

and arduous practical investigations. I know that it is generally taken for granted, that in every publication, no matter what the nature or extent, there is at least a seeming violation of modesty ; a presumption on the part of the writer, that he can communicate what his readers cannot draw from their own reflections. Now, however true this may be in its application to Metaphysical speculations or Philosophical disquisitions, it will not hold true in its application to plain, practical, scientific discoveries, such as a mechanical adaptation of great natural principles that govern the laws of animal life, to the treatment and cure of various diseases that afflict the human family, many of which have been thought to be and pronounced to be incurable by the most experienced and skilled medical men that have ever lived. Before I proceed, I wish to state that I hope no one will think that I assume the spirit of antagonism to any particular school of medicine, or to any particular class of professors, far from it, I honor and revere the profession as a profession ; and because I do so, I must honor and revere its professors, at least such of them as are worthy of reverence and respect, and for the honor and respect that I have for them, I seek as one of the humblest gleaners of the harvest, to place before them what