

FAMILY HERBAL.
A BRIEF ACCOUNT
OF THE
PRODUCTIONS OF THE
VEGETABLE KINGDOM, &c.
DIRECTED BY THE
ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS IN LONDON:
SHEWING IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER,

First, the Part used; 2dly, its Sensible Properties; 3dly, its Medicinal Virtues; and, lastly, the Mode of Exhibition.

Almonds, sweet and bitter——part used, The kernels of the fruit——sensible properties: The sweet, oily, bland; the bitter, oily, with a peculiar flavour and bitterness——medical virtues: The sweet obtunding; the bitter, sedative and diuretic——mode of exhibition: In substance, the oil being expressed from either kind indifferently. Sweet almonds are employed by trituration in making emulsions, or the milk of almonds.

Aloes Succotrine:——From the island Socotora.

Aloes Hepatic, or common aloes, from the island of Barbadoes——sens. prop. Smell, ungrateful; taste, extremely bitter. The Succotrine have something of an aromatic flavour, which renders them the least disagreeable——med. virt. Purgative, stimulant——mode of exhib. Pill; powder; solution; tincture.

Amber: A solid bituminous substance, dug out of the earth or found on the sea-shore, principally in Polish Prussia and Pomerania——sens. prop. Fragrant when rubbed or heated; nearly insipid——med. virt. Tonic——mode of exhib. Oil; powder; salt; tincture.

Angelica, Garden:——Part used, The leaves, stalks, seeds——sens. prop. Aromatic——mode of exhib. Chiefly as ingredients in some distilled waters and aromatic tinctures.

Anise: An unbelliferous plant, cultivated in the south of Europe——part used, The seeds——sens. prop. Smell, diffusive and aromatic. Taste, sweet and warm——med. virt. Stimulant——mode of exhib. Powder; infusion; oil also in compound spirit of.

Arabic, Gum: A concrete juice exuding from a tree growing in Egypt——sens. prop. Mucilaginous——med. virt. Obtunding——mode of exhib. In mucilage, or strong solution in water strained; also in troches, formed with starch, sugar, &c.

Artichoke.—Part used, The leaves—sens. prop. Bitter—med. virt. Diuretic—mode of exhib. Expressed juice; also in infusion.

Arum. See Cuckow-pint.

Asafetida: The gummy resinous juice of a plant growing in Persia—sens. prop. Smell, extremely foetid; taste, acrid and nauseous—med. virt. Stimulant, antispasmodic, anthelmintic—mode of exhib. Pill. emulsion or milk; tincture.

Asarabacca: A low perennial plant grown in gardens—part used, The leaves—sens. prop. Smell, strong, but not ungrateful; taste bitterish, acrid—med. virt. Stimulant, emetic, purgative—mode of exhib. In powder, as snuff.

Balustines: The product of the pomegranate, a low tree, or rather shrub, growing wild in Italy and other countries in the south of Europe—part used, The flowers and rind—sens. prop. Astringent. Fruit, tart and roughish—med. virt. Tonic, cooling—mode of exhib. Juice of the fruit; infusion and decoction of the flowers and rind.

Balm: A plant with labiated flowers, cultivated in gardens—part used, The leaves—sens. prop. Smell, very ungrateful. Taste, lightly aromatic and roughish—med. virt. Tonic—mode of exhib. Infusion or tea, acidulated with lemon-juice, is an excellent diluent drink in febrile complaints.

Balsam Canada: A liquid exudation from a species of pine-tree growing in North America—sens. prop. Smell, fragrant; taste, moderately pungent and bitterish—med. virt. Tonic, stimulant—mode of exhib. In pills, or in a state of solution, united to watery liquids by yolk of egg, or mucilage of gum-arabic, honey, or sugar.

Balsam of Capivi: A liquid exudation from a tree growing in Brazil—sens. prop. Smell, strong and diffusive; taste, acrid and bitterish—med. virt. Tonic, stimulant, diuretic—mode of exhib. In pills; dropped on sugar; united to watery liquors by egg or mucilage.

Balsam of Peru: A liquid exudation from a tree growing in Peru—sens. prop. Smell, fragrant; taste, very hot and pungent—med. virt. Stimulant, antispasmodic—mode of exhib. By itself in pills: mixed with watery liquors by means of egg or mucilage; also in tincture.

Balsam of Tolu: A thick resinous exudation from a tree growing in South America—sens. prop. Smell, extremely fragrant; taste, mild and grateful—med. virt. Lightly stimulant, in cold debilitated habits; also corroborant in gleans and weaknesses—mode of exhib. In decoction, pills, tincture, and syrup.

Bark, Peruvian. See Cinchona.

Barley: A species of corn commonly cultivated: when decorticated, it is usually called French, or Pearl Barley—med. prop. Mucilaginous, nutritious, obtunding—mode of exhib. In decoction; being first decorticated, it is boiled in water: sometimes, blended with figs, liquorice, and raisins, it is taken as a pectoral drink. Barley, when boiled, forms an excellent article of nourishment; a decoction of it properly acidulated is one of the best beverages in acute diseases.

Bay: An evergreen tree or shrub, cultivated in gardens—part used. The leaves and berries—sens. prop. Leaves, weakly aromatic, and roughish; berries, more aromatic and unctuous: the former are tonic. Two scruples to a drachm of the dried leaves have been taken as tea.

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to resolve viscid humours, strengthen the stomach and cure the flatulent colic. Externally, the berries are employed in the decoction for fomentation.

Bears-Foot, is a perennial plant, a native of England, growing wild in meadows and shady places—part used, The leaves—sens. prop. Smell, disagreeable; taste, bitterish, and very acrid—med. virt. Anthelmintic—mode of exhib. From five to fifteen grains of the dried leaves may be given; or a drachm may be taken in the form of decoction; or one to three tea-spoonfuls of the expressed juice of the fresh leaves, made into a syrup with coarse sugar, are given every morning and evening, to children five or six years old; or two drachms to half an ounce of the dried leaves being infused in a pint of boiling water, a cupful or two is frequently given as a domestic medicine to destroy worms. It ought to be given very sparingly at first, these leaves being so violent in their operation, when incautiously taken, as to have produced fatal effects.

Benzoin, or **Benjamin**:—A concrete resin, exuding from an East Indian tree—sens. prop. Very fragrant, with little taste. The flowers of Benjamin produced by sublimation are very pungent and saline—med. virt. Stimulent; vulnerary—mode of exhib. Dissolved in rectified spirit for external purposes. It may also be employed in vapour. The flowers are taken internally in substance, in doses of five to ten grains, mixed up with simple syrup, in asthmatic and other pectoral diseases.

Bistort-Root, or **Snake-Weed**: A perennial plant, growing wild in moist situations—part used, The root—sens. prop. A strong simple astringent—med. virt. Tonic—mode of exhib. Powder; decoction; infusion. This is one of the strongest of our vegetable astringents. Dr. Cullen frequently employed it, by itself, and with gentian, in agues. He gave it to the quantity of three drachms in one day.

Bole, **French**: An earth of the argillaceous kind, impregnated with iron—sens. prop. Absorbent, astringent—med. virt. Desiccative—mode of exhib. Powder; electuary; liniment.

Brook-lime: A low plant, growing in wet ditches—part used, The herb—sens. prop. Roughish, bitterish, slightly pungent—med. virt. Antiseptic—mode of exhib. Eaten crude. The expressed juice may also be taken as an antiseptic.

Broom: A shrubby papilionaceous plant, growing wild—part used, The green twigs and seeds—sens. prop. Bitter and nauseous—med. virt. Aperient and diuretic—mode of exhib. The twigs in infusion, from which an extract is also prepared. The seeds in substance. A decoction of green broom drank freely, with the occasional addition of spirit of nitrous æther, is useful in anasarca cases.

Buckbean: A perennial plant, growing in marshy situations—part used, The leaves—sens. prop. Simply bitter—med. virt. Tonic, aperient, stomachic—mode of exhib. Infusion.

Buckthorn: A prickly bush, growing in hedges—part used, The root—sens. prop. Smell, ungrateful; taste bitter, acrid, nauseous—med. virt. Strongly purgative—mode of exhib. The expressed juice, with the addition of cinnamon, ginger, nutmeg, and sugar, is formed into a syrup, that is often added to purgative lavements.

Burdock: A plant with compound flowers contained in prickly heads,

- growing wild—part used, The root—sens. prop. Sweetish, with a slight bitterness and roughness—med. virt. Diuretic and Sudorific—mode of exhib. Decoction: two ounces of the fresh root boiled in three pints of water till reduced to two pints: the strained liquor may be drank in the course of twenty-four hours, in scurvy, rheumatism, and dropsy.
- Calamus Aromaticus**, or Sweet-scented Flag: A perennial plant growing in marshy situations—part used, The root—sens. prop. Smell, aromatic; taste, warm and bitter—med. virt. Tonic—mode of exhib. Infusion; tincture; also in decoction.
- Camomile**: A trailing plant, with compound flowers, cultivated in gardens—part used, The leaves and flowers—sens. prop. Smell, Strong; most agreeable in the flowers. Taste, nauseous and bitter—med. virt. Tonic, aperient, antiseptic—mode of exhib. Powder; infusion; extract of, formed into pills. Externally: in decoction for fomentations; also for clyster with mallow-flowers and fennel-seeds.—The Roman, or double-flowering camomile are the strongest, and yield most essential oil. These flowers have been long celebrated as a stomachic; and answer, says Dr. Cullen, the purpose of any other bitter. Previously to the introduction of the Peruvian bark, they were much employed in the cure of intermittent fevers. Dr. Piteairu thought them in that respect equal to cinchona.
- Campher**: A solid concrete obtained from a tree growing in Japan and Sumatra—sens. prop. Smell, fragrant and penetrating; taste, pungent, with a sense of coolness—med. virt. Stimulant, antispasmodic, diuretic—mode of exhib. In pill or bolus; in watery emulsion with sugar or mucilage. Externally: dissolved in oil or rectified spirit; also in ointments and liniments.
- Canella**: The bark of a tree growing in the West Indies—sens. prop. Smell, aromatic; taste, warm and pungent—med. virt. Aromatic, stimulant stomachic—mode of exhib. Powder, also in the compound tincture of gentian.
- Cantharides**: Spanish flies; insects of the beetle kind, found in the South of Europe—sens. prop. Smell disagreeable; taste, highly acrid; caustic—med. virt. Stimulant, vesicating, diuretic—mode of exhib. Internally, in tincture; externally, in powder and extract formed into an ointment and plaster.
- Caraway**: An umbelliferous plant, cultivated in gardens—part used, The seeds; they contain a large proportion of essential oil—sens. prop. Moderately warm and aromatic—med. virt. Carminative, stimulant—mode of exhib. Powder, and said to be particularly corrective of the odour, taste, and griping quality of senna. From these seeds a spirituous water is distilled.
- Cardamoms Lesser**: The seeds of a perennial plant growing in the East Indies—sens. prop. Smell, very grateful; taste, warm and pungent—med. virt. Carminative, stimulant, stomachic—mode of exhib. Powder; tincture: which are frequently employed as correctors of medicines of the cold aperient class.
- Carrot**: An umbelliferous plant growing wild—part used, The seeds—sens. prop. Lightly aromatic and pungent—med. virt. Stimulant,

- diuretic—mode of exhib. Powder, infusion, in scorbutic disorders and dropsy, and in diuretic drinks.
- Cascarilla**: The bark of a shrub growing in the West Indies—sens. prop. Aromatic and bitter—med. virt. Tonic, stomachic—mode of exhib. Powder; infusion; decoction; tincture; and extract. A useful medicine in bilious, remittent, malignant, and intermittent fevers.
- Cassia Fistula**: The pod of a tree growing in Egypt and in the East and West Indies—part used, The pulp lining the pod and its valves—sens. prop. Sweet, and lightly acrid—med. virt. Mildly purgative—mode of exhib. In electuaries.
- Castor**: The inguinal glands of the Castor or Beaver—part used, The internal friable matter—sens. prop. Smell, strong and ungrateful; taste, acrid and nauseous—med. virt. Stimulant, antispasmodic—mode of exhib. Powder; pill; bolus; tincture.
- Catechu** has erroneously been called Japan earth. It is an extract obtained by infusing the wood of a tree growing in the East Indies—sens. prop. Astringent, with a degree of sweetness—med. virt. Tonic—mode of exhib. Decoction; infusion; powder; tincture; in obstinate diarrhœas, dysenteries and other preternatural discharges.
- Centaur, Lesser**: A small annual plant, growing in dry situations—part used, The leaves and flowering tops—sens. prop. Simply bitter—med. virt. Tonic. In cases of atony, dyspepsy, jaundice—mode of exhib. Infused after the manner of tea; a tea-cupful two or three times a-day.
- Cinchona**: The bark of a tree growing in Peru. About the year 1640, the lady of the Spanish Viceroy, the Comitissa del Cinchona, was cured of an obstinate intermittent by this bark; and from the interest which Cardinal de Lugo and the Jesuit brotherhood took in its sale and distribution, it has been called Cardinal de Lugo's powder, Jesuits' bark, &c.; from the place of its growth, Peruvian bark; or simply, from its pre-eminent virtues, the BARK. In many foreign countries it is nevertheless better known by the name of Quinquina, or Cinchona—sens. prop. Smell, peculiar, not agreeable; taste, strongly bitter and astringent—med. virt. Tonic, antiseptic—mode of exhib. In powder; electuary; infusion; decoction; or the extract may be given in the form of pills, either alone or with other medicines. The extract is well calculated for weak stomachs that cannot bear much bark in substance. Cinchona finely powdered and quilted in the folds of a linen waistcoat, or repeatedly exhibited, in the form of a clyster, has frequently proved efficacious in obstinate agues, when every other method has failed; particularly with children, and in relaxed habits.
- Cinnamon**: The bark of a tree growing in the island of Ceylon, and which has been transplanted lately to various other places—sens. prop. A warm and extremely grateful aromatic and astringent—med. virt. Tonic, stimulant—mode of exhib. Powder; infusion; decoction; tincture; also employed in simple, and in a spiritous distilled water, as a vehicle, or sometimes as an adjunct, to various other medicines.
- Cinquefoil**: A trailing plant growing wild—part used, The root—sens. prop. Mildly astringent—med. virt. Tonic, in diarrhœas and relaxed gums—mode of exhib. In substance, half a drachm to a drachm; also in decoction, infusion, and gargles.

Cloves: The immature flowers and flower-cups of a tree growing in the East Indies—sens. prop. Smell, very fragrant; taste, extremely hot and acrid—med. virt. Stimulant, carminative—mode of exhib. Powder; oil. The former may be employed by infusion, two drachms of cloves to half a pint of boiling water, in doses of three or four spoonfuls, against flatulency, in dyspepsy, and as a vehicle to other medicines.

Clove July Flower: A plant of the cruciform class, cultivated in gardens—part used. The flowers—sens. prop. Aromatic, roughish—med. virt. Tonic—mode of exhib. The syrup formed by an infusion of the flowers, with sugar.

Cochinical: A small insect of the scarabeus kind, brought chiefly from the Spanish West Indies. Employed for the fine crimson colour which it imparts to various ingredients.

Colocyuth, or Bitter Apple: The fruit of a species of gourd growing in the East—part used. The fungous medullary pulp—sens. prop. Intensely bitter, acrid, and nauseous—med. virt. An extremely irritating cathartic—mode of exhib. Infusion; powder; pill; extract.

Colt's-Foot: A perennial plant with compound flowers, growing wild—part used. The leaves and flowers—sens. prop. Mucilaginous, bitterish, and roughish—med. virt. Obtunding, Tonic—mode of exhib. Infusion; decoction: in hectic and pectoral complaints, in the form of tea.

Columba: A root brought from the island of Ceylon—sens. prop. Smell, slightly aromatic; taste, intensely bitter—med. virt. Tonic, antiseptic, stomachic; a corrector of putrid bile—mode of exhib. Powder; infusion; tincture. Employed in many instances of dyspepsia with great advantage, and to stop vomiting. The powder, in doses of ten grains to thirty, joined with equal parts of vitriolated kali, is given with success in acute bilious cases.

Contrayerva: The root of a small plant growing in South America—sens. prop. Smell, lightly aromatic; taste, roughish, bitterish, and penetrating—med. virt. Tonic, stimulant, diaphoretic—mode of exhib. Powder; infusion; decoction; employed in fevers attended with debility and putrescency.

Coral, Red: A marine earthy substance, the habitation of insects—sens. prop. Calcareous—med. virt. Antacid—mode of exhib. Powder.

Coriander: An umbelliferous plant cultivated in gardens—part used. The seeds—sens. prop. Smell, aromatic; taste, moderately warm—med. virt. Carminative, stomachic—mode of exhib. Infusion; powder; tincture. These have the common qualities of other carminative seeds, and, when dried, are generally very agreeable. Infused along with senna, they are more powerful in correcting the odour and taste of this than any other aromatic, and are equally powerful in obviating the griping that senna is very ready to produce: hence coriander seeds are an ingredient in various purgative compositions.

Cow-itch or Cowhage: A papilionaceous plant, growing in both Indies—part used. The hairs covering the pods—sens. prop. Mechanically irritating—med. virt. Anthelmintic—mode of exhib. A tea-spoonful to a table-spoonful of the medicine, mixed with syrup or molasses, and taken in a morning fasting, occasions no uneasiness in the primæ viæ.

which are defended by mucus. The worms are said to appear with the second or third dose; and, by means of a purgative dose of the solution of vitriolated magnesia, the stools have consisted chiefly of worms.

Crab's Claws: The black tips of the claws of the common crab—sens. prop. Absorbent, calcareous—med. virt. Antacid—mode of exhib. Powder.

Crab's Eyes (so called): Stony concretions found in the head or stomach of the river craw-fish—sens. prop. Absorbent, not calcareous—med. virt. Antacid—mode of exhib. Powder.

Cuckow-pint, Arum, or Wake-Robin: A perennial plant growing wild—part used, The root—sens. prop. Extremely hot, pungent and acrid, especially when fresh—med. virt. Stimulant—mode of exhib. Dose, grains ten to twenty; also in conserve, half a drachm to a drachm, is stimulant and attenuant, and is well suited to phlegmatic habits. This root is knotty, roundish, and white. When it is collected in the spring before the leaves shoot, or in autumn after flowering, it contains a milky juice of very great acrimony. Applied to the tongue, it causes a burning heat, which lasts for many hours, and excites considerable thirst. These painful symptoms may be relieved by butter-milk or oily fluids. Rubbed between the fingers, it blisters and excoriates them; yet, notwithstanding it is a corrosive vegetable poison, its acrimony is easily destructible: by drying, it loses the greatest part of its acrimony, and by repeated washings it is also rendered perfectly mild. A tailor had lately a paralytic stroke, by which he was bereaved of the use of his right hand; he was advised to rub it frequently with the root of arum (cuckow-pint, or wake-robin), and also to apply a poultice of it to his hand. He is now a great deal better, and can make use of his hand, though not, however, so well as formerly; the Editor, therefore, has directed him to wash his hand and arm, two or three times a day, with a tepid infusion of this root mixed with flower of mustard-seed; and then to apply the following anti-paralytic embrocation: Take a pint of bruised mustard-seed, moisten it well with equal parts of spirit of rosemary and simple spirit of lavender; after the mixture has stood twenty-four hours in a very gentle heat, squeeze it by a hand press: the liquid thus obtained is an uniform mixture of the oil with the pungent part of the seed and the aromatic spirits, and is, indeed, worthy of being called—the Essence of Mustard.

Cucumber, Wild: A plant of the cucurbitaceous kind growing in gardens—part used, The fruit—sens. prop. Smell, ungrateful; taste, nauseous and bitter—med. virt. Stimulant, emetic, and strongly cathartic—mode of exhib. Expressed juice, which being inspissated is called elaterium. In a dose of half a grain to two or three grains, it has proved efficacious in reducing dropsical swellings, and preparing the patient for the exhibition of tonics and corroborants; but great caution is requisite in using this medicine.

Umbin: An umbelliferous plant, cultivated in the South of Europe—part used, The seeds—sens. prop. Smell, strong and ungrateful; taste, warm and bitterish—med. virt. Stimulant, antiseptic—mode of exhib. Powder; infusion; externally, as a warm poultice, or a discutient plaster.

Currant, Black: The fruit of a native shrub that grows wild in England, and is cultivated for the sake of its acid, cooling, antiseptic juice, of which a syrup and a rob are prepared, which is employed in recent catarrhs, attended with sore throat or fever.

Currant, Red: This, like the former, is cultivated for the sake of its pleasant subacid fruit: of this a jelly is formed, by boiling the juice with a sufficient quantity of sugar, which is often used as an antiseptic demulcent in sore throats, and, dissolved in water, forms a pleasant cooling drink in bilious and feverish complaints. Mr. F. S. Stuart, of Billeriac in Essex, has informed the public, that he was brought to the verge of the grave by a consumption of the lungs, and restored to perfect health by eating three or four pints per day of ripe currants, white and red; and he mentions other persons who have been recovered from the same disease by the same means.

Dandelion: A plant with compound flowers, growing common—part used, The herb and root—sens. prop. Abounding in a milky bitterish, sub-aerid juice—med. virt. Aperient, diuretic, resolvent—mode of exhib. Expressed juice of the herb; decoction and infusion of the root. The root, with sorrel-leaves, in broths, taken daily for some months, interposing, now and then, a laxative dose of cream of tartar, has removed hardness of the liver, ascites, and gall-stones.

Dill: An umbelliferous plant growing in warm climates—part used, The seeds—sens. prop. Mildly aromatic—med. virt. Stimulant—mode of exhib. A simple distilled water, and an essential oil.

Dragon's Blood: A resin obtained from a large plum-like tree in the East Indies—sens. prop. In substance inodorous and insipid; in solution, somewhat warm and pungent—med. virt. Tonic—mode of exhib. Powder. It now gives place to a more efficacious gum-resin, called Kino.

Egg, Hen's:—part used, The yolk, white, and shell—sens. prop. Yolk, sapid and mucilaginous; white, insipid and mucilaginous. They are both unwholesome and delicate articles of food—med. virt. The yolk is often used in pharmacy, for suspending oily and resinous substances in water; the white is used to clarify liquids; the shells, freed from the membrane lining them, and finely levigated, are an absorbent. Two raw new-laid eggs, beaten up in a glass of water, taken in the morning fasting, and repeatedly given every four hours throughout the day, have proved very beneficial in obstinate jaundices occasioned by viscid bile, or gluten obstructing the biliary ducts.—The yolk of two new-laid eggs, beaten up with an ounce and a half (i. e. three table-spoonfuls) of rose-water, seasoned by three or four grains of nutmeg, and mixed with half a pint of milk, fresh from the cow, sweetened with powdered sugar-candy, or syrup of capillaire, if taken early (i. e. before rising) in a morning, is a safe palliative medicine in pulmonary consumption. The use of it should be persisted in some weeks. malt and spirituous liquors should be avoided, and, to restrain the profuse perspirations to which hectic patients are liable, one to three or four tea-spoonfuls of the following electuary may be taken in the morning, when the heats come on; at noon, and also at bed-time. Conserve of roses, two ounces, diluted vitriolic acid, three drachms; mix.

Elder; A small tree growing in hedges—part used, The flowers, berries, and bark—sens. prop. Flowers, fragrant; berries sweetish; bark, sweetish and sub-acrid—med. virt. Flowers and berries laxative—mode of exhib. Infusion of the flowers, laxative; and, boiled in oil and suet, forms a cooling emollient ointment; decoction of the bark, emetic and purgative in dropsical cases. The rob, or inspissated juice of the berries, is cooling and aperient. It is recommended in dyspepsy, and debility of the urinary passages, in doses of a drachm to half an ounce or more.

Elecampane; A large plant with compound flowers, growing wild—part used, The root—sens. prop. Aromatic, nauseous, bitter, pungent—med. virt. Stimulant, aromatic—mode of exhib. Powder; infusion—decoction.

Elemi (gum); A concrete resinous juice, obtained from a large tree growing in both Indies—sens. prop. Smell, strong and grateful; taste, slightly bitter—med. virt. Stimulant—mode of exhib. In ointments.

Elm: A tall timber tree, of common growth—part used, The inner bark—sens. prop. Mucilaginous, sub-astringent—med. virt. Tonic, aperient—mode of exhib. Decoction; the quantity of a pint to a quart a-day, prepared by boiling four ounces of the inner bark, bruised, in four pints of water to two pints, to relieve leprous and other cutaneous disorders.

Eringo Root, or Sea Holly: A prickly plant with flowers in a head, growing on the sea shore—part used. The roots—sens. prop. Slightly aromatic and bitterish—med. virt. Stimulant and diuretic—mode of exhib. Decoction. It is often employed as a conserve or sweetmeat.

Fennel, Sweet: An unbelliferous plant, growing in the warmer climates—part used, The seeds—sens. prop. Smell, aromatic; taste, warm and Sweetish—med. virt. Stimulant, diuretic—mode of exhib. Powder; infusion; and simple distilled water.

Fenugreek: the seeds are obtunding and emollient. They are employed in cataplasms, clysters, and fomentations.

Fern, powder of the Root: lightly styptic and sub-acrid; given in doses of two drachms to three, to an adult, to a child about a drachm, in a morning fasting, against the tape-worm; taking two hours afterwards one to three grains or more of calomel, according to the age and constitution of the patient, and, if necessary, a dose of vitriolated magnesia at proper intervals.

Figs: The preserved fruit of the fig tree. Aperient, obtunding, in emollient decoctions. Externally heated as warm as they can easily be borne, to promote the suppuration of a phlegmon when so situated that other cataplasms cannot be easily applied.

Fox Glove: A plant with beautiful gaping flowers, growing wild—part used, The leaves—sens. prop. Poisonous, bitterish, very nauseous—med. virt. Strongly cathartic, diuretic, emetic, and sedative—mode of exhib. Infusion; decoction; powder; tincture. In asthmatic and dropsical cases, the powder (which is the least uncertain way of exhibiting this herculean remedy) may be given in doses of a quarter or half a grain, very gradually and cautiously increased to two grains, mixed with one to two grains of aromatic powder, once in eight or twelve hours, according to the effect.

Frankincense: Stimulant, tonic. Chiefly used in plasters.

- Galls:** Excrescences formed on the oak-tree by insects in the warmer climates—sens. prop. Strongly astringent—med. virt. Tonic—mode of exhib. Powder; infusion; decoction. Externally applied to parts affected with hæmorrhoids, or piles, in the proportion of a drachm of powdered galls mixed with one ounce of hog's lard.
- Galbanum:** A gummy-resinous concrete, obtained from an umbelliferous plant growing in Ethiopia—sens. prop. Smell, foetid; taste, bitterish, warm, and pungent—med. virt. Discutient, stimulant, antispasmodic—mode of exhib. Pill; emulsion; tincture; plaster.
- Gamboge:** A gummy-resinous concrete, obtained from certain East India trees—sens. prop. Taste, acrid; colour, deep yellow—med. virt. Emetic, and strongly cathartic—mode of exhib. Pill; emulsion; tincture.
- Garlic:** A bulbous-rooted plant, cultivated in gardens—part used, The roots—sens. prop. Smell, very strong, diffusive and ungrateful; taste, extremely acrimonious and penetrating—med. virt. Internally, stimulant, expectorant, diuretic, laxative, and sudorific; improper for persons of an inflammatory or sanguine temperament, but an excellent medicine for the aged and phlegmatic. The Editor is sorry that the limits prescribed to him will not permit him to add more in recommendation of this useful "Domestic Medicine," than that the juice of garlic dropped on cotton, and applied to the meatus or orifice of the ear, for deafness, till it excite moderate pain and heat, will increase the secretion of mucus in the organ of hearing: That garlic is eaten crude, taken in the form of pill or bolus, and in whey. It is often applied with success, in the form of cataplasms to the soles of the feet; to relieve disorders of the head or breast, and pains of the teeth.
- Gentian:** A perennial plant, growing in the mountainous parts of Germany—part used, The root—sens. prop. Intensely bitter—med. virt. Tonic, stomachic—mode of exhib. Infusion; tincture. The extract may be joined with the preparations of iron, and with other medicines, and taken in the form of pills. A medicine has been long famous and much employed in this country, under the title of Elixir stomachicum, or Stoughton's Elixir, in resemblance and medical effect coinciding with the compound tincture of gentian.
- Ginger:** The root is often taken as a carminative and stomachic prepared as a sweetmeat. This useful root is often directed in powder, being aromatic, cordial, and carminative. It is likewise an useful ingredient in infusions.
- Ginseng:** The root of a small plant growing in China, Tartary, and North America. It is mucilaginous with sweetness, and bitterish with some aromatic warmth—med. virt. Tonic, antispasmodic, obtunding—mode of exhib. Powder, half a drachm or more; or infusion. In cases of paralysis of the tongue, &c. it may be chewed.
- Guaiacum:** A large tree growing in the West Indies—part used, The wood, bark, and resin or gum—sens. prop. Smell, lightly aromatic; taste, sub-acrid—med. virt. Alterative, stimulant, sudorific—mode of exhib. The wood and bark in decoction: the gum in pill, bolus, tincture. Before the preparations of quicksilver were discovered to have a specific virtue in curing the venereal disease, guaiacum sold at an immense high price.

Hartshorn: The horns of the male red deer. Rasped and boiled in water, they yield an insipid, obtunding, nutritive jelly. An astringent decoction is prepared by boiling calcined hartshorn with gum arabic, as directed in the Appendix.

Hellebore Black: A perennial plant growing in Germany. The root is used in medicine. It is bitter, pungent, alterative, attenuant, and deobstruent; strongly purgative, and stimulant. This root was much employed by the ancients in infusion and decoction. It continues to be administered in powder, tincture, and extract. The latter is employed with other ingredients (myrrh, &c.) against dropsical diseases.

Hellebore White: A perennial plant growing in Switzerland and other mountainous parts of Europe—part used. The root—sens. prop. Smell, disagreeable; taste, nauseous, bitterish, and very acrid—med. virt. Violently emetic and cathartic; sternutatory—mode of exhib. Externally, in powder and decoction.

Hemlock: An umbelliferous plant growing wild in moist shady places—part used. The leaves—sens. prop. Smell, fœtid; taste, herbaceous—med. virt. Narcotic, in large doses; alterative, sedative, diuretic, anodyne, in smaller ones—mode of exhib. Powder of the leaves; also the inspissated juice of the leaves, commonly called the extract of hemlock. This, as well as all other medicines capable of acting so powerfully on the nervous system, ought, if possible, to be given under the direction of gentlemen of the medical profession. It is safe to begin with two grains for an adult three times a-day, which has in many instances been extended to upwards of thirty grains three times in twenty-four hours. It is given alone, and often conjoined with other articles of the *Materia Medica* in the whooping cough; against hectic occasioned by incipient tubercles of the lungs; and in scrophulous and schirrous disorders.

Herb Mastich, Syrian, A plant with labiated flowers—part used. The leaves; they are aromatic, pungent, stimulant, and are used as an ingredient in the compound powder of asarabacca, a sternutatory or sneezing powder, commonly called *Cephalic Snuff*.

Hip: The fruit employed to form a conserve that is used as a vehicle for various medicines.

Honey: A vegetable juice collected from flowers by the bee. It is the basis of various medicinal compositions, and its domestic uses are too well known to need recapitulation in the narrow limits to which we are now necessarily prescribed.

Horse-radish: a plant with cruciform flowers, usually cultivated in gardens—part used. The root—sens. prop. Acrid, penetrating, with very pungent effluvia—med. virt. Stimulant, diuretic—mode of exhib. Infusion with mustard seed, against dropsical and paralytic complaints; also in the compound spirit of horse-radish. According to the late Dr. Withering, an infusion of scraped horse-radish in milk makes one of the safest and best cosmetics.

Hyssop, Hedge: A low plant with irregular flowers, grown in gardens—part used. The herb—sens. prop. Bitter, nauseous—med. virt. Diuretic, violently emetic, and cathartic—mode of exhib. Two to six or eight grains of the powdered root, beginning with a very small dose, which may be gradually increased, against dropsy and worms. It is

- said to have been serviceable in those cases, given as an infusion made by adding one drachm of the powdered root to a pint of boiling water, milk, or beer. Dose, a table-spoonful three times a-day.
- Jalap:** The root of a plant growing in the West Indies—sens. prop. Resinous, slightly pungent—med. virt. Strongly purgative—mode of exhib. Powder; pill; extract; tincture. A cathartic better suited to cold phlegmatic, than hot, bilious, constitutions.
- Ipecacuanha:** The root of a plant growing in South America—sens. prop. Bitterish and sub acrid—med. virt. Emetic, sedative, sudorific—mode of exhib. Pill; powder; bolus; also infused in wine.
- Isinglass:** A glutinous substance, brought from Russia, prepared from the membranous parts of fishes—sens. prop. Restorative, agglutinating—mode of exhib. Boiled into a jelly with milk, to abate flour albus, diarrhœas, and other weaknesses. It is an ingredient in the court sticking-plaster.
- Juniper Berry:** Med. virt. Carminative, diuretic, stomachic—mode of exhib. Infusion; compound spirit; and an essential oil.
- Kino:** A gum-resin, from the vicinity of the river Gambia—sens. prop. Astringent, mucilaginous—med. virt. Tonic, obtunding—mode of exhib. Powder; electuary; tincture. In chronic diarrhœas and dysenteries, in hæmorrhages from the uterus, and in diseases arising from laxity of the solids.
- Ladies' Smock, or Cuckoo Flower:**—Part used, The flowers—sens. prop. Slightly acrid—med. virt. Antispasmodic—mode of exhib. Powder, in doses of a scruple to a drachm, three a-day, in convulsions, spasmodic asthma, and St. Vitus's dance.
- Lavender:** A bush plant cultivated in gardens—part used, The flowering spikes—sens. prop. Smell, fragrant; taste, warm and bitterish—med. virt. Stimulant, tonic, aromatic—mode of exhib. Infusion, simple spirit, compound spirit, essential oil.
- Laudanum:** A resin of a perennial shrub that grows in Syria and in the Grecian islands—med. virt. Tonic, stimulant—mode of exhib. In plasters.
- Lemon:** The fruit of a tree growing in warm climates—part used, The juice and rind—sens. prop. juice, a grateful acid. Rind, a very fragrant aromatic—med. virt. Juice, cooling and antiseptic; rind stimulant—mode of exhib. Juice, in drinks, with water and sugar; and combined with alkaline salts. Rind, in infusions and tincture. The syrup mixed with many medicinal preparations for bilious and inflammatory disorders.
- Leopards'-Bane, German:** Part used, The herb, flowers and root—sens. prop. Unpleasant smell and acrid taste—med. virt. Emetic, diuretic, diaphoretic—mode of exhib. In infusion or decoction, one drachm to three drachms, in a pint of water or ale every day, is recommended by German physicians in paralysis; also for intermittent and putrid fevers.
- Linseed:** The seed of the common flax—sens. prop. Unctuous, mucilaginous—med. virt. Obtunding, emollient—mode of exhib. Infusion; powder for cataplasms. A bland oil is expressed from them of a disagreeable flavour.
- Liquorice Root:** A rich durable sweet—med. virt. Obtunding, and use

- ful in abating thirst—mode of exhib. Powder, infusion, decoction. Extract, either in infusion or slowly dissolved in the mouth.
- Logwood:** A wood of a tree growing in the bay of Honduras—sens. prop. Sweetish, astringent—med. virt. Tonic—mode of exhib. Decoction, infusion, extract; employed against diarrhœas and dysenteries.
- Mace:** A membrane covering the shell of that fruit, the kernel of which is the nutmeg—med. virt. Tonic—mode of exhib. Expressed oil; an ingredient in the laudanum, or stomach-plaster.
- Madder Root**—sens. prop. Smell, ungrateful: taste, bitterish and astringent—med. virt. Aperient, attenuant, diuretic, emmenagogue—mode of exhib. Powder, decoction; in jaundice, obstructed menses, &c.
- Mallow, leaves, flowers, and root:** A perennial plant, growing wild—sens. prop. mucilaginous. The roots sweetish—med. virt. Obtunding, emollient—mode of exhib. decoction, cataplasm.
- Manna:** A concrete juice exuding from a kind of ash, chiefly in Calabria and Sicily—sens. prop. Sweet, unctuous—med. virt. Aperient, obtunding—mode of exhib. Solution in watery liquors; electuary; syrup.
- Marjoram, sweet and wild:** This herb is an ingredient in the compound powder of asarabacca, a powder that is equally efficacious with the best herb snuff.
- Marsh-Mallow:** A perennial plant, growing in marshes—part used, The leaves and root—med. virt. Obtunding—mode of exhib. Powder, infusion, and in decoction of barley with a little liquorice root, against catarrhs and nephritic complaints. The root an ingredient in the compound powder of tragacanth, in an elegant syrup, and a useful ointment.
- Mastich:** A concrete resin obtained from the Lentisk-tree in the isle of Chio—sens. prop. Smell, resinous and agreeable; taste, bitterish and lightly warm—med. virt. Tonic, antiseptic; chewed, it disguises a fetid breath, and strengthens the gums; it is also occasionally used with fragrant substances by way of fumigation.
- Meadow-Saffron:** A bulbous-rooted plant, growing in wet meadows—part used. The root—sens. prop. Smell, pungent; taste, acrid—med. virt. Strongly cathartic and diuretic—mode of exhib. An active oxymel is prepared by infusing this root in vinegar, with honey. The dose of this oxymel is a tea-spoonful or two in a cup of tea, or of distilled water, as a remedy for the dropsy. If given in a greater dose at first, or if it is too rapidly repeated, it will occasion bloody stools and other morbid symptoms.
- Mezereon:** A small shrub cultivated in gardens—part used, The root—sens. prop. Very durably hot and acrimonious—med. virt. Stimulant, and resolvent of venereal nodes—mode of exhib. Decoction.
- Millepedes, or Wood-lice:** A species of winged insects, found chiefly among decayed wood—sens. prop. Smell, disagreeable; taste, saltish and unpleasant—med. virt. Aperient, and diuretic—mode of exhib. Swallowed whole; powder; expressed juice. They are prescribed both fresh and dry, in powder, from a scruple to a drachm, in obstructions of the liver and suppression of urine. We have a mean opinion of their virtues.
- Mint, Pepper, or Reppermint:** A plant cultivated in gardens—part

- used, The leaves--sens. prop. Smell, strong and diffusive; taste, very penetrating, with a sense of coolness--med. virt. Stimulant, carminative, antispasmodic--mode of exhib. Infusion, distilled water, spirit, and essential oil. These are principally used as a domestic remedy for flatulent colic. The essential oil is often given in doses of a few drops on sugar, in cramps of the stomach; but if that organ be in a state of inflammation, it may do much mischief. What is called the Essence of Peppermint is the rectified oil dissolved in spirits of wine.
- Mint, or Spear-Mint: A plant cultivated in gardens--part used, The leaves--sens. prop. Smell, aromatic; taste, bitterish, roughish, moderately warm and aromatic--med. virt. Tonic, stomachic--mode of exhib. Infusion and a distilled water: also a spirit, and an essential oil.
- Mulberry: Of this well-known cooling antiseptic fruit a syrup is prepared, to sweeten diluting liquids in bilious and inflammatory disorders.
- Musk: A grumous substance found in a bag situated under the belly of an animal of the deer kind, in Thibet and Tartary--sens. prop. Smell, fragrant, extremely powerful, and diffusive. Taste, bitterish, rather acrid--med. virt. Stimulant, antispasmodic--mode of exhib. Bolus, watery mixture.
- Mustard: The seeds are stimulant and very pungent--mode of exhib. In substance: a table-spoonful, with a cupful of an infusion of broom-tops, is laxative and diuretic. Infused in wine or water with fresh shaved horse-radish root, it is useful in scorbutic and paralytic disorders. Infused in water, and taken in large doses, it proves emetic. The powder is frequently made into a paste or soft poultice with vinegar and bread-crumbs, and applied to benumbed limbs; to pained parts in chronic rheumatism; or to the soles of the feet in the low state of fevers.
- Myrrh: A gummy-resinous concrete, brought from the East Indies--sens. prop. Smell, strong, and not ungrateful; taste, very bitter and pungent--med. virt. Tonic, heating, stimulant, antiseptic--mode of exhib. Powder, pill, watery emulsion, spirituous tincture.
- Nettle, common stinging: The herb of this well known plant is herbaceous, sub-saline--med. virt. Aperient, diuretic, and cooling--mode of exhib. Decoction or infusion. The expressed juice, in doses from two to three ounces, is useful in inward bleedings and nephritic complaints. Externally, they are employed to whip palsied limbs, which they have sometimes restored to sensibility and motion.
- Nutmegs: The kernel of the root of an East Indian tree--sens. prop. Smell, aromatic; taste, moderately warm, and unctuous--med. virt. Stimulant--mode of exhib. Powder, spirituous distilled water, and an essential oil.
- Oak, the bark: Astringent--med. virt. Tonic--mode of exhib. Decoction, chiefly for external application: Slight intermittents, however, have been cured by giving the powder of this bark in doses of 20 to 30 grains every three hours, with a cupful of the infusion of camomile flowers. It may be given in jelly, port wine, or marmalade.
- Olibanum: A gummy resin obtained from a tree growing in Arabia--sens. prop. Smell, strong, not agreeable; taste, bitterish, rather acrid--mode of exhib. Powder, pill, electuary, tincture, emulsion.

Olive oil, is procured by expression from the fruit of a tree growing in the warmer climates---sens. prop. Inodorous, insipid, unctuous---med. virt. Obtunding, emollient---mode of exhib. Internally, by itself or united to watery liquids by mucilaginous matters or volatile alkalies. Externally, in liniments, ointments, and plasters.

Opium: The concrete gummy-resinous juice of the white poppy, collected in the warm countries of the East---sens. prop. Smell, disagreeable; taste, bitter, somewhat acrid---med. virt. Narcotic in large doses, sedative in smaller---mode of exhib. Pill, tincture, solution.

Opoponax, is a concrete gummy-resinous juice of an umbelliferous plant which grows in the Levant and the East Indies. It is attenuant and deobstruent.

Orange, Seville: A well-known fruit growing in Spain and Portugal---part used, The rind and pulp---sens. prop. Rind, bitter and aromatic; pulp, acid---med. virt. Rind, tonic; pulp, cooling and antiseptic---mode of exhib. Infusion of the rind; juice of the pulp in febrifuge drinks. An elegant stomachic conserve, tincture, and syrup, are formed of the rind, useful to cold phlegmatic habits.

Orris Root: An agreeable perfume, of little use in medicine.

Pareira Brava: The root of an American convolvulus, brought from the Brazils---sens. prop. It has no smell; the taste is a little bitterish, blended with a sweetness like that of liquorice---med. virt. Useful in suppressions of urine, in ulcers of the kidneys and bladder, in humoral asthma, some species of jaundice, and in nephritic disorders---mode of exhib. Half an ounce of the root, boiled in three pints of water to one, sweetened with honey; a cupful to be taken every three or four hours: in substance, powdered, fifteen to thirty grains twice or thrice a-day.

Parsley: An umbelliferous plant, cultivated in gardens---part used, The seed, and roots---sens. prop. Roots, sweet, and lightly warm; seeds, aromatic and bitter---med. virt. Stimulant, mildly diuretic---mode of exhib. The root in decoction, against jaundice, gravel, and suppression of urine.

Pellitory of Spain: The root is used as a masticatory (i. e. chewed) to promote the evacuation of viscid humours from the head and neighbouring parts; to relieve the tooth-ach, some kinds of pain of the head, and lethargic complaints. An infusion of five to ten grains of this root in wine may be employed as a gargle in debility, or paralysis of the tongue.

Pellitory of the Wall: This is a small plant growing upon old walls, of an herbaceous sub saline taste, without any smell---med. virt. The herb diuretic, emollient; externally, discutient---mode of exhib. In infusion, decoction, and the expressed juice against gravel and stone.

Pennyroyal: A plant cultivated in gardens. The leaves smell strong, not agreeable; taste, warm and pungent---med. virt. Stimulant, aromatic---mode of exhib. In infusion, as tea, against uterine obstructions. A water is distilled from it, and an essential oil.

Pepper, black: The fruit of a trailing shrub growing in the East Indies, of a heating and stimulating quality.

Pimento: The dry berry of a tree growing in Jamaica---sens. prop. Smell, grateful and aromatic; taste, moderately warm---med. virt.

Stimulant---mode of exhib. A water distilled from it, and an essential oil: The latter sinks in water; the former serves most of the purposes of waters drawn from more costly spices.

Pink, Carolina: This root is celebrated for the expulsion of worms from the alimentary canal; it sometimes acts unpleasantly on the nervous system. Some order it in doses of ten or fifteen grains, while others advise it in doses of a drachm, alleging that bad effects more readily happen from small doses, as the large dose generally purges or pukes; hence we do not recommend this medicine in domestic practice.

Pitch, Burgundy: The resin exuding from the common fir-tree, softened in warm water, and strained---med. virt. Stimulant---mode of exhib. In plasters and ointments.

Pomegranate Tree: A prickly tree or shrub growing in the south of Europe---part used, The flowers and rind of the fruit---sens. prop. Flowers and rind, astringent; fruit, tart and roughish---med. virt. Tonic, cooling---mode of exhib. Juice of the fruit; infusion and decoction of the flowers and rind. Against prolapsed rectum and uterus. Sydenham directs the application of a fomentation to be made of an ounce of the rind of pomegranate bruised, with two pints of decoction of oak-bark and half a pint of red wine. In colliquative diarrhœas, accompanying hectic fever, Dr. Mead directed the following astringent and nutritive decoction: Take of dried red rose leaves, balustines, pomegranate rind, and cinnamon, of each one drachm; boil in a pint of cow's milk, adding little by little, during the boiling, a pint of water: Keep it on the fire till the whole is reduced to one pint; then strain off, and sweeten with a little sugar. To be taken in repeated draughts in the course of a-day.

Poppy, Red, or Corn Rose: The flowers are very common in corn-fields, they are weakly sedative; a syrup is prepared from them: Its virtues are considerable.

Poppy, White: A plant cultivated in gardens. The heads or seed-vessels afford a bitter milky juice, which, in a concrete form, is opium---med. virt. Anodyne, sedative. Of the expressed decoction, by the addition of sugar, an useful syrup is formed. Of the decoction, strongly expressed and evaporated, an extract is formed, more pure than the opium that is imported.

Prunes, Common, or French Prunes: The fruit of a kind of garden plum-tree growing in France---med. virt. Laxative, cooling; eaten crude or stewed.

Quassia-Root: The woody root of a tree growing in Surinam---sens. prop. Intensely bitter---med. virt. Tonic, stomachic, a corrector of putrid bile---mode of exhib. Infusion; extract. It is much used in this country as a succedaneum for hops, to give bitterness to malt liquor, though it deservedly subjects those brewers who employ it to a very heavy penalty. Strong bitters are very properly exhibited as medicines in intermittent and bilious fevers, in some stomachic complaints, in cachexy, dropsy, and gout; but there is sufficient evidence to prove, that the long-continued or habitual use of this class of remedies has been productive of incalculable mischief.

Quince: The fruit of a tree cultivated in gardens. The apple of the

quince yields an austere acid juice: A pleasant astringent marmalade is prepared from it, which is deemed a preservative against sea-scurvy, and covers well the bitter taste of the cinchona bark, which is disagreeable to delicate patients.

Raisins: Grapes dried by the heat of the sun: they are imported from Spain and the Levant. This fruit is sweet, aperient, and obtunding. It is eaten crude, and is an ingredient in pectoral decoctions.

Raspberry: The fruit, acid and sweet: Cooling, antiseptic.

Rattlesnake-Root, or Seneka, is a perennial plant which grows wild in Virginia and Pennsylvania---sens. prop. Acid, hot, pungent. It has no smell---med. virt. Diuretic, expectorant, stimulant. The Senegaro Indians are said to prevent the fatal effects of the bite of the rattle snake by giving it internally, and by applying it externally to the wound. The usual dose of seneka root is from one to two scruples of the powder; or two or three table-spoonfuls of a decoction prepared by boiling one ounce of the root in a pint and a half of water till it is reduced to a pint. This is prescribed in pleuritic, rheumatic, and dropsical affections.

Rhubarb: The root of this dock-like plant tastes bitterish, somewhat acrid, and astringent---med. virt. Tonic, mildly cathartic---mode of exhib. Powder; infusion; tincture.

Rose, Damask: The flowers of a shrub cultivated in gardens---sens. prop. Very fragrant, bitterish---med. virt. Laxative, odoriferous. The shops keep a syrup, a honey, and a simple distilled water, of roses.

Rose, Red: The flowers of a shrub cultivated in gardens---med. virt. Tonic. From these a honey, syrup, and conserve, are prepared.

Rose, Dog: The dog rose is a shrub growing in hedges. The fruit is cooling, sweet-acid, and the basis of what is called the conserve of hips.

Rosemary: a shrubby plant, with labiated flowers, growing in gardens---part used, The flowering tops---sens. prop. Smell, grateful; taste, warm and pungent---med. virt. Stimulant---mode of exhib. Infusion as tea against violent head-achs and other nervous complaints. An essential oil, and the spirit of rosemary, are distilled from the tops, which are the principal ingredient in what has generally been called Hungary water.

Rosin, Yellow: Baked turpentine. It is used in forming various ointments and plasters.

Rue: A shrubby plant cultivated in gardens---part used, The leaves---sens. prop. Smell, strong and ungrateful; taste, penetrating and bitterish---med. virt. Antispasmodic, stimulant, anthelmintic---mode of exhib. Powder; infusion as tea, attenuant, deobstruent, for the impeded discharges of hysterical females. The extract may be given in doses of five to twenty grains in the form of pills. The juice or infusion may be exhibited in a lavement against worms.

Saffron: The filaments of the pistil of a bulbous-rooted plant cultivated in the fields---sens. prop. Smell, aromatic, very diffusive, taste, warm and bitterish; colour, high orange---med. virt. Heating, cordial, stimulant. An elegant syrup is prepared from saffron

and it is an ingredient in several medicinal preparations, not so much on account of any singular virtues it is now supposed to possess, as for the elegant colour it imparts. Externally, saffron is often mixed with emollient and resolvent cataplasms.

Sagapenum: A gummy-resinous juice of uncertain origin, the product of Egypt—sens. prop. Smell, strong and foetid—med. virt. It is a stimulant aperient—mode of exhib. Pill; emulsion: Rarely employed.

Sage: The leaves of a perennial plant growing in our gardens. It is aromatic and bitterish—med. virt. Tonic, sudorific. Watery infusions of the leaves mingled with a little lemon or orange juice, proves an useful diluent drink in febrile disorders.

Saint John's-Wort: The flowers are the product of a perennial plant that was formerly famous in medical practice, and which grows wild in woods and uncultivated places in Britain. Its taste is rough and bitterish, and its smell disagreeable. It is slightly tonic, and sometimes the infusion is employed in hysterical cases.

Sarsaparilla: A climbing plant growing in the Spanish West Indies. Part used, The root and its bark—sens. prop. Smell, fragrant; taste, sub-astringent and lightly warm—med. virt. Tonic, obtunding—mode of exhib. Powder; decoction.

Sassafras: A large tree growing in the warmer parts of America. The smell of this wood is fragrant; taste, lightly warm. It is employed in stimulating and sudorific decoctions for scorbutic and venereal impurities.

Savin: The leaves of an ever green prickly shrub, growing in gardens—sens. prop. Smell, strong and disagreeable; taste, hot, acrid, bitterish—med. virt. Stimulant, diuretic. A scruple to half a drachm of the powdered leaves has been given twice a-day with success to athletic women in cases of obstructed menstruation. The fresh leaves of savin may be given in the form of a conserve, or infused as tea, against worms and gouty affections, or the extract in the form of pills may be given in doses from ten to thirty grains, or twenty to thirty drops of the compound tincture in a cupful of pennyroyal-tea. In plethoric habits, venesection should precede the use of savin. Externally, the leaves are applied in the form of powder, or strong infusion, to warts, carious bones, old ulcers, &c.

Scammony: The gummy-resinous juice of a plant growing in Syria—sens. prop. Smell, weak and unpleasant; taste, bitterish and sub-acrid—med. virt. Strongly cathartic—mode of exhib. Powder; electuary. It is not proper for infants, pregnant women, or persons of a weakly frame, nor in hot diseases and constitutions.

Scordium was formerly much prescribed as a detergent, &c., but is at present seldom used.

Scurvy-Grass: Garden scurvy-grass is a plant of the cruciform siliquous class, growing in maritime situations, and cultivated in gardens—part used, The herb—sens. prop. Acrid and saline—med. virt. Aperient, stimulant, antiscorbutic. It is eaten crude, and the juice, which may be taken in doses of an ounce or two, is used with good effect, joined with the juices (a table-spoonful or two of each) of brook lime, water cresses, and Seville oranges. The fresh leaves of scurvy-grass, beaten into a conserve with thrice their weight of fine sugar, may be kept in

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a close vessel, without any diminution of their virtue, for years; it may be taken in doses of two drachms to half an ounce twice or thrice a-day.

Senna: A pod-bearing papilionaceous plant, growing in Egypt and the East—part used. The leaves—sens. prop. Smell, ungrateful; taste, nauseous and bitterish—med. virt. Purgative—mode of exhib. Extract; powder; infusion; tincture. To cover the taste of senna, coriander seeds are employed; but to prevent its griping, the warmer aromatics, such as cardamom seeds, or ginger, are more effectual. The dose of the extract is from half a drachm to two drachms; it may be given in the form of pills, but the extract is a weak cathartic, and occasions more griping pain in the bowels, unless joined with an aromatic, than the tincture drawn from the leaves, probably because that is mingled with carminatives.

Simarouba: A tree growing in Guinea. The bark which is simply bitter, is the part used. It is a tonic that has been much celebrated in obstinate diarrhœa, dysentery, indigestion, and intermittent fevers. It is given in infusion or decoction. Two drachms of the bark boiled in two pints of water to one pint, may be drank in cupfuls in the course of a day. When this bark cannot be had, an infusion of camomile flowers, with or without four or five drops of the tincture of opium in each dose, may be employed for the same intentions.

Sloes: The fruit of the common black thorn which grows in hedges, have a rough, austere, astringent taste. A conserve of sloes is kept in the shops; it is a cooling astringent in doses of a drachm or two; dissolved in the decoction of cinchona bark, it makes an efficacious gargle for relaxed tonsils. The powdered bark of this bush cures agues; and a handful of the flowers infused in whey is a pleasant laxative.

Snake-Root, Virginia: A plant growing in North America—part used. The root—sens. prop. Smell, aromatic; taste, warm and bitterish—med. virt. Stimulant, tonic, antiseptic, diaphoretic—mode of exhib. Powder; infusion; tincture. Snake-root was at first recommended as a medicine of extraordinary power in counteracting the poisonous effects of the bites of serpents. Both this and *contrayerva* are found very useful medicines in typhus fever and in putrid diseases, also in eruptive fevers, to determine the disease to the skin and promote the eruptive process. In cases of gangrene, and in obstinate intermittent fevers, the snake-root is an excellent auxiliary to the cinchona bark. Externally, it is used as a gargle in the putrid sore-throat.

Sorrel, Common: An herbaceous plant, growing wild, and cultivated in gardens. The acidulous herb is cooling, aperient, antiscorbutic. It is eaten crude, and a decoction of it in whey is refrigerant in febrile heats, and cases of bilious and scorbutic acrimony.

Sorrel, Wood: Wood-sorrel is a small perennial plant, growing wild. The leaves are gratefully acid, cooling and antiseptic; they are eaten crude: sometimes the expressed juice is taken as a tonic and antiscorbutic. The London College of Physicians order a conserve of wood-sorrel to be kept in the apothecaries' shops, which is given to quench thirst, and to cool the mouth, fauces, and primæ viæ, in bilious remitting fevers.

Southernwood: A shrubby compound-flowered plant, cultivated in

gardens—part used. The leaves—sens. prop. Smell, fragrant; taste, warm and bitterish—med. virt. Tonic, antiseptic, aromatic, volatile. It is now rarely used, unless in the way of decoction for discutient and antiseptic fomentations, in which intention it appears to be of no inconsiderable efficacy, especially when joined with camomile flowers, wormwood, &c. as in the Appendix.

Spermaceti: Is an unctuous flaky substance, of a white colour and a butyraceous taste, without any remarkable smell; it is prepared from the fat of the brain of a species of whale—sens. prop. Bland, insipid—med. virt. Obtunding, emollient—mode of exhib. In substance; combined with watery liquors, by means of almonds, gum, or yolk of egg; in pectoral mixtures, or emulsions. Externally, as it readily dissolves in oils and unctuous substances, an elegant cerate and an ointment are formed, which are often used for healing blisters, burns, excoriations of the skin, &c.

Sponge: A substance adhering to rocks in the sea; the habitation of certain marine insects—sens. prop. Soft, light, porous, elastic; affording a marine soda-like salt, when boiled, or calcined—med. virt. Internally, stimulant and resolvent; externally, proper for dilating sinuses by its swelling, and for stopping hæmorrhages by its adhesion. Burned in a close vessel till it becomes black and friable, this is used in powder, with some suitable syrup or conserve into an electuary; or it may be formed into troches. Burnt sponge may be given in doses of a scruple or upwards against scrophulous indurations and cutaneous foulnesses.

Squill, or Sea-onion: A bulbous-rooted plant growing on the sandy shores of Spain, Portugal, and Syria—part used. The root—sens. prop. Nearly inodorous. Taste, nauseous, bitter and acrid—med. virt. Stimulant, emetic, and diuretic—mode of exhib. The dry root powdered, or in the form of pills, may be given as an alterative; and to promote expectoration, from one, three, to six grains. From ten grains to a scruple as an emetic, in pituitous asthma. The London College of Physicians direct the apothecaries under their jurisdiction to keep a conserve of squills, which may be taken in doses of half a drachm to a drachm—Honey of squills: dose half a drachm to two drachms—Squill pills; dose ten grains to thirty.—Oxymel of squills: dose half a drachm to two drachms—Tincture of squills: dose fifteen, thirty, to sixty drops. In doses of one drachm and a half to three or four drachms, it proves emetic.—Vinegar of squills: in the dose of twelve drops to thirty or sixty; alterative, cooling, expectorant. Sometimes two drachms, but more frequently half an ounce to an ounce, of that preparation acts as an emetic.

Starch is prepared from wheat, in which it forms an important alimentary substance. Its demulcent property occasions it to be formed into an officinal lozenge, which may be taken at discretion for allaying the tickling in the throat which provokes coughing; and a mucilage is prepared from starch that often produces excellent effects both taken the mouth and injected as an enema, in diarrhoea and dysenteries induced by irritation of the intestines.

Staves-acre: The seed is imported from Virginia and the southern parts of Europe. Smell, fœtid. Taste, acrid and nauseous. They are

poisonous and escharotic. They are used in ointments, or aqueous infusion for external use against the itch, fungous ulcers, &c.

Storax: A resinous substance, mixed with much woody matter, procured from a tree growing in Syria and other eastern countries—sens. prop. Smell, fragrant; taste, mildly pungent—med. virt. Tonic, and nearly similar to that of Benjamin.

Tamarind: The pod of a large tree growing in the East and West Indies—part used, The pulp about the pods—sens. prop. Mildly acid—med. virt. Cooling, laxative—mode of exhib. Eaten preserved with sugar, decoction, infusion, to quench thirst, and allay immoderate heat in burning fevers, bilious diarrhœas, and inflammations of the stomach, liver, and intestines. When the pulp of the tamarind is exhibited merely as a laxative, it may be of use to join it with manna. Three drachms of the former, and two of the latter, are usually sufficient to open the body; but to operate moderately as a cathartic, twice or three times as much of both articles are required.

Tansy: This plant grows wild by road-sides and the borders of fields. It is frequently cultivated in gardens both for culinary and medicinal uses—part used, The leaves and flowers—sens. prop. Smell, strong and aromatic; taste, bitter—med. virt. Tonic, stomachic, anthelmintic, and emmenagogue—mode of exhib. Powder, half a drachm to a drachm for a dose against flatulency and worms. From two pugils to a handful of the leaves infused in wine, promotes the menses; but they are more commonly taken in infusion, and drank as tea: Administered in this way, it is said to be a preventive of the return of the gout.

Tar: A thick resinous fluid, melted out of old fir and pine trees—sens. prop. Empyreumatic, bitter, pungent—med. virt. Stimulant, diuretic—mode of exhib. In pills, also in infusion called Tar Water, inserted in the Appendix. Externally, tar is employed as an ointment in scald-heads, and some cutaneous diseases.

Tar, Fossil, or Barbadoes Tar: A kind of fluid bitumen found in the West Indies—sens. prop. Smell, disagreeable; taste, pungent—med. virt. Stimulant, sudorific, pectoral—mode of exhib. Chiefly externally, in liniments, as a discutient, and for preventing paralytic disorders.

Thistle, Blessed: A compound-flowered plant, cultivated in gardens—part used, The leaves—sens. prop. Simply bitter—med. virt. Tonic—mode of exhib. A slight infusion of the leaves is taken with good effect, in loss of appetite, where the stomach was injured by irregularities. A stronger infusion, if drank freely, and the patient kept warm, occasions a plentiful sweat, and promotes the secretions in general. The decoction is nauseous, and sometimes used to provoke vomiting. The seeds of this plant are also considerably bitter; in powder from a scruple to a drachm: They are sometimes formed into an emulsion, and used with the same intention as the leaves.

Tobacco: An annual plant, cultivated in various of the warmer climate—part used, The leaves—sens. prop. Smell, strong and ungrateful, taste, very acrid and nauseous—med. virt. Emetic, purgative, sternutatory, narcotic—mode of exhib. Infusion, and fume, chiefly injected by way of clyster. Tobacco, when it is either chewed or smoked, causes an increased flow of saliva, and sometimes relieves the tooth-ach:

reduce into powder, it proves an excellent erraine, when snuffed up the nostrils. If an ounce of the dried leaves of tobacco be infused for seven days in a pint of Lisbon wine, twenty to sixty drops of the strained liquor may be given in a cupful of broom-tea, as a diuretic in cases of dropsy and dysuria. A watery infusion is applied external for the cure of itchy and other cutaneous diseases. The decoction is effectual in curing the mange in dogs; care, however, must be taken that it be not too strong; nor should it then be applied too profusely to glandular parts, especially to the belly, or it may cause the death of the animal by vomiting. The smoke is injected into the anus by means of bellows formed for that purpose. By acting as a stimulus to the rectum, it sometimes revives the vital powers in cases of apparent death by drowning or suffocation, and in evacuating the intestines in cases of obstinate constipation. One drachm of tobacco infused in a pint of water, and administered by table-spoonfuls, is strongly diuretic.

Tormentil, or Septfoil: A small perennial plant growing wild—part used, The root—sens. prop. Simply astringent—med. virt. Tonic—mode of exhib. Powder, decoction. The dose of the former is ten grains to a drachm, in loosenesses, dysenteric hæmorrhages, &c. but these fluxes are not to be stopped too hastily. A decoction may be prepared by boiling one ounce and a half of the root in three pints of water to two; add, towards the end of the boiling, a drachm of cinnamon: of the strained liquor, sweetened with refined sugar or conserve of roses, three or four table-spoonfuls may be taken three to five times a-day.

Tragacanth Gum, is the produce of a very thorny shrub which grows in the island of Cardia, and other places in the Levant. It is without taste or smell, and much more glutinous than gum arabic. On account of its mucilaginous quality, gum tragacanth is employed as an ingredient in forming pectoral troches; and the compound powder of tragacanth is of service in catarrhal defluxions and diarrhœas, by sheathing the throat, stomach, and intestines, against acrimonious humours. The dose is a scruple to two drachms.

Furmeric: A perennial plant cultivated in gardens in the East Indies—part used, The root—sens. prop. Smell, lightly aromatic; taste, moderately warm and bitter; colour, of a deep yellow—med. virt. Aperient, diuretic—mode of exhib. Powder, decoction, infusion. It has been celebrated in diseases of the liver, jaundice, and dropsy. It is a valuable dye-stuff, but is now little regarded in medical practice.

Turpentine Common, is the native resinous juice of various trees, particularly of the pine and fir kind. Chio, or Cyprus Turpentine, is procured from a berry-bearing tree or shrub growing in the Levant—sens. prop. Smell, disagreeable in the common, fragrant in the Chio. Taste of both is hot, pungent, and bitter—med. virt. Stimulant, tonic, diuretic—mode of exhib. In pills, or bolus, from a scruple to a drachm and a half. The common is rarely given internally. Chio turpentine may be given in a fluid state blended with watery liquors by yolk of egg or mucilage. The rectified oil is extremely powerful, stimulating, detergent, diuretic, and sudorific, requiring the utmost caution in its exhibition: blended with honey, it may be given to adults in doses of six, and, gradually increased to twelve drops. Ex.

ternally, oil of turpentine is with some practitioners a favourite application in cases of burns and scalds. Turpentine is an ingredient in ointments and plasters.

Valerian, Wild : A perennial plant with aggregated flowers, growing both in dry and moist situations ; in the former it is the most powerful as medicine—part used, The root—sens. prop. Smell, strong and ungrateful, taste, warm, bitterish, and sub-acrid—med. virt. Tonic, anthelmintic, antispasmodic—mode of exhib. Powder, infusion, tincture. The powder (which has been highly recommended also for dimness of sight) may be given in doses of a scruple to two drachms : an infusion, as tea, with one or two drachms, may be taken, with the addition of a little mace, which conceals the unpleasant flavour of valerian.

Uva Ursi, or Bear-Berries : An ever-green trailing plant, growing on high mountains—part used, The leaves—sens. prop. Bitterish, and sub-astringent—med. virt. Tonic, anti-nephritic—mode of exhib. Powder. In calculus, and most disorders of the urinary passages. We have already noticed (p. 105) its successful exhibition in some cases of incipient consumption.

Walnut : The unripe fruit of this well-known tree is acrid, bitterish, and styptic to the taste. Smell, not disagreeable—med. virt. Opening and vermifuge. To expel worms, two drachms of the inspissated juice of walnuts may be dissolved in half an ounce of cinnamon-water ; of this solution, twenty, thirty, forty to fifty drops may be exhibited, two or three times a-day for a week, or more, giving every fourth morning purging dose of vitriolated magnesia.

Water-Cress : The leaves of this plant of the cruciform class, growing common in wet situations, have a pungent taste and penetrating smell. They are stimulant and antiseptic when eaten crude, or the expressed juice may be taken in doses of half an ounce to two ounces.

Wolf's Bane Blue : Monk's hood, or Aconite : It is a perennial plant found in the Alpine forests and other mountainous countries in Germany, and cultivated in our gardens—part used, The leaves—sens. prop. Acrid, ungrateful—med. virt. Narcotic, and violently evacuant in a large dose ; sedative, diuretic, stimulant, sudorific. One to two grains of the dried leaves in powder are given in glandular swellings, venereal nodes, gouty and rheumatic pains, intermittent fevers, convulsive disorders, &c. Under the direction of a skilful physician, the dose may be very gradually increased to six grains. The deleterious effects of this plant, when improperly exhibited, act violently on the nervous system. It occasions giddiness, convulsions, violent purging both upwards and downwards, fainting, cold sweats, and even death itself. The ancients considered the aconitum (i. e. Wolf's Bane) as the most destructive of vegetable productions ; therefore we trust that no modern Domestic Practitioner will presume to exhibit this powerful and virulent medicine.

Wormseed : Small light seeds, the produce of a species of wormwood. They are brought from the Levant—sens. prop. Smell, strong and ungrateful ; taste, very bitter and sub-acrid—med. virt. Anthelmintic—mode of exhib. In substance. To adults the dose is from a drachm to a drachm and a half twice a-day : Young patients may have six grains to a scruple.

Wormwood, Common: A compound-flowered plant growing wild and cultivated in gardens—part used, The leaves and flowering tops—sens. prop. Smell, strong and ungrateful; taste, extremely bitter, nauseous—med. virt. Tonic, stimulant, antispasmodic, antiseptic, anthelmintic—mode of exhib. Infusion as a strengthening bitter, to cure agues and in worm cases. Wormwood was formerly much used as a bitter against weakness of the stomach and dyspeptic complaints in medicated wines and ales. A tincture of the flowers of this plant is inserted in the Appendix. The juice may be exhibited in doses of one to four table-spoonfuls; i. e. half an ounce to two ounces. Externally, wormwood is employed in warm, discutient, and antiseptic fomentations.

Wormwood, Sea: A species of wormwood growing in salt marshes and maritime situations—part used, The leaves and flowering tops—sens. prop. Smell and taste more agreeable, but weaker than the preceding—med. virt. Tonic, antiseptic—mode of exhib. Infusion. Warm water extracts a stronger impregnation of these bitters than cold; but the latter, if it stand but a few hours, is most agreeable to the palate and stomach. The conserve of sea-wormwood, as a mild bitter and strengthener of the stomach, is given in doses of two drachms to half an ounce.

Zedoary: A root imported from the East Indies—sens. prop. Smell, aromatic; taste, warm and bitterish—med. virt. Tonic, carminative, stimulant, stomachic—mode of exhib. Powder, from ten grains to half a drachm; or an aqueous infusion, as tea, in cases of want of appetite unattended with loathing of food, and spasmodic colic.