of the suspected syrup: if it be genuine, the acid will change the blue colour to red, and the alkali to green; but if it be counterfeit, these changes will not take place, except in the case of the juice of red cabbage being substituted for violets: but in this case the fraud is a very innocent one.

Medical properties and uses. — This syrup acts as a gentle laxative when given to infants; but it is chiefly used as a test of the presence of acids and alkalies.

SYRUPUS ZINGIBERIS, Lond. *Syrup of Ginger.*

"Take of Ginger Root sliced, *two ounces;* Boiling Water, *a pint;* Refined Sugar, *two pounds.* Macerate the Ginger Root in the Water for four hours, and strain; then add the Sugar so as to make a syrup."

Dublin.

"Take of Ginger Root bruised, *four ounces;* Boiling Water, *three pints.* Macerate for twenty-four hours; then strain the liquor, and add sugar so as to make a syrup."

SYRUPUS AMOMI ZINGIBERIS, Edin. *Syrup of Ginger.*

"Take of Ginger Root powdered, *six drachms;* Boiling Water, *one pound;* Refined Sugar, *twenty-two ounces.* Macerate the Root in the Water, in a covered vessel, for twenty-four hours; then add the Sugar to the strained infusion, and dissolve by a gentle heat."

Syn. Sirop de Gingembre (*F.*), Sciroppo d'Amomo Zenzero (*I.*).

This syrup is moderately stimulant and carminative; and is an useful adjunct to bitter and tonic infusions.

Officinal preparations. *Electuarium Catechu,* D. *Electuarium Opiatum,* D.

CONFECTIONES.

CONFECTIONS.

UNDER this title the London College comprehends the *Conserves* and *Electuaries* of its former Pharmacopœia, and of the present Edinburgh and Dublin Pharmacopœias. There is, however, a distinction between Confections or Conserves and Electuaries, which prevents them in strict propriety from being classed together; and which we shall point out, although at the same time we adhere to the title of the London College.

CONFECTIONS or CONSERVES consist of fresh vegetable matters beat into an uniform mass with refined sugar. They are designed to preserve, as nearly as possible, unaltered, the virtues or properties of recent vegetables; and to prevent the decomposition to which they would otherwise be liable; and

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although several delicate flowers and fruits and juicy plants can be well preserved by this means, yet, this form of preparation is not adapted for all plants; and in almost all cases the active ingredients are injured by keeping in this state. As remedies, Confections scarcely ever possess great activity; and are chiefly useful as vehicles for the exhibition of more active substances. They should be kept in closely covered jars, in order to preserve their proper degree of moisture.

ELECTUARIES[1] are mixtures of vegetable and light earthy powders, combined by means of honey or of syrup so as to form masses of a moderate consistence. All substances of this description may, therefore, be made into Electuaries; but as the intention of this form of preparation is to render remedies as palatable as possible, those matters only can be employed to form electuaries, the taste of which is not too ungrateful to be covered by syrup or honey. They are more active remedies than Conserves; but still the more powerful vegetable substances cannot well be exhibited in this form, on account of their taste; and the metallic salts are too ponderous to remain suspended in either syrup or honey. In making electuaries, the degree of consistence must always be regulated by the nature of the substances which enter into them.

"In Conserves," as Mr. Murray justly observes, "the addition of the saccharine matter is in much larger proportion, and is designed to preserve the vegetable matter in Electuaries, the syrup is designed merely to communicate the required form."

The following general rule is given by the London College for restoring the consistence of confections and electuaries, when they have become hard by keeping.

"If Confections have become hard from long keeping, they are to be moistened with water, so as to restore their proper consistence."

CONFECTIO AMYGDALARUM, Lond. *Confection of Almonds.*

"Take of Sweet Almonds, *an ounce;* Acacia Gum in powder, *a drachm;* Refined Sugar, *half an ounce.* Macerate the Almonds in Water to free them from their cuticle, then beat all the ingredients together, until they be thoroughly incorporated."

This preparation is introduced as affording an easy and expeditious mode of preparing the almond mixture, the extemporaneous preparation of which is tedious. A little of this paste, triturated with a sufficient portion of water, immediately forms an emulsion. It may be made with Bitter Almonds.

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1 Ἐκλικτον Hippocratis.

CONFECTIO AROMATICA, Lond. *Aromatic Confection.*

"Take of Cinnamon Bark, Nutmegs, of each, *two ounces*; Cloves, *an ounce*; Cardamom Seeds, *half an ounce*; Saffron dried, *two ounces*; Prepared Shells, *sixteen ounces*; Refined Sugar powdered, *two pounds*; Water, *a pint*. Rub the dry substances mixed together into a very fine powder; then add the water gradually, and mix until the whole be thoroughly incorporated."

ELECTUARIUM AROMATICUM, Edin. *Aromatic Electuary.*

"Take of the Aromatic Powder, *one part*; Syrup of Orange, *two parts*. Mix and beat them well together so as to form an Electuary."

Dublin.

"Take of Cinnamon Bark, Nutmegs, of each, *half an ounce*; Refined Sugar, Saffron, of each, *an ounce*; Lesser Cardamom Seeds husked, Cloves, of each, *two drachms*; Precipitated Chalk, *two ounces*; Syrup of Orange, *a sufficient quantity*. Reduce the aromatics separately to powder, and then mix them with the syrup."

Syn. Electuare Aromatique (*F.*), Gewürzlatwerge (*G.*), Elettuario Aromatico (*I.*).

These combinations of aromatics are stimulant, and cordial. They are given with advantage in typhoid fevers, atonic gout, and nervous languors; either alone in the form of bolus, or combined with camphor and syrup of orange-peel, in the form of mixture. The dose is from grs. x. to 3j. or more.

CONFECTIO AURANTIORUM, Lond. *Confection of Oranges.*

"Take of the External Rind of the Fresh Orange, separated by rasping, *a pound*; Refined Sugar, *three pounds*. Beat the Rind in a stone mortar with a wooden pestle; then add the Sugar, and continue the beating until they be thoroughly incorporated."

CONSERVA AURANTII, Dub. *Conserve of Orange.*

"To the Rind of Seville Orange rasped off, add three times its weight of Refined Sugar, while beating it."

CONSERVA CITRI AURANTII, Edin. *Conserve of Orange.*

"Grate off the Exterior Rind of Seville Oranges, beat it into a pulp, and during the beating add gradually three times its weight of Refined Sugar."

This confection is gently stomachic, and is a pleasant vehicle for the exhibition of tonic powders.

CONFECTIO CASSIÆ, Lond. *Confection of Cassia.*

"Take of Fresh Cassia Pulp, *half a pound*; Manna, *two ounces*; Tamarind Pulp, *an ounce*; Syrup of Roses, *half a pound*. Bruise the Manna; then dissolve it in the Syrup,

by the heat of a water-bath, and, having mixed in the Pulp, evaporate down to a proper consistence."

ELECTUARIUM CASSIÆ FISTULÆ, Edin. *Electuary of Cassia.*

"Take of Cassia Pulp, *four parts*; Tamarind Pulp, Manna, of each, *one part*; Syrup of Damask Roses, *four parts*. Bruise the Manna in a mortar, and dissolve it in the Syrup, by means of a gentle heat; then add the Pulps, and by a continued heat reduce the mixture to a proper consistence."

ELECTUARIUM CASSIÆ, Dub. *Electuary of Cassia.*

"Take of freshly extracted Cassia Pulp, *half a pound*; Manna, *two ounces*; Tamarind Pulp, *an ounce*; Syrup o Orange, *half a pound*. Bruise the Manna, then dissolve it in the Syrup by means of a moderate heat, and add the Pulp; lastly, evaporate slowly the mixture to a proper consistence."

This electuary is gently laxative, and is used to relieve habitual costiveness; as a purge for children; and as a vehicle for the exhibition of other more powerful purgatives.

CONFECTIO OPII, Lond. *Confection of Opium.*

"Take of Hard Opium powdered, *six drachms*; Long Pepper, *an ounce*; Ginger Root, *two ounces*; Carraway Seeds, *three ounces*; Syrup, *a pint*. Rub the Opium with the Syrup made hot, then add the remaining articles reduced to powder, and mix."

ELECTUARIUM OPIATUM; olim, ELECTUARIUM THEBAICUM, Edin. *Opiate Electuary*; formerly, *Thebaic Electuary.*

"Take of Aromatic Powder, *six ounces*; Virginian Snake-Root, in fine powder, *three ounces*; Opium, diffused in a sufficient quantity of Spanish White Wine, *half an ounce*; Syrup of Ginger, *a pound*. Mix, so as to make an electuary."

Syn. Electuaire Opiate (*F.*), Theriaklatwerge (*G.*), Elettuario Oppiato (*I.*).

The operation of the Opium, in these preparations, is modified by the aromatics. They are intended as substitutes for the *Mithridate* and *Theriaca* of the old pharmacopœias, which were too long allowed to disgrace modern pharmacy. They are stimulant narcotics; and are usefully employed in atonic gout, flatulent colic, and in diarrhœas, unattended by any inflammatory symptoms. Thirty-six grains of the London confection contain one grain of opium, and the same quantity is contained in forty-three of the Edinburgh electuary. The dose is from grs. x. to ʒj.

CONFECTIO PIPERIS NIGRI, Lond. *Confection of Black Pepper.*

"Take of Black Pepper, Elecampane-root, of each, *one pound*; Fennel-seeds, *three pounds*; Honey, Refined Sugar, of each, *three pounds*. Rub together the dry ingredients to a fine powder; then add the Honey, and beat the whole into one mass."

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This preparation, although a warm stimulant, yet, is intended as a substitute for Ward's Paste in hæmorrhoides. The dose is from ʒj. to ʒij.

ELECTUARIUM CATECHU COMPOSITUM, Edin. *Compound Electuary of Catechu.*

"Take of Extract of Catechu, *four ounces;* Kino, *three ounces;* Cinnamon Bark, Nutmegs, of each, *one ounce;* Opium, diffused in a sufficient quantity of Spanish White Wine, *a drachm and a half;* Syrup of Red Roses boiled to the thickness of honey, *two pounds and a quarter.* Reduce the solid ingredients to powder; then mix them with the Opium and Syrup, so as to form an electuary."

Dublin.

"Take of Catechu, *four ounces;* Cinnamon Bark, *two ounces;* Kino, *three ounces;* rub them to powder, and add, of Hard Refined Opium diffused in Spanish White Wine, *a drachm and a half;* Syrup of Ginger boiled to the consistence of honey, *two pounds and a quarter.* Mix them."

These are useful combinations of astringents and aromatics; and may be efficaciously given in diarrhœas, and the last stage of dysentery, either in the form of bolus, or diffused in some distilled water. The dose is from ϑj. to ʒij. Ten scruples contain one grain of opium.

CONFECTIO ROSÆ CANINÆ, Lond. *Confection of the Dog-rose.*

"Take of Pulp of the Dog-rose, *a pound;* Refined Sugar in powder, *twenty ounces.* Rub them together until they be well incorporated."

Edinburgh.

"Take of the Fresh Fruit of the Dog-rose, carefully freed from the seeds and inclosed spiculæ, beat it to a pulp, and while beating add gradually three times its weight of double-refined sugar."

CONFECTIO ROSÆ GALLICÆ, Lond. *Confection of the Red Rose.*

"Take of the Unblown Petals of the Red Rose, freed from the claws, *a pound;* Refined Sugar, *three pounds.* Beat the Petals in a stone mortar; then add the Sugar, and beat again until the whole be thoroughly incorporated."

Edinburgh.

"Beat the Unblown Petals of the Red Rose to a pulp; and add during the beating three times their weight of refined sugar."

CONSERVÆ ROSÆ, Dub. *Conserve of Roses.*

"Beat the Unblown Petals of the Red Rose, freed from

their claws; adding gradually three times their weight of refined sugar."

Syn. Conserve de Roses rouges (*F.*), Rosenconserve (*G.*), Conserva di Rose rosse (*I.*).

The Confection of the Red Rose possesses a small degree of astringency, and is sometimes given dissolved in new milk, as a tonic in early convalescence from acute diseases; but the chief use of the confections of both kinds of roses, is to form pleasant vehicles for more active remedies.

CONFEC'TIO RUTÆ, Lond. *Confection of Rue.*

"Take of Rue Leaves dried, Carraway Seeds, Laurel Berries, of each, *an ounce and a half;* Sagapenum, *half an ounce;* Black Pepper, *two drachms;* Clarified Honey, *sixteen ounces.* Rub the dry articles together to a very fine powder; then add the honey, and mix the whole together."

This electuary, we are informed, is introduced as a substitute for the old *Bay Berry Electuary.* It possesses antispasmodic virtues, and since the medicinal powers of Prussic Acid have been investigated, I am inclined to think this confection might be given with advantage in chronic, spasmodic cough, Prussic Acid being the active principle of the Laurel berries. At present it is used in the form of enema only; from ℈j. to ʒj. dissolved in Oss. of gruel, being administered in the convulsive affections of infants, and flatulent colic.

CONFECTIO SCAMMONEÆ [1], Lond. *Confection of Scammony.*

"Take of Scammony powdered, *an ounce and a half;* Cloves bruised, Ginger Root powdered, of each, *six drachms;* Oil of Carraway, *half a drachm;* Syrup of Roses, *a sufficient quantity.* Rub the dry substance into a very fine powder; then add gradually the Syrup, and rub them again: lastly, after adding the Oil of Carraway, mix the whole together."

ELECTUARIUM SCAMMONII, Dub. *Electuary of Scammony.*

"Take of Scammony, Ginger Root, of each reduced to powder, *an ounce;* Oil of Cloves, *a scruple;* Syrup of Orange, *a sufficient quantity.* Mix the Ginger in powder with the Syrup of Orange, then add the Scammony, and lastly the Oil."

This is a stimulating cathartic; and may be given in a dose of from fʒss. to fʒj., but it is seldom ordered."

CONFEC'TIO SEN'NÆ [2], Lond. *Confection of Senna.*

"Take of Senna Leaves, *eight ounces;* Figs, *a pound;* Tamarind Pulp, Cassia Pulp, the Pulp of Prunes, of each, *half*

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[1] Electuarium caryocostinum, P. L. 1720. Electuarium e scammonio, P. L. 1745. Electuarium scammoni, P. L. 1787.

[2] Electuarium lenitivum, P. L. 1720. Electuarium Sennæ, P. L. 1787.

a pound; Coriander Seeds, *four ounces;* Liquorice Root, *three ounces;* Refined Sugar, *two pounds and a half.* Powder the Senna Leaves with the Coriander Seeds, and separate by sifting ten ounces of the mixed powder. Boil the residue with the Figs and Liquorice Root, in four pints of water, until it be reduced one half; then press out and strain the liquor. Evaporate the strained liquor in a water-bath, until a pint and a half only remain of the whole; then the sugar being added, make a syrup. Finally, mix gradually the pulps with the syrup; and, having added the sifted powder, mix the whole together."

ELECTUARIUM SENNÆ COMPOSITUM, Edin. *Compound Electuary of Senna.*

"Take of Senna Leaves, *eight ounces;* Coriander Seeds, *four ounces;* Liquorice Root bruised, *three ounces;* Figs, Pulp of Prunes, of each, *a pound;* Pulp of Tamarinds, *half a pound;* Refined Sugar, *two pounds and a half;* Water, *four pounds.* Rub the Senna with the Coriander, and separate by sifting ten ounces of the mixed powder. Boil the residue with the Figs and Liquorice Root in the Water, down to one half; then express and strain. Evaporate the strained liquor to about a pound and a half. Add the Sugar, and gradually the Pulps; and, lastly, mix in the powder."

ELECTUARIUM SENNÆ, Dub. *Electuary of Senna.*

"Take of Senna Leaves, in very fine powder, *four ounces;* Pulp of Prunes, *a pound;* Pulp of Tamarinds, *two ounces;* Molasses, *one pint and a half;* Essential Oil of Carraway, *two drachms.* Boil the Pulps with the Syrup, to the thickness of honey; then add the powder, and, when the mixture is nearly cold, the oil; finally, mix the whole thoroughly together."

Any of these Electuaries, when properly prepared, is a mild and pleasant purgative, and well adapted for those who are afflicted with habitual costiveness; and for pregnant women. They are similar to the old *Lenitive Electuary.* The dose is from ʒj. to ʒiv. or more, taken at bed time.

PULVERES.

POWDERS.

THIS form of preparing medicines is the simplest, and perhaps the least objectionable: but it is not applicable to all the articles of the materia medica. Those remedies, which are very