

Cynanche Trachealis.

It must be difficult to suppose, that this disease is one of modern origin, since the causes which have a tendency to produce in the system, a susceptibility to it, must have been coexistent with Hippocrates, the father of medicine. The first account we have of Croup, is handed to us from Dr Home of Edinburgh. It is said the German physicians described it, before it was known in Britain: But we are told positively by Dr Cullen, that Dr Home was the first who described Cynanche Trachealis, and pointed out a true method of cure. The more modern authors, who have noticed this disease, are innumerable.

Among the many diseases, to which flesh falls heir, there are none perhaps so disastrous in their nature, and so rebellious to the resources of art, as the one now under consideration. Formerly the major part of the cases proved fatal; but, under the present improved plan of treatment, there are not so many fatal cases. Medical men are not agreed, as to the true nature of this disease: For we find one set of physicians declaring, that it consists in a spasm of the glottis, and its muscles: While on the other hand, we find others defining it to be, a disease highly inflammatory in its character. When men of observation,