

pendent changes, which these substances experience in their chemical action upon light.

6th. The evanescence, or, as it is frequently termed, the absorption of light, is owing to the complete resolution of the compound into its constituent parts.

To the Editors of the Medical and Physical Journal.

GENTLEMEN,

ALTHOUGH the purport of the following Answers to the Queries inserted in your last Medical and Physical Journal, has already been given in the Treatises I have published on *VARIOLÆ VACCINÆ*, yet, in deference to the request of the gentleman who has proposed them, I do not hesitate in begging the favour of you to lay the following before the public; and remain,

GENTLEMEN,

With great respect, your obedient servant,

*New Bond Street,
May 15, 1800.*

EDWARD JENNER.

ANSWER to the first Query:

The inoculated cow-pox, taking the result of a great number of cases, appears to me, to be a disease as much milder than the inoculated small-pox, as that disease is milder than the casual small-pox.

To the 2d. I have used a variety of means to discover whether the cow-pox could be communicated by effluvia, but ineffectually.

To the 3d. A person on whom the vaccine pustule has been excited by *perfect* matter, and which has *completely* gone through the progressive stages of inflammation, maturation, and scabbing, is ever after secure from the small-pox.

To the 4th. I have seen pimples excited by the cow-pox, with sometimes a little fluid at their apex; and, in two instances, a vaccine pustule, resembling that on the arm produced by inoculation; but in no instance, a small-pox-like pustule.

To the 5th. The vaccine disease does not appear to make the least impression on the constitution unfavourable to health: on the contrary, in a great number of instances, especially among children, in whom the scrophulous diathesis has evidently
been

been existing, its beneficial consequences have very soon been manifested.

To the 6th. No peculiar diseases have been noticed among those who have undergone the cow-pox at distant periods of their lives.

The 7th and 8th. Answered already.

To Dr. BRADLEY.

SIR,

AS an old fellow-student, I take the liberty of applying to you to send me some of the *matter* of cow-pox, which I find by your useful Journal, has been conveyed to different parts in letters. I have made many inquiries in this neighbourhood to procure it; but as the complaint has not appeared lately among the dairies, I have not been fortunate enough to meet it. I find, however, that the country people are well acquainted with the disease, and described it very accurately to me. It is known by the Irish name of (Shinagh). They have long attributed to it the anti-variolous power, which renders it so important a discovery to the happiness of mankind. I met with two people, who had been themselves affected with the complaint. A lady shewed me the mark of it in one of her hands. She had it about forty years since, and was then informed by some of her neighbours that she never would have the small-pox; but gave little credit to their assertions. She has, however, been since frequently exposed to the infection, and in consequence of her incredulity received several frights, particularly during the illness of her children, who had the small-pox rather heavily; but though she attended them very closely through the whole of their complaint, she did not take it herself. The other person is a gardener, who lives with a country gentleman of my acquaintance. He gave himself the cow-pox purposely by rubbing himself against some person who was affected with it, from a conviction that it would prevent the small-pox. This happened several years ago; and though he has often put himself in the way of the small-pox infection, and even lain in the same bed with his children when they were covered with it, he has not taken the disease. If I had time to make the necessary inquiries, I am sure I could multiply instances of this kind, as I heard of many others who had the cow-pox, and escaped the small-pox in the same manner. But as I saw and conversed with these two, who are people of un-