

The Star, & North-Carolina State Gazette.

No. 9.

RALEIGH, (N. C.) FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1823.

Vol. XIV

THE STAR,

and North-Carolina State Gazette.

Published, weekly, by

BELL & LAWRENCE.

Subscription, three dollars per annum. No paper will be sent without at least \$1.50 in advance, and no paper (commenced, but at the option of the Editors, not all arrears are paid. Advertisements, not exceeding five lines, inserted three times for one dollar, and twenty-five times for each continuance. All letters to the Editors must be post-paid.

MEDICAL COMMUNICATION.

From the National Intelligencer.

I have always thought it a greater happiness to discover a certain method of curing even the slightest disease, than to accumulate the largest fortune, and whoever compares the former, I esteem not only happier, but wiser and better too."

SYDENHAM.

There has just been published the sixth edition of Ewell's "Medical Companion or Family Physician," treating in a clear and concise manner, of the diseases of the United States, with their names, symptoms, causes, cure, regimen and means of prevention; common cases in surgery, as fractures, dislocations, &c. the management and diseases of women and children, with a Dispensatory for preparing family medicine, and a glossary explaining technical terms. To which are added a brief Anatomy and Physiology of the human body, displaying its mechanism, and the laws that govern its economy, and clearly pointing out, on rational principles, the cause and cure of diseases.—An Essay on Hygiene, or the art of preserving health, shewing that, by the non-natural, air, food, exercise, sleep, evacuation, and passions, the most feeble frames, without the aid of medicine, may attain both pleasurable life and great age.

An American Materia Medica, pointing out those precious simples where-with God has graciously stored our meadows, fields, and woods, for the healing of our diseases, and rendering us happily independent of foreign medicines, which though sometimes hard to be obtained, are frequently adulterated and always costly.—Also, the Nurse's Guide, describing the qualifications and detailing the duties of a nurse, and teaching the mode of preparing the various articles of diet, suitable for the sick. The whole forming a complete guide to health, both of mind and body.

The Medical Companion, in its comparatively unfinished form, was honored with the commendations of many medical characters, placed by universal suffrage at the head of the healing art in the United States; and also by the sale of five large editions, with a rapidly increasing demand for the sixth; yet the author, sensible that it might be rendered still more complete, and better calculated for general utility, has devoted much of his time and attention in making improvements; and has in this sixth edition introduced near three hundred pages of new and interesting matter, which cannot fail greatly to enhance its value.

In the present state of the science of medicine, daily improving by experience, and adding rapidly to the number of valuable remedies, he felt it incumbent on him to enlarge considerably on the diseases generally, as well as to make other editions, which a work of this nature required, in order to its increased usefulness.

In a familiar style he has pointed out the *modus operandi* of the different remedies; given the prognostics of diseases; noticed more particularly the circumstances whence the disorders originate, for the purpose of guarding against their occurrence; distinguished those cases which yield readily to simple means, from those which require the regular attendance of a medical practitioner; and detailed the means of checking or retarding the progress of such cases.

On the management and diseases of women he has, with the aid of the most popular authors, on the subject, given a description of the complaints to which they are liable, with instructions for their treatment, plain enough to be understood by the attendants, or the patients themselves; and which he sincerely hopes will, in a measure, prevent a further sacrifice of precious lives, by the misconduct of unskilled mid-wives. To all which has been added a general sketch of the diseases of infants and childhood.

With a view of correcting the gross errors of the attendants on the sick, which is certainly of vast importance to mankind, there is introduced the Nurse's Guide; and by this treatise it is to be hoped one uniform method will be attained, and that ignorance will no longer be a cloak for omissions.

Desirous that nothing should be omitted, which in the least would add to the value of the work, he has greatly im-

proved the Dispensatory, which is now arranged in a manner that will not in the least perplex the reader; having endeavored to render each formula or prescription as concise and clear as possible, both as to the mode of preparing and the motive of employing it, by short and practical remarks under each head or class.

He has likewise given a detailed Index, so that in all cases of disease the reader may be directed without trouble or embarrassment to the appropriate remedies. And that the bulk of the volume might not be too large, he has expunged many of the illustrations under the head of Hygiene, being of little importance compared to the matter now introduced.

It is not to one description of persons alone, that the Medical Companion will prove beneficial, but to every class of society. To the student, whose theoretical knowledge has only prepared him to commence the arduous duties of his profession, it cannot be otherwise than exceedingly useful; for it will not be denied, that the most experienced practitioner occasionally feels the want of a guide in his practice. It is worthy to be noticed, when the first edition of this work was presented to the public, Professor Barton, with his usual liberality and philanthropy, enjoined upon his pupils to procure a copy of it before they entered upon the duties of their profession, observing, at the same time, that he himself had profited by it in practice, refreshing his memory of what he had read in more voluminous works.

To every family, more especially those in remote situations, the possession of this book must be of incalculable value; for, conducted by such a guide, it will not be presumptuous to say, that any person of tolerable capacity and reasonable attention, may be qualified to practice with safety and advantage in the cases of disease most incidental to our climate. Many families are ignorant even of the mode to prepare the various articles of diet suitable for the sick, and with such the Nurse's Guide, as a family assistant, must be a valuable acquisition.

To diffuse medical knowledge is the most effectual mode of checking the career of empiricism; it being evident, quacks are nurtured and sustained exclusively by the prejudice of mankind in their favor, arising from their inability to judge rightly of their merit. A popular medical education is also highly important; on the one hand preventing unnecessary apprehensions, respecting symptoms by no means dangerous; and on the other hand, giving the alarm, where delay might prove fatal. And again, there are situations in which a little medical knowledge may be of essential service to the comfort, or even life of the patient, before regular assistance could be procured.

The well established character of the Medical Companion evidently proves, that, had proposals been issued for publishing, by subscription, this improved edition of the work, as was urged last spring by many influential friends, particularly Members of Congress, who promised their cordial support in the different sections of our country, innumerable subscribers would have been obtained by this time. But in consequence of the frequent impositions practised upon the liberal part of the community, in obtaining subscriptions before publication, for books of little or no value, and being fully convinced of the importance of the additional matter now introduced, would, upon the slightest examination, be so obvious as to induce those who possess copies of the former editions, also, to become purchasers, it was thought most advisable not to call the attention of the public to the improvements until the work was published. And now, with entire confidence in its merits, which is corroborated by numerous testimonials prefixed to the work, from some of the most distinguished Physicians in the United States, it is respectfully submitted to the public for their generous patronage.

How far the wishes of the author have been accomplished, in contributing his mite to the cause of humanity, the reader is left to judge from the following letters:

Philadelphia, Dec. 31, 1807.

Dear Sir: I have carefully perused your work, "The Medical Companion," and take much pleasure in expressing my entire approbation of the plan, and of the utility with which you have conducted your inquiries. Your book cannot fail to be a very acceptable present to the public in general, and especially to our own countrymen. I really am of opinion, that you are entitled to much praise for the pains which you have taken in furnishing us with a work, the want of which has long been experienced among us.

B. S. BARTON, M. D.

Professor of Materia Medica, Natural History and Botany.

Dr. JAMES EWELL.

Philadelphia, Aug. 15, 1816.

Dear Sir: I have looked over, with some care, the copy of the Third Edition of the "Medical Companion," which you did me the favor to present to me. The alterations and revisions given to the second edition of the work, it is not only enlarged, but exceedingly improved.

After stating so much, I need hardly repeat an opinion, which I publicly expressed on a former occasion, that I consider it as indisputably the most useful popular treatise on medicine with which I am acquainted.

Compared with the European Books of the same nature, it has especially in relation to the treatment of the diseases of our own country, a very decided superiority.

I trust that the success of this literary enterprise may be equal to your very generous and benevolent disposition. With great respect, I am, dear sir, yours, &c.

N. CHAPMAN, M. D.

Professor of the Institutes and Practice of Medicine and Clinical Practice, in the University of Pennsylvania.

Baltimore, Nov. 18, 1822.

Dear Sir: I have been truly gratified in the perusal of the Sixth Edition of your "Medical Companion, or Family Physician."

The improvements made in this new impression of your work, compared with the former editions, are indeed extensive and important. Independent of your having enlarged considerably on diseases generally, you have introduced additional matter, which greatly enhances its value. The introduction of the Nurse's Guide, as also the treatise you have given on the management of female complaints, will have the most happy effects, in correcting the gross errors daily committed by ignorant persons, and thereby save many valuable lives.

I do not hesitate to say, that this new edition of your Medical Companion is decidedly the best popular treatise on medicine that has ever been published; and considering it, as I verily do, a safe and useful guide for heads of families, as well as for young practitioners of medicine, I take much pleasure in recommending it to the attention of our fellow citizens, both in town and country.

I will only add, if your book meets with that encouragement to which it is justly entitled, you will very soon be called upon, by the public, for another edition.

I am, dear sir, with much respect, your friend and servant,
COLIN MACKENZIE, M. D.

Dr. JAMES EWELL.

Baltimore, Nov. 18, 1822.

Dear Sir: When the Medical Companion was first published, I considered it greatly superior to every work of that character I had read. I have now read the sixth edition, and am much gratified in having it in my power to say, that in this edition you have so enhanced the value of the work as to claim my unqualified approbation.

Dr. Rush, during my residence in his house, often spoke of his intention to publish a Medical Work for the use of families, adapted to the climate of the United States. As he reserved it for the last act of his labors, for the benefit of mankind, unhappily he did not live to accomplish his design. In the work now presented to the public, you have fulfilled the patriotic intentions of the great and good Rush, to the utmost extent, and I sincerely hope your reward may be, as it deserves, ample.

I am, dear sir, very truly, yours,
ASHTON ALEXANDER, M. D.

Dr. JAMES EWELL.

CONGRESS.

IN SENATE.

Monday, Feb. 17.

The Senate took up the bill from the House of Representatives supplementary to, and to amend, the act of 1799, to regulate the collection of duties on imports and tonnage, together with the amendments recommended by the select committee. These amendments were explained by Mr. Smith, of Maryland, and were agreed to, and the bill then, having been gone through, was ordered to be read a third time.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the bill for the relief of Joseph Forrest. [This bill authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to pay to Joseph Forrest the sum of four thousand dollars, being the value of a vessel lost by the said Forrest, while carrying a donation of provisions from the Congress of the United States to the distressed inhabitants of Caraccas, in the year eighteen hundred and twelve, at the time they suffered by the great earthquake.]

The bill was, after some debate, rejected.

Tuesday, Feb. 18.

On motion of Mr. Van Dyke, the Committee on Public Lands was discharged from the further consideration of the memorial of the Legislature of Alabama, praying that the sale of the Public Lands in the counties of Jackson and Decatur may be deferred, &c.

Mr. Van Dyke, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported a bill extending the time of locating Virginia military land warrants; which was read.

Mr. Van Dyke, from the same Committee, to which was recommitted the bill to amend the act of last session, for ascertaining the claims and titles to land in the territory of Florida, reported the same without amendment.

The Senate took up the resolution offered by Mr. Johnson, of Kentucky, on Friday last; and, after some discussion, having been modified, on the motion of Mr. Mills, to read as follows, was agreed to, viz:

Resolved, That the committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of collecting and digesting in one bill all the acts of congress relative to the courts of the United States, and the administration of justice therein; and to report a mode of effecting such object, and also of effecting such changes, modifications, and additions, as will, in their opinion, combine most efficiency, promptitude, and economy, in the administration of justice.

Mr. Williams, of Tennessee, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred the resolution of the 17th of January on the subject, recommended the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the President be requested to cause to be laid before the Senate, at the commencement of the next session of congress, the plan of the fortification contemplated to be erected at St. Mary's river within the Potomac, with an estimate of the sum necessary to complete the same, and the number of cannon and mortars intended for the works; and also that he be requested to cause a survey to be made of the Patuxent river, to ascertain a proper site for a fortification, and to lay the same before the Senate, with a plan of the same, the number of guns and mortars which may be requisite, and an estimate of the sum that will be necessary to erect and complete the works.

The resolution introduced by Mr. Taylor, of Va. proposing an amendment to the constitution of United States in regard to the election of President of the United States, being the next subject in order, was taken up; when

Mr. Lowrie moved that the resolution be laid on the table, and his motion was agreed to without opposition.

Wednesday, Feb. 19.

Mr. Gaillard, of S. C. was elected President of the Senate pro tempore; and, having taken the Chair, made his acknowledgments to the Senate, as follows:

"Gentlemen On taking the station with which you have honored me, I must be permitted to tender you my acknowledgments for so flattering an evidence of the continuance of your confidence and favor. Were my capacity to fill this place commensurate with your kindness, or equal to the gratitude I feel, I might then reasonably expect to merit your approbation, which would be the highest reward I could obtain, and the most gratifying compensation for the cares and solicitude which must ever be attendant on the situation to which I am called. Forbidden, however, by a thorough conviction of my deficiencies in many essential respects, to hope for so favorable a result, I must again throw myself for encouragement and support on your known liberality, and on the experience I have had of your former indulgence, and they will, I trust, sustain me in the attempt I shall make to discharge the duties devolving on me with fidelity and impartiality; being fully persuaded that I shall thereby furnish the most satisfactory testimony that can be offered of my high respect for this body, as well as of my esteem and personal regard for the individuals composing it."

Mr. Ruggles, from the Committee of Claims, to which was referred the bill from the House of Representatives, to provide for the settlement of the accounts of Daniel D. Tompkins, late Governor of the State of New York, reported the same, without amendment.

Mr. Benton, from the Committee on Public Lands, to which was referred a memorial of the Legislature of Missouri on the subject, reported a bill to authorize the Recorder of land titles, in the State of Missouri, to examine into the number and state of the uncondemned French and Spanish land claims in said state, and to report the same to Congress at their next session; and the bill was twice read by general consent.

Mr. Johnson, of Louisiana, submitted the following motion for consideration:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of an appropriation sufficient to complete the barracks and other buildings commenced at Baton Rouge, in the State of

Louisiana, for the accommodation of the troops of the United States at that place.

The Senate then took up the report of the Committee of Claims adverse to the claim of Col. James Morrison, of Kentucky, a Deputy Quarter Master General during the late war with Great Britain, who petitions for an allowance of 10,000 dollars, in the settlement of his accounts, which sum was lost, by his assistant or agent, Thomas H. Pendall, to Col. Buford, Deputy Commissary, for the public service, but not returned, and with which sum Col. Morrison is charged, and now asks to be credited.

Mr. Johnson, of Ky. moved to amend the resolution reported by the committee so as to reverse it and make it favorable to the petitioner; which was agreed to.

Thursday Feb. 20.

On motion of Mr. Ruggles, it was Resolved, That the committee on Finance be instructed to inquire into the expediency of making an appropriation to enable the President of the United States to take such measures as may be necessary for purchasing the right, title, and interest, which certain Indians have in and to, three several tracts of land of 4000 acres each, lying in the county of Tuscarawas, in the state of Ohio, which lands were granted by Congress, in the year 1798, to the "Society of United Brethren for propagating the Gospel among the Heathen," in trust for the sole use and benefit of the said Indians, said purchase to be made with the knowledge and consent of said society.

The resolution reported on the 18th inst. by the committee on Military Affairs, relative to proposed fortifications at the St. Mary's and Patuxent rivers, in Maryland, was taken up and agreed to.

The resolution offered yesterday by M. Johnson, of Lou. was also taken up, and, having been modified, was agreed to.

The Senate then, on the motion of Mr. Williams, of Tenn. proceeded to the consideration of the bill to provide for the settlement of the accounts of Daniel D. Tompkins, late Governor of the state of New-York.

After some discussion for and against the bill, it was read the third time and passed.

[This bill authorizes—first, that the proper accounting officers of the Treasury adjust and settle the accounts and claims of Daniel D. Tompkins, on principles of equity and justice, subject to the revision and final decision of the President of the United States. Secondly, it enacts, that the provision of the appropriation law of last session, which prohibits the payment of salary to any individual while he shall appear to be indebted to the United States, shall be repealed so far as it applies to Mr. Tompkins.

Friday, Feb. 21.

Mr. Noble, from the Committee on the Militia, to which was referred the bill, entitled "An act vesting in the State of Virginia the right of the United States to all fines assessed for non-performance of militia duty during the late war with Great Britain, within said State," reported the same without amendment.

The bill from the House of Representatives supplementary to the acts to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary war, was rejected by a vote of 21 in favor, and 24 against it.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Saturday, Feb. 15.

The Speaker communicated a letter from the President of the United States, transmitting all the correspondence in relation to the treaty between the governments of the United States and Great Britain, relative to the Convention of the 20th of October, 1818; which letter was read, and the letter and correspondence were ordered to lie on the table; also.

A letter from the Secretary of War, transmitting a statement of the expenditures of the National Armories, and of the arms made and repaired therein during the year 1822; which were read and ordered to lie on the table; and

A letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting a report on so much of the memorial of the Legislature of Alabama as relates to the sale of the public lands in the counties of Jackson and Decatur, in that state, referred to him by the House of Representatives of the United States, on the 3rd instant; which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. Tattnall, it was Resolved, That the committee on Naval Affairs be instructed to inquire into the propriety of continuing the pension heretofore allowed to the widow of the late Lieutenant Elbert, of the United States' navy.

Monday, Feb. 17.

Mr. Fuller, from the committee on Naval Affairs, made a report in relation to the equal selection of midshipmen for the navy from the different states, concluding with a resolution that if inexpedient any provision, by law, restraining the executive of the United States