

Richard, J. Lach

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THE progressive advancement of Chemical Science and many discoveries in Natural History, have contributed, within the space of a very few years, to alter materially the character of *Materia Medica* and Pharmacy; and, consequently, to give to each new Edition of the *Dispensatory* the aspect, almost, of an original work. These circumstances have augmented the desire of the author to make this volume as complete as possible; and, while he has endeavoured to correct some errors which found their way into the former Editions, he has endeavoured to add as much new matter, both to the text and the notes of this Edition, as the course of his reading has enabled him to collect.

Since the last Edition of the *Dispensatory* was published, the Dublin College of Physicians have put forth a new Edition of their *Pharmacopœia*, the alterations and additions in which are, now, embodied in this volume. The Author has, also, availed himself of every Treatise on Chymistry, and every work on Natural History which has come within his knowledge, as well as the numerous Voyages and Travels which have appeared, since the publication of the last

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addition of this Dispensatory; and he trusts, that the information, which he has obtained from these sources, has greatly enriched the field of his exertions on the present occasion. It has been, indeed, objected, that the facts in Natural History which the Author has endeavoured to accumulate in this work are of no practical utility, and are out of place. He replies in the words of Celsus, "*Naturæ Rerum contemplatio quamvis non faciat Medicum, aptiorem tamen medicinæ reddit.*"¹

¹ De Medicina Lib. i. in Proœm.

3. *Hinde Street,*
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