

A GLOSSARY.

ALTHOUGH terms of art have been sedulously avoided in the composition of this work, and in the various additions that we have subjoined, it is impossible entirely to banish technical phrases when writing on medicine; and as several persons expressed their opinion that a Glossary would render the book more generally intelligible, the following concise explanation of the few terms of art that occur is added, in compliance with their sentiments, and to fulfil the original intention of this treatise, by rendering it intelligible and useful to all ranks and classes of the community.

Abdomen. The belly.

Abscess. A tumor or swelling in the body, in which collected matter degenerates into pus.

Absorbents. Glands, or vessels, that convey the nourishment from the intestines, and the secreted fluids from the various cavities, into the mass of blood.

Absorbents. Medicines that ease the asperity of pungent humours, or dry away superfluous moisture in the body.

Acescent. Sour; sharp; tending to sourness.

Acrimony. Corrosive sharpness.

Acute. A disease, the symptoms of which are violent, and tend to a speedy termination, is called acute.

Adult. Of mature age.

Adust. Dry, warm.

Alvine, or Alvus. Of or relating to the lower cavity of the belly.

Anasarca. A species of dropsy from a serous humour spread between the skin and flesh, or rather a general accumulation of lymph in the cellular system.

Anodyne. A medicine that relieves pain.

Anorexia. That disorder in the stomach which creates a loathing and want of appetite.

Anthelmintic. A medicine to destroy worms.

Antiemetics. Medicines which stop vomiting.

Antiseptic. Preventive of putrefaction.

Antispasmodic. Whatever tends to prevent or remove spasm.

Aperient. Opening; gently purgative.

Aphthæ. Small whitish ulcers or inflammatory exudations appearing in the mouth.

Arthritic. Gouty; painful affections of the joints.

Ascites. Dropsy of the belly.

Astriction. A tightening or lessening.

Atrabiliary, or Atrabiliarian. An epithet commonly applied to people of a certain temperament, marked by a dark complexion, black hair, spare habit, &c., which the ancients supposed to arise from atra-bilis, or the black bile.

- Atrophy.** A species of consumption, when the body or some member of it is not nourished, but decays and wastes away gradually.
- Attenuant.** Such medicines as open the pores of the body, and render more fluid thick and glutinous humours.
- Bile, or Gall.** A fluid which is secreted by the liver into the gall-bladder, and from thence passes into the intestines, in order to promote digestion.
- Bronchotomy.** That operation which opens the wind-pipe by incision, to prevent suffocation.
- Bronchia.** The branches of the wind-pipe dispersed through the lungs.
- Bubo.** A tumor with inflammation in the groin.
- Cacochymy.** An unhealthy state of the body.
- Capillary Vessels.** The smallest branches of the veins and arteries.
- Caries.** A rottenness of the bone.
- Cathartics.** Purges.
- Chronic.** A disease whose progress is slow, in opposition to acute.
- Chyle.** A milky fluid separated from the aliment in the intestines, and conveyed by the absorbents into the blood, to supply the waste of the animal body.
- Circulation.** The motion of the blood, which is driven by the heart through the arteries, and returns by the veins.
- Colliquative Evacuations.** Dangerous fluxes with profuse clammy sweats.
- Comatose.** Sleepy.
- Constipation.** A constriction, or binding together.
- Conglobate Gland.** A simple gland.
- Conglomerate.** A compound gland.
- Contagion.** Infectious matter.
- Crisis.** A certain period in the progress of a disease, from whence a decided alteration, either for the better or the worse, takes place.
- Critical.** Decisive, or important.
- Critical Days.** The fourth, fifth, seventh, ninth, eleventh, thirteenth, fourteenth, seventeenth, and twenty-first, are by some authors denominated critical days, because febrile complaints have been observed to take a decisive change in these periods.
- Cruciform.** In botany, a plant having a flower consisting of four petals disposed in the form of a cross.
- Cucurbitaceous.** In botany, a species of gourd.
- Cutis, or Cuticle.** The skin.
- Cutaneous.** Of or belonging to the skin.
- Debility.** Weakness; feebleness; decay of strength.
- Delirium.** A temporary derangement of the mental faculties.
- Deleterious.** Deadly; destructive.
- Desiccative.** Drying; tending to dry.
- Diaphoretic.** Heating; exciting perspiration.
- Diaphragm.** A membrane separating the cavity of the chest from that of the belly.
- Diarrhœa.** A flux, or looseness of the belly.
- Diuretic.** A medicine that promotes the secretion of urine.
- Drastic.** Is applied to such purgative medicines as are violent or harsh in their operation.
- Dyspepsia.** A difficulty of digestion, or rather a depraved one; as

- when what is digested becomes acid, or possessed of other morbid qualities.
- Dyspnœa.** A difficulty in breathing.
- Dysuria, or Dysury.** A difficulty or heat in voiding urine.
- Eccoprotics.** Such medicines as gently purge the body.
- Efflorescence.** A spot, or eruptive appearance.
- Emmenagogue.** Medicines which excite the menstrual discharge.
- Emollient.** Softening.
- Empyreumatic.** A smell resembling that of burnt substances.
- Endemic.** A disease peculiar to a certain district of country.
- Enema, Clyster, or Lavement,** are equivalent with each other, and signify any liquid medicine injected into the anus.
- Epidemic.** A disease generally infectious.
- Errhine.** Medicines to snuff up the nose, and that, by causing sneezing, purge the head.
- Exacerbation.** The increase of any disease.
- Exanthemata.** Certain wheals or breakings out on the body; efflorescences, or pustules.
- Fæces. Excrements.**
- Flatulent.** Producing wind.
- Fœtid.** Emitting an offensive smell.
- Fœtus.** The child before birth, or when born before the proper period, is thus termed.
- Formula.** A prescription
- Funus.** Proud flesh.
- Gangrene.** Mortification in its first beginning; caused by a stoppage of the circulation, followed by putrefaction.
- Gestation.** The time of a woman's going with child.
- Glottis.** Is that chink of the larynx that lies at the root of the tongue.
- Gonorrhœa.** A morbid running of venereal virus from the privities.
- Gummata.** } Venereal excrescences.
- Ganglia.** }
- Gymnastic.** Exercise taken with a view to preserve or restore health. The ancient physicians reckoned this an important branch of medicine.
- Hæmoptoe.** } A spitting of blood from the lungs.
- Hæmoptysis.** }
- Hæmorrhoids.** The piles.
- Hæmorrhage.** Discharge of blood.
- Hectic Fever.** A slow consuming fever, generally attending a bad habit of body, or some incurable and deep-rooted disease.
- Herculean.** Powerful; of the greatest force.
- Hypochondriacism.** Low spirits.
- Hypochondriac Viscera.** The liver, spleen, &c.; so termed from their situation in the hypochondriac, or upper and lateral parts of the belly.
- Ichor.** Thin bad matter.
- Imposthume.** A collection of purulent matter.
- Inflammation.** A surcharge of blood, and an increased action of the vessels, in any particular part of the body.
- Inguinal.** Has reference to what is commonly called the groin.
- LAVEMENT.** See ENEMA.
- Ligature.** Bandage.

- Lixivium.** Ley.
- Lohoch, or Linctus.** A medicine to be licked by the tongue, or swallowed slowly.
- Mamma.** The nipple.
- Mammæ.** The breasts.
- Mediastinum.** A double membrane that divides the thorax or breast into two parts.
- Miliary Eruption.** Eruption of small pustules, resembling the seeds of millet.
- Morbid.** } Causing disease, or diseased.
- Morbific.** }
- Mucus.** The matter discharged from the nose, lungs, &c.
- Mysentery.** A double membrane which connects the intestines to the back bone, and about which they are involved.
- Narcotic.** A stupifying opiate.
- Nausea.** An inclination to vomit.
- Nephritic.** A disease belonging to the kidneys and bladder.
- Nephritics.** Are those medicines that have a tendency to break or dissolve stony concretions.
- Nervous.** Irritable.
- Nodes.** An enlargement of the bones produced by the venereal disease.
- Papilionaceous.** Having amulgent vessels like a nipple.
- Paroxysm.** A fit, or the periodical return of a fit, of a disease.
- Pectoral.** Medicines adapted to cure diseases of the breast.
- Perennial.** Durable, perpetual.
- Perspiration.** The matter discharged from the pores of the skin in the form of vapour or sweat.
- Peritonæum.** A membrane lining the cavity of the belly, and covering the intestines.
- Pericardium.** A membranous bag containing the heart.
- Petechial.** Small spots on the skin, like flea-bites, which come out in some fevers.
- Phlebotomy.** The art or operation of letting blood.
- Phlegmon.** An inflamed tumor, accompanied with heat, redness, and throbbing pain.
- Phlegmatic.** Watery; relaxed.
- Phlogiston.** Is here used to signify somewhat rendering the air unfit for respiration.
- Phthisis Pulmonalis.** Consumption of the lungs.
- Plethoric.** Replete with blood.
- Polypus.** A diseased excrescence, or a substance formed of coagulable lymph, frequently found in the large blood-vessels.
- Præcordia.** The parts about the heart.
- Prolapsus Ani.** The falling down of the fundament.
- Prolapsus Uteri.** The falling down of the womb.
- Pus.** Matter contained in a boil.
- Rectum.** The straight gut, in which the fæces are contained.
- Refrigerant.** Cooling; refreshing.
- Regimen.** Regulation of diet.
- Respiration.** The act of breathing.
- Restringent.** Binding.

- Saliva. The fluid secreted by the glands of the mouth.
 Sanies. A thin bad matter, discharged from an ill-conditioned ulcer.
 Schirrous. A state of diseased hardness.
 Sedative. Composing, easing, antispasmodic.
 Slough. A part separated and thrown off by suppuration.
 Sordes. Filth; dregs.
 Spine. The back-bone.
 Sternutatory. Causing to sneeze.
 Sternum. The breast-bone which is situated in the middle of the breast.
 Styptic. A medicine for stopping the discharge of blood.
 Sub-acid. Rather acid; somewhat sour or tart.
 Succedaneum. A substitute for another article.
 Syncope. A fainting fit attended with a complete abolition of sense and motion.
 Syphilitic. Venereal.
 Tabes. A species of consumption.
 Temperament. A peculiar habit of body, of which there are generally reckoned four; viz. the sanguine; the bilious; the melancholic; and phlegmatic.
 Tenesmus. A continual desire of going to stool, attended with an inability of voiding any thing except bloody slimy matter.
 Vaccine. Of or belonging to a cow.
 Variolous. Of or resembling the small-pox, a distemper that is so variously diversified, that it requires various methods of management.
 VENESECTION. See PHLEBOTOMY.
 Vermifuge. A medicine to expel worms.
 Vertigo. Giddiness.
 Vesicatory. A blistering application.
 Viscera. The bowels, entrails. The heart, liver, lungs, &c., are so called.
 Ulcer. An ill-conditioned sore.
 Umbelliferous. Having umbilical vessels, in reference to the navel. There are four ligamentary vessels called by that name.
 Ureters. Two long and small canals which convey the urine from the kidneys to the bladder.
 Urethra. The canal which conveys the urine from the bladder.