

one instance, it was taken in bitters, chewed, and in decoction, so that a man took as much as six pounds of the root in nine days, but had his back cured, with which he had been a cripple for some years.

6. I have experienced myself, great relief in a chronic rheumatism, by only taking it in liquor as bitters.

7. From the foregoing facts, I am encouraged to think, that a decoction of this root will likely cause the intermission of a fever, and may perhaps become a general cure for fevers; but a purge, or vomit, should be given before it.

8. It merits a trial in hysteric, and hypochondriac complaints, and in all cramps, spasms, epileptic and convulsion fits, and to prevent the return of the apoplexy, that king of terrors.

Observe—That the using of this root has never been known to issue in indirect debility. It never occasions vomiting or purging, nor a flow of urine, sweat, or saliva; nor does it occasion sleep or stupor, like opium; but the patient sits easy as to all these, tho using this pungent root most liberally.

If these ideas should be justified, when put to a sufficient further proof, this root must be placed in the first rank of simples, of all the materia medica; and I should not hesitate to conclude the entire propriety of these remarks, was it not that I remember to have heard, fifty years ago, that it was a root of excellent virtues; and we may wonder why those virtues have not brought it into use, more generally ere now. But, why should we wonder when so small a portion of the riches of the field of nature is yet discovered?

ADDITIONS AND ALTERATIONS.

Page xxi, instead of the second paragraph of chapter iii, read—It would surprise you to see this floating all over you, in a state of good health, like water over a piece of watered meadow, and a steam flying from you in every direction, like your breath in a frosty morning, which you might discover by a good microscope.

ALTERATIONS &c.

To be added to the introduction, page xxii.

Before I quit my introduction, I wish to lay down two general rules in taking medicine.

1. If the patient has ever received special relief from any one medicine, try that again in almost any complaint, for that person.

2. Never trust to one medicine alone, where the complaint is severe or obstinate; but give the first aid by the next best that you can get.—Two men with handspikes, may roll a log that one cannot.

Page 69, line 13, add—New-born infants, strangled in the birth, may frequently be restored to life by the like process.

Page 77, at the end of No. 61—Note, if it be true that cancers and wens are occasioned by the residence of a family of worms, we may be pretty sure of the success of this preparation, if duly applied. A tincture made of No. 19, and applied as above, would likely succeed. If there be a running sore, dress it with the bark of the common Red-root made into a powder, and cover as far as you have annointed round, with some kind of plaster to keep out the air, and dress twice a day.

Page 90, at the end of article 3, 21st line from the top, add the following: Give No. 2 every other day as long as the fever continues. If the distress is great, give it in the fever. I have found the distress abate immediately.

ERRATA.

Page vi, 1st and 18th lines, for "*Leotrill*," read *Lectrill*.

Page xxii, 4th line, for "lap" read *lax*.

Page 44, last line, for "third," read *thirst*.

do. 89, 4th line, from the bottom, for "hurt you more," read, *hurt you no more*.

Page 46, 3d line No. 27, for "two anvil scales," read *two ounces anvil scales*.