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Farrer, William. A Short Treatise on onanism [photocopie p. 22-23]

Auteur : Foucault, Michel

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Personnes citées[Farrer, William](#)

Références bibliographiques[Farrer, A Short treatise on onanism](#)

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Références éditoriales

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A SHORT TREATISE

OF ONANISM. 23

A young man of 25 years of age

" who from his very infancy, had a tender
 " constitution, when about fifteen years
 " of age, learnt of a wicked school-fellow,
 " the execrable trick of *Masturbation*. He
 " indulged himself in this vile and unman-
 " ly practice, very frequently, even al-
 " most daily, from the fifteenth to the
 " twenty-third year of his age, and applied
 " himself at the same time to writing in
 " a very small character; by which means
 " he contracted such an excessive weak-
 " ness of his head and eyes, that these
 " later were frequently convulsed, during
 " his preposterous entertainment.

" Some time ago, while he was wick-
 " edly employed in this manner, and his
 " design upon the very point of being
 " executed, some person or other unex-
 " pectedly knocked at his chamber door,
 " which accident put him into such con-
 " fusion, that the ultimate scene of his di-
 " version was left unaccomplished. Upon
 " this he immediately felt so exquisite a
 " pain, and so vehement a tension in his
 " testicles,

" testicles, and spermatic vessels, that he
 " could not walk without the utmost diffi-
 " culty. The force of his genius, and
 " the light of his eyes, seemed at the same
 " time to be diminished and impaired.

" Though he had the danger, with
 " which this execrable practice threatened
 " him, in full view, yet after the pain
 " of his testicles was removed, he was
 " so much infatuated as to repeat his
 " crime, and begin afresh his former course;
 " but he was soon after seized with the
 " like pain in his genitals, and especially
 " in his testicles, where the pain was ac-
 " companied with a very considerable
 " tension. By the use of external and in-
 " ternal medicines for about half a year,
 " he also got this disorder removed, but
 " with some difficulty.

" Soon after he was seized with a
 " swelling in those vessels, which go
 " com-



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