

**GROUP V.**  
**Agents Acting upon the Intestinal Glandular Organs and upon the**  
**Intestinal Canal.**

**CHAPTER I.**  
**Laxatives and Cathartics**

**CASCARA**  
**RHEUM**  
**CASTOR OIL**  
**ALOES**  
**SENNA**  
**OLIVE OIL**  
**PARAFFIN OIL**

**CASCARA SAGRADA.**

Synonyms—*Rhamnus Purshiana*, chitem bark, sacred bark, Bearberry, bear-wood.

**CONSTITUENTS—**

There are present a crystalline, bitter principle and three distinct resinoid bodies, not bitter, which are believed to be derived from chrysophanic acid which is thought to be present in the bark.

**PREPARATIONS—**

**Fluid Extract Cascara Sagrada**, not miscible with water. Dose, as a stomachic tonic and function restorer, three to ten minims; laxative, five to twenty minims four times a day; as a cathartic, twenty to sixty minims morning and evening.

**Solid Extract Cascara Sagrada**. Dose, as a laxative, one-half to two grains; as a cathartic, three to eight grains.

**Powdered Extract Cascara Sagrada**, produced by evaporating the solid extract at a low temperature and triturated with sugar of milk, same strength as the solid extract.

**Cascara Cordial** with elimination of the bitter principle. Dose, half a dram to a dram and a half.

**Physiological Action**—Dr. Bundy, the discoverer of *cascara*, writing in 1878, says: "I employ a fluid extract of *cascara*, using one ounce in a

four ounce mixture in combination with other remedies or alone, as the case may require. It acts upon the sympathetic nervous system, especially upon the solar plexus, stimulating the nutritive and assimilative forces, increasing the digestive processes generally. It acts upon the secretory system in a marvelous manner, especially where the secretions are deficient and perverted, and this seems to be one of its special indications. Constipation depends upon the nature of the diet, deficiency or a faulty composition of the intestinal secretions, disordered glands that pour their secretions into the intestines, impairment of muscular power, which leads to a deficiency in their propelling power which may result from nervous or mechanical influences, congestion of the portal circulation, normal secretion of intestinal juices interfered with, deficiency in biliary secretions of a healthy character, congestion of mucous membranes of intestines, and last and the most frequent, constipation which has been caused by resisting the calls of nature from carelessness or circumstances that prevent obedience at the proper time.”

Scheltzoff in 1885 (London Med. Record) made the following observations: “In doses from four to ten cubic centimetres (with double quantity of water), *cascarasagrada* excites the secretion of gastric juice and increases it during digestion. It increases also the secretion of the pancreatic juice. It excites and increases the secretion of bile. It has no action on the secretion of saliva. It has not led to any rapid and considerable evacuations.”

*Cascara* is a bitter tonic of specific value in its direct influence upon the function of the stomach and intestinal canal. It acts upon the vasomotor system, stimulating the glandular apparatus of the intestinal tract to more perfect secretion, and increasing peristaltic action. It is especially indicated in torpidity or atonicity, quickly restoring functional activity.

It is not a cathartic in the common acceptation of the term, but by restoring normal function, by its tonic influence, bowel movement of a natural character follows.

It does not mechanically liquefy and empty the intestinal canal, but it restores normal elasticity and tone to the relaxed structures, and natural vermicular motion and peristaltic action, exercising a direct influence upon muscular structure of the intestinal walls. It materially

influences the venous and capillary circulation of the entire intestinal tract, thus proving of much value in hemorrhoids.

**Administration**—In prescribing *cascara* for the cure of **chronic constipation**, large doses at the first are undesirable. If a single dose, so large as to produce a cathartic effect be administered, subsequent small doses will prove insufficient to restore tone, and the constipation will remain unless the large dose is constantly repeated. If a dose of from two to ten drops in a proper vehicle be given, three, four or five times daily for many days, even if the constipation does not at first yield, the effects after a few days are usually salutary. There is a normal movement in the morning and the habit of regular evacuation can be soon fixed, and as the agent is continued the dose may be slowly decreased until a single drop at each dose is given. Finally, a single small dose morning and night may be continued for a time and then stopped, the bowels continuing their normal action.

If constipation pre-exists, it is well to give a simple laxative or to flush the bowels thoroughly with some other agent before beginning the use of this, to overcome the chronic condition. The results can be sooner obtained also by smaller doses.

**Therapy**—Large doses of the agent produce colic and are seldom needed. In the temporary **constipation of pregnancy** or in the convalescence of acute disease, doses of from one-fourth to one-half dram in a tonic mixture, preferably of malt extract, taken at the bed hour will be most satisfactory. Often a single dose followed by a glass of cold water on rising will have a salutary effect. This is true of constipation extending over a short period, not necessarily chronic. To produce an immediate effect as a physic, a dram of the fluid extract should be given, and it will probably induce some pain. The agent should not be used in this active form for its immediate effects during the pregnant term, as its irritating influence may be sufficient to produce miscarriage.

*Cascara* in medium doses is an efficient agent in **gastric or intestinal catarrh**. It quickly restores the normal tone of the mucous membranes, suspending undue secretion and acting in perfect harmony with other measures adopted.

It is a useful remedy in many cases of **chronic indigestion** and in

chronic disease of the liver. It has been used in **cirrhosis** with the best of results. It is useful in **jaundice** with deficient excretion of bile, and corrects catarrh of the bile duct. It is useful in **diarrhea**, subacute or chronic, depending on deficient liver action, and upon catarrhal and atonic conditions of the intestinal tract.

In 1886 quite an interest was excited by the assertion of Goodwin, of New York, that *cascara* was an excellent remedy for **rheumatism**. Many experimented with it and some reported excellent results, but its use for this purpose has not been continued. It is, however, of value in the treatment of those cases where gastric and intestinal disorders are present, given in conjunction with more specific agents.

## **RHEUM**

## ***Rheum officinale.***

Synonyms—Rhubarb, Chinese or Turkey Rhubarb.

### **CONSTITUENTS—**

Chrysophan, phaeoretin, erythrorrhetin, aporetin, chrysophanic acid, rheotannic acid, emodin, gallic acid, rheumatic acid, calcium oxalate, sugar, starch, salts.

### **PREPARATIONS—**

**Extractum Rhei**, Extract of Rhubarb. Dose, from ten to fifteen grains.

**Extractum Rhei Fluidum**, Fluid Extract of Rhubarb. Dose, from a half to two drams.

**Syrupus Rhei et Potassae Compositus**, Compound Syrup of Rhubarb and Potassa, Neutralizing Cordial. Dose, from one to four drams.

**Specific Medicine Rheum.** Dose, from one to twenty minims.

**Physiological Action**—The influence of this agent is peculiar. It is a laxative first, cathartic if in extreme doses, and subsequently astringent. It tones the gastro-intestinal tract to a marked degree, if debilitated, and if over-activity is prevented, the agent restrains that condition.

It mildly and satisfactorily evacuates the bowels without irritation or

stimulation. Some individuals eat a few grains of the crude root, which they carry in the pocket, every day for chronic constipation, others are not benefited with large doses.

**Therapy**—In **atonic conditions** of the **bowels**, with debility or general relaxation, whether **diarrhoea**, **dysentery**, **cholera morbus** or **cholera infantum** is present, it is a most useful remedy. Its tonic powers are promptly exercised, and properly combined with indicated remedies, it produces markedly restorative effects. It acts directly upon the duodenum, and subsequently upon the entire intestinal tract. It is the laxative for debilitated patients, or for patients recovering from prostrating disease.

Given to a nursing mother, like *aloes*, it relaxes the infant's bowels, and in some cases it is desirable to administer it to the mother for this purpose.

## **SYRUPUS RHEI ET POTASSAE COMPOSITUS.**

Synonyms—Syrup of Rhubarb and Potassa Compound. Neutralizing Cordial.

This old Eclectic formula has attained such a wide notoriety—is in such general use in our own school, and is now so popular among the regular physicians and so generally adopted by them, that it deserves a conspicuous place in this book. It has no superior as a restorative to acute abnormal conditions of the stomach or bowels demanding an antacid. Prof. King's original formula is as follows, which happily combines the active virtues of its constituents. Suggestions and alterations for its improvement have not in all its factors produced a better compound.

### **Formula—**

Best *India Rhubarb*, *Golden Seal*, *Cinnamon*, each **one ounce**;

Refined Sugar, **four pounds**;

Brandy, **one gallon**;

*Oil of Peppermint*, **twenty minims**.

Macerate the *Rhubarb*, *Golden Seal* and *Cinnamon*, in half a gallon of the Brandy for six hours, with a gentle heat, then transfer the mass to a

percolator and displace with the remaining half-gallon of Brandy. The remaining strength, if there be any, can be obtained by adding water until the liquor comes off tasteless. To this add one ounce of Carbonate of Potassa, the Sugar and Oil of Peppermint, this last having been previously rubbed with enough Sugar to absorb it, and mix the two liquors. The whole of the active properties of the ingredients may be obtained with more certainty by using Alcohol, seventy-six per cent, instead of Brandy, owing to the great want of uniformity in the quality of the latter.

Because of the possibility of the fermentation of the sugar in the above compound, Professor Lloyd has replaced this and enough of the water necessary to the above solution, with glycerine, preserving the valuable properties of the compound and increasing the field of its action. This preparation is called **Glyconda**, and is given for the same conditions, and in the same dosage as the above.

**Administration**—The syrup is given in doses of from half a dram to half an ounce, usually diluted with considerable water.

**Therapy**—While we advocate the use of single remedies for direct effects, we have obtained such marked results from this combination that we are impelled to teach students its use, especially in children's gastric disorders. A **sourstomach** is always benefited by it. It is specific when the tongue is coated uniformly white, and is broad, and the mucous membranes are pale, when there are eructations of sour gas or vomitings of acid matter. It never fails in these cases. It makes no difference whether there is diarrhea or constipation.

A stomach filled with sour decomposed food can appropriate no medicine, and all specific remedies demand a stomach free from these conditions. This agent neutralizes excessive acidity without liberation of carbonic acid gas; it stimulates and soothes the stomach and promotes normal action. It may be given to neutralize excessive acidity before general medication is begun in any case.

It is the remedy for **children's summer disorders** *par excellence*. It is a safe remedy to use **ad libitum** in the family for deranged conditions of the stomach and bowels.

A tablespoonful, taken by an adult in summer when nausea, colic or

diarrhea declare a derangement of the organs of digestion, will usually immediately restore the normal condition. It is palatable and pleasant to children, especially if diluted. In **fevers** or **headaches** from **gastric acidity** the treatment should be begun with this syrup, the indicated remedies being given when excessive gastric acidity is in part neutralized and the normal condition stimulated by the *rhubarb*. It may be added to the vehicle in prescriptions for stomach and bowel troubles of an atonic character.

If **constipation** be present a mild laxative may be added. If much diarrhea is present an astringent, such as *geranium* or *epilobium* will increase its value, and if there is extreme lack of tone, its value is enhanced by the tincture of *xanthoxylum* or *capsicum*. If there are sharp colicky pains, a few drops of the tincture of *colocynth* or the tincture of *ginger*, or even paregoric, or deodorized *opium* in severe cases, will be found valuable. It should be in constant use by every physician in stomach and intestinal disorders common during the heated term.

## **ALOES.**

## ***Aloes socotrina.***

Synonym—Aloe Perryi.

### **CONSTITUENTS—**

Aloin, resin, volatile oil.

**Aloinum, Aloin.** This is a crystalline substance obtained from Aloes, of a yellowish-brown color; odorless and with the taste of Aloes. It is twice as active as Aloes and produces less griping. Dose, from two to five grains.

**Physiological Action—**It is not rapid or so severe in its action as some other cathartics. Given at bedtime it operates upon rising in the morning. The action is not painful, and it increases the alvine discharges without any increase of the watery constituents. It increases the circulation of the blood in the intestine, improves the muscular tone and restores normal peristaltic action.

*Aloes* acts most freely on the lower bowel. It increases the activity of the muscular coat of the intestines, increasing peristalsis, especially of the

colon. It causes soft dark colored feces. It is not to be used when there are hemorrhoids, or when there is irritation or inflammation of the colon, or pelvic organs, nor should it be freely used in pregnancy.

It increases the secretion of the liver, pancreas, and intestinal glands; also the mucous glands of the intestines. It causes some griping when given as a laxative, but *belladonna*, *colocynth*, or *hyoscyamus* will correct this colic.

**Specific Symptomatology**—Homeopathic indications for this remedy are headache across the forehead and over the eyes, nausea, gastro-intestinal irritation with coldness of the lower limbs; there is a bitter, sour or metallic taste in the mouth, the tongue yellowish white, somewhat dry, with thirst; bitter or sour eructations; heaviness over the liver; pulsation in the navel region; distention of the abdomen with gas with the above conditions. Gloomy patients suffering from constipation can take *aloes* to advantage.

**Therapy**—If administered to a **nursing mother** it will produce a cathartic effect upon the infant. It is a constituent of the larger proportion of the cathartic pills on the market.

If the liver is acting normally a much less dose will produce a cathartic effect than when there is a torpid or an inactive liver.

The agent should be used, if at all, with much care in inflammatory conditions, especially in those of the intestinal canal, as it is an irritant to the lower bowel. It increases the heart's action and the circulation of blood and raises the temperature.

The agent is **emmenagogue** and **abortive** in its action and **should not be given during pregnancy**. It will produce a full menstrual flux in some cases of suppression.

It may be given in **simple jaundice** with lack of tone; in constipation depending upon weakness of the intestinal tract; where there is plainly deficient peristaltic action, where the tongue is coated, the breath foul, the abdomen full and tumid; where there is inclination to impaction of the colon. It may be given in conjunction with *nux vomica* and *hydrastis*, or other good stomach tonics to excellent advantage when these are correctly indicated.

One one hundred and twentieth grain of aloin once every day or two will be of material benefit to those who eat too much, especially of starchy foods and sugar; those of phlegmatic temperament and beer drinkers.

## **SENNA.**

## ***Cassia acutifolia.***

Synonym—Alexandria Senna.

### **CONSTITUENTS—**

Cathartic acid, Sennacrol, sennapicrin, chrysophan, phaeoretin, cathartomannit, mucilage.

### **PREPARATIONS—**

**Confectio Sennae**, Confection of Senna. Dose, one to two drams.

**Extractum Sennae Fluidum**, Fluid Extract of Senna. Dose, half to one dram.

**Infusum Sennae Compositum**, Compound Infusion of Senna. Dose, one to three ounces.

**Pulvis Glycyrrhizae Compositus**, Powder of Liquorice. Dose, twenty to sixty grains.

**Pulvis Jalapae Compositus**, Compound Powder of Jalap. ( A. D.) Beach's Antibilious Physic. Dose, one dram.

**Specific Medicine Senna.** Dose, from one to thirty minims.

**Therapy—***Senna* is an efficient remedy, mild, kindly, certain and uniform in its action. It is a constituent of the larger number of the proprietary laxative or cathartic compounds, syrups, cordials or elixirs.

It is used in all cases of **temporary constipation**, however induced. An infusion of the leaves is not unpalatable and is promptly active. It produces normal evacuations of the bowels and if used carefully there is but little griping. It is used after surgical operations, after confinement, in the constipation of the feeble, and in many cases of inactive bowels, among infants and children. It is not used where a powerful derivative is needed, or where active cholagogue or hydragogue influence is demanded. It has a narrow but important sphere.

**Co-operatives**—In combination with *ginger*, *capsicum* or *black pepper*, it is useful in atonic conditions with inactivity of the bowels. With magnesium sulphate, or potassium bitartrate, it will induce more of a hydragogue effect. In combination with *leptandra* it acts more specifically upon the liver; with *jalap*, and *ginger* it was long known as **antibilious physic** and was given whenever “biliousness” was diagnosed; with *rhubarb* and *peppermint* it is a tonic, laxative and carminative of greatly improved value. It is the active constituent of the well known and popular, **Compound liquorice powder**.

The composition of this powder is, as follows:  
Senna and liquorice in fine powder, of each **two ounces**;  
fennel fruit, sublimed sulphur, of each **one ounce**;  
refined sugar, **six ounces**.

Mix thoroughly. Dose, from one-fourth to one dram in water.

The following is an excellent, simple laxative:

A strong, infusion of senna leaves is made and strained. In the clear liquid good French prunes are stewed until thoroughly cooked. One of these three or four times daily will overcome many cases of constipation, especially when the tendency is only temporary, or due perhaps to other conditions, temporary in their character, as during tedious convalescence. Especially useful in pregnancy.

Figs and senna leaves, chopped together, finely, have been long in use for laxative purposes.

## **RICINUS.**

## ***Ricinus communis.***

Synonym—Castor Oil.

**Part Employed**—A fixed oil from the beans of the *Ricinus Communis*.

### **CONSTITUENTS—**

The fixed oil, ricinoleic or ricinic acid, ricinolein, palmitin, starch, mucilage, sugar.

## **PREPARATION—**

In the preparation of *castor oil* the seeds are crushed, kiln-dried, and subjected to a powerful pressure to remove the oil, which is heated in water to remove albuminous matters and drawn off into barrels.

Cold-pressed *castor oil*, **Oleum Ricini**, is viscid, nearly or quite transparent, with a mawkish odor and an offensive taste. Dose, from one to eight drams.

**Administration**—The taste of *castor oil* is disgusting to many and unpalatable to all. It is partially disguised when the dose is added to a teacupful of hot milk and well stirred. Hot lemonade or hot coffee disguises its taste to a certain extent. Wine, ale and beer are suggested, probably because of a love for such auxiliaries.

**Therapy**—As a **cathartic** in domestic practice this agent has long taken first rank. Children are susceptible to its action. An inunction of the oil over the abdomen is usually sufficient to produce a full laxative effect in babes. It may be continued from day to day for the cure of **chronic constipation** in young children. A kneading or rubbing of the bowels will stimulate peristaltic action and increase the influence of the oil.

When **nervous irritation** in children occurs with **fever**, from undigested food or irritating substances in the stomach or bowels, a dose of *castor oil* sufficient to produce free evacuation without pain may given at once. Its action will usually remove the irritating causes, and the fever and nerve irritation will quickly subside. **Diarrheas** induced from such causes are at once controlled after its operation. It has a secondary action like *rhubarb*, and constipation usually follows its use or a day or two.

In the treatment of **dysentery** it is good practice to thoroughly evacuate the bowels with *castor oil* and to follow it with full doses of *sweet oil*. In infants the *sweet oil* alone may be sufficient. If the oil is administered early in the case and followed with the suggested remedies the disease often abates at once.

It seems in itself to exercise a mild sedative effect, not only that it quiets distress in the bowels and removes irritating substances but it promotes quiet and sleep.

It is used in a few cases after surgical operations, after **labor** on the second or third day, and after taking **vermifuges**, and whenever a simple, prompt agent is needed to evacuate the *primae viae*.

## **OLIVE**

## ***Olea europea***

**Part Employed**—A fixed oil from the pericarp.

**Therapy**—Olive oil or sweet oil is a nutritive and laxative for children. It must be given in doses of one or two tablespoonful. It can be flavored and rendered palatable. It may be given whenever **irritating substances** are retained in the intestinal tract and when **convulsions** are present from gastro-intestinal irritation. It can do no harm. Violent and profound **convulsions** with **acute enteritis**, from swallowing the seeds of grapes, have been controlled at once by the writer, with large doses oil internally, and by using rectal injections of the oil very warm, large quantities of the seeds being removed and the local irritation soothed.

It is now generally used internally and externally in the treatment of **appendicitis**, and it is a most efficacious remedy. It is given freely, internally at regular intervals, and after its external application heat is kept constantly applied. Indicated remedies for the fever and for the prominent symptoms should not be overlooked.

It is of much value in the removal of **biliary calculi**. In these cases from six to twelve ounces is the necessary quantity for administration, repeated three or four times daily. The influence is often pronounced.

It is an excellent agent in **dysentery**, whether of infants or adults. It may be given *per orem*, and a quantity subsequently injected into the rectum after a bowel movement. If for an adult, two ounces, into which ten drops of laudanum has been rubbed, is injected, often the distress is so relieved that it need not be repeated.

The injection of sweet oil is essential in **impaction** of the **feces**, and where there is great deficiency of intestinal secretion, or where **scybala** form, or where there are **ulcers** or fissures and great pain is induced by the presence of fecal matter in the rectum.

A feeble, newly born infant may be quickly bathed in warm sweet oil and wrapped in cotton, and surrounded by heat and not dressed for several days. The oil can be wiped off once daily with a soft linen cloth and fresh warm oil applied. In healthy infants it is better to apply warm oil freely, wipe it off once and apply more. The child should then be wrapped in warm wrappings and not dressed for twenty-four hours.

Olive oil is the best of lubricants, and the carbolized oil is used for chafing and upon hands and instruments in surgery, and in vaginal examinations, and in introducing bougies or catheters. If a stream of warm oil be forced into the urethra in spasmodic stricture just in advance of the catheter, the dilation may be made satisfactorily, and the catheter may be introduced when that act was previously impossible.

Olive oil is exceedingly valuable in the treatment of sprained, bruised or contused parts, applied warm on absorbent cotton and kept hot. It acts as nutrition to the part, diffuses the heat and is markedly soothing in its influence.

Olive oil is used to protect the mucous surfaces of the esophagus and stomach when poisoning has occurred from the caustic alkalies. It also forms a neutral innocuous soap with the alkali and can subsequently be removed. With acids it is of no service. In some cases a fatal loss of time occurs from depending upon this, when magnesia or lime water or soda or a soap solution should have been introduced to neutralize the acid.

## **PARAFFIN OIL.**

This substance is now prepared from the mineral oils by a number of manufacturers and is quite commonly used.

It is given in doses of from a teaspoonful to two tablespoonfuls. It is devoid of taste or odor, and therefore not unpleasant to take. It is plainly an oil though of about the consistency of glycerine. This oily character is an objection to some.

This agent has been brought before the profession within the last few years as an important remedy in the treatment of intestinal disorders.

It is not a laxative in the strict sense of the word.

The remedy has been useful further in simple stasis as well as in **constipation of infancy** and childhood. It is useful in **hemorrhoids**, and in **mucus colitis**, and **during pregnancy**. As stated, its place has not yet been determined; neither have all the objections been stated nor all the contraindications. These must be looked for.

Its entire influence is topical. It is used in the words of an English writer for the all essential indication for the **constant sanitation and sanitary toilet of the bowel**. If given in conjunction with small doses of *castor oil*, a laxative influence is sustained with this cleansing agent. It is claimed that it systematically and completely prevents septic culture in the ileum, leaving the bowel and stomach in a much healthier condition for the exercise of the alimentary function. It prevents the common occurrence of ulceration in the ileum and colon.

It prevents septic fecal retention, inducing a thorough cleansing throughout the course of any disease. The agent may be given in divided doses any time when a mild laxative influence is desired, but, a tendency to constipation as stated, must be overcome at the same time with more active agents.

The use of the agent has been carried to extremes, and this will militate against determining its actual function. It contains no stimulant or irritating properties; it exercises no osmotic action. It is simply a lubricant, which supplements normal mucus and assists peristaltic action. Very little if any of it is absorbed. It removes irritation from hardened feces, and restores normal mucus. It facilitates evacuation and assists in re-establishing a habit of regular bowel movement. It covers fecal masses and prevents absorption of toxins from these.

**GROUP V.**  
**Agents Acting upon the Intestinal Glandular Organs and upon the Intestinal Canal.**

**CHAPTER II.**  
**Agents Used as Liver Stimulants.**

**PODOPHYLLUM**  
**LEPTANDRA**  
**IRIS**  
**CHIONANTHUS**  
**CHELIDONIUM**  
**POPULUS**  
**BOLETUS**  
**BOLDUS**  
**GRINDELIA**  
**MAGNOLIA**  
**MERCURY**  
**SODIUM PHOSPHATE**

**Note**—There is hardly a group of remedies among all that we have studied, that exercise a more important influence or exercise that influence in a more satisfactory manner, than those of the organic group named in this chapter if prescribed by one who is thoroughly conversant with their influence, and able to prescribe them accurately. They should be persistently studied and the conditions to which they are applicable should be determined with great care.

**PODOPHYLLUM.**                      *Podophyllum peltatum.*

Synonym—Mandrake.

**CONSTITUENTS—**

Picropodophyllin, picropodophyllic acid, podophylloquercetin, gum, starch, gallic acid, volatile oil, fixed oil, salts.

**PREPARATIONS—**

**Extractum Podophylli Fluidum**, Fluid Extract of Podophyllum.  
Dose, from five to ten grains.

**Resina Podophylli**, Resin of Podophyllum, **Podophyllin**. Dose, one-eighth grain.

**Specific Medicine Podophyllum**. Dose, from one-fourth to ten minims.

This exclusively Eclectic remedy has occupied a prominent place in our literature for eighty-five years. John King isolated Podophyllin as a resinoid in 1833, and published a report of his method and observations on the remedy in 1844 in the Philosophical Medical Journal of New York. Following King's suggestions, Lewis made an analysis of the drug in 1847 which was first quoted by the U. S. Dispensatory in 1854, twenty-one years after King had first isolated the resinoid. It was called by the Eclectics of that time vegetable calomel because it was used to replace calomel in their therapeutics.

In malarial country regions this agent will be more often indicated than in the city, as the habits and environment of city life are more apt to induce extremely opposite conditions to those which indicate Podophyllin.

**Administration**—The physiological action does not suggest to a great degree the uses which our experience has taught us to make of this remedy. The drastic cathartic influence we do not need, as it is too harsh in its active influence. From five to thirty drops of the tincture in a four ounce mixture, or from one two hundredths to the one-twentieth grain of Podophyllin, will be found sufficiently active.

**Specific Symptomatology**—This agent is demanded in inactive, conditions of the gastro-intestinal tract, indicated by a heavily coated tongue, which is thick, broad and pale, and the coat of dirty yellow color especially at the base, together with perhaps vertigo, complete anorexia, and dull, heavy headache. The circulation is full and sluggish, and the abdominal viscera is in a plethoric condition.

**Therapy**—These conditions will suggest the use of the agent whatever the name of the existing disease. In acute inflammatory conditions, or in irritable conditions of the stomach or bowels, it is contra-indicated in active doses.

In the condition known as **biliousness**, with markedly inactive liver, sallow skin and conjunctiva, constipation, highly colored urine

containing uric acid, urates in great excess, and bile, it is of value. In these cases the following formula, although unpleasant to the taste, will be of great service:

Tincture of *podophyllum*, tincture of *leptandra*, of each half a dram; tincture of *capsicum* twenty minims; syrup of *liquorice*. half an ounce; port wine sufficient to make four ounces. Give a teaspoonful every two or three hours.

If there is **enlargement** of the **liver**, with general indisposition, soreness over the liver and pain through the right side and under the right scapula, it is the remedy.

In inactivity of the liver characterized by **constipation**, the feces when passed being solid or hard and of a grayish or clay color, and floating upon water, with general indisposition, podophyllin may be given in doses of one-fiftieth of a grain every two or three hours. If there is a great sluggishness with obstinate constipation, one-tenth of a grain may be given for two or three doses, the smaller doses to follow. It is given in **jaundice** with its marked indications to excellent advantage. If given for its cathartic influence it should be combined with *hyocyamus* or *belladonna*, or it may be given in conjunction with *leptandra virginica*.

Podophyllin, in from one-half to one grain doses repeated once or twice, and followed by half a pint of pure olive oil, is reasonably sure treatment in the removal of **gall stones**. The results may be painful, but the patient will have subsequent relief.

The agent in minute doses will permanently cure some conditions which cause **chronic constipation**, but if desired for this purpose, like *cascara*, it must at no time be given in full active doses. Locke advises a teaspoonful of a mixture of thirty grains of the second decimal trituration in a half glass of water to be given a child three times each day for constipation.

In minute doses it will stimulate intestinal secretion and peristaltic action in children, and overcome **dry stools**, and constipation and bloated bowels, with erratic colicky pains.

In the treatment of **hemorrhoids** accompanied with constipation from  
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deficient peristalsis and general abdominal plethora, *podophyllum* is of direct service. It can be given in conjunction with *collinsonia* and the effects are marked from the first.

The writer has prescribed the tincture or fluid extract of *podophyllum* for several years as an **alterative**. If the plethoric conditions named as indicating it are present, it is much more active, and is always to be given in doses sufficiently small to avoid any irritating or cathartic effects. In **skin diseases** of childhood, such as cracked and fissured conditions of the skin of the face, or **eczema**, or persistent **pustular conditions**, it is of value.

It may be prescribed with most happy results with other alteratives in **scrofula** or **syphilis**, or in the eruptions which result from these disorders.

Younkin is authority for the use of this agent in one-sixth of a grain doses, with ten grains of the potassium bitartrate, given every two hours in **gonorrhoeal epididymitis**, of which it relieves the pains and abridges the inflammation. Other indicated remedies are, however, not to be overlooked. It may be given with confidence in this condition.

## **LEPTANDRA.**                      *Leptandra virginica.*

Synonyms—*Veronicastrum Virginicum*, Linne; Culver's Root.

### **CONSTITUENTS—**

Leptandrin, resin, saponin, tannin, mannite, gum, citric acid, volatile oil.

### **PREPARATIONS—**

**Resin of Leptandra**, Leptandrin. Dose, from one-fourth to one grain.

**Extractum Leptandrae Fluidum**, Fluid Extract of Leptandra. Dose, from twenty to sixty minims.

**Specific Medicine Leptandra**. Dose, from one to twenty minims.

**Specific Symptomatology—Malaise** from malarial influence, soreness on pressure in the right hypochondrium, with wide dullness on percussion, constipation, full abdominal tissues with inactive

intestinal glands, torpor of the liver, anorexia, dull headache. Also in cases in which there are marked vertigo, cold extremities and cool skin, dull pain in the bowels, gloominess or mental despondency and depression, disinclination to work or even move, great lassitude.

**Therapy**—In **malarial conditions** no cathartic is more efficient than leptandra. It may be given in full doses, and there is no irritation from its action. It certainly increases the discharge of bile and stimulates and greatly improves the function of the liver.

In **ague** when quinine is given as an antiperiodic, if from one-fourth to one grain of *leptandra* be given with each dose in the intermission, the effects are much more marked and the influence is more permanent. It is demanded in **malarial fevers** of all kinds, and especially in remittent fever. It is given alone at the onset of the attack as a laxative and in the remission, in small doses in conjunction with the antiperiodic, proving a most valuable auxiliary to the treatment. As an addition to vegetable tonics when malarial conditions prevail, it improves the **tone** of the entire **gastro-intestinal canal** and increases the functional activity of the **glandular organs**. In some cases small doses in wine will produce excellent results.

In the treatment of **jaundice** it is a valuable auxiliary, and combined with the tonics here indicated its influence is most desirable. It clears the skin, produces **black alvine evacuation**, and assists in overcoming the entire train of symptoms.

*Leptandra* has no superior in a case of this character and must be used freely to be appreciated. It is certainly under-estimated.

## **IRIS**

## ***Iris versicolor***

Synonym—Blue Flag.

### **CONSTITUENTS—**

Acrid resinous matter, tannin, gum, starch.

### **PREPARATIONS—**

**Oleoresina Iridis**, Oleoresin of Iris. Dose, one to five grains.

**Extractum Iridis Fluidum**, Fluid Extract of Iris. Dose, five to sixty

minims.

**Specific Medicine Iris.** Dose, one-fourth to five minims.

**Physiological Action**—*Iris Versicolor* has a bitter, nauseous, and rather acrid taste, and in full doses is apt to cause emesis. Recent experiments have demonstrated that preparations of the fresh root or the oleo-resin possess active, purgative and diuretic qualities, and under its influence there are increased secretion and elimination of bile, its cholagogue powers having been abundantly demonstrated. It also directly stimulates the entire glandular system—the lymphatics and the skin.

It promotes waste, and elimination of effete material from the blood.

**Specific Symptomatology**—This agent will prove serviceable when the stools are clay-colored, the urine scanty and the skin inactive and jaundiced. In small doses it is indicated in irritable conditions of the mucous membranes of the digestive tract, with altered secretion. This condition is characterized by a neuralgic pain over one eye, or involving one side of the face, usually the right side; nausea or vomiting of an acid liquid, with burning and distress in the esophagus or stomach; gastralgia and gastrodynia, with vomiting or regurgitation of food, especially after the eating of fats or rich pastry; diarrhea, with a burning sensation after the passage; cholera morbus, with violent pain around the umbilicus, or in the lower part of the abdomen, and watery diarrhea with great depression.

**Therapy**—The oleo-resin has been very successfully employed in hepatic jaundice, arising intestinal disorders, and the consequent dropsy. Chronic jaundice, arising from duodenal catarrh and obstruction of the biliary ducts, should be treated with *Iris*. It is said that malarial jaundice (so-called) may be cured by this drug alone, and that it exerts a favorable influence in bilious remittent fevers and **chronic** ague. This agent is directly indicated in that condition of the stomach which induces **sick headache**. It not only ameliorates the attack, but assists in the removal of the cause and in breaking up the tendency to recurrence of the condition.

This agent is employed in the treatment of syphilitic and strumous affections. In the treatment of **syphilis** this agent is a very useful remedy in those cases in which the glandular organs are inactive. Here

the effects of *Iris* are strikingly conspicuous from the first. It will be found an excellent auxiliary also to the influence of other well known alteratives. It has also been largely employed in the successful treatment of many affections of the skin. Kinnett recommends it strongly in **psoriasis**.

In the treatment of certain cases of **eczema** of a persistent chronic character, as well as of other pustular and open ulcerating or oozing skin diseases, this agent, in from five to ten drop doses every two or three hours, will be found most useful. It may be diluted and applied externally also. Prurigo, crustalactea, and tinea yield readily to its influence at times.

It is a favorite remedy in the treatment of enlargement of the thyroid and other glandular affections. In recent cases of **goiter**, *iris* is used to good advantage. With many, if used in the form of a recent preparation, it is believed to be specific.

Dr. H. P. Whitford gave *iris* and *hyoscyamus* with a very small dose of podophyllin for **headaches** in the back part of the head.

Dr. Laws reports the use of *iris* in a bad case of **eczema** where the attacks lasted six months, each worse than the previous one. The disease would begin at the ankle, finally cover the entire body. The itching was intolerable. He used the remedy both internally and externally with excellent results. Dr. Kinnett confirms these statements.

Both have great confidence in it in the treatment of **goiter**, and in the treatment of **syphilis** where they do not expect to have to use the iodides with it. They push it to a mild cathartic effect so that it will keep the bowels free.

## **CHIONANTHUS.**

## ***Chionanthus virginica.***

Synonym—Fringe Tree.

### **CONSTITUENTS—**

Chionanthin, saponin.

## **PREPARATION—**

**Specific Medicine Chionanthus.** Dose, ten to twenty minims.

**Specific Symptomatology**—The specific influence of the agent is exerted upon the liver. It is a remedy for hepatic engorgement; jaundice more or less pronounced; pain over the region of the gall bladder; pain in the epigastrium; pain radiating from the navel over the abdomen; soreness in the region of the liver, extending to the umbilicus; enlargement of the liver, determined by percussion; nausea; occasional vomiting; constipation with dry feces; temperature slightly above normal; skin usually yellow. This latter indication—a distinctly yellow skin—has always been my immediate suggestion for *chionanthus* and I have rarely been disappointed.

**Therapy**—It is a cholagogue cathartic in full doses, but its best influence is in **acute congestion** of the **liver** with imperfect discharge of bile, or **catarrh** of the common **bile duct**. We have no agent more certain in its action when indicated. The indications are acute jaundice evidenced by yellowness of the conjunctiva first, subsequently of the skin, with distress in the right hypochondrium, with cramp-like pains in the abdomen.

It overcomes catarrh, liquefies the bile, prevents the formation of calculi, and promotes the discharge of those formed. It is a remedy for chronic forms of liver disease, but its influence is not so plainly apparent, being much slower in its operations. It is not indicated in jaundice from permanent occlusion of the duct, from impacted gall stones or foreign and malignant growths.

**Bilious headaches** resulting from liver faults especially if irregular or periodical are cured by *chionanthus*.

The action of *chionanthus* in the treatment of tobacco habit must be studied. It has an influence in many cases.

It will quickly overcome the **jaundice** of **childhood** and infancy, and especially sure in the jaundice of the pregnant term. It is an excellent remedy for **malarial conditions** with atonicity of the stomach and intestinal apparatus. It can be given during the chill and fever, and it assists greatly in the relief of both. The agent may be pushed to the maximum dose and given with full confidence when indicated, as it is

absolutely certain in its action. It is sometimes best given in infusion.

Dr. Fearn claimed to have early made the discovery of the use of *chionanthus* in reducing the quantity of **sugar in the urine**. Patients with no appetite, losing flesh, listless, increasingly anemic with a little sugar in the urine were those to whom he first gave it, ten drops four times a day. Later he used it in severe cases of diabetes mellitus. Dr. A. P. Hauss, of New Albany, Ind., has had many years' experience in the observation of this remedy in the treatment of this disease. He has much confidence in it.

Dr. Halbert of Nashville confirms this influence.

Probably in those cases in which this remedy is beneficial in diabetes there is functional disease of the liver.

Whether the remedy would be equally beneficial in cases in which no liver fault could be diagnosed, might be questionable, and yet Hauss, says that he has never treated a case of diabetes mellitus along the lines indicated that has not yielded to this treatment. He prescribes from ten to fifteen drop doses of *chionanthus*, four times daily. If no febrile condition is present or if there is general atonicity, with nervous depression, he adds from one-half to one drop of *nux vomica*. He has the patient drink from one to two pints of hot water each morning, before breakfast, to which he adds a small teaspoonful of the sulphate of magnesium, or in preference one-half wine glass of French Lick Pluto water in a pint of hot water. This treatment, with proper dietary, he claims, has a rapid effect upon the glycosuria, immediately reducing the specific gravity of the urine.

The agent is beneficial in chronic splenitis, pancreatic disease and disease of the other glandular organs; also in the incipient stages of nephritis. In the line of its symptomatology, it is an exceedingly satisfactory remedy. It influences the stomach in the process of digestion; it exerts a beneficial, stimulating effect upon the entire glandular apparatus.

Prof. Ralph Morrill gives the following as important in the application of this remedy: In the **obstruction** of the **bile ducts**, due to inflammation of the duodenum, this remedy is directly indicated. He gives it as an intestinal antiseptic in **typhoid fever**. He believes its influence is

exercised by its stimulating effect upon the flow of the bile. He has had clinical evidence of its undoubted value in many difficulties of the gastro-intestinal tract, which are cured by this important influence. He combines it in some cases of **gastro-intestinal atony**, with *nux vomica* and *podophyllum*, in the following prescription: *Nux vomica*, fifteen drops; *chionanthus*, two and a half drams, *podophyllum*, one and a half drams; elixir of lactated pepsin, sufficient quantity to make four ounces. Of this give one dram three times a day.

In perverted functional action of the liver, resulting in the excretion of an abnormal quantity of uric acid, which interferes with the evolution of proper metabolism present in the formation of urea, and its products, it is a valuable remedy. It is thus of much importance in the treatment of **acutelithemia—toxemia**, from excess of urea or uric acid, and the rheumatic diathesis.

## **CHELIDONIUM.                      *Chelidonium majus.***

Synonyms—Great Celandine, Garden Celandine, Tetterwort.

### **CONSTITUENTS—**

A bitter principle, and the alkaloids chelidonine, Sanguinarine, protopine and chelerythrine. It also contains chelidonic and chelidoninic acids and chlorophyll.

### **PREPARATIONS—**

**Extractum Chelidonium;** Extract of Chelidonium; Extractum Chelidonium fluidum, expressed juice of Chelidonium; succus Chelidonium. Dose, ten to twenty drops.

**Specific Medicine Chelidonium.** Dose, from one-tenth to ten minims.

**Physiological Action—**Drastic cathartic and violent local irritant, alterative, diuretic, diaphoretic and expectorant.

This agent stimulates the chylopoietic system, favorably influencing all of those organs which are supplied by the solar plexus of the great sympathetic.

**Specific Symptomatology**—The conditions to which *chelidonium* are especially applicable are found in fully developed abdominal plethora, inefficient functional action of the glandular organs of the abdominal cavity, and imperfect, sluggish and deficient circulation of the tissues, glands and organs of this cavity.

This agent operates in harmony with *leptandra*, *podophyllum*, *iris versicolor*, *chionanthus* and sodium phosphate, in the three following important conditions: Diminished secretion of bile, evidenced by grayish, clay-colored, or very light yellow stools, which will usually float. There may be no evidences of absorption of bile into the blood—no jaundice; or there may be absorption of the bile and jaundice, with its whole train of symptoms, with dark green and fetid stools and dolic; or there may be the above grayish, clay-colored stools and jaundice, with bile in the urine, which is dark yellow or red, very acid, charged with an excess of uric acid crystals.

**Therapy**—**Sluggishness** of the **portal circulation**. Defective liver circulation is the cause of a long train of remote manifestations, among which are slow pulse, frequent palpitations, a feeling of weight, stiffness and swellings of the hands, feet and limbs, cold extremities, pallid and doughy skin, local and general, edema, dull pain or constant aching in the limbs and muscles, aching in the front head and occiput, vertigo, weariness, irritability, inactivity, irregularity of the bowels—constipation, followed by diarrhea, erratic colicky pains, sallowness, jaundice and other disorders. *Chelidonium* is an excellent remedy in a case with these manifestations.

In disease of the spleen, it relieves congestion and reduces **splenic hypertrophy**, acting in harmony with *chionanthus* and *grindelia squarrosa*. Its action upon the pancreatic glands is satisfactory, relieving congestion and engorgement and irritation, and inducing a better circulation. It will be found an excellent remedy in combination with helonias in the treatment of **diabetes mellitus**.

This agent was used thirty years ago with eminent success in the treatment of **biliary calculi**. It is now in use for that purpose among many physicians, who consider it superior to any other agent known in preventing their formation.

Its influence upon the functional activity of the liver induces a thinner

and more profuse secretion of the bile, and it is thus useful in promoting the expulsion of gall stones. It is available also in **simple biliousness, hepatic congestion**, acute or sub-acute inflammation of the liver, **jaundice**, due to catarrhal conditions of the ducts, or when dropsy depends upon hepatic trouble. When **migraine** or **supraorbital neuralgia** depend upon hepatic difficulties this remedy is indicated.

A patient suffering from a headache which began in the occiput before rising in the morning; poor appetite; cold hands and feet; tongue large, thick, pasty, with a grayish white coat; skin of a dusky hue, was materially benefited by *chelidonium*, five drops of the fluid extract every two hours.

Some of the old writers believe that this agent is superior to *arnica* or *hamamelis*, as an external application to **bruises and sprains**. It prevents the development of local inflammation from traumatic causes.

The specific use externally, is in the application of the juice to **warts, corns** and **epitheliomata**, for which it has been widely used, and much evidence accumulated in its favor. In these conditions and in the treatment also of **urticaria, eczema** and itching eruptions, its careful application, persisted in, cures within a short time.

In the treatment of **cancer**, Denissenko directs that from twenty-two to seventy-five grains of the extract shall be taken internally, dissolved in distilled water or *peppermint water*, every day throughout the treatment. Into the substance of the tumor, as close as possible to the boundary between it and the healthy tissue, he throws a number of injections of from two to four drops of a mixture of equal weights of the extract, glycerine and distilled water, not exceeding a syringeful in all. If the tumor is ulcerated, he paints its surface twice a day with a mixture of one or two parts of the extract and one part of glycerine. The painting of the ulcerated surfaces gives rise to a light and transitory burning. In all instances, after the injections, especially after the first one., there was a burning pain at the site of the operation: the patient felt weak, there was a more or less severe chill, and then the temperature rose to between 100 and 102 degrees. These symptoms disappeared on the following day.

As a result of the treatment the sallow hue of the skin disappeared and softening of the tumor set in. After from three to five days there formed

at the points of injection, fistulous tracts about which the softening process went on with special rapidity. Other investigators have not been as satisfied with its influence in cancers, but it is doubtless of value and deserves further observation. Iron, quinine and other supporting remedies are employed according to the indications.

## **POPULUS.**

### ***Populus tremuloides.***

Synonyms—American poplar, White poplar, Quaking aspen.

#### **CONSTITUENTS—**

The important constituents are populin and salicin, a resin and essential oil. The buds contain an acid resin.

#### **PREPARATIONS—**

**Powdered bark.** Dose, one dram two or three times a day.

**Saturated tincture of the bark,** from one-half to twenty drops.

**Populin,** one-tenth of a grain.

**Therapy—**The older writers were enthusiastic concerning the tonic and antiperiodic properties of this drug. They claimed that it would replace quinine in the treatment of intermittency. It has never come into general use. A recent writer says that he soon learned that a strong infusion of the bark would cure those forms of **intermittent fever**, of a chronic or irregular character. At the same time the pathological lesions of the liver, spleen and kidneys which accompanied the chronic disorder, would gradually disappear with the ultimate complete restoration of their physiological functions. These results were accomplished without the unpleasant effects that occur after the protracted use of quinine. This writer, passing through an epidemic of severe malarial disease, found that **malarialhematuria** was very common and very hard to cure. He put his patients upon the infusion of **cottonwood bark**, and found the symptoms to yield rapidly, not only the hemorrhage, but the **icterus**, and other conditions depending upon disarrangement of the liver and-stomach. He found that results obtained by this remedy were more permanent than those obtained by the use of quinine in some cases.

**Protracted fevers**, with debility and emaciation, are greatly benefited

by the use of this remedy, and the conditions remaining in early convalescence are quickly overcome. The agent is a tonic to the kidneys, increasing their functional activity, relieving **vesical** and **urethral tenesmus**. It will also overcome **prostatic hypertrophy** in some cases, and is available in uterine congestion. It is of service in impaired digestion, either gastric or intestinal, chronic diarrhoea, with general debility. Other specific remedies may here be given in conjunction with it. Dr. Alter says that it corrects errors of physiological metabolism, induced by malarial toxemia. It is a most powerful antiperiodic. It will not cause deafness. It will not cause abortion, but on the contrary will prevent **abortion**, which is threatened by the presence of malarial conditions. It shows its influence best where there is **general debility**, very marked, with impairment of the nutritive functions of the body.

Dr. Fearn says, concerning *populus*, this remedy is a powerful stimulant, tonic, and diuretic. And this statement fixes its place in treatment, in the hands of the true specific medicationist. When we use this remedy as a tonic or diuretic, we should never use it in cases accompanied with irritation whether it be of the stomach, bowels, uterus, bladder, or prostate. In atonic conditions of all these different organs where we desire to stimulate and tone up the organ, *populus* is a grand remedy. When first I began to use this Sampson among remedies of its class, I had to use decoctions of the bark—it was a nasty, bitter dose. How much better to use the specific medicine in from five to twenty drop doses.

Dr. Howe reported a case where a soldier had chronic diarrhea which may have been caused by malaria. Howe put him on *populus* for a time and made a complete cure. If a little of the *poplar bark* be put into a cup and covered with boiling water, this will make a strong enough infusion for many conditions, taking only a teaspoonful or two at a time.

Dr. Alter of Arkansas has given it for many years for **swamp fever**. He also uses it in the **irregularities of women**. He thinks it acts somewhat as *hydrastis* in promoting a physiological action of all organs, and increasing the vital force within the system. It may be well given in conjunction with *hydrastis*. Dr. Alter used it very widely whether it was strictly indicated or not, and became convinced of its active therapeutic property.

## **BOLETUS.**

## ***Boletus laricis.***

Synonyms—White Agaric (*Agaricus Albus*), Larch Agaric, Purging Agaric, Fungus Agaric, Spunk.

### **CONSTITUENTS—**

There is found an excess of resin, agaric acid, agaricol, cholesterin, and agaricin.

### **PREPARATIONS—**

**The tincture**, dose from one to five drops.

**Agaracin**, from one-sixteenth to one-fourth of a grain.

**Specific Boletus**, from one-fourth of a drop to five drops.

**Specific Symptomatology**—Chilliness at regular intervals, followed by marked fever. Alternate chills and flushes of heat, with severe aching in the back, colliquative sweats, night sweats of phthisis.

**Therapy**—The remedy is applicable to all conditions of **malarial origin**. It is especially useful in those localities where malaria and the results of malaria prevail. The symptoms are languor, dullness, and general malaise, long continued, with the usual results, such as disordered digestion, lack of appetite, heavily coated tongue, pale mucous membranes. Usually there is a bitter taste in the mouth, often persistent, with constipation, and a dull, **persistent headache**. The temperature will be quite erratic. In some cases there is a little fever always present. In others, there is a marked intermission. The intermission, or remission, may be irregular, not only in time, but in amount.

The agent is astringent apparently, and overcomes all excessive secretion. The broncho-pulmonary secretion of incipient **phthisis**, or the **night sweats** of the protracted cases, are benefited by this remedy. It also controls the rapid circulation and seems to exercise a favorable influence over the **hectic fever**. It also favorably influences the diarrhea of this disease. It seems to allay the thirst and control the cough with many of these patients.

It will **arrest the flow of milk**, in the nursing woman, and will correct in many cases the tendency to **passive hemorrhages**. Some claim that it will check arterial hemorrhage, making the application of a ligature unnecessary.

Dr. Henderson uses *boletus* as a treatment for **alcoholism**. Those who are constantly under the influence of alcohol, trembling, weak with cold skin, he gives one or two drops of the specific medicine every two hours.

**Agaricus** acts upon the nerves of the skin, controlling involuntary twitching of the face and eyes. It is effective in night sweats and prostration. While **agaracin**, or **agaric acid**, is most commonly used in consumption, and the observations have been made from its influence, it is doubtful if it is superior to the *specific boletus* if the latter remedy is given in proper doses, and persisted in.

### **Fly Agaric.**

This agent is closely allied to the above in its physical characteristics. Scudder advised its use, but it has never been generally adopted.

**Physiological Action**—From this species a common alkaloid has been obtained, Muscarine, which has been used as an antagonist to atropine. It produces ptialism, vomiting, depression of the circulation, general muscular weakness, paralysis, difficult breathing, followed by death in extreme cases. The pupils contract to a pin point, and subsequently dilate. It produces tetanic contraction of the spleen, bladder and intestines, with violent peristaltic movement.

**Therapy**—**Muscarine** is used in the **night sweats of phthisis**, in a manner similar to the agaricin. Also in **diabetes insipidus**. Scudder gave as specific indications for the fly agaric, involuntary twitchings of the face, forehead and eyes, pressing pain in the occiput, with a lack of muscular control. It seems indicated in the **typhoid** conditions where there is tremor and great restlessness, with a desire to get out of bed.

## **BOLDUS.**

## ***Peumus boldus.***

Synonyms—Boldo. Boldu (Boldoa Fragrans, Gay).

### **CONSTITUENTS—**

The plant contains an essential oil, a volatile oil, and an alkaloid, boldine. A narcotic alkaloid called boldoglucin.

### **PREPARATIONS—**

A **tincture** is prepared. Dose, five to twenty drops.

**Boldine** is given in doses of from one to five grains.

The **essential oil** is given in capsules in three to five drops.

**Fluid extract**, from ten to thirty minims.

**Physiological Action**—Dr. Holmes, from Florida, has written a very excellent article for the National Medical Association, in which he says the agent, in its influence upon the liver and kidneys, relieves **toxemia**, or **autoinfection**, which has resulted from retention of the bile. It favors the resumption of functional activity of the liver, when stagnant, without increasing the peristaltic action of the bowels, as most liver remedies do, thus acting kindly upon the general intestinal canal. At the same time, it increases the functional power of the kidneys, so that their influence in carrying off morbid material, the products of retrograde metamorphosis, greatly facilitates the progress of recovery.

**Therapy**—The agent has not been in general use. The physicians of the south extol its virtues in the treatment of **liver diseases**. It is of excellent service in the treatment of chronic intestinal trouble where there is congestion and general inactivity of the liver. Present with this condition there may be painful digestion resulting from gastric debility, where there is also anemia with a general sallowness of the skin.

In the first case in which Dr. Holmes used the remedy, there was pain and tenderness over the right hypochondriac region. The skin was yellow, urine scanty, dark colored, almost coffee-ground color, the pain extended into the epigastric region. The tongue was heavily coated in the center, the tip and edges red, the pulse was between ninety and a hundred, and temperature 100. The patient dull, sleepy, indisposed to exercise, and the pain resembled that of gall stone. Pain,

nausea and vomiting were present.

*Chionanthus, chelidonium, iris, podophyllum, leptandra, euonymus*, were all used and failed. The symptoms increased till the patient had a pulse of one hundred and thirty and a temperature of one hundred and five, and was reduced to a skeleton. At the suggestion of a man from Chile, S. A., he gave this remedy in sixty-drop doses of the fluid extract, every four hours. The effect of the remedy was immediate, and the cure perfect.

The doctor reports four or five other cases where these symptoms were present with some variation, all cured by this remedy promptly, after our usual specifics had failed. The agent certainly demands careful investigation.

## **GRINDELIA SQUARROSA.**

*Grindelia squarrosa* is closely allied to the *grindelia robusta*, but is in general a less leafy and bushy plant, and is smaller. Some authors are not satisfied that there is sufficient difference between them to make them distinct plants. In the West they are not recognized as the same.

**Therapy**—Dr. Webster is authority for the statement that *grindelia squarrosa* is specific in its **anti-malarial** properties. He is very positive concerning its influence upon **headaches**, and especially those of malarial origin. Headache present where there are masked intermittent symptoms, headache accompanied with dizziness, and some nausea, where the subject walks with the sensation that he is going to stagger. It seems as though his equilibrium were uncertain, or where there is mild staggering and irregular gait, where the head feels light and dizzy all the time. In this form, *grindelia squarrosa* is a positive and specific remedy, decided and satisfactory in its action.

Another form of headache which this agent will cure is one that seems to follow, and depend upon **slowautointoxication**. It is persistent, day after day, and there is **dullness, drowsiness, and dizziness**. There is apt to be torpor of the liver and spleen in these cases. There is lassitude, and the patient tires easily. A dull headache is present when he awakes in the morning, and with some exacerbations continues all

day. This form is quickly cured with this remedy. A tincture made by covering the fresh plant with ninety-eight per cent alcohol is required to relieve this headache. Give from ten to fifteen drops of this tincture every two or three hours.

As a remedy for chronic **enlargement** of the **spleen**, and for the symptoms present in that condition, Webster claims that the agent is superior to *polymnia*. Where there are persistent attacks of malaria, and where the system needs a permanent tonic, this agent is of great importance. It promotes the appetite, increases the functional activity of both the liver and spleen, in a normal and very satisfactory manner, and in longstanding cases, the periodicity of all the symptoms, whether of the fever or chill, is overcome by this remedy in a manner superior either to quinine or arsenic. The remedy is best obtained from low, swampy, marshy ground. That which is found in Colusa County, Cal., where Dr. Bundy collected his specimens, is found to be the best.

## **MAGNOLIA.**

### ***Magnolia glauca.***

Synonyms—Beaver Tree, Sweet Magnolia, White Bay, Swamp Sassafras, White or Red Laurel.

#### **PREPARATIONS—**

**The powdered bark.** Dose, from one-half to one dram, five or six times a day.

**Infusion,** wine-glassful.

**Tincture** from one-half to two drams.

**Therapy**—In the treatment of **intermittent fevers**, after the active stage has passed, *magnolia* has been used. It is not an agent for inflammatory conditions, but restores the tone of the gastro-intestinal tract, which has been lost through the persistence of prostrating fevers, or active malarial conditions. In **chronic rheumatism**, accompanied with prostration, and loss of appetite, with **malassimilation**, the remedy may be used to advantage. It is not an active remedy, but one that has a few enthusiastic advocates.

## **MERCURY.**

Synonyms—Hydrargyrum, Quicksilver.

### **Mercuric Chloride.**

Synonyms—Hydrargyri Chloridum Corrosivum, Corrosive Mercuric Chloride, Corrosive Chloride of Mercury, Corrosive Sublimate, Bichloride of Mercury, Perchloride of Mercury.

**OCCURRENCE**—Prepared by the sublimation and condensation of a mixture of manganese dioxide, mercuric sulphate and sodium chlorate.

**DESCRIPTION**—A crystalline body, colorless, odorless, with an acrid persistent metallic taste; soluble in sixteen parts of cold water, in two parts of boiling water, and in three parts of alcohol.

Dose, from the one-five-hundredth to the one-eighth of a grain.

### **Mercurous Chloride.**

Synonyms—Hydrargyri Chloridum Mite, Mild Chloride of Mercury, Calomel.

**OCCURRENCE**—This is obtained from subliming the product of a trituration of the mercuric sulphate, mercury and sodium chloride in boiling water.

**DESCRIPTION**—An impalpable white powder, odorless, tasteless, and permanent, insoluble in water and alcohol and entirely volatile. Dose, from the one-sixtieth of a grain to fifteen grains.

### **Mercuric Iodide.**

Synonyms—Hydrargyri Iodidum Rubrum, Red Mercuric Iodide, Bin-iodide of Mercury, Red Iodide of Mercury.

This salt precipitates from solutions of the corrosive mercuric chloride and potassium iodide. It is without odor or taste, permanent and

comparatively insoluble in water; soluble in 130 parts of alcohol. Dose, from the one-one-hundredth to the one-eighth of a grain.

### **Mercuric Oxide.**

Synonyms—Hydrargyri Oxidum Rubrum, Red Oxide of Mercury, Red Precipitate.

The substance results from dissolving mercury in dilute nitric acid, the product being triturated with mercury. Dose, from one-one-hundredth to one-tenth of a grain.

### **Mercurial Ointment.**

Synonyms—Blue Ointment, Unguentum Hydrargyri.

**OCCURRENCE**—This is formed of mercury, oleate of mercury, suet and lard rubbed thoroughly together.

### **Mercurous Salicylate.**

Synonym—Salicylate of Mercury.

Dose, from the one-thirty-second to the one-eighth of a grain.

### **Mercury With Chalk.**

Synonym—Hydrargyrum cum Creta.

**OCCURRENCE**—This substance is prepared by triturating prepared Chalk and mercury together, and adding clarified honey and water.

**DESCRIPTION**—It is a gray, moist powder, without odor and should be free from grittiness. Dose, from two to ten grains.

### **Mass of Mercury.**

Synonyms—Massa Hydrargyri, Pilula Hydrargyri, Blue Mass, Blue Pill.

**OCCURRENCE**—This is composed of mercury, powdered *licorice*, *marshmallow* and glycerine. Dose, from one-fourth of a grain to five grains.

**Physiological Action**—Notwithstanding the very general use of **Mercury** for more than two centuries, its action is not yet clearly defined and its use is entirely empirical. It is classed as a universal stimulant, and has been used perhaps in every known disease. All authorities now admit that it has been a greatly over-used remedy.

Taken into the system in the milder forms it produces fetid breath, spongy gums and tender, “sore” teeth. The gums bleed readily and the flow of saliva is greatly increased, finally to an inordinate quantity. The inhalation of the vapor of mercury produces the above symptoms rapidly and in a marked manner. These are conspicuous in workers with the metal in the arts in which it is employed. It affects all the special senses in a marked and serious manner; the teeth loosen and drop out, the patient becomes feeble, debilitated, with general physical and mental weakness; the corpuscular elements of the blood are destroyed, this fluid becoming greatly impoverished. The bones, especially the maxillaries, are subject to necrosis, and there is a general disintegration of tissue.

There are muscular trembling, paralysis agitans, chorea, and in some cases locomotor ataxia. The bichloride of mercury—corrosive sublimate—is violently poisonous and produces the most violent gastro-intestinal irritation, vomiting and purging of mucus and blood with the intestinal contents, collapse, with all of its phenomena and death.

In the consideration of mercury, and its compounds as therapeutic agents, the Eclectic school has in the past taken a unique position. The promiscuous, unscientific and excessive use of the agent in the latter part of the last and the early part of the present century, for any and every condition, with the dire results that occurred from such indiscriminate use, caused our earlier investigators to assume a position at the opposite extreme, and to declare that its deleterious influences greatly overbalanced any possible good that could result from its use and they decided to *exclude it entirely* from the list of medical agents, a course adopted in the matter of venesection. With this complete ostracism, they at once set about seeking for vegetable

and other remedies to take the place of these agents, and so well have they succeeded that many of our physicians, eminently successful in practice, have never given a dose of mercury in any form or never opened a vein.

We have so thoroughly replaced mercury in the treatment of syphilis, that we expect even in the "saturated" cases to remove every trace of the disease in a year, and in cases taken at the onset, we expect only mild manifestations if any at all. In the experience of fifty years, in the practice of nearly ten thousand active vigilant practitioners, these results are constantly confirmed, and ninety-five per cent of our physicians do not know from cases developed in their own practice, as the fully developed cases have been brought under their observation, what the developing characteristics of bad cases are. Our physicians know but little of the constitutional effects of mercury, and have had opportunities of treating mercurial conditions, only as the deeply seated cases have come to them for treatment, and not as the results of their own use of the agent. The advantages of our method of treatment are that the patient quickly regains his full tone, is not kept from business, and usually after three or four months' treatment, he is with difficulty persuaded to continue the treatment, as he considers himself cured.

In its influence as a liver stimulant and as a cholagogue cathartic, mercury is now superseded to a great extent in all schools by agents more easily managed, and of more rapid and perfect elimination. For no condition is it given in such excessive doses, and by far the larger part of the profession who use it, use it in minute or fractional doses.

The antiseptic properties of the bi-chloride of mercury are generally acknowledged, and this agent as a germ destroyer is in constant use in surgery.

In the treatment of intestinal disorders and as a liver remedy, mercury with us is almost entirely replaced by such agents as *podophyllum*, *leptandra virginica*, *iris versicolor*, *chelidonium* and sodium phosphate. In the treatment of syphilis our most potent remedy is *echinacea*. The other well known vegetable alteratives are used in various combinations with iodide of potassium. Other specific conditions appearing during the course of the disease are promptly met with specific remedies.

**Therapy**—In a systematic consideration of the conditions under which mercury is now used in medicine, they are found to be capable of division into three classes: First, the use of the agent as a purgative and liver stimulant. Second, its use in the treatment of syphilis. Third, its use as an antiseptic and germicide. A fourth class has been considered, that of an antiphlogistic, but this influence is exercised by virtue of its antiseptic properties.

If the inflammation abates and the temperature falls after its use in typhoid fever and in diphtheria, it is because of the destruction of the bacillus in each case. This statement, however, is open to question in its application to all inflammatory conditions.

In the treatment of **inactivity** of the **liver**, and of the intestinal glands and intestinal obstructions, calomel has been long in use. In the past, calomel and blue mass were given in large doses for these conditions, but their use is now superseded by milder agents and is discouraged by almost the entire profession. Large doses of these agents were given, and then the bowel was cleared with large doses of salts or other alkaline purgatives. One of the most pernicious uses of these agents, which is still countenanced in certain localities, is their use in the forming stage of typhoid to produce violent evacuation of the bowels, the avowed object being to clear the canal of disease germs. The theory is fallacious in the extreme, and the results have been most serious in many cases which the writer has observed. In cases where so used the fever is apt to run from five to seven weeks. In such cases an absolutely non-irritating laxative only should be used which should be followed by a thorough colonic flushing by an antiseptic solution. The bichloride in dilute solution can be used to good advantage, but one of peroxide of hydrogen is preferable and devoid of danger. The internal use of the one-sixtieth of a grain of the corrosive chloride afterwards three or four times daily will keep up the effects, but the peroxide or a vegetable antiseptic, will as effectually preserve asepis with no danger.

In the treatment of **syphilis**, this agent or its salts are considered by the old school to be specific. It is a matter of surprise that so much confidence is placed in it, to the exclusion of all other measures, when every writer narrates so long a train of dire results occurring from even its careful use. The time advised for its continuance is from two to five years, and measures are usually suggested for the treatment of its

untoward effects, and for the treatment of the extreme debility in which the patient is left. A method entirely devoid of untoward effects, and completely successful in six months, in the worst cases in one year, that increases the vital tone of the patient from the first and leaves him in vigorous health, is much preferable and will ultimately receive general adoption.

In the treatment of syphilis blue mass and calomel are given internally; but the agent most popular, and used most persistently is probably the protiodide of mercury. The bichloride is advised in this disease hypodermically, in doses of one-twelfth to one-sixth of a grain.

Inunctions of mercury are made use of in all sanitariums and very generally in private practice. These are made of the oleate or the common ointment, and are applied in the axilla, or in the groins or over the abdomen.

Fumigations or inhalations of the vapor of calomel are also administered in the treatment of syphilis, a method that has been received with more or less general favor, but which must be used with caution.

Inhalations of the vapor of mercury are administered in the treatment of **membranous croup** and **diphtheria**, and if any internal use of the agent be considered rational, this method certainly could be so considered.

As **antiseptics** the bichloride and the bin-iodide of mercury are in common use. The argument of quickness of action and thoroughness is applicable to both, but the bichloride is in most common use. The strength of the solutions vary from one part in one thousand of water to one part in five thousand. Of the bin-iodide one part in four thousand to one part in twenty thousand of water is sufficient. The latter has the virtues of the former, and is less liable to produce poisonous effects because of the large quantity of water used.

The bichloride of mercury is less used as an antiseptic in surgical cases, than formerly.

It is considered a potent germicide in those cases in which it can be safely used. It will coagulate albumen and form with that substance

inert compounds. The addition of a small quantity of a sodium chloride solution to the mercuric chloride solution will prevent such a decomposition. It is most commonly used upon the skin, to render it aseptic in preparation for surgical operation. It is used in the strength of one part to five hundred where a small surface only is to be dressed or where it is to be applied to the unbroken skin; where extensive use is to be made on open surfaces, from one part in five thousand, to one part in two thousand of water may be used. In some cases it will produce a characteristic mercurial dermatitis, some individuals being especially sensitive to its irritating influence. It is not used upon surgical instruments in any strength because of its corrosive action. It may be used as a gargle for the throat and mouth, and to wash putrid abscess cavities, as well as the vagina and bladder.

The bichloride in doses of from one-sixtieth to one-thirtieth of a grain every two hours has been used successfully in malignant **sore throat** and **diphtheria**. The patches are soon removed and the fever abates. We have so many other agents of equal efficiency that have no depressing influence upon the system that our practitioners seldom if ever use it for that purpose.

It is also used as an **intestinal antiseptic** in **typhoid** and other conditions of this character, as has been previously stated.

Triturated minutely with. sugar of milk , the corrosive chloride is efficacious in **cholera infantum** with watery discharges and green stools. The one five hundredth of a grain is a sufficient dose. It is especially indicated where the choleric character is distinctly pronounced. It is similar in its action to arsenite of copper.

## **SODIUM PHOSPHATE.**

Formula— $\text{Na}_2\text{H}(\text{PO}_4)$ .

Dose, from ten to one hundred grains.

**Physiological Action**—If the sodium phosphate, in from one dram to one and one-half dram doses, be taken in cold water before breakfast, it produces a full, satisfactory and painless bowel movement, neutralizes

excessive gastric acidity, and promotes a sense of well-being. Its regular use overcomes many cases of chronic constipation due to inactivity of the liver.

It improves the tone and greatly increases the functional activity of the liver, and stimulates the functional activity of the glandular organs concerned in digestion and food appropriation. It is an excellent eliminative if given in doses of one-half dram three or four times daily. There is no cathartic effect, but its stimulant effects are maintained and an admirable general tonic influence induced. It is an actual brain and nerve food of rare value, a greatly underestimated remedy. To children it is given in doses of from three to ten grains in some convenient menstruum, the dose repeated every two hours. It may be given with the food of infants or dissolved in milk.

**Specific Symptomatology**—The Phosphate of Sodium in certain liver disorders of infancy is specific. The specific conditions are white pasty stools, often hard, sometimes spongy, so light in weight that they will sometimes float on water. This indication is present when there is a deficiency of the biliary secretion.

**Therapy**—The group of symptoms which this remedy will almost invariably cure are the following: **general inanition** and **malaise**, paleness of the mucous membranes, and almost complete **loss of appetite**.

The child cries if laid on its back, or whenever moved, because of **soreness** of the **muscles**, is dull, inclined to sleep most of the time, always irritable, or often restless during the night, not sleeping long at a time. The temperature is sometimes less than normal, but often there is a **variable temperature**, and sometimes there is a remittent fever with morning and evening exacerbations or an intermittent fever and usually a slight rise in temperature.

In all cases there is a **deficiency** of the **red blood corpuscles**, and gradual, sometimes rapid, emaciation; there is an excess of phosphates in the urine, because the phosphates of the system, which should supply the nutrition of the osseous structures, are not performing that function, but are being excreted as a waste product.

The symptoms above described suggest very many remedies or  
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combinations of remedies, but the author has often dispensed with every other remedy, however strongly suggested, and depended upon the Phosphate of Sodium alone, and has seen the patient improve from the first. These symptoms are the precursors of disease of the **bones—caries, necrosis, rachitis**, in fact the above description accurately describes the earlier symptoms of rickets, which may be often prevented by the early and persistent use of this remedy.

**Co-Operatives**—It acts in harmony with cholagogue cathartics, with *podophyllum*, leptandrin, *chionanthus* and *iris versicolor*. In the conditions in which these agents are suggested, this sodium salt is sometimes of unmistakable service.

**GROUP V.**  
**Agents Acting upon the Intestinal Glandular Organs and upon the**  
**Intestinal Canal.**

**CHAPTER III.**  
**Agents Used as Mild Liver Stimulants**

**TARAXACUM**  
**CEANOOTHUS**  
**POLYMNIA**  
**JUGLANS CINEREA**  
**EUONYMUS**  
**SAPIUM SAUCIFOLIUM**

**TARAXACUM.**

Synonym—Dandelion.

Part Employed—The root.

**CONSTITUENTS—**

Taraxacin, taraxacerin, resin, inulin, pectin.

**PREPARATIONS—**

**Extractum Taraxaci**, Extract of Taraxacum. Dose, from five to thirty grains.

**Extractum Taraxaci Fluidum**, Fluid Extract of Taraxacum. Dose, from one to four drams.

**Specific Medicine Taraxacum**. Dose, from five to sixty minims.

**Physiological Action**—This agent acts mildly upon the liver as a cholagogue, and in consequence its laxative influence is mild. It stimulates the flow of bile into the duodenum, and encourages the eliminative changes carried on by the liver. It encourages the proper elaboration and elimination of urea, and the excretion of uric acid.

**Therapy**—It is valuable in combination with other remedies of similar action, in **chronic jaundice**, in conditions attributable to **auto-intoxication**, in **rheumatism** and in **blood disorders**, as an alterative. It

is especially an alterative for **chronic eruptions**, and unhealthy conditions of the skin.

It will stimulate the stomach, and is useful in chronic **catarrhal gastritis** with perversion of nutrition. In **aphthous ulcerations** of the mouth it is useful.

## **CEANOTHUS.**                      *Ceanothus americanus.*

Synonyms—Red Root, New Jersey Tea.

### **PREPARATIONS—**

**Extractum Ceanothi Fluidum**, Fluid Extract of Ceanothus. Dose, from one-fourth to one dram.

**Specific Medicine Ceanothus**. Dose, from one-half minim to five minims every two to four hours.

**Physiological Action**—Astringent, stimulant tonic to mucous surfaces, and expectorant. It is to a certain extent mildly antiseptic. It is an alterative of much power in its influence over the portal circulation.

**Specific Symptomatology**—It has a specific influence upon the portal circle, influencing the circulation. In lymphatic patients, with sluggish circulation and inactivity of the liver of a chronic nature, with doughy-sallow skin, puffy and expressionless face, pain in the liver or spleen with hypertrophy of either or both organs, and constipation, it has a direct and satisfactory influence, especially if the conditions are of malarial origin.

**Therapy**—It overcomes indigestion and malassimilation under these circumstances, by its influence upon the portal circulation, and is thus a stomach remedy of much value.

It is not so direct a remedy in **acute inflammations** of the **liver** and spleen. When the above specific indications are present as a complication of any chronic condition, or with **syphilis** or **scrofula** or in general glandular disarrangements, the agent is indicated. Bronchitis, chronic pneumonitis and asthma are found present with the above general symptoms. Ovarian and uterine irregularities with such conditions will also be benefited by its use.

## **POLYMNIA.**

## ***Polymnia uvedalia.***

Synonyms—Bearsfoot, leaf-cup, yellow leaf-cup.

### **PREPARATIONS—**

**Extractum Uvedaliae Fluidum**, Fluid Extract Uvedalia; not miscible with water. Dose, three to fifteen drops every three hours, gradually increased.

**Specific Medicine Uvedalia.** Dose, two to ten drops.

**Physiological Action**—Given in large doses *polymnia* acts as an emeto-cathartic, producing painful evacuations, with severe emesis, and if pushed produces gastro-intestinal inflammation, dizziness, convulsions and even death.

**Specific Symptomatology**—It is indicated in conditions of inactivity of the organs, with passive fullness of the circulation of the parts, or of surrounding tissues which may be of a sodden inelastic character. Inactive engorgements, or stagnations of the circulation, are general conditions pointing to the use of this agent. Scudder gave as its indications full, flabby, sallow tissues, impaired circulation, glandular enlargement and other impaired functions from lack of tone.

**Therapy**—The older writers of our school lauded this remedy as of much importance in **rheumatism**. Others spoke of it favorably in the same class of cases in which *phytolacca* is used. Dr. Pruitt used it in the form of an ointment, in **inflammation** of the **mammary glands**, and other glandular inflammations, especially if abscesses had formed. The specific influence of the remedy, however, as agreed by all writers, is upon **enlargement** of the **spleen**. This gland is influenced in chronic malarial conditions, in scrofulous diseases and in tubercular difficulties. It is upon the malarial form of splenic enlargement that it acts to the best advantage.

It should be used freely internally, and externally the hot infusion must be applied. Other marked indications may be met with selected remedies.

It is indicated also in the **glandular** and structural **hypertrophy** of

other organs. A chronically enlarged inactive engorged liver, with tenderness on pressure, is quickly and satisfactorily cured by it. A **womb enlarged** from **subinvolution** or other hypertrophy, yields satisfactorily to its influence.

It has been used in **mastitis** or “caked breast” so-called, to excellent advantage, but its prolonged use may suppress the secretion of milk. It is an active stimulant to the removal of waste in all the conditions mentioned. The removal of chronic inflammatory deposits stimulates the capillary circulation to better action and relieves the aching pain and soreness common to such conditions.

It has been praised most highly in the treatment of **rheumatism**, **lumbago**, **myalgia**, and other painful conditions dependent upon the imperfect removal of the products of retrograde metamorphosis. It is a remedy of much value in **scrofulous conditions** with glandular indurations or abscess.

Its external application has relieved many cases of severe **spinal irritation**, especially if present with the general conditions named above as indicating the use of this agent.

Dr. Scudder gave the following list of disorders, in which it had a direct influence: Chronic enlargement of the spleen, chronic enlargement of the liver, chronic hypertrophy of the cervix uteri, chronic gastritis, chronic metritis with hypertrophy, uterine subinvolution and general glandular enlargement. The remedy, no doubt, stands at the head of spleen remedies, but it is not used as it should be, the younger physicians paying but little attention to it. It influences all of the ductless glands.

Dr. Felter says, when dyspepsia depends upon a sluggish circulation in the gastric and hepatic arteries, and is attended with full, heavy, burning sensation, in the parts supplied by these arteries, this is our remedy. It has benefited **leucocythemia**. Its use should be persisted in for weeks. A common cause of failure in the treatment of chronic diseases is the lack of persistency.

The solid extract of **polymnia** is readily incorporated with any ointment base, and the external use of the agent over enlarged glands is often as important as its internal use.

Scudder claimed that it was the best **hair tonic** in the materia medica, in the proportions of four ounces of the tincture with twelve ounces of bay rum, to be rubbed thoroughly into the scalp. A good combination would be castor oil three parts, glycerine one part, lanolin three parts, extract *uvedalia* two parts, melted and rubbed together and cooled. This should be rubbed thoroughly into the roots of the hair. The addition of a very small quantity of *cantharides* improves this in stubborn cases.

## **JUGLANS.**

### ***Juglans cinerea.***

Synonym—Butternut.

#### **CONSTITUENTS—**

A resin, juglandin, a fixed oil, juglandic acid.

#### **PREPARATIONS—**

**Extractum Juglandis Fluidum**, Fluid Extract of Juglans. Dose, from one minim to one-half dram.

**Tinctura Juglandis**, Tincture of Juglans. Dose, from five minims to one dram.

**Specific Medicine Juglans**. Dose, from one-third to one minim; prescribed from ten drops to one-half dram in four ounces of water, a teaspoonful every one, two or three hours.

**Juglandin**. Dose, from one-fifth of a grain to one grain.

**Physiological Action**—Experiments with the drug have ascertained that it influences, with great energy, the liver, small intestines, colon and rectum, causing an increased manufacture and elimination of bile, as well as increased activity of the glands of the intestinal tract. Full doses produce large bilious evacuations, without much pain or griping, in which respect its action very much resembles that of *iris versicolor*.

**Therapy**—It is said to be a valuable remedy in **duodenal catarrh**, with torpidity of the liver and **chronic jaundice**. Small doses have been successfully employed in **dysentery**, **bilious diarrhoea**, and in intestinal diseases, with symptoms indicating irritability, hyperemia, or a tendency to inflammation. Chronic **constipation** can be successfully corrected by medium doses of the extract, if the affection

depends upon defective elimination of bile, causing the stools to be clay-colored and dry from a lack of biliary and glandular secretion.

Combined with other agents, as *hyoscyamus*, *belladonna*, *nux vomica*, *leptandra* or *capsicum*, a most excellent pill can be made, which will cure many cases the above conditions, and will stimulate the stomach and intestinal tract, in those atonic or debilitated conditions which induce chronic dyspepsia.

In the skin disorders named under *dandelion*, pustular and eczematous, it will act in the same manner as *dandelion*, and may be advantageously combined with that agent.

It is specifically adapted to **skin diseases** associated with some abnormal condition of the intestinal tract. **Eczema, herpes circinatus, acne, impetigo, pemphigus, rupia, prurigo, molluscum, lichen** and chronic scaly skin diseases, yield to its influence with appropriate auxiliary measures. Irritation of mucous membranes, chronic inflammation of the throat, eruption over the body like that of scarlatina, **noli me tangere, scrofulous** enlargement of glands, congestion and irritation of the respiratory and gastric mucous membranes, nursing sore mouth, ulcers in the mouth with constipation, rheumatism of the muscles in the lumbar region, yield to its influence.

*Juglans cinerea* has proved to be curative of a great variety of **skin diseases**, whether scaly or pustular, whether characterized by papules or bullae, as stated above, so long as the lesion is associated with some **disorder of digestion** and assimilation

It is analogous to arsenic in its action in squamous affections, and to Sulphide of calcium in pustular diseases of the skin.

It may be used to advantage, both locally and internally, in chronic and illconditioned ulcers, stimulating waste and improving nutrition.

In the treatment of skin diseases with *Juglans*, a saturated tincture of the fresh inner bark should be employed in small doses, at the same time that the remedy is used as a local application. In obstinate cases of **chronic eczema**, the local use of the juice of the fresh inner bark has hastened the cure.



similar color, indicating a cholagogue, *euonymus* is a good remedy.

In large doses, it is a drastic cathartic, causing emeto-catharsis and great prostration.

It is a general **nutritive tonic**, and may be employed where *mandrake* is beneficial, in torpid liver and bilious states, with weak digestion, constipation, and lithemic neuralgia.

*It acts as a hepatic stimulant, improving the protoplasmic function of the liver, and increasing the production of bile.*

Its cholagogue power has been demonstrated by experiments on dogs, all well as when employed in the treatment of the human subject.

In **malarial disease**, after the fever has been broken, and in protracted convalescence, it is especially valuable as a tonic.

In chronic **pulmonary complaints**, it improves digestion, and gives tone to the respiratory organs, acting as an expectorant.

## **SAPIUM.**

## ***Sapium salicifolium.***

Synonym—Yerba de la flecha.

**PART EMPLOYED**—The root, bark and leaves.

**LOCALITY**—Mexico, New Mexico and Arizona.

### **PREPARATIONS**—

**Powdered Root.** Dose, from one-half to one grain.

**Fluid Extract.** Dose, from one to five minims.

**Infusion.** Two ounces of the root to one pint of water. Dose, from twenty to thirty minims.

**Physiological Action**—In large doses it is poisonous, produces dysentery, vertigo and death from prostration and nervous exhaustion.

*Sapium Salicifolium* is an energetic cathartic and diuretic, produces copious liquid discharges without griping. In minute doses at intervals

of four hours it stimulates the torpid liver up to its normal action, also increases the flow of urine and exerts a direct influence on the kidneys and urinary passages.

**Therapy**—In **bilious colic** caused by presence of calculous matter, *sapium salicifolium* combined with mono-bromated camphor promptly dislodges the gravel, calms the nervous system and quiets the distressed stomach.

The principal advantage the drug has over other cathartics and diuretics is its superior efficacy, its pleasing taste, besides its antilithic properties; the agent is not widely known. The small and pleasant dose and kindly action will give it a place as an efficient cathartic, if the above statements are confirmed.

**GROUP V.**  
**Agents Acting upon the Intestinal Glandular Organs and upon the Intestinal Canal.**

**CHAPTER IV.**  
**Agents Used as Hydragogue Cathartics.**

***ELATERIUM***

***JALAP***

***HELLEBORE***

***MAGNESIUM SULPHATE***

***CROTON OIL***

**ELATERIUM**

***Ecballium elaterium.***

Synonym—Squirting Cucumber.

**CONSTITUENTS—**

Elaterin, prophetin, ecballin, hydroclaterin, elaterid, chlorophyll.

**PREPARATIONS—**

**Trituratiæ Elaterii**, Trituration of Elaterin. Dose, grain one-half.

**Specific Medicine Elaterium.** Dose, one-third to fifteen minims.

The specific medicine is one of the most energetic of all ordinary preparations. It precipitates upon addition to water, and to avoid a concentrated dose, a mixture must be thoroughly shaken each time before administration. It has a characteristic clear green color.

**Physiological Action**—Hydragogue cathartic, diuretic. Large doses may kill by causing inflammation of the stomach and bowels.

**Therapy—Dropsies** of a general character are relieved at once by *elaterium*. It produces such hydragogue action as to at once unload the cellular tissues, of serum. It produces such gastro-intestinal irritation, however, in excessive doses, that caution must always be exercised in its administration. If violent vomiting is produced, its influence upon the dropsy is not marked. It exercises a powerful derivative influence and is a depleting agent of marked potency. It is in almost universal use in the treatment of dropsy among old school physicians.

In the treatment of **cystitis**, *elaterium* in small doses is used with excellent results by many physicians.

Both King and Scudder recommended it in chronic and acute cystitis and in nephritis, especially in inflammation of the neck of the bladder. They produced its hydragogue action for its derivative influence first, by half drachm doses of the tincture until its full influence was obtained, subsequently they gave smaller doses. Recent authorities claim cures of a satisfactory character by the use of from ten to twenty drops of the specific remedy in four ounces of water, a teaspoonful every two or three hours. It is deserving of extended trial.

## **JALAP.** *Ipomea jalapa.*

**Part Employed**—The tuberous root.

### **CONSTITUENTS**—

Convolvulin, jalapin, gum, albumen, salts.

### **PREPARATION**—

**Extractum Jalapae**, Extract of Jalap. Dose, from five to fifteen grains.

**Pulvis Jalapae Compositus**, U. S. P. Dose, from ten to thirty grains.

**Pulvis Jalapae Compositus**, A. D., Compound Powder of Jalap, Beach's Antibilious Physic. Dose, one dram.

**Therapy**—*Jalap* is an active cathartic. With the older physicians it was commonly used, but the modern school apparently does not often find a need for it. It produces large alvine or watery evacuations with griping, and extreme nausea in some cases. Hypercatharsis and continued colic are induced by it. It influences the small intestines most directly. In cases of chronic inactivity of the intestinal tract, with persistent constipation and inactivity of the glandular organs, it will increase their action; will cleanse the entire tract and stimulate normal action. It is an old remedy for dropsy. It is superseded by other and more satisfactory agents.

## **HELLEBORUS.**

## ***Helleborus niger.***

Synonym—Black Hellebore.

### **CONSTITUENTS—**

Helleborin, helleborein, gum, resin, fat.

### **PREPARATIONS—**

**Vinum Hellebori Compositum**, Compound Wine of Hellebore.  
Dose, one-half ounce to two ounces.

**Specific Medicine Hellebore.** Dose, one-tenth to three minims.

**Physiological Action—***Black Hellebore*, when locally applied, causes irritation of mucous membranes and of the conjunctiva, inducing redness, swelling and increased secretion. A moderate dose taken internally produces no effect, but a considerable quantity causes loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, pain and inflammation of the stomach and bowels. Medicinal doses strengthen the heart and increase the force of the pulse; while toxic doses cause paralysis with rapid pulse and sudden arrest of the heart. The effect on the nervous system is partial paralysis with tremors, followed by violent convulsions.

The agent in its maximum dosage is a drastic hydragogue cathartic in its fresh active form. It is emetic also and emmenagogue. In overdoses it readily produces hyper-catharsis and hyper-emesis. It is a constituent of proprietary pills, but is not widely used in general medicine. In small doses it acts as a stimulant to the liver and to the secretory glands of the gastro-intestinal tract.

**Therapy—**In **hysteria, melancholy, mania** and other mental conditions in which the **abdominal organs** are seriously at fault, it is prescribed with benefit.

The agent is prescribed in dropsical conditions where there is great inactivity on the part of the liver, with torpidity of bowels, with general anasarca or pericarditis or hydrothorax. It is not always the best remedy even in these conditions.

The agent is a local anesthetic, especially to the conjunctiva. Helleborein, a crystalline glucoside, in solution dropped into the eye, will produce anesthesia of the structures through the cornea while the

sensibility of the contiguous structures is not impaired. It is not in general use for this purpose.

Where there is burning of the skin, sensitiveness in distinct areas, especially of the nates and thighs or flashes of heat, *hellebore* is specific. It is given from five to twenty drops in four ounces. of water; a teaspoonful every hour.

**Physiological Action**—This is a drastic hydragogue cathartic. It is exceedingly irritating and produces a profound revulsive or derivative effect.

**Therapy**—In **apoplexy** or in sudden **paralysis** from cerebral hyperemia, or from rupture of the cerebral vessels, a profound derivative influence may be at once obtained from an active dose of croton oil. In acute **cerebritis**, or in **meningitis**, or in violent delirium, or furious mania in adults, it is sometimes beneficial. Its use in accordance with present methods of treatment is very limited, many physicians finding no place for it at all.

Its external use produces active counter-irritation. This pronounced influence was once thought a necessary measure in **pneumonitis** and **pleuritis**, and it was freely used in inflammatory rheumatism, and in sciatica and other **persistent neuralgias**. It was used in cerebral and cerebro-spinal meningitis, and in cases of excitable delirium and acute mania.

Its influence is too irritating and prostrating for dropsical cases which are usually enfeebled from disease.

## **MAGNESIUM SULPHATE.**

Formula— $MgSO_4 \cdot 7H_2O$ .

Synonyms—Epsom Salt, Sulphate of Magnesium.

**Administration**—For general administration it is better to give this agent in a hot solution. Usually one-half of the otherwise necessary dose will accomplish the same result if hot. It is stated that if an ounce be boiled for a short time in a pint of water to which a grain or two of

tannic acid is added, it will be entirely deprived of its bitterness. In solution in hot milk, it is of value in debilitated patients. The dose as a hydragogue is from half an ounce to an ounce, well diluted. As an aperient and antacid, from ten to thirty grains will prove satisfactory.

**Physiological Action**—By osmotic processes, this agent abstracts water directly from the intestinal capillaries. This explains the efficient influence of the remedy in dropsy. Its solutions are not readily absorbed, and it directly stimulates intestinal peristaltic action. Concentrated solutions of the agent are more active in abstracting water, and thus more efficient when given for the reduction of dropsical effusions. The solutions so concentrated must be avoided if there be no dropsy. While epsom salt is considered perfectly safe, it has produced death in overdoses. Concentrated solutions when dropsy is not present occasionally produce from rapid absorption of the drug, marked constitutional effects, and death may occur, from convulsions or from suppression of urine. There has been extreme vomiting and paralysis. The agent is also poisonous when solutions are injected directly into the blood stream. There is a pronounced influence upon the respiratory apparatus with sudden respiratory failure.

**Therapy**—This agent is demanded when a non-irritating **cathartic** is needed, which will produce copious watery stools without nausea or pain. It is of much service in abdominal surgery, thoroughly evacuating the intestinal canal prior to an operation. Given in small doses it stimulates normal secretion, causes liquid feces and prevents any possible impaction. This is accomplished without stimulating the peristalsis to any great extent, or otherwise disturbing the muscular structure of the bowels.

It is a most available remedy in **dropsy**. If the skin is cool, it eliminates large quantities of water through the kidneys as well as from the intestinal canal.

If the character of the **kidney disease** is such that active elimination is undesirable, it will cause active transpiration through the skin instead, if the skin be thoroughly warm and moist at the time of its administration.

If the patient is greatly debilitated, it will not produce increased weakness, if it is given in conjunction with the carbonate of iron or

some other mild, well selected tonic. If given when the stomach is empty, it seems to act more directly upon the kidneys, as a diuretic.

In the treatment of **dysentery**, given in small doses, it is an efficient remedy. It apparently has a soothing instead of an irritating effect, as have most cathartics in this disease.

It is valuable in **impaction** of the bowels from any cause. In this case fifteen grains of the salt with an equal amount of the bitartrate of potassium every two hours will produce satisfactory results. This combination is also useful as an antacid and refrigerant in many of the disordered conditions of the stomach and bowels during hot weather.

If the agent be administered in full doses in **colica pictonum** it will serve an excellent purpose. Inasmuch as sulphuric acid is a direct antidote in **lead poisoning**, the dilute acid may be added in small quantities to a solution of this remedy.

Dr. Vogler claims that it will **produce sleep** where the cause depends upon indigestion or constipation if given in dram doses. It is used both internally and externally in **rheumatism**.

I have had many reports during the last two years of the application of a solution of an ounce of epsom salt in a pint of boiling water to which ten or fifteen drops of carbolic acid has been added. This is not only beneficial wherever a fomentation is required but is a **superior application**, Dr. Gordon says, in the treatment of erysipelas.

There is a **peculiar disease of the skin** in old people characterized by a hard incrustated condition, dusky red or purplish, which cracks and bleeds, and fissures with a slimy exudate at times, which Dr. Waterhouse cures satisfactorily with the above solution.

Where the patient has a large number of warts which persist in spite of treatment, from two to five grains of epsom salts four or five times a day with a drop or two of **thuja** will cure, Dr. Webster says, in a short time.

As a **pain reliever**, this agent has come into prominence during the past few years, through the teachings of many observers: Burgess of Chattanooga claims it to be distinctly anesthetic. Externally applied in concentrated hot solutions, it often exhibits this influence

satisfactorily for local inflammations. It was suggested for **intra-spinal injections** to control **tetanus**, and at one time to induce temporary anesthesia of the extremities and of the pelvic organs, but serious results followed its use in so many cases that it has now been largely abandoned.

Dr. Cooper advises the agent in ounce doses of the saturated solution every two hours in the treatment of **amebic dysentery**. After the first active operations, he gives thirty drops of this solution until the patient has entirely recovered, using starch, water and laudanum, if necessary for the tenesmus, and **aconite** in fever.

When salt rheum so called is present on the hands and fingers, he immerses the parts in warm solution for ten or fifteen minutes, at bedtime. Then draws on clean white cotton gloves for the night, repeating this each night until cured.

Where the urine scalds or burns in passing from high acidity, he cures with teaspoonful doses of this solution four times a day. Extreme **gastric acidity** is relieved by small doses frequently repeated.

He treats simple conjunctivitis by dropping a few drops of the saturated solution into the eye, to which is added two grains of cocaine to the ounce. He treats ascaris scabei with hot concentrated solutions applied at bedtime.

Dr. Burgess advised the use of this agent to **reduce excessive fat**. He treated a patient weighing 238 pounds, reducing him to his normal weight, 178 pounds at the rate of about ten pounds per month. His method was to bathe the body night and morning with a solution of one ounce of the salt to a pint of water. At the same time a teaspoonful of the same strength solution was taken internally three times a day.

The above course is recommended to reduce the quantity of uric acid in the system when excessive.

To unsightly and disfiguring scars, he applied the same solution preferably hot, twice daily. By so doing, he reduced them to a great degree, sometimes removing them entirely. Dr. Broadnax suggested that this treatment might prevent cancers, which develop in scars.

## **CROTON OIL.**

## ***Tiglii Oleum.***

Part Employed—A fixed oil expressed from the seeds of the croton tiglium.

### **CONSTITUENTS—**

Glucosides of tiglinic, formic, isobutyric and other acids. The vesicating principle is soluble in alcohol, while the purgative principle is insoluble.

**Administration**—The dose of the oil is from one to two minims, best administered in emulsion or pill form. It is not to be administered if there is gastric or intestinal irritation or inflammation, or if there is great weakness or prostration.

A single drop is usually a sufficient dose. This may be administered disguised in anything the patient can be made to take. Dropped on the tongue it acts quickly. Two drops will produce violent action in most cases,

## GROUP V.

Agents Acting upon the Intestinal Glandular Organs and upon the Intestinal Canal.

## CHAPTER VI.

Agents Acting as Direct Intestinal Astringents.

*EPILOBIUM*

*RUBUS VILLOSUS*

*COTO*

*CATECHU*

*KINO*

**EPILOBIUM.**

*Epilobium angustifolium.*

Synonyms—Wickup, Willow herb.

### PREPARATIONS—

**Extractum Epilobii Fluidum.** Fluid Extract of Epilobium Dose, from five to sixty minims

**Specific Medicine Epilobium.** Dose, from ten to sixty minims.

**Physiological Action**—The several species of *epilobium* are astringent, tonic, emollient, and demulcent, and have a specific influence on the intestinal mucous membrane. The *epilobium palustre* has a well established reputation as a remedy in intractable cases of camp dysentery and diarrhea, cases having been cured by it when other means had failed.

**Specific Symptomatology**—**Chronic diarrhoea** with general emaciation, and a persistent enfeebled condition with dry, dingy, rough, harsh skin. If no great structural change, and no tubercular or cancerous conditions are present, this agent is the most satisfactory remedy we have. It is suggested where the abdomen is contracted, and where the diarrhea is feculent in character with sharp colicky pains.

**Therapy**—It will be curative also in general relaxed, subacute or acute cases of **diarrhea**, after the stage of inflammation has passed, but is not as reliable a remedy at that time as *geranium*.

In **muco-enteritis** it is of some service in conjunction with the indicated remedies. It is very useful in the diarrhea of typhoid fever; it acts kindly and surely. The author seldom uses any other astringent when these conditions are present. It exercises an apparent tonic influence upon the mucous and glandular structures of the entire intestinal canal, overcoming ulceration, and being of material benefit in the more speedy restoration of normal function.

In the treatment of **chronic eczema**, *epilobium* was strongly advocated by one of our best physicians. He often gave it in conjunction with *juglans*. In that class of inveterate cases that was at first papular and finally squamous, he got excellent results. Dr. Goss had great faith in *epilobium* as a **skin remedy**. He gave it in doses from fifteen to twenty minims, and in persistent cases he would make all infusion of the herb, having the patient drink it freely.

## **RUBUS.**

### ***Rubus villosus.***

Synonym—Blackberry.

#### **CONSTITUENTS—**

Villosin, tannin, gallic acid.

#### **PREPARATIONS—**

**Extractum Rubi Fluidum**, Fluid Extract of Rubus. Dose, from ten to sixty minims.

**Specific Medicine Rubus**. Dose, from five to thirty minims.

**Specific Symptomatology**—The tonic and astringent properties of this remedy are underestimated. It is an acceptable and prompt astringent in diarrheas of infancy, where the evidences of relaxation and enfeeblement of the mucous coats of the stomach and bowels are marked, and where there is deficient action of all glandular organs, especially of the liver, the patient being pale, feeble, without appetite.

**Therapy**—In those cases of diarrhea where there are large, watery, clay-colored discharges three or four times each day, an infusion of *blackberry root* will sometimes correct this entire train of symptoms. A syrup of *blackberry* will also answer an excellent purpose.

## COTO BARK.

**Origin**—The botanical source of coto bark is not certainly known, but it is supposed to be obtained from a species of *nectandra*, a tree growing in Bolivia.

### CONSTITUENTS—

A volatile alkaloid, volatile oil, resin, starch, gum, sugar, calcium oxalate, tannin, formic, butyric and acetic acids, cotoin, para-cotoin, oxyleucotin, leucolin, hydrocotin, dibenzoylhydrocotin, peperonylic acid.

### PREPARATIONS—

**Fluid Extract of Coto Bark.** Dose, from five to twenty minims.

**Specific Symptomatology**—Epidemic diarrhea, attacks occurring at night suddenly, or in early morning stools frequent, ten to twenty in a few hours; colliquative, rice-water stools, nausea and vomiting with great distress, sharp, cutting pain in the bowels, involuntary evacuations, extreme prostration, surface bathed in cold clammy perspiration, collapse, febrile reaction.

**Therapy**—It is a carminative, stimulant and astringent. It has a specific effect on the alimentary canal but is not a suitable remedy where inflammation exists or is threatened, but rather should be employed in relaxed states, and where some poisonous element has been taken into the system in the food or drinking water. It is antiseptic or promotes asepsis.

It acts favorably in the **diarrhoea** of **typhoid fever**, in colliquative diarrhea from whatever cause, in the diarrhea of consumptives and in atonic and catarrhal diarrhea.

It possesses astringent properties and contracts the relaxed vessels. It is one of our most efficient remedies in the exhaustive sweats of consumptive patients. It may be given in ten drop doses of the fluid extract, repeated according to the urgency of the case.

The best results have been obtained from rather large doses, and it is a

good rule where relief does not follow the prescribed dose to increase it.

Dr. Edison of Indiana was quite enthusiastic on the action of *coto*. He claimed that there was not only an astringent but a positive nerve sedative influence from its action; that it controlled intestinal pain and soothed the nervous system, and in one case he thought that its influence amounted to a temporary paresis. The agent deserves further study.

## **CATECHU.**

## ***Acacia catechu***

Synonym—Terra Japonica.

### **CONSTITUENTS—**

Catechu, tannic acid, catechin, quercetin, Catechu-red, gum.

### **PREPARATIONS—**

**Tinctura Catechu Composita.** Compound Tincture of Catechu. Dose, from ten to forty minims.

**Therapy—**A tonic astringent indicated in diarrheas where the discharges are serous, very watery in character—large fluid discharges, with mucus. It will relieve **intestinal hemorrhage**, when the above diarrheas are present, and the mucous membranes are relaxed, and out of tone. If combined with stimulant tonics or aromatics it is more serviceable. With special uterine tonics, it will be found advantageous in **menorrhagia**.

## **KINO.**

## ***Pterocarpus marsupium.***

**Part Employed—**The juice dried without artificial heat.

### **CONSTITUENTS—**

Pyrocatechin, kino-tannic acid, kino-red, kinoin.

### **PREPARATIONS—**

**Tinctura Kino,** Tincture of Kino. Dose, from ten to sixty minims.

**Physiological Action**—This agent produces a slight hardening and mild discoloration of the unbroken skin. Its astringent influence upon mucous membranes is more pronounced. Upon raw surfaces it contracts tissues, checks the flow of blood, coagulates albuminoids, and in some cases produces local irritation. It is positive and immediate in its action upon the mucous structures of the gastrointestinal tract, acting as a persistent tonic astringent. It is almost entirely devoid of irritating properties.

**Therapy**—*Kino* is less used than formerly. It may be given whenever there is excessive secretion or excretion. In **inordinate night sweats**, either during convalescence from prostrating disease, or those of phthisis pulmonalis, it is a useful remedy. In the treatment of **polyuria**, *kino* is advised as an active agent with which to control the excessive output of water. It is also used in **diabetes mellitus**, and in protracted **watery diarrheas** without pain, characterized by relaxation and flabbiness of tissues, and general feebleness. It may be prescribed in the **diarrhea** of **typhoid**, also, with good results, especially if hemorrhage be present.

The powder may be blown into the nostrils in **epistaxis**, and it may be dusted on ulcers and bleeding surfaces. An injection of a strong solution is useful in **leucorrhoea** and in other discharges either of a specific or nonspecific character. It is of some service in **pharyngitis**, or in **elongated uvula**, also in simple acute sore throats.

## GROUP V.

Agents Acting upon the Intestinal Glandular Organs and upon the Intestinal Canal.

## CHAPTER VII.

Agents Acting as Gastro-intestinal Astringents with Marked Tonic Stimulant Properties.

**GERANIUM**

**QUERCUS**

**CAJUPUT**

**ABIES CANADENSIS**

**VERATRUM ALBUM**

**GUAIACUM**

**GERANIUM.**

***Geranium maculatum.***

Synonyms—Cranesbill, Crow Foot, Alum Root.

**CONSTITUENTS—**

Tannic acid, gallic acid, red coloring matter, a resinoid.

**PREPARATIONS—**

**Extractum Geranii Fluidum**, Fluid Extract of Geranium. Dose, from ten to sixty minims.

**Specific Medicine Geranium.** Dose, from one to ten minims.

**Physiological Action—**A tonic astringent, with alterative properties. It influences the mucous structures, directly improving their tone and function, overcoming relaxation and debility with a marked improvement of the capillary circulation.

From long experience, I have learned to esteem *geranium* more highly than any other vegetable astringent, where a simple tonic astringent action is needed. It is palatable, prompt, efficient, and invariable in its effects, and entirely devoid of unpleasant influences.

**Specific Symptomatology—**Where there are relaxed, atonic or enfeebled mucous membranes, **in the absence of inflammatory action**; debilitated conditions remaining after inflammation has subsided;

excessive discharges of mucus, serum or blood with these conditions, this agent is indicated.

**Therapy**—In sub-acute diarrhoea, *geranium* exercises an immediate influence, a single full dose producing a marked impression and improving the tone of the entire gastro-intestinal tract from the first. In **chronic diarrhea**, no matter how stubborn, it may be given with confidence if the specific conditions are present. In doses of ten drops every two hours, diarrheas of the above described character will promptly subside. Active inflammation must be subdued before the agent will act readily. It is the remedy for the general relaxation of the gastro-intestinal tract in childhood, with protracted diarrhea. Any extreme activity, or hyper-activity of the liver, must be corrected, and this agent will usually do the rest. In catarrhal gastritis, where there is profuse secretion with a tendency to ulceration, with, perhaps a mild hemorrhage, this agent is very useful.

It has been claimed that **incipient gastric cancer** has been cured with *geranium*, and there is no doubt that it takes precedence over many other remedies, when a diagnosis between severe gastric ulcer and incipient cancer cannot be made without exploratory operation. Its range seems much wider than that of a simple astringent, as it controls pain and rapidly improves the general condition. Half of a dram may be given every three hours, but smaller doses may do as well.

It has an influence over **passive hemorrhage** unlike that of other agents, but in violent cases of recent origin it is not the best remedy. The author treated a case of **haematuria** for nearly two years with absolutely no permanent impression upon the condition. Tubercular bacilli were found in abundance in the blood, which was usually arterial in character and steady in quantity. All of the usual remedies were used. Finally fifteen drops of *geranium* were given every two hours, and in two weeks the blood was absent and had not returned at the end of three years, except mildly when the patient persistently overworked. The patient improved slowly in general health and so continued after several years.

Others of our writers refer to its use in **phthisis pulmonalis**. They claim that all the symptoms are retarded by its use, and that it improves the general tone and overcomes **night sweats**. It may have a subtle influence upon tubercular bacilli or the conditions induced by them,

not understood, which would account for its phenomenal action in the conditions referred to.

One physician gives *geranium* in **chronic dysentery** by enema. He uses a dram in sufficient warm water, repeating it as often as necessary. If it induces colic, he adds a little *colocynth* to the enema. It does not check gastric secretions, nor suspend peristalsis. It is a positive tonic to the mucous linings of the entire intestinal tract, especially in colliquative diarrhea.

I used *geranium* in a case of **cirrhosis of the liver** with **ulceration of the duodenum**, with fine results. The disease was held in check for many months.

Dr. Davy treated a case of **habitual menorrhagia** with *geranium* associated with *trillium*. Of all concentrations, he would add one-half to one grain to each dose rubbed up with a little sugar, three or four times a day during the menstrual periods, continuing through the period in bad cases in slightly increased doses.

## **QUERCUS.**

## ***Quercus alba.***

Synonym—White Oak.

### **CONSTITUENTS—**

Tannin, quercin.

### **PREPARATIONS—**

**Extractum Quercus Albae Fluidum**, Fluid Extract of Quercus Alba. Dose, from a half to one dram.

**Specific Medicine Quercus.** Dose, from five to thirty minims.

**Therapy**—The agent is of value in epidemic dysentery acute and chronic diarrhea, obstinate intermittents, pulmonary and laryngeal phthisis tabes mesenterica, great exhaustion of the vital powers from disease, profuse, exhausting night sweats, colliquative sweats in the advanced stages of adynamic **fevers**, and debility, and severe diarrhea in sickly children, scrofula, gangrene, ulcerated sore throat, fetid, ill-conditioned and gangrenous ulcers, relaxed mucous membranes with profuse discharges, **bronchorrhea**, **passive hemorrhages**, **relaxed uvula**

and sore throat, **spongy granulations**, **diabetes**, prolapsus ani, bleeding hemorrhoids, leucorrhoea, menorrhagia, hemoptysis.

Generally *white oak bark* is used locally, in decoction, for the general purpose of an astringent, but it is also tonic and antiseptic, and possesses specific powers.

In severe **epidemic dysentery**, a strong decoction of *white oak bark*, given internally, in doses of a wineglassful every hour or two, the bowels being first evacuated by a cathartic of *castor oil* and *turpentine*, has effected cures where other treatment had proved of little or no avail.

In **marasmus**, **cholera infantum**, scrofula, and diseases attended with great exhaustion, baths medicated with *white oak bark*, accompanied by brisk friction, have restored the waning powers of life.

When employed as a local application to **ill-conditioned ulcers** and gangrene, either a poultice of the ground bark, or cloths wet with the decoction may be applied.

In pulmonary and laryngeal phthisis a very fine powder of the bark may be inhaled.

I have depended upon a decoction of *white oak bark* one ounce to the pint of boiling water, to which I have added after straining, a dram of boric acid for all ulcerations of the mouth or throat, both in the early stages and in many chronic cases. It is surprising how many simple early throat troubles this will abort, and how frequently it will prevent suppuration in tonsillitis. Combined with *Yellow Dock*, it has cured for me the severest cases of nursing sore mouth that I have had, after other lauded remedies had signally failed.

When the remedy is given internally in diarrhoea and dysentery, it should be combined with cinnamon or other astringent aromatic.

## **CAJUPUT.**

## ***Melaleuca cajuputi.***

**Part Employed**—The volatile oil. Solvent, alcohol. Dose, from two to ten minims.

## CONSTITUENTS—

Cajeputene, iso-cajeputene, and para-cajeputene.

## PREPARATIONS—

**Spiritus Cajuputi**, Spirit of Cajuput. Dose, one fluid dram.

**Mistura Cajuputi Composita**, compound Cajuput Mixture. (Hunn's, Life Drops.) Dose, from, one to two fluid drams.

**Tinctura Camphorae Composita**, Compound Tincture of Camphor. Dose, twenty drops.

**Therapy**—It is used in the typhoid state, in the stage of collapse in Asiatic cholera, in exhaustion from cholera infantum, the typhoid condition in malignant scarlet fever.

*Oil of cajuput* is a diffusible stimulant of great power, and is indicated in all depressed and collapsed states of disease where there is no inflammation; such as we find in the advanced stage of adynamic fevers and malignant diseases.

*Cajuput* is a vermifuge, and may be used to destroy intestinal worms. It is antispasmodic, and is one of the most successful remedies ever employed in the painful cramps of **Asiatic cholera**. It is equally efficient in **cholera morbus**, **cholera infantum**, nervous vomiting, hysteria, and wherever there is depression of the vital powers associated with spasmodic action.

It is important that there should be no inflammation present when *cajuput* is employed; and when it is given internally in such complaints as cholera morbus, or spasms of the bowels, care should be taken not to excite inflammation of the stomach by a too free use of the remedy.

Its action is similar to *prickly ash* as a stimulant.

In the combinations known as Hunn's Drops and the compound liniment of *camphor* it has been employed.

In Asiatic cholera, *oil of cajuput*, in various combinations, was an established means of treatment among the older Eclectics. It stops the spasms, overcomes the collapsed condition, and in many cases effects complete reaction. In like manner it controls the vomiting, cramps and diarrhea in cholera morbus and allied diseases.

In acne rosacea, psoriasis and other scaly skin diseases the oil, undiluted, should be applied to the diseased skin three times a day.

In toothache the oil should be applied to the cavity of the tooth on cotton.

In neuralgia the oil should be applied to the seat of pain.

In rheumatism, bruises, sprains, contusions, chilblains, lameness, and other painful affections, the compound tincture (liniment) of *camphor*, well rubbed in before the fire, will be found to afford relief.

The *oil of cajuput* and its preparations may be given on sugar, or mixed with honey, or in an emulsion, or in warm brandy and water.

## **ABIES.** *Abies canadensis*

Synonym—Hemlock spruce.

### **CONSTITUENTS—**

Tannic acid, resin, volatile oil.

**Canada pitch**, or gum hemlock, is the prepared concrete juice of the *pinus canadensis*. The juice exudes from the tree, and is collected by boiling the bark in water, or boiling the hemlock knots, which are rich in resin. It is composed of one or more resins, and a minute quantity of volatile oil. *Canada pitch* of commerce is in reddish-brown, brittle masses, of a faint odor, and slight taste.

*Oil of hemlock* is obtained by distilling the branches with water. It is a volatile liquid, having a terebinthinate odor and taste.

### **PREPARATIONS—**

**Canada Pitch Plaster**

**Tincture of the fresh hemlock boughs**

**Tincture of the fresh inner bark.**

**Specific Medicine Pinus.** Dose, from five to sixty minims.

The *hemlock spruce* produces three medicines; the gum, used in the form of a plaster as a rubifacient in rheumatism and kindred

complaints; the volatile oil—*oil of hemlock*—or a tincture of the fresh boughs, used as a diuretic in diseases of the urinary organs, and wherever a terebinthinate remedy is indicated; and a tincture of the fresh inner bark, an astringent with specific properties, used locally, and internally in catarrh.

**Therapy**—Gastric irritation and vomiting in cholera morbus, leucorrhœa, prolapsus uteri, chronic diarrhea and dysentery, irritation of the urinary organs, croup, rheumatism, eczema asthenic catarrhal conditions, with feeble digestion, and pallid mucous membranes, profuse bronchial secretion.

A tincture from the fresh boughs, or the oil, is a diaphoretic and diuretic, and may be employed internally, and as a medicated vapor bath in rheumatism, pleurisy orchitis from mumps, peritonitis, and all inflammations caused by cold. Internally it may be given in the gastric irritation of cholera mor. bus, and -in irritation of the urinary organs. The oil, full strength, may be applied with advantage to all sprains and bruises and to lumbago, rheumatism. and sciatica, also in herpes, moist eczema, fevers and psoriasis. It is also a good stimulating expectorant in chronic bronchitis and chronic coughs.

A tincture of the fresh inner bark of the *hemlock* may be employed in obstinate leucorrhœa, diluted with two parts of water, being applied to the vagina on cotton, at intervals of several hours to secure a continuous effect.

## **VERATRUM ALBUM.      WHITE HELLEBORE.**

Synonyms—White Veratrum.

### **CONSTITUENTS—**

Jervine, pseudojervine, and protoveratrine.

### **PREPARATIONS—**

The dose of the **powder**, from one to eight grains.

A preparation of thirty drops of the **tincture** in four ounces of water, may be given in teaspoonful doses, to infants.

Twenty drops of an **ordinary tincture** is the dose.

**Specific Symptomatology**—Diarrhea with large watery discharges expelled with violence, spasmodic pains in the bowels, cramps, cramp colic, pain producing prostration, with cold skin, cold sweat and sunken eyes.

**Therapy**—This remedy, in small doses frequently repeated, is specific in **cholera infantum**, **cholera morbus**, and in various forms of acute **diarrhea**. It has some of the indications of arsenite of copper. It has been found beneficial in Asiatic cholera. It is not in general use. It was at one time given to act upon the skin and as an emetic. It is said to be found beneficial in some forms of **nervous headache** and in cases of **mental derangement**.

It has been long in use, to destroy lice, and as an insect powder.

## **GUAIAACUM.**

## ***Guaiacum officinale.***

Synonyms—Guaiacum wood, Lignum vitae, Lignum sanctum, Lignum benedictum.

### **CONSTITUENTS—**

A resin and essential oil.

### **PREPARATIONS—**

**Tincture.** The **resin** or **gum guaiac**. While we have described the wood and the tree from which the resin is obtained, the medicinal principle is located in the gum from the wood, which is procured by natural exudation. A wound in the bark of the tree will permit the exudation of the juice. The gum can also be obtained from the chips of the wood boiled in salt and water. At other times large pieces of the wood are heated, the heat causing the gum to exude. The gum is met with, in amorphous hard dense masses, of varying sizes. It has a sweetish, faintly bitter taste, somewhat acrid. It becomes tough when chewed and may be melted with a moderate heat. When cold it may be readily reduced to powder. It is practically insoluble in water. The resin contains guaiacol, guaiacolum, kersol and protococatechuic acid.

The dose of the **powdered resin** is from one to twenty grains.

The dose of the **tincture** is from one to four drams.

The **ammoniated tincture** may be given in doses of from ten to forty minims.

**Specific Symptomatology**—**Inflamed tonsils**, swollen, tumid and painful. Painful deglutitions. Dribbling of saliva. Persistent dryness of the throat, with difficulty in swallowing. **Rheumatic** difficulty, accompanying **tonsilitis**. Rheumatic disease, accompanied with any soreness of the throat.

**Therapy**—This remedy is a most active astringent in full doses, and yet in overdoses it acts as a cathartic. In medium doses it influences **acute dysentery** and **diarrhea**, and other relaxed conditions of the bowels. In very small doses, from the one-twenty-fifth to the one-tenth of a grain of the resin, it is said to cure some cases of **habitual constipation**, those depending upon extreme atonicity.

Prof. Locke says the remedy is not available when there is a high degree of inflammation, with great vascular excitement.

The agent has long been used as a remedy for **chronic rheumatism**. It seems to influence the elimination in a satisfactory manner. In **rheumatic sore throat** and **rheumatic pharyngitis**, it is a good remedy. The indications for *rhus toxicodendron* will often be found present with the indications for this agent. *Guaiacum* of old, had a reputation in the cure of **sypilis**. It has alterative properties and is useful in some cases of skin disease of a chronic character, but we have superior remedies.



fever or constitutional irritation.

**Therapy**—It is used also in diarrhea and dysentery with discharges of bloody mucous after the bowels have been evacuated by a proper cathartic, blood-specked and profuse watery discharges of **cholera infantum**, **ecchymosis** from injury, **chronic gonorrhoea** with increased discharge of mucus, gleet, **leucorrhoea**, **chronic dysentery**, **chronic diarrhea**, **uterine leucorrhoea**, catarrh of the bladder, painful micturition, the urine being acrid, inflaming the parts, **gravel dysuria**.

One doctor used the *oil of erigeron* in the treatment of **leucorrhoea**. If the patient was anemic, and plethoric, he would give iron in conjunction, five drops four or five times a day on a square of loaf sugar. Others confirm the action of *erigeron* in the treatment of albuminuria or **Bright's disease**. They have found it to reduce the quantity of albumin, lower vascular tension, control nausea, headache, and other uremic symptoms.

The *oil of erigeron* may be diluted and employed as a gargle in sore throat and tonsillitis, while it may be applied externally to the throat.

In chronic rheumatic inflammations of joints, and painful swellings, a liniment of *oil of erigeron* may be used with advantage.

Its action in promptly controlling uterine hemorrhage shows that it is more than an astringent—that it contracts involuntary muscular fibre in the uterus; in like manner it acts on the muscular coats of the bowels, on the arteries and the capillary vessels, controlling hemorrhage and increased mucous discharges.

As an astringent it acts like *turpentine*, but it is much less irritating. It is chiefly composed of terpene, a hydrocarbon which constitutes pure *oil of turpentine*. In chronic phthisis and in chronic bronchitis with profuse secretion, it lessens the discharge, modifies the cough and gives tone to the respiratory mucous membrane.

In the treatment of **goiter**, especially in the early stage, the application of *oil of erigeron* has been very beneficial. One-half of an ounce of the oil is dissolved in one and one-half ounces of alcohol and painted freely over the enlarged glands. If an occasional application of iodine is made with this and *phytolacca* given internally, satisfactory results

should be obtained.

An infusion, or dilution of the tincture in water, is effective as a local application in **ophthalmia** after the acute stage, as an injection in **gleet**, **chronic gonorrhoea**, and locally in **prolapsus uteri**, **prolapsus ani**, and **indolent ulcers**. In all these cases the remedy should be given internally for its specific action.

In **cystitis** from calculous concretions in the bladder, it relieves the irritation, it also acts favorably in **chronic nephritis** and albuminuria, in chronic cystitis and in chronic urethritis.

In **flatulent colic** and in the tympanites of typhoid fever it should be given internally and by enema.

The volatile oil, the tincture, or the infusion may be employed; and the dose, to be efficient, need not be large.

## **CINNAMON.**

## ***Cinnamomum zeylanicum.***

Synonyms—Cinnamon bark, Ceylon cinnamon.

### **CONSTITUENTS—**

Volatile oil, tannin, sugar, mannit, starch mucilage.

### **PREPARATIONS—**

**Tinctura cinnamomi**, tincture of cinnamon Dose, from a half to two drams.

**Specific cinnamon.** Dose, from ten to thirty Minims.

**Physiological Action—**This agent has long been used as a carminative and local gastric stimulant. It has a mild influence which is grateful and soothing. It has been used to check **nausea** and **vomiting** and to relieve **flatulence**.

Its rare properties have been overlooked by the profession and it has been assigned to its exact position by the masses of the people. Midwives and old nurses have long given a strong infusion of cinnamon to control **postpartum hemorrhage**, and it has been advised

in “**nose-bleed**” and in flooding **during miscarriage** and in **menorrhagia**. It has been useful in domestic practice, also in **diarrhoea** and **dysentery**.

**Therapy**—*Cinnamon*, in the experience of the writer, is a hemostatic of much power and is positively reliable in all passive hemorrhages. It is not advisable to combine it with the usual astringents, as *ergot*, *geranium* or *epilobium*, but it acts in perfect harmony with *erigeron* and to a certain extent with *turpentine*. German authorities claim that as soon as the menses or any **uterinehemorrhage** becomes excessive and produces exhaustion or causes alarm the decoction should be administered freely. It works to a better advantage in hemorrhage due to atonic conditions of the non-gravid womb, or where there is muscular relaxation, or a general flaccid state of the womb after delivery.

It certainly restores tone to the uterine muscular structure and induces tonic contraction. It will also, Hale says, moderate hemorrhage not dependent on plethora, anemia or organic uterine disease. In some cases, during labor, it promotes the normal labor pains and materially increases uterine contraction, and prevents post-partum hemorrhage.

The writer, for nearly thirty-five. years, has used an extemporaneous prescription, which is his first resort in passive hemorrhage, if the stomach is not seriously disordered. It is somewhat of an irritant to the stomach, especially if full doses be given for a protracted period.

It is a superb case-remedy for emergencies.

It is made by combining a dram each of the oils of *cinnamon* and *erigeron*, and adding enough alcohol to make two ounces. Of this, from ten to thirty drops on sugar, or dropped at once on water, will control nearly every controllable passive hemorrhage. He has used it in all the uterine conditions named above, in extreme **pulmonaryhemorrhage**—persistent hemoptysis, in the gastric and intestinal hemorrhages of alcoholics. In all forms of hematuria, especially in renal tuberculosis and in habitual nasal hemorrhage, in many cases, a single dose accomplishes the object. As stated, it is not well combined with ergot, but works harmoniously with ergot or gallic acid, if given in alternation.

Two of our physicians at least advise the use of cinnamon in **simple diabetes** of a chronic character. Dr. Houts used it for himself after he had had this disease for months, and found all the conditions improving.

## **CAPSELLA.**

## ***Capsella bursa pastoris***

Synonym—Shepherd's Purse..

### **CONSTITUENTS—**

Volatile oil, fixed oil, resin.

### **PREPARATIONS—**

**Fluid Extract.** Dose, from fifteen to sixty minims.

**Tincture.** Dose, from one to two drams.

**Specific Medicine Capsella.** Dose, from five to thirty drops.

**Therapy—**The agent has been noted for its influence in **haematuria** and other mild forms of **passive hemorrhage**. It is of some benefit as a mild diuretic, soothing irritation of the renal or vesical organs. In cases of uncomplicated **chronicmenorrhagia** it has accomplished permanent cures, especially if the discharge be persistent and devoid of much color. The agent is also useful where uric acid or insoluble phosphates or carbonates produce irritation of the urinary tract.

In the treatment of mild forms of **intestinal hemorrhage** or **gastric hemorrhage** from simple ulceration, the agent has been used with some benefit, also in **atonic dyspepsia**, **diarrhea**, both acute and chronic, and in **dysentery** and **bleeding piles**.

Externally the bruised herb has been applied to bruised and strained parts, to **rheumatic joints**, and where there was **ecchymosis** or extravasations within or beneath the skin.

Dr. Heinen of Toledo treats **non-malignant abdominal tumors** in women with better results by adding five drops of *capsella* three times a day to the other indicated treatment.

## **ALUMEN.**

## **ALUM.**

Synonyms—Aluminum and potassium sulphate, alum, sulphate of aluminum and potassium.

### **Alumen Exsiccatum.**

Synonyms—Dried alum, burnt alum.

### **Aluminum and Ammonium Sulphate.**

Synonyms—Sulphate of aluminum and ammonium, ammonia, alum.

**Physiological Action**—**Alum** is actively astringent. It coagulates the albumin in the tissues and in the blood, produces local contraction of the capillaries, is somewhat escharotic, and produces induration of the skin and tissues. It at first excites and subsequently diminishes the salivary secretion and the secretions of the mucous surfaces of the mouth and stomach, diminishing the secretion of the gastric fluids, and precipitating pepsin. It produces constipation from the suppression of the intestinal secretion. In large doses it has irritant properties which are in excess of its astringent properties, and may produce nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and stomach and intestinal pains. The method of its action as an astringent is not well defined.

**Therapy**—By its local action it is used to control **passive hemorrhage**. The powdered alum is thrown into the nostrils, or applied to a tooth cavity, or to the open blood vessels in a bleeding wound. The solution has been introduced into the uterus to control **post-partum hemorrhage**, and solutions are in common use for the treatment of **passive uterine hemorrhage** and **leucorrhea**.

## **URTICA.**

## ***Urtica dioica.***

Synonym—Nettle.

### **CONSTITUENTS—**

Formic acid, or a substance closely allied to it, volatile oil, gum, starch, albumen, sugar, salts.

## **PREPARATIONS—**

**Specific Urtica.** Dose, from one to ten minims.

**Fluid Extract Urtica Dioica.** Dose, from one to twenty minims.

**Therapy—***Urtica* has been employed for the general purposes of ,an astringent, both internally and externally, in hemorrhages, **ill-conditioned ulcers**, and in chronic disease of the mucous membranes of the bronchi, bowels and urinary organs, and it is generally agreed to be an efficient remedy. It, however, appears to have a dynamic action, as in **post-partum hemorrhage**, **suppression** of the **milk** in **nursing women**, **retrocedent eruptions**, urticaria, jaundice, dropsy, ague and corpulency its influence in small doses is reliable.

The fresh leaves have been used as a powerful revulsive in lethargy, paralysis, intoxication, congestion of the brain, and hysterical insensibility.

From a half to one ounce of the expressed juice of the fresh plant has been given at intervals of a few hours without untoward results.

In the treatment of **eczema** which includes the face, head and scalp, one case was entirely cleansed and anointed with olive oil leaving the oil on until the crusts could be softened and removed. Specific *urtica dioica* was added, two drams to an ounce of rosewater, and applied freely over the parts. The cure was very prompt, especially when the condition of the stomach and intestinal tract was made normal.

This agent is also used when there is **excessive mucous discharge** from the bowels, a drop or two at a dose. Persistent watery diarrheas are controlled by it.

## **ACHILLEA.**

## ***Achillea millefolium***

Synonym—Yarrow.

## **CONSTITUENTS—**

Achillein, volatile oil, tannin, achilleic acid.

## **PREPARATIONS—**

**Specific Achillea.** Dose, from five to sixty minims.

**Specific Symptomatology**—The following indications will guide in the selection of this remedy: Hot, dry burning skin, at the beginning of acute asthenic fevers, with suppressed secretion; deficient renal action, with vesical renal or urethral irritation; acute or chronic **Bright's disease** in its incipient stage. **Leucorrhoea**, with relaxed vaginal walls. **Menorrhagia** and **amenorrhoea**; **hemorrhoids**, with bloody discharge, atonic gastric and intestinal dyspepsia; passive hemorrhages.

Of specific achillea the dose is from five to ten minims.

**Therapy**—While the profession has used yarrow but little, we find an individual physician occasionally who depends upon it for some very important conditions. Dr. Lakin of England uses it in **hematuria**. He claims that it is good in all forms of passive hemorrhage, whether of the lungs or of the kidneys, or **uterine hemorrhage**. *Yarrow* is advised by Webster in **uterine hemorrhage**. It is a mild astringent, probably acting also as a tonic. It is useful in passive hemorrhage when not persistent in character.

It is a beneficial remedy in diseases of the mucous surfaces, relieving irritation and profuse secretion. It soothes **intestinal irritation** and overcomes mild forms of diarrhea. It is of benefit in improving the **tone** of the **urinary apparatus**, relieving irritation, overcoming strangury and suppression of the urine.

It acts best in strong infusion and its use must be persisted in. In general relaxed conditions it is a cure for **leucorrhoea**, where there is a profuse discharge, or thick, heavy mucus from enfeebled mucous membranes.

Dr. John Fearn, of Oakland, California, claims that it has but few superiors in its **influence** upon the **skin**. He says it has a stimulating action which will be a revelation to those who have not used it. It causes the sudoriferous glands to literally pour out their secretions, and with but little depression.

He claims that it will take the place of pilocarpine, with less unpleasant results, and no danger. In **fevers**, he says, especially of the **sthenic** type, when we desire to arouse the skin, nothing can surpass this

remedy. The patient is covered warmly in bed and a hot infusion of *Yarrow* is given in frequent doses. When the skin begins to soften the medicine is continued, but in less doses. If there are evidences of autoinfection, from retained secretion, a little *capsicum* can be added to the infusion. In cases of severe fever, in the first stage, intermittent or bilious fever, it will cause the secretions to be poured out so freely as to discolor the bed clothes.

A syrup made from the leaves relieves chronic cough, especially if there be bloody sputum.

Where there is deficient kidney action, with evidence of **uremic poisoning**, with or without **edema**, this remedy is a very active eliminant. It will take the place of a vapor bath, and that without exhaustion, the patient being very comfortable all the while. It will abort **fevers**, **reduce high temperatures**, in sthenic cases will relieve local and general **congestion**, will restore the secretions, will open the sluice gates of the skin, and eliminate morbid materials.

It was one of the remedies which the ancients used in the healing of wounds. Lakin quotes from an old volume, published in 1633, "The leaves of *yarrow* do close wounds and keep them from inflammation or fiery swelling. It stauncheth blood in any part of the body, and helpeth bloody flux. The leaves put into the nose, relieve headache. It taketh away the pain of cholic."

Dr. Cole of Seattle has confirmed in a practical manner the action of *achillea* on the skin. He has proved its action in indeterminate cases of **incipient fever**, where infection is the cause, but the character is not determined. *Achillea* and *phytolacca* he has used in **tonsillitis**. He has given it in dropsy with good advantage. In old standing cases with organic disease, he has used hair cap moss with it. He uses it in autotoxemia for its active elimination.

In acute **epididymitis** the temperature of 104 degrees, the condition was controlled in twenty-four hours with *achillea*. When there is no abnormal temperature, he believes that it has little but a diuretic action. Where there is a temperature of 100 or above, he has never failed to get profuse diaphoresis without depression. He considers it a certain remedy.

## ACIDUM GALLICUM.

Synonyms—Gallic acid, Trioxybenzoic, Dioxysalicylic acid.

**Specific Symptomatology**—This is specifically a remedy for passive hemorrhages, when the patient is greatly enfeebled, the functions of the body at low ebb, the skin and extremities cold, with relaxation of the capillaries. It has proved in the writer's hands an exceedingly valuable remedy in the treatment of hematuria. I usually combine it with other indicated remedies,

**Therapy**—In **acute Bright's disease**, where the patient is growing rapidly worse, with a very large quantity of albumen in the urine, and where blood is found persistently present, this agent has first place. In no case has it failed to produce some beneficial results. Ten grains should be given in water every one and a half or two hours, sometimes alternated with ten minims of the tincture of the chloride of iron. The patient should be placed in bed and kept comfortably warm, and fed with a, very mild diet. The administration of large quantities of skimmed milk will aid the influence of the remedy.

In **chronic Bright's disease**, where there is a small quantity of urine, with a large quantity of white albumen precipitated, this agent will sometimes restrain the excretion of the albumen. The writer has obtained no benefit from it in those cases where there was but little albumen in the urine. In passive **hemorrhages** from the **stomach** or intestinal canal, resulting from **chronic ulceration**, good results are obtained from this remedy. Like *geranium*, it exercises a beneficial influence upon the stomach, as it does not interfere with the processes of digestion, but rather facilitates them. Where there is **pyrosis**, or other excessive discharges from the stomach or from the intestinal canal, it may be satisfactorily administered.

A number of writers claim to have obtained good results in the treatment of **diabetes insipidus**, or **diabetes mellitus**, but it is doubtful if it permanently influences these conditions.

The most satisfactory field of action of the remedy will be found, as we have stated, in its influence upon the various forms of passive hemorrhage. Externally tannic acid is a more active remedy than this, but internally administered this agent is in every way superior, as

there is but little doubt that tannic acid sustains a chemical change within the system and is changed into gallic acid.

## ACIDUM TANNICUM.

Synonyms—Tannic acid, Tannin, Gallotannic acid, Digallic acid.

### PREPARATIONS—

The powdered acid or the crystallized acid is administered in doses of from three to ten grains.

**Specific Symptomatology**—Passive hemorrhages, relaxed conditions of mucous membranes, which result in the free outpour of mucous; excessive secretions from all organs, leucorrhœa with much vaginal relaxation.

**Therapy**—The agent is not given commonly, where there is active inflammation present. It is not as commonly used at present as in the past. It was freely given in **non-irritative diarrheas**, in the **diarrhœa of consumption**, as well as for the **night sweats** of that disease. It is given for all forms of **chronic hemorrhage**, especially passive hemorrhage. It was given in all cases of **catarrh** where there was an excessive outpour of mucous. The chronic forms of **specific urethritis** are still treated with it by many physicians. It has had at one time a wide reputation in the treatment of **Asiatic cholera**. **Sporadic cholera** is also treated by it.

Externally it is applied to excoriations, piles, fissure of the anus or rectum, prolapsed rectum and aphthous ulceration of the mouth. It is commonly used as an application to **ulcerated and fissured nipples** and to chronic ulceration in any location, **chronic granular conjunctivitis**, and **ulceration** of the **cornea**, purulent conjunctivitis, with **ophthalmia neonatorum**.

This agent is an antidote to **poisoning** by mushrooms and poisonous fungi and to strychnine poisoning.

For internal use, because of its ready and direct appropriation, gallic acid is no doubt superior to tannic acid.