

C. Acidified :

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| iv. with carbonic acid. | 14. <i>Carbonate of iron.</i> |
| v. phosphoric acid. | 15. <i>Phosphate of iron.</i> |
| | 16. <i>Blue iron earth.</i> |
| vi. arsenic acid. | 17. <i>Phosphate of iron and manganese.</i> |
| | 18. <i>Arsenate of iron.</i> |
| vii. sulphuric acid. | 19. <i>Arsenate of iron and copper.</i> |
| viii. Composition unknown. | 20. <i>Sulphate.</i> |
| | 21. <i>Green iron earth.</i> Var. <i>a.</i> Friable. |
| | <i>b.</i> Coherent. |

Metallic iron can be extracted from all of these ores, but the oxides are those more commonly wrought; and, in this country, the argillaceous iron stone and the red hæmatite are the kinds in general use. The process varies in different places, but the principles on which it is conducted are every where the same. The ore is first roasted by placing it, after it is broken into small pieces, in alternate strata with small coal, either in a kiln, or built up in a pyramidal form on the ground, and setting fire to the lowest stratum of coal. This part of the process expels any sulphur, water, or carbonic acid, with which the ore may be combined; and it is then smelted with coke in a conical furnace of the strongest masonry; the heat being raised to a very high degree by passing a blast of condensed air through the furnace, and to facilitate the separation of the melted metal, lime is used, as a flux. The scoria are drawn out through an opening towards the bottom of the furnace; and the melted metal, which is collected in a cavity at the bottom, is run off into moulds. In this state it is called pig, or cast-iron: and requires to be again fused and submitted to the action of the hammer, or passed between rollers, before it is sufficiently pure either for the majority of the purposes of art or of medicine.

Pure forged or bar iron is of a blueish white or grey colour, of a fibrous texture, and very brilliant in the fracture; it emits a peculiar odour when rubbed, and has a styptic taste. Its specific gravity varies from 7.6 to 7.8. It is attracted by the magnet, and becomes magnetic; properties which distinguish it from all other metals. It is very malleable, but less so than gold, silver, or copper; and is more ductile, tenacious, and elastic, than any other metal. Iron can be ignited by percussion, and melts at 158° of Wedgwood. Its surface is soon tarnished and oxidized when exposed to the air; and the oxidizement is much hastened by the presence of water, which it decomposes. Percussion at a high temperature separates from its surface oxidized scales; the sparks produced by its collision with flint are oxidized; and in the state of wire, when made red hot at one extremity, and introduced into a bottle of pure oxygen gas, it burns with great splendour, and is oxidized in

globules. According to Proust, completely oxidized iron consists of 48 parts of oxygen and 52 of iron.

Iron is of all the metals the least injurious to the animal system, being in no respect poisonous. It was medicinally used by the ancients; for Dioscorides, we know, employed it quenched in wine as a remedy for dysentery; and its use was by no means unfrequent as an external application for the cure of malignant ulcers. The effects of iron, however, as an internal remedy, were very little understood until more modern times. It acts as a powerful tonic, increasing the general excitement, promoting the digestive powers and healthy secretions, giving a more florid hue to the blood, and augmenting in a great degree the energy of the muscular fibres. It answers the intentions for which it is prescribed more effectually, when it is given in small doses, minutely divided as it is found in *chalybeate springs*, and its use long continued. The diseases in which it is used are those which are dependent on, or attended with, a weak, languid, leucophlegmatic habit of body, as chlorosis, hysteria, dyspepsia, fluor albus, gleet, passive hæmorrhagies, palsy, scrofula, rickets, and the last stage of phthisical affections; it is also beneficial in convalescence from almost all acute diseases, and has been lately recommended as a specific in cancer. The use of iron is contra-indicated whenever the inflammatory diathesis prevails, or there is any particular fulness of the vessels; or an increased secretion of bile, particularly in sanguineous habits. In these states of the system it occasions heat, thirst, headach, laborious respiration, and many other unpleasant symptoms; but when given in a proper state of the body few medicines are capable of producing more beneficial effects.

For the purposes of medicine soft malleable iron undergoes various preparations (see *Preparations and Compositions*): but at present we have to notice it only as it is mentioned in the lists of materia medica of the British pharmacopœias.

1. METALLIC IRON.

Officinal. FERRI RAMENTA ET FILA. *Lond.* FILA ET LIMATURA.

Edin. FERRI SCOBS. *Dub.* Iron filings and wire.

Syn. Limailles de Fer (*F.*) Gopulvertes Eissen, (*G.*) Limatura di Ferro, (*I.*) Limadura de hierro, (*S.*) Cerumboo podie, (*Tam.*)

These filings are obtained from the workers in iron; but as they are often mixed with copper filings and other impurities, it is necessary, in order to purify them, to draw them upwards through a sieve, or piece of coarse gauze, with a magnet.

Medical properties and uses.—Metallic iron exerts no action on the living system, unless it meets with acid in the stomach, in which case it becomes tonic. Iron filings, therefore, are not

adapted for all the cases in which chalybeate remedies prove useful; and are chiefly suited to those cases of dyspepsia, hysteria, chlorosis, and general debility, which are accompanied with acidity in the first passages. When iron is oxidized by the assistance of watery fluids, hydrogen gas is evolved; hence, when the filings are rendered active in the stomach, foetid eructations are produced, and the fæces are coloured black; which, therefore, are evident symptoms of the medicine having taken effect. As an anthelmintic iron filings may operate mechanically, and dislodge worms; but even in worm cases the oxidizement of it in the stomach renders it more useful.

Iron wire is used for pharmaceutical preparations, on account of the purity of the iron from which it is made; as the softest and purest iron only can be drawn.

The filings are given in the form of powder combined with some aromatic, or made into an electuary with honey, or in pills in combination with myrrh, ammoniacum, or some bitter extract. The dose may be from grs. v. to 3fs.

Official preparations. *Ferri Limatura Purificata*. E. *Oxidum Ferri Nigrum purificatum*. E. D. *Ferri Acetas*. D. *Subcarbonas Ferri præparatus*. E. D. *Carbonas Ferri præcipitatus*. E. D. *Ferri Sulphas*. L. E. D. *Ferrum tartarizatum*. L. E. *Tinctura Acetatis Ferri*. D. *Liquor Ferri alkalini*. L. *Vinum Ferri*. L. D. *Murias Ammoniacæ et Ferri*. E. *Sulphuretum Ferri*. E. *Rubrum Ferri Oxidum*. E.

2. OXIDIZED IRON.

Official. FERRUM; SQUAMÆ OXIDI. *Dub.* The Scales, of the Oxide of Iron.

Syn. Bleuets de Fer (F.) Eissenoxyd (G.) Scaglio di ferro (I.) Escamas de hierro (S.)

These scales are detached by the hammer of the smith from the surface of iron heated to redness in the forge, and hammered on the anvil.

Qualities. — They are inodorous and insipid, attracted by the magnet, brittle, and reducible by trituration to a powder which is of a black colour. This oxide is soluble in acids, without producing hydrogen gas; and appears to be the metal in the first degree of oxidizement, consisting, according to Lavoisier and Proust, of 27 parts of oxygen, and 73 of iron.

Medical properties and uses. — These scales are used in the same cases and in the same manner as the filings, and are preferable; for, as they do not produce hydrogen gas when dissolving in the stomach, their use is unaccompanied by the distension and flatulence which the filings often occasion.

FERULA. *Spec. Plant. Willd.* i. 1411.

Cl. 5. Ord. 2. Pentandria Digynia. *Nat. Ord.* Umbellatæ.

G. 539. Fruit oval, compressed, plane, three streaks on each side.

Species 11. *F. Assafœtida*.¹ *Assafœtida*. *Kœmpfer. Amœnitates Exoticæ*, 535. t. 536.

Officinal. ASSAFŒTIDÆ GUMMI-RESINA. *Lond. Edin. ASSAFŒTIDA. Dub.* *Assafœtida.*

Syn. *Assafœtida* (F.) *Stinkender Asand* (G.) *Assafetida* (L.) *Asafetida* (S.) *Hilteet* (Arab.) *Hing* (H.) *Hinga* (San.)

This species of *ferula* is a native of the south of Persia, chiefly growing on the mountains in the provinces of Chorasaaan and Laar, where it is named *hingisch*. The root is perennial, tapering, and ponderous; when fully grown, the size of a man's leg, covered with a blackish coloured bark, and near the top beset with strong rigid fibres. The internal substance is fleshy, white, and abounds with a thick, very fetid milky juice. The stem is round, smooth, and striated; rising erect to the height of nine feet, and is about seven inches in circumference at the base; surrounded with six or seven radical leaves, nearly two feet long, bipinnate, with alternate pinnules, smooth, sinuated, lobed, or lanceolate; of a deep green colour, and fetid odour. The flowers are in plano-convex, terminal, compound umbels: the seeds oval, flat, foliaceous, of a reddish brown colour, rough, with three longitudinal lines; and have a porraceous odour, and a sharp bitter taste.

When the root is four years old it is fit to yield the *assafœtida*, which is procured in the following manner. At the season when the stem and leaves begin to decay, they are twisted off from the root, which is then exposed by digging away the earth that surrounds it. It is left in this state screened from the sun for forty days; then the top is cut off transversely; and after forty-eight hours the juice which has exuded is scraped off, and another transverse section is made. This operation is repeated three successive times, and then the root is allowed to remain untouched for eight or ten days, before another section is made. The root perishes after it is exhausted of the juice. The juice collected from a number of roots is put together and dried in the sun.

Assafœtida is brought to this country packed in cases, mats, and casks; that in the cases proving generally the best. It is in irregular masses, adhering to each other, externally of a brownish yellow colour, and containing many little shining tears of a whitish, reddish, or violet hue. The best is clear, and of a pale reddish colour, contains many of the white tears, and has the odour very strong.

Qualities. — *Assafœtida* has a strong, very disagreeable, alliaceous, fetid odour, and a bitter subacrid taste: but these qua-

¹ The plant described and figured by Dr. Hope of Edinburgh, in the 75th volume of the *Philosophical Transactions*, as that which yields the officinal *assafœtida*, is the *Ferula Perrica* of Willdenow, and a native of the north of Persia.

lities, particularly the odour, on which much of the efficacy of the drug depends, are much injured by keeping.¹ It becomes brittle by exposure to the air; but is not easily reduced to powder. It yields all its virtues to ether and to alcohol. It is diffused by trituration in water, forming a milky opaque mixture. The ethereal tincture, when evaporated on water, leaves a thick pellicle of brown fetid resin, and gives the water a milky appearance. In distillation either with water or alcohol assafoetida yields an essential oil, on which its odour depends. The proportions of its components are gum 60, resin 30, and essential oil 10 parts in 100; but Brugnatelli affirms that the part which has been regarded as gum is extractive.²

Medical properties and uses.—This gum resin is stimulant, antispasmodic, expectorant, emmenagogue, and anthelmintic. It is more efficacious than any of the other fetid gums; producing its effects in a shorter space of time; and is therefore beneficially given as an antispasmodic in cases of hysteria, hypochondriasis, dyspepsia, flatulent colic, tympanitis, and in nervous diseases: its expectorant powers have been found useful in asthma, and hooping-cough; and it ranks high as a remedy in chlorotic affections. We are informed that in India it is a successful native specific against the Guinea³ worm. Its use is contra-indicated when the inflammatory diathesis is present; and owing to its stimulant quality, it is often combined with antimonials and nitre. It is used locally, in the form of enema in worm cases, flatulent colic, and in the convulsions attending dentition: and sometimes it is applied as a plaster for discussing tumours.

The dose is from grs. v. to ʒj, formed into pills, or diffused in water.

Official preparations. *Mistura Assafoetidae*. L. D. *Tinct. Assafoetidae*. L. E. D. *Spiritus Ammoniacæ fetidus*. L. D. *Pilulæ Assafoetidae compositæ*. E. *Pilulæ Aloes et Assafoetidae*. E.

FICUS. *Spec. Plant. Willd.* iv. 1131.

Cl. 23. Ord. 2. Polygamia Diœcia. Nat. Ord. Scabridæ Linn. Urticæ Juss.

.1931. Common receptacle turbinate, fleshy, converging, concealing the florets, either in the same or a distinct individual.

Male. Calyx three-parted. Corolla 0. Stamens three.

Female. Calyx five-parted. Corolla 0. Pistil one. Seeds covered by a permanent, closed, somewhat fleshy calyx.

* Leaves lobed.

Species 1. F. *Carica*.⁴ The Fig-tree. *Med. Bot. 2d. ed.* 714. t. 244.

¹ Kœmpfer says: "Affirmare ausim drachmam unam, recens effusam, majorem spargere foetorem quam centum libras vetustioris, quem siccum venundant aromatarii nostrates." *Amen. Exotice*, p. 535.

² *Compendio di, Mat. Med.* p. 41. Pavia, 1817.

³ *Edin. Med. Journ.* ii. 304.

⁴ *Σύκη* Græcorum.

Officinal. CARICÆ FRUCTUS. *Lond. Dub.* FICI CARICÆ FRUCTUS.

Edin. The preserved fruit of the Fig.

Syn. Ficus (F.) Feigen (G.) Fico (I.) Higo (S.)

The fig tree is a native of Asia, but it was introduced into Europe in the early ages. It flourishes in France, Spain, and Italy, and even sometimes ripens its fruit in England. It flowers in June and July. It seldom rises above twelve feet in height, but sends off many spreading branches; and the trunk, which exudes a milky odorous fluid when wounded, is covered with an ash-coloured bark, and seldom exceeds seven inches in diameter. The leaves, which are annual in Europe, but perennial between the tropics, are large, nearly a span in length, scabrous, and irregularly divided into three or five lobes; of a deep green colour on the upper surface, with a pale green longitudinal vein to each lobe; but on the under surface the whole is pale green, with the veins raised, reticulated, and downy: they are supported on round petioles. The fruit in its early stage serves as a common receptacle, and contains upon its inner surface both the male and female florets. It is turbinate, umbilicate at the top, in colour varied green and red, fleshy, soft, and hollow within.*

The fig tree was very much cultivated by the ancients, who brought the fruit to perfection by a process which they termed caprification. They had observed that those figs which were perforated by an insect, the *Cynips Psenes* of Linnæus, always ripened better; and, therefore, they tied a wild fig, on which this insect breeds, near the young figs, so as to cause the insects, when they issued from the wild fig, also to perforate them. The good effects arose from the crawling of the larvæ within the figs scattering the pollen, and thus forwarding the impregnation of the female florets: but the gardeners of Aleppo, ignorant of the cause of the benefit derived from the cynips, imitate the process by pricking the figs with a needle dipped in oil, in order to procure early figs. The fruit when ripe is dried in ovens to preserve it, and destroy any of the larvæ of the cynips that may remain; and then packed very closely into the small chests in which they are imported into this country.

Qualities. — Dried figs have a sweet peculiar taste. They are generally compressed; the cuticle is of a brownish colour, and crusted over with crystals of sugar; and within are numerous small yellow lenticular seeds in a sweet viscid pulp. They consist almost entirely of mucilage and sugar.

Medical properties and uses. — The dietetical use of figs is

* The first fig-trees introduced into England are still in the Archbishop's garden at Lambeth. They are supposed to have been planted by Cardinal Pole, and now bear excellent fruit.

† *Gœrtner de Fructibus*, ii. 66. t. 91.

well known.¹ When eaten freely they are apt to occasion flatulent colic and diarrhœa. They are used medicinally in demulcent decoctions, in pulmonary and other inflammatory complaints; and two ounces of them boiled in six fluid ounces of water, and strained, form a useful gargle in cynanche tonsillaris, when suppuration takes place. The figs themselves, roasted or boiled and split, form excellent cataplasms, when applied very hot to gum boils, buboes, and other phlegmons.²

FRAXINUS. *Spec. Plant. Willd.* iv. 1102.

Cl. 23. Ord. 2. Polygamia Diœcia. Nat. ord. Separiæ Linn. Jasmineæ Juss.

G. 1903. Hermaph. Calyx 0, or four-parted. Corolla 0, or four-parted. Stamens two. Pistil one. Capsule one-seeded, lanceolate. Female. Pistil one, lanceolate.

Sp. 15. F. *Ornus*.³ Flowering ash. *Med. Bot.* 2d edit. p. 589. *Sibthorp Flora Græca*, t. 4.

Official. MANNA. *Lond. Dub. Edin.* Manna.

Syn. Munne (F.) Manna (G.) Manna (L.) Mana (S.) Torenjeebeen (Arab.) Shirk-hisht (H.)

This tree is a native of the south of Europe, growing abundantly in Calabria, Apulia, Sicily, and on the loftier mountains of Greece; and is cultivated in England as an ornamental tree, flowering in May and June. It seldom exceeds twenty feet in height, is very branching, and has a smooth gray bark. The leaves are deciduous, petiolate, opposite, and pinnate, composed of two or three pair of leaflets, with a terminal one: the leaflets are opposite, about one inch and a half long, and three-fourths broad, pointed at each end, obtusely and unequally serrated, smooth, and of a deep bright green colour. The footstalks vary in length, and are channelled; the gems are villous. The flowers, which grow in close panicles at the extremities of the young shoots, are supradecom-pound, opposite, scarcely the length of the leaves, smooth, and without bractes. The segments of the calyx are ovate, pointed, and nearly equal; the petals oblong and linear, obtuse, entire, attenuated at the base, spreading, twice the length of the calyx, and of a white colour. The filaments are two, spreading, white, smooth, and bearing yellow incumbent anthers. The germen is small, oval, and smooth, with a short, straight style crowned with a notched stigma. The capsules droop, are lanceolate, notched, compressed, and bilocular at the base; with one cell generally abortive, while the other contains a cylindrical ferruginous seed.

¹ Figs were the chief part of the food of the ancient Athletes.

² The most ancient cataplasm on record was made of figs. It was used for the relief of Hezekiah, who lived 260 years before Hippocrates. "And Isaiah said, Take a lump of figs. And they took and laid it on the boil, and he recovered." 2 Kings, chap. xx. 7.

³ *Milæx* Dioscoridis.

Two other species of ash, the *rotundifolia* and *excelsior*, also produce manna. It exudes in warm dry weather spontaneously from the stem and branches; and concretes into whitish tears, which are scraped off and sold under the name of manna in the tear. The greater part of the manna, however, is obtained by longitudinal incisions about three inches in length, made on one side of the tree only in the same season, and continued from the base of the trunk, upwards as far as the branches, at the distance of an inch from each other. The manna flows at first in form of a thick juice, which gradually concretes. It is collected in baskets, and known under the name of *manna grassa*, fat manna: and is in irregular masses of a reddish or brownish colour, often full of impurities. By making the juice to concrete on straws, and chips fastened near the incisions, a finer kind of manna is procured, which is called canulated or flaky manna, *manna in canoli*. The collecting begins about the middle of June, and terminates in September.¹

Manna is brought to Great Britain packed in chests. The different sorts are in separate packages, and are known by the names of Flake manna, Sicilian manna, and Calabrian manna. The best is "in oblong pieces or flakes, moderately dry, friable, light, of a whitish or pale yellow colour, and in some degree transparent: the inferior kinds are moist, unctuous, and brown."² Manna is said to be occasionally counterfeited by a composition of honey or sugar, mixed with scammony or some other purgative³: but such frauds are now seldom attempted; and bad or counterfeit manna may be easily discovered by its colour, weight, transparency, and taste; which are different from those of real manna.

Qualities. — Manna has a slight peculiar odour, and a sweet taste, with some degree of bitterness, not very pleasant, and leaving a nauseous impression on the tongue. The finer pieces, which are often hollow, when broken and examined by the microscope, exhibit bundles of long beautiful spicular crystals: but the general texture of the pieces is granular. It is entirely soluble in water and alcohol; and the latter, when the solution has been assisted by heat, deposits on cooling five-eighths of the manna beautifully crystallized; and which may be regarded as pure manna, and an uncrystallizable mucilaginous extractive matter remains, on which probably the purgative quality of the drug depends. Fourcroy and Vauquelin suppose that the common manna of the shops contains four different ingredients. 1. Pure manna, constituting three-fourths

¹ Arcturius is the first Greek who notices manna. *Freind's Hist. of Med.* i. 271.

² Lewis.

³ *Alston's Mat. Med.* ii. 472.

of the whole. 2. A little common sugar. 3. A yellow nauseous-smelling substance, to which its purgative qualities seem owing: and 4. Mucilage.

Medical properties and uses.—Manna is a very gentle laxative. It was extravagantly commended by some of the older physicians; but is now more justly regarded as a laxative fit for children only, and persons of very weak habits. When given in a dose sufficient for an adult, it is apt to occasion flatulence and griping; and therefore it is seldom used, except as an adjunct to senna, rhubarb, or solutions of neutral salts, with the view of covering their tastes.

The dose for children is from ʒij to ʒiv ; and for adults from ʒj to ʒij .

FUCUS. *Genera Plant. Schreber.*

Cl. 24. Ord. 3. Cryptogamia Algæ. Nat. ord. Algæ.

G. 1671. *Male.* Vesicles smooth, hollow, with villose hairs within, interwoven.

Female. Vesicles smooth, filled with jelly, sprinkled with immersed grains, prominent at the tip. *Seeds* solitary.

Species 2. *F. vesiculosus.* Bladder-wrack. *Turner's Fuci*, ii. 44. *Eng. Bot.* 1066.

Officinal. FUCUS. *Lond.* QUERCUS MARINA; HERBA FRUCTIBUS PRÆSENTIBUS. *Dub.* Bladder-wrack, bearing the fruit.

This marine plant is a perennial, a native of the British shores; bearing the fructification in the spring. The root is an expanded, black, woody, callous disk. The frond is smooth and glossy, from one to four feet in length, and from half an inch to one inch and a half in breadth, of a dark olive green colour, becoming paler near the apices; every where linear, and dichotomous; and through its whole length furnished with a midrib of a blackish colour, as thick as a goose quill at the base, but gradually growing pale and thin. In the membranous part are found immersed spherical vesicles, varying in size from a pea to a hazel nut, always close to the midrib, their substance thin, and their cavity full of air. The fructification consists of compressed turgid solitary or twin receptacles at the ends of the branches; roundish, perforated, and filled with a tasteless pellucid mucus.

When the plant is dried it becomes brittle, and of a dull black colour; and sometimes is covered with a saline efflorescence. It is much used in the making of kelp.

Qualities.—The odour is slight, but peculiar; and the taste nauseous, and similar to that of soda. When burnt, it yields charcoal and soda.

Medical properties and uses.—The burnt plant is considered as deobstruent; and has been exhibited in scrophulous affections and bronchocele: and Dr. Russel found the mucus of

the vesicles an excellent resolvent when externally applied to scrophulous swellings.

Official preparation. *Pulvis Quercus marinæ*. D.

GALBANI GUMMI RESINA. Vide *Bubon*.

GALLÆ. Vide *Quercus*.

GENTIANA.* *Spec. Plant. Willd.* i. 1331.

Cl. 5. Ord. 2. Pentandria Digynia. Nat. ord. Rotacæ Linn.
Gentianæ Juss.

G. 512. Corolla one-petalled. Capsule two-valved, one-celled;
with two longitudinal receptacles.

* Corollas 5 or 9-cleft, somewhat bell shaped.

Species 1. *G. lutea*. Yellow Gentian. *Med. Bot.* 2d edit. 273. t. 95.

Official. GENTIANÆ RADIX. Lond. GENTIANÆ LUTÆ RADIX.

Edin. GENTIANA; RADIX. Dub. Gentian Root.

Syn. Gentiane jaune (F.) Enzian (G.) Genziana (I.) Genciana (S.)

This species of gentian is a perennial plant, found growing on the alps of Switzerland and Austria, the Apennines, the Pyrennees, and in North America. The root is thick, long, and cylindrical. The lower leaves are petioled, large, spear-shaped, stiff, and having five large veins on the back, plaited, and of a yellowish green colour; those of the stem are concave, smooth, and egg-shaped, sessile, and almost embracing the stem, which rises three or four feet in height. The flowers are in whorls at the upper joints, large, yellow, peduncled, and beautiful: the calyx, which is a membranous deciduous spathe, bursts on the side when the flower opens: the corolla is rotated, divided into five or eight narrow spreading segments, elliptical, and speckled with many thick dots. The filaments are shorter than the corolla, and furnished with long erect anthers: the germen is conical, crowned with two sessile reflected stigmas; and becomes a conical capsule, which contains numerous small seeds.

Gentian roots are brought to this country from Germany. They are in pieces of various lengths and thickness, twisted, wrinkled on the outside, and covered with a brownish gray cuticle.

Qualities.— They have no particular odour, and the taste is intensely bitter without being nauseous. When cut transversely the pieces exhibit a yellow maculated heart, with thick bark verging to brown. The sensible qualities of gentian root are extracted by ether, alcohol, and water. The two former extract a bitter resin and an extractive matter; and the latter some part of these and a considerable quantity of mucilage also, which occasions the infusion often to become ropy. Diluted alcohol is its proper menstruum. In the bitter resin which is

* Said to have been named after Gentius, king of Illyria, who first discovered its medicinal properties 167 years before the birth of our Saviour.