

inflammatory symptoms have subsided, and the vessels of the conjunctiva remain turgid with red blood. Two or three drops are dropped into the eye every morning, until the redness is removed.

VINUM RHEL. Edin. *Wine of Rhubarb.*

"Take of rhubarb root, sliced, *two ounces*; canella bark, bruised, *a drachm*; proof spirit, *two ounces*; Spanish white wine, *fifteen ounces*. Macerate for seven days, and filter through paper."

This wine, when newly prepared, has the same properties, and may be applied to the same uses as the tincture, but it is liable to undergo decomposition. The dose is from $\text{f}\frac{3}{4}\text{ss}$. to $\text{f}\frac{3}{4}\text{j}$. or more.

VINUM VERATRI, Lond. *Wine of white Hellebore.*

"Take of white hellebore root, bruised, *eight ounces*; wine, *two pints and a half*. Macerate for fourteen days, and filter."

This preparation was supposed to form one of the ingredients of the Eau Medicinale; but this opinion is unfounded. It is seldom employed.

ACETICA.

PREPARATIONS OF VINEGAR.

VINEGAR is capable of dissolving all those proximate principles of plants which are soluble in water; and it is further found to extract more completely than any other solvent, the acrid matter on which the efficacy of squill and colchicum depends. As a solvent, however, of vegetable matter, the use of vinegar cannot be extended, as it destroys the medicinal properties of some vegetable principles, and does not accord with others in virtue. Medicated vinegars are very apt to spoil, notwithstanding the addition of spirit which is ordered; and therefore they should be made in small quantities only at a time, and preserved in well stopped glass bottles.

ACIDUM ACETICUM AROMATICUM. Edin. *Aromatic Vinegar.**

"Take of rosemary tops, dried, sage leaves, dried, of each *one ounce*; lavender flowers dried, *half an ounce*; cloves, bruised, *half a drachm*; distilled vinegar, *two pounds*. Macerate for seven days, and filter the expressed liquor through paper."

* Vinaigre antiseptique (F.) Gewürzessig (G.) Aceto antisettico (I.)

This preparation has a pleasant pungent aromatic odour. It is a solution of the volatile oils of the substances employed in vinegar, and is a grateful perfume in sick-rooms; but has no right to be regarded as a prophylactic from fever, or other contagions. It is nearly the same as the old preparation, known under the name of *Thieves's Vinegar*.

ACIDUM ACETICUM CAMPHORATUM. Edin.
ACIDUM ACETICUM CAMPHORATUM. Dub. *Comphorated Acetic Acid.*²

“Take of acetic acid, (acetic acid, *Dub.*) *six ounces*; camphor, *half an ounce*. Rub the camphor to powder with the assistance of a little alcohol; then dissolve it in the acid.”

The strong acetic acid readily dissolves a considerable portion of camphor; and forms a very highly pungent and stimulating perfume, which, snuffed up the nostrils, is useful in syncope and nervous languors. Owing to its extreme volatility when well prepared, it requires to be preserved in phials closely fitted with ground-glass stoppers.

ACETUM COLCHICI. Lond. *Vinegar of Meadow Saffron.*

“Take of fresh meadow saffron root (bulb) sliced, *an ounce*; acetic acid, (distilled vinegar) *a pint*; proof spirit, *a fluid ounce*. Macerate the meadow saffron root with the vinegar in a covered glass vessel for twenty-four hours; then express, and set the liquor aside that the fæculencies may subside; lastly, add the spirit to the clear liquor.”

The bulb of the meadow saffron is the part intended to be ordered, not the root. When dug up in autumn it contains an acrid principle resembling that of the squill, of which vinegar is the proper solvent; and this solution is now introduced as a better form of preserving the virtues of the remedy than the oxymel. It is given as a diuretic in ascites and hydrothorax; but is less to be depended on than the squill. Like the preparation with wine, which is not yet admitted into the Pharmacopœia, it may be given in gout. The dose is from fʒss. to fʒj. united with honey, or in any bland fluid.

ACETUM SCILLÆ.² Lond. *Vinegar of Squill.*

“Take of fresh squill root (bulb) dried, *a pound*; acetic acid, (distilled vinegar) *six pints*; proof spirit, *half a pint*. Macerate the squill root (bulb) in the vinegar with a gentle heat, in a covered vessel, for twenty-four hours; then express the liquor and set it aside that the fæculencies may subside; lastly, add the spirit to the clear liquor.”

¹ Acide acetique Camphré (*F.*) Aceto Canforato (*I.*)

² Acetum scilliticum, *P. L.* 1720. 1745. Vinaigre scillitique (*F.*) Meerzwiebes-sig (*G.*)

ACIDUM ACETICUM SCILLITICUM. Edin. *Vinegar of Squill.*

"Take of squill root (bulb) dried, *one ounce*; distilled vinegar, *fifteen ounces*; alcohol, *one ounce and a half*. Macerate the squill with the acid for seven days; then express the liquor, and add to it the alcohol; and when the fæculencies have subsided, pour off the clear fluid."

ACETUM SCILLÆ. Dub. *Vinegar of Squill.*

"Take of fresh squill root (bulb) dried, *half a pound*; wine vinegar, *three pints*; rectified spirit, *four fluid ounces*. Digest the squill with the vinegar for four days in a glass vessel, with frequent agitation; then express the vinegar, and, after the fæculencies have subsided, add to it the spirit."

Vinegar extracts the acrid matter of the squill, upon which its efficacy as a remedy depends. It has long been used as an expectorant and diuretic in chronic catarrh, humoral asthma, and dropsies. The dose is from fʒss. to fʒij. given in cinnamon or mint water. In larger doses it produces vomiting; and is occasionally used as an emetic in the above diseases, when the stomach is loaded.

When kept, the vinegar of squill deposits a precipitate, which consists of citrate of lime and tannin.¹

Officinal preparations. *Oxymel Scillæ. L. Syrupus Scillæ. E.*

MELLITA.

PREPARATIONS OF HONEY.

A MORE correct knowledge of the operation of those medicinal substances which have been named *balsamic* or *pectoral*, has set aside the high opinion which formerly prevailed of the efficacy of honey as a remedy in pulmonary diseases. It is, however, still employed in pharmacy, and has some advantages over syrup, particularly where it is to be employed as a local application; but for internal purposes its use is to a certain degree limited, owing to the unpleasant effects which it produces on the bowels of some individuals. The Edinburgh College has altogether rejected this class of preparations, but a few of them are retained by the London and Dublin Colleges. They are not apt to spoil, and therefore require less care to preserve them than the syrups.

MEL DESPUMATUM. Lond. Dub.² *Clarified Honey.*

¹ Vogel. *Annales de Chimie*, vol. lxxxiii. p. 157.

² Miel despumé (F.) Geschäumter Honig (G.) Mele Schiumato (I.)