

instructions in the laboratory, ran to his assistance and promptly bled him to the extent of sixteen ounces. King, for his presence of mind, was awarded a vote of thanks from Parliament, and a gift of £1,000. He got the thanks, but never the money. The court physicians to the number of fourteen then arrived. They approved of what had been done, and ordered further venesection to the extent of eight additional ounces. An antimonial emetic, a powerful purgative, and several clysters were administered. A blister to the head was applied. The King did not rally, but remained until death in a lethargic dreamy condition. The loss of the power of co-ordinating words added to the misery of his condition. Conflicting ecclesiastics struggled for an audience at each glimmer of consciousness. He probably said "yes, yes," or "no, no," to all interrogations indifferently, agreeing with the last speaker, not knowing the meaning of the words he uttered.

Macaulay's version of the story of the King's death can scarcely be correct. It is unlikely that a person in the King's state, with the brain compressed as it was found to be, would be sitting up in bed exchanging polite speeches with the courtiers, and apologizing for the unconscionable time he took in dying.

Sir Henry Hallford, writing in 1833, thought the treatment did not differ from that of his day, save that for the *spiritus cranii humani*, twenty-five drops of which were ordered in a cordial julep when His Majesty was sinking, might have been substituted a less disgusting and more effectual preparation of ammonia. Sir Henry Hallford thought that the King was not sufficiently bled.

Many of the more prominent physicians of the 17th century I have avoided mentioning. Of Harvey little is said. His life and works would afford material for a very lengthy paper. Sydenham's name is but once mentioned. An account of the times of the court physicians of William and Mary, the famous Mead, the eccentric Ratcliffe, and others, might form a pleasing subject of another paper; but already has this essay exceeded the customary limits, and so I must abruptly bring it to a close.