was electrised again about ten o' clock, and has had no symptom of the ague since; *viz.* for three months.

The above is attested by

ANN TORRY, *the person cured.*

ROB^T. BRYDONE, *Minister of Coldinghame.*

XCV. *An Account of the Black Assize at* Oxford, *from the Register of* Merton College *in that University. Communicated by* John Ward, *LL. D. With some additional Remarks.*

Anno nono D. Bickley *Custodis*, 1577.

Read May 25, 1758.

VIcessimo (1) primo Julii in vestiario Dnus custos et octo Seniores dispensarunt cum *Decreto de concione et appictantia habendis, die Dominico post festum S^ti Petri ad vincula*; ne vocata et conveniente turba, morbus ille, qui ante quinque dies quamplurimos infestarat, dissipatior et periculosior fiat. Etenim 15, 16, et 17, hujus Julii aegrotant plus minus trecenti homines; et infra duodecim dierum spatium mortui sunt (ne quid errem) centum scholares, praeter cives non paucos. Tempus sine dubio calamitosissimum et luctu plenum.

(1) Sic in regist. et postea haud semel.

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Nam quidam lectos differentes (2), agitati nescio quo morbi et doloris furore, suos custodes baculis caedunt et abigunt; alii per areas et plateas insanientium more circumcursant; alii in profundam aquarum praecipites insiliunt; nemo tamen, summo Deo gratia, desperanter perit. Franguntur omnium animi. Fugiunt medici, non propter necessitatem fratrum, sed propter se et cistas creati. Relinquuntur miseri. Domini, doctores, et collegiorum praefecti, ad unum pene omnes abeunt. Custos noster, longe omnium vigilantissimus, domi apud nos manet; in aegrotis omnem curam, laborem, diligentiam impensus (3) collocat; die toto, et nocte etiam intempesta, eos sedulo invisit. Moriuntur e nostris quinque. Omnis aula, omne collegium, aut domi, aut in via ad patriam, suos habet mortuos. Mirari quis posset multitudinem ad medicastrorum domos cum matulis citato cursu properantium. Pharmacopolarum etiam conservata syrupos, olea, aquas dulces, pixides, cujusque generis confectiones, brevissimo tempore exhausta. Laborant aegroti vehementissimo tum capitis tum stomachi dolore; vexantur phrenesi; privantur intellectu, memoria, visu, auditu, et caeteris etiam sensibus. Crescente morbo, non capiunt cibos, non dormiunt, ministros aut custodes non patiuntur. Semper, vel in ipsa morte, mirae orum strenuitas et corporis robur; et eo declinante, omnia modis impense contrariis eveniunt. Nulli complexioni aut constitutioni parcitur; cholericos tamen praecipue hic morbus molestos habet; cujus ut causas, sic et curas ignorant medici. Natum suspicantur multi, vel ex

(2) Sic in regist. (3) Sic in regist.

foetida

foetido et peſtilenti furum e carceribus prodeuntium aëre (quorum duo vel tres ſunt ante paucos dies in vinculis mortui) vel ex artificioſis diabolicis et plane papiſticis flatibus e Lovanienſi barathro excitatis, et ad nos ſceleſtiſſime et clam emiſſis. Nam illi ſolum et hic et alibi decumbunt aegroti, qui in caſtro, et *guilda*, quam appellant, aula, quinto et ſexto hujus menſis adſunt (4). Aſſiſiorum judices, dominus Robertus Bell, capitatis baro ſcaccarii etc. qualem hactenus non peperit Anglia; dominus Johannes Barrham, dominae reginae ſerviens ad legem; papiſticae pravitatis uterque apertiſſimi hoſtes et acerrimi vindices: vicecomes Oxonienſis comitatis (5), equites aurati duo, armigeri et pacis juſticiarii octo, generoſi plures, horum non pauci famuli, omnes (uno aut altero exceptis) *de grandi*, ut loquuntur, *jure*, ſtatim poſt fere relictam Oxoniam mortui ſunt. Et ut quiſque fortiſſimus, ita citiſſime moritur. Foeminae non petuntur, nec certe pauperes; neque etiam inficitur quiſquam, qui aegrotorum neceſſitatibus ſubminiſtrarit, aut eos inviſerit. Sed ut fuit morbus hic inſigniter violentus, ita neque diu duravit. Nam infra unius menſis curriculum ad priſtinam pene ſanitatem reſtituuntur omnes; ut jam denuo mirari poſſis tot ſcholares, tot etiam cives, urbem et plateas linteis capitibus obambulantes, et nomen clementiſſimi Dei noſtri in omne aevum ſuſpicere (6).

Viceſſimo quarto Julii Joannes May, ſocius et artium magiſter, in collegio vitam finit. Sepelitur in eccleſia.

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(4) Sic in regiſt. (5) Sic in regiſt. (6) Sic in regiſt.

Viceſſimo

Viceſſimo ſeptimo ejuſdem Browne clericus moritur in collegio.

Viceſſimo octavo ejuſdem Gaunte portioniſta moritur in collegio.

Viceſſimo nono Dnus Lea, electus probationarius 20 Julii, moritur in collegio.

Additional Remarks, by Tho. Birch, *D. D. Secret. R. S.*

CAmden, in his Annals of Queen Elizabeth (1), obſerves, that almoſt all, except women and children, who were preſent at the aſſizes at Oxford, at the tryal of Rowland Jenkes, a Bookſeller there, for ſeditious words, died, to the number of about three hundred. Mr. John Stow, in his *Chronicle of England* (2), enlarges this number, and affirms, that there died in Oxford three hundred perſons, and in other places two hundred and odd, from the 6th of July to the 12th of Auguſt; *after which died not any of that ſickneſs; for one of them infected not another:* And this hiſtorian agrees with Camden, that not any one woman or child died thereof. Dr. George Ethryg, a phyſician, who practiſed at that time at Oxford (3), in the 2d book of his *Hypomnemata quædam in aliquot Libros Pauli Æginetæ, ſeu*

(1) Page 285. edit. Lugd. Batav. 1625.
(2) Page 681. edit. London, 1631.
(3) Wood Hiſt. et Antiqu. Univerſit. Oxon. lib. i. p. 295. and Athen. Oxon. vol. I. col. 237.

Obſerva-

Obſervationis Medicamentorum, quæ hâc ætate in uſu ſunt, printed at London in 1588, in 8vo, mentions, that on the firſt night of the appearance of the diſeaſe about ſix hundred fell ſick of it; and that the next night an hundred more were ſeized in the villages near Oxford. Lord Bacon, in his *Natural Hiſtory*, evidently refers to this, and one or two more inſtances of the ſame kind, in the following paſſage, *Century* X. *N°*. 914. " The moſt pernicious infection next " the plague is the ſmell of the goal, where priſoners " have been long and cloſe and naſtily kept; where- " of we have had in our time experience twice or " thrice, when both the judges, that ſat upon the " goal, and numbers of thoſe, that attended the " buſineſs, or were preſent, ſickened upon it, and " died. Therefore it were good wiſdom, that in " ſuch caſes the goal were aired before they be " brought forth." We have likewiſe an account in Mr. Anthony Wood (4), that at the quarter-ſeſſion at Cambridge, in Lent in the year 1522, and the 13th of the reign of Henry VIII. the juſtices, gentlemen, and bailiffs, with moſt of the perſons preſent, were ſeized with a diſeaſe, which proved mortal to a conſiderable number of them; thoſe, who eſcaped, having been very dangerouſly ſick. With regard to the unhappy inſtance of the ſame kind of contagion, which happened at the ſeſſion in the Old Baily in May 1750, ſee Dr. Pringle's excellent work, intitled, *Obſervations on the Diſeaſes of the Army in Camp and in Gariſon* (5).

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(4) Hiſt. & Antiquit. Univerſit. Oxon. ubi ſupra.
(5) Page 290, 2d edit.

XCVI