Dream! But Threats I find
 Low'r in your Looks, and rankle in your Mind.
 Speak, whence it is this late disorder flows,
 That shakes your Soul, and troubles your Repose.
 Mistakes in Practice scarce cou'd give you pain, 55
 Too well you know the Dead will ne're complain.

What Looks discover, said the Homicide,
 Wou'd be a fruitless Industry to hide.

My Safety first I must consult, and then
 I'll serve our suff'ring Party with my Pen. 60
 And P---h shall what's best
 All shou'd, reply'd the Hag, their Talent learn,
 The most attempting oft the least discern.
 Let P---h speak, and V---k write,
 Soft Acon court, and rough Caecinna fight:
 Such must succeed, but when th'ennervate aim 65
 Beyond their Force, they still contend for shame.
 Had C---h printed nothing of his own,
 He had not been the S---fold o' the Town.
 Asses and Owls, unseen, their Kind betray,
 If These attempt to Hoot, or Those to Bray. 70
 Had We---y never aim'd in Verse to please,
 We had not rank'd him with our Ogilbys.
 Still Censures will on dull Pretenders fall,
 A Codrus shou'd expect a Juvenal.
 Ill Lines, but like ill Paintings, are allow'd, 75
 To set off, and to recommend the good.
 So Diamonds take a Lustre from their Foyle;
 And to a B---ly 'tis, we owe a B---le.

Consider well the Talent you possess,
 To strive to make it more wou'd make it less; 80
 And recollect what Gratitude is due,
 To those whose Party you abandon now.
 To Them you owe your odd Magnificence,
 But to your Stars your Magazine of Sense.
 Haspt in a Tombril, aukward have you shin'd 85
 With one fat Slave before, and none behind. 105
 Then haste and join your true intrepid Friends,
 Success on Vigour and Dispatch depends.

In leading Process Mirmillo stood the Right;
 And Lab'ring in Doubts Mirmillo stood, then said,
 'Tis hard to undertake, if Gain disswade; 90
 What Fool for noysie Feuds large Fees wou'd leave?
 Ten Harvests more, wou'd all I wish for give. 110

The True Man, reply'd the Elf; by Choice diseas'd,
 Ever contriving Pain, and never pleas'd. 115
 A present Good they slight, an absent chuse, 95
 And what they have, for what they have not, lose.
 False Prospects all their true Delights destroy,
 Resolv'd to want, yet lab'ring to enjoy.

In restless Hurries thoughtlessly they live,
 At Substance oft unmov'd, for Shadows grieve. 100
 Children at Toys, as Men at Titles aim;
 And in effect both covet but the same.
 This Philip's Son prov'd in revolving Years;
 And first for Rattles, then for Worlds shed Tears.
 The Fury spoke, then in a moment fir'd 105
 The Herce's Breast with Tempests, and retir'd.
 In boding Dreams Mirmillo spent the Night,
 And frightful Phantoms danc'd before his Sight.
 Till the pale Pleiads clos'd their Eyes of Light. }
 At length gay Morn glows in the Eastern Skies, 110
 The Larks in Raptures thro' the Aether rise,
 The Azure Mists skud o'er the dewy Lawns,
 The Chaunter at his early Matins yawns.
 The Amaranth opes its Leaves, the Lys its Bells,
 And Progne her Complaint of Tereus tells. 115
 As bold Mirmillo the gray Dawn descries,
 Arm'd Cap-a-pe, where Honour calls, he flies,
 And finds the Legions planted at their Post;

Where mighty Querpo fill'd the Eye the most.
 His Arms were made, if we may credit Fame, 120
 By Mulciber, the Mayor of Bromingham.
 Of temper'd Stibium the bright Shield was cast,
 And yet the Work the Metal far surpass'd.
 A Foliage of the Vulnerary Leaves,
 Grav'd round the Brim, the wondring sight deceives. 125
 Around the Center Fate's bright Trophies lay,
 Probes, Saws, Incision Knives, and Tools to slay.
 Embost upon its Field, a Battle stood
 Of Leeches spouting Hemorrhoidal Blood.
 The Artist too exprest the solemn state 130
 Of grave Physicians at a Consult met;
 About each Symptom how they Disagree,
 But how unanimous in case of Fee.
 Whilst each Assassin his learn'd Colleague tires
 With learn'd Impertinence, the Sick expires. 135
 Beneath this Blazing Orb bright Querpo shone,
 Himself an Atlas, and his Shield a Moon.
 A Pestle for his Truncheon led the Van,
 And his high Helmet was a Close-stool pan. 140

His Crest an Ibis, brandishing her Beak, 140
 And winding in loose Folds her spiral Neck.
 This, when the Young Querpoides beheld,
 His Face in Nurse's Breast the Boy conceal'd:
 Then peep't, and with th' effulgent Helm wou'd play,
 But as the Monster gap'd wou'd shrink away: 145
 Thus sometimes Joy prevail'd, and sometimes Fear;
 And Tears and Smiles alternate Passions were.
 As Querpo tow'ring stood in Martial Might,
 Pacifick Carus sparkl'd on the Right.
 An Oran Outang o'er his Shoulders hung, 150
 His Plume confess'd the Capon whence it sprung.
 His motly Mail scarce cou'd the Heroe bear,
 Haranguing thus the Tribunes of the War.
 Fam'd Chiefs,
 For present Triumphs born, design'd for more, 155
 Your Virtue I admire, your Valour more.
 If Battel be resolv'd, you'll find this Hand
 Can deal out Destiny, and Fate command.
 Our Foes in Throngs shall hide the Crimson Plain,
 And their Apollo interpose in vain. 160

Tho' Gods themselves engage, a Diamed
 With ease cou'd show a Deity can bleed.

But War's rough Trade shou'd be by Fools profest,
 The truest Rubbish fills a Trench the best.
 Let Quinsies throttle, and the Quartan shake,
 Or Dropsies drown, and Gout and Colicks rack;
 Let Sword and Pestilence lay waste, whilst we
 Wage bloodless Wars, and fight in Theory.

Who wants not Merit needs not arm for Fame;

The Dead I raise my Chivalry proclaim.

Diseases baffl'd, and lost Health restor'd,
 In Fame's bright List my Victories record.

More Lives from me their Preservation own,
 Than Lovers lose if Fair Cornelia frown,

Your Cures, shrill Querpo cry'd, aloud you tell,
 But wisely your Miscarriages conceal.

Zeno, a Priest, in Samothrace of old,
 Thus reason'd with Philopidas the bold;

Immortal Gods you own, but think 'em blind

To what concerns the State of Human Kind.

Either they hear not, or regard not Pray'r,
 That argues want of Pow'r, and This of Care.
 Allow that Wisdom infinite must know;
 Pow'r infinite must act. I grant it so.

Haste strait to Neptune's Fane, survey with Zeal 185
 The Walls. What then? reply'd the Infidel.
 Observe those num'rous Throngs in Effigy,
 The Gods have sav'd from the devouring Sea.
'Tis true, their Pictures that escap'd you keep,
But where are Theirs that perish'd in the Deep? 190

Vaunt now no more the Triumphs of your Skill,
 But, tho' unfee'd, exert your Arm, and kill.
 Our Scouts have learn'd the Posture of the Foe;
 In War, Surprizes surest Conduct show.

But Fame, that neither good nor bad conceals, 195
 That Pembroke's Worth, and Ormond's Valour Tells.
 How Truth in Benting, how in Candish reigns
 Varro's Magnificence with Maro's Strains.
 But how at Church and Bar all gape and stretch, 200
 If W--- plead, or S--- or O---ly preach, 200

On nimble Wings to Warwick-Lane repairs,
 And what the Enemy intends, declares.
 Confusion in each Countenance appear'd,
 A Council's call'd, and Stentor first was heard;
 His lab'ring Lungs the throng'd Praetorium rent, 205
 Addressing thus the passive President.

Machaon, whose Experience we adore,
 Great as your matchless Merit, is your Pow'r.
 At your approach, the baffl'd Tyrant Death,
 Breaks his keen Shafts, and grinds his clashing Teeth; 210
 To you we leave the Conduct of the Day,
 What you command, your Vassals must obey.
 If this dread Enterprize you wou'd decline,
 We'll send to Treat, and stifle the Design.
 But if my Arguments had force, we'd try 215
 To humble our audacious Foes, or die.
 Our Spight, they'll find, to their Advantage leans,
 The End is good, no matter for the Means.
 So modern Casuists their Talents try, 220
 Uprightly for the sake of Truth to lye.
 He had not finish'd, 'till th' Out-guards descry'd
 Bright Columns move in formidable Pride.

The passing Pomp so dazzl'd from afar,
 It seem'd a Triumph, rather than a War.
 Tho' wide the Front, tho' gross the Phalanx grew,
 It look'd less dreadful as it nearer drew.

And uncontrol'd Decision of the Main;

The adverse Host for Action strait prepare;
 All eager to unveil the Face of War.
 Their Chiefs lace on their Helms, and take the Field,
 And to their trusty Squires resign their Shield:
 To paint each Knight, their Ardour and Alarms,
 Wou'd ask the Muse that sung the Frogs in Arms.

And to return the Charge, prepare.

And now the Signal summons to the Fray;
 Mock Falchions flash, and paltry Ensigns play.
 Their Patron God his silver Bow-string twangs;
 Tough Harness rustles, and bold Armour clangs.
 The piercing Causticks ply their spiteful Pow'r;
Emeticks ranch, and keen Catharticks scour.

The deadly Drugs in double Doses fly;
 And Pestles peal a martial Symphony.

Now from their levell'd Syringes they pour
 The liquid Volley of a missive Show'r.
 Not Storms of Sleet, which o're the Baltick drive,

Push't on by Northern Gusts, such Horrour give.
 Like Spouts in Southern Seas the Deluge broke, 245
 And Numbers sunk beneath th' impetuous Stroak.
 So when Leviathans dispute the Reign,
 And uncontrol'd Dominion of the Main;
 From the rent Rocks whole Coral Groves are torn,
 And Isles of Sea-weed on the Waves are born. 250
 Such watry Stores from their spread Nostrils fly,
 'Tis doubtful which is Sea, and which is Sky.
 And now the stagg'ring Braves, led by Despair,
 Advance, and to return the Charge, prepare.
 Each seizes for his Shield a spacious Scale, 255
 And the Brass Weights fly thick as show'rs of Hail.
 Whole heaps of Warriours welter on the Ground,
 With Gally-Pots, and broken Phials crown'd;
 Whilst empty Jarrs the dire Defeat resound. }
 Thus when some Storm its Chrystal Quarry rends, 260
 And Jove in rattling Showrs of Ice descends;
 Mount Athos shakes the Forests on his Brow,
 Whilst down his wounded Sides fresh Torrents flow, }
 And Leaves and Limbs of Trees o'er spread the Vale below. 265

But now, all Order lost, promiscuous Blows 265
 Confus'dly fall; perplex'd the Battel grows.
 From Stentor's Arm a massy Opiate flys,
 And straight a deadly Sleep clos'd Carus' Eyes,
 At Colon great Sertorius Buckthorn flung,
 Who with fierce Gripes, like those of Death, was stung; 270
 But with a dauntless and disdainfull Mien
 Hurl'd back Steel Pills, and hit Him on the Spleen.
Chiron attack'd Talthibius with such Might; 275
 One Pass had paunch'd the huge hydropick Knight,
 Who strait retreated to evade the Wound, 280
 But in a Flood of Apozem was drown'd.
 This Psylas saw, and to the Victor said,
 Thou shalt not long survive th' unweildy Dead,
 Thy Fate shall follow; to confirm it, swore
 By th'Image of Priapus, which he bore; 285
 And rais'd an Eagle-stone, invoking loud
 On Cynthia, leaning o'er a Silver Cloud,
 Great Queen of Night, and Empress of the Seas,
 If faithful to thy Midnight Mysteries,
 If still observant of my early Vows, 285
 These Hands have eas'd the mourning Matron's Throws;
 Direct this rais'd avenging Arm aright,

So may loud Cymbals aid thy lab'ring Light.

He said, and let the pond'rous Fragment fly

At Chiron, but learn'd Hermes put it by.

290

Tho' the haranguing God survey'd the War,

That Day the Muses Sons were not his Care.

Two Friends, Adepts, the Trismegists by Name,

Alike their Features, and alike their Flame.

As simpling ne'er fair Tweed each sung by turn,

295

The list'ning River wou'd neglect his Urn.

Those Lives They fail'd to rescue by their Skill,

Their Muse cou'd make immortal with her Quill.

But learn'd Enquiries after Nature's State

Dissolv'd the League, and kindl'd a Debate.

300

The One, for lofty Labours fruitful known,

Fill'd Magazines with Volumes of his own.

At his once-favour'd Friend a Tome he threw

That from its Birth had slept unseen 'till now.

Stunn'd with the Blow the batter'd Bard retir'd,

305

Sunk down, and in a Simile expir'd.

And now the Cohorts shake, the Legions ply,

The yielding Flanks confess the Victory.

Stentor undaunted still, with noble Rage
 Sprung thro' the Battel, Querpo to engage. 310
 Fierce was the Onset, the Dispute was great,
 Both cou'd not vanquish, Neither wou'd retreat;
 Each Combatant his Adversary mauls
 With batter'd Bed-pans, and stav'd Urinals.
 On Stentor's Crest the useful Chrystal breaks, 315
 And Tears of Amber gutter'd down his Cheeks.
 But whilst the Champion, as late Rumours tell,
 Design'd a sure, decisive Stroak, he fell:
 And as the Victor hov'ring o'er him stood,
 With Arms extended, thus the Suppliant su'd. 320
 When Honour's lost, 'tis a Relief to die;
 Death's but a sure Retreat from Infamy.
 But to the lost, if Pity might be shown,
 Reflect on young Querpoides thy Son;
 Then pity mine; for such an Infant-Grace, 325
 Smiles in his Eyes, and flatters in his Face.
 If he was near, Compassion he'd create,
 Or else lament his wretched Parent's Fate.
 Thine is the Glory, and the Field is thine;
 To Thee the lov'd Dispens'ry I resign. 330

At this the Victors own such Extasies,
 As Memphian Priests if their Osiris sneeze;
 Or Champions with Olympick Clangour fir'd;
 Or simpring Prudes with sprightly Nantz inspir'd;
 Or Sultans rais'd from Dungeons to a Crown; 335
 Or Fasting Zealots when the Sermon's done.

A while the Chief the deadly Stroak declin'd,
 And found Compassion pleading in his Mind.
 But whilst He view'd with pity the Distress'd,
 He spy'd Signetur writ upon his Breast. 340
 Then tow'rds the Skies He toss'd his threat'ning Head,
 And fir'd with more than mortal Fury, said;

Sooner than I'll from vow'd Revenge desist,
 His Holiness shall turn a Quietist.
Jansenius and the Jesuits agree, 345
 The Inquisition wink at Heresy.
 Warm Convocations own the Church secure,
 And more consult her Doctrine than her Pow'r.
 With that, he drew a Lancet in full Rage,
 To puncture the still supplicating Sage. 350

But while his Thoughts that fatal Stroke decree,

Apollo interpos'd in form of Fee.

The Chief great Paean's golden Tresses knew,

He own'd the God, and his rais'd Arm withdrew.

Thus often at the Temple-Stairs we've seen

355

Two Tritons of a rough Athletick Mien,

Sowrly dispute some quarrel of the Flood,

With Knuckles bruis'd, and Face besmear'd in Blood.

But at the first appearance of a Fare,

Both quit the Fray, and to their Oars repair.

360

The Heroe so his Enterprise recalls,

His Fist unclinches, and the Weapon falls.

As to Nachon thus the Goddess telle.

Enough th' achievement of this deed you've done.

You seek a Triumph you should seek the crown.

Hast to th' Elysian Fields. There Alcides abides,

365

Where Harvy sits among the Best-Of-kind.

Consult that sacred Sage, whom Heav'n's decree

The person that must satisfy these words.

Let Ulysses for that purpose prepare,
 THE
 Dispensary.
 His conduct to the Shades shall be my care.

20

C A N T O V I.

C.&S.C.

While the shrill clangour of the Battel rings;
 Auspicious Health appear'd on Zephir's Wings;
 She seem'd a Cherub most divinely bright,
 More soft than Air, more gay than morning Light.

A Charm she takes from each excelling Fair,
 And borrows C---ll's Shape, and G---ton's Air.
 Her Eyes like R---agh's their Beams dispence,
 With Ch---ill's Bloom, and B---kley's Innocence.
 On Iris thus the differing Beams bestow

5

The Die, that paints the Wonders of her Bow,
 From the fair Nymph a vocal Musick falls,
 As to Machaon thus the Goddess calls.

10

Enough th' atchievement of your Arms you've shown,
 You seek a Triumph you shou'd blush to own.

Hast to th' Elysian Fields, those bless'd abodes,
 Where Harvy sits among the Demi-Gods.

15

Consult that sacred Sage, soon He'll disclose
 The method that must mollify these woes.

Let Celsus for that Enterprize prepare,
His conduct to the Shades shall be my care. 20

Minia to the silent Region leads;
Aghast the Heroes stood dissolv'd in fear,
A Form so heav'nly bright They cou'd not bear,
Celsus alone unmov'd, the Sight beheld,
The rest in pale confusion left the Field.

Minia the Members of the Globe they see
So when the Pigmies marshal'd on the Plains, 25
Wage puny War against th' invading Cranes;
The Poppets to their bodkin Spears repair,
And scatter'd Feathers flutter in the Air.

And hence Faucilla derive their fragrant Dew.
But when the bold imperial Bird of Jove 30
Stoops on his sounding Pinions from above,
Among the Brakes, the Fairy Nation crowds,
And the Strimonian Squadron seeks the Clouds.

These Arbours are with twinkling Groves array'd.
And now the Delegate prepares to go }
And view the Wonders of the Realms below; }
Then takes Amomum for the Golden Bough. }
Thrice did the Goddess with her Sacred Wand
The Pavement strike; and straight at her Command

The willing Surface opens, and descends
 A deep Descent that leads to nether Skies.
Higeia to the silent Region tends; 40
 And with his Heav'nly Guide the Charge descends.
 Thus Numa when to hallow'd Caves retir'd,
 Was by Aegeria guarded and inspir'd.
 Within the Chambers of the Globe they spy 45
 The Beds where sleeping Vegetables lie, 45
 Till the glad Summons of a Genial Ray
 Unbinds the Glebe, and calls them out to Day.
 Hence Pancies trick themselves in various Hew,
 And hence Junquils derive their fragrant Dew.
 Hence the Carnation, and the bashful Rose 50
 Their Virgin Blushes to the Morn disclose.
 Hence the chast Lilly rises to the Light,
 Unveils her snowy Breasts, and charms the Sight.
 Hence Arbours are with twining Greens aray'd,
 T' oblige complaining Lovers with their Shade. 55
 And hence on Daphne's Laurel'd Forehead grow
 Immortal Wreaths, for Phoebus and Nassau.

And The Insects here their lingring Trance survive:

Benumn'd they seem, and doubtful if alive.

From Winter's fury hither they repair, 60

And stay for milder Skies and softer Air.

Down to these Cells obscener Reptils creep,

Where hateful Nutes and painted Lizzards sleep.

Where shiv'ring Snakes the Summer Solstice wait;

Unfurl their painted Folds, and slide in State. 65

Here Thus the Delegate with vander spins 85

Where Here their new Form the numb'd Erucae hide,

Their num'rous Feet in slender Bandage ty'd:

Soon as the kindling Year begins to rise,

This upstart Race their native Clod despise,

And proud of painted Wings attempt the Skies. 70

Here he observes the subterranean Cells.

Where Now, those profounder Regions they explore,

Where Metals ripen in vast Cakes of Oar.

Here, sullen to the Sight, at large is spread

The dull unwieldy Mass of lumpish Lead. 95

There, glimm'ring in their dawning Beds, are seen 75

The more aspiring Seeds of sprightly Tin.

The Copper sparkles next in ruddy Streaks;

And in the Gloom betrays its glowing Cheeks.
 The Silver then, with bright and burnish'd Grace, 100
 Youth and a blooming Lustre in its Face, 80
 To th' Arms of those more yeilding Metals flyes,
 And in the Folds of their Embraces lyes.
 So close they cling, so stubbornly retire;
 Their Love's more violent than the Chymist's Fire.
 Where Glorious Hurricanes attempt their Flight, 105
 Near These the Delegate with Wonder spies 85
 Where Floods of living Silver serpentize:
 Where richest Metals their bright Looks put on,
 And Golden Streams thro' Amber Channels run.
 Where Light's gay God descends to ripen Gems, 110
 And lend a Lustre brighter than his Beams. 90
 Here he observes the subterranean Cells,
 Where wanton Nature sports in idle Shells. 115
 Some Helicoeids, some Conical appear,
 These, Miters emulate, Those, Turbans are:
 Here Marcasites in various Figure wait, 95
 To ripen to a true Metallick State:
 Till Drops that from impending Rocks descend,
 Their Substance petrifie, and Progress end.

Nigh, livid Seas of kindl'd Sulphur flow;
 And, whilst enrag'd, their Fiery Surges glow: 100
 Convulsions in the lab'ring Mountains rise,
 Which hurl their melted Vitals to the Skies.

Upon a Coast of Hell is their Home

He views with Horror next the noisy Cave;
 Where with hoarse Dinns imprison'd Tempests rave;
 Where Clam'rous Hurricanes attempt their Flight, 105
 Or, whirling in tumultuous Eddies, fight.

The warring Winds unmov'd Hygeia heard,
 Brav'd their loud Jars, but much for Celsus fear'd.
Andromeda, so whilst her Heroe fought
 Shook for his Danger, but her own forgot. 110

Yawns a dark Cave, with awful Horror light

And now the Goddess with her Charge descends,
 Where scarce one cheerful Glimpse their Steps befriends.
 Here his forsaken Seat old Chaos keeps;
 And undisturb'd by Form, in Silence sleeps. 115
 A grisly Wight, and hideous to the Eye;
 An awkward Lump of shapeless Anarchy.
 With sordid Age his Features are defac'd;
 His Lands unpeopl'd, and his Countries waste.

Make up the frightful Horror of the Scene

To these dark Realms much learned Lumber creeps,
 There copious M--- safe in Silence sleeps, 120
 Where Mushroom Libels in Oblivion lye,
 And, soon as born, like other Monsters die.
 Upon a Couch of Jett in these Abodes,
 Dull Night, his melancholy Consort, nods.
 No Ways and Means their Cabinet employ; 125
 But their dark Hours they waste in barren Joy.
 Nigh this Recess, with Terror they survey,
 Where Death maintains his dread tyrannick Sway: 130
 In the close Covert of a Cypress Grove,
 Where Goblins frisk, and airy Spectres rove, 130
 Yawns a dark Cave, with awful Horror wide;
 And there the Monarch's Triumphs are descry'd.
 Confus'd, and wildly huddled to the Eye,
 The Beggar's Pouch, and Prince's Purple lye.
 Dim Lamps with Sickly Rays scarce seem to glow; 135
 Sighs heave in mournful Moans, and Tears o'er-flow.
 Restless Anxiety, forlorn Despair,
 And all the faded Family of Care,
 Old mouldring Urns, Racks, Daggers and Distress
 Make up the frightful Horror o' the Place. 140

Within its dreadful Jaws those Furies wait,
Which execute the harsh Decrees of Fate.

169

Febris is first: The Hagg relentless hears
The Virgin's Sighs; and sees the Infant's Tears.
In her parch'd Eye-balls fiery Meteors reign;
And restless Ferments revel in each Vein.

145

The silent Region of the floating shades.

Then Hydrops next appears amongst the Throng;
Bloated, and big, she slowly sails along.
But, like a Miser, in Excess, she's poor;
And pines for Thirst amidst her wat'ry Store.

163

150

To warn the Stygian Pilot sailing, said,

You Now loathsome Lepra, that offensive Spright,
With foul Eruptions stain'd, offends the Sight.
Still deaf to Beauty's soft-persuading Pow'r:
Nor can bright Hebe's Charms her Bloom secure.

170

To then the Peopling of their Realms below.

The Whilst meagre Phthisis gives a silent Blow;
Her Stroaks are sure; but her Advances slow.
No loud Alarms, nor fierce Assaults are shown:
She starves the Fortress first; then takes the Town.

155

To breathe the Sweets of soft Elvaign Air;

Behind stood Clouds of much inferiour Name,
 Too num'rous to repeat, too foul to name; 160
 The Vassals of their Monarch's Tyranny:
 Who, at his Nod, on fatal Errands fly.

Now Celsus, with his glorious Guide, invades
 The silent Region of the fleeting shades. *your Eyes*
 Where Rocks and ruful Desarts are descry'd; 165
 And sullen Styx rouls down his lazy Tide.
 Then shews the Ferry-man the Plant he bore,
 And claims his Passage to the further Shore.
 To whom the Stygian Pilot smiling, said,
 You need no Pass-port to demand our Aid. *what* 170
Physicians never linger on this Strand:
 Old Charon's present still at their Command.
 Our awful Monarch and his Consort owe
 To them the Peopl'ing of their Realms below.
 Then in his swarthy Hand he grasp'd his Oar, 175
 Receiv'd his Guests aboard, and shov'd from Shoar.

Now, as the Goddess and her Charge prepare
 To breathe the Sweets of soft Elysian Air;

Upon the left they spy a pensive Shade,
 Who on his bended Arm had rais'd his Head: 180
 Pale Grief sate heavy on his mournful Look:
 To whom, not unconcern'd, thus Celsus spoke:

At the sad Tale you tell, the Poppies weep,
 Tell me, Thou much afflicted Shade, why Sighs
 Burst from your Breast, and Torrents from your Eyes: 185
 And who those mangl'd Manes are, which show
 A sullen Satisfaction at your Woe?

Since, said the Ghost, with Pity you'll attend,
 Know, I'm Guiacum, once your firmest Friend.
 And on this barren Beach in Discontent, 190
 Am doom'd to stay till th' angry Pow'rs relent.
 Those Spectres seam'd with Scars that threaten there,
 The Victims of my late ill Conduct are.

They vex with endless Clamours my Repose:
 This wants his Palate; That demands his Nose: 195
 And here they execute stern Pluto's Will,
 And ply me ev'ry moment with a Pill.
 Nigh the dull Shoar a shapeless Mountain stood,
 Then Celsus thus: O much lamented State!
 How rigid is the Sentence you relate!

No frisking Goats bound o'er the riny Stone. 220

Methinks I recollect your former Air,
 But ah, how much you're chang'd from what you were! 200
 Insipid as your late Ptisans you lye,
 That once were sprightlier far than Mercury.
 At the sad Tale you tell, the Poppies weep,
 And mourn their vegetable Souls asleep. 225
 The unctuous Larix, and the healing Pine 205
 Lament your Fate in Tears of Turpentine.
 But still the Off-spring of your Brain shall prove
 The Grocer's Care, and brave the Rage of Jove.
 When Bonfires blaze, your vagrant Works shall rise
 In Rockets, 'till they reach the wond'ring Skies. 210
 If Mortals e'er the Stygian Pow'rs cou'd bend;
 Entreaties to their awful Seats I'd send.
 But since no human Arts the Fates dissuade;
 Direct me how to find bless'd Harvy's Shade. 235
 In vain th'unhappy Ghost still urg'd His stay; 215
 Then rising from the Ground, he shew'd the way.
 Nigh the dull Shoar a shapeless Mountain stood,
 That with a dreadful Frown survey'd the Flood.
 Its fearful Brow no lively Greens put on,
 No frisking Goats bound o'er the ridgy Stone. 220

To gain the Summit the bright Goddess try'd,
 And Celsus follow'd, by degrees, his Guide.

Then hastens onward to the positive Grove,

Th'Ascent thus conquer'd, now They tow'r on high,
 And taste th'Indulgence of a milder Sky.

Loose Breezes on their airy Pinions play,
 Soft Infant Blossoms their chast Odours pay;
 And Roses blush their fragrant Lives away.

225

Cool Streams thro' flow'ry Meadows gently glide;
 And as They pass, their painted Banks they chide.

These blissful Plains no Blights, nor Mildews fear,
 The Flow'rs ne'er fade, and Shrubs are Myrtles here.

230

The Morn awakes the Tulip from her Bed;
 E'er Noon in painted Pride she decks her Head:
 Roab'd in rich Dye she triumphs on the Green,
 And ev'ry Flow'r does Homage to their Queen.

235

So when bright Venus rises from the Flood,
 Around in Throngs the wond'ring Nereids crowd;
 The Tritons gaze, and tune each vocal Shell,
 And ev'ry Grace unsung, the Waves conceal.

To Death's Remembrance was the unhappy Maid.

The Delegate observes, with wondring Eyes, 240
 Ambrosial Dews descend, and Incense rise.
 Then hastens onward to the pensive Grove,
 The silent Mansion of disastrous Love.
 Here Jealousie with Jaundice Looks appears,
 And broken Slumbers, and fantastick Fears. 245
 The widow'd Turtle hangs her moulting Wings,
 And to the Woods in mournful Murmurs sings.
 No Winds but Sighs there are, no Floods but Tears,
 Each conscious Tree a Tragick Signal bears.
 Their wounded Bark records some broken Vow, 250
 And Willough Garlands hang on ev'ry Bough.

Olivia here in solitude he found,
 Her down-cast Eyes fix'd on the silent Ground:
 Her Dress neglected, and unbound her Hair, 255
 She seem'd the dying image of Despair. 255
 How lately did this celebrated Thing
 Blaze in the Box, and sparkle in the Ring,
 Till the Green-sickness and Love's force betray'd
 To Death's remorseless arms th' unhappy Maid. 260

All o'er confus'd the guilty Lover stood, 260
 The Light forsook his Eyes, his Cheeks the Blood;
 An icy horror shiver'd in his Look,
 As to the cold-complexion'd Nymph He spoke:
 Tell me, dear Shade, from whence such anxious care,
 Your Looks disorder'd and your Bosom bare? 265
 Why thus you languish like a drooping Flow'r,
 Crush'd by the weight of some relentless shower.
 Your languid looks your late ill Conduct tell,
 O that instead of Trash you'd taken Steel!
 Stabb'd with th'unkind Reproach, the Conscious Maid 270
 Thus to her late insulting Lover said;
 When Ladies listen not to loose Desire,
 You stifle our Modesty, our want of Fire.
 Smile or Forbid, Encourage or Reprove,
 You still find Reasons to believe we love: 275
 Vainly you think a Liking we betray,
 And never mean the peevish Things we say.
 Few are the Fair Ones of Rusilla's make,
 Unask'd she grants, uninjur'd she'll forsake:
 But sev'ral Caelias, sev'ral Ages boast, 280
 That like, where Reason recommends the most.
 Where heav'nly Truth and Tenderness conspire,
 Chast Passion may persuade us to desire.

Your Sex, he cry'd, as Custom bids, behaves;

In Forms the Tyrant tyes such haughty Slaves. 285

To do nice Conduct Right, you Nature wrong;

Impulses are but weak, where Reason's strong.

Some want the Courage, but how Few the Flame!

They like the Thing, That startle at the Name.

The lonely Phoenix, tho' profess'd a Nun, 290

Warms into Love, and kindles at the Sun. 290

Those Tales of spicy Urns and fragrant Fires,

Are but the Emblems of her scorch'd Desires.

Then as he strove to clasp the fleeting Fair,

His empty Arms confess'd th' impassive Air. 295

From his Embrace the unbody'd Spectre flies,

And as she mov'd, she chid him with her Eyes.

They hasten now to that delightful Plain,

Where the glad Manes of the Bless'd remain: 300

Where Harvy gathers Simples to bestow 300

Immortal Youth on Heroes Shades below.

Soon as the bright Higeia was in view,

The Venerable Sage her Presence knew.

Thus He -
 And Hail, blooming Goddess! Thou propitious Pow'r, 305
 Whose Blessings Mortals more than Life implore.
 With so much Lustre your bright Looks endear,
 That Cottages are Courts where Those appear. 310
 Mankind, as you vouchsafe to smile or frown,
 Finds ease in Chains, or anguish in a Crown. 310
 With just Resentments and Contempt you see
 The foul Dissentions of the Faculty;
 How your sad sick'ning Art now hangs her Head,
 And once a Science, is become a Trade. 315
 Her Son's ne'er rifle her Mysterious Store, 315
 But study Nature less, and Lucre more.
 Not so when Rome to th' Epidaurian rais'd
 A Temple, where devoted Incence blaz'd.
 Oft Father Tyber views the holy Fire,
 As the learn'd Son is worship't like the Sire: 320
 The Sage with Romulus like Honours claim;
 The Gift of Life and Laws were then the same.
 I show'd of old, how vital Currents glide, 345
 And the Meanders of their refluent Tide.

Then, Willis, why spontaneous Actions here,
 And whence involuntary Motions there:
 And how the Spirits by mechanick Laws,
 In wild Careers, tumultuous Riots cause.
 Nor wou'd our Wharton, Bate, and Glisson lie
 In the Abyss of blind Obscurity. 330
 But now such wondrous Searches are forborn,
 And Paeon's Art is by Divisions torn.
 Then let your Charge attend, and I'll explain
 How her lost Health your Science may regain.
 Haste, and the matchless Atticus Address, 335
 From Heav'n, and great Nassau he has the Mace.
 Th' oppress'd to his Asylum still repair;
 Arts He supports, and Learning is his care.
 He softens the harsh rigour of the Laws, 340
 Blunts their keen Edge, and cuts their Harpy Claws;
 And graciously he casts a pitying Eye
 On the sad state of vertuous Poverty.
 When e'er he speaks, Heav'ns! how the list'ning Throng
 Dwells on the melting musick of his Tongue.
 His Arguments are Emblems of his Mien, 345
 Mild, but not faint, and forcing, tho' serene;

And when the Pow'r of Eloquence, He'd try,
 Here, Lightning strikes you, there, soft Breezes sigh.

To him you must your sickly state refer,
 Your Charter claims Him as your Visiter. 350
 Your Wounds he'll close, and sov'reignly restore 370
 Your Science to the height it had before.

Then Nassau's Health shall be your glorious Aim,
 His Life shou'd be as lasting as His Fame.
 Some Princes claims from Devastations spring, 355
 He condescends in pity to be King: 375
 And when, amidst his Olives plac'd, He stands,
 And governs more by Candour than Commands:
 Ev'n then not less a Heroe he appears,
 Than when his Laurel Diadem he wears. 360

Wou'd Phoebus, or his Granvil, but inspire 380
 Their sacred veh'mence of Poetick Fire;
 To celebrate in Song that God-like Power,
 Which did the lab'ring Universe restore;
 Fair Albion's Cliffs wou'd Eccho to the Strain, 365

And praise the Arm that Conquer'd to regain
The Earth's repose, and Empire o'er the Main.

Still may th'immortal Man his Cares repeat,
To make his Blessings endless as they're great:
Whilst Malice and Ingratitude confess 370
They've strove for Ruin long without success.

When late, Jove's Eagle from the Pyle shall rise
To bear the Victor to the boundless Skies,
Awhile the God puts off Paternal Care,
Neglects the Earth, to give the Heav'ns a Star. 375
Near Thee, Alcides, shall the Heroe shine;
His Rays resembling, as his Labours, Thine.

Had some fam'd Patriot of the Latin Blood,
Like Julius Great, and like Octavius Good,
But thus preserv'd the Latian Liberties, 380
Aspiring Columns soon had reach'd the Skies:
Loud Io's the proud Capitol had shook,
And all the Statues of the Gods had spoke.

No more the Sage his Raptures cou'd pursue,
He paus'd; and Celsus with his Guide withdrew.

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