

its by an application of the Principles, misapplied
by Silva & no objection to their just & cautious
Application. If Van Swieten has said that fevers
are owing to the Impetus faciens, & if Hoffman
has in any measure attempted to explain the Nature
of that we may suppose both these of Advantage.

Further Reasoning is necessary & the only means
of correcting false Reasoning. It is an Art like
all others in which we become dexterous & strong
by the Exercise of it. I even maintain it is un-
avoidable; the Empyric System would be nothing
without Analogy; I can venture to assert that
of a pretty general acquaintance I have among
Empyrics I never met with one that avoided Reason-
ing. Nay they not only employ Analogy but
if they did not get an obvious one had recourse to
a far fetched one; nor can any of you, if you ex-
amine the state of your minds, say you find
it otherwise. If Reason is unavoidable it is
only Reason that can render Reason safe; you
can never be secure against Error till you have ex-
amined it. I shall add another Reason for what

I advance, I have given two or three Instances and
more might be adduced if necessary, in which even
unlimited Dogmatism has been of use; but will it
not be much more so, when more cultivated & we
have only begun within this 100 years to correct
our system, & only begun to our stock of Facts in
the present Century. It has been said that we ought
generously to plant for Posterity, but this has not been
the case so often as has been alledg'd, for I doubt not
but the present Planter find as much pleasure
in raising the tender shoot as his great grand-
father can have in cutting down the Tree.

The first part of our Plan for a System of Physic
is collecting our facts; now these facts are first to
be taken from the Art itself & recorded in such a
History, as that of the Empyric Plan, & therefore
our first step, is the two first Parts of the Em-
pyric Plan; But as fallacy is here to be guarded
against, it may in a great measure be removed by
mentioning the source of that fallacy. But more
particularly fallacy will either be removed or domi-
nated by a constant Attempt to generalize. Every
general fact not only corrects Errors but delivers

36 from the Galaxy of minute & particular Observations. Further, facts & experiments are to be collected from Natural History from Mechanical & Chemical Philosophy, from the Chemical Analysis, & from Anatomy & observation of the Sound & morbid states of Bodies. Now with a Collection of Facts from all these sources, & from all Ages & Countries we proceed, & may, I hope, lay the Foundation of a secure & sound Analogy. —

Lect. 13th Nov^r 26th

These are the few propositions to be carried with you & which I mentioned not satisfactorily yesterday; that Analogy is unavoidable on an Empyric Plan, that it should be extended to more & more general facts, is truly Reason, & being thus extended a little further, becomes Dogmatism. Analogy, Reason, Dogmatism, which in my Opinion are all one, & the same thing are necessary for bringing out the particular facts that are to be the Foundation for the whole & the surest means of avoiding Fallacy. Reason is also necessary because unavoidable to the human

mind. And I may add as an Argument a *pediculus*⁸⁹ that this method has been of considerable use already; & if so in a short time, how much more so will it be in a much longer time. You will determine with me that we are to cultivate Medicine upon a Dogmatic Plan, taking in the most valuable parts of the Empyric Plan; We are to lay our Foundation in Induction and History — Our Facts are to be collected from the Art itself & we are to attempt an *Anthologia Methodica*, that is, a Reduction of Diseases into Genera & Species. Platero very judiciously attempted this long ago but his Plan was neglected, till Savages within this 30 years took it up; Others have touched it, but their labours is small in comparison of his & the Work still but begun. Gaubius in *ordinandis Morborum differentis*, touches the foundation says that we need not despair of Success "*Specimen &c*" — But that work for Event is still at a great Distance, and we may come sooner at it by the study of proximate

58 Causes than by external Phenomena. We
certain that Diseases of the same external Phae-
nomena may arise from different proximate
causes, & therefore may be very different in their
Natures. If we are to study proximate causes
this is Dogmatism in its full form.
This part of our Plan has been objected to,
but after all the objections made to it, it has
been attended with use. An Example of this
may be Anatomy which by shewing the Parts
affected to our Eyes, has enabled us to under-
stand the Nature of many of the common,
as well as peculiar Phenomena of Diseases.
Morgan could not have reasoned as he has done
without Anatomy. Remote Causes very
often illustrate the general & particular
nature of Diseases. and with regard to remote
causes how many assistance do we not ob-
tain from Mechanical or Chemical Philo-
sophy. Will any body doubt of the Advantages
of Physical Geography. Chemistry has
given facts determining the Effects of Eleme-
nts. The Nature of the Disease is often illus-
trated by the Nature of the Remedy. A com-

mon Remedy indicates a Disease very much so
of the Common Nature; here Chemistry—
There is no building upon a Foundation of
Empiricism, without Dogmatism. How is
the whole to be conducted, & this knowledge to be
acquired? Shall it begin with Empiricism,
stop there, or proceed to the study of proximate
causes. We must employ more or less
of the Synthetic Method, & must unite our
Facts; It will be necessary in any Event but more
so at the present. There is no delivering a Lecture
of Practice without a set of general Rules, which
last are only a Course of Institutions. A Part-
icular here deserving your attention is Expositio-
entia laudatur & alget. What we know has
been entirely from Dogmatism; & strip the
professed Empyric of what he gets from the
Dogmatist, he will appear a naked unengorged
Animal, a shapely unlicked baby—
While I acknowledge that Dogmatism has done
much mischief I say it has done good upon
the whole, & the Salaries attending it may

60 guarded against by the Means I have pointed
out. I allowed the system was affected with
almost insurmountable Imperfections, but there stuck
the Matter too far, & the objections lay mostly
against it as a system; & as such they should stand
hardly likely to stand long. System is necessary to
order, but system gives neither perfect in the whole
nor in parts; it has also covered dullness. The sever-
al parts of Dogmatism turn so much in a
circle that we are said not to know any of the
parts till we know the whole; but this objec-
tion is common to it with all the sciences. Tho'
I admit then, general objections yet we are masters
of many usefull particulars in system, & I think
we are at liberty to cultivate it. I have warned
you already & shall every where guard you against
mistakes where I see occasion.

I should now proceed to the several parts which
Medicine comprehends, & say how they are to be ac-
quired—

Lect. 15th. Nov. 24th

General Plan & Course of the Study of Physic

I can by no means say how a course of

seven years is to be overtaken in one, or how 61
the science is to be attained without a previous
knowledge of the auxiliary Arts & Sciences; in
short I can not see how a man is to take a
part of this Study only while every part is
necessary to the knowledge of the rest. I am
to say nothing to such students, & passing also
over the consideration of the Apothecary, I am
to say how a compleat Physician is to be formed
in the full extent of the Dogmatick Plan; first
only how the Able, but how the Ornate Phy-
sician is to be formed. While you would all of you
aim at the Fortune of a Cardinal I would have you
to put it upon the fame & Merit of a Boerhaave
I wish I could find out a means of acquiring a
preparation from Nature; viz. what we call
a Genius. I must be content to say in general
that a man devoted to the study of Physic should
be of good parts, sound judgement, & fond of
Study. Every one who does not find a Disposition
to assiduous Application should abstain from
the Science. With regard to the Preparations of
Art, he should first be generally favoured in

62 literature. Most sciences are only to become
at by the Medium of literature, & to say nothing
of the Antients, most of our modern works are
delivered in Latin; This the foundation of every
thing that can be called literature. It has
been alledged that Learning is not very necessary,
but if you will look into Morgagni de Vasis
& Sedibus morborum you will see what advan-
tages that gentleman has received from his
less before his time. So the Study of the Latin
is to be joined that of the Greek chiefly for the
sake of the antient writers in that Language
& because the Latin can not be acquired with-
out it. I would have, added to this, the knowledge
of modern Languages; the French writings are
necessarily studied, & so much the more that the
writers of other Countries chuse now & some-
times to use the same Language. also the Task
which I have been recommending should have
been acquired in younger years, & if these are
still to be acquired I would have such Persons
not to begin the Study of Medicine untill they
shall have acquired them. Next as Logic & meta-

physic are as it were the Analysis of the human
soul; they are necessary; it is not my business
whether they be taken from Aristotle or from
Locke. Also the Study of Criticism & Morals is
necessary; the first is an ornament, & the second
necessary to the understanding the Operations of
the mind. Boerhaave was lucky in having stud-
ied Divinity first, & those other Branches before
ing to it; amongst the rest Logic which made
him a more ornate Physician. Next every
Branch of natural knowledge, & therefore the
Mechanical & Mathematical ought to be known.
From a Rage for mathematics which lately
prevailed we have almost fallen into a total ne-
glect of them; but this extreme is more dan-
gerous than the other. Mathematics are not only
necessary for Physiology, but for the other Bran-
ches, & necessary to explode the false Applications
of mathematics. & I would even recommend
not to be content with the knowledge of the
general parts of Mathematics, mechanics &
Hydrostatics, but the whole. There is a natu-
ral connection between every Branch of
natural knowledge. Chemistry has been con-
sidered as a Branch of Physic but most un-

Oh-happily for it. But it ought to be studied upon
a philosophical Plan, without which it can be
of no use even in Medicine. And here I would
not have gentlemen to set any limits to their
Studies. Every fact in all these sciences has a
connection with almost every other. But you
will observe consequently that the knowledge
of the several bodies upon which in the different
sciences the student has to operate, must be
studied, that is to say natural History; this
is necessary to the knowledge of the other sciences
as also this of Medicine. Natural history has
been divided into three parts; Botany, the first
which has been cultivated chiefly by Physicians;
It may be cultivated as soon as the un-
derstanding is ripe to comprehend it. The
second is Zoology which may be also taken
as soon as it can be comprehended; but it
will in general be better to let it alone till
Anatomy is understood. Next Mineralogy
which I think is not possibly to be comprehended
without Chemistry. I would recommend this
advantage to you to be drawn from the whole

of natural History viz: that of Systems, Genus &
& species. This has not been applied to any part
of science, but natural History, & in this, till
of late only to Botany. I have hinted that the
Nosologia Methodica is properly the first step
in our system, and has fell short of the Progre-
tion it might have acquired from an Invalenti-
on to the Causes of method. The next step is the
knowledge of the human Body. It would be
lost time to convince you of the minute Ap-
plication it would admit of, or to say how far
it extends, & that not only human but compara-
tive Anatomy is to be studied. The prosecution
of this I shall leave to your Professor, & shall
only say that you are to consider it chiefly as
a work of Memory. Many means might be
suggested but I shall mention only one, that
is the frequent application of the Parts to their
use viz: to Physiology in which your Professor
supersedes me. Now, these preliminary Opera-
tions being finished ~~and the student shall be~~

66 ~~kindred things~~ ^{we} proceed to the consideration
of the *Proper Study of the Art, itself.*

"This may all be comprehended in the Aphor-
ism 'De Cognoscendis & Curandis Morbis.'"

When the Institutions are studied it is proper to
proceed to the Practice which is to be learned
partly by precept partly by Example.

— Lect. 15th Nov. 28th —

Definition of Medicine —

Medicine is the Art of preserving Health
& curing Disease. here it is defined by its end
& purpose; This would seem to require an Explan-
ation of the Terms Health & Disease, which at
present may be left to common estimation and
apprehension. In its full extent it takes in
other Animals comprehending the Beast, &c.
We are confined to the Health & Diseases of the
Human Body; I have made it an Art, but it
has been considered as contemplative & as a Science.

So Boerhaave

of these "corum" requires no sort of a

character, but it is difficult to do that and explain the
Medicine by the Means employed in it; for these
the Actions of the human Body, as well as the
causing & intermitting of many of these Acti-
ons are employed among these Means. It takes
in the Air, & the Relation that the human Bo-
dy bears to every thing about it. The Course of
Practice says Boerhaave, "est Disciplina &c."

It is a collection of Doctrines & precepts, fit
to be applied to the Individual, but these can
not be well understood unless considered in the
Abstract. In the cure of any Disease hardly
any one Symptom is considered but with a
Regard to others, & so in treating of the cau-
ses. At first sight it will appear that these
general Doctrines apply to a great many sub-
jects, & we must take them separately and
in a proper order. Boerhaave makes his
Division into five parts to wit Physiology
(Pathologia), Samiostica, Hygiene & Therapeuti-
ca; The first treats the Doctrine of health, the
second the doctrine of Disease, the signs of coming

68 at these &c. But this Division is not good
Semiotics are to be thrown out. you will plain-
ly see that it is a Doctrine not to be understood
till after the Practice Hygiene unites with
the Therapeutics in this, that the whole may be
divided into the contemplative & practical;
but I think Hygiene may in great measure
be neglected in our Institutions, as being on-
ly a repetition of the Causes; I would then pro-
pose another which has been followed by latter
Writers, & reduce Medicine to three Partitions,
Treating of Health, which is the Physiologic-
cal; the second the Consideration of the Body
in a morbid State, which we call Pathologi-
cal comprehending all the Foundations of the
medicines; The third I would call the Doctrine
of means or Therapeutics, and you will what
our Course will be nearly Therapeutical.

I might mention a new Division of Galen-
us were I not necessarily to take notice of it here
after — We began with Physiology, as

69
Axiom est. Norma curvi, so we can only know
the morbid State by tracing the sound.

It explains that Constitution of the Organs
& that Condition of their mutual Action upon
one another, on which Health depends. Health
is that Condition of the Body by which
the several functions are performed with ease-
flexibility & a due steadiness. These Actions
are many & various but we must take them
separately, & consider the Whole. We find it
difficult to observe a proper order & Method; dif-
ferent ones have been pursued. There are two ge-
neral rules to proceed upon, from particulars to
general, or from the more simple & easy to
those that are more complex & difficult. This
can not be done more in our branch, than the
Pons Asinorum or seven proposition of Euclid
be put out of its place. The second is that as our
general purpose is to explain Causes & Effects we
must begin with Causes; or with such facts as
are previous in Nature to other Facts, We shall
in some cases find it prudent to make even an

no exception to this general Rule; and as to the Relations of the human Body running in a Circle, & their being causes & effects of one another, take the following Remarks; If we look in to the Human Body we see it is a system of Tubes, conveying fluids from one part to another, & nothing is more important than Circulation which when it ceases in the whole body, life ceases, when in a part that is affected with Disease; But when we consider the Heart as the prime mover, we would begin with it; But on the other hand whatever power of Motion it has in itself these are not durable; & the Cause depends from without, as the Nerves. Therefore there is some Function previously necessary that is in the Nerves; thus we trace to the Brain; and in going this length so far as yet we avoid a Circle in tracing the functions. But, on the one hand ^{we} stop the heart by cutting off the communication of the Nerves with it, & on the contrary

if we cut off the communication of the Heart with the Brain, by means of Blood vessels, we stop the Exertion of its Functions. But we may still consider the brain as more primary, as is exemplified by the case of the sleeping Animals. I would then conclude that the Actions of the Brain & Nerves may be considered as the primary part; and that this may be considered as the first cause, upon which, more or less, all the other Functions must depend. I would accordingly begin this way but as this Doctrine has not been delivered I shall not attempt it immediately, but will perhaps try it afterwards; but before I make such an attempt at any time, I must be guided by my Experience; that is to say I must first be satisfied that I shall be able to say any thing worth your while upon it, I am therefore to begin with the Circulation, & then proceed to the Brain & Nerves, & last of all to the Natural Functions & as Haller is to be a sort of text-book I must keep to him as much as possible; He gives the

72 Circulation first, next the Circulum & Arteriae,
& last the Natural Functions. Boerhaave's
plan of beginning with Mastication &c. was
a very difficult order.

Lect. 16th Dec. 1st

I would recommend to you not to read the
large work of Haller, unless when you are at a
loss to understand the lesser; as your time, if
you have any thing considerable to do, will
not admit of it; I am also to recommend the care-
full study of Anatomy before you come to this
place. I shall keep as closely to Haller as I can
& when I am to depart from him I shall pre-
viously inform you.

First — Fibra, Tela cellulosa

All Animal substances may be reduced
to fluid & firm. We avoid beginning with the
fluids because they are of a different Nature
and indeed they are best to be learned after con-
sidering the Solids & their various Actions. The
Solids are to be considered as the Basis of the
whole Body; But Dr. Haller has here trespassed

against all the Rules of good order, in giving us
a very difficult Chemistry, and in involving us
in the Doctrines of Nutrition &c.

"II Solidarum &c. ————— inorganum"

Haller here would seem to confine himself to
animal Solid in its aggregate State, and to go
no farther than microscopy enable us to discern
and he has reduced that to Fibre, Plate, and
irregular mass, or Mass of undetermined figure.
Every solid is as you know of three Dimensions;
Where the Length & Breadth differ in their
Proportions, so as that the Proportion of the
former to the latter is much greater it is called
Fibre; When the breadth bears a greater Propor-
tion to the length it is called Plate; the third
part is that in which there is nothing deter-
mined in their Dimensions. —

"III Fibra &c. — — — — putredo. In this
and the IV. V. & VI. he endeavours to show that
the more steady parts are earthy & that they are
connected by a gluten, ~~from~~ Boerhaave whom Hal-