



THE
FOURTH PART
OF THE
SPAGYRICAL PHARMACOPOEA

Treating of the four principal Pillars of Medicine, viz. Sulphur, Vitriol, Antimony, and Mercury, but chiefly of the great harmony between the Superiour Elementary Sun and Moon, and the Inferiour and Terrestrial Gold and Silver, and the magnetick way of attracting the Virtues of SOL and LUNE by the Air, and of rendering them palpable and visible.

READER,

After that I had intended to publish in the Fourth Part of this my SPAGYRICAL PHARMACOPOEA, some singular and excellent Medicines, and such as might much exceed all others, and so must consequently be prepared of choice and excellent Subjects and matters; I accounted it my task in the first place to shew you out of what subjects such efficacious Medicines may be drawn and extracted, viz. out of Gold, Wine, and Antimony, as likewise out of Vitriol and Mercury, but not the vulgar Mercury.

Now although most Men are blinded with a thick darkness, but principally those that prosecute the truth with a deadly hatred, and do prate much, and by reason of their blindness and ignorance do affirm, that Gold being a thick and compact body is not at all fit to admit of such a preparation as thereby to display its most efficacious virtues in Man's Body: And as for Antimony and Mercury, that they are most present Poisons, and can't serve as Medicines without great danger; but as for Wine, that it is indeed fit to be drank, but is of no validity in Medicine, not knowing how to imploy it about any Medicinal use, but are rather ready and skillfull Artists at swallowing it down in full draughts; however though they thus chat yet these objections are frivolous, and do proceed from their ignorance which is wrapped about with most thick Clouds, and which I refute by this brief and strong Reply. But I do not at all deny, that Gold reduced even to the smallest Powder, and so made use of (as 'twas wont of old to be by the Ancient, yea and latter Galenists, and is even too at this day) by mixing it with such Medicines as are for the comforting and strengthening the Heart and

Vitals of Men, cannot contribute so much as the least IOTA to the health and preservation of the body of Man: And so I say of Antimony and Mercury, that they are not at all salutiferous to Man's Body, but contrariwise are deadly and destructive Medicaments, until (by a due preparation) they are deprived of all their Venenosity, and thereby rendered fit to be safely made use of. So Wine it self being taken PER SE as it is, is a restoring and refreshing Drink for Man, provided it be moderately used: But contrarily is a causer of many Diseases if it be frequently and, in large quantities swallowed in, and doth operate in Man's Body more hurt than good, this daily experience doth sufficiently testifie, and renders it evident, that being so immoderately taken, it fills all the Members of the whole Body with Tartar, and makes obstructions and stirs up intolerable Pains, and principally in the Bladder, Reins, and other parts of the Body, viz. if coagulated in the Hands, Knees, and Feet, whereupon it doth not easily suffer it self to be exterminated, unless by such Artists as well know the properties and nature of Tartar, but of such Men there is at this day a great scarcity, and therefore that proverbial Verse still takes place.

Solvere Nodosam Nescit Medicina Podagram.

The Art of Physick can't root out

(Thy dire Disease) the Knotty Gout.

But he who is so well skilled as to Separate the fiery, penetrative, wholesome, and true Medicinal Spirit of Wine; Yea its true Balsom from its Faeces, he will easily expel out of the Body of Man all tartarous impurities and defilements, and will perform things wonderfull in the Stone and Gout. But now forasmuch as the educing so wholesome a Medicine out of gross crude Tartar is known but to a very few, no wonder that there hath been so little or rather nothing at all performed by Physicans in such like most grievous tartarous Diseases that have gotten deep rooting in the Body of Man. But the way how you may be rendered Possessors of such a Spirit of Wine shall be spoken of afterwards. Yet I would not that any one should perswade himself that my meaning and intention in this place is about the common Spirit of Wine, or either that which is gotten out of Tartar by the usual known way of Distillation. No, there's a vast difference betwixt that Spirit which I here make mention of and the other. For in this Spirit the crude Tartar is first to be washed by common Water from all its Defilements, and that without the addition of any other things, so as to shine like Snow, then

to be afterwards made black by putrefaction, and out of that blackness the said Balsam is to be drawn off, of which we shall hereafter make a more ample Declaration. This now is that Spirit which doth Anatomically resolve the compacted Body of Gold, and converteth the venemousness of Antimony into a wholesome Medicine, and doth perform things wonderfull in all tartarous Diseases. 'Tis the true Wine of Health, and the very AQUA VITAE of the Philosophers, and hath a great familiarity with Gold and Man, and may be excellently compared with the coagulated Solar beams.

Therefore as it is evidently known to every body, that Gold and Wine are advanced on to maturity, by the heat of the Sun, and that Men do notably love and desire both of them. So may any one conjecture what Gold and Wine would do if a Man could but have them reduced to a Spiritual essence. Hence now it seems necessary unto me, that before I pass on to the preparation of the said Medicine, I do in a few words describe the harmonial love that is between the Superiour and Inferiour Sun and Man, that so it may appear, what a bond or tie of love and necessity there is betwixt these three most noble Creatures of God, to one another.

Chapter I.

Of the Harmony and Agreeableness between the Superiour Elementary, and Inferiour Earthly Sun, with Wine and Man.

'Tis well known even to the blind Bayards and Barbers, that the Sun in the heavenly Firmament, is the most noble and most eminent Creature God made. For it is that only light which makes all the Stars partakers of its Splendour, Light and Brightness. 'Tis also the only Fountain and as it were Father of all the Creatures, because if they are deprived of it, they are in the dark and die: Nay even man himself cannot live without the help of the Sun, and all things would perish, should the Sun be but for one moment withdrawn from them. For all things that are do receive their Life and Augmentation from the Sun; and he was (according to MOSES his Doctrine) the first and chiefest that did proceed forth by God's creating, and will doubtless be the last when all things shall be dissolved, and pass into a better State at the final Destruction of this worldly Fabrick. The Sun supplies the place of a heart in the wonderfull

Structure of the Macrocosm: And in like manner the heart it self in man's Body is aptly compared to the Sun, as being the first liver, and last dier in the humane Fabrick; and this is known to every body. And therefore amongst all the Creatures indued with life and motion, man doth in nobility and magnificence excel them all, as having gotten his body from the earth, his Spirit and Life from the Sun, and his Soul from God.

But as to the insensible Creatures the highest Degree of Nobleness is attributed unto Gold, the which is likewise generated by the Sun. These three admirable Creatures, viz. the Sun, Man, and Gold are coupled with a bond of wonderfull Necessity and Friendship, and are conjoined by the instinct of Nature her self. Men do desire the Light of the Sun, as also the heat in a dark and cold Season, for thencefrom proceeds all life, and all the encrease of life, because the Suns beams do perform the office of the universal Spirit, and Life in the Conservation of the Life of Man. But now as touching Gold, men do partake of that in a particular way only, and one man is usually stored with a bigger Portion, another with a lesser, not by the instinct of nature, for she bestoweth it on us only for our use, but by reason of the abusive malice, avarice and the unsatiable Covetousness of men; but yet this way is not the right manner of loving Gold, nor genuine, but false and oft times very hazardous. We should rather love it because of its wonderfull Virtues which it possesseth, hidden in its body, and may afford a most notable Comfort to man's sickness and infirmities. Verily the Ancient Philosophers were not ignorant of the incredible Virtues which the Gold hides in it self, it being truely no other thing than a body consisting and compacted of the coagulated and fixed Beams of the Sun, and this was well known to those men who were most skillfull in the nature of all things. Seeing then that the Sun's beams being as yet unfixed can bestow on all things life and encrease, why may not the same be accomplished by them when fixed, and made constant, if so be they be rendered spiritual, and thereby be capable of displaying their Virtues in a visible and palpable efficacy, which thing they could not do if they retain their corporal Coagulation, nor can display their occult Virtues.

Many men have industriously attempted with great Labour, artificially to open Gold, and to reduce it to a spiritual Nature, and to render it living and efficacious, but few there have been that have been Masters of their desires, but such as at length had thereto attained,

did perform things wonderfull in the sicknesses of mankind, and this is witnessed by many most true Histories, as for instance, by the TURBA of the Philosophers, and by the THREATRUM CHYMICUM. The which Books do indeed describe such a notable secret, but so obscurely and intricately, as that no body can therefrom learn its preparation, unless God reveals it to them, or it be manifested by some good friend or other that knows the Art. 'Tis no wonder that amongst many thousands of Searchers, so very few do arrive to the knowledge of the same. For God hath barred up this so great a secret with such firm bolts, that all wicked and malicious men are easily excluded from the knowledge of finding it out. Verily I must needs say (but I boast not of it) that I see by what means those bonds are to be loosed, and that precious Pearl may by removal of those bolts be taken forth. But yet I profess not my self to be a perfect and absolute Master, and such an one as perfectly knows its preparation, and would make it publick by describing it. No the Crumbs serves my turn, and the Fragments of the Bread, with which hungar may be allayed as well as with the Bread it self.

I have I confess tasted somewhat of the Crumbs of what pertains to so worthy a Medicament, and with what great Virtues they abound. And such things as my experience have administred unto me I have here purposed to reveal them, for the comfort and sake of my Neighbour, as far as the time and occasion will permit; but yet with this SALVO, that I cast not Pearl before Swine, and so incur the Philosophers Curse. To whomsoever the things that I speak shall be more obscure, let him wrestle earnestly by his Prayers to God for light, and refrain from troubling me with multiplicity of entreaties, for I have firmly resolved with my self not to reveal for the time to come more than what I have opened in the present description.

Chapter II.

Of Gold, and the Comparison betwixt it when living, and when dead.

It is so well known as that nothing can be more known, that Gold being so compact and corporeal and without any opening, doth not when used inwardly to man's Body emit any Virtues at all. I will instance in one Example of Mercury; This being living and unbroken and undissolved, doth not, though used inwardly in a great weight, bring any hurt, but

passeth out again as 'twas before taken in without any alteration of the Body. But if it be sublimed with Salt, or shall be dissolved by some other corrosive Water, and be administered to a man to drink the quantity of 1, 2, or 3 Grains it will shrewdly hazard his Life, because the Salts have made its hidden lurking Poison manifest. Thus stands the case with Gold, which cannot shew forth its hidden force and virtues as long as it remains bound and tied with the fetters of its own compaction, but (on the other hand) displays them, as soon as ever it shall be released from, its bonds, be vivified by Salts, and rendered efficacious. You see in a black Coal, whiles it is not fired, there is not any heat at all perceived, but being kindled, and being by the Air rendered living, it discovers the fire and heat being therein hidden, the which you may likewise consider of concerning Gold.

Chapter III.

Of the Preparation of Gold, and its Dissolution into most tender Atoms apt for vivification and profitable application to Medicinal Use.

Gold doth not by any way more easily admit of being turned into most tender and most subtil Atoms than by this following.

Dissolve pure Gold in AQUA REGIA, and being dissolved pour thereto as much of the Water of Tartar as is sufficient: So the clear Gold, and cloathed too with a golden Colour, will precipitate it self to the bottom of the Vessel, nor will it be a darkish Powder, as 'tis wont to be if precipitated by LIXIVIUMS or by the Spirit of Urine: But it is light and tender, and shews in brightness like little golden Stars, yea becomes so very tender and subtil, that it swims as 'twere in the Water and settles to the bottom exceeding leasurably, and is thereby so much worthier than all other CALXES of Gold how subtil soever they be, that they may be accompted of (if compared with this) but only as a gross Earth; whereas these shining golden little Stars are made so tender and so subtil, as that they may easily discover and demonstrate their Virtues in medicinal use very notably, by the help of other things, and by being dissolved sundry ways.

Chapter IV.

By what means this most pure Calx of Gold is to be farther opened, whereby it may be inverted, made volatile, and rendered like to a Vegetable.

This, tender SOL or CALX may be brought to such a pass, without any corrosive in 24 hours space, as that it shall not remain a fixed metalline Body, but become wholly volatile as it was at its beginning. Now this is effected by the help of the Salt of Nature only, which is to be found every where, and may be gotten by the poor as well as by the rich. Yea so easie as that it is scarce credible, should it be manifested openly and clearly, and which those Brethren of ignorance and proud Court-like Flatterers would entertain with scorn and derision, and accompt the truth it self to be a lie, as hath been oft times done hitherto. 'Tis better therefore to pass over such things in silence, than by benefitting others to injure ones self. For such Arcana's are to be wrapt up in silence, and not to be cast before such Hogs. But yet to the Adept shall be revealed such things in the end of this writing or treatise, as they have been hitherto ignorant of.

Chapter V.

Query, Whether or no these most subtil Atoms of Gold are capable of performing any thing in Medicine, and of displaying their hidden Virtues like Vegetables, without any other unlocking of them.

For answer, I say no. For the Stomach is too weak to dissolve and get thence that efficacy as it doth from Vegetables, though it be thus reduced in a most tender and subtile substance. In vain therefore is it administrated to the sick, because it passeth out again with the Excrements so as 'twas taken in, and that without any remarkable efficacy.

Chapter VI.

Query, Whether or no the Stomach may not be so helped as that it may be able to dissolve and consume Gold as well as Iron and

Copper.

For answer I say, yes. And forasmuch as the most thin filings of Iron and Copper, being given any one to drink, are digested and consumed by the natural acidity of the Stomach, or are by dissolution there turned into Vitriol, which (said Vitriol) doth vehemently stir up the Body by Vomit, and by Stool (according to the quantity of the exhibited Metals) and killeth the Worms both in old and young folks, and casteth them forth, and coloureth the very Excrements as black as a Coal; hereby evidently demonstrating, that being dissolved and consumed by the Stomach, it hath brought out, together with it self, ths slain Worms; Any body may easily conjecture that the Acidity of the Stomach was sufficiently strong to set upon the two aforesaid Metals, being of a Salt nature, and of an easie Solution, and to reduce them so far as to cause them to display their hidden Virtues. But now the Stomach is not endued with so strong an Acidity, as to be able to set upon and dissolve Gold and Silver, being Metals as 'twere void of Salt, and admitting no Solution there. Hereupon it usually happens, that they being used inwardly in Medicine, do come away with the Excrements in such form as they were administred in. Thence do the unskillfull conclude (but falsly) that there are no Virtues in Gold and Silver, because that being brought into a most subtile Powder, and administred to the sick, they are notwithstanding destitute of any kind of Virtues. The reason, why they do not operate at all is, because the Acidity of the Stomach is not sufficient enough to work upon them, and so stir them up to operation. But being dissolved by Acid Spirits, viz. the Gold by Spirit of Salt, and the Silver by Spirit of Niter, they do evidently shew their Virtues in Medicine, being inwardly taken, and do purge the Body no less than Copper and Iron do, and do withall colour the Excrements black, and kill the Worms both in old and young: Neither indeed will any find a more present remedy for killing the Worms, which do oft-times destroy many Infants and Children destitute of any kind of help, than the Vitriol of Gold and Silver, about which shall be written a peculiar Chapter anon.

But forasmuch as the dissolved Metals, but especially Gold and Silver, do by their ungratefull savour offend the Palate, and dye the Tongue and Lips of a black Colour; Men do abhor to use them, although they might be very helpfull in Medicine: But however these discommodities may be prevented, by rendering the said Metals acceptable

to the Palate, and so ordering them as that they shall no more Colour the Lips, but evidently shew forth their Virtues, and perform great matters in Medicine. This now may be done divers ways, some whereof shall be here described and declared.

Chapter VII.

By what means Gold may be brought to such a pass as that (being inwardly made use of in Medicine) it may display its virtues and be stirred up to operation by a guider (or leading Card as 'twere) added thereunto.

Gold being reduced by the way now spoken of into most tender (Atoms, may be stirred up divers ways, so as that being inwardly administred, it may manifest its virtues and that notably and efficaciously.

As first when such Salts are thereunto added as do corroborate the Stomach, and augment its acidity, so as to make it strong enough to work upon the tender Gold and dissolve it, and to turn it into Vitriol in the Stomach, in which case my SAL MIRABILIS is very excellent, but yet other Salts are not to be despised, to each of which I give the honour due unto them.

Then farther, the same may be done when such Mineral Species are added to the said Golden Calx as do by their natural propriety expell by Sweat and Urine: For a Mineral Medicine, as soon as ever it begins its operation in the Body, whether by Sweat or by expulsion by Urine, doth also stir up the Gold to operate, so that it works too after the same manner as the Medicaments adjoined to it is wont to operate, just as 'tis usually wont to be in some kind of Fraternity or Consortship; If one begins to sing, to dance, to be enamoured with a Virgin, to brawl, or to play, he presently stirs up others to do the same, who would otherwise have abode still. Now as to the Minerals, amongst the many inciters there, Antimony obtaineth the first place, and doth stir up to operate with himself any such things as are thereunto adjoined, whether they be Gold or Silver, yea though they be dead. And so a Mineral being purgative, or Diuretick, being mixt with Gold, doth perform its operation much more safely and efficaciously than if it were alone and used PER SE inwardly, without any addition of Gold thereunto. For the tender Gold is stirred up and driven as 'twere to Co-operate together

with the operation of the Mineral Medicament, which otherwise, and without such an impulsion and incitement would have remained as dead, and void of any kind of operation, and so passed forth together with the Excrements.

Chapter VIII.

A better way of making Gold and Silver living and efficacious.

Gold and Silver may be made living and efficacious after another and better way and manner, thus. If they be dissolved in suitable Waters, and made Spiritual, and so used in Medicine, for they are by this means fitted to operate and display their Virtues after their manner, and according to their preparation.

The manner of making such well opened and unlocked Golden Water, I taught some years since, and published it under the title of AURUM POTABILE. For I then knew a way of reducing Gold into a white Water by some certain Medicinal Salts, and, have it now by me at all times, as being better and far more excellent than that former AURUM POTABILE, and may supply the place of an Universal Medicine; and that on this account, because it doth operate universally in all curable diseases, and doth withall excell all the other Medicaments that I know of in its wholesome operation, for it doth by little and little expell every obnoxious thing out of the whole body. I confess that the same things are performed by my Golden PANACAEA, or my Purging Gold, and Diaphoretick Gold, but in some cases I prefer this white AURUM POTABILE of mine, as I now prepare it, before them, for it hath an invisible and contrary or different operation from my Purging Gold, or Golden PANACAEA, which do, for the most part, work visibly. And whereas I have formerly divulged those Medicaments in my Treatises, I will omit their superfluous discription here, and only add thus much, That these three Medicaments of mine, viz. the Golden PANACAEA, my Diaphoretick Gold, and my white AURUM POTABILE are so abundantly sufficient both for the preserving from, and curing of all diseases, that whosoever will only use them, need not at all any other Medicaments.

But forasmuch as Men are delighted with variety, and that sometimes such or such a coloured Medicine, or such an Odour or Savour is far more acceptable, I have judged it worth while to add for the sake of the sick

yet two or three excellent Medicines more, and such, as to the best of my knowledge, were as yet never divulged. 'Tis at every ones liberty to make use of such an one as best likes him, or now and then to try this Medicine or that, and so to make use of that which best pleaseth him.

The incomparable PARACELSUS, the Monarch of Philosophers and Physicans, supposed, that these four Minerals, viz. SULPHUR, MERCURY, ANTIMONY, and VITRIOL, did prop up the whole Medicinal Art, like so many Capital Pillars, and that by them ought all things be prepared, as were necessarily requisite for any kind of cure. And indeed the thing it self (or the effect) sufficiently proves the truth of this opinion, and so do those four Minerals themselves too, if they be but dissected, purged, and prepared according to Art, else they are of no worth, but do more hurt than good, because if they be not duly prepared, they are not deprived of their Venemosity, and are not turned into wholesome Medicines. But as for such as are set to sale in our days in the Apothecaries shops, they are verily but of small moment. For the Antimony which (being turned into Glass) they sell, hath never as yet admitted of any separation of the good from the evil.

And as for MERCURY, they turn him into a Sublimate, abounding with Venom, and likewise into a red Precipitate, both of which are sufficiently hazardous both in external and internal Medicinal uses; For the vulgar MERCURY never desisteth from his malice, unless it be exalted by a safer and better preparation. It is sufficient (to say) that being prepared after the aforesaid usual ways, it ought to be wholly shunned, and so it will not create any danger.

As for Common SULPHUR, although it be exalted into Flores, and those exceeding subtile too, such as are at this day in use, yet shews it no wonderfull matters; for there is not as yet made any separation of the pure part from the impure, or rendered subtile or fit, to operate upon the Body of Man; for as it was taken in, so it passeth out with the Excrements: For the Acidity of the Stomach cannot dissolve it; so far is it from yielding to the Stomach any efficacy, for a strong AQUA FORTIS cannot dissolve it.

As for VITRIOL, it yields the Workmen an austere or sower Oil, and a sharp Spirit, little availing to Medicinal uses, this only excepted, viz. the mixing it with cooling Syrups and Conserves, gives them a gratefull sowness; the which Spirit of Salt well rectified, would perform much better. Hence it comes to pass, that these four Minerals,

according as they are at this day used, and sold by the Apothecaries, cannot be accounted for the four Pillars of the whole Body of Medicine, and possess that title, which PARACELSUS exalteth them by, unless they are prepared after another manner than they have hitherto been.

As for SULPHUR, I bring it to the highest purity by a due washing, and do by suitable and proper Salts turn the same, together with Gold, into a clear-water, that so our Nature may assume it to it self, as is to be seen in my AURUM POTABILE.

I draw from Antimony its purer part, and I implant it in exceedingly well prepared Gold, that it may make the Gold efficacious, witness my Purging Gold.

Instead of the common VITRIOL, I use the VITRIOL made of Gold, the which is wont to perform such effects in Medicine as the common VITRIOL never will, as shall be taught by and by.

Instead of the common and poisonous MERCURY, I make use of a MERCURY prepared out of good Metal, or artifically extracted by a certain Magnet from the beams of SOL and LUNE, as shall be taught anon. And this MERCURY is rightly called the Universal MERCURY of the Philosophers, because being as yet an invisible thing, is extracted out of the Air, and made visible and palpable, and is the effector of wonderfull things in Medicine and Alchemy, as we shall hear anon.

But before I proceed to VITRIOL and MERCURY, I count it fit, first to set down a good Medicine prepared out of Silver by the help of Antimony, that so every body may know, that even Gold and Silver (how thick and compact soever they be) may, by the addition of other Medicinal Subjects, be quickened and stirred up, and be brought to such a pass as to emit their Virtues, as we have afore mentioned more at large. The preparation of this Medicine out of Silver and Antimony is as followeth.

Chapter IX.

The manner of preparing a good Medicament out of Silver and Antimony.

In the first place prepare out of the Mineral or Ore of Antimony an ACETUM by distillation, according to Art: Then take one part of the best Antimony, and two parts of the Calx of Silver, which being well washed,

mix it with the Antimony, by grinding them very well together, that they may be changed into a grayish or somewhat a, blackish Powder. Put this Powder into a small Glass, Cucurbit or little Re-tort, and pour thereupon so much of the Antimonial Vinegar as may serve to bring the said Powder into a thin Pultis or Pap. Put the Glass in Sand, and distill off the said Vinegar, this pouring on, and drawing off let be so often repeated until the Antimony shall have lost its blackness, and the Silver its whiteness, and be both of them turned into a red Stone, like to CINABER, which is usually done in the third or fourth Cohobation.

Note well, if such an error should be committed as that your fire being too strong should when you draw off the ACETUM melt the mass in the Glass, it would be rendered wholly incapable of admitting or drinking up the ACETUM, and then you must of necessity break the Glass and take out the mass and reduce it again into small Powder by grinding, and repeat the operations according to the aforesaid way. This Medicament being turned into a red Stone, and ground upon a Marble into a most subtile Powder, is called by me purging LUNE, and may be made use of in all Diseases as a kind of PANACAEA, (like as my purging Gold may be) with great fruit and good success. For this Medicine of Silver doth operate very gently, expelling all evil humours out of all the Members of the whole Body of Man, and this scarce any other Medicine will do save my golden PANACAEA. For it leaveth no impurity in the Body, (but expels it) not only by purgation, but also by Sweat and Urine. If you should chance to err and take too big a Dose, it will also cause vomiting, but especially with such as abounding with Choler are prone to Vomit. To Infants under four Weeks old may a Dose be given of about the bigness of a Rape Seed, and be mixt in a Spoon with a little of its Mothers Milk, and so given them. It conserves them free from the invasion of the Epilepsie, and frees them. If you find that they are infected with the Small-pox or the like, within a years space, the Dose is to be augmented, and a fourth or eighth part of a grain may be administred to them, the which will bring out of the Infants all the impurities by Stool, and preserve the Face untouched. Those that are from one to two, or twelve years of age, and being troubled with the Worms, do fall into acute Feavers, (and hereby a great many perish destitute of all help) may have the Dose augmented if need be, and that as their age is, from 1/2 a grain to two grains, for so the Worms will be killed, and the Feaver sent packing. Nay farther, if the Feavers in Children, be they Boys or Girls, do not proceed from the Worms but from

other causes, yet may so much of this Medicine be administred to them as may be requisite to purge and sweat them, and by this means will they be (without any hazard of their lives) restored to their former health. There can scarce be found a more profitable and more present remedy against the Plague and other Feavers in young men, middle aged men, and old men than my golden PANACAEA or purging Gold, and this same purging LUNE here described, the Dose is from one grain to five or six grains with reference to the age and Disease. Such a Dyer is to be observed as I have prescribed in the use of my PANACAEA, viz. that the Sick (after the taking of this purging Silver) do abstain from Sleep and all kind of Food for three or four hours at least, and beware of the cold Air, and have an especial regard to keep a good Diet. This Medicine of mine, together with my PANACAEA AUREA (or golden universal Medicine) may be safely, and without any fear of danger made use of in the French Pox, Dropsie, Leprosie, Stone, Gout, and other such Diseases, whatsoever name they are called by; insomuch that men may (next their trust in God) safely confide therein. And besides by this Medicament may very many things be performed in metalline affairs, the discovering of which we shall at this time omit, contenting ourselves with having shewn the things that appertains to the use of Medicine. Furthermore it is likewise notably efficacious in curing of external Wounds and Ulcers, provided it be discreetly administred inwardly, and the external defects of the body be kept sweet and clean. There will in a short time be much more benefit received therefrom, than from such a deal of Ointments and Emplaisters as are frequently used. Praise God and give him thanks for such great benefits.

Chapter X.

The preparation of the Vitriol of Gold and its use in Medicine.

Dissolve Gold in some acid Sulphureous SAL MIRABILIS, and not alkalized, viz. by the moist way, pass the solution through a Philter, and abstract the unprofitable Phlegm so far until there appear a thin skin at the top, which appearing, set the remainder in the cold, and you shall get a green stone like to an Emerald. That part of the Liquor which is not shot, evaporate again even so long till a skin appears, that so you may get the rest of your Vitriol: So all the Gold will

together with the SAL MIRABILIS shoot into a Vitriol, resembling the greenness of Grass, (and so green) as nature never produced the like. In this Smaragdine Table are found written (or engraven) many wonderfull things, which will neither be read nor understood by every body. I will hint some few things concerning it, and such as appertain to Medicine: And in the first place, what kind of Vitriol this ought to be, and what notes and marks it is to be distinguished by, (as thus) a little of it being rubbed with your thumb, on pure or cleansed Iron, doth guild it of a golden colour, whereas the common Vitriol makes the Iron look of a coppery colour. This is a sign of this golden Vitriol's being prepared after a due manner, which said Vitriol will effect those things in Medicine which I am about to ascribe to it. Besides, it makes Copper and Brass shew of a golden colour and performs wonderfull things with Mercury, if digested with it, in the moist way, but for brevity sake I omit these things. For it grows like a little Tree, and sends forth golden Sprouts.

As touching its Medicinal Virtues such of them as I have found out, are here briefly described; without question there lie hid in it yet more and more excellent Virtues, which as yet are unknown unto me, but will come to light in process of time.

But the chief efficacy and virtue of this golden Vitriol as far as I know, doth consist in purging and bringing out all evil and noxious humours out of the whole body of Man, and withall in corroborating and strengthening him. And as to this office it outstrips all other Medicines whatsoever. Nay more, it performs its operation speedily, yea more speedily than any other purge doth. For as soon as ever it shall be taken into the body it doth presently begin to work, because the Salt is soluble, and therefore such bodies as are not opened, can't at all compare with it, for they must necessarily lie in the Stomach at least half an hour, or a whole hour before they begin their operation. And because every common Vitriol is a capital enemy to all the Worms of the Belly, and the Feavers arising therefrom, wherewith a very many Infants both Boys and Girls do die, void of all kind of help, I do most highly commend this Vitriol of Gold to all such Fathers and Mothers of Families, whose Children are dear unto them, that they at all times have it in a readiness, to be made use of in cases of necessity. For verily I never found any better or certainer Remedy against the Worms than this very same, because it not only kills them, but also casts them out, and

doth by strengthening the Sick, take away all the Feavers both of old and young. It is also a most great secret in the Plague, in which Disease verily, a longer delay or abiding of a Medicine in the Body (without working) is hurtfull. Besides, it is not only a certain and safe curative Medicine, but likewise a preservative too in the Plague, and in all acute and contagious Feavers, as well of young as old, the like to which is scarce, yea very rare to be found. For this Vitriol doth speedily and swiftly draw back from the heart every Poison, and every burning heat, and being drawn back from all the Members of the whole Body, doth drive it forth by all the Emunctories of the whole Body, but principally by Stool and Sweat. Furthermore, if the Disease require it, and the Patients strength permit it, it may be administred in a bigger Dose, and then 'twill provoke to Vomit, and powerfully expel Choler. It doth in the LUES VENEREA shew it self most efficaciously virtuous, and powerfully casts out Tartarous Fluxes and acute humours out of all the whole Body: By which operation it likewise brings much help and comfort to such as are troubled with the Stone and Gout, it removes the Epilepsie both from young and old, and frees the Hydropical of the Water betwixt the Skin. And that I may comprise all as 'twere in one word, 'tis such an universal purge as that it roots out of the whole Body whatsoever is found to be hurtfull and offensive therein. It hath not its fellow as to Remedy the Feavers of Children whether proceeding from Worms or from a corrupted Stomach, the which kill such abundance of Infants of both Sexes, without any help left. Nor do I think that there can be found a better Remedy in the Plague, and in all other acute Feavers which usually kill Men suddenly, than this Vitriol of Gold, if it be but rightly made use of. The Dose is small, and is easily made pleasant to Childrens Palats, by putting a little Sugar thereunto, or some such like sweet things. To Infants newly born, you may give scarce an eighth part of a grain, against (or to prevent) the Epilepsie, or Convulsions. To such as are from one year old, to 10 or 12 years of age, The Dose may be one, two, or three grains, according as their age is, the which Dose may be augmented in such as are older, according as the age and condition of the Sick requires. Where the Disease is Worms, there the Dose must be so strong as not only by well purging to kill them, but also to cast them forth when killed. For from those slain Worms, if they abide in the Bowels, other new Worms usually breed. I hope that by my thus revealing this Medicament, I shall so bring it to pass, as that for the time to come, so many Infants both Boys and Girls

will, not be destroyed by Feavers arising from Worms, but very many will be safely preserved from so immature a death.

But here, some or other may say or at least think within himself, what is the reason that I have such an especial regard to Infants and Children, and am so very solicitous of preserving them from an untimely end. I answer hereunto, that nothing is more necessary than to afford some comfortable due help to Infants, and poor innocent Babes, who do evil to none, and whose loss their Parents do sadly brook. For it is certain and without all kind of doubt, that (amongst Diseases) the Epilepsie or Convulsion is the first that sets upon new born Infants and sweeps them away. Then presently follows Measels, Small-Pox, and such like, and these kill not a few. Then comes the Worms, and they cause Feavers which afflict them with a continual burning, whereby they lose all their Appetite to eating, and covet nothing but drink, and the Parents use no remedy to suppress them, being ignorant that such guests are lodged there, and do not perceive them when the poor sick Babes Bellies do not swell. But further, when by the swelling of their Bellies, they do know that they have the Worms, and though they desire to use some Remedies, yet can they hardly make their little ones to take them as being so averse to them. Nay more, though sometimes they do administer common Worm seed, or some other Vegetable Powders good against the Worms, yet there's scarce one in ten that is helped, and the poor sick Children grow worse and worse: And at last when the Disease hath gotten such head as that the Parents see that death is at hand, then is the Physican sent for, who, if he knows the Disease to arise from Worms, and be furnished with a good Medicine, doth presently help the Sick, and free him of the Disease. But if he be destitute of a good Medicine, and attempts to refresh or cherish the Sick with his sweet Syrups, & etc. he widely erreth, for by such kind of sweet Juices he gives Nutriment to the Worms. Neither doth it at all avail to put Linnen Cloths, dipped in Rose water, to the Head, thereby to allay its burning heat, and to little purpose are the gentle purging drinks prescribed. For as soon as ever the Worms do perceive any thing given to the Sick, which is contrary to them, they presently hide themselves (or run to holes) and do wreath themselves into a kind of Ring, and pass out with the Excrements. But if they perceive any sweet thing which is pleasant to them to be given to the Sick, they do receive their nourishment thencefrom and remain alive. And if by some hap or other it doth so chance that one or more is hurried away with the Excrements, yet the

rest of them remain unhurt, and the Disease is not taken away, but prevaieth more and more, and at last deprives the Sick of Life. He therefore that endeavoureth after the happy curing of such Feavers as arise by reason of Worms, must of necessity (in defect of this golden Vitriol) give his Patient such things to drink for three or four days as do cause a bitterness in the Stomach. And although bitter things are unpleasant to the Palate of poor Sick Infants, yet are they enemies to the Worms, and do kill them. Such bitter things therefore being drunk for three or four days, the Worms do sometimes in some Sick Children die the first or second day, but in other some 'tis the fourth day e're they die.

Now then as concerning such bitter Medicaments, which I here write of, that they may not be bitter in the Mouth, but be made so in the Stomach, I say, that the Metals are such, and especially Iron, Copper, Gold and Silver, the which being dissolved do obtain a very bitter and ungratefull Savour. But the reason why Gold and Silver being taken into the body, when they are filed and ground most exceeding small, do not operate any thing at all, comes from thence, viz. because the Acidity of the Stomach is too weak to set upon them: And therefore 'tis necessary that they be first converted into Vitriols, if you would have them operative in the Stomach, as I have taught you concerning Gold. But forasmuch as every Body, cannot be Masters of such a golden or silver Vitriol, it seemed expedient to me to reveal to the poor, a certain and never failing Secret, by the help whereof the Worms both in old People and young are killed.

It is not unknown to Physicans that every common Vitriol wherewith Dyers use to dye their black Colour, doth (being administred to young People) kill the Worms and cast them out too. But because of its unpleasant and odd taste 'tis a hard matter to make Children take it. But now if you do a little more accurately examine the properties of common Vitriol, you will find it to be nothing else but a mere acid Salt, by which Iron or Copper, or both together are dissolved in the Earth, by nature. If now we are so minded, we can also make a Vitriol in the Stomach, which will be equilly as operative as that which is made by nature and taken in at the mouth, and 'tis done thus. If we give most small filings of Iron or Copper so little Infants in a due weight, these now may easily be administred unto them, as containing no ungratefull taste. For, being reduced into thin or curious filings, and being a

metal easily admitting of Solution, as soon as ever it comes into the Stomach, the Acidity of the Stomach doth meet with it, by which 'tis easily dissolved, and turned into a Vitriol, and so endued with the very same operation as that is, which is prepared in the Earth by Nature.

But you are here to observe the difference that is betwixt the filings of Copper and Iron, and that is this, the Copper works strongly, and the Iron much milder. Besides the Copper makes the Stomach vomit, but the Iron causeth no Vomits, and doth very rarely disturb the Stomach, and when it doth, 'tis only in this case, viz. when 'tis administred in too great a Dose. Therefore amongst all such Medicaments, Iron is the best, the safest, and the least cost, though to proud men it may appear sufficiently vile and base. Nor is it to be questioned but that the brethren of ignorance will entertain it with derision, and say; if GLAUBER knows no better remedy for the Worms than this, which consists of the gross filings of Iron, he had done a great deal better to have kept it only to himself: And if Iron abounds with such Virtues there's no reason for him so to praise his precious Vitriol of Gold with such a deal of commendations. To this I answer, that my aim in teaching the preparation of the Vitriol of Gold is not directed for the Worms in Children so much. But I have added this remedy of Iron to the description I have made of the virtues of the golden Vitriol, to this end, that I may demonstrate it self also is so excellent a remedy against Worms, and for the removal of those Feavers as are caused by them. But because their cure can be more easily perfected (as we just now spake about the filings of Iron) 'tis worth the while to have regard to the way that is most compendious. He that pleaseth may administer of the Vitriol of Gold, but I commend Iron to such as are poor, for they may have that even every where. There is no Village so small but hath a Smith living in it, who can when your necessity requires supply you with some filings of Iron.

But that my mind may be fully understood, I judge it necessary yet more clearly to give you a Declaration of this thing, viz. in what manner and with what conveniency the filings of Iron may be administred to the sick Infants. And 'tis thus done. Whilst the Infants are unwearied, some Grains of the said filings from 2 to 6 or 8 Grains, may be mixt with a little Sugar and put into their mouths, and then presently give them suck, that so those filings may be suckt down together with the Milk into the Stomach. Do this three days together and

the Worms will be destroyed, and the Feaver vanish. But if any body will make use of any other Vehicle than what is the Child's ordinary food, he may do so if he please. But as for such as do not suck, but do drink out of a sucking Bottle according as the usual custom is, you may easily give it them, on this wise; Put a little into the Bottle and stop the hole of the Bottle with your finger, and so turn it upside down that the filings may slide down to the hole, end so let the Infant suck it down, and 'twill pass with the drink into the Stomach. To such Boys and Girls as are bigger, and have more understanding, it may be given easily and any way you please, only telling them that they will be restored to their former health. To such as are 10 or 12 years old a quarter part, or an half of the wright which we usually call Quintlein (from 10 to 20 grains) may be given safely, for 3 or 4 days. But in the mean while let not the meats they use be of hard Concoction, but made of Pottage, Prunes, and such like mollifying and loosning things, which may help forward the operation of the Iron, and so the sick will become the sooner well. I could not refrain from highly commending to all tender Mothers that love their Children, this most safe and not at all costly medicine against all the Feavers proceeding from Worms, which do kill so many poor little ones destitute of all kind of help. Let no body matter its vileness, but rather think with himself, that God hath also endowed vile and contemptible things with great virtues. Verily this Cure, and thus taking away the Worms, and the Diseases arising therefrom, is strongly founded on natural reasons, or arguments. For seeing that the common Vitriol is a Poison to Worms, but because of its bitter and nauseous taste 'tis exceeding unpleasant to the Palate, they do very well, that substitute Iron as being void of all Savour, in the room of the common Vitriol, that so being given to their Children it may be converted to Vitriol in the Stomachs, and so kill and drive out the Worms. I my self have tryed many experiments about the Cure of the Worms in my Children, but never found any thing safer and better than contemptible Iron.

A Story of a Child that had Worms.

I will tell you an instructive Story, concerning a great and eminent man's Child in such a Disease proceeding from the Worms, in which my self was concerned. A certain rich man did on a time consult

with me, (or ask my advise) about this Child's Disease. I gave him as much filings of Iron as was sufficient for one Dose, for his Child to drink. It seemed an absurd thing to the good man, to give an Infant filings of Iron, upon this conceit he omitted to use it, and having called two Physicans he shews them the filings, and asked them whether they would advise him to administer it to his Infant. They earnestly dissuaded him from using it, saying that if he used it his Child would be killed, and that it was a Medicine only fit for curing of Horses, and that they would prescribe a far safer and better one. They said there was no danger in the Child of Worms, and therefore they prescribed it a cooling and purging Syrup, thereby to take away the Feaver, and they also added confections of Pearls, with other cooling Waters. Death despised these kind of Potions, and snatcht away the Infant: The Child being dead, there crept out of his mouth great Worms, and clearly testified to the Parents their unseasonable rejecting my advise, haply because the Medicine I prescribed was not costly, but prepared out of a vile Subject. But it repented the Parents too late: The Mother coming afterwards into the House of a certain Neighbour, gave that filings which I had delivered them, unto an Infant troubled with a Feaver and the Worms, who upon the taking of that one dose only became better, and by little and little returned to its former state of health, I was willing to set down this history to the end that I might demonstrate, that vile and abject things are many times capable of performing more than Pearls and precious Stones can.

And so I conclude this so very necessary a discourse concerning Worms, and the Feavers arising from them, whereby great multitudes of poor Infants are destroyed. I hope that no body will take it amiss that I have made so long a discourse concerning Worms. For I judged it necessary to shew the cause from whence so many little ones do die in the flower of their Age. He that refuseth to believe what I say, let him try the thing by his own loss.

Chapter XI.

Of Mercury and its excellent Virtues, both Medicinal and Chymical, I mean not the common and well known Mercury, but the Mercury of the Philosophers, the which is extracted by the Vulgar and well known Gold and Silver, (but they are to be first rendered Magnetical) out of the Beams of the Superiour Sun and Moon, by the help and assistance of the

Air.

It is well known to those that have looked over the manifold Writings which are extant at this day, how many and how great searches have been made, and how various and many opinions there have been abroad for many Ages, concerning the Philosophers Mercury; as many men so many minds, one man concludes with himself to prepare it out of such a matter, another out of such a thing, and 'tis hereby come to such a pass as that, there's no more faith left for any such Mercury, and 'tis looked on as if there were no such thing in nature, nor is at present any where extant: Because so many thousands of men have been occupied in the search thereof, and so most exceedingly small a number have been masters thereof.

Others have opinionated, that the most pure substance is to be extracted out of Gold and Silver, but not in the form of a running Mercury, but in a watery form, and to be coagulated and fixed by the help of the Fire into a medicinal Stone.

Othersome have perswaded themselves that Gold and Silver being ripe and fixt, are no ways fit for so great a work, but 'tis rather to be sought for in such Subjects as never assumed to themselves any shape, but do as yet lie hidden in that great and universal CHAOS the Air, because they saw that the life of all things lay hidden in the Air, and that out of it every Creature of God doth daily and without intermission attract it unto it self after a magnetical manner, both for its own life and augmentation, and that it is so too with the seeds, abundance of them (and they most different sorts too) being sown in the same Earth, do each of them (according as its nature and property is) acquire to it self both life and augmentation thencefrom, viz. the Air.

So likewise may it be brought to pass, that even the Metals may according to their nature and propriety extract their encrease out of the Earth or Air, knew we but how to get the true Seed, or true Magnet, which might get out that augmentation. For why should not God have as well given a Seed to these his Creatures for their encreasing, as well as to the other Creatures? So then there are vary many sundry Opinions sprung up, concerning the MERCURY of the Philosophers, and very many men have to their uttermost searched after it, yet but a very few have obtained the same. Though it be thus, yet the fault is not to be imputed

either to Nature or Art, but to the searcher after it, because he errs and seeks not in the due place. Verily I did very many years ago exceedingly studiously apply my self to the search of such a spiritual and Gold and Silver attracting Magnet, but I could not hitherto attain to the true Scope, until I at length by chance found that a true living and running MERCURY, might, by the benefit of Art, without any Addition of Mercurial things, be extracted out of the fugacious and imperfect Metals, such as are Lead, Tin, Bismuth, Zink, and Antimony. And although I had read many Philosophers affirming this thing, yet did I always doubt of the same, and indeed not without cause; for in my youthfull days, serving a man of great note in Chymical Labours, I tried in two years space two hundred ways of making the MERCURY of SATURN, and not so much as one of them succeeded. Now my said Master was stirred up to the search of this Saturnine Mercury upon this occasion as follows. He had some familiarity with many noble Personages that were also addicted to the study of Alchemy: One of them knew how to make running Mercury out of Lead, and to turn it into the best Gold, and he sent unto my Master one lot or somewhat better of that said MERCURY, together with the way of turning it into and fixing it into Gold. We set about the work and it succeeded to our desires, and yielded us as much Gold as there was MERCURY sent us. This hoped for success did so edge on my Master, that he could not rest till he had obtained from him that knew it, the manner of making this Saturnine Spirit. But as often as ever we tried the operation according to the way prescribed us, both our hopes and labour were in vain. And then my said Master readily granted, that we could not effect it. Hereupon it was that he sought all abroad with the greatest diligence, and had got, such abundance of processes and operations, that two years did scarce suffice me to try them all, though there was not so much as one amongst them all that answered our wishes, but all our Labours were in vain. Upon this score, I could believe neither BASILIUS or PARACELSUS, when I read in them, that Gold and Silver might be resolved into true and running MERCURY, seeing that the bare turning of unripe Lead into MERCURY, did cost me and others so great Labour and Pains, and yet we could not obtain it neither. Whereupon I fell into this opinion, that the Philosophers pointed at some other thing, by their running MERCURY: And I did so long adhere to this opinion of mine, until I chanced to light on the making of a running MERCURY out of Lead, and I have several times repeated the operation with the same success.

I have likewise revealed it to others, who have also done the same,

but only in small quantities hitherto. But some of them have bestowed much pains about it, and to prepare it in a greater quantity; and that principally, because 'tis certainly manifest that no small benefit lies herein hidden. Nay if it were no otherwise profitable than barely thus, that it may be turned into Gold, and of this I am certain, ('twere worth while). For if the said MERCURY be but rubbed upon a piece of Gold, it makes it white, and being then put upon the Coals, it separates indeed from it, but yet leaves it tinged of a higher and deeper Colour. If this Labour be ought repeated, the Gold will become weightier. And hence may easily be conjectured, that if it were adjoined to a pure Golden Calx, it would in a short space of time easily pass into good Gold. Neither is there any doubt, but that if any one did but know the manner of rightly handling such a MERCURY, he would obtain some notable thing out of it, because all the Philosophers do in their Writings promise so much good of SATURN. They generally affirm that Lead is (inwardly) far beyond Gold. How many Philosophers are there that teach the preparation of the universal Work from thence? See the Universal Work of ISAAC HOLLAND, PARACELSUS, his Heaven of Philosophers, The great and small Countryman, & etc. Many do expressly write, that all things which the Philosophers do seek for, are to be found in Lead; Hereupon they called it Leprous Gold. And some Philosophers do write, that in MERCURY are all things that are sought for, haply they mean not the Common, but such an one as is drawn out of Metals. But we'll even let pass this MERCURY of SATURN, and see whether or no we cannot find a better MERCURY, and such a one as is of greater moment. In the mean time the said MERCURY of SATURN will fly about, and bring good news to the Lovers of Truth, viz. that GLAUBER is now in the way, to triumph, by the help of God, over all his Enemies.

We will therefore go on to search out, whether or no there is not another and better running MERCURY than that to be found, which comes out of Lead. When I did somewhat more accurately search into Nature's secrets, I clearly saw, that all things which live and do in growing take an encrease, do proceed or come forth by the Sun's operation, insomuch that such fruits as are nearer hereunto are the more excellent, and by how much the farther off any are from it, by so much the vilder be they. As for example in Wine: by how much the nearer it is to the Sun, so much the nobler is it; and by how much the farther it is from it, so much the vilder is it.

The same may be observed in the generation of Metals, viz. that in

the hotter regions there is a greater quantity of Gold, and of Silver, than in the colder Countries. This is well known, and out of all dispute: So then when I saw that the hot beams of the Sun, together with the cold and refreshing light of the Moon, did not only ripen Gold, but also those excellent Wines, and the best tasting Fruits, yea and the most contemptible Herbs, and that it gave to all things their most acceptable Savour; well did I conclude, that if a convenient Matrix, or suitable Magnet were exposed to the hot Sun-beams, and to the cold light of the Moon, that might day and night receive their Operations: It could not possibly be, but that the Seeds of those (viz. of SOL and LUNE) insinuating themselves into such a Magnet, will pass into most excellent Fruit, and obtain a perfect maturation. I did once make trial to see whether it would be so or no, and having artificially prepared Gold and Silver, opened them, and brought them to a Magnetical attractive virtue; and being well mixed, I exposed them to the SUN and MOON, to see and try what would proceed thencefrom. Then afterwards, supposing them to have stood long enough at the SUN and MOON, I put them into a small Glass Retort, and placed it in Sand, and separated (by distillation) all the moisture from the Golden and Silver Magnet, that it had attracted from the Air. I got indeed a sweet Water, but yet not without Virtues. But having administred a stronger fire to this Magnet, I drew therefrom an astringent Liquor, resembling a golden yellow Colour, and like to Gold. I again exposed the said dried Magnet to the beams of the SUN and MOON, that it might by them be impregnated, and that I might see whether or no a Second and more Births would be produced, answering in all respects to the former. I do not doubt of them, I confess but that they will be of a like property and nature as their Father and Mother are, or indeed be more fair and excellent than they be: For that first begotten offspring brought with it self into the World a far more excellent fairness than its Father had.

Farther, bringing this Birth of SOL and LUNE to a more accurate trial, that so I might find out its virtues and efficacy, I first of all perceived, that there lay hidden, therein (though as yet so Volatile) a Medicine of great Moment. And dealing with it upon a certain time, and putting a little of it by chance upon Gold, I found that it made the Gold white; and rubbing the said Liquor many times upon the Gold, it did at length produce (or show forth) the live MERCURY that lay hidden therein, which said MERCURY thus living and visible, I extracted out of this same Liquor; but it is better not to vivifie it, but to take it as

'tis born, and so fix it and make it constant. And now, I suppose, that such a MERCURY as is extracted out of the Air, by Gold and Silver, being not so much corporeal as spiritual, is to be accounted of as the true MERCURY of the Philosophers.

But if now any will object and say, that this MERCURY doth not proceed forth from the Air, or that it is not extracted out of the beams of SOL or LUNE by the Magnetick Gold and Silver; such a one may even say what he pleaseth, but in the mean time he will not get the things he fisheth for. Besides, I do not matter it so much, viz. whence it ariseth, provided I can obtain the same; If it did proceed out of the Gold and Silver, it were not therefore to be rejected, but it would be altogether better than that which is made out of gross Lead, nay haply it might become a Tincture, did but any one know how rightly to handle it.

It is a usual Proverb, that THE APPLE FALLS NOT FAR FROM THE TREE, and each thing follows the Seeds of its proper and peculiar nature, BY HOW MUCH THE NOBLER THE TREE IS, BY SO MUCH THE MORE WORTHY IS THE WOOD THEREOF. THE YOUNGER SORT SING OVER THE SAME SONG AS THE OLD ONES DO. Now these Proverbs do declare, that the Fruits are so much the more excellent, by how much a better nature the Tree is of, and this is a sure rule: And therefore it necessarily follows, that such a MERCURY as is drawn by Gold and Silver out of the Air, or doth proceed barely from Gold and Silver, must needs be far better than that which hath its rise from Lead: And herein I acquiesce. Let every one take from thence what best likes him, I was willing to leave to such as come after me, those things which I met withall of so great moment.

And as concerning the Medicinal Virtues of this Golden MERCURY, I do give this caution about it, that it be used as it came over at first in the distillation in Medicine, because 'tis as yet immature, and but newly born, it may work too strongly upon the Body of Man. It is therefore better that it be fixed with some corporeal well-opened Gold, and so 'twill effect those things which a Universal Medicine is only able to perform. I confess that hitherto I have not brought it to any constancy or fixity, because I have not had time of rightly handling it: In the mean while there are others that will set about this labour, and will in due time manifest more things concerning it. Let every one be content therefore with this present discovery, viz. that a truely live and running MERCURY may be extracted, not only out of the soft and

volatile Metals, and consequently unripe ones, but also out of the ripe Metals. And seeing that most Men doubt much of the truth of such a thing, I could not omit the affirmation of the same, as being a most true thing: He that listeth may make trial of the same. 'Tis enough for me to have shown you the way. Let others likewise publish something, that so the truth which hath been so long suppress'd hitherto, may at length spring forth out of the darkness into light.

And now, at last, let's come to treat of Wine, and examine what an harmony and familiarity there is in it with Gold and Man.

Chapter XII.

Sheweth how great harmony, familiarity, and love, there is in Wine, with Mankind and Gold.

It is evident, even from the Writings of all the Philosophers, that Wine and Gold is a wholesome remedy for Mankind, but yet not in such a gross state, and without any preparation, as they come forth out of the Earth, but they are to be destroyed, and their most pure parts to be extracted, and again conjoined. To obtain this knack, there have been used many MENSTRUUMS, and one more excellent than another. The common Spirit of Wine hath no familiarity at all with Gold, because of its unripe and combustibile Sulphur, from which Gold is wholly averse, as being its enemy. This thing I have in several places of my Writings made mention of, and have also taught it in this very Treatise, that Gold being dissolved in AQUA REGIA, and precipitated with the Water of Tartar, yields most curious fine Atoms, which cannot be done any other kind of way. For the common gross Wine, and the common sulphureous and unripe Tartar are enemies to the Gold, the which is evidently manifest by this preparation of the most subtile Calx of Gold, caused by the pouring of the Water of Tartar thereunto, whereby 'tis precipitated unto the bottom.

The certainty of the truth of this thing may be thus tried, if a little Gold being dissolved in AQUA REGIS be put into a glass full of Rhenish, or any other sharpish Wine: The Gold will be presently precipitated, by the Tartar which is in the Wine, into a tender and shining Powder, but it will not in a moment of time settle to the bottom, but by little and little. And yet if you put the Wine in a

Vessel over a fire of Coals, and boil it, then will it be speedily precipitated. From whence 'tis evidently apparent, that Wine being as yet not at all separated from its impurities, doth as it were differ from Gold, with a deadly hatred, and yet carries hidden in its bowels a substance most friendly to the Gold, the which will, in the end, manifest it self so to be, when the more gross parts are separated from the more subtile.

BASILIIUS teacheth its preparation by a peculiar proper instrument, wherein (as I judge) the Spirit of Wine is to be kindled and burnt, that so by the burning up of the Sulphureity, the Mercurial Salt may be separated and caught in a cold Receiver. And with this very Salt (saith he) may a Tincture be extracted out of Gold, which seems very probable to be so, if one could but get or catch that said Mercurial Salt. Many indeed have attempted this labour, but perhaps not a man hath found an answer to his expectation, where the defect lies, God knows.

Others have mixed Gold with ALKALIES, and have taught the extracting of a Tincture by an Alkalized Spirit of Wine, which way, though they may do somewhat, yet it is not the genuine way.

Also some have by distillation gotten a certain fiery Spirit out of Tartar, and therewith endeavoured to conquer Gold. Here indeed is an appearance of some kind of possibility, but yet this Spirit is not to be attempted for that, which unlocked all the bowels of the Gold; and that for this reason, because it doth as yet abound with combustible Sulphur, to which Gold is a bitter enemy. But now if you would duely join Gold with Wine, then must all the combustible Sulphur (of the Wine) be first separated from its Mercurial part, and the Mercury of the Wine is to be brought by distillation into a notable fiery Spirit; if this be not done, there will be no great matters effected with it.

Chapter XIII.

By what means such a Spirit of Wine as doth associate it self to the Gold may be prepared.

Without doubt many such as perceive that there is a possibility of preparing such a Spirit will be most vehemently desirous to know the operation, how 'tis to be done. But it is even a wickedness to cast such a great Secret before the unworthy and impure Swine. It therefore will

be sufficient to shew both that it may be done, and after what manner; the rest to be left to God.

But that the studious Artist may not be wholly affrighted or kept back, I will here declare, so much as may be sufficient to any one that is versed in the Labours of the Fire, for the acquisition of so great a Spirit: But yet with this proviso, that he make use of Patience in his operation, for this work is not to be dispatched in a day, like as that labour which in one days distillation affords a Spirit out of the Lees of Wine, or out of Tartar. No! But the manner of the work is thus:

Take white or red Tartar (for both of them being well mundified, are as good one as the other) dissolve it in Water, and separate all its gross Sulphur by a certain precipitating matter. This impurity abiding in the Water, is to be separated from the precipitated Tartar, by pouring out the Water, the which (Tartar) remains in the bottom like a snowy Sand, and is to be well purged by reiterated washings with Water, so long until (all the impurities being well separated) the Powder it self becomes like to the white Snow. Now although that this Tartar be most exceeding white, yet doth it contain as yet many Sulphureous Faeces; which being black, do never suffer themselves to be separated by any Solutions and Coagulations, but it is necessary that they be precipitated by a certain precipitating matter. Therefore let that Tartar be again dissolved in pure Water, and be precipitated, the which Solutions and Precipitations let be so often and so long repeated, until there appear no more black Faeces. This most pure and most acceptable Tartar melteth in the mouth, and doth almost in the manner of other Salts easily admit of Solution in cold water. Being brought to this pass, it is rendered fit to be dealt withall in the following manner.

Dissolve some pounds of this pure Tartar in cold water, so as to make it sufficiently acid. Put this Solution in some warm place, or rather in Horse-dung, or in a warm Balneo, that the Tartar may begin to putrefie and lose its acidity, and get a kind of sweetishness, which before it will come to be, there is required the time of some months. After it hath thus putrefied, and lost its acidity, all the unprofitable Water is to be evaporated by a Balneum, until it become a thick and black Juice like Honey; the which being set in the Glass in Sand, and being urged with a stronger fire than was made in the Balneo, will yield a fiery Spirit, and such an one as will mix it self with Gold dissolved in Spirit of Salt, and will separate the purer parts by digestion, and

draw them to it self, from the more gross parts, and so will perform its office in Medicine even to most high admiration. For any one may easily conjecture that the most pure parts of Wine, Salt, and Gold will operate no evil effect.

What it will perform in Metalline affairs, I do not as yet know; But, without question, if it be rightly administred, and duely made use of, it will play its part very notably.

This operation before set down, seems easie to be done, if barely looked on outwardly, but there's more labour and trouble in it than one would imagine. Such as have not the gift of patience, and knows not what belongs to patient working, may forbear this labour. For the putrefaction proceeds on very slowly, and there is required the knowledge of a matter precipitating Tartar, without which it will never suffer it self to be precipitated and purged, 'tis an hard thing to find, but he that knows it, it renders him all his labour facile and easie. Any impure Tartar, whether it be white or red, may be so washed in one or two hours space, and so purged, that (losing nothing save its Faeces) it will become most white, and much more apt for many operations. But my time will not admit of treating farther of these affairs, it may (God willing) be done afterwards in another place.

However, thus much I will yet add more; That if Spirit of Wine brought to the highest purity, so as to retain no filthy savour or odour, be in a due quantity conjoined by the help of common Water with this excellently well depurated Tartar, there will result from them two a drink of a most excellent savour, like to natural Wine, and may be used instead of wholesome Wine. This would be a most profitable thing for those that travel, had they but that Spirit of Wine, and that so excellently well prepared Tartar. For there is Water to be had in all places, and so they may at all times and every where make themselves good Wine, yea so good and so strong as they please, according as they add more or less of that Spirit and Tartar.

N. B. This Art would be very profitable for the cold Countries, in which Countries, in the want of Spirit of Wine, because no Wine grows there, the Spirit of Corn will perform the same. The chiefest knack is, to be furnished with that Tartar, which by an easie Solution enters into (or is dissolved in) the Water. But this is a business of a greater moment than to be divulged. I have already opened to some the manner of preparing such a Tartar, who make it in plenty, and so any one may

easily get from them as much as they shall need.

Besides the use of that kind of Tartar, conduceth to the accomplishing of many other things, but not to be spoken of, lest it should prove a detriment to such as know it. But I do here truly and sincerely affirm, that whosoever he be that can without waste and cost to so prepare the common vulgar Tartar, he will be hereby able to get his food and rayment, and other necessaries for life, wheresoever and in what Country soever he shall abide. This thing will in process of time have a farther progress, and many will by the benefit thereof live more happily, and perform things incredible. I have made a beginning, and the Mice shall never gnaw off what I have here written, but contrarily my Successors shall enjoy the same to God's glory, even to the Worlds end, and will in the first place thank God, and next him, me, as being the Author and Revealer of the same. I could reveal many most profitable things that might be done by such a Tartar, were it not for injuring such as get their living by it, and which for certain causes are not at present to be mentioned. I have said enough to Wise men, and as for deriders and mockers, I have said too much, for they will say all are Lies, because they know not how to do thus.

As to what appertains to the use of this here described Liquor, conjoined of Gold, Tartar, and Salt, it may serve instead of AURUM POTABILE, in all Sicknesses, and may be profitably administred, in corroborating the vital Spirits; for it doth not discover its Virtues by a remarkable and visible operation, but it strengthens the Body, and doth very gently drive out Urine and Sweat, and seldom is it that it provokes to stool, unless it be given in a strong Dose. The Dose is from one, two, three, six, nine Drops, even to a Scruple, according as the Sick is, in Water, Wine, or Ale, or other Liquors, in a Morning upon a fasting Stomach, and at Evening after Supper, for some days together. It keeps the Body open, and strengthens the Brain, and all the Members. But principally (before the use of this Liquor) the Body be well purged with good purging Remedies, such as are my purging Gold, and purging LUNE, because then this Medicine of the said Golden Liquor operates far better, and more profitably. In using it, you are to observe whether or no the Excrements become black, if not, the Dose is so long to be augmented or continued until the Excrements that come away be of a black Colour. Moreover, the Disease decreasing, the Dose is to be lessened by little and little, according as necessity or the disease requires.

These things I thought good, at this time, to publish in the Fourth Part of my SPAGYRICAL PHARMACOPAEA. I entreat that every one would take in good part these few Medicinal Secrets, but of very wide and large extent. And, God willing, my Third Century will shortly come abroad and present you with a Manifestation of more excellent Medicines, and other profitable Secrets.

The End of the Fourth Part.