

A Note Book of Sir Miles Branthwayt in 1605

COMMUNICATED BY

WALTER RYE.

THE MS. from which the following notes are taken is in the possession of Sir Hugh Beevor, Bart., a descendant of Sir Miles Branthwayt, who has kindly allowed me to take the following extracts from it.

The chief interest is in the curious recipes which he seems to have collected at different times.

The following is a copy of the first page:—

A note of all such detts as wer owing to M(iles) B(ranthwayt) the 29 of November, 1605.

- Brant. My brother Henry Branthwayt by bond besides the longe forberance fower hundred poundes 250 li ecce^{li} to 650^{li}
- Thetford. Francis - Uppon all his assurances seven hundred and fourty pounds 740^{li}
- Cornwalis. Sr Charles and Sr William uppon all assuerances as appeareth by my other booke according to the accompt of 26 Januarii, 1604, seven hundred seventie one pounds ten shillings 771^{li} 10^s
- Southwell. My father Southwell by bill besides uses 60^{li}

Wright.	Of desperate dett fyve hunded and forty pounds	540 ^{li}
Webb.	Mr. Webb upon all his assuerances for himself and Sr John Carrell, my brother and Mr. Woodhouse eight thousand and eight hundred pounds	8800 ^{li}

Sequitur building.

This item struck out.

Among other debtors are Roger Hobart, £60; Sir Wm. Leighe, £120; Roger Ramsy, £1200; Mr. Rookewood, £60; Mr. Thomas Cryspe, £50; "my brother Hart, £15"; Sir Tho. Knyvett of Ashwellthorpe, £105; Hy. Townshend, £508; Lady Maria Hevenyngham, £55; Richard Benslye, £10; "Gurny, 4 Aug., 1607," 20s.

The first batch of entries extends to 1611.

The following details of births, &c., enable us to correct the printed Visitations:—

My marriage was about 7 December, 1594, at Bartham in ye County of Suffolk, to Mary, one of the daughters of John Southwell, Esquire.	Milo Branthwayt nat fuit duo decimo die Augusti, 1560, anno Rne Eliza- bethe secundo.
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Margaret Branthwayt, eldest daughter of the above-named Myles and Mary his wyfe, was borne uppon Wensday the thyrtent of October, 1596, anno Rne Elizabethe tricesimo octavo betwixt eight and nyne in the forenone of the same day, and was baptized at Hemly in Suffolk, and had for godfather my brother, Henry Branthwayt, and for godmothers his wyfe, my mother Southwell, and my sister Bedyngfeld.

Elizabeth, the second daughter, was born at Hemly aforesayd the 15th of December, 1599, being Friday,

about eight of the clock, and died within three days after.

Elizabeth, the third chyld of the sayd Myles, was born at Breckles the 22nd of September, being Tuesday, betwixt ten and eleven in the nighte, anno dni. 1602 (1601?) ao. Regine Elizab. 43, and had for godfather Mr. William Gardiner, and for godmothers, my mother Southwell and Mrs Webb of Yxworthe.

Mary Branthwayt, the fourth daughter, was borne at Breckles uppon Tuesday, the 12th day of October, 1602, ao. Elizab. 44, and had for godfather Mr. Antho. Thwaytes by deputie, and for godmother my Mother Southwell only.

Arthur Branthwayt, the first borne living sone of the said Myles was borne at Heatheld the 5th day of October, 1604, being Friday, betwixt one and two in the afternone of the sayd day, and had for godfathers Sr. Arthure Heveningham and Sr. Charles Cornwallis, Knightes, and for godmother my sister Richardson.

The book also served as a general note book, from which I have selected the following:—

A MEDECINE FOR THE GREENE SICKNES.

First send to some apothecary for some physick to purge for the greene sicknes which she must take but once Yf yt worke well or ells must take twoo, one after an other.

Then the next daye take as much of the filings of steele prepared as will lye uppon a groate in a little pap of an apple twice a day about vij of the clock in the morning and three in the afternone, and walk after it every time, but not above ther strenth (strength?) presently after

she have taken the steele she must drinke a draught of mace ale warme. She must take it ten dayes together, and when she make an end the next day she must purge.

A GOOD PURGE.

Take two ounces of syrrup of Damask roses, two ounces of syrrup of Ruberbe, and one ounce of syrrup agrick mixt together, and a third part taken in possit ale will serve for a good purge, so as the whole receyt will serve thrice.

A SOLLUBLE MEDECINE.

Take fower or fyve budds of damask roses and cut away the whyte, wash them, and eat them in the morning fasting, with bread and butter, and so many budds so many stooles.

Bitony leaves put into your nose in the morning fasting will purge the heade.

FOR A THORNE.

Take Birdlyme, lay yt on lether, and put it on the place where the thorne went in.

FOR THE BLODY FLUX OR OTHER FLUX.

A date stone in powder given in a drafte of red wyne warme to drinke.

Mynt water or syrrup of quinces being given fasting warme will stop either vomit or flux.

The following is a new version of the old charm:—

“Christe was the first man that ever thorne prickt uppon, He did neother swell nor bell nor feel any payne, nor I trust in the Lorde Jesus Christe this never shall.”

Durant' locutione quor' verbor' signa vulnus signo crucis et durant' verb' sequent'.

E prees (*sic*) excepting the lorde is wth the.

Hayle Mary full of grace, blessed art thou Mary amongst all women, and blessed is the frute and springe of thy wombe, sweete Jesus, Amen. In the name of the Father, the Sone, and the Holy Ghoste, sweete Jesus, Amen. And postea duas prec dominical' j Pater noster, &c., &c. Omnia hec sunt ter dicenda cum confidentia in deo, etc. Sudariol vel aliquis pannus linteus est benedicend' th (*sic*) forma et tunc ponend' sup vulnus vel morbum.

FOR THE COUGH IN THE LUNGES BY THE LADY
THOCKMORTON.

Take of shurbfoyle, sorrell, and Celendine of ech a quantity, but least of the Celendine, chop them small and make porage thereof wth oatmeale, barme, and butter, and a very little gross pepper. Eat a littel of this porage untill you be weary of it, then rest and begin againe.

Boile a good quantity of these herbes in clean possit ale and drinke a good draughte of yt last at nighte when you are in the bed, wth sugar or without, but best wth sugar.

AN OTHER.

Take litle peeces of lucras (? liquorice) well scraped and holde betwene each syde of your cheekes, one of them all nyghte. Do so for three weekes together or longer yf you will. Concerve of red roses with pepper very grosly beaten, or rather cut in the mydel, eaten morning or evening.

The quantity of a little walnut when you take not the porage.

Rosted garlycs is good with your meate.

A GYRDELL FOR THE STONE.

Take fetherfew, garden tansy, planten, howseleeke, of ech a like quantity, but least of the howseleeke, stampe

them, straine them, and put the juyces of them into a glass bottell to keepe.

Take so much of the same juyce as beane flower and so meh as you will, seeth them till they be thicke like salve, then spreede yt upon a linnen clothe three fyngers broade and lay yt about the smale of the back up to the navill, let yt lye till yt be drye, then change yt. Use this six dayes and for other six.

This was used to Mr. St. John whene all physicians and surgeons had given over, and cured him.

3 July, 1596.

THE ORDER OF MAKING PELLETS FOR ONE THAT IS THICKE
OF HEARING.

Take of the cleanest and fynest stone pitre 4 grains of pure musk, fynely ground upon a perfuming stone, 8 graines, and by some that hath faer and cleane hands betwixt the thumbe and palme make the pitre soft lyke wax, wetting your finger and palm a little with fasting spittle whereby yt shall not cleave to when yt is become soft, then mould yt in the powder of the musk that is ground upon the stone till yt have received yt all, afterwards incorporate them together in the palm as aforesaid, then devyde it into 2 small pellets betwixt your fingers of almost half an Inch long, and lapp yt in Cersnett whyt or Crymson, what couller you lyke, of that proportion that the eare may safelie receive yt.

Then tye the Cearsnett with a silke thread hard, and leave the two ends of the thread about 2 Inches longe, cuttinge of the Cearsnett to make yt lyke a tuft. Then let them lye till they be hardened againe, as pire (? for pitre) will, and then thrust one of them into your ear as far as you can induce yt, on which syde you feel most imperfections, leaving the thread to be turned

behynd the eare that you may pull yt out the rather when you list, wearing yt nyght or day, or both, or in one eare or both, as you see occasion, yf you thinke good.

This pellet thus prepared will last you a quarter of a yeare, to be worne either continually, or of nyghte if you list not to weare yt of the day, being clenly and close laid up in when you use yt not.

Heareof you save 2 ready to be used for your eare or eares.

I have also sent you a masse or pellett ready tempered and wrought to make 2 more of the same pporcon (proportion) weh. will keepe as yt is a yeare or two. But when you devyde yt to make into 2 pellets yt must be mollified in ones handes and lapped up as aforesaid.

This medecyn hath ben tryed and done good to many of all ages and offensive to none.

My ould Lady Stanhopp used yt and found such great ease in yt that she wore yt till her dyinge daye.