

X

# Tracts

BY

DR GILBERT SKEYNE,

MEDICINAR TO HIS MAJESTY.



EDINBURGH: M.DCCC.LX.



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MEMBERS OF THE BANNATYNE CLUB

BY

JAMES SKENE OF RUBISLAW.

## NOTICE OF DR GILBERT SKENE.

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“MAISTER GILBERT SKEYNE, Doctour in Medecine,” the author of this little tract upon “the Pest,” was one of a rather remarkable family of brothers, who, emerging about the middle of the sixteenth century from a farm house in the north of Scotland, and receiving from their father as good an education as the times afforded, and probably inheriting from their mother a strong will and a vigorous understanding, made their way in different parts of the country, and in various spheres, to distinction or wealth. Their father was James Skene, or as it was then spelt, Skeyne, younger son of Alexander Skene of Skene, by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Lord Forbes.

About ten miles from Aberdeen there is a considerable sheet of water, termed the Loch of Skene. Near it is the Church of Skene, from which the Parish takes its name, and on the north bank, at a little distance from the loch, stands the “House” of Skene, a rude but somewhat imposing building of granite, constructed at different times, but the oldest part of which is a square tower, with massive granite walls, so thick as to leave but a limited space for accommodation within. It is said by tradition to have been the first built stone house in Mar.

Until the early part of the seventeenth century the castle consisted of this tower alone. It is described as being "built of three arches or stories, and entered by a ladder on the second storey. It was covered with a mound of earth upon the top of the third arch, and is all built with lime quite run together or vitrified, and the walls about ten feet thick."\*

In this tower lived a race of small barons, whose origin is lost in antiquity, who took their name from the lands, and, as Skenes of that Ilk, intermarried with the neighbouring baronial families, and found almost their sole occupation in an interminable feud, which they waged with characteristic obstinacy, with their more powerful neighbours, the Keiths, who threatened to devour them and their limited possessions. †

At that time there was no outlet for the younger sons of such families, except to enter the Church, or to have their names inscribed in the rental books of the family as kindly tenants of some outlying farm which their descendants, if the laird was embarrassed, acquired in property, or else descended to the condition of ordinary farmers; but, in the beginning of the sixteenth century, the pressure of want, the increasing trade of the country, and the new life and new ideas infused into society by the Reformation, sent the younger sons of such families

\* MS. history in the Advocates' Library.

† The family of Skene first appears on record as early as the year 1296, when "Johan de Skene, Patrik de Skene del Comte de "Aberdeen," do homage to Edward I., King of England. They were a baronial family from 1317, Robert the First, King of Scotland, having in that year granted a charter—"Roberto Skene dilecto et "fideli nostro" erecting the lands "of Skene et lacum ejusdem in unam liberam et integram Baroniam."

to seek their subsistence in other fields. Those who would have entered the Church, now became Notaries Public, or entered learned professions; others broke through the aristocratic line of demarcation between land and burgh, and became burgesses of the county town, whence, if they were prosperous in trade, they again emerged, and founded new county families by purchasing land.

Add to this the foundation of the College of Justice, and the increasing trade between Scotland and Poland, in which Aberdeen took a large share, and to one or other of which the scions of county families fled as an outlet for their energies, and a means of acquiring fame or fortune.

It was at this transition period that Alexander Skene of Skene had by his wife, the daughter of Lord Forbes, two sons, Alexander and James. Alexander departed from the traditions of his family, and married the daughter of Alexander Black, the Provost of Aberdeen, by whose tocher he restored the fortunes of his family, impaired by their struggle to maintain their barony from the grasp of the Keiths.\* James, the second son, became a Notary Public, and likewise obtained from his father the usual liferent right to one of the outlying farms on the estate.†

\* His direct descendants in the male line possessed the Barony of Skene till 29th April 1827, when the last Laird of Skene, Alexander Skene of that Ilk, died. He was succeeded in the Barony of Skene by his nephew, James, fourth Earl of Fife, the son of his sister.

The representative of the family is the present Earl of Fife, who has been created an English Peer by the title of Lord Skene.

† In 1538 he is mentioned as uncle and curator to Alexander Skeyne of that Ilk, his nephew.

This Alexander Skene of that Ilk, the son of the Provost's daughter, was

In this farm, bearing the euphonous name of Bandonle, he practised as a Notary,—in whose hands was at that time the limited conveyancing of the country,—took such provincial business as came in his way, kept his protocol book with scrupulous exactness, and managed to give the ten sons born to him by his wife, Janet Lumsden, a liberal education which at that time consisted of a four years' attendance at the Grammar School of Aberdeen, and a similar course at King's College, Aberdeen, where, if the sons distinguished themselves, they either entered learned professions, or remained at their College as Regents or Professors; or if the original clodhopper nature could not be overcome, they returned to the paternal acres, or were apprenticed to burgesses in the town.

In the year 1546, James Skeyne the Notary and Farmer, had acquired means sufficient to enable him to purchase a small property called Westercorse, and here he would no doubt have ended his days in peace as a bonnet laird, as such small proprietors were afterwards termed, rejoicing in the distinction and wealth obtained by several of his numerous sons, had not the trumpet-call to the great national conflict of Pinkiecleugh, which resounded over all Scotland, and caused many a quiet laird and farmer to buckle on his armour, also summoned our worthy Notary to the field. He secured his little estate by conveying it to his eldest son, who had now reached man's estate; he signed his last protocol, and placed his protocol book in a place of safety, and having buckled

called the Little Laird, which name, according to one tradition, was acquired "from his being humpbacked from a fall he got out of his nurse's arms when going up the ladder to the old tower of Skene."

on his sword, he followed his laird, to whom he had been guardian, with a stout heart to the field.

But Black Saturday (10th September 1547), as the day of battle was called, which proved so disastrous to many of the Scottish families, was fatal also to our Notary, who left his body on the field, with many a nobler though probably not braver man.

His numerous family of sons, the eldest of whom was now twenty-nine, and the youngest could not have been more than seven years old, were now left to struggle for themselves, and bravely they threw themselves into the battle of life.

The two eldest, James and William, had both taken the degree of Master of Arts, and in the year 1540, seven years before their father's death, had been admitted by the Bishop as Notaries Public. On his father's death, the former became proprietor of Westercorse, and having afterwards acquired the more valuable estate of Ramore, he founded the family of Skene of Ramore, which became extinct 140 years later.

The latter went to St Andrews, where the College of St Mary's had recently been established, in which he was incorporated in the year 1556, as "Magister Gulielmus Skene in utroque jure licentiatu8," and was shortly afterwards appointed Commissary of the Diocese of St Andrews. James Melville says he "was ane man of skill and guid conscience in his calling, learnit and dilligent in his profession, and tuk delyt in na thing mair nor to repeat ower and ower again to anie schollar that wad ask him the things he had been teaching."

The third son, Alexander, resorted to the College of

Justice, and became an Advocate before the Lords. Being a burges of Aberdeen, he obtained, in 1576, "licence to Maister Alexander Skene, burges of the said burgh, and advocatt, admitted to our Sovrane Lordis Sessioun before the Lords of Counsell, to dwell and remain absent of this burgh, within the burgh of Edinburgh . . . . and especiallie because the said Alexander proceures for them before the Lords."\*

The fourth son was Robert, who became a burges of Aberdeen, and after the return of his brother, Sir John Skene, from Poland, he went there and established a house in Posen, from whence his grandson George, afterwards Sir George Skene, returned with a large fortune, and purchased the estates of Wester Fintray, Easter Echt, and Rubislaw, the latter of which has remained in his family. †

\* Sir John Skene, in his work *De Verborum Significatione*, under the word *Bothna*, says, "ut in lib. M. Alexandri Skenæ fratris mei germani quondam in supremo senatu advocati;" and afterwards,— "in libro M. Willelmi Skenæ fratris mei commissarii Sancti Andreae."

† Sir John Skene was in Poland in 1569, as appears from his work, *De Verborum Significatione*, in which he gives the following curious account of the Scottish merchants there.

"Ane Pedder is called an marchand or creamer, quha bearis ane pack or creame vpon his back, quha are called beares of the puddill be the Scottismen of the realme of Polonia, quhair of I saw ane great multitude in the towne of Cracovia, Anno Domini, 1569."

Lithgow in his wanderings in 1619, says—"Between Cracovia and Warsaw, Lublin lying half way. Here I found abundance of gallant rich merchants, my countrymen. . . ."

"The soil is wonderful fruitful of corns, so that this country is become the granary of western Europe for all sorts of grain, besides honey, wax, flax, iron, and other commodities, and for auspiciousness I may rather term it to be a mother and nurse for the youth and younglings of Scotland, who are yearly sent hither in great numbers, than a proper dame for her

The fifth son was Gilbert, the subject of this Memoir.

The sixth son was Duncan, who became a Notary-Public in Edinburgh, and acquired property in Forfarshire, which he left to the second son of his brother Sir John.

The seventh son was the well known Sir John Skene of Curriehill, Lord Clerk Register, who published the *Regiam Majestatem*, and whose son, Sir James Skene of Curriehill, was created a Baronet of Nova Scotia, and became President of the Court of Session.\*

The other three sons, Andrew, Thomas, and Patrick, remained in Aberdeenshire, one as a Notary-Public, and two as merchants, but were in no way remarkable.

Gilbert, the fifth son, was born about the year 1522 or 1523, and after the usual education at the Grammar School and King's College, he took a Master of Arts degree, and applied himself to the study of medicine,

own birth, in cloutting, feeding, and enriching them with the fatness of her best things, besides thirty thousand Scots families that live incorporate in her bowels. And certainly, Poland may be termed in this kind to be the mother of our commons and the first commencement of all our best merchants' wealth."

In 1575, Robert Skene witnesses a contract between Alexander Forbes of Auchintoull and Mr Alexander Skene, advocate, dated at Edinburgh, in which he is designed brother-german to the said Mr Alexander.

His son Robert was, in the year 1593, admitted, as appears from the Records of the town of Posen, "*ad communitatem civitatis Posnauensis cum omnibus juribus quibus alii concines et incola ejusdem civitatis gaudent,*" in which he is called "*nobilis Robertus Skin, Seoticę Skene.*"

\* Sir James Melville, in his Memoirs, says that he took with him in the embassy to Denmark in 1588, "for man of law Mester Jhon Skene," because "he was best acquainted with the conditions of the Germanes, and "culd mak them lang harrangues in Latin, and was a gud trew stout man "lyk a Dutche man."

in which he took a doctor's degree, and was appointed Mediciner, or Professor of Medicine, in King's College in the year 1556. A memorandum in the Records of King's College says, "He entered in Principal Anderson's time, and continued likely till after the Reformation, or the Assembly visitation in 1569."

It was while occupying this position of Professor of Medicine in King's College, Aberdeen, that he published the little tract on "the Peste," which is now reprinted, page for page, from, perhaps, the only copy known, preserved in the Advocates' Library. It was printed, as the title bears, at Edinburgh, by Robert Lekprevik, in the year 1568.

In the same year he became one of the Ordinary Regents of the College, but in 1571 there is a presentation, dated 6th November, by the Rectour, Principall, Regents, &c. of the College of Aberdeen, with collation of William, Bishop of Aberdeen, to Maister Gilbert Skene, Doctor in Medicine, of the Burse of Medicine, otherwise called a prebendar of the said College, with the manse, hous, place, yardis and croftes pertaining thereto; and, on 10th August 1587, he, with consent of the Masters, disponded the Mediciner's manse to Mr Thomas Lumsden, Rector of Kinkell.

His little tract on "the Peste" had probably now brought him into notice, as, in 1575 he went to Edinburgh, a step to which he may also have been led from having, in the year 1569, married Agnes Lawson, relict of John Uddart, burgess of Edinburgh, and in the same year 1575, he purchased from Mr John Melrose a house in Niddry Street, Edinburgh.

Here he practised as a doctor, and must have risen to some celebrity, as, on 16th June 1581, he was appointed doctor of medicine to His Majestie,\* and in the same year Doctor Skene and Mr Gilbert Moncrieff, surgeon, were named in the celebrated divorce question between Dame Elizabeth Stewart, Lady Lovat, and Robert Earl of March, "to inspect the Earl's person."

Whether practice of this description had operated unfavourably on his estimate of married life, we do not know, but the same record which contains the Earl's process, records a year afterwards, in 1582, an action of adherence at the instance of Agnes Lawson against Mr Gilbert Skene, her spouse.

In 1593, Dr Gilbert Skene appears to have retired from practice, as, in that year, he sells his house in Niddry Street to his brother, Sir John Skene, for an annuity of 200 merks, reserving the liferent use of it. It is described as lying on the south side of the King's Hie Street, in the Vennell called Nuddrie's Wynd, on the east side of the passage entrance of the same; and here, in the year 1599, he died, leaving no family, but survived by his widow, Agnes Lawson.

Dr Gilbert Skene died intestate. His widow alleged that she had been named executrix, but was unable to

\* In the Act of revocation of the Collectory made by James VI. in 1581, there is specially excepted "the gift of pension grantit to our weilbelovit Maister Gilbert Skene, our Mediciuer, of the sowme of twa hundreth pundis money of our realme.—(Acts of the Parliaments of Scotland, vol. iii. p. 245.) In the Treasurer's accounts we find regular half-yearly payments of one hundred pounds to Maister Gilbert Skeyne, Doctor in Medicine, which are continued to the year 1597.

produce a nomination, and on 20th July 1599, his nephew Robert Skene, son of his eldest brother, James Skene of Westercorse, was decerned executor-dative, and gave up the inventory of his guidis and gear.<sup>1</sup>

In the year 1600 there is a decret at the instance of Mr John Skene, Clerk of Register, against Agnes Lawson, relict of unquhill Mr Gilbert Skene, to make furthcoming certain articles of furniture arrested in her house.

In 1602 another nephew, James Skene, is decerned executor *ad omnia* to Mr Gilbert Skene, doctor of medicine, and in the same record there is, in 16th June 1617, an edict raised, summoning the executors of unquhile Mr Gilbert Skeine, doctor of physiek, indweller in Edinburgh, in which compeirit George Abernethie, procurator for Sir James, Mr John, Mr Alexander, Jeane, Margaret, Katherine, Euphamie, James, Jonet, and Robert and Janet Skeynes, brether bairnis to the defunct and Jeane Forbes, sister dochter to the defunct, and desyrit thame to be given in executors to the said unquhile Mr Gilbert, quhome the said commissaries decernit, &c.

The first seven named are the family of Sir John Skene of Curriehill, who had himself died in that year, Sir James being the President of the Court of Session.

How these various nephews and nieces distributed the fruits of Dr Gilbert Skene's practice among them, and how they succeeded in keeping at a distance the widow, with whom the doctor had lived unpleasantly,

<sup>1</sup> Commissariat of Edinburgh, Confirmed Testaments.

the records tell not ; and so we part with all further mention of “Maister Gilbert Skeyne, Medicinar to His Majesty.”

W. F. S.

EDINBURGH, *July* 1860.



ANE BREVE DES-  
CRIPTION OF THE PEST  
QUHAIR IN THE CAUSIS, SIGNIS

and sum speciall preferuatioun and  
cure thair of ar contenit.

Set furth be MAISTER GILBERT  
SKEYNE, Doctoure in Medicin.



IMPRENTIT AT EDINBURGH  
BE ROBERT LEKPREVIK.

ANNO DO. 1568.



## TO THE READAR.

**S**EN it hes plefit the inferutabill Confall, and Iustice of God (Benevolent readar) that this present plaig and maist detestabil diseife of Pest, be laitlie enterit in this Realme it becummis euerie one in his awin vocacione to be not only most studious be perfectioun of lyfe to mitigate apperandlie the iuste wrathe of God touart vs, in this miserable tyme: Bot also to be maist curagius in suffering of traunail, for the aduancement of the commoun weilth. I beand mouit in that part feand the pure of Christ inlaik, without assistance of support in bodie, al men detestand aspectioun, speche or communicatioun with thame, thought expedient to put schortlie in wryte (as it hes plefit God to supporte my sober knowlege) quhat becummis euerie aue baith for preferuatioun and cure of sic diseife quhairin (gude readar) thou fall nather abyde greit eruditioun nor eloquence, bot onlie the sentence and iugement of the maist ancient writaris in medicine expressit in vulgar langage without poleit or affectionat termis. And howbeit it become me rather (quha hes bestouit all my Zouthe in the Sculis) to had vrytin the samin in Latine, Zit vnderstanding sic interpryses had

bene nothing profitable to the commoun and vulgar people, thocht expedient and neidfull to exprefs the fam in sic laugage as the vulernit may be als weil fatisfyit as Maisteris of Clargie. Quhilk beand acceptable and allowit be the Magiftratis of this Noble Burgh, conforme to my gude mynde, fall God willing as occaſioun and tyme ſufferis treit this famin argument at more lenthe, quhilk preſentlie for vtilitie of the pure, & ſchortnes of tyme, is monit to ſet furthe almaiſt rude and imperfite, not doutand gentill Reader, bot thou will appryfe the famyn with ſielyk mynd as the pure Womanis oblatioun was appryfit be the Gude Lord, quha mot preferue the in helthe of Saule and bodie for euer & euer. So be it.

¶ Ane compendious deſcription of the  
peſt. Cap. 1.

**A**NE peſt is the corruption or infeſtioun of the Air, or ane venemous qualytie and maiſt hurtfull Wapour thairof, quhilk hes ſtrenthe and wiktues abone al natural putrifaction & beand contractit firſt maiſt quietlie infeſtis the Spiritall partis of mannis bodie, thairefter the humoris, puttand faireſt at the naturall Humiditie of the hart, quhilkis tholand corruption ane feuir maiſt wikit quietlie and theiſie ſtrikis the patient: quhais bodie exteriourlie apperis weil at eis, bot interiourlie is maiſt heuelie vexit  
Quhilk

Quhilk fehortly may be defcryuit. Ane feue-  
 rable infectioun, maift cruelle and findre wayis  
 frikand down mony in haift. Heirfor it is maift  
 vehement & hait difeis, that may put at mannis  
 bodie, & maift dangerous, becaufe it is difficil  
 to knaw all thingis, quhilkis makis ane man pro-  
 penfe to becum Peftilential. Alwais quhilk hes  
 the caufe frome the Heauins or corruptioun of  
 Air, is properlie, be maift learnit, callit ane Pef:  
 and quhilk is generit within vs or of vther cau-  
 fis is callit ane Malignant feuer.

The caufis of Pef.

Cap. 2.

**I**T war difficill & tedious to defcryue all the  
 caufis of ane Peftilence. Heirfoir at this present  
 I fall comemorat the principalis onlie be the  
 quhilkis the rest may be vnderftand.

Certane it is, the first and principal caufe may  
 be callit, and is ane feurge and punifhment of  
 the maift iust God, without quhais difpositioun  
 in all thingis, vtheris fecund caufis wirkis no  
 thing. So the Heauine quhilk is the admirable  
 instrument of God blawis that contagioun vpon  
 the face of the Earth, as quhan the maift no-  
 cent Sterres to mankynd conuenis, quhilkis be  
 Astrologis ar callit infortunat. Or quhan Co-  
 metis with other wikit impreffionis ar generit  
 and preferuit in the Air, quhilk, of it felf, beand  
 a. 3. maift

maist simple substance, and so incorruptible & necessar for mannis lyfe: nottheles refanis and admittis, baith frome the Heauinis, and inferiour Elementis mony infectionis and corruption, quhilkis ar the feid & cheif causis of sindre diseisis quhilkis ar callit Epidimiall, & thir causis in maist part ar vniuerfall. Inferiour causis ar quhilkis occupeis ane Realme, ane people, ane Citie, or ane houe thairof. Cause thairof is standand vatter, sic as Stank, Pule, or Loche mošte corrupte, and filthie: Erd, dung, stinkand Clofettis, deid Cariounis vnbureit in speciale of mankynd quhilkis be similitude of nature is maist nocent to man, as enerie brutall is maist infectand and Pestilentiall to thair awin kynd. Forther continuall sehouris of Veit with greit fowthin wynde, or the famin blawand from pestiferous placis. The cause of pest in ane privat Citie is stinkand corruption and filth, quhilkis occupeis the commune streittis and gaittis, greit reik of colis without vinde to dispache the sam, corruption of Herbis, sic as Caill and growand Treis, Moist heuie sauer of Lynt, Hemp, & Ledder steipit in Vater. Ane privat houe infectis ather of stinkand clofettis, or corrupte Carioun thairin, or neir by, or gif the inhabitantis hes inuiseit vther infectit Rowmis, or drinking corrupte Vatter, eating of Fruttis, or vder meittis quhilkis ar corrupte, as we see dalie the pure  
mair

mair subiecte to sic calamitie, nor the potent, quha ar constrynit be pouertie to eit ewill and corrupte meittis, and diseisis contractit heiros ar callit Pandemiall. In euerie ane the cause is abundance of corruptible humoris collectit and generit of metis and drinke, quhilkis of ony lychte cause becummis corrupt, in mannis bodie als wikit as deidlie poyfone. Finallie & principallie infectit Air quhilk all men drauis of be inspiratioun of necessitie for continuatioun of lyfe. Be the quhilk first the Spirituall partis, secundlie the humoris & naturall partis ar fair put at, in sum hastelie, in otheris laithie or neuer, as ane be ane other is accustumit to diuersitie of meitis as the bodie is preparit & propense to corruptioun and finalie as dwelling and passioun of the forsaidis causis feruis.

### The signis of Pest. Cap. 3.

**B**Ecaufe the signis of the pest to cum, pertenis to preferuatioun fra the same it becumis to tret thame at mair lenthe. Quhat diligence I vse in this part referris to the iugement of the lernit readaris. The first treuest natural signe & cause is contineuall weit in the last part of the spring or begyning of Sommer without vindis, greit contineuall heit or Meridionall Vindis, with turbide mistie Air without weit signifyis  
ane

ane pest to cum in the Autumne nixt following. Ane siclik constitutionn Hippocrates Prince of medicinaris, notit in the Citie of Cranone, vpon the quhilk followit ane horrible pest. Also in tyme of Marcus Antonius was tua sic pestis, quhilkis occupyit the haile Warlde in siclyk maner that mankynd was almost distroyit. Siclyk in the Zeir of God. 1450. enterit sic pestilence in Asia & occupeit Illirica, Dalmace, Italie, Germanie, France, and Spanze, mony zenis in sic maner, that the third part of the people in the Eird, war not left vnplukit away, be sic ane cruell miserabill tiran & manflayar. Quhair by we may vnderstand the generall cause of sic marnelous calamiteis, to procede frome the Heuynis & not onlie of mutatiounis of tempestis, albeit, humiditie and heit (I grant) be the parentis of corruptioun, beand destitute of motionn to tempre the samyn.

THE fecund signe is also to be taken of the Heuyn, as quhan the Eclypsis of the Soue ar greit and frequent, quhan Cometis or fyrie inflammatiounis, or as Starris falland of the Heuyn ar sene, for sic thingis procedis and ar generit of greit drouthe, and haite fyrie Vaporis, quhilkis corruptis the Air carest in the tyme of Autumne. Gif the growand treis aperis to birne it is mair certane signe of the calamitie to be at hand, becaus the inferiour regioun of the Air,

not

not the farrest fra vs (quhilk is leist necessair to the lyfe) is alredie corrupte and infestit. Gif the Air perseneris lang tyme dry as full of pulder, with thik dry Cloudis (as notable apperit all this last Somer) schawis ane pest to follow of sic nature. As quhan the Air apperis trubillit & thik in the Autumne & Vinter, as weit var to follow, and weitis nor, be affurit that constitutione, to be maist corrupte. Ane pest in Somer, is signifeit be the spring precedand dry and cauld, thairefter Meridionall vynde, with perturbit Air, sumtyme hait, and vther tymes cauld, quhilkis als signifeis the Pokis, Mefillis, & sielik diseis of bodie to follow: and as the pest procedes of infectit Air or Vater so it quhilk is generit of Air occupeis the heid & partis thair of & quhilk generis of Vater persis the hart maist vehementlie. Baith the fortis inuadis at al tymes of the Zeir, bot leist in Vinter, & Spring, ofter in Simmer, oftest of all in Autumne: quhilk maist notable may be examinat exponand freshe Breid to the Air ane nycht quhilk gif it corruptis maist certainlie the pest is at the dur, gif it be not alredie enterit. as frequent wod Doggis prognosticats the famin, quhilkis be infectioun of Air or Vater becummis wod. Siclyk Volfis entering in ane Tonne with continuall molestatioun is signe of Vodnes, for ouer greit audacitie schawis phreneisie. & be the famin cause, that brutall, becummis furious or degenerit frome

B. thair

thair awin accuſtume of leauing, ſic humoris corruptis in mannis bodie, as may gener ane peſt quhilkis ar melancholius infeſtit, be peſtentiall corruptioun of Air or Vater. As befor ſic tymes, the Scheip, quhilkis ar mair vaik of nature nor man be deathe ar afflictit, precedis alſo, multitude of Padokis & Domeſtical Vormis callit in Latine Blattæ, quhilkis ar generit of ſuperſlew fat Humiditie, maift repugnant to the helthe of man, as quhan the Moudeuart and Serpent leauis the Eird beand moleſtit be the Vapore contenit within the bowells of the ſamin. Quhilk infeſtioun bringis, baith man and beaſt to death, the ſoner gif ſic increſſis of lang tyme, and ſpeciallie quhan the Domeſtical ſouls becummis peſtilentiale, it is ane ſigne of maift dangerous peſt to follow, becauſe quhan the dryar and frear beift is infeſtit, mekil mair fall the man, quha is mair Humide of nature & ſubieſte to les lybertie, quhilkis may increſ be vickit mutatioun of the four tymes in the Zeir touching the principall qualiteis and naturall conſtitutioun thairof, as ane notable change of ane naturall day fall teſtilie. Siclyk quhen pokis or ſic Puſtulis are frequent not onlie amangis barnis, bot alſo amangis thoſe quha be of conſtant or declynand aige greit frequent ſouth and ſouth veſt vyndis. Gif wemen with barn throw lycht occaſioun pairt from thair birthe as  
 quhan

quhan efter vehemente heit in Somer, veit followis, and abundance of Padokis apperis colourit gray on the bak, of Purpoure or ony diuerse coloure on the vombe. As quhan Rofis and Violetis springis new in the Autumne, innumerable Vormis, Fleis, and ferpentis, greit dethe of beaft & fische, greit darthe of Vittail quharby men ar confrynit to eit ewil & corrupte meitis, maift certane of all, hait & Humide constitutioune of the haille Zeir the fone at ane houre fchynand, thairefter obfcure with turbulent Air, pronuncis ane peft to follow. And thir for vniuerfale fignis ar to be obferuit.

Quhat placis ar maift Peftilentiall. Cap. 4.

**T**Hoife placis ar maift fubieet to the peft, quhilkis ar neirby the fee, fituat touarte the fouth on hicht, quhairby is abundance of corrupt ftanding Vater, quhair mony deid ar bureit, quhair the ground is fat and Vaporatiue increffis maift in tyme of coniunetionne & opposition of Sone and Mone. And quhen the Mone mouis onder Saturne and Mars, ereftlie thair Quadrate Increffis maift at fone ryfing, Sone going to, midday & midnycht. Thoïs men are maift fubieete to the peft, quhilkis hes abundance of thik corruptible humoris or blude, without thay be euacuat be opining of ane Vaïne, or purgit be medicine, or fic corrupt

B. ij.

rupt

ruptioun, expellit be scabe or hulcer, quhilk is leift sure preferuative. Sic personis ar careft Bairnis Zoung Men & Wemen in thair flouris quha ar of humide & hait temperament. Nixt thame, quha are hait and dry, laft of all quha ar dry and cauld: quhoubeit the laft be difficillar to cure nor the first. Na pest continuallie induris mair than thre Zeris, athir because it hes not to vrge, or because the Air beand of maist lycht substance may not suffer forder putrefactioun & quhilk was corrupt befoir, farder becummis not corrupt, as rostin anis can not be maid raw againe, and skarflie in so lang tyme is the Air mouit and reneuit, and quhilk was corrupt transferrit in wyndis. And laft our merciful omnipotent God puttis mesoure to the panis of the wikit, be repentance of mankynde, or for the weilfair of the electit, quha maist effecteoullie prayis to his maiestie to that effecte.

Quhairby corrupt be pest may be knawin.

Cap. 5.

**T**HAIRES is mony notis quhilkis sehais ane man infectit be pest. First gif the exterior partis of the bodie be caulde, and the interior partis of the bodie vehement hait. As gif the hoill bodie be heanie with oft seharpe punctiounis, stinkand sweiting tyritnes of bodie, ganging of mowthe, detestable brathe with greit diff-

difficultie, at funtyme vehement feuer rather on nycht nor day. Greit doloure of heid with heauynes, follicitude & fadnes of mynd: greit difplefour with fowning, quhairefter followis haiftelie deth. As greit appetit and propenfues to fleip albeit on day, rauing and walking occupais the laft. Cruell inſpectioun of the ene, quhilkis apperis of findre colouris, maift variant dolour of the ftomak inlak of appetite, vehement doloure of heart, with greit attraçtioun of Air: intolerable thirft, frequent vomitting of diuers colouris or greit appetit by daylie accuftum to Vomit, without effecte: Bitternes of mowth, and tounge with blaiknit colour thairof & greit drouth: frequent puls finall & profund quhais vrine for the maift part is turbide thik & ftinkand or firft vaterie colourit thairefter of bilious colour, laft confufit and turbide, or at the beginning is zallow inclyning to greine (callit citrine collour) and confufit, thairefter becummis reid without contentis. Albeit fum of thir properteis may be ſene in hail mennis vater, quhairby mony ar deceauit abydand Helth of the patient, quhan ſic vater is maift manifelt ſing of deth, becauſe the hail venome & cauſe coniuinit thairwith, leauand the naturall partis occupais the hart and nobilleſt interioure partis of the body. Laft of all and maifte certane, gif with conſtant feuer, by the caris, vnder the ox-

ftaris, or by the fecrete membres maift frequentlie apperis apoftumis callit Bubones, without ony other manifelt caufe, or gif the charbunkil apperis haftelic in ony other part, quhilk gif it dois, in the begining, teftifeis firenthe of nature helth, and the latter fic thingis appeir, and apperand, it is the mair deidlie. At fumtym in ane criticall day mony accidentis apperis principalie vomiteing, fpitting of blude, with fweit, flux of womb, bylis, fcabe with dyuers others fymptomis, maift heauie and deteftable.

Signis of deth in peftilentiall perfonis.

Cap. 6.

**T**HE principall fignis of dethe in peftilentiall perfonis, ar frequent fwoning, cauld Sweiting, Vomitting, materis of diueris coloris, principallie inclyning to blak with fic excrementis maift corrupt & teuch, quhais Vrine ar blak, or coloure of Leid with abhominable corruptioun and fleurc, tyritnes of bodie, crampe or conuulsioun in exterior memberis inlaik of vertue motiue or appetite fra the begyning, with imperfeitioun of fpeche and flinkand breithe : dolore of the inteftynis, fpeciallic colik dolore, with Wormis : fwolling of the bodie, as in hydropifick : the vifage of diueris coloris, with reid fpottis on the bodie quhilkis haftelic difconeris or coueris thamefelf. The ma of thir fignis concurrand the patient is neirer dethe. And albeit

albeit few appeir in sum perfonis, notthelefs the patient may inlaik be other dinerfe acceffis.

As quhan the hoill caufe and corrupt vennum occupeis the hart, at quhilk tyn natur employit it felf to exclude all iniuris, nathir attentis nor may expell fic ane horrible monftour fra the spirituall partis, without fupport of medicinall handis, quhais deute and office is to behald nature quhair it virkis weill, & fupport quhair it inlaikis, or apperis to be ourcum: for inlaik of the quhilk, with negligence of affiferis, pouertie and ignorance of the patientis, quhan all apperis to fuccede weill, than the tirane feffinis rute and flayis foneft. Doutfum fignis of deth or lyfe ar, deteftatioun of meit, the toung blak & dry, the patient beand without reft & reffone inlakand fleip, quhilkis gif thay appeir with any of the fignis befoir expreffit, fchawis certane dethe. Forder the caufe quhairby few ar prefernit, & reft out of the handis of fic ane tirane in this cuntray, is maift euident (excep and the wraithe of God, for oure finnis) the negligence & Stupiditie of mankynd, contemptioun of medicine, ewill gouernance of the patient in maneir of leauing tuiching meit & drink fleiping & walking trauell and reft, excretioun and retentioun, with maneris of the mynd. Or finalie becaufe medicinaris ar mair ftudious of thair awine helthe nor of the commoun weilthe,  
and

& mony temptand God or abydand beneficie of nature, quhilk is infirme without support in all diseasis, had rather depàrt riche nor leife pure, or diminew their fortune ony wayis. Sen so it is, that man is become so ignorant, that he wattis not quhat he aucht to do, nor quhat he abydis (Specialie at this tyme, quhan ane abhorris ane other, in sic maneir, as gif nothing of humanitie war restand, bot all confumit, euerie ane abydand diffait of ane other, colorand the famin, with affectit eloquence, subtilitie, and grauitie quhilk for maist part may be repute vanitie, as in Bairnis, nature is nakit and scairflie apperis, in zoung men sumquhat couerit, in men of aige mony wayis difagysit, be sophistical profluencie of wordis: in all the thre, maist deformit be confessioun of mouthe, quhairupone followis immanitie quhilk at last birnis in man, contractit be continuall daylie heit & finalie be ferocitie & pertinacitie, inuadis euerie nixt duellare, and is discouerit onlie be the interpryse. I wald vis sic corrupt nature, to be exilit or punifit, the persone beand faife and nowayis dishonorit. Gif I wald treate this argument at sic lafer, as it is to be lamentit, I shulde enter in ane patent Campe, quhilk perchance mair vyisslie I pas by and preseryuis as God will aflist (quha is onlie the trew Medicinare of bodie and faull) sic thingis as may be conducent for preferuatioun thingis

thingis as may be conducent for preferuatioun and cure of pestilentiall sickneffis. Quhairin I am conftrynit of necessitie to vse the prescriptioun of sum Medicinis in latine, quhilkis can not guidlie be put in vulgare langage, & albeit thay war, zit fuld be als obscure to the vulernit redar as thay ar in latine. Quhat enerie man hes ado thairwith, may have the famin fra the Apothecaris, preparit with als guid faith and diligence, as thay ar prescriuit with beneuolence.

Preferuatioun fra the pest. Ca. 7.

**T**HE principal preferuatiue cure of the pest is, to return to God, quha is maist puissant with ane affectionat and ardent will and hart, to imploir the support of his Maiestie, be the intercessioun of his deir Sone Iesus Christ, to pacifie his wrathe aganis vs takand away sic punischeme: and as he hes saifit vs fra eternall deithe, so he wald saif vs fra sick corporall dethe quhilk iustlie for oure demeritis persecutis vs. Thairfor not pretermittand sic support as it hes plesit his Godlie will to sehaw vs, be guid succes of dew prescriptioun of nature be quhilk meanis, reafone preseryuis preferuatioun to consist in twa thingis: first to prepair the bodie apte to purgatioun: Secundly to mak it quhilk may offend debile in actiōe or impressioun.

The first is perfitit be mundificatioun and corroboratioun of the bodie, quhilk falbe eslie done gif superfluite or corruptioun of humoris be euacuat and purgit, stoppand siclyk to gener in tymis cumming, purgatioun is perfytit mony wayis as be the Intestines, Vriues, Exercise, Sueit, fasting, and difflatioun. Euacuatioun is perfitit be blude drawing, befoir or efter that ony persone hes bene in suspect place, in speciall of the Vaine callit Mediana of the richt arme takand in quantitie as strenth, temperament, consuetude, aige, and tyme may suffir. Euerilk ane remouand thame self fra cuntrey, town, and Air, infectit or suspect and quha may not do the samyn, or mowit be Christiane Cheritie will not, man be studious to liue in fre Air, escheuand sic constitutioun of Heauin and Elementis as befoir is expreffit to be maist wikit, as cauld at morning and ewin, fleure of flank or corrupt reueir, with all vther fylthy corruptioun correctand the Air vniuersalie or priuatlie be fyre & suffumigatioun maid be aromatical materialis, hait or cauld as the present constitutioun fall require, for certaine it is, be experience of Medicinaris obseruit at all tymes, that fyre is ane Antidote contrarie the pest and all corruptioun. As ane notabill historie of Hippocrates dois report, in quhais dayis quhan pestiferus wyndis blew fra Afrik & Æthiope vpon the toun of Athenis, folowit ane horrible pest  
he

he caufit sic fyris to be maid, as be the quhilkis the toun was delyuerit fra sic infectioun. The famyn Empedocles and Acreon caufit the Grecianis do in tyme of pest, quhairby the Air was maid dry and of gude odour quhilk stopit all forder putrefactioun, heirfoir, first of all, fyre made of fir or akin tymmer ar maist lowable, makand suffumigatioun thairwith of the tre of Aloes, Calamus callit Aromaticall, Afarum the ferufe of Citroun, Saifroun, Cannel, Cypir, Coste: Galange, Caryophillis, the tre and Granis of Iuniper, Rosmarie, leauage, Balme tre, Laure tre, Squinanthe, callit Iuncus odoratus, Ladanum myrrhe, Minte, Origanum, the rute of Valeriane, Pulege, Saige, Sawine, Tamarisce, Rosait, Acorus, Afpic, Basilic, Tyme, Calamint, Mariolaine, Finkill, Hyfop, or otheris of sic quality as the tyme fall require, sic as hait & dry in Vynter, cauld & humide in Sommer mouand the reik be vinagir temperat with vyne & Rose vater perfumand also al clathis in priuat lugeingis with the reik of sandal, rose vater or sic lyke other materialis. And as ony of the simplis befoir written feruis, siclyk compositionis may be maide of the sam, in forme of trociscis, thik pulderis, candillis or pomis odoratiue in this maneir. Rec. storac, calamint. vnc. duas, rasuræ ligni Iuniperj vnc. sex. masticis vnc. vnam, benio. vnc. duas, paretur puluis, Rec. Mastihcis, thuris ladanj puri, myrrhæ, stircis Calamint. Sing. vnc. Semis: rosarum rub. maioranæ, iuncj odoratj sing.

c. ij.

vnciam

vnciam vnam cinnamonj, garyophyllor. sandalj Citrini, spica nardj, macis, fing. Drach. semis. Carbonum lignj falicis lib. semis, storacis liquide vnciam vnam, aquæ rosar. quantum sufficere possit, ad cæterarum incorporationem. quibus addere licebit, terebinthinæ odoratæ parum, vel storacis liquidæ plus quam præscripsimus, deinde ex arte aromatarior. addendo pro temporis natura camphoræ, ambrae, vel moschj parum, formentur velutj candelæ nigræ, quæ incensæ miram reddunt fragrantiam. Rec. yrios florentiæ, maioranæ, calamj aromaticj, lapdani, beniouin, ciprj gariophyllorum cuiusque drach. Duas. moschj grana quatuor, fiat puluis gummj tragaganti quantum sufficere posse artificij videtur: præscripta in massæ formam temperet, formentur deinde pilæ suauissimj odoris, quj principi pestis causæ ex diametro repugnat.

Rec. ros. rub. florum violarum et buglofs. fing. drach. tres. Omnium sandalorum, coralli rubei, spodij opt. cuiusque drach. duas: cinnamoni, mastichis, myrrhæ recentis, ligni aloes fing. Drachmam. rad. angelicæ, et corticis citri ana. drachma, et semis camphoræ bonæ grana xii. Croci orientalis grana vi. Omnia puluerizentur, facculus ex syndone purpurea ad cordis figuram efformatus, regioni partium spiritalium applicetur.

In tyme of Symmer rosis nenuphar, sandile of all fortis, orange appillis. Duelling towart the  
northe

northe, temperand the air in priuat luggingis, be asperfioun of cauld vater mixit with vinager, or claythe vat thairin and hung by the vallis as tapeftrie, leauis & flouris of cauld herbis quhilkis be contrarius qualiteis temperis & correctis all pestilenciall corruptioun of air, beand vfit, at the faireft hour of the day oppinnand dure & vindois towart the Septentrionall partis: in vtheris tymes of zeir towart the Orient gif no thing be repugnand thairtill. Obferuand alfo that na domefticall beaft, fic as Dog or Cat, vaig abroad in tyme of peft. Quha ar in helthe & refusis or negleētis forder preferuatioun, & ſpeikis ſuſpecte perſonis maift be far ſeparat fra vthir haueand in mouthe a lytill of the rute of angelica, zedoria, apill renze, dictannus, raphort, or takand at morning twa ſpunfull of quhyte odoratiue ſubtile vyne, quhairin ane elene raphort cuttit final had bene ſteipit aucht dayis, eikand thairwith as tyme ſeruis, the granis of Luniper, or the rute of valeriane, & at quhat tyme the air is maift corrupt, tramp ane vater ſpunge, or claithe in vinagir, quhairin rew hes bene ſteipit, takand the odoure of the famin. Bot in ſic vechtie diſeiſe, mair profitable it war to vſe preferuatiue remeid conforme to the logique cuir befoir inſinuat, quhilk is maift neceſſair & profitable in al diſeiſis that may inuaid humane nature. Quhairby mony Emperikis & methodikes may be iuſtlie

c. 3. vitu-



vituperate and punisht in this Realme: of quhome the first professis onlie experience without reasone, quhilk is maist dangerous, the othir reasone without experience, quhilk is maist tolerable, bot not sufficient, misknawand baith that nane of Godlines may (nor dois in vther Realmis) interpryse sic professioun without sufficient experience haucand medicinal & Philofophical reasone to appreue and confirme the samyn: quhais temeritie I pas by, preseryuand sic medicinis preseruatiue, as baith be reasone & experience ar maist approbat, & conuenient: quhairfor efter euacuatioun the nixt day at morning. Rec. oximell. vnc. duas, aque betonicæ cichorii sing. vnc. vnam et semis mifecantur pro vna dôsi. continwand the samyn thre morningis or forder quhill signis of sufficient Preparatioun appeir, thairefter. Rec. rheibarb. grana xiii. agarici preparati, aloes, sing. serup. vnum, scamnonii preparati, gra. duo, cum aqua betonicæ formentur pilulæ quinque cum debita rerum non naturalium administratiõe dentur. Quha knawis not quhat humor redundis maist in thair bodeis, tak ane drach of pil. aggregatiue, quhilkis are maist profitable in sic cais. The nixt day thairefter ane drachme of Theriac is conducent, quhilk becaufe in thir dayis is not weil dispensit, nor to be had guid, twa drachmis of this electuare followand may be takin in place of the samyn.

Rec.

Rec. ros. ficcarum rad. gentianæ, squinantii, trifolij, thuris, sing. drachmas duas, sanguinis siccij anferis, hædi, anatis maris et feminae, rutæ fyluestris, feminis, feniculi, cumini, anethi, napi fyluestris vel rapi hortensis cuiusque drachmam et femis, myrrhe, nardi, sing. Drachmas tres, piperis albi et longi: costi, phu, cinnamoni, anisi, sing. Drachmam, benzoi, afari, ammoniaci, cuiusque drachmam et femis, Ireos, croci, rhei, gingib. Mastiches sing. Drach. femis, stœcados drach. tres, agarici, mari, ana, Drachmam. Carpobalsami grana numero viginti: fiat puluis tenuissimus ex omnibus, mixand thairwithe soure partis honye, beand weill despunit referuand the samyn in ane fyluer veschell, as ane maist pretious thesaur quhilke feruis not onlie for preferuatioun, fra the pest bot also is guid for cure of the samyn and is repugnand to all vther kynd of poyfone, or byt of Serpent, forder ane drachme of the pulder of hypericon with guid vyne may be takin for preferuatioun. als four scrupulis of the pil. of Ruffus ar maist profitable, quhilkis beand tane oft befoir (sais Ruffus) preferuis maist surlie fra the pest, & ar callit be some, pilule communes, be vtheris pilule Arabicæ, vel pilule contra pestem, quhilkis are dyuerse vays dispenfit, as followis. Rec. aloes Hepatici partes duas, ammoniaci electissimi partes duas, myrrhæ electæ partem vnam, cum vino odorato formentur vther wayis

wayis. Rec. aloes vnc. duas, myrrhe, croci, fing. vnciam, bol. Arme. drac. vnam, fiat massa. maist I commend the first composition, without ane half vnce of guid auld theriac, be augmentit to the last. Ane thing mouis me to commend the saidis pil. quhilk is the simplis quhair of thay ar maid quhilkis preferuis ane deid bodie fra corruptioun & ar maist repugnant to infectioun in leuand man or voman. And albeit I repugne not to the iugement of Ruffus nor Gal. quha commendis sic composition, zit for this tyme, cuntray, & present discise to the forder aduancement of mundificatioun of mannis bodie I wald thay war preparit in this mancir. Rec. massæ pilularum Ruffini ex prima formula preferiptarum, vncias duas, gummi ammoniaci drac. vnam. rheibar. electi drac. duas. Theriace veteris, vnc. femis, fiat massa pro vsu præscripto. dosis sit drac. the nixt day thairefter Rec. tormentillæ, feminis citri, cardui benedicti, partes Æquales ex quibus puluis præparetur.

Quhilkis thingis abone writtin may be vsit indurand all the tyme of Vynter, refreschand the samyn with vater of rosis & eichorie in Sommer obseruand alwayis, that quha hes abundance of flewme in the stomak, to purge the samyn be vomiting. ¶ Of exterioure preferuatiuis, fair eleine odoratiue claithis ar maist commendabil with oft changing thair of duelling in lugin patent towart the occident or septentrione, far fra

fra corruptioun, quhairin odoratiue treis, herbis flowris, befor expreffit, be vfit in fuffumigatioun birning, or infperfione: na man paffand furthe of lugeing, quhill twa houris after fone ryfing, nowayis in miftie weddir without neceffitie compel, & that be efter meit rather nor faftand, oyn-tand alfo the ftomak, lewer, & fecreit membris with this oyntment. Rec. olei rofati, omphacii vnc. duas, olei de fpica vnc. femis, pulueris cinnamomi, gariophyllorum, fing. drac. femis. Rofarum fandalorum citrinorum, cuiufque drachma, cum modico ceræ et aceti rof. fiat vnguentum molle. All meitis prefervatiue moft be of gude fubtill fubftance, & dry, in fpeciall for thame, quha ar of humide temperament. Trauail & greit fafting mundifeis (I grant) bot vaikis thair with: as laborious exercife, or fweting, in corrupte Air ar maift dangerous, heirfoir temperance in trauail or reft, fleiping or walking meittis or drink with temperat hilaritie & blythnes ar maift commendable. Twichand meittis, flefche is maift proper quhilk generis louable humoris, & is of facill digeftioun, Sic as Pertrik, Phafiane, Laucrok, Hen, Turture, Kid, Mottoun, Cunning, Veill, & ficyk otheris, vfind thairwith Garyophillis, and Cannell pulderit, all fifchis moft be fodin with vater, vinagir, pulder of Cannel, & Gingiber. Abftenand fra dalie vfe of fatt or foddin meittis. Of herbis the Latuce, Cichorie, Purpie, Sourak, Pimpinell, Vetoun, Finkill, Anethe,

Borage, Endiue, Garlik in lytill quantite, Raphor-  
te diffoluit in Vyne or vinagir, may be vfit, pre-  
parand the famyn as becummis enery ane in thair  
awin nature. Of fructis, feggis, bytter almondis,  
dry rafingis, fowr apill or peir, orange, citroun,  
or limown, caperis, foure prunis, or cheryis, with  
daylie ufe of vinagir or vergeus with all fortis of  
meittis : drinkand cleir quhyt odoratiue Vyne,  
temperat with vater, vefehand face, mouthe, &  
handis, at morning with vyne temperat with  
rois vater, drawand at neis the decoctioun, of  
the leauis of laure, oyntand the eiris with oile  
de fpica, hauand in mouthe the feid of citroun,  
abftinand fra fleip on day lyeht, Ire, crying,  
Venus playis, as fra maift dangerous enemeis.  
Abftinand alfo fra all meittis quhilkis corruptis  
haiftely, as fra varietie of the famyn, quhilkis  
offendis at all tymis. & fpéciallie fruttis quhilkis  
bene collectit efter contagious air, Swyne flefche,  
Fowllis that fwomis in vater, vband at morne  
ane fpunfull of the rute of Ariftoloche in pulder  
with half Vyne, quhilk refittis to putrefactioun  
& purgis the hart pypis. Sicklyk the pulderis of  
Vnicorne, bole armenik, Hart horne, Peirll, Co-  
rall, Smaragde, Saphir, lafpe, Rubine, drunken  
with conuenient decoctioun, ar maift preferuati-  
ue. Of quhilkis diuerfe compositionis may be pre-  
parit, as this wayis.

Rec. Sappliri, Smaragdi, Hyacinth, Rubin,  
Cora-

Corallorum rubeorum et Alborum, ſing. drachmam  
 Croci ſerupulum, Margaritarum drachmæ ſemis,  
 Ambri Grana ſex, radicis iridis ſiccæ et odoratæ  
 vnc. ſemis, corniu cerui vſti drachmam, Auripig-  
 menti, arſenici albi drachmas duas, terantur om-  
 nia & formetur facculus, cum ſyndone purpurea,  
 cordiſque regioni affigetur. Als the oile of Scor-  
 pionis, viperis, or Iuniper ar maiſt conuenient to  
 oynte the arteiris, hart, neiſtbrillis, & ſtomak, as  
 in the begynning of the peſt to drink thairof ane  
 halfvnce, or les conforme to the ſtrynthe of the pa-  
 tient, for extreme remeid is beſt, in maiſt dange-  
 rous & extreme diſeis, & quaba curis ſurelie, be-  
 ginnis not, at lychteſt, bot equal remedis: as pur-  
 gatioun in peſtilenciall feueris aucht to be, at  
 begynning, quhilkis commonlie iudgis & promiſis  
 deith, rather nor lyfe. Quhay ar conſtrynit to  
 viſie infeſtit be peſt, firſt of all moſt remoue the  
 opinione of dethe, bot not the dredour of God,  
 heirfor nethir delyt in perral, nor temerariouſlie  
 incur the ſamyn, without cheritie towart thy  
 nychtbour, or the glorie of God (quhilk is to be  
 preferrit to all thing) moue the. Takand befor  
 viſitatioun the rute of *Ænula* in mouthe, veſch-  
 and face, handis, teith & mouth, with ſalt vater  
 in Vynter, with rois water, & thrid part vinager  
 in Sommer, quhilkis thingis corroborattis the  
 ſpiritis & hart of man, purgand thairwith befor  
 vniuerſalie, as tyme, redundand humoris, & tem-  
 perament

perament requyris. Opinnand all obstruētionis, be conuenient decoctiōnis, sic as Oxinell, Serap. Acid. Bizant. or sielyk vtheris conuenient for the tyme. Cohibite also spiratione, to escheu occasioun of new corruptioun, be temperat lotionis or vnctiōnis with oile of chamemele, or oile of rew in Vynter, & as aboundance or intemperance of blude requyris, euacuate the sam as aige, nature, tyme, zeir, or vse admittis: in man opinnand the vayne callit mediana, in vemen saphena, the nixt day thairefter. Rec. cinnamomi-optimi vnc. femis feminum ligustici drach. Duas foliorum betonicæ absynthii, hypericonis, pulegii, melissophilli satureiæ, sing. drachnam, Abrotani, gentianæ, bacchar. lauri ana. drac. femis ex omnibus puluis paretur, of the quhilk ane sponesful with conuenient decoctiōne is excellent preseruatiue for vemen, takin befor the tyme of natural purgatioun, sielyk efter blude drawing or purgatioun vse this pulder quhilk is maist preseruatiue in prouoking of sweit. Rec. dictamni albi vnciam, radicis tormentillæ vnc. femis pulverizentur, ex quibus commistis drachmam dabis ex aquæ endiuicæ et aceti pari proportiōne. Prouokand sweit & sleip thairefter, & quha ar corrept be pest augment als meikill of theriaca, procurand sweit without sleip. vtherwais,  
 Rec. tormentillæ, boli armenii præparati, corallor. rubeorum et alborum, dictamni albi, genti-  
 anæ,

anaë, terræ sigillatæ fing. Drachmam, omnibus tritis et mistis puluis paretur, of the quhilk ane drachme of veicht feruis, takin dalie befoir meit with vater of rofis endine, fourokis, or vync. Gifand to barnis ane feruple thairof, quhilk expellis wormis of thair bodyis, quhairby Zouthie is maist subiecte to pest and deithe. And becaufe varietie in medicine (as in all vther affairis) is maist pleasand, this pulder feruis maist properlie, & is maist preferuatiue. Rec. Cornu cerui vsti, feminis abfynthii vulgaris, vel fantonici, vulgo Alexandrini, quæ musca marina, officinis corallina nuncupatur Zedoariæ, nucleorum perfici, fing. vnc. femis, maceruntur amigdalæ perfici in aceto, siccenturque, deinde in puluerem omnia vertantur. Of the quhilk tak twa drach. daly at morning. Affixand thairefter an Emplaister vpone the breift of materialis maist conuenient, vt abfynthio, menta crispa vel romana, farina lupinorum, foliis perfici, et felle tauri. In Sommer Wemen with barne or pure, quha may not spend large on medicine Recipient bolum acetosæ herbæ aceto maceratæ vel liquorem stillaticium eiusdem cum modico vini, hyeme præfertim, Quha als may beir the rute of tormentill in thair mouthe in tyme of visitatioun, takand thairwith the odore of vinagir, or minte. Maist specialy of al as respondent humoris requyris. Vse pilulis, baith for corroboratioun and mundificatioun of the bodie con-

fite in this wayis. Rec. massæ pilularum de hiera, drachman, pilularum de mastiche drac. femis, agarici trociscati scrupulum, gingiberis, spicæ, cuiusque grana tria, cum aqua rad. Ænule, vel aque scabiosæ, formentur pilule parvæ. Quha ar of strenthe in bodie tak the haill at anis, quha ar vaik & of small constitution, tak tham at twyse, quhilkis ar sufficient preferuatioun for all that leuis temperatlie, beand takin twise or thryse in the zeir. Followis ane vther remedde for the pure preferuative for ane half zeir, quhilk principalie auld people or quha ar of humide temperament mot use, in cauld vedder.

Rec. Artemesiæ, saluiæ, summitatum roris marini, sing. Manipulum vnum, gingiberis vnciam, vini veteris mensuras duas, simplicia incisa, lento igne ad dimidium in vase fictili vitro obducto coquantur, quæ vbi refrigerata fuerint percolantur, deinde qui velit, forbeat quotidie colearia tria, per dies nonem continuos. Vtherwayis,

Rec. Castorei veri, aristolochiæ rotundæ, sing. Drachmas duas, gentianæ drachmam, baccharum lauri drac. quatuor, ex omnibus fiat puluis. Gif ane drachm thair of or les, as aige & natur of the refauer requyris with vyne, or some conuenient vater, anis daylie for preferuatioun, or twise in tym of cure. Ane pulder for Vinter. Rec. storacis iridis, mastiches ana. partes duas, gariophylorum, maceros, nucis moschate, cinnamomi, croci, ana. partem

partem vnā ambræ partis vnus, quintam, moschi partis vnus decimam, fiat. Ane pulder for Sommer. Rec. succini electi partes duas, fol. myrti corticum citri, florum nymphaeæ, rofarum, violarum, croci, maceros, fandalorum citrinorum sing. partem vnā, camphoræ, ambræ, benzoi, quantum sufficiunt, moschi partis vnus decimam: ex quibus vniuersis, puluis paretur: of thir pulderis odoriferous ballis may be maid in Vynter, with stirace. In Sommer with vatter of rosis & tragacanthæ, eikand thairtill at all tymes, fa meikill of ladane as falbe thoct expedient. Siclyk the pulderis dry, may be cassin amangis claith or suffumigatione maid tharof: als the samyn includit in purpoure taffaties, may be maid and applicit as ane tairge defensiue for the hart. Thair is greit strenthe als in the oile of Scorpionis oyntand the arteris feit & handis, thair with as quha ar correpte oyntand the heid, breist, crag, and quhar heuyest difeis apperis, supportis greitumlie. Taxus barbatus is also of greit strenthe, quhilik brutall beists techis vs as the quhittrat beand hurt be venome of serpent, seikis & eittis thair of als certan it is the Iuce of the samyn drunkin with small vyne of gud odour, baith preferuis fra pest, & curis the same. Coriander preparit eitin befoir & efter meit is preferuatiue also: as mony vtheris simplis & composut medicines may be preseryuit, quhilikis I pretermit to forder lasair.

Cure

## Cure of the peft. Cap. 8.

**B**Ecaus the office of ane Medicinar confiftis in twa partis, firft to efchew & preferue fra all difeifis quhilkis apperis to follow mannis bodie : Secundlie to cure it quhilk is alredie contractit : the firft part beand expedie in fa far as this prefent intitute requiris, followis the fecund part, als compendiously as it may be treitit. Heirfoir quahafoeir findis tham felfis peftilenciall, incontinent tak ane iniectione maid of fuffieient quantite of brw of ane foull weil falt with twa freſche eggis, and thre vncis of hunny rofate, thairefter tak ſome Antidote cordiale (becaus that venome for maift part drauis to the hart) obferuand alwayis that vitall facultie become not debile, heirfoir at beginning ather drink Iulepe, or opiate, comenient with motione, fricitione, & ſic thingis as bringis furthe all contagione maift learnitly preferyuit. Obferuand alwayis that walking, motione and fricitionis, debilitatis the ſpiritis. For as natural facultie, & it quhilk is callit animalis facultas, ar maift ſtrenthy & beft at eis, the vitale faculte becummis the mair feble. For ſupport of the quhilk. *Rec. theriacæ optimæ ſeptem ad minus annorum (optima venetiis tantum, eaque legitima conficitur) boli Armenæ boni, diarrhodi abbatis ſing. drac. vnam, rheib. electi drac. ſemis cinnamomi optimi vnciæ ſemis. trochiſcorum de ſpodio trium ſandalorum, terræ ſigillatæ, et camphoræ recentis ſing. ſerupulum*

serupulum sacchari ros. et buglossi ros. cuiusque vnciam croci orientalis serupuli semis, in puluerem quæ debent iatricum vertantur, qui in aquis cardui benedicti, scabiosæ, buglossæ, rosarum, et plantaginis sing. vnc. semis. quæ tandem colata, per manicam Hippocratis ferantur, fiat antid. capiat infirmus vnam duas, vel tres vncias vt ratio postulat singulis matutinis horis, noctis hora media. Within three hours efter the taking of this antidote gif ony aposteme apperis, affix ane Ventose thair till, gif na sic apperis, affixe the samyn be the earis, onder the oxstaris, & by the secreit membris, draw and blude of the arme copiously, gif abilitie of nature may suffir the sam. And gif swelling or dolor appeir in the heid or crag, oppin the vaine callit cephalica quhilk apperis in the exteriour part of the arme, gif betwix the heid & secreit membris sic appeir, oppin that vaine of the Leuer, quhilk is situat in the inuart part of the arme. Gif benethe the secreittis sic diseis appeir, the interioure vaine of the fute callit saphena moift be opin- nit. Gif baith abone & vnder dolor apperis, oppin the saphene & of quhat fyde dolor vrgis maist, draw blude of the samin part, as gif dolor be of athir side, tak of the richt arme. Gif na apperance be of aposteme nor greit doloure, tak blude of that saphenis of athir partis. Efter blude be drauin,

Rec. smaragdi subtilissime contritæ ponderis granorum, hordei octo, cum aqua, rosata et gutta boni vini deglutiatur, and this for the first day,

E.

and

and gif the antidote befor may not be had,  
 Rec. aloes partes duas, Ammoniaci, thimiamatis  
 partes duas, myrrhæ partem vnam hec trita in vino  
 odorato fabæ magnitudine detur quotidie. The nixt  
 day thairefter. Rec. pulueris pilularum comunium  
 drac. vnam, theriacæ Ga. conferue rofarum et bu-  
 gloffiæ cuiusque drac. duas, pulueris diamargariti fri-  
 gidi drac. vnam et feminis. de acitos. citri vne. vnam, aqua-  
 rum scabiofæ, et buglofs. quantum fatis erit. Fiat po-  
 tus, detur vt moris est. Preparand for vfe anc epi-  
 theme for the hart of vater of rofis, violeis, buglofe  
 vinagir, vyne of granatis, camphore, fandilis, and  
 vyne. Als quhais nature is fiark, vfe of thir pilu-  
 lis at begynning quhilkis ar also preferuative.  
 Rec. aloes electæ vne. duas, Aristolochiæ rotundæ  
 vnciam, croci drac. feminis. tormentillæ, dictamni ana.  
 fefqui drachmam feminis acetofæ, feminis pomi ci-  
 trei ana. drac. feminis, rheib. drach. duas, falis gemmæ  
 fpicæ, fing. drachmam. cum ferapio de acido citri  
 fucco. In globum redigantur pro pilulis, anc drac.  
 is fufficient dofe, to be takin, twyfe or thryfe in  
 the owk for preferuatioun, or ar begynning be  
 tham quha ar correpte. Anc pulder curatiue.  
 Rec. rad. dictamni, tormentillæ fing. drac. myrrhæ  
 electæ drac. duas, croci. meliffophilli fing. drac.  
 cinnamomi, feminis ocimi. fing. drac. feminis, aloes  
 puræ vel lotæ ad pondus omnium, fiat puluis fub-  
 tilis detur drac. in aqua rof. vel acetofæ. quhilk  
 gif the patient vomitis not & fweittis, falbe refto-  
 rit to helthe, and quha vomitis the famin for the  
 maift

maist part fall dee. And becaus in ane feuer pesti-  
 lenciall the humoris & spiritis corruptis first  
 haistelic in the hart, efter the pacient be placit at  
 begynning of the feuer in ane quiet chalmer, quhair  
 in is greit hait fyre, castand tharvpone vinager &  
 rose vater, to procure gude odour, the pacient mo-  
 uand to abstein fra sleip, vsand ane opiate cordial,  
 clister, blude drauing, ventosis, & medicine, as fal  
 be thoct necessar & profitable prepair & vse  
 this epitheme. Rec. aquarum scabiosæ buglossæ et ro-  
 farum sing. vn. 4. acetirofati vnc. duas, ros. rub. florum  
 nenuphari. gra. tinctorum cuiusque pugillos duos,  
 sandali albi & rubi. ana. drac. & femis. camphoræ  
 croci sing. scrupulos duos. bol armenię dra. & fe-  
 mis. fiat epithema, applicand the famin hait vpon  
 the partis pectoralis, with ane lytill scarlote trampit in  
 the decoctioun thairefter lyand in bed varme couerit  
 abstenand fra sleip the first nicht, beand of guid com-  
 fort. In tyme of drouthe takand a lytill of the con-  
 ferue of buglose or rossis oyntand the filottis and  
 bak with ane vnguent maid of quhit valx, oyle of  
 rossis, & vinagir, procurand sweit, with this decocti-  
 oun or sic vther. Rec. cardui benedicti vnc. duas  
 verbenç, scabiosæ sing. manipulum vnum, tuth, saluie  
 calendule, ana manipulum vnum & femis. macerentur  
 in vino albo et distillentur, deinde illius aquæ vn-  
 ciæ duæ initio morbi dentur, ad sudores eliciendos,  
 sone thairefter vsand ane lycht purgatioun of sic  
 medicines as ar befor preferiuit or in this maner

Rec. mirrob citrinorum & cebul. sing. drac. duas,

E. ij.

tarm-

tarmarind. febesten fing. vnc. tres, fiat decoctum ex aqua scabiofæ, vel buglofs, colaturæ addendo Syr. rosati. fol. vnc. vnam, vel plus minusue pro viribus ægrotantis. fiat potus qui detur vt decet. Last confirming the hart baith be exterior and interior medicines quhairby, efter euacuation, purgation, & vomiting. Rec. fol. verbena, scabiofæ, acetosæ, feordii, buglofs. fing. manipulum vnum, granor. citri vel arancior. vnc. vnam, corticis citri. vnc. femis. rosa. rub. pug. vnum, fiat decoctio in iure pulli ad lib, duas, cui adde pulueris cornu cerni, coralli vtriusque rad. pentaph fing. vnc. vnam succj arantiorum vel omphacij vnc. duas aceti vnc. vnam, pro diuitibus addendo pulueris Diamargariti & de gemmis fing. drac. duas, fol. aurj quatuor, distillentur omnia in diplomate, vel coquantur, per horam vnam, ex eo decoctio sumat coclearia tria cum iuseulis in eum vsu preparatis. And becaus frequent vomiting and swoning ar greit inpediment to retene ony cordiall medicine, the stomak maist be corroborate & strentht this vays. Rec. olei ros. myrr. cidon. fing. vnc. duas, olei nardini vnc. femis. vngatur superior ventriculi pars, for swoning & trembling of the hart, applik the Epitheme preparit as befor four or fyue times in the nycht. And gif frinthe apperis to inlaik & signis of dethe apper sic as oft swoning, diuerse colour of visage, blak excrementis, putride vater, swift breith, crampe, fuolling of the haille bodie, in sic case draw na blude,

bot

bot vse this electuare. Rec. boli armeni, terræ figillatæ, ambo prius sint diluta & preparata, tormentillæ, dictami albi. rad. figilli salomonis cuiusque drach. quatuor, foliorum acetosæ & melissæ ana. pugilli femis. ligni aloes, croci ana. ferupulum et femis, theriacæ antiquæ & probatæ ad pondus omnium, formetur electuarium, ex quo detur peste correpto, drac. vna, cum aquæ ros. vel vini debito pondere, prouocando sudores. And becaus mony nethir will nor may haif tyme, to draw blude, at begining of pest (as I wald na man did efter 24 houris be passit fra the first hour of sic diseis). It becummis siclyk to procure sueiting, quhairby al pestilenci-al mater may be expellit, to the quhilk effect this pulder feruis maist propirly. Rec. gingiberis albi mundati vnc. vnam, sacchari candi vnc. vnam, & femis. camphoræ vnc. femis, quodlibet per se subtilissime teratur, et omnia postmodum simul miscantur & incorporentur cribrenturque per staminam subtilem, referuentur in vase vitreo probe cooperto, nequid euentiletur. Quha ar hurt be pest may tak anc drach. thair of with vyne mixt with thrid part of vater or with rose, or fowrak vatteris. Sueitand aucht houris thairefter, dichtand the famin with lining claitis, abstenand fra sleip, meit, and drink, at sic tyme. Thairefter vsand medicine lenitiue, quhilk man be of sic qualite as may purge al superflaw flewme as may redunde in all naturall partis, augmentand strengthe of the heid, hart, stomak & leuer,

E. 3.

quhilk

quhilk may be preparit thus vays. Rec. rhab. electi, drac. tres, gingib. drac. duas, infundantur in aqua scabiofe, buglofs. vel. rofe, fing. vnc. tribus, & femis. ebullitione tertia pars abfumetur, expressione facta vt decet. Agarici optimi in puluerem reducti vnc. femis addetur, hæc omnia folis, radio facta sint arida, exinde. Rec. aloes loti vnc. vnam, myrrhæ lotæ, croc. ana, vn. femis, agarici preparati vt supra admonuimus, drac. tres, mirab. citrinorum drac. duas et femis, mirab. cebulo. drac. vnam et femis, rad. dictami, tormentillæ cuiusque drac. vnam : masticis cinnamoni fing. dra. duas, musci hyeme grana duo formentur pilulæ ex Sir. de limonibus : quhilkis ar gude for all aige, as the simplis quharof thay ar componit dois approue, quhilkis also ar maist cordial as faiffrone comfortis the hart, generis gude blude, & mundifeis it quhilk is corrupte, & drauis the streinthe of medicines quhairwith it be componit to the hart, sicklyk aloes purgis baith bilious melancholious, & phlegmatik humoris, mundifyis the heid & stomak, preferuis fra all putrifaction, & quha vsis the same oft, fall incur na incurable diseis. Mastic comfortis the stomak, expellis fra the famin all teuch raw fleume. Myrrhe mundifeis the harnis and conferuis fra al putrefaction in tym of drouthe vse this inlepe. Rec. aquæ ros. quar. vnam, aquarum acetose, buglossi nynphæ, fing. quartariæ femis, aquarum scabiofæ. verb. fing. vnc. vnam, aceti albi vnc. femis facchari quantum sufficit fiat Iulep. aromat. fantalo albo

albo vtatur quoties fitis extremum occupat.

The fecund day commonlie fuelling dois appeir, quhairfoir ane fomentatione is maift proper, preparit of the decoctioun of chamemile affixand ventofis at quhat part nature inclinis to exoner itfelf. Immediatlíe thairefter. Rec. tamarindorum drac. decem. quæ ferueant in aqua, exprimantur & proijciantur, decocto rheibar. drac. vnam, agarici drach. femis, addentur fiat potus qui tepide hauariatur. Auicene gaif at sic tyme, twa vnce of rofe vater ane vnce of final quhyt Odoratíue Vyne, ane drachme of bole armenik in pulder, quhilk gif the pacient vomitis, it is ane deidlie figne, as quha retinis the famyn, may be faif. Quhairfoir ane Epitheme for the hart, is conducent befoir, preparit of vater of rofis, violets, borage, vinagir vyne, of granattis, camphore, fantalis, and ane lytil vyne at euin. Rec. pulueris carduj benedictj, femicitri, tormentillæ, margaritarum, corall. rub. & rof. fing. drac. vnam et femis, cum aqua rof. et opt. vino, fed exiguò, bibatur. The thrid day, ane drac. of the antidote befoir difpenfit conforme to the iugement of ane fingular veil lernit medicinar (zea flour of Italie in his dayis) with als meikle of fucker rof. at morning may be vfit, takand alfo, as plesis the pacient ane fpunefull of the Syrupe callit de acetofitate citri. at euin gif na difcharge of natur dois appeir, tak twa vnc. of the iuce of Calendula, verbene, or vertoun, pronokand fueit. Thairefter as ony peftilenciall fwolling apperis it muft be  
fomentit

fomentit with the decoction of the rute of lillie, maw, althe, cammeile, anete, & adiante, affixand ane cataplasme of floure of quheit, frefelie butter & oile, to support nature, in expulsion of sic venemous mater. Drauand the famin to the maist ignoble & exterior partes, obseruand the nethir cathartical medicine be gifin, nor vomiting procurit at sic tyme quhilk may augment the feuer, & debilitate frenthe of bodie drauand to the interior partis sic venome as nature wald expell fra the famin bot perseuerand in Epithemis & cordial drinkis, and albeit the aposteme or charbunkil, be not mature (becaus it suld be dangerous to abyde the famyn in dreid dethe fuld preueine naturall rupture of sic venome) it moift be oppinit be ane Chirurgical hand, rather nor til expeid ony maturite, be ventose (albeit some of guid learning wald affirme sic cure to be maist Logicall) becaufe at the tyme, all thing quhilk drauis greittumlie, moeis doloure & dolour augmentis feuer. Augmentatioun of feuer, debilitatis humane nature, to quhilk succedis deith. ¶ Quhairfoir efter incision be maid, detful tretting of the famin consistis in curatine materiallis, without incision vсанд befor sum maturatine cataplasmis, & gif the humore be malignant and rebellious to sic remeidis suppuratiues moft be expedie, in this maneir. Rec. rad. lili-  
 orum altheæ & ceparum sing. vnc. tres bulliant simul, deinde passentur, addendo fermenti acidi, vnc.  
 vnam

vnam farinae fœnugræci et lini cuiusque drac. tres, fecis olei liliacci et. diac. magni. quantum sufficit ad cetera in cataplasmaticis solidi formam reuocanda, quod tumori rabido applicetur. Vel sic.

Rec. rad. liliorum vnc. duas, maluarum bifmal. violarum, fing. Manipulum vnum, farinae feminis lini, farinae hordei, & tritici. fing. vnc. vnâ caricarum paria duo, florum chamæmeli & violarum fing. quantum pugno capere possis, florum, sambuci pug. femis, fiat omnium decoctio, facta deinde per cribrum traiectione, adde axungie suillæ, galli, vel vituli fing. vnc. vnâ & femis, olei amigd. dulcium, vel lilij vel violarum vnc. tres, croci drac. femis, formetur cataplasma, quod loco affecto imponatur. Qui prius simplicium istiusmodi decocto formentetur ac vbi pus confectum fuerit statim vomica aperienda vlcusque detergendum erit. Si carbo (vt fieri solet) superuenerit, vt eius natura postulat chirurgica manu curetur. Because maturatiues ar maist necessar in sic affectioun, in respect of maist extreme & dangerous diseis, with frequent vncertane mutatioun of the patient, sic maist be preparit and vsit in this maner. Rec. vuarum passarum, ficuum pinguium, ana. vnc. femis, pistentur, add. falis petrosi drac. duas, mellis drac. vnâ ad. Emplaftri formam incorporentur cum oleo chamæmeli calide superponatur. Aliud. Rec. dictami albi vnc. vnâ et femis, rad. ebuli vnc. vnâ rad. nasturtii vnc. femis, cæpe albi vnc. duas, radices in aqua coquan-

tur & super prunis cape affentur, & pistentur, add. olei chamæmeli vnc. duas, & femis, resinæ pini, vnc. vnam, fem. vrticæ drac. sex, cere, q. s. fiat Emplastrum vel vnguentum. Quhilk is maruelous maturatiue, distroyand all venome, conuenient for zoung or auld. And gif it be necessäre to mol-lifie the famin, as maturite requiris also mollifi-catioun. Rec. axungie porci recentis, butiri re-centis, fing. vnc. femis, theriacæ Galeni drac. vnam succi scabiosæ, drac. duas, vitelli vnins oui fiat vnguentum, quo vtatur vt decet. Quhilk also supportis to digestioun and eorruptioun of sic mateir, quihilkis baith supportis greitunly. Vther-uayis. Rec. vng. populionis vnc. vnam, butiri recentis, vnc. duas, farine frumenti, vnc. femis, muscilaginis lini et sœnugræci cuiusque drac. duas, olei liliacci q. s. fiat vnguentum. As tyme feruis, vse ane vnguent mundificatiue continmand the famin to the end of perfyte cure quihilk may be in this maneir preparit. Rec. Syr. rosarum vnc. du-as, terebinthinæ, venetæ, aquæ vitæ (vt vulgus lo-quitur) ablutæ simul liquefant, addendo myrrhæ & Aloes pul. cuiusque drac. femis, farine lupinorum drac. duas, pulueris radiceis yrios & aristolochiæ rotundæ ana. drac. femis, succorum plantaginis apii ana. vnc. vnam et femis fiat vnguentum quo vtatur. Ane Emplaster curatiue efter ruptioun of the vomik. Rec. mellis, olei coïs, ana. partes equales, adde falis. q. s. coquantur. fiat Emplast-rum

rum. At laſt quhan all ſuppurationn & euacuation, ar perſytit, with mundification of the hulcer, curatiuis & incarnatiues ſuccedis be reaſone thay ar ſa notable knawin to all chirurgianis that I trauaill na thing in formal preferyuing of the ſamin. Always indurand ſic tyme, for the aduancement of helthe, the medicinis preferuatiues befoir expreſſit, may be vſit, les or mair in quantite & qualite, eikand materialis refrigeratiue, as tyme of zeir, & latitude of ſic fyrie diſeiſ requiris. As for exemple. Rec. fumiterræ manipulos duos, boraginis et bugloſſæ cum floribus manip. Vnum, mirabo. citrinorum, cebulorum, & indorum ſing. drac. tres, epithimi drac. quatuor, ſene orientalis vnc. duas, et ſemis, agarici electi drac. vnam, et ſemis, coquantur lento igne in decenti aquæ quantitate, deinde expreſſione facta, addetur ſac. albi quantum deſideretur, ex arte paretur, cuius doſis ab vnc. quatuor ad quinque vel ſex poſſit extendi: cui etiam aliud quiduis pro viribus patientis poſſit addi. Vther wayis & na les profitable for preferuation, nor it is for cure of ſic as be of bilious and dry temperament, & propenſe to continuall conſtipatioun or corruption of ſtomak, as it is maiſt proper, alſo for bairnis quhilkis ar ſubiect to wormis, diſpenſit as followis.

Rec. ſaluæ nobilis, rutæ, roriſmarini, abſynthij, cichorii, cardi ſancti, vrticæ, origani, iuæ partet. ſing. manip. caricarum, dactil. paſſul. amigd.

f. ij.

dul-

dulcium ana. manip. tres, falis gemmæ drac. quatuor, coloquintide, aloes hepaticæ, cinnamomi, mirab. citrinorum ana. drach. duas, polipodii et agarici, cuiusque drac. duas et semis, infundantur quæ debent in lib. duodecim aquæ cois, bulliant ad mediam partem consumptam, expressioni mellis optimi lib. duas addas postremo aromatico odore induceto, tametsi palato parum arrideat, detur tamen ab vnc. tribus ad sex.

Observand last of all, that ane methode, quihlk aucht to be obseruit, admittis ane greit latitude, & varietie fra the cure preferyuit, principallie in diuersite of aigis. As for zoung barnis corrept be pest, thair Nurissis quha giffis thame nutriment, aucht ressaue the medicines interioris, for the helth of thair infantis, bot not in quantite as vtheris pestilenciall personis: Quha ar of mair perfyte aige, as betwix four & ten zeris maist be curit, as the nature of sic feuer requiris, as mair extreme cure, sic as ventosis, scarificatioum, blude drawing, and sic vtheris, is maist profitable for thame, quha ar betwix ten & twentie zeiris of aige, And finallie quha ar passit twentie zeiris, may vse at plesure al circumstancis, or medicines as befor ar expressit. Considerand always as thair is diuersite of tyme, cuntray, aige and consuetude to be obseruit in tyme of ministratioun of ony medicine preseruatiue or curatiue, ewin sa thair is diuers kyndis of pest, quihlkis  
may

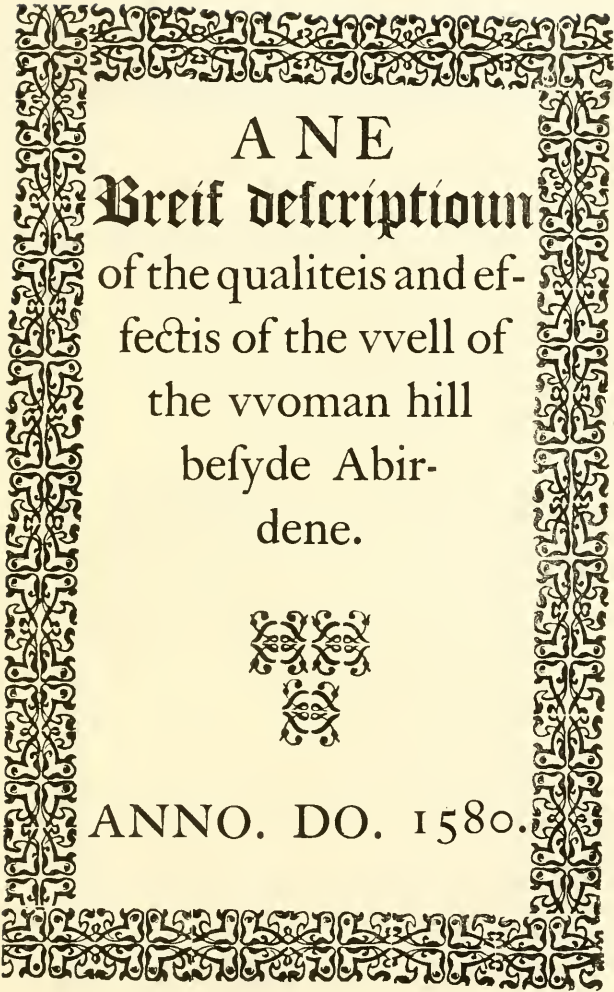
may be eifely knowin and diuidit be weil lernit Phificianis, quhais confeill in tyme of sic danger of lyfe is baith profitable and neceffar. in refpect that in this peffilenciall difeis euerie ane is mair blind nor the Moudeuart, in sic thingis as concernis thair awin helth. And befyde that, euerie ane is becum fa deteftable to vther (quhilk is to be lamentit.) And fpeciallie the pure in ficht of the riche as gif thay var not equall with thame twichand thair Creationn, bot rather without faule or fpirite as beiftis degenerat fra mankynd. Quhairfoir lat vs humble our felfis in prefence of our God and Father of all confolatioun, that be the interceffion of Iefus Chrifit our Saluour, and of his mercy & grace, he will indue vs with the fpreit of repentance that vnfzenzeitlie we may conuerte vs vnto him, reformand our deprauat and corrupt leuing in tymis by paff. And alfo apply ourfelfis in tymis cumming, to the obedience of his Godly will and obferuing of his commandentis, that thairby he may not onlie remoue sic punifchment and Plaig frome vs, Bot alfo that baith riche and purr may leue in fic Godly and ciuill focietie, as may be agreable to his godlie will, that finallie we may be participant of his Kingdome preparit for his Elecete fra the beginning.

FINIS.



At the suggestion of the Secretary of the Bannatyne Club, the following Brief Description of the Woman Well at Aberdeen is subjoined to the Tract on the Pest. It is dated in 1580, was apparently printed at Edinburgh by John Ross, and, in the judgment of the Secretary, bears internal marks of having been likewise the production of Dr GILBERT SKEYNE. It is, moreover, the earliest known topographical tract connected with Scotland. Probably not more than two copies of the original have been preserved, and Ames, Herbert, and Gough mention it as one sheet 12mo, instead of 4to, "with a pretty border round the margin." The subject itself was afterwards more fully treated in the tract entitled "Callirhoe, the Nymph of Aberdene resuscitat. By Will. Barclay, M. of Art, and Doctour of Physick, what Diseases may be cured by drinking of the well of Aberdene, and what is the true use thereof. Edinburgh, printed by Andro Hart, 1615;" and reprinted in 1670, both in small 8vo.





A N E  
Breif description  
of the qualiteis and ef-  
fectis of the vvell of  
the vvoman hill  
besyde Abir-  
dene.



ANNO. DO. 1580.





# ANE

Breif description of the  
qualiteis and effectis of  
the vvell of the vvo-  
man hill besyde  
Abirdene.



EDICINALL and Phi-  
losophicall doctrine testi-  
feis be experience from the  
beginning mony difesis and  
Infirmitis of mannis body  
hes bene cuit be the qua-  
liteis and vse of Bathis and minerall wateris, of  
quhilkis fum hes bene obseruit of mony zeiris  
bypast, vtheris be experience laitly approuit in  
diuers countreis, to the greit profiteit and prefer-  
uatioun of mannis life. Amangis the quhilkis  
the profiteit and phisical vertew of ane Fontaine  
hes bene obseruit be mony men and wemen thir  
four last zeiris bypast at Abirdene, ane of the  
maist ancient and renounit Burghis of this Re-  
alme, and the Inhabitantis thairof maist ciuile,  
honest, and politicall. Quhilk spring of watter

A. 2.



## The vvell of

appeiris to be ane diuine gift of God grantit and now laitlie manifestit to the greit support and aduancement of helth in cure of sic diseis as hes bene obseruit in diueris persounis. Quhairfor I seing the samin to haue bene obscure from the beginning to thir dayis, zit being ane ornament and ane publict vtilitie to the Realme & Burgh, thocht gude to mak the qualiteis and profeit thairof acknowledged to sic persounis as be vexit with sic diseis as it is good for. For of treuth it is of Medicinall qualitie and, and flowis from diueris minerallis, as hes bene obseruit be the operatioun taist & minerall vre, quhilk being drunken, is laxatiue to sindre, and so must neidis be het of qualitie, be resoun on na wayis it laxis nor molefeis the exteriour partis, or the skyn of mannis body : thairfor it is laxatiue of the interiour partis, and promouis gude passage of the bellie, as wrytis Celsus lib. 2. Ca. 12. To vtheris it is womatiue, quhilk also testifeis the het qualitie thairof, farther it geuis gude appetyte to thame quha ar destitute thairof, and gif ony man drink twentie pound wecht of this Fontaine he findis no charge nor burding of the stomak nor bellie be the watter. Quhilk also approuis the minerall qualitie thairof, be resoun all naturall and pure sweit watter is slaw in passage, difficill of concoctioun, flatuous & heuie in the stomak, and generis distillatiounis, as wrytis Aëtius Te-  
trab. 1. Serm. 3. Ca. 165. Sa this watter being of contrarious effectis must neidis be of contrarious qualiteis

## the vvoman hill.

qualiteis to comoun watteris. Ane notabill prufe of the famin hes bene obseruit be ane Indweller in Abirdene, quha laity causit brew Aill of this watter, of the quhilk na beist wald taist, nor eit of the draf thairof, nouthor Hors, Kow, nor Ox, sa it being laxatiue, attenuatiue, liquefactiue, digestiue, and discussiue, it must neidis be of het qualitie, for thir ar the properteis of het watteris, quhilkis hes bene obseruit be the happy succes in cure of diuers difesis in this watter, quhair of the taist is sumquhat vnpleasand, as gif it wer brint with Irin, the vre thairof as it rynniss vpon the staines and ground are of diuers cullouris, the ane cullour sad blew, quhilk promissis Iryn, as the taist dois also, the vther cullour being reid declyning to zallow cullour, testifeis Brasse, quhilkis twa minerallis of proper qualitie, confortis the stomak and Melt, as sayis Auicen lib. 2. Tract. 2. Ca. 59. Cano. Also wrytis Auicen lib. 1. Fen. 2. doct. 2. ca. 16. Sic watter as be of the qualitie of Iryn geuis strench to the Interiour partis of mannis body, & keipis the stomak from corruptioun, and promouis the haill faculteis quhilkis gouernis mannis body. So ar the wordis of Gal. wrytand vpon Hip. in his buik of Aere watter and places Ca. 3. Sic watter (sayis he) quhilkis ar not abill to burding the stomak and ar of facill digestioun must neidis to be laxatiue, and procure passage of the womb be Medicinall het qualitie. Gif the watter of this notabill Fontaine be builzeit it becummis of mair blak cullour, & the dreggis thairof beiris witnes

## The vvell of

of the minerallis befor writtin, as alswa being caryit cummis haiftely to corruption, quhilk being profitabill as it is for the stomak and Melt, it must neidis spring from Iryn, also being na wayis byndand nor of deficcatiue qualitie, bot rather laxatiue and diureticall, thair is na suspitioun to be taken of Alme, zit in respect it is discussiue, laxatiue, remollitiue, and vomitiue, it appeiris be gude reffoun to be participant of bryntstane, as the cullour thair of also witneffis. And in respect the countrie is of nature minerall, this water being drunken cuirand fair Eyn, Catarris, fair mouth, prolapsioun of the vult, and dolour of the Tonfallis, it must neidis spring from Brasse, as testifeis *Ætius Tetrab. 1. Serm. 3. Ca. 167.* Farther I haue obseruit in diueris persounis quha had drunken the famin that it mitigatis the heit of the Liuer, stancheit drouth, perfytlie cuiris Nephritick dolouris baith of Neiris and Bleder, corroborattis the stomak, takis away obstructioun of the Melt, perfytlie cuiris distillatioun from the harnis, hes cuirit sindrie Hydropicall persounis, specially that kind callit Anasarca and Aschitis. It is gude also be experience for resolutioun of the body, or ony part thair of callit Paralysis, profitabill also for sterilitie contractit be suffocatioun of the barne bed, or ony other natural caus, writtin be *Hip. lib. de sterilib<sup>o</sup>.* It is gude also for palpitioun & trymbing of the body being drunken, in few dayis it cuiris all sorts of cauld guttis be purgatioun of sic humouris as ar the caus thair-  
of. It

## the vvoman hill.

of. It brings to gude cullour all Cathetik per-  
founis quhilkis being of euil habitude & constitu-  
tioun of body. Being also laxatiue and prouokis  
womitine, sa it oppinnis the obstructiounis & op-  
pillatiounis of the Liuer, quhairby mony hes bene  
cuirit of the Gufoch, also it hes cuirit mony of the  
feuer Terce, & last it perfytlie cuiris (being drun-  
kin) the exterior scabbis, wyldefyre, darteris, &  
vther filthines of the skyn. Sa it is maist profitabil  
for sic as be of het intemperance of the Liuer, &  
constitutioun of them quha be burdinnit be greit  
and heuie constitutioun of body, maist propous to  
Hydropefie, Apoplefie, of Paralifie. Sa albeit I  
haue red the qualiteis of the maist ancient Bathis  
and springis of Medicinall watteris: I find this  
spring of the woman hill besyde Abirdene to be  
not far different from the nature of the Bath of  
Cornelius callit sa in Aquisgran, ane notabil toun  
in Gallia Belgica, and repugnant to the nature of  
the Portitanis Bath, quhilkis dois rather gender  
Grauel & staine in Neiris & Bledder, nor to pro-  
cure the help or dissolutioun of the famin. Ane  
greit fault I find in the vse of this watter, that Ilk  
persoun drinkis thair of at thair awin plesure, ne-  
ther hauing respect to the present diseis, naturall  
constitutioun of body, nor tyme of the zeir, quhair  
by the said watter be the abusaris thair of is ra-  
ther vilipendit nor commendit. Quhairfoir I wald  
sic as wald haue profeit of the famin preparit  
thair bodyis conforme to thair nature, strenght,  
aige, diseis, & rest of circumstances requyrit thairto,

## The vvell of the vvoman hill.

fic as the time of the zeir, quantitie of the watter and time of the vse heirof, for it is not agreabill to all persounis at all times, not to be takin at pleasure of euery one in quantitie, as nane vther minerall watter. Zit this watter is of greitest vertew in the Monethis of Iunij, Iulij, August. Efter the xx. day of September it tynesthe Medicinall strent quhill the nixt zeir thairefter. Quhairfoir the commodious time suld be obseruit, asweill of the day, as of the Moneth, and to be drunkein at morning, fastand thairefter thre houris, as ester ane Medicinall potioun. The negligent vse heirof hes frustrat mony of thair cure, quha sone efter the drinking of this Medicinall watter, hes takin outhet meit or drink, quhairby thay stoppit the operatioun of the watter drunkein of befoir. I will not mak reheirfall of the mony particular persounis quha hes obtenit thair helth, being vexit with diueris disefis be the vse of this watter, be resoun it war to lang. I traist albeit I speik na farther at this tyme, nor that quhilk hes bene obseruit be experience, the zeirly vse thairof fall giue occasioun to leirnit Physicianis to Intreit the gude succces thairof mair largely in tymes cumming.

FINIS.

