

## Pharmacopoeia Chirurgica.

### ACIDUM ACETICUM. (P. L.)

#### VINEGAR.

VINEGAR possesses both stimulating and discutient properties as an external application; and is usually applied in fomentations and baths; or in the form of a cataplasm, mixed with some farinaceous substance, such as soft bread, oatmeal, or linseed powder. See Cataplasma Acidi Acetici. Vinegar has long been held in repute by some of our best surgeons, as an excellent application in the cure of sprains and bruises. Previous, however, to the use of vinegar, whether it be in the form of fomentation, poultice, or as a cold lotion, to parts where much injury has been inflicted, so as to have produced considerable extravasation of blood into the cellular substance, local blood-letting should always be premised; but if the injury be not very considerable, vinegar may be had recourse to immediately after the accident.

It is a frequent practice with some of our best surgeons to use vinegar mixed with linseed meal, in the

form of a cold cataplasm, in cases of sprains and bruises accompanied with considerable inflammation and heat, directing the poultice to be renewed as often as it becomes dry; but as in this case the intention is to diminish the great heat of the part, and consequently the tension and pain, by the constant evaporation of moisture from the surface, cloths dipped in a solution of vinegar and water, (see *Lotio Acidi Acetici Comp.*) would appear a more preferable application; for, besides that the meal, when mixed in this way, is very apt to become soon stiff and hard, it is in itself a bad conductor of caloric, and as such wet cloths are less objectionable; but then it must be recollected, that they should be kept constantly moist. In chronic inflammations of the eyes and eye-lids, vinegar has lately been brought into considerable repute, also where the eyes are weak and watery; likewise in the more acute forms of ophthalmia, after topical and general blood-letting have been used freely. See *Collyrium Acidi Acetici*.

The acid of vinegar, obtained by repeatedly freezing the water in which it is diffused, has often been usefully employed as a styptic, in relieving hæmorrhages from the nose. As an external application the *Acidum Aceticum Impurum*, or common vinegar, may in general be employed.

ACIDUM NITRICUM. (L.)  
NITRIC ACID.

The acid of nitre is obtained in various degrees of oxygenation. When the proportion of oxygen to that of azot is less than three of the former to one of the latter, it has hitherto been termed nitrous acid; and in this state it freely emits fumes of a red colour when exposed to the atmosphere. If the oxygen be to the azot as that of four to one, the acid in this state is colourless, or nearly so, emits no vapour, and takes the appellation of nitric acid. The difference then, as will be already perceived, in the nitrous and nitric acids, consists in a greater or less quantity of oxygen, or rather in a variable proportion of nitric oxyde, with which the acid is combined. By exposing nitrous acid in a retort to a gentle heat, the nitric oxyde is vaporized, and pure colourless nitric acid remains in the retort; this may again be rendered nitrous acid, by impregnating it with the red nitrous fumes, which are nothing more than nitric oxyde combined with a portion of acid.

Nitric acid is a very powerful styptic and escharotic, and stains the skin of a yellow colour wherever it comes into contact with it. It is a powerful caustic in the hands of the surgeon, and forms probably one of the readiest and safest means of preventing the evil consequences arising from the bite of rabid animals, and of destroying the poison; as it not only acts upon the parts

contiguous to the bite, but decomposes any saliva which may have been infused into the wound. It is, however, apt to spread itself too far over the surrounding surface, unless cautiously used: this is best prevented by dipping a small glass tube into the acid, and fixing it upon the injured parts. Nitric acid, sufficiently diluted with water, forms an excellent lotion for old indolent ulcers, or where the granulations are soft and spongy, or the edges of the wound are hard and callous. For these purposes the *Lotio Acidi Nitrici* will generally answer the intention; a greater or less quantity of the acid being added, according as the nature of the sore shall require, or the judgment of the surgeon shall deem fit. Within these few years nitric acid gained such considerable repute in the cure of syphilis, that with some surgeons it was thought sufficient to supersede the necessity of giving mercury for the removal of that complaint.

Experience, however, soon rejected what enthusiasm, in its eagerness for innovation, had too hastily adopted, and practitioners, we believe, now, one and all, make use of mercury, as the only safe and certain means of curing lues. But it cannot be denied that nitric acid, when judiciously administered, possesses very considerable effects over some forms of this complaint, independently of its efficacy in certain other disorders; previous to the notice of which, we shall first briefly detail what has been said by the able and scientific Pearson, on the use of acids in general in the cure of lues, more particularly the nitric acid. 'Since

the time when the science of Chymistry first began to be cultivated with successful diligence, and an enlarged and more correct knowledge of bodies has been acquired by experiments, wisely imagined, and skilfully conducted, frequent attempts have been made, though with unequal success, to apply the principles of that useful science to the phenomena of disease, and the operation of remedies. When a great number of hypothetical notions are successively proposed upon subjects, at the best but imperfectly understood; when systems are constructed upon scanty and fallacious observations, and are chiefly supported by doubtful analogies; it may be naturally expected, that such productions of the fancy will partake of absurdity and error: or, at the most, will present nothing to the mind but undiluted obscurity.' Of the vegetable acid, he observes, 'that it was the only medicine of that class which had been employed as a specific against lues venerea till towards the close of the last century; but to what extent it was introduced into practice cannot now be ascertained. The test of his experience proved vegetable acid to be an agreeable tonic to the stomach, and, in some few solitary cases, to meliorate the general health; but never in a single instance did he find it, 'competent to the removal of any one venereal symptom.' On the efficacy or inefficiency of nitric acid in this complaint, he thinks 'that the power of this medicine has not yet been ascertained in so satisfactory a manner as to preclude all difference of opinion upon the subject.' However, in the cases which

he details the number of cures bears no adequate ratio to the quantity of unsuccessful failures, wherein an attempt was made to relieve this complaint by the nitric acid. During several years attendance at one of the first hospitals in town, I may safely aver, that in no one case were the symptoms of confirmed lues removed by the exhibition of nitric acid; neither as instanced by the practice of the different surgeons, nor coming under my own immediate observation. Nitric acid was, however, used both liberally and successfully for removing the debilitating effects of mercury, for giving tone to the stomach, improving the appetite, and imparting a granulating and healthy aspect to certain ulcers remaining after a due course of mercury had been persevered in, and which were aggravated and increased by a further continuance in its use.

In some eruptive complaints, particularly of the lower extremities, and evidently connected with hepatic affection, accompanied with great heat and itching, I have seen the nitric acid more beneficial than any other form of medicine, given in doses from eight to ten, or fifteen drops, twice or three times in the day, sufficiently diluted with water, and sweetened with sugar. The usual commencing dose of this acid is from half a dram to a dram by weight, mixed with a pint of distilled water, and properly sweetened, to be drank through a glass tube within the twenty-four hours. It is recommended to be taken through a tube as it is highly injurious to the teeth.

ACIDUM SULPHURICUM. (L.)  
*SULPHURIC ACID, FORMERLY OIL  
OF VITRIOL.*

Sulphuric Acid is powerfully corrosive and astringent, and highly destructive of all animal matter. If made into an ointment with axunge, it may be conveniently employed in the cure of psora. See Ung. Acidi Sulphurici. It has lately been used with considerable success by one of our first surgeons, in the form of a collyrium, sufficiently diluted with water, in the atonic stages of ophthalmia: but here its efficacy is attributable to its astringency alone, and not to any peculiar specific effects.

ÆRUGO. (L.)  
CUPRI SUB-ACETAS IMPURA. (N.C.R.)  
CUPRI SUB-ACETIS. (E.)

*SUB-ACETATE OF COPPER, FOR-  
MERLY VERDIGRIS.*

Sub-acetate of Copper, or Verdigris, is detergent, and mildly escharotic. It was formerly much used to take down fungous excrescences, and to destroy the hardened edges of old and indolent ulcers; but it is now neglected for more effectual and speedier remedies. It enters in a powder, called pulv. sabinæ c

ærugine of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, (see Pulvis Sabinæ Compositus) which is much recommended by some surgeons for the removal of venereal warts. The linimentum æruginis of the London College is said to be an excellent gargle for ulcers of the mouth and throat; but it requires to be used with some degree of caution. See Gargarisma Æruginis.

**ÆRUGO CUM HYDRARGYRI SUBMURIATE.**

**VERDIGRIS WITH SUBMURIATE OF MERCURY.**

& Æruginis præparatæ

Hydrargyri submuriatis sing. drach. j. misce.

This is a useful powder as an application to chancres and ill-conditioned sores, putting a stop in some measure to the phagædenic nature of the former, and correcting the thin gleet discharge of the latter. Its action may be considerably quickened by the addition of a scruple, or half a dram, of the hydrargyri nitricoxidum to the quantity of the articles above prescribed; but preparations of this kind are in general much inferior in merit to the nitrate of silver, or nitric acid.



## ALUMEN. (L.)

ALUMINÆ ET POTASSÆ SUPER-  
SULPHAS. (N.C.R.)*ALUM, OR SUPERSULPHATE OF  
ALUMINE AND POTASH.*

## ALUMINÆ SULPHAS. (E.)

*SULPHATE OF ALUMINE.*

Alum has long held a place in the Pharmacopœias both of this country and of the continent. If it be exposed to a pretty considerable heat for some time its water of crystallization is driven off, and it is denominated alumen ustum, or alumen exsiccatum. This is however, for the most part, a very unnecessary process, unless the alum be used as an escharotic, or for sprinkling upon wounds, for it again takes up its water of crystallization when united with fluids.

As an external remedy alum is not at present much used. It has been celebrated by the older physicians and surgeons as a most powerful styptic, and formed the principal ingredient in all their styptic powders. As a laxative in colic, more particularly when arising from the noxious effects of lead, alum has been much recommended; but at present it is laid aside for more certain remedies. It may be usefully enough employed as an injection, dissolved in a decoction of oak bark, against the fluor albus, and

other increased discharges from the vagina in women.  
See Decoctum Corticis Quercus.

ANTHEMIDIS FLORES. (L.)

ANTHEMIS NOBILIS. (E.)

*CHAMOMILE, the Flowers.*

Chamomile flowers are used externally in baths and fomentations, as a discutient and anti-septic application, and often with good effect. See Decoctum Anthemidis Florum and Decoctum Malvæ Compositum.

ANTIMONII ARSENIAS.

*ARSENIATE OF ANTIMONY.*

℞ Antimonii in pulv. triti unc. ij.

Arsenici albi in pulv. triti unc. j.

These are to be melted together in a crucible, with a heat not too powerful, otherwise the arsenic will be volatilized, and prove highly noxious to the operator. After they have been fluxed together, and have become cold, they are to be reduced to powder. This caustic, under the title of Arsenical Caustic, was much used by the late Mr. Justamond in the cure of cancers. It is, perhaps, one of the best forms of caustics composed of arsenic. When united with powdered opium its effect is equally certain, and it is said to be much less painful.

ANTIMONII MURIAS. (E.)  
*MURIATE OF ANTIMONY.*

Muriate of Antimony, better known by the name of Butter of Antimony, is a powerful caustic, and much used by farriers, and others of that description, for the purpose of destroying fungous excrescences or fistulous openings in the feet of cattle. It is used by some surgeons for destroying warts and excrescences, and for removing opacities of the cornea; but it is seldom had recourse to.

ARGENTI NITRAS. (L.)  
NITRAS ARGENTI. (E.)  
*NITRATE OF SILVER, FORMERLY  
LUNAR CAUSTIC.*

Nitrate of silver is the most manageable caustic we possess, at the same time the most generally useful; and in the greater number of cases its action is sufficiently powerful to answer the full intention of the surgeon. For surgical purposes it is formed into small cylindrical sticks, by pouring the fused nitrate of silver into proper moulds. These sticks should always be kept in close stopper vials, and covered with soft dry paper, both to preserve them against the action of the air, as also to prevent their corroding or discolouring the fingers in handling.

Every surgeon of experience is acquainted with the utility of nitrate of silver on a great number of occasions: as a caustic in removing fungous excrescences; in taking off the callous edges of long-continued ulcers; as likewise for keeping the edges of such sores in a proper, healthy, granulating state. For these intentions the stick is generally employed, the surface of the *nitras argenti* being previously just moistened; or it is used in the form of a solution, in the proportion of a drachm to an ounce of distilled water, by means of a camel's hair brush. It may be worth while to remark, that the vial containing this solution should be covered with dark coloured paper, that it should be close stopped immediately after using it, and kept in a dry place. The *nitras argenti* is eminently useful in a great number of venereal ulcers, in eradicating venereal warts, after they have been removed by the scissars or the knife, and in the permanent cure of strictures in the urethra. It has been recommended as an application to certain species of ulcers, said to be cancerous, or partaking of the nature of the *Noli me tangere*, both upon the nose, and in the neighbourhood of the face; and, lastly, it has been recommended by some as a specific for destroying the venereal virus of chancres before it has acted too generally on the surrounding surface, so as to have become absorbed into the system. When used for the purpose of destroying the virus of an incipient chancre, the caustic should be scraped to a point, a practice recommended by the ingenious Mr. Hunter, by which means the whole sur-

face of the chancre may be brought into contact with the caustic. He likewise directs a renewal of this practice till the slough thrown off leave the ulcer florid and healthy, like the surface of a granulating simple sore. A caution has been set up against this mode of practice, and that very justly, that the glans penis of some patients partakes of deep and extensive sloughing upon the application even of the slightest caustic; and that very generally in constitutions of a scrofulous cast such consequences are apt to supervene. But here other considerations are to be taken into the account independent of scrophula, which very materially influence the propriety of using caustic for destroying chancre on its first appearance. It too frequently happens that a chancre is not discovered till some abrasion of the surface has taken place, or till it has so far developed itself that the contiguous surface has become contaminated; and where such is the case we only increase the extent of a venereal sore, by removing, through the means of any corroding application, that which is only supposed to be the infected part. Very generally, too, such patients, immediately on the discovery of a chancre, at the same time that they destroy it by caustic, begin with a very liberal use of mercury, or are put upon it by their surgeons, under the influence of which, in some constitutions, every description of ulcer or wound will become highly irritable, painful, and spreading; notwithstanding, in many forms of ulcer or open sore, though perfectly unconnected with syphilis, mercury exhibited internally is one of the best possible remedies we can

have recourse to in order to induce a proper and healthy action; but we believe in such cases that the untoward nature of the sore proceeds from a disordered state of the functions of digestion and of excretion through the intestinal canal, and not from any peculiar character of the ulcer itself. If then the constitution be unfavourable to the internal use of mercury, or if the spreading malignity of a chancre be accompanied with any degree of ambiguity or doubt, the propriety of using lunar caustic, on the first appearance of the chancre, to destroy the further progress of the venereal poison, is in one case highly questionable, and in the other dangerous and absurd; for we cannot use it safely in the latter instance without the internal aid of mercury at the same time, which alone is to destroy the virus, and bring about a cure; and in the other instance should the constitution be such that when influenced by mercury any open sore becomes irritable, unhealthy, and spreading, our practice and intention are certainly at issue, since by using caustic, and giving mercury at the same time, we are adopting two contradictory means of cure, which have a directly opposite tendency. Besides, if mercury be necessary, and alone to be depended upon, we are not in want of surgical applications less painful and more proper than caustic ones. The use of lunar caustic, however, in the hands of an experienced practitioner, for the entire removal of chancre in its early state, without the exhibition of mercury, may by some be thought perfectly justifiable, since it is experience alone which can dictate the propriety

of adopting any means of cure at all hazardous or uncertain in its effect; while the reputation of a younger surgeon would be materially injured should any thing like error, or want of skill, become manifest in his practice, though his intention be equally proper and well founded.

We shall speak on the propriety of using lunar caustic for the permanent cure of strictures, under the head of Medicated Bougies.

Lunar caustic has often been administered internally to an extent scarcely credible. Latterly it has been highly recommended in some inveterate ulcers, given in the form of pills, united with crumbs of bread; but we fear its efficacy will often prove very uncertain. See *Pilulæ Argenti Nitratis*.

BALSAMUM PERUVIANUM CUM  
FELLE.

*PERUVIAN BALSAM WITH  
OX'S GALL.*

℞ *Fellis bovini* drach. iij.

*Balsami Peruviani* drach. j. *misce.*

Dr. Hugh Smith directs this as a remedy to be occasionally dropped into the ear, in cases where a constant fetid discharge indicates a diseased state of its secretions. Together with this practice, however, it will be requisite to syringe the ear every day with a weak solution of soap and water, which in general will effect

more than any other application; more especially if the morbid state of the secretion be accompanied or connected with a deficiency of wax, or should the latter have become hard and concremented. See Saunders on the Ear.

### CATAPLASMA ACIDI ACETICI.

#### *CATAPLASM OF VINEGAR.*

This cataplasm may be formed by mixing vinegar in sufficient quantity with either oatmeal, linseed meal, or crumb of bread. If linseed meal be used alone, it is apt, from its tenacity, to become hard and dry, thus occasioning a degree of inconvenience to the part upon which it is applied. Linseed meal is, however, very useful for giving this tenacity in a proper degree to the poultice when mixed with either of the other articles. This poultice is generally directed to be applied cold, and is of service against sprains and bruises, for which intention it is much in use in the several hospitals. When used for a length of time it has occasionally been found highly serviceable for removing scrofulous enlargements of the joints; this it is supposed to effect by keeping up a constant and equable stimulus upon the part, sufficient in some cases to produce a degree of redness upon the surface. See remarks under *Acidum Aceticum*.



CATAPLASMA ALUMINIS.  
 CATAPLASM OF ALUM.

This cataplasm, better known by the name of Alum Curd, is made by briskly agitating the whites of two eggs with a lump of alum till a coagulum is formed. It is useful in some cases of ophthalmia, both of the purulent kind and of the chronic, when attended with a watery excretion, if applied to the eye between two pieces of thin linen rag. The alum curd has been found an efficacious remedy applied to chilblains, previous to the skin cracking and becoming sore, and hence it is a practice in some schools to wash the children's feet repeatedly with a strong solution of alum, which is said to keep off those troublesome companions. See Liquor Aluminis Compositus.

CATAPLASMA BYNES.  
 CATAPLASM OF MALT.

℞ Bynes farinæ  
 Cerevisiæ spumæ q. s. ut fiat cataplasma.

This cataplasm, taken from the Pharmacopœia of Guy's Hospital, is chiefly of use in foul spreading ulcers, or in spreading gangrenous wounds, as a means of gently stimulating the parts, and of taking off the disagreeable odour, by evolving a considerable quantity of carbonic acid gas; for these intentions it sometimes

will succeed very well. The poultice answers much better when both the ingredients are fresh, as the fermentation is more considerable; it should likewise be applied warm. See *Cataplasma Fermenti*.

### CATAPLASMA CARBONIS.

#### CHARCOAL POULTICE.

To a sufficient quantity of the common linseed meal poultice, stir in as much charcoal in fine powder as it will bear, and let the whole be well mixed. This cataplasm is often used to sweeten foul offensive ulcers and venereal sores, and for this purpose it is of great service; it will likewise often dispose them to assume a more favourable and healthy aspect.

### CATAPLASMA CEREVISIÆ.

#### CATAPLASM OF ALE OR STRONG-BEER GROUNDS.

This is made by stirring into ale or strong-beer grounds a sufficient quantity of oatmeal or linseed powder. This cataplasm may safely be recommended to general notice as an excellent stimulant and antiseptic in cases of large sloughing ulcers and mortified parts. It ought to be renewed at least twice in twelve hours, and applied as warm as the parts will bear.

CATAPLASMA CONII.  
*CATAPLASM OF HEMLOCK.*

To the fomentum conii add as much oatmeal or linseed flour as will form a cataplasm. This poultice is applied to cancerous and scrofulous sores of a highly irritable and painful nature, to diminish their sensibility, and to correct the acrid discharge. For these purposes Mr. Justamond preferred the fresh herb bruised. See Cataplasma Digitalis.

CATAPLASMA CUMINI.  
*GUMMIN CATAPLASM.*

℞ Cumini semen lib. j.  
Lauri baccarum  
Scordii foliorum exsiccatorum  
Serpentariæ radicis singulorum unc. iij.  
Caryophyllorum unc. j.

These ingredients being reduced to powder, are to be mixed with thrice their weight of honey, so as to form a cataplasm. The cataplasma Cumini is a warm stimulating application, and may often be used with great advantage to ulcers and wounds where there is great languor of the circulation, or an evident disposition to gangrene, or when the parts have taken on wide and extensive sloughing: it must be recollected,

however, that in several cases the Cummin cataplasm, when used alone, will be found to excite the parts too much, and to produce a degree of erysipelatous inflammation, which is too liable to run into the original disposition; a portion of it therefore is generally mixed with some milder form of ingredients, as oatmeal or linseed flour, previously formed, by means of boiling water, to the consistence of a cataplasm. I have repeatedly seen the aspect of sloughing venereal ulcers greatly meliorated by an application of one part Cummin cataplasm with two parts of the common linseed meal poultice; and where the edges of the ulcer have been highly irritable and painful this inconvenience has frequently been removed by covering them with the ceratum opii spread upon lint, previous to the application of the poultice.

The Cataplasma Cumini is one of the Formula expunged by the London College in the new edition of their Pharmacopœia.

#### CATAPLASMA DIGITALIS.

#### CATAPLASM OF DIGITALIS.

Boil three ounces of the dried leaves of the Fox-glove, or four ounces of the fresh plant, in two pints of distilled water to one. A sufficient quantity of this liquor, mixed with a portion of linseed meal, so as to form a poultice of proper consistency, may be used in all those cases, where the cataplasma conii is indicated,

and not unfrequently with greater advantage. It will be found to allay pain, remove irritation, and greatly diminish the increased sensibility of the part to which it is applied.

### CATAPLASMA DAUCI.

#### *CARROT CATAPLASM.*

Boil any quantity of fresh carrots till they are sufficiently soft to be beat into a smooth even pulp, which is to be applied as a poultice. This has been found very effectual for sweetening cancerous sores and foul ulcers, thereby rendering the condition of the patient much more comfortable. In a trial made with turnips, used in the same way as carrots, at one of the first medical institutions of the metropolis, the same effects were produced, and apparently in a greater degree than with carrots. In some cases these effects may be further promoted by sprinkling into the pulp some finely-powdered charcoal previous to applying it.

### CATAPLASMA FARINACEUM.

#### *COMMON BREAD CATAPLASM.*

This poultice, which is very generally in use, is commonly made by soaking slices of bread in milk, and simmering them together over a gentle fire till they are reduced to the proper consistence of a poultice. The whole is then to be beat smooth with a spoon, and

applied as warm as the patient's feelings will readily admit. As milk is very liable to turn sour, and is said to possess no greater relaxing power than water, it has been objected to as being always improper in poultices. This objection will certainly hold good whenever stale milk is made use of, or if the same poultice be kept too long applied; but if the milk be fresh, and the poultice renewed night and morning, we do not know any thing that occasionally gives such ease and comfort to the patient as this form of cataplasm. Indeed it generally agrees better for a time with open abscesses, previously brought to a fit state of maturation either by fomentations, or the linseed meal poultice, than any other form of application with which I am acquainted, particularly if the skin be irritable and inflamed, or the patient's constitution very delicate. If water be substituted for milk the poultice is seldom of sufficient tenacity. It is true this inconvenience may be remedied by the addition of a little linseed meal, but in some instances the meal appears to irritate and fret the skin so much, that some patients undergo much uneasiness from this cause; an objection which the cataplasm of bread and milk is seldom subject to, especially if it be not applied too hot. To milk abscesses, where the discharge is profuse, this form of poultice is often extremely proper.

## CATAPLASMA FERMENTI. (L.)

## CATAPLASM OF YEAST.

℞ Farinæ lib. j.

Cerevisiæ Fermenti O. ss.

This formula is recommended by the London College; it is similar to, and used with the same intentions as, the Cataplasma Bynes.

The yeast and meal should be well mixed together, and exposed to a gentle heat, till a degree of fermentation take place.

## CATAPLASMA LINI PULVERIS.

## LINSEED MEAL CATAPLASM.

℞ Farinæ lini lib. ss.

Aq. ferventis O iss.

Or this poultice may be formed by stirring linseed powder into boiling water, in quantity sufficient to form it of a proper consistency. It is usual to cover the surface of the cataplasma with a small portion of olive oil before it is applied. This is the poultice in general use at the different hospitals. It is a very good emollient, and will for the most part answer every intention that is expected from warmth and moisture applied at the same time to an inflamed part. To parts which are highly irritable, accompanied with great tension and pain, the

virtues of this poultice may often be considerably improved by substituting the poppy fomentation, (*fomentum papaveris*) instead of water. It will likewise be proper to foment the parts with the same at the different intervals that the poultice is renewed. By substituting the *fomentum papaveris* this poultice acquires no inconsiderable anodyne property: and as the relieving of pain is always a very material consideration, the surgeon will do right to prescribe its use whenever the inflammation is situated in the neighbourhood of tendinous or ligamentous parts, as in deep-seated paronychia of the fingers, in collections of matter about the wrist or ankle, or whenever there is a strong fascial covering to the imposthume, the pain in all these cases being generally very acute. I have lately seen this form of poultice applied in the active state of gouty inflammation very successfully, affording very considerable relief both in assuaging the pain, and lessening the excessive sensibility of the affected part.

Mr. Birch, surgeon of St. Thomas's Hospital, directs equal parts of crumb of bread and linseed powder to be formed into a poultice with boiling milk. In the formula of the Pharmacopoeia of Guy's Hospital the linseed meal poultice is introduced under the head of *Cataplasma Commune*, and is directed to be formed of a pound of the *pulv. pro cataplasmate* mixed with a sufficient quantity of boiling water, and to be covered with oil previous to applying it. This *pulvis pro cataplasmate* is formed by adding two pounds of finely-powdered bran to one pound of linseed meal, forming



as cheap, at the same time as good an application as can be used in the greater number of cases where poultices are requisite.

CATAPLASMA MALI MATURI.  
*CATAPLASM OF THE PULP OF RIPE  
 APPLES.*

This application has been said to be a good remedy against inflamed eyes. The apples should be previously roasted, and the pulp applied to the eyes without any intervening substance. The following formula, taken from the practice of the German professor De Haen, and mentioned by Murray, in his *Apparatus Medicaminum*, as being seldom sufficient to answer the intention for which it is employed without other means being adopted, contains a quantity of the pulp of roasted apples in its composition. It would be thought, however, much too complicated for general use, even were it possessed of any particular merit.

℞ Pomorum pulpæ  
 Micæ panis albi aa. unc. ij.  
 Rosæ Gallicæ petalorum  
 Sambuci florum aa. pugil. j.  
 Camphoræ  
 Croci aa. gr̄ vj.

## CATAPLASMA PAPAVERIS ALBI.

See CATAPLASMA LINI.

CATAPLASMA PLUMBI ACETATIS.  
*CATAPLASM OF ACETATE OF LEAD.*

℞ Liquoris Plumbi Acetatis drach. j.

Aquæ distillatæ O. j.

Micæ panis q. s.

Slices of bread are to be soaked in the water mixed with the water of acetate of litharge, in the way recommended for forming the bread and milk poultice, which are afterwards to be simmered together in an earthen vessel, over a gentle fire, to a due consistence. To superficial inflammations, and where the external use of lead is deemed requisite, this form of cataplasm is probably as good as any for applying it. It should be recollected, however, that this poultice is better suited in the commencement of inflammation, where our intention is to produce simple resolution, rather than where our object is to hasten and promote maturation, unless the skin be very irritable and tender during this latter process; in which case it will sometimes be found requisite to continue the use of the lead till the abscess burst, or is opened by the surgeon, and when this is effected, it will probably be safer practice to abstain altogether from its use; for I am decidedly averse to the ap-

plication of lead in any form to recent wounds, and that more especially where the surrounding parts have become loose and flaccid, from the great tension being removed by an evacuation of confined matter. Again, if the previous inflammation have been very considerable, or there be deep and extensive sloughing, or if the vitality of the parts have been greatly destroyed, and there exist the least disposition to gangrene, in all these cases the cataplasma plumbi acetatis will certainly do harm.

#### CATAPLASMA ROSÆ.

#### CATAPLASM OF THE CONFECTION OF ROSES.

Confection of Roses has sometimes been recommended as a useful and convenient application to weak watery eyes, and as a useful remedy in chronic inflammation of the edges of the eye-lids, also in the ophthalmia tarsi. It is said to be mildly astringent, which property may be considerably increased by the addition of a small quantity of powdered alum, in the proportion of one or two grains to half a dram of the conserve. Such applications are, however, held in trifling repute.

CATAPLASMA SODÆ MURIATIS.  
*CATAPLASM OF COMMON SALT.*

℞ Pulveris lini

Micæ panis singulorum partes æquales

Aquæ, sodæ muriate saturatæ, q. s.

This form of poultice has lately been brought into considerable repute for the reduction of indolent strumous swellings and enlargements of the glands. After being some time used it generally occasions very considerable redness upon the surface, and excites, not unfrequently, so much inflammation upon the part to which it is applied, that it becomes necessary to abstain from its use, and substitute the common white bread and milk poultice in its stead; as soon, however, as the inflammation subsides, the saline poultice should again be employed; and by alternating this mode of practice, strumous swellings, and scrophulous enlargements of a chronic obstinate nature, have very frequently been totally dispersed.

CATAPLASMA SINAPIS.  
*MUSTARD CATAPLASM.*

℞ Semen sinapis in pulverem contritorum.

Medullæ panis sing. lib. ss.

Acidi acetici q. s.

These ingredients should be well beat together, so as to form a cataplasm.

The mustard poultice is a very powerful stimulant, generally inflaming the surface where it is applied so much as to raise blisters. As a surgical application it is very seldom used. We do not see, however, why it should not prove beneficial if applied to the soles of the feet in certain comatose affections and lethargic stupors, arising from violent concussion or injuries of the head, more especially when free evacuations, both by the lancet and purgative remedies, have been pre-mised.

It will be seen, that in our list of cataplasms we have expunged many extemporaneous prescriptions collected by others, and which appear to have been held in very high repute by surgeons with whom they had their origin, or by whom they were chiefly recommended and employed. This rejection has not arisen from any hasty refusal of credit due to the praise which they have obtained, nor from any disbelief in the utility and service they have afforded; but from a persuasion that the advantage gained from all poultices may be reduced to two or three general intentions, and that such may be effected by means much more simple and easy than have been generally supposed. We have, therefore, endeavoured to render the formulæ under this head as concise and simple as possible; not venturing however to reject any formula which may have been highly recommended, unless we have seen equal benefit afforded by others less operose, and less compounded.

CAUSTICUM COMMUNE CUM OPIO.  
*COMMON CAUSTIC WITH OPIUM.*

℞ Potassæ cum calce drach. ij.

Opii in pulv. triti drach. ss.

Saponis mollis q. s. misce.

This caustic will answer, in general, sufficiently well for most purposes where a caustic is indicated. For the mode of applying it see observations under the article Potassa cum calce.

CERATUM CALAMINÆ. (L.)

*CALAMINE CERATE.*

℞ Calaminæ præparatæ

Ceræ flavæ sing. lib. ss.

Olivæ olei O j.

The wax being cut into small pieces, and mixed with the oil, they are to be melted together over a slow fire, and when sufficiently cooled the calamine is to be stirred in, being previously reduced to a very fine powder. Notwithstanding the *modus operandi* of this cerate might give rise to some hypothetical, and perhaps unsatisfactory, discussion, it certainly is entitled to very considerable merit in certain cases, where the surface has been some time excoriated, the surrounding skin irritable, and the discharge thin, and in consider-

able quantity; more especially if the part so affected be immediately contiguous to bone, or there be little or no interposing muscular substance. As a proof of which I have frequently seen the cerate of calamine agree better with ulcers or abrasions situated upon the fore part of the tibia than any other application. As an external remedy to burns and scalds, after the pain and violence of the inflammation have been removed by suitable means, this cerate will often be exceedingly proper. It has sometimes proved serviceable in the ophthalmia tarsi, placed upon the edges of the eye-lids every night at bedtime by means of a camel's hair brush, in cases where more stimulating applications could not be borne: its efficacy, in this latter affection, may sometimes be increased by the addition of a little soft extract of opium, in the proportion of half a drachm, or even a drachm, of the opium to an ounce of the cerate.

CERATUM CALAMINÆ CUM PLUMBI  
ACETATIS LIQUORE.

*CALAMINE CERATE WITH LIQUOR  
OF ACETATE OF LEAD.*

R Cerati calaminæ lib j.  
Plumbi acetatis liquoris unc. ij.  
Misce.

In forming a small quantity of this composition the ingredients may be pretty well blended together by sim-

ply triturating them on a marble slab; if the proportions be in the quantity prescribed the cerate will be better made by observing the directions given by the College for the formation of the Ceratum Calaminæ, adding the liquor of acetate of lead mixed with the calamine: It will be requisite in this case to keep the mixture stirring till perfectly cold. This application is a favourite remedy with some experienced surgeons to burns and scalds, and often deservedly so.

**CERATUM CALAMINÆ CUM HYDRARGYRI NITRICO-OXYDO.**

*CALAMINE CERATE WITH NITRIC-OXYDE OF MERCURY.*

℞ Cerati Calaminæ unc. ij.

Hydrargyri nitrico-oxydi (in pulverem tenuissimum redacti) drach. iiss. misce.

The cerate and nitric-oxyde of mercury should be very intimately united by trituration. This is a very common, and at the same time a very useful formula; and to indolent and ill-conditioned ulcers much recommended, as a very proper stimulant for inducing an action conducive to the restoration of the parts.



CERATUM CETACEI. (L.)  
CERATE OF SPERMACETI.

℞ Cetacei unc. ss.

Ceræ albæ unc. ꝑj.

Olivæ olei unc. iv.

These ingredients should be slowly melted together, and when removed from the fire they should be stirred till cold. The use of this application is sufficiently obvious.

CERATUM CETACEI CUM HYDRAGYRO  
PRÆCIPITATO ALBO.

CERATE OF SPERMACETI WITH  
WHITE PRECIPITATED MERCURY.

℞ Cerati Cetacei unc. ij.

Hydrargyri præcipitati albi drach. iiss.

Misce.

This application may be usefully employed against herpetic and tettery eruptions. It will often succeed in Psora.

CERATUM CONII.  
 CERATE OF HEMLOCK.

℞ Unguenti conii lib. j.  
 Cetacei unc. ij.  
 Ceræ albæ unc. iij. misce.

This cerate is of firmer consistency than the ointment under the same name, and as such, in some cases, where hemlock as an application is indicated, it is preferable; inasmuch as it requires to be renewed much less seldom; a circumstance in sores or ulcers very necessary to be attended to. It is one of the select formulæ of St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

CERATUM CRETÆ ACETATIS  
 COMPOSITUM.  
 COMPOUND CERATE OF ACETATE  
 OF CHALK.

℞ Emplastri plumbi unc. viij.  
 Olei Olivæ  
 Cretæ pp.  
 Acidi acetici singulor unc. iv.  
 Plumbi superacetatis in pulv. tritæ drach. iij.

The oil and lead plaster are first to be melted together over a gentle fire; the prepared chalk is then to be

added, and the whole is to be well incorporated together by brisk stirring. When the mixture is sufficiently cooled, the vinegar and superacetate of lead are to be added, and the stirring is to be continued till the composition is nearly cold.

Dr. Kirkland, in his Medical Surgery, distinguishes this cerate by the appellation of neutral cerate: it is a good application in many cases where the surface is abraded and irritable, and in the latter stages of burns and scalds. Dr. K's recommendation sufficiently warrants its introduction to general use. See Kirkland's Medical Surgery.

CERATUM HYDRARGYRI  
SUBMURIATIS.  
CERATE OF SUBMURIATE OF  
MERCURY.

R Hydrargyri submuriatis drach. j.  
Cerati cetacei drach. vj.  
misce.

These should be rubbed together, so that the submuriate of mercury be equally distributed through the whole of the cerate. This is a good stimulating application to ulcers of an indolent nature, more especially such as are venereal; and with this intention it is much used and recommended by Mr. Lucas, surgeon of Guy's Hospital.

## CERATUM LYTTÆ. (L.)

## CERATE OF CANTHARIDES.

℞ Cerati cetacei igne emolliti, drach. vj.  
Lyttarum in pulverem tritarum drach. j.  
misce.

This is a common form of cerate for keeping up a discharge from blisters, and rendering them what is called perpetual. It is requisite that the cantharides be very minutely divided, previous to their being blended with the cerate of sparmaceti, which is directed to be first softened by the fire.

## CERATUM MELLIS.

## CERATE OF HONEY.

℞ Olivæ olei oss.  
Mellis dispumati lib. ss.  
Ceræ flavæ  
Emplastri plumbi sing. unc. iv.

To the wax, oil, and plaster of the oxyde of lead, melted together, the honey is to be added, and the mixture should be stirred till cold.

This cerate is made use of in St. Bartholomew's Hospital. It is gently stimulating, and somewhat desiccative.

CERATUM MELLIS CUM TERE-  
BINTHINA.

*CERATE OF HONEY WITH  
TURPENTINE.*

℞ Mellis dispumati  
Terebinthinæ vulg. sing. lib. i.  
Pollinis tritici q. s.

The honey and turpentine being liquified together, a sufficient quantity of fine wheat flour is to be stirred in, to give it the consistency of a cerate. The author has seen this application made use of to chilblains, in a state of ulceration, on the feet and hands of children with the best possible effects. They should be kept constantly covered with it, and dressed night and morning.

CERATUM PLUMBI  
*CERATE OF OXYDE OF LEAD.*

℞ Emplastri plumbi unc. vj.  
Adipis præparatæ unc. viij.  
Olivæ olei unc. iv. misce.

These ingredients are to be melted together over a gentle fire. This is a mild application; and well adapted for superficial sores and abrasions of the skin, especially if accompanied with a considerable discharge. Its efficacy may in some cases be promoted by stirring

into the melted mixture liquor of acetate of lead, in the proportion of one drachm to an ounce of the cerate.

CERATUM PLUMBI COMPOSITUM. (L.)  
COMPOUND CERATE OF ACETATE  
OF LEAD.

℞ Plumbi acetatis unc. iiss.

Ceræ flavæ unc. iv.

Olivæ olei unc. ix.

Camphoræ drach. ss.

The camphor should be rubbed down with a small portion of the oil, and the remaining oil and wax being melted together over a gentle fire, the liquor plumbi acetatis is to be stirred in; and when the mixture is nearly cold the dissolved camphor is to be added: the whole should then be briskly agitated till perfectly cold.

This is rather a complicated composition; but being given by the royal College we must not doubt its efficacy as a fit application in some peculiar affections. It may be employed as a gentle stimulant and desiccative; as such it may be used with advantage in some cases of burns and scalds; in chronic ophthalmia of the tarsus; and for the increased secretion of tears, which so frequently affects the eyes of elderly people.

## CERATUM RESINÆ. (L.)

## CERATE OF ROSIN.

℞ Resinæ flavæ

Ceræ flavæ sing. lib. ss.

Olivæ olei O. j.

These should be slowly melted together, the wax being previously cut into small pieces.

## CERATUM SAPONIS. (L.)

## SOAP CERATE.

℞ Saponis unc. viij

Ceræ flavæ unc. x.

Plumbi oxydi semivitrei contriti lib. j.

Olivæ olei O. j.

Acidi acetici cong. j.

The London College directs this cerate, originally taken from the practice of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and much used and recommended by the late celebrated Mr. Pott, to be prepared in the following way :

Boil the vinegar with the oxyde of lead over a slow fire, constantly stirring them till they become united and glutinous; then add the wax, oil, and soap, previously melted together; observing that the temperature of the two compounds be nearly at the same degree when they are blended with each other. The whole should

again be effectually and constantly stirred till the cerate is nearly cold. In making this preparation the greatest possible caution is required; the fire should never be too rapidly applied, the stirring should be uniform and incessant, and the heat should only be sufficient to keep the two compositions liquid at the time when they are united. The original intention in using this cerate was that of its being a very useful application, when spread upon linen, to fractured limbs, for the obvious purpose of acting as a proper stay to the part, and tending to keep the points of the bone in due apposition, possessing at the same time the property of a saturnine application. As a remedy to open sores we much doubt whether it be ever judicious to apply it. As a means of support to fractured bones, for we can consider it in no other light, it may prove a very effectual, and at the same time a very dangerous one. When spread on linen, and applied in one piece firmly round the limb, in such a way that the two ends overlap each other, the worst possible effects may ensue; for should much tumefaction come on, the inflamed vessels will be completely strangulated, and high erysipelatous inflammation, and a rapid state of gangrene may be the result. The author recollects an instance of this sort, which had nearly proved fatal. A boy having broken his thigh, the limb was immediately enveloped by the surgeon in attendance with a circular bandage of soap cerate, and the patient for some hours left to his fate; a rapid state of swelling ensued; the lad became tortured with pain, from which he was only released



by his mother judiciously cutting the bandage of soap cerate, and removing it altogether; but not before high inflammation had been excited, and dark-coloured vesicles raised in different parts contiguous to the injury. The limb was ordered to be laid upon a soft pillow, and linen rags wetted with a lotion, consisting of three parts liquor ammoniæ acetatis, and one of spirit of wine, were kept constantly applied, by which means the tumefaction and inflammation gradually subsided, and the boy, after a severe and protracted confinement, ultimately got well. We believe it is now a universal maxim with surgeons of eminence never to recommend the soap cerate to fractured limbs till all inflammation and swelling have entirely disappeared, nor till a union in some degree has been effected. It is sometimes recommended as a constant covering to strumous enlargement of the glands, as also to scrophulous swellings, and in some cases with seemingly good effect.

CERATUM SEVI COMPOSITUM.  
COMPOUND CERATE OF PREPARED  
SUET.

℞ Adipis præparatæ unc. viij.  
Sevi præparati pp. unc. iv.  
Olivæ olei unc. ij.  
misce.

The prepared mutton suet and hog's lard are to be melted together over a gentle fire, the oil should then

be added, and the whole stirred till cold. This is a cheap and mild application, and where a covering simply to an abraded surface is required, it will be found to answer the purpose as well as many others which are more compounded, and far more expensive.

### CEREOLUS CHIRURGORUM.

#### *A BOUGIE.*

The term, Bougie, is given by surgeons to a long, slender, flexible instrument, which is formed for the purpose of being introduced along the urethra into the bladder. Since the commencement of adopting this form of instrument into the practice of surgery, for the relief of certain maladies incident to the urethra, various opinions have, occasionally, prevailed as to the probability that the cure of such maladies might be accelerated by peculiar remedies employed in the composition of the instrument; and that it might be so contrived, as to remove every variety of complaint, or even disposition to complaint, in the urethra, from that of spasm, arising without any obvious cause, and being only transitory in its nature, but producing in some degree *Suppressio urinæ*, to that of confirmed stricture, depending on a morbid alteration of the internal membrane of the urethra, and giving rise to an utter impossibility, almost, of passing a drop of urine.

In consequence of such opinions being entertained; opinions suggested by the phantoms of hypothesis, and maintained through an ignorance of the common

principles of the animal economy, and a gross deficiency of knowledge of the *modus operandi* of medicine; or hatched by the knavery of empiricism, and propagated by her abettors at the expence of truth; a variety of heterogeneous and inappropriate articles have been introduced into the composition of bougies; and in order to attach to them the necessary degree of credit, they have been designated with the title of Medicated Bougies, (*Cerei Medicati*) and offered to the public as constructed to meet every urgent emergency, and every possible variety of disease, which should occur in the urethra: containing in their composition something relaxant, something antispasmodic, something sedative to relieve irritation, something corrosive to destroy, and something corroborating to bind up and tighten, the parts; thus obviating any preternatural irregularity and deformity, whether from laxity, debility, spasm, or total obliteration in the urinary canal. From a conviction that bougies, if simple, act only by their mechanical pressure and distension; and if medicated, as it is called, that this can only be done with any effect by communicating to them a corrosive quality, as by arming them, either with the common lunar caustic, or *kali purum*; our formulæ for the composition of bougies are comparatively very few. We, likewise, deem it fit, further to observe, that, however well proportioned or appropriate may be the articles intended for their composition, bougies will seldom or never be well formed, but by those who are constantly employed in making them; and that the surgeon may

always purchase them much cheaper and better than he can make them himself. The following appear to us the most proper formulæ for introduction.

### CEREOLI SIMPLICES.

#### SIMPLE BOUGIES.

℞ Ceræ albæ unc. xvi.

Terebinthinæ venetæ unc. iss.

Olivæ olei unc. j.

The wax and turpentine are to be melted together over a slow fire, and the oil is then to be added.

℞ Olivæ olei O. iiss.

Ceræ flavæ lib. j.

Minii lib. iss.

Boil together over a slow fire till the minium is perfectly dissolved, which it will be in about four or six hours.

#### DR. SWEDIAUR'S BOUGIE.

℞ Ceræ flavæ lib. j.

Cetacei ceti drach. iij.

Plumbi acetatis drach. v.

These ingredients, like the former, are to be boiled

together, till the composition is judged to be of a proper consistence for forming bougies.

*MR. B. BELL'S BOUGIE.*

R Emplastri plumbi unc. iv.

Ceræ flavæ unc. iss.

Olivæ olei drach. iij.

The wax and oil are to be melted in one vessel, and the lead plaster in another, previous to mixing. See precautions under the formula, Ceratum Saponis.

In order to form a bougie, a slip of linen, in width from a quarter to two thirds of an inch, or an inch at the one end, and from two thirds of an inch to one inch and a quarter at the other end, and in length from ten to twelve inches, must be dipped in the melted composition, taking care that it be evenly applied; it is then to be carefully folded up into the proper longitudinal shape, and rolled firmly between two marble slabs till perfectly smooth and even. Bougies thus formed are somewhat tapering, but very triflingly so. Before introducing them they should always be drawn once or twice through between the thumb and finger, and then covered with sweet oil. They should always be pliant and flexible, yet sufficiently firm to resist the necessary degree of force employed by the surgeon for their introduction into the bladder. They should be kept in a cool place, or one that is somewhat damp, and constantly enveloped with soft paper.

The preceding compositions are suited for forming bougies, which are sufficiently firm, yet somewhat soft and yielding; so that by introducing one of proper size along the course of the urethra, we shall generally be able to ascertain the seat and nature of the disease: if spasmodic, by the continued or lengthened indentions along the course of the bougie, or by its being flattened or compressed so much that its roundness, previous to its introduction, is much altered upon its being withdrawn; and if arising from permanent stricture, by the twisted, corkscrew, or spiral shape the instrument generally receives; presenting us, in some degree, with a mould of the thickened walls of the urinary canal, and shewing us to what extent the stricture has advanced, and in a great measure what form it has assumed; thus guiding our conduct in attempting a radical cure by caustic. Bougies of these compositions may, likewise, be of great utility in pointing out to us what advantages we are gaining during the cure by caustic, and proving the good effects derived by each introduction of the caustic bougie; for, previous to using the latter, the simple bougie should always be passed down to, or even, if possible, beyond the seat of disease, and suffered to remain in the urethra for half a minute or a minute, after which the caustic one should be immediately employed.

*THE CATGUT BOUGIE.*

There are few, if any, cases of stricture occurring in the urethra wherein the catgut bougie is to be preferred; and in the treatment of no small number of strictures in the urinary canal, which have come under our observation, though they were of every description, we do not recollect one instance where it was necessary to employ this form of instrument. Indeed, in the hands of a young practitioner, we are fearful the catgut bougie might sometimes prove highly injurious, both from its smallness and hardness; and if pressed forward with too much force in the first instance, in a case of permanent stricture, or where there is an indurated cicatrix, nearly obliterating the passage, it is very liable to rupture the urethra, unless coming in direct apposition with the aperture of the stricture. The catgut bougie, however, has lately been made the means of forming a bougie, in our opinion, infinitely superior to any other for the treatment of spasmodic strictures. This is called the Caoutchouc Bougie, and is made by covering the catgut bougie with a solution of Indian rubber or gum, in sufficient quantity to form it of a proper size and shape. The precise method of forming these bougies is confined to one or two persons; and though great secrecy is observed, both as to the composition, and the way in which the instrument is formed, yet we believe the secret consists in finding a suitable solvent for the Indian gum. This solution

being of a proper consistency, is put into a deep vessel, and the catgut is carefully and repeatedly immersed into it, till a sufficiency of the gum has adhered, so as to form it of the proper size for a bougie. It is probable, that some time is allowed to intervene between each dipping, in order that the solution on the catgut may contract a sufficient firmness, so as readily to admit of a second layer of coating by another dipping. Now the chemical properties of caoutchouc, from a knowledge of which this excellent form of bougie has been produced, are the following: 'It is softened by heat, and at length melts, swelling up and emitting an unpleasant odour; on cooling again it remains adhesive, acquires the consistence of tar, and never recovers its former elasticity. It may be dissolved by heat in fat oils, and will combine also with heated wax. It is soluble in cajuput oil, and completely so in æther, if the æther be previously washed with water. *If dissolved in æther the gum, upon the evaporation of the æther, completely recovers its former elasticity.*' From this account it would seem, that æther was the proper menstruum for dissolving caoutchouc, when intended to be used for purposes wherein it is required that its elasticity should not be diminished. It must, however, be found a very extravagant way of preparing these bougies, and probably some other cheaper solvent may have been discovered. For relieving spasmodic affections of the urethra, producing suppression of urine, whether arising from a peculiar morbid irritability of the part, or originating from some



remains of a permanent stricture imperfectly cured, we are acquainted with no form of instrument that will in general effect relief more easily and safely to the patient, than the caoutchouc bougie; as being sufficiently firm, elastic, and pliant, and which may always be introduced without danger of breaking; an accident the metallic bougies, which we shall next speak of, are not totally free from; nor does the caoutchouc bougie ever assume the corkscrew shape by meeting with even a trifling degree of resistance in the urethra, like the common wax or plaster bougies.

#### THE METALLIC BOUGIE.

Bougies are likewise formed by the combination of different metals, which, when melted together, form a substance almost as flexible as softened wax. These bougies are of a *beautiful silvery white*, as it has been called, which they never lose by keeping, and are sufficiently pliant for all purposes; but they are altogether inelastic, and remain in whatever shape they may be placed in, whether by the operator, or from meeting with some foreign and opposing body, till a greater force be applied to alter that shape, which alteration is easily effected owing to their extreme flexibility. If, then, one of these metallic bougies be introduced into the urethra, whether for the purpose of relieving some spasmodic affection, or to break down any stricture which may exist, it will be found occasionally to meet with more resistance, and to occasion more pain, than even

the catheter in one case, or common caoutchouc bougie in the other. The cause of this resistance to the metallic bougie, we attribute to its partaking of a curve, or rather an angle, more readily at about an inch, or an inch and a half, from its point, than at any other part; and that in proportion as it meets with more or less resistance in the passage will this angle be more or less acute. Having assumed this angle, the remaining distance to the point is much less flexible, from its shortened dimension, and will often, especially to a young operator, occasion considerable difficulty before he can pass it easily under the arch of the pubis, so as to follow the proper curve of the urethra; an objection the caoutchouc bougie is totally free from, owing both to its equable flexibility and uniform elasticity throughout. Indeed it is not beyond our recollection that the metallic bougie more than once has broken when within the bladder, to remove which, the patient was compelled to undergo the same operation as if he had been labouring under the stone; and notwithstanding some allowance may probably be made for the awkwardness of the surgeon, yet we think an occurrence of this nature a decided objection to the general use and adoption of metallic bougies.

#### *THE CAUSTIC BOUGIE.*

This bougie is formed by arming the common wax bougie with the caustic potash, (potassa fusa), or nitrate of silver (argenti nitras), the latter of which is certainly preferable, both from its being less deliquescent,

and from its action being much more confined to the part to which it is applied. At the end of the bougie, a small slender roll of lunar caustic, from one fifth to one third of an inch in length, is closely confined within its centre; and as the plaster bougies should always be made of rolls of new cloth, the caustic is rendered sufficiently firm and permanent, as the whole length is included except the very point intended to act. Whenever a stricture proceeds from an indurated cicatrix, whether broad or narrow, which has arisen from a slow and gradual alteration in the internal membrane of the urethra, or immediately from the influence of some venereal affection, the surest and most effectual mode of relief is by the caustic bougie. Much skill and dexterity are, however, required on the part of the surgeon, who undertakes to cure permanent stricture by caustic applications. In the first place he should be well acquainted with the anatomical structure of the urethra, from the very extremity of the penis to the neck of the bladder; and he should be well versed in the mode, both of passing the catheter and common bougie. He should, likewise, be conversant with the resistance which is frequently experienced from the violent spasmodic action of the urethra, taking place upon its being distended by the introduction of any instrument along its canal; for, without this knowledge, he may be very liable to mistake a common case of spasm for permanent stricture; and by adopting the caustic as a means of cure, may do almost irretrievable mischief. In our observations on common bougies, we

have offered some remarks whereby to distinguish these two different causes of interruption to the free flow of urine from the bladder. In order to ascertain the exact place of the stricture, a common bougie should be passed down to it; and the distance of the stricture from the extremity of the penis, should be marked upon the caustic bougie by the previous measurement made with the common one. In conducting the cure of permanent strictures by caustic bougies, it is always requisite, previous to using the caustic, to pass as full a sized common bougie (it being first covered with some mild unctuous substance) as the patient can well bear, down to the seat of stricture, and to keep the parts for half a minute, or a minute, upon the stretch, by drawing the penis well up upon the bougie; recollecting, however, to use no violence. After withdrawing the common bougie, a caustic one of the same diameter, or nearly so, should be immediately passed down to the stricture, previously made ready by exposing the very end of the caustic, and just moistening it; taking care, however, to smear the circumference of the bougie with lard, oil, or spermaceti ointment. When the extremity of the bougie is found to have come into contact with the stricture, it should be gently pressed forward, or worked backwards and forwards for half a minute or a minute, till it is judged that it has made some impression upon the stricture by the pain expressed by the patient; it is then to be immediately withdrawn, and if the patient complain of great pain, he should be ordered to lie upon a bed for some time, and twenty or thirty drops of the tincture of opium should be

exhibited in a wine-glass of some aromatic water. This process may be repeated every second or third day, according to the progress made in the cure of the complaint, and the pain and inconvenience complained of by the patient. It will, sometimes, greatly expedite the cure, to pass a common bougie down to, or even through, the stricture on the intermediate days of using the armed bougie. Delicate as is this operation, and requisite as is the caution in conducting it, we may venture to affirm that there are few permanent strictures which do not admit of radical relief by a just and proper adoption of it. Much has been said about the violent hæmorrhages which sometimes ensue after the use of the caustic, but we believe nine times in ten they will be found to depend on a too frequent use of the caustic, or from continuing it too great a length of time in the canal so as to destroy the urethra.

As an additional means of ascertaining the seat and form of strictures in the urethra, see Charles Bell's *Operative Surgery*, on the use of the gold and silver headed wires.

#### CONIUM. (L.)

#### CONIUM MACULATUM.

*HEMLOCK: the Leaf, Flower, and Seed.*

There is not, perhaps, among the whole number of articles contained in the *materia medica*, one which has experienced greater reverses in the opinions, both of physicians and surgeons, than hemlock; being at one

time held forth to notice almost as a general panacea, and at another decried as possessed of no merit whatever, whether employed as an external application, or given as an internal remedy. Indurations, scirrhosities, cancers, in whatever part they might chance to be situated, ophthalmia of every kind, and ulcers of every description, have been represented as safely and readily remediable by the exhibition of hemlock: on the other hand its efficacy in such affections has been totally denied. From our own experience of this plant, given for such complaints, and which has been sufficiently ample to warrant an opinion upon the subject, we think that it will generally prove very inadequate in the greater number of these complaints. It certainly, however, possesses the power of bettering certain ulcers very materially, and disposing them to heal; and that when no other medicine can be administered with equal safety, or with equal success. Scrofulous ulcers, accompanied with pain and irritability, attended with a glassy aspect, and oftentimes a surrounding erysipelatous blush, especially if the pulse be quick and hard, are very generally greatly meliorated by taking the conium. Mr. Pearson, surgeon of the Lock Hospital, than whom no one appears to have examined certain articles in the materia medica, as to their virtues in venereal affections, more accurately, or to have detailed his experience of them more faithfully and clearly, in his book on that subject, and which ought to be in the hands of every surgeon of the United Kingdom, says, 'The extract and powder of hemlock may be sometimes given with evidently good effect in

spreading irritable sores; whether they are connected with the active state of the venereal virus, or when they remain after the completion of the venereal course; and it would seem that the benefit conferred by this drug ought not to be ascribed solely to its anodyne qualities, since the same advantages cannot always be obtained by the liberal exhibition of opium, even where it does not disagree with the stomach.' He further says, that it is almost a specific in the venereal ulcer which attacks the toes at their line of junction with the foot, and which often becomes gangrenous; and that in any spreading gangrenous sore, where there exists great pain, and no appearance of any remarkable debility, hemlock will frequently effect more than bark, vitriol, or cordials. It has appeared to me that, whenever hemlock is likely to do good, the patient either experiences some benefit soon after commencing with its use, or that he is affected with but a comparatively small dose. The preferable mode of exhibiting it is in pills, formed of the expressed juice and the fresh powder of the leaves. The dose to begin with is generally one of these pills twice in the day, gradually increasing them till they produce a sensible effect on the stomach, or some degree of giddiness. As many as twenty of these pills may sometimes be given in the day. I recollect, in a case of carcinomatous sore, where one hundred and twenty of these pills, consisting of five grains each, were exhibited in twenty-four hours, and continued for some time without the least benefit or inconvenience to the patient. See Fomentum Conii, and Pil. Conii Compos.

CINCHONÆ CORDIFOLIÆ CORTEX. (L.)

CINCHONA OFFICINALIS. (E.)

*CINCHONA*, the Bark; commonly called  
*PERUVIAN BARK*.

Of the three varieties enumerated by botanists, and noticed in some of our Pharmacopœias, the yellow Peruvian bark is the only one essentially necessary in surgical practice, being much more powerful than either of the other species. The Cinchona has now become so much in use with the surgeon, and is universally deemed of such importance in several cases which come exclusively under his cognizance, that no apology is required for offering it to his observation. It is, however, a medicine by no means to be administered indiscriminately, under a supposition the most unworthy possible a man of science or judgment, that if it do no good it never does harm; for we have repeatedly seen cases, purely surgical, very materially aggravated by an incautious and improper exhibition of this remedy, owing to its impeding the functions of some one or more important organ, the due and healthy performance of which is so requisite to good health, that the regular and orderly action of the animal economy is incompatible with their disturbance. In constitutions phthisically inclined, and where the pulse is generally quicker than natural, more especially if there be any dyspnœa, or any disposition to active hæmorrhagy from the lungs,



the surgeon ought to weigh well the propriety of giving the cinchona, whatever may be the case under his care. If there exist any preternatural determination of blood to the head, we should be very cautious how we administer cinchona, or if under its administration any marks of congestion in the chest take place, or the pulse become quickened, it is for the most improper. In many cases of ulcers, particularly of the lower extremities, evidently connected with a deranged state of the functions of the chylopoietic viscera, and more particularly those of the liver, the free and liberal use of the bark is generally prescribed; and we may venture to affirm, in the greater number of instances, very improperly. In gangrene, accompanied with turgescency of the blood vessels, immediately supervening upon high and active inflammation, whether of the phlegmonous or erysipelatous kind, much harm has often been occasioned by the too early employment of the bark. In most ulcers, however, connected with great irritability or laxity of fibre; in wounds where there is any tendency to passive hæmorrhagy, or where the surface is pale and glassy, or where there is an evident indolence in the granulating process, or where the discharge is too profuse and unhealthy, or where the wound shews a disposition to slough or enlarge itself, in all these cases the use of the bark is most unequivocally called for. It is recommended, on the first authority, in incipient venereal buboes; in ulcers of the tonsils and gangrenous ulcers from a venereal cause; as likewise in chancres of the penis, immediately on

their first appearance, if at all disposed to slough. Cinchona, too, hastens the exfoliating process, and for the most part is proper whenever the vis vitæ is languid and deficient. It is best given in substance where the stomach will bear it, in doses of twenty-five or thirty grains, three times in the day, or oftener; and in some cases in doses of one or two drams, every four hours. It is often rendered much more agreeable by the addition of some aromatic, and much more palatable by being given in liquorice infusion, in milk, or in a weak decoction of malt. If the cinchona run off by stool, this effect may be corrected by the addition of a few drops of the tincture of opium, and often by combining it with some grateful stimulant.

COLLYRIUM ACIDI ACETICI.  
COLLYRIUM OF VINEGAR.

℞ Acidi acetici unc. j.  
Spiritus tenuioris unc. ss.  
Aq. rosæ unc. viij. misce.

These proportions will in general be found applicable in most cases. The strength, however, may be diminished or increased, by a diminution or increase of the vinegar.

This collyrium is often usefully applied to weak watery eyes, or to remove the pain and sense of pricking, experienced in the globes of the eyes, after they have been fatigued by close attention to some one ob-

ject. It is of use in chronic scrofulous ophthalmia ; as likewise in the more acute forms of ophthalmia, after free evacuations. See the article Acidum Aceticum.

COLLYRIUM AMMONIÆ ACETATIS  
CAMPHORATUM.

*COLLYRIUM OF ACETATE OF AM-  
MONI WITH CAMPHOR.*

℞ Liquoris ammoniæ acetatis unc. ij.  
Misturæ camphoræ unc. vj. misce.

This mixture forms a very elegant, and, in general, a very effectual collyrium in cases where mild astringent and stimulating remedies are indicated.

COLLYRIUM AMMONIÆ ACETATIS  
CUM OPIO.

*COLLYRIUM OF ACETATE OF AM-  
MONIÆ WITH OPIUM.*

℞ Liquoris ammoniæ acetatis unc. ij.  
Aq. distillatæ ferventis unc. vj.  
Extracti opii mollis gr̄ x.

Dissolve the soft extract of opium in the boiling water ; strain through fine linen, and add the liquor

of acetate of ammonia. This application will often be found to afford considerable relief in cases of acute ophthalmia, more especially in the early stages, and where the pain is very considerable.

COLLYRIUM CUPRI AMMONIATI.  
COLLYRIUM OF AMMONIATED  
COPPER.

℞ *Æruginis preparatæ* gr iv.  
*Ammoniæ muriatis* scrup. ij.  
*Liquoris calcis recentis* unc. viij.

This collyrium, the *Liquor Cupri Ammoniati* of the Dublin College, is similar to the *Liquor Cupri Ammoniati* of the London. It is the *aqua sapphirina* of former writers, and intended to be used as an application for the removal of specks situated upon the transparent cornea of the eye, whether arising from previous inflammation or any other cause. It is, however, a doubtful remedy, and I believe seldom resorted to.

COLLYRIUM CUPRI SULPHATIS.

See *AQUA CUPRI SULPHATIS*.

COLLYRIUM HYDRARGYRI MURIATIS.  
COLLYRIUM OF MURIATE OF  
QUICKSILVER.

R Hydrargyri muriatis gr ij. ad iv.  
Aquæ distillatæ unc. viij. misce.

This solution of muriate of quicksilver may be used, in general, with great advantage in the ophthalmia syphilitica, especially if conjoined with the internal exhibition of mercury. I have likewise often prescribed this collyrium with very good effect in cases of scrofulous ophthalmia in children, where the eyelids and the tarsus itself have been long affected with chronic inflammation, or where little troublesome ulcers are situated on its margin. \*It is likewise very beneficial in that state of ophthalmia, denominated, Psorophthalmia.

COLLYRIUM OPII.  
COLLYRIUM OF OPIUM.

R Opii extracti mollis gr x.  
Camphoræ gr vj.  
Aquæ distillatæ ferventis unc. xij.

Rub the camphor and opium in a mortar till they

are well blended together, and add the boiling distilled water; or,

R Fomenti papaveris unc. iv.  
Aquæ rosæ  
Misturæ camphoræ aa. unc. ij.

Either of these collyria may be used with propriety and advantage in the early stages of ophthalmia, when accompanied with much pain and tumefaction; and the latter one at the commencement of the purulent ophthalmia of infants.

COLLYRIUM LIQUORIS PLUMBI  
ACETATIS.

COLLYRIUM OF ACETATE OF  
LEAD.

R Aq. distillatæ unc. vii.  
Liquoris Plumbi Acetatis g<sup>tt</sup> xv. ad g<sup>tt</sup> xxx.  
Misce.

The strength of this application must be modified according to the irritability of the inflamed eye. It forms a very common, and in general, a very good cooling astringent collyrium.

COLLYRIUM PLUMBI ACETATIS.  
*COLLYRIUM OF ACETATE OF  
LEAD.*

℞ Aquæ rosæ unc. vj.  
Plumbi acetatis drach. ss. misce.

This is a cooling and mild astringent application.

COLLYRIUM ZINCI ACETATIS.  
*COLLYRIUM OF ACETATE OF ZINC.*

℞ Zinci acetatis drach. ss.  
Aquæ distillatæ unc. xij. misce.

COLLYRIUM ZINCI SULPHATIS.  
*COLLYRIUM OF SULPHATE OF ZINC.*

℞ Zinci sulphatis drach. ss.  
Aquæ distillatæ O. i. misce.

These are very common and suitable applications to weak inflamed eyes, or where there exists a tendency to a præternatural secretion of tears. We may form a

substitute for the former collyrium, by adding to the latter one thirty or forty drops of the liquor plumbi acetatis, suffering the sediment to subside, and straining off the clear liquor.

COLLYRIUM ZINCI SULPHATIS CUM  
CAMPORA.

COLLYRIUM OF SULPHATE OF ZINC  
WITH CAMPHOR.

℞ Zinci sulphatis drach. ij.  
Spiritus camphoræ drach. iij.  
Aquæ distillatæ ferventis unc. iv.  
Aquæ rosæ unc. viii.

Pour the boiling water upon the zinc and camphorated spirit in a closed vessel, and when cold, strain through linen or fine tow; then add the rose water. This collyrium is chiefly used with the same intention as the two preceding ones; it is, however, more stimulating, and better adapted for relieving the pain and weakness incident to the eyes of elderly people, when depending on debility of the optic nerves.



CONFECTIO CINCHONÆ.  
 CONFECTION OF CINCHONA.

℞ Cinchonæ pulveris unc. j.  
 Conservæ rosæ unc. ss.  
 Syr. aurantii corticis q. s. ut fiat confectio.

The dose is a drachm, three or four times a day. This is a convenient, and to some patients, an agreeable mode of administering the cinchona. Either the Carbonate of Soda, or the Carbonate of Iron, in the quantity of two or three drachms, or the diluted vitriolic acid, in quantity sufficient to produce an agreeable acidity, may be added to this confection, according as the indicatio medendi shall point out the utility of conjoining one or other of these articles.

CONFECTIO SENNÆ COMPOSITUM.  
 COMPOUND CONFECTION OF  
 SENNA.

℞ Confectionis Sennæ unc. ij.  
 Jalapæ pulveris drach. ij.  
 Potassæ tartratis unc. ss.  
 Syr. zingiberis q. s. ut fiat confectio.

This is a very convenient and effectual remedy for

keeping the bowels in a free soluble state. The dose is a drachm once in the day, or oftener.

CONFECTIO SINAPEOS.  
MUSTARD CONFECTION.

℞ Sinapis seminum leviter contusorum unc. j.  
Confectionis aurantii unc. jss. vel q. s.  
Ut fiat confectio.

The dose is two drachms, three or four times in the day. This electuary, taken from the Pharmacopoeia of Guy's Hospital, is as an agreeable a mode of exhibiting the mustard as any we are acquainted with. It is a warm stimulating, and slightly tonic, medicine; and one which we think might often be prescribed with advantage for indolent strumous enlargements of the glands, and for recent, or chronic ulcers of a similar character.

CONFECTIO SULPHURIS.  
CONFECTION OF SULPHUR.

℞ Sulphuris loti unc. iss.  
Confectionis sennæ unc. ij,  
Potassæ nitratis drach. iij.  
Syr. aurantii q. s. ut fiat confectio.

The dose is from one to two drachms, once or twice in the day, taken so as to keep the bowels in a free

soluble state. In hæmorrhoidal affections, and previous to, and consequent upon, the operation of fistula in ano, this electuary will be found to afford considerable benefit, by keeping up a proper action through the intestinal canal, and by preventing any undue accumulation of feculant matter in the lower bowels.

CONFECTIO TEREBINTHINÆ.  
TURPENTINE CONFECTION.

℞ Terebinthinæ olei rectificati drach. j.  
Mellis depurati unc. ss.  
Misce.

This electuary is often prescribed with advantage as a stimulating diuretic, in the quantity of a drachm to two drachms, in cases of protracted gleet or *seminal weaknesses*; in continued pains of the lumbar region, imitative of nephritic affections, and in sciatica, it is likewise often given as a warm diaphoretic medicine.

DECOCTUM ANTHEMIDIS FLORUM. (L.)  
DECOCTUM ANTHEMIDIS NOBILIS. (E.)  
*Vulg.* DECOCTUM CHAMÆMELI.  
DECOCTION OF CHAMOMILE  
FLOWERS.

℞ Chamæmeli florum unc. j.  
Carui seminum unc. ss.  
Aquæ distillatæ O. v.

Boil for fifteen minutes and strain.

DECOCTUM CHAMÆMELI,  
Or, DECOCTUM PRO ENEMATE. (*Dub*).  
DECOCTION OF CHAMOMILE  
FLOWERS, OR DECOCTION FOR  
CLYSTERS.

℞ Chamæmeli florum unc. ss.  
Fœniculi dulcis seminum drach. ij.  
Aquæ distillatæ Oj.

Boil for ten minutes, and strain.

Or, DECOCTUM PRO FOMENTO.  
DECOCTION FOR FOMENTATIONS.

℞ Abrotoni exsiccati.  
Absinthii maritimi exsiccati.  
Anthemidis florum singul. unc. j.  
Lauri foliorum unc. ss.  
Aquæ distillatæ O. vj.

Boil a little time, and strain.

These decoctions may be used indiscriminately for fomentations; being sufficiently simple to be had recourse to where such applications are preferred. The two former are said to be emollient and discutient; and the last one, which was one of the formula of the late London Pharmacopœia, and which we have re-

tained under its primitive title, possesses anodyne and gently stimulating properties,

DECOCTUM DULCAMARÆ.  
DECOCTION OF DULCAMARA  
OR BITTER-SWEET.

℞ Dulcamaræ stipitum exsiccatorem unc. ss.  
Aquæ ferventis O. j.

Boil the twigs of the Dulcamara, or Bitter-sweet, in the boiling water, for a quarter of an hour, and strain.

This decoction is greatly recommended by some practitioners as an efficacious remedy against cutaneous affections, whether arising from scrofula, lepra, or lues; also, in very many anomalous cases proceeding from one or other of these causes: but it is by no means equal to the commendations which have been bestowed upon it. In one or two cases I have seen it highly serviceable, and that after other remedies had proved ineffectual. The dose is from one to two ounces, mixed with an equal portion of milk, three or four times in the day.

DECOCTUM GUAIIACI.  
*DECOCTION OF GUAIIACUM WOOD.*

Rx Guaiaci ligni rasi unc. iv.

Glycyrrhizæ radicis contusæ unc. j.

Coriandri seminum contusorum unc. ss.

Aquæ distillatæ O. viij.

Boil the guaiacum raspings in the water till the fluid is reduced to one half, and towards the end of the boiling, add the liquorice root and coriander seeds. The dose is from four, to six or eight ounces, three or four times in the day. This decoction is a stimulating, diaphoretic medicine; acting in some cases very powerfully both upon the kidneys and skin; and generally proving serviceable in cutaneous affections depending on a debilitated, or atonic, state of the secreting vessels of the surface. In indolent strumous abscesses, where the discharge is gleet, and the aspect of the wound livid or unhealthy, the decoction of guaiacum is not unfrequently one of the best means we can employ for meliorating the discharge, and inducing an healthy action in the granulating process. It has been greatly recommended in syphilis, for restoring the strength and vigour, when the system has been much reduced from mercury and confinement; as also for removing a thickened state of the ligaments and periosteum; and for curing foul indolent ulcers, whether resulting from scrofula or lues, particularly in the lat-

ter case, if a due course of mercury have been persisted in for a proper length of time.

DECOCTUM HORDEI. (L.)

DECOCTION OF BARLEY. *Barley*

*Water.*

℞ Hordei seminum unc. ij.

Aquæ distillatæ O. ivss.

Wash off the meally matter adhering to the barley with cold water; and extract the colouring matter by boiling it a little in half a pint of water. Throw this decoction away, and put the barley, thus purified, into four pints and a half of boiling water, and boil to one half.

Decoction of barley, taken freely for common drink, is a useful diluent in strangury, disury, and painful micturition, whether depending on irritability of the bladder, recent gonorrhæa, or the absorption of cantharides from an abraded surface. Its utility may often be further promoted by the addition of gum arabic, nitre, or crystals of tartar, in the proportion of half an ounce of the former, and a drachm of each of the latter, to each pint of the decoction. Sweetened with manna or sugar, as the state of the patient's bowels may require, with the addition of the nitre, it proves a very useful diluent after the operation of lithotomy.

DECOCTUM MALVÆ COMPOSITUM.  
 COMPOUND DECOCTION OF  
 THE MALLOW.

℞ Malvæ exsiccatae unc. j.  
 Anthemidis florum exsiccatorum unc. ss.  
 Aquæ distillatæ Oj.

Boil for fifteen minutes and strain. See remarks under Decoctum Pro Fomento.

DECOCTUM MEZEREI.  
 DECOCTION OF MEZEREON.

℞ Mezerei corticis radice recentis drach. ij.  
 Radicis glycyrrhizæ contusæ unc. j.  
 Aquæ distillatæ O. iij.

Boil the mezereon in the water till the liquid is reduced to two pints, and towards the end of the boiling add the liquorice root.

The dose of the Mezereon Decoction is from four to eight ounces, three or four times a day. It has been much recommended as an antiveneral remedy, especially for curing membranous nodes, and affections of the bones; and for alleviating nocturnal or continued pains accompanying such affections; but we believe, it in ge-



neral falls short of such efficacy, and like many others of the same class, possesses very little, if any, antisyphilitic powers, and often excites nausea and inconvenience in the primæ viæ.

### DECOCTUM QUERCUS CORTICIS.

℞ Quercus corticis contusi unc. ij.  
Aquæ distillatæ O. iij.

Boil to two pints and strain. This is a good astringent injection for gleet discharges from the vagina continuing after the exhibition of mercury; as likewise for prolapsus ani. It may be further improved by the addition of a drachm, or two drachms, of powdered alum mixed with each pint of the decoction.

### DECOCTUM SARSAPARILLÆ. (L.)

#### DECOCTION OF SARSAPARILLA.

℞ Sarsaparillæ radicis incisæ unc. viij.  
Aquæ distillatæ O. viij.

These are directed by the college to be macerated in a gentle heat for four hours; after which the sarsaparilla is to be taken out and bruised, and macerated for two hours longer. It is then to be boiled to two quarts, and the liquor is to be strained.

DECOCTUM SARSAPARILLÆ COM-  
POSITUM. (L.)

COMPOUND DECOCTION OF  
SARSAPARILLA.

℞ Decocti sarsaparillæ ferventis O. iv.  
Guaiaci ligni rasi,  
Sassafras radicis consisæ,  
Glycyrrhizæ radicis contusæ sing. unc. j.  
Mezerei radicis corticis drach. iij.

Boil for fifteen minutes and strain. The mezercon should be added towards the end of the boiling.

The dose of these decoctions is from four to eight ounces, three or four times in the day. Both have been much extolled for venereal nodes, ulcers, and nocturnal pains; but we cannot, with some practitioners, concede to them the celebrity they have obtained. The former, combined with an equal portion of milk, is not unfrequently useful for restoring the constitution after a long continued course of mercury; as also when exhibited alone, for relieving the dyspeptic symptoms supervening upon the same cause. Probably the sarsaparilla powder, given in milk, in doses of one or two drachms, three or four times a day, is equal if not superior to either of them.

DECOCTUM VERATRI ALBI. (L.)  
*DECOCTION OF WHITE  
HELLEBORE.*

℞ Veratri radice contritæ unc. j.  
Aquæ distillatæ Oij.  
Spiritus rectificati unc. ij.

The hellebore powder is to be boiled in the water till only one half of the fluid remain; to which, when cold, add the rectified spirit. This decoction is principally of use for curing psora: it is, however, less effectual than the unguent, but more elegant and cleanly.

DECOCTUM ULMI. (L.)  
*DECOCTION OF ELM BARK.*

℞ Ulmi corticis recentis contusi unc. iv.  
Aquæ distillatæ O. iv.

Boil to a quart. The dose is from four to eight ounces, three or four times a day. The decoction of elm bark has occasionally been of service in cutaneous affections of the herpetic kind; as likewise for assisting the action of mercury in affections of a similar character, when depending on a syphilitic taint.

EMBROCATIO ACIDI ACETICI SPI-  
RITUOSA.*SPIRITUOUS EMBROCATION  
OF VINEGAR.*

℞ Acidi Acetici O. j.  
Spiritus tenuioris O. ss.  
Misce.

This is a stimulating astringent application; it is often of great use in spreading phlegmonic inflammations of the skin; in incipient scirrhi; in hernia humoralis, after topical bleeding; in bruises and ecchymosis; and as a lotion to some species of old offensive ulcers. With the addition of two drachms of powdered alum it has been much extolled as an effectual remedy to recent chilblains. The mode of applying it is by covering the part or parts affected with cloths dipped in the embrocation, and keeping them pretty constantly moist.

EMBROCATIO ACIDI ACETICI SPI-  
RITUOSA CUM CAMPHORA.  
*SPIRITUOUS EMBROCATION OF  
VINEGAR WITH CAMPHOR.*

℞ Acidi O ij.  
Spiritus rectificati O. iij.  
Aquæ distillatæ O. j.  
Camphoræ unc. iij.

Dissolve the Camphor in the Spirit of Wine, and add the vinegar and water, previously mixed. This forms a good embrocation for painful rheumatic swelling of the joints. It is likewise a very beneficial stimulant for relieving sprains and bruises; also for exciting the absorbents in cases of extravasation of blood from local injuries, particularly after the symptoms of high excitement have been removed by topical or general bleeding and by other suitable means.

EMBROCATIO AMMONIÆ.  
*EMBROCATION OF AMMONIA.*

℞ Liquoris ammoniæ unc. j.  
Spiritus ætheris sulphurici unc. ss.  
Spiritus lavandulæ compositi unc. ij.

This embrocation is often very efficacious as a stimulant and rubifacient, for relieving painful affections

of the face and other parts; as likewise for removing thickenings and enlargements of the joints, consequent upon gouty and other inflammations.

EMBROCATIO AMMONIÆ ACETATIS.  
*EMBROICATION OF ACETATE OF  
AMMONIA.*

℞ Ammoniæ præparatæ unc. iv.

Acidi aceticæ O. viiss, vel. q. s. ad saturationem.

Spiritus tenuioris O. iij.

Mix the ammonia with the vinegar, and after the effervescence ceases, add the spirit.

This embrocation, the Embrocatio Communis of the Pharmacopœia of Guy's Hospital, is in common use for the relief of sprains and bruises, and as a general application to injured parts where the skin remains entire. Mixed with linseed meal, and applied warm, in the form of a cataplasm (renewing it once or twice in the day), it is often of great utility in slow chronic inflammations of the joints; as likewise in incipient diseases of the hip joint; more particularly if conjoined with local blood-letting.

EMBROCATIO OPII COMPOSITA.  
COMPOUND EMBROCATION OF  
OPIUM.

℞ Tincturæ opii  
Spiritus ætheris sulphurici sing. unc. ij.  
Spiritus camphoræ unc. ij.  
Misce.

This embrocation is used with the same intentions as the Embrocatio Ammoniaë and Embrocatio Saponis cum camphorâ.

In some painful affections of the muscles, it sometimes acts as an immediate specific; in odontalgia, it will often give instant ease; in sciatica, it is frequently of great benefit; and in deep seated pain in the neighbourhood of the ear, it generally relieves sooner than any other application.

EMBROCATIO SAPONIS CUM  
AMMONIA.  
EMBROCATION OF SOAP WITH  
AMMONIA.

℞ Saponis duri albi unc. xv.  
Camphoræ unc. v.  
Spiritus rectificati O. iv.  
Liquoris ammoniaë O. j.

Digest the soap in the spirit of wine and liquor of

ammonia, previously mixed, till it is perfectly dissolved; then add the camphor. This embrocation, selected from the valuable formulæ of Guy's Hospital, is a useful and elegant external stimulant.

EMBROCATIO SAPONIS CUM  
CAMPHORA.

EMBROCATION OF SOAP WITH  
CAMPHOR.

& Linimenti saponis unc. ij.

Spiritus camphoræ unc. j.

Olei origani drach. ij.

Tincturæ opii unc. ss.

Misce.

This embrocation is similar to the celebrated anodyne liniment of Bates. It is one which the author has repeatedly seen prescribed with considerable benefit to the patient, in painful rheumatic swelling of the joints; in arthritic pains; in sciatica, lumbago, and chronic rheumatism. It is often an immediate remedy to the tooth-ache, when proceeding from a caries of the tooth, if lint be dipped in the embrocation and placed in the decayed part.



EMPLASTRUM AMMONIACI.  
PLASTER OF AMMONIACUM.

℞ Ammoniaci gummi resinæ pulveris unc. ij.  
Aceti scillæ q. s.

It will be requisite that the vinegar of squills and ammoniacum be intimately incorporated by beating them together in a marble or Wedgewood's mortar.

This plaster possesses very considerable stimulating powers; generally exciting the skin so much, where it is applied, as to occasion a considerable degree of redness, and not unfrequently innumerable papillary vesications.

EMPLASTRUM AMMONIACI CUM  
HYDRARGYRO.  
PLASTER OF AMMONIACUM WITH  
QUICKSILVER.

℞ Ammoniaci purificati lib. ss.  
Hydrargyri purificati unc. iij.  
Olei sulphurati drach. j. vel q. s.

The quicksilver is to be triturated with the sulphurated oil till the globules perfectly disappear, the strained ammoniacum is then to be added, being previously liquefied; and the whole is to be well blended together so as to form a plaster.

The intention of combining the ammoniacum with the quicksilver, is that of increasing its stimulating and discutient properties; at the same time that it forms a plaster very powerfully adhesive. It is much used for dispersing venereal nodes and topi; for removing thickenings of the ligaments and enlargements and indurations of the periosteum, remaining after a course of mercury; and as a continued application to indurated scrofulous glands, in order to produce a resolution of their substance, by keeping up a uniform stimulus upon their vessels. For the above intentions it is superior to the Emplastrum Hydrargyri, yet too frequently insufficient for the purposes for which it is designed.

EMPLASTRUM AMMONIÆ MURIATIS.  
*PLASTER OF MURIATE OF  
AMMONIA.*

R Ammoniæ muriatis unc. ss.  
Saponis unc. j  
Emplastri plumbi unc. ij.

The lead plaster and soap being liquefied together, the muriate of ammonia, previously powdered, is to be added. This plaster should be applied immediately after it is formed, to the part which it is intended to cover, otherwise the intention is lost; for, the alkali in the soap entering into combination with the muriatic acid

of the muriate of ammonia, forms thereby muriate of potash or soda, and ammoniacal gas (on which the virtue of the plaster depends) is slowly but abundantly liberated, acting as a powerful stimulant and rubifacient. It should be renewed once every four and twenty hours.

EMPLASTRUM CERÆ. (L.)

WAX PLASTER.

R Ceræ flavæ.

Sevi preparati sing. lib. iij.

Resinæ flavæ lib. j.

Melt these together, and strain while the mixture is fluid.

This plaster, the emplastrum attrahens of former dispensatories, is chiefly used to keep up a discharge from a part which has been blistered, and hence its former name. What Dr. Duncan observes upon this head, however, we think very pertinent and proper; "that this plaster irritates too much, on account of the resin; and hence, when designed only for dressing blisters, the resin ought to be entirely omitted, unless where a continuance of pain and irritation, excited by the vesicatory, is intended." That "all plasters are improper dressings for blisters; their consistence making them sit uneasy, and their adhesiveness rendering the taking them off painful:" and that "cerates, which are softer and less adhesive, appear much more eligible."

EMPLASTRUM CUMINI. (L.)  
 CUMMIN PLASTER.

℞ Cumini seminum.  
 Carui seminum.  
 Lauri baccarum sing. unc. iij.  
 Picis aridæ lib. iij.  
 Ceræ flavæ unc. iij.

The three former ingredients, in a state of fine powder, are to be added to the pitch and wax, previously melted together, and the whole is to be well mixed. This is a warm stimulating plaster: I have in some few cases lately added to it the antimonium tartarizatum, in the proportion of a drachm to an ounce of the plaster, and find the effect produced similar to what is occasioned by the liniment of antimony, but in a superior degree.

EMPLASTRUM CUMINI CUM OPIO.  
 CUMMIN PLASTER WITH OPIUM.

℞ Emplastri plumbi lib. j.  
 Emplastri cumini lib. ss.  
 Camphoræ (pauillo alcoholis in  
 Pulverem tritæ) unc. ij.  
 Opii pulveris unc. j.

To the melted lead and cummin plaster, add the camphor and opium.

We must confess we do not place so much reliance on the utility of opium in the composition of plasters as is generally done. The above formula, however, appears as good as any which we have seen, where this intention is held in view. See Emplastrum Opii.

EMPLASTRUM EUPHORBII.  
EUPHORBIIUM PLASTER.

℞ Emplastri picis compositi unc. iv.  
Euphorbii pulverizati drach. ss.

The compound pitch plaster being melted, the euphorbium, in fine powder, is to be added, and the mixture kept stirring till nearly cold. This plaster is a powerful stimulant and rubifacient, and is much recommended by some surgeons in chronic affections of the knee and hip joints, and for removing deep-seated indolent pains.

In scrofulous affections of the knee and hip, constituting what is called hip disease and spina ventosa, I think much good is to be effected, particularly in the early stage, by either the Emp. Cumini or Emp. Euphorbii with the addition of the tartarised antimony.

EMPLASTRUM GALBANI COM-  
POSITUM. (L.)  
COMPOUND GALBANUM PLASTER.

R Galbani gummi-resinæ purificatæ unc. viii.  
Emplastri plumbi lib. iij.  
Terebinthinæ vulgaris drach. x.  
Abietis resinæ contritæ unc. iij.

To the galbanum and turpentine, melted together, add the powdered frankincense; and, lastly, the lead plaster in a state of liquifaction.

The practice of applying this plaster, which possesses a stimulating or heating power, derived from the gums and resin, to hasten suppuration in boils and small imposthumes, is at present much neglected for the milder, safer, and more proper one, of prescribing emollient and discutient cataplasms. The compound galbanum plaster is, however, not without its merit in other cases, where these cataplasms might be very injudicious. In indolent glandular enlargements of a strumous character, in fixed and long continued pains in the neighbourhood of the joints, or in anomalous or arthritic pains of the ligaments, by covering the part or parts so affected with this plaster, and renewing it every eight or ten days, we shall often afford considerable benefit. It would appear, from some cases which have fallen under my observation, to be a good remedy applied over the whole lumbar region of children, in

rickety affections accompanied with great weakness in the lower extremities; likewise as a covering to their enlarged joints; but this, more properly, falls under the province of the physician.

EMPLASTRUM HYDRARGYRI. (L.)  
MERCURIAL PLASTER.

℞ Emplastri plumbi lib. j.  
Hydrargyri purificati unc. iij.  
Olei sulphurati drach. j.

This plaster is made in a way similar to the em-  
plastrum ammoniaci cum hydrargyro. It is, however,  
a very inferior application.

EMPLASTRUM LYTTE.  
PLASTER OF CANTHARIDES, OR  
BLISTERING PLASTER.

℞ Lyttarum in pulverem subtilissimum  
tritatum lib. j.  
Emplastri ceræ lib. iss.  
Adipis præparatæ lib. i.

The wax plaster and prepared lard being melted  
together, and suffered to become nearly cold, the can-  
tharides, in a state of fine powder, are to be sprinkled  
in, and the whole mass well blended together.

It may not be improper to observe, that the em-

plastrum lyttæ very frequently fails in producing vesication, the specific object for which it is prescribed; this failure is too often attributable to some inattention or want of caution on the part of the person who prepares it for immediate application, or to some degree of awkwardness on the part of the nurse. In spreading this plaster upon strong linen or leather, the spatula should never be heated beyond the degree of boiling water, and in general a much lower degree of heat will be sufficient; the plaster should likewise be spread sufficiently thick; and in order further to insure its success, it will be proper either to dip the plaster previously in vinegar, or to wash the part, to which it is to be applied, with the same, or to cover it for an hour with a common poultice. This plaster too should be properly secured, but should never be bound on too tight.

In some surgical cases, where blisters are called for, as in cases of spina ventosa, in diseases of the hip, in some glandular tumors, in thickenings of the ligaments, and in enlarged bursæ, two different modes of using them have been adopted, and it is still a question which is to be preferred, that of keeping up a discharge from the vesicated part, by some suitable means, or of renewing the vesication at short intervals by repeated blisters, and suffering the part thus acted upon to heal as soon as possible, after the blister is removed, by covering it with some mild unctuous substance. In the more obstinate cases which have come under my observation, it would appear that the latter mode was



preferable, as being more effectual and less troublesome to the patient. By the repeated application of blisters, the influence excited appears to extend much deeper, so as to derive a greater quantity of blood from the immediate neighbourhood of the vessels, or from the vessels themselves which are in a state of disease, than the influence excited by an application less stimulating, upon the surface of a part already abraded. The character of the discharge would likewise appear essentially different; in the latter case being a purulent secretion from the superficial exhalents of the surface only; in the other a copious effusion of serum, mixed with a large portion of lymph, produced from a deeper order of vessels. Whether, however, the more beneficial consequences resulting from the repeated application of blisters, be owing to the causes here assigned, or be depending upon some other which I do not understand, still the preference will equally hold good, provided the majority of cases be favourable to the practice; which, from what I have seen, as well from my own experience as from the very extended practice of others which I have had an opportunity of observing, I think I can most unequivocally assert.

During the action of the Emp. Lyttæ, and for some hours after its removal, the patient should uniformly drink freely of the decoct. hordei, with the addition of the gum arabic (*acaciæ gummi*).

**EMPLASTRUM OPII. (L.)****PLASTER OF OPIUM.**

℞ Opii duri contriti unc. ss.

Abietis resinæ contritæ unc. iij.

Emplastri plumbi lib. j.

To the melted plaster add the melted frankincense and opium, and well mix.

In the former edition of this Pharmacopœia we gave a formula, *Emplastrum Opiatum*, very similar to the above; this we have retained under the head of *Emp. Cumini cum Opio*, in order to give place to the *Emp. Opii* of the College.

**EMPLASTRUM PLUMBI.****PLASTER OF THE OXYDE OF LEAD.**

℞ Plumbi oxydi semivitrei in pulverem subtilissimum triti lib. v.

Olei olivæ cong. j.

Aquæ O. ij.

These are to be boiled together over a gentle fire, till the oil and litharge are well incorporated. During the boiling, it will be necessary to keep the mixture constantly stirring with a long wooden spatula, and to add, occasionally, a little boiling water, to supply the place of that which evaporates, and to prevent the mix-

ture from burning and growing black. Notwithstanding the water which is added be boiling, the composition is very apt to explode, and to be thrown about with violence; as such it should be removed from the fire before each addition of the water.

This plaster forms the basis for several others. It is of great use for covering some slight excoriations of the skin, and for retaining the edges of fresh cut wounds in a state of apposition.

EMPLASTRUM RESINÆ. (L.)

RESIN PLASTER.

℞ Emplastri plumbi lib. iij.

Resinæ flavæ unc. vi.

To the melted lead plaster add the resin, previously pulverized.

The quantity of resin to be employed in the composition of this plaster, must, in some degree, depend on the temperature of the atmosphere.

This plaster is *the common strapping*, as it is called, of the different hospitals, the utility of which is now very generally known. For a particular account of its superior excellence in promoting the cure of old ulcers, by producing an approximation of their sides, and by giving a due and necessary degree of support to the new vessels constituting the granulations, see Bayntun, on treating old ulcers, published at Bristol, 1799;

a book which every surgeon ought to have in his possession.

### EMPLASTRUM SAPONIS. (L.)

#### SOAP PLASTER.

℞ Saponis lib. ss.

Emplastri lithargyri lib. iij.

Melt the plaster, and add the soap, previously cut into thin slices.

This plaster is said to be a mild discutient application.

### ENEMA AMYLI CUM OPIO.

#### INJECTION OF STARCH WITH OPIUM.

℞ Ameli drach. j. ad ij.

Aquæ frigidæ unc. ij.

Aquæ ferventis unc. iv. ad vj.

Opii pulveris gr ij. ad gr iv.

Rub the powdered opium and starch together till they are minutely divided; then add, by degrees, the cold water, and lastly the boiling water.

The starch renders the retention of the injection more certain, by which means the full action of the opium is better secured.

This enema is often of considerable service in relieving painful affections of the rectum, whether arising from a stricture or cancer of this part, from fistula in ano, or from hæmorrhoids. It will very generally relieve suppression of urine, depending on spasmodic stricture of the urethra; or indeed take off any preternatural spasm about the neck of the bladder. It is of great utility for relieving the strangury that takes place during the active stage of gonorrhœa; as likewise for removing the distressing sensation of weight and uneasiness in the regio pubis and in the perinæum, owing to the prostate gland and neck of the bladder being affected from the same cause.

ENEMA CINCHONÆ.  
INJECTION OF CINCHONA.

R Cinchonæ pulveris unc. j.  
Florum anthemidis drach. ij.  
Aquæ distillatæ O. j.

Boil to ten ounces and strain, and add vini rubri unc. iij. This is an excellent tonic injection. It may be recommended in prolapsus recti; in fistula in ano, where the discharge is profuse and the habit delicate; and in some cases, as a general tonic, where the bark cannot be administered in any other way.

ENEMA COMMUNE.  
COMMON INJECTION.

℞ Decocti hordei O. j. ad ij.

Olivæ olei unc. ij.

Magnesiæ sulphatis unc. j.

Misce.

Or, ℞ Decocti hordei, O. j. ad ij.

Olivæ olei unc. ij. ad iij.

Misce.

Or, ℞ Decocti anthemidis florum unc. viij.

ad xij.

Fomenti papaveris unc. xij.

Misce.

The former of these injections is well calculated for emptying the lower bowels, without stimulating them too forcibly. The two latter are frequently found to afford considerable relief in peritoneal inflammations, whether arising from any injury communicated to the abdomen, or taking place after an operation, wherein the viscera of the abdomen have been immediately or relatively concerned. As in these cases, it is intended the injection should act as a fomentation to the part or parts already in a state of inflammation, it will be requisite to administer it as slowly as possible, in order not only to its being retained some time, but that the whole of the quantity, here prescribed, may be thrown

up. If the injection be administered very gradually, there will seldom be any re-action of the intestines to expel it immediately; and by being retained for some time, it not only acts as a fomentation, but generally brings away, when it is returned, any feculent matter which may be lying in the lower bowels. The pain, tumefaction, and tenderness sometimes taking place over the whole of the abdomen, supervening upon lithotomy, and that even when the intestinal canal has been freely evacuated, would seem to depend, in certain instances, upon the bowels becoming preternaturally distended with flatus, from losing as it were their proper tone and support; in cases of this kind the last of these formulæ for clysters will be preferable, not only as possessing an anodyne property, but likewise as being well adapted for communicating a gentle degree of tone to the relaxed intestines, thereby relieving those unpleasant symptoms which might otherwise end in peritoneal inflammation, or induce so much weakness as to destroy the patient. It should be particularly recollected, that when prescribed in such cases, it be not only administered very slowly, as has already been directed, but that it be repeated once or twice every twenty-four hours, till the violence of the symptoms be removed.

When the decoct. hordei is used for injections, it should be much thinner than as directed in the common formula; if diluted with an equal portion of boiling water, it answers very well.

ENEMA COLOCYNTHIDIS.  
 INJECTION OF COLOCYNTH OR  
 BITTER APPLE.

℞ Colocynthidis medullæ minutim incisæ,  
 drach. j.

Aquæ ferventis unc. x.

Sodæ muriatis

Syrupus spinæ cervinæ sing. unc. ss.

Boil the colocynth in the water for ten or fifteen minutes, and strain; to the strained liquor add the muriate of soda and syrup of buckthorn.

This is a good stimulating purgative clyster, and generally effectual for evacuating the lower bowels: it will often be of considerable efficacy, if administered in coma, stupor, and other affections of the brain occurring from local injuries.

ENEMA GALLÆ.  
 INJECTION OF THE GALL-NUT.

℞ Gallæ pulveris unc. j.

Aquæ distillatæ O. iss.

Boil to a pint and strain.

This injection, if exhibited once or twice a day, will very frequently be found to afford considerable relief in some affections of the rectum where there exists



a frequent tendency to prolapsus ani connected with an increased secretion of mucus, or accompanied with great pain; in the bleeding piles, as they are called, it is often very proper: In some cases the addition of two or three grains of powdered opium will give increased effect to this injection.

## ENEMA OPII.

## OPIATE INJECTION.

R Infusi lini unc. viij.  
Tinct. opii drach. j. ad ij.  
Misce.

Or, R Infusi lini unc. viij.  
Opii pulveris gr ij. ad iij.

Let the powdered opium be first well mixed with a small portion of the linseed infusion, then add the remainder. Either of these injections may be used where opium is indicated as a clyster—See *Euema Amyli cum Opio*.

## ENEMA RICINI OLEI.

## INJECTION OF CASTOR OIL.

R Ricini olei  
Mellis, singulorum unc. j.  
Infusi lini unc. x.

Rub the castor oil with the honey till they are in-

timately united, and gradually add the linseed infusion. Where an injection is intended to act quickly as an evacuant of the lower bowels, this of castor oil will be found, in general, safe and effectual.

ENEMA TABACI.  
*INJECTION OF TOBACCO LEAF.*

R Tabaci foliorum scrup. ij.  
Aquæ ferventis unc. xij.

Macerate till cold, and strain.

The specific intention of the tobacco clyster is, to relieve constipation of a peculiar kind: such as arises from a portion of intestine being confined or strangulated, in the disease called hernia, whereby the peristaltic motion is interrupted or entirely stopped. For a full account of hernia, and its different varieties, see Mr. Cooper's publications on inguinal, femoral, and umbilical hernia: also a treatise on the same subject by Mr. Lawrence. The modus operandi of the above injection, is supposed to be that of producing such a sedative effect upon the whole nervous power, that a degree of general relaxation takes place; the spastic state of the fibres constringing the intestine, is taken off, and the bowels restored to their proper action. But the effect of tobacco, administered in this way, is very variable, and in some cases so great as to endanger the vital powers, or even to produce death.

From this circumstance it would appear to be of the greatest moment to determine the relative degrees of power between the system and the remedy, previous to our employing it; or to know to what extent the powers of the remedy are likely to extend, compatible with the powers of life to resist it. This would seem only to be accomplished by taking into full consideration the violence of the effects produced, whether by incarceration or strangulation, determinable by the length of time which may have supervened after such an occurrence, and by the precise nature of the hernia. The state of the patient as to how far he is capable of bearing further depression must likewise be well weighed, for we should consider that the medicine may have great influence upon the result of the operation, if it be deemed necessary to be performed; for, the shock given to the nervous power by an injury inflicted upon the stomach and the bowels, is comparatively greater than what would take place from the same extent of injury communicated to any other part. This pathological fact is in some instances exemplified to a great degree, by nausea, vomiting, sudden and great prostration of strength taking place from an apparent trivial cause. Cold suddenly applied to the abdomen; a diminution of the ordinary quantity of clothing; an attack of colic; or an irregular distention of an intestine from flatus will sometimes produce sudden and alarming effects. With facts of this kind before us, we ought to weigh well the propriety of ordering the tobacco injection (which very probably is soon to be followed by one of the nicest

and greatest operations in surgery), when the system is already much reduced by the previous disease of hernia, and especially if the intestine have been long confined. If there have been great and long continued sickness and vomiting, if the tumour be extremely tense and tender, the patient much exhausted, and all our attempts to reduce the rupture have failed, in such cases the tobacco injection has never appeared to afford the least profit: and such a remedy without profit can seldom fail to produce mischief. If in endeavouring to reduce hernia soon after the bowel may have become confined, we should be unsuccessful, the tobacco injection may be employed, and after half an hour a second endeavour may be attempted; or half the injection may be thrown up, and after half an hour the remaining half; after which, the patient being placed in such a situation as to favour the particular relaxation of the parts connected with the disease, the reduction of the hernia may again be carefully tried. To affix any precise limit of time, however, within which this means to relieve incarcerated or strangulated hernia should be had recourse to, might to a young surgeon be a most desirable acquisition; but every man of experience knows the impracticability of such a law, and he is only guided by his former knowledge and practice. After twelve hours suffering and pain, I would much rather prefer attempting the operation without the previous exhibition of the tobacco enema, than after it had been employed; particularly in a weak or delicate person; in a patient of advanced age; or in infancy.

ENEMA TEREBINTHINÆ.  
*TURPENTINE INJECTION.*

℞ Terebinthinæ unc. ss.  
Ovi unius vitellum,  
Infusi lini unc. x.

Rub the turpentine with the egg till they are perfectly incorporated, and add the linseed infusion.

The turpentine injection has frequently been of service in violent attacks from a stone in the bladder; in suppression of urine from the same cause; and in painful micturition arising from irritability of the bladder. It is one of the Formula of Guy's Hospital.

EPITHEMA PLUMBI ACETATIS.  
*EPITHEM OF ACETATE OF LEAD.*

℞ Confectionis rosæ unc. j.  
Mellis rosæ,  
Liquoris plumbi acetatis,  
Tincturæ opii, singulorum drach. ij.  
Misce.

This epithem is much in use at Guy's Hospital as a useful application to painful, irritable, venereal ulcers: it will likewise be found very serviceable, if applied to chancres after the use of the lunar caustic or nitrate of silver, particularly when the sore appears

fretted and irritable. If the parts are disposed to slough, it should be abstained from. See Ung. Plumbi Acetatis cum Opio.

EPITHEMA TEREBINTHINÆ CUM  
CAMPHORA.

*TURPENTINE EPITHEM WITH  
CAMPHOR.*

℞ Unguenti resinæ unc. iij.

Camphoræ, pauxillo spiritus rectificati in  
pulverem tritæ, unc. ss.

Terebinthinæ olei rectificati q. s. ut fiat  
epithema.

This epithem, spread upon leather, and renewed daily, is a good application for relieving some painful chronic affections of the joints, whether of a rheumatic or arthritic nature; it may likewise be employed in indurations, and in enlargements of the ligaments arising from the same cause.

FOMENTUM CHAMÆMELI.

See DECOCTUM ANTHEMIDIS NOBILIS.

FOMENTUM CONII.

*CICUTA FOMENTATION.*

Boil half a pound of the fresh leaves of hemlock

or three ounces of the dried herb, in a quart of water, for half an hour, and strain. See Cataplasma Conii.

FOMENTUM DIGITALIS.  
FOMENTATION OF THE FOX-GLOVE.

Boil three ounces of the dried leaves of digitalis, or four ounces of the fresh plant, in two pints of water to one, and strain. See Cataplasma Digitalis.

The fomentations of hemlock and fox-glove may be used indiscriminately: it will also be proper to foment the parts with them during the renewal of the poultices. With some surgeons they are recommended to be frequently applied, being used instead of the poultices.

FOMENTUM GALLÆ.  
FOMENTATION OF THE GALL-NUT.

℞ Gallæ contusæ unc. ss.  
Aquæ ferventis O. ij.

Macerate for one hour and strain.

This fomentation is used for the same purposes as the Enema Gallæ, being only a weaker preparation of the gall.

FOMENTUM PAPAVERIS.  
*FOMENTATION OF THE POPPY.*

℞ Papaveris somniferi (capsulæ et seminum)  
 unc. ij.  
 Aquæ distillatæ O. ij.

Cut the capsule of the poppy into thin slices, and bruise both these and the seeds; afterwards boil in the water to one pint and strain. The anodyne property of the poppy is contained in the capsule; the seeds, however, contain a large portion of mucilage and oil, and as such are emollient, and may improve the fomentation. See Cataplasma Lini, and Collyrium Opii.

GARGARISMA ACIDI MURIATICI.  
*GARGLE OF MURIATIC ACID.*

℞ Acidi muriatici g<sup>tt</sup> xx.  
 Mellis rosæ unc. j.  
 Decocti hordei }  
 vel } Unc. iv. Misce.  
 Infusi lini }

The muriatic acid gargle is much used as a means of removing inflammation of the throat, more particularly such as is accompanied with ulceration. It is oftentimes of great benefit in apthous affections; but it should be recollected that, from its injurious effects



to the teeth, the mouth and fauces should be well washed with either barley water, or water lukewarm, both before and after using it.

GARGARISMA ÆRUGINIS.  
GARGLE OF VERDIGRIS.

℞ Linimenti æruginis drach. ij.  
Mellis rosæ unc. j.  
Infusi lini unc. vj.

This gargle has been recommended for deterring foul ulcers of the throat and tonsils; and for these purposes it is extensively employed. I would, however, in no wise recommend it to general use, as I do not think it quite free from danger.

GARGARISIMA ALUMINIS.  
ALUM GARGLE.

℞ Aluminis drach. j.  
Decocti cinchonæ unc. xij.  
Mellis rosæ unc. iss.  
Misce.

This is a good astringent gargle, and in a relaxed state of the uvula and contiguous parts after a course of mercury, in bleedings and sponginess of the gums from the same or any other cause, and in chronic or fre-

quent inflammations of the tonsils, it will be found exceedingly proper and beneficial.

GARGARISMA LINI.  
*LINSEED GARGLE.*

℞ Infusi lini unc. xiv.  
Mellis rosæ unc. ij.  
Acidi sulphurici diluti drach. iss.  
Misc.

This is the common gargle of Guy's Hospital. In many cases where mild astringents are indicated, it will be found to answer very well.

GARGARISMA MYRRHÆ.  
*MYRRH GARGLE.*

℞ Infusi rosæ unc. viiss.  
Tinct. myrrhæ unc. ss. Misc.

Mildly astringent and detergent.

GARGARISIMA POTASSÆ NITRATIS.  
*GARGLE OF NITRE, OR NITRATE  
OF POTASH.*

℞ Decocti hordei lib. j.  
Potassæ nitratis drach. vj.  
Oxymellis unc. ij. Misc.

This is the gargarisma refrigerens of some of the

older dispensatories. It is a mild, cooling application; and often more serviceable at the commencement of inflammatory affections of the tonsils and fauces, than those which contain any of the mineral acids as their most active judgment.

GARGARISMA ROSÆ.  
ROSE GARGLE.

℞ Infusi rosæ unc. iv.

Mellis rosæ

vel

Syrupus Mori

} unc. j. Misc.

This is a simple and elegant gargle for common purposes.

GARGARISMA SODÆ BORACIS.  
GARGLE OF BORAX.

℞ Sodæ boracis drach. ij.

Aquæ rosæ unc. vij.

Mellis rosæ unc. j. Misc.

The borax gargle is very much in use as a mild detergent in aphthous affections in children, and for removing superficial inflammatory ulcerations of the gums; especially if attended with a copious secretion of saliva. It occasionally may be rendered more pleasant,

without any diminution of its effects, by substituting the syrupus mori for the mel rosæ, or a thin muceilage of the quince seed for the rose water.

Among the several formulæ for gargles which we have collected and offered to general notice, it will be seen that several of them possess the same properties; differing so slightly in degree as to subject us to the charge of unnecessary prolixity, where the intention is so simple and self-evident, that the same end might be accomplished by any one of them; requiring only some general observation as to the necessity of occasionally increasing or diminishing the acidity or astringency of the gargle. By giving, however, several distinct formulæ, the surgeon who has not had the advantages of extensive practice or experience, will be less liable to incur the dissatisfaction of his patient, or to hazard his displeasure, by any unequal or improper strength of the medicine which he may prescribe.

HAUSTUS AMMONIÆ ACETATIS.  
DRAUGHT OF ACETATE OF  
AMMONIA.

℞ Liquoris ammoniæ acetatis,  
Aquæ menthæ singul. unc. j.  
Syrupus papaveris drach. j.  
Miscæ.

The intention of this draught is to determine to, and

keep up action upon, the skin, so as to promote a gentle diaphoresis: an object, oftentimes, of the greatest moment to the surgeon, not only in cases where there exists a preternatural fulness, or inflammatory diathesis in the vessels of a particular part, as after a recent wound or injury; but likewise after some of the more important operations, acting as a means of keeping under general inflammation, or preventing too great excitement of the sanguiferous system. It may be exhibited every four or five hours.

HAUSTUS MAGNESIÆ SULPHATIS.  
DRAUGHT OF SULPHATE OF  
MAGNESIA.

R Magnesia sulphatis drach. iij. ad ij.

Aquæ menthæ unc. ij.

Tinct. jalapæ drach. j.

Acidi nitrici diluti g<sup>tt</sup> xx. Misce.

This is a good saline purge. The nitrous acid takes off the unpleasant bitterness of the sulphate of magnesia.

HAUSTUS EMETICUS.  
EMETIC DRAUGHT.

℞ Vini ipecacuanhæ unc. j.  
Vini antimonii drach. ij. Miscæ.

Or, ℞ Vini antimonii unc. ss.  
Aqua distillatæ drach. vj. Miscæ.

Or, ℞ Antimonii tartarizati gr̄ iij.  
Aquæ distillatæ ferventis unc. jss. Miscæ.

Or, ℞ Pulveris ipecacuanhæ scrup. j.  
Aquæ menthæ.  
Aquæ puræ aa. drach. vj. Miscæ.

These draughts all possess pretty strong emetic properties, but any one of them may be safely exhibited when medicines of this class are called for.

HAUSTUS RICINI OLEI.  
DRAUGHT OF CASTOR OIL.

℞ Ricini olei unc. ss.  
Tincturæ sennæ unc. ss.

This is a warm soluble draught, operating with little or no inconvenience: in nephritic affections; during the cure of stricture by caustic; and in most affections of the bladder, it is very serviceable; as it relieves

the lower bowels without much pain or inconvenience to the patient. When the tincture is objectionable, the oleum ricini may be mixed into a draught with a little of the yolk of egg, or with honey.

HAUSTUS TEREBINTHINÆ.  
*TURPENTINE DRAUGHT.*

℞ Terebinthinæ chiæ, vitello ovi solutæ,  
scrup. j. ad drach. ss.  
Aquæ cinnamoni,  
Aquæ distillatæ sing. drach. vj.  
Misce.

In irritability of the bladder, unaccompanied with inflammation; in gonorrhœa after the active stage is removed; and in painful chronic affections in the region of the kidneys, the turpentine draught exhibited twice or three times a day, will very often afford considerable benefit.

HIRUDO.  
*THE LEECH.*

The freedom with which topical blood-letting is now employed, may safely be enumerated among the modern improvements of surgery; and in many cases one of the most effectual and least objectionable methods is, by means of the leech. These animals, how-

ever, are become so extravagantly dear, either from the exactions of those people who employ themselves in gathering them, or by the monopoly of some of our drug merchants, that the patient is very frequently under the necessity of enduring his pain and sufferings, from an utter impossibility to procure what his surgeon has prescribed. To remedy this evil, every surgeon ought, so far as he has the means in his power, to procure a quantity of leeches at the time the leech-catchers gather them, when they are in general much cheaper; or indeed, with a little care and trouble he might breed a sufficient number every year to answer all his purposes. In order to breed them, a large stone reservoir or wooden cistern nearly filled with soft water, and provided with a shelving, covered with moss and sods, should be placed in such a situation that nearly the whole of it is exposed to the rays of the sun; the bottom should be furnished with a cock, with a strainer answering to it in the inside, to allow the water, which should always be brook or river water, to be occasionally drawn off; but this should not be done more than once in three weeks or twice a month in winter, and once a week in summer. If a little muddy water is first poured into the reservoir or cistern, the leeches will, in general, thrive better. The greater number of the full sized leeches after the breeding season, which is during the latter summer months, should be removed into large open mouthed bottles, which should occasionally be exposed, or half exposed, to the sun; taking care that they are never more than half full of wa-



ter, as the leeches are extremely fond of creeping up the dry part of the bottle in order to drain themselves: during the cold weather the cistern or reservoir should be surrounded with warm manure. The young leeches are some years before they arrive at full growth, during which time they should not be removed from the cistern.

When a leech is to be applied, it should be removed from the water some short time previously, and placed on a dry towel or napkin; by this method it will generally fix its hold the moment it is applied to the skin. Some surgeons direct them to be placed in glasses, to be inverted over the part from whence the leeches are intended to draw blood: a piece of writing paper folded into a conical shape, and cut smooth at the open end, is neater and answers equally well. The part or parts to which they are to be applied, should be first well sponged with warm water and soap, and carefully dried. If the leeches will not fix, the parts may be moistened with a little warm milk, sweetened with sugar; or with a little cream; or, what sometimes will make them fix instantly, the parts may be smeared with a little raw meat: and if the weather be extremely cold, it will be of advantage to swim them a little time in lukewarm water. After they have filled themselves with blood, and loose their hold, they should be placed upon a plate or saucer, and have their heads covered with salt, which occasions them to vomit up the blood with which they have gorged themselves. This is called by the

people who keep them, *purging the leech*, which should be done sufficiently to make them eject all the blood they have swallowed: after this they should be put into water just warmed. Some recommend taking the leech by the tail and squeezing it through the fingers and thumb, so as to force from it all its blood; but this is a cruel practice, and will for the most part destroy it. The parts to which they have been applied, should be covered with cloths wrung out of hot water, or with warm napkins, according as the surgeon shall deem fit. If the bleeding be troublesome, a little fine flour will in general put a stop to it; or a fold or two of dry linen, applied so as to make a little pressure; covering the part with a little tartar emetic has sometimes instantly succeeded, when other means have failed. In all local phlegmonous inflammations, whether arising from injury or any other cause, leeches afford us one of the readiest and most effectual modes of relief; in slow chronic inflammations, taking place in the neighbourhood of the large joints,—in ecchymosis from a blow or bruise,—in furunculus or boil,—in whitlow,—in scirrhus when the pain is violent, or when the vessels appear much distended or enlarged, leeches will for the most part afford considerable relief. At the commencement of an abscess leeches will in general give considerable alleviation, if they do not put a stop to the progress of the inflammation; and in an abscess of the breast they are peculiarly pro-

per. In erysipelatos inflammation, however, leeches will not unfrequently aggravate the disease.\* In carbuncle they are often improper, or in atonic inflammation which is likely to terminate in sphacelus. I have seen leeches, when applied to the neighbourhood of the eye, produce great and extensive erysipelatos inflammation, with considerable œdema and swelling. These observations have been drawn from actual experience; but after all much must be left to the direction and judgment of the surgeon, and the peculiar idiosyncrasy of the patient.

## HYDRARGYRUS.

QUICKSILVER, OR RUNNING  
MERCURY.

For a very ample, elaborate, and excellent account of mercury, see Dr. Cullen's *Materia Medica*, Vol. II. p. 442; and for a particular consideration of its various preparations, see Dr. Swediaur's *Pharmacopœia Syphilitica*, at the end of his book on the venereal disease. We are led to give the following account of mercury, from Dr. Duncan's *Dispensatory*, as appearing to us more practical than any other which we have seen.

“The mercury employed in England is principally

\* In erysipelas, however, I have witnessed much benefit from the free use of leeches in the first instance, and warm fomentations afterwards; but then it has only been when situated in the extremities, or in cases connected with phlegmonous inflammation, or where the erysipelas has arisen from injury.

from the mines of Hungary. When taken into the stomach, in its metallic state, it has no action on the body, except what arises from its weight or bulk. It is not poisonous, as was vulgarly supposed, but perfectly inert. But in various states of combination, it produces certain sensible effects. It quickens the circulation, and increases all the secretions and excretions. According to circumstances, the habit of the body of the patient, the temperature in which he is kept, the nature of the preparation, and the quantity in which it is exhibited, its effects are indeed various: it sometimes increases one secretion more particularly, sometimes another, but its most characteristic effect is the increased flow of saliva, which it generally causes, if given in sufficient quantity. Mercury in medical surgery is extensively employed; it is exhibited as an errhine, as a sialagogue, as a cathartic, as a diuretic, as a sodorific, as an astringent, as a stimulant. And with some of these views it is administered in indolent and chronic inflammations, especially of the glandular system. In exanthematous disorders. In spasmodic diseases; tetanus, trismus, hydrophobia, &c. In impetigines, scrofula, syphilis, elephantiasis, lepra, icterus, &c. &c. In local diseases; in caligo corneæ, amaurosis; gonorrhœa; obstipatio; tumors of various kinds; herpes, tinea, psora," &c.

"Mercury occasionally attacks the bowels, and causes violent purging, even of blood. This effect is remedied by intermitting the use of the medicine, and by exhibiting opium.

“At other times mercury is suddenly determined to the mouth, and produces inflammation, ulceration, and an excessive flow of saliva. In this case the use of the mercury must be discontinued for a time; while, according to Mr. Pearson's advice, the patient should be freely exposed to a dry cold air, with the occasional use of cathartics, Peruvian Bark, and mineral acids, and the assiduous application of astringent gargles. On the other hand, the sudden suppression of ptyalism is not without danger. It is most frequently caused by cold liquids being taken into the stomach, or exposure to cold and moisture, while under the influence of mercury; the danger is to be obviated by the quick introduction of mercury, so as to affect the gums, and by the warm bath occasionally.”

“Sometimes also a morbid condition of the system occurs during a mercurial course, and which tends to a fatal issue. Mr. Pearson has termed it erithismus. It is characterised by great depression of strength; a sense of anxiety about the præcordia; frequent sighing; trembling, partial or universal; a small, quick pulse; sometimes vomiting; a pale contracted countenance; a sense of coldness, while the tongue is seldom furred, or the vital or natural functions much disordered. In this state a sudden or violent exertion of muscular power will sometimes prove fatal. To prevent dangerous consequences, the mercury must be discontinued, whatever may be the stage, extent, or violence of the disease for which it has been exhibited, and the patient must expose himself freely to a dry and cool air,

in such a manner as shall be attended with the least fatigue; and in the course of ten or fourteen days he will sometimes be so far recovered as to resume the use of mercury."

This account comprises what is almost necessary to be known in regard to a general knowledge of mercury, when exhibited under circumstances which fall within the province of the surgeon. I have, under the article Hydrargyri Submurias, noticed some of its peculiar and specific effects; which I intend further to accomplish, under the different formulæ in which mercury, or rather some one of its preparations, forms the principal ingredient.

#### HYDRARGYRI ACETIS. (E.)

#### ACETITE OF QUICKSILVER.

This is a mild preparation of mercury, but seldom employed. It was the principal ingredient in Keyser's celebrated pills. Dissolved in rose water, in the proportion of two grains of mercury to an ounce of the water, it will occasionally be found useful against cutaneous eruptions. It may be safely administered, formed into pills with crumb of bread, in the quantity of a grain to five grains, night and morning, as a gentle mercurial.

HYDRARGYRUS CUM CRETA. (L.)  
*CHALK WITH QUICKSILVER.*

This is one of the mildest preparations of mercury. The chalk merely promotes the mechanical division of the quicksilver, thus affording a larger surface to the atmosphere, the oxygen of which it readily absorbs.

Dr. George Fordyce, in his Lectures on the Materia Medica, denies to this preparation any mercurial effect. I have, however, seen its efficacy sufficiently to convince me the doctor had formed a premature opinion on this subject. As an antisyphilitic it is much slower in its operation than the pilula hydrargyri, and should only be employed in cases where the pill is inclined to run off by the bowels, or as a substitute for it to children. The dose to an adult is from five grains to a scruple, or half a drachm, twice in the day, exhibited in any viscid substance, as honey, treacle, jelly, or barley water made thick.

HYDRARGYRI NITRICO-OXYDUM. (L.)  
OXYDUM HYDRARGYRI RUBRUM. (E.)

*NITRIC-OXYDE OF MERCURY. (L.)*  
*RED OXYDE OF MERCURY. (E.)*

The nitric oxyde of mercury should never be employed but in a state of levigation, or after it has been

minutely triturated. It is a useful stimulant, and escharotic; and formed into an ointment oftentimes has excellent effects upon old or ill-conditioned ulcers. See Unguentum Hydrargyri Nitrico-Oxydum. Half a grain, or even a grain, united with three or four grains of fine sugar, and blown into the eye, has sometimes removed ulcerous affections of the cornea, or a thickening from exuded lymph. See Benj. Bell's System of Surgery.

HYDRARGYRI OXYMURIAS. (L.)

MURIAS HYDRARGYRI. (E.)

*OXYMURIATE OF QUICKSILVER.*

This preparation of mercury is very generally employed as a cure for syphilis, supported by the authorities of Van Swieten and Boerhaave. Mr. Pearson, however, only allows to it the power of removing the primary symptoms, or of aiding the common effects of mercury. He tells us that it will often fail in removing chancre, and that the patient is not secure against a constitutional affection, even under the most steady perseverance in its use. It is, however, not unfrequently a very useful auxiliary to mercurial frictions, in doses of an eighth, or a sixth of a grain, administered in the form of a pill, or dissolved in any aqueous menstruum, exhibited twice or even three times in the day. If given to the quantity of a grain, it has been said to bring on most active and sudden ptyalism; and to be



an immediate and effectual remedy in the first stage of virulent gonorrhœa: few, however, I believe, would recommend this practice. As an external application it is violently escharotic, and acts powerfully as a caustic. In solution (see Lotio Hydrargyri Oxymuriatis) it is useful for destroying fungous flesh, and for removing herpes. I have seen it likewise employed with benefit as a wash, in some ulcerations of the fingers and other parts when connected with diseased bone or periosteal inflammation. In relieving ulcerous affections of the throat, nocturnal pains, and desquamations of the skin from a syphilitic cause, it is often essentially beneficial when given as an internal remedy. The muriate of quicksilver is said to form the principal ingredient in all the quack syrups.

HYDRARGYRI SUBMURIAS. (L.)

SUBMURIAS HYDRARGYRI. (E.)

SUBMURIATE OF QUICKSILVER.

*Formerly Calomel.*

This preparation of mercury is more extensively, and perhaps more usefully, employed by the surgeon than that of any other article in the Materia Medica. Internally employed it is eminently serviceable, whether administered as a purgative, or given as an alterative, in a variety of cases which require surgical aid.—

It is, perhaps, capable of curing syphilis in every form. In small doses, or in larger ones combined with opium, it excites ptyalism, and acts powerfully upon the glandular system throughout.—It obviates the pain and constipation of the bowels, arising from the incautious and injudicious use of lead; and administered as an alterative in doses of a grain or two grains, once or twice in the day, it has repeatedly relieved paralytic affections of the extremities, arising from the same cause, and which had resisted all other means. Ulcers of an indolent inactive nature, attended with a thin ichorous discharge, will not unfrequently assume an healthy aspect, and eventually heal by the use of calomel, whether exhibited as a brisk purgative or given as an alterative; nor can we, in general, cure ulcers of an equivocal character, by any other means. With children of a strumous habit, and where there exists ulcerous affections upon the surface, or when we have to do with glandular enlargements, calomel is the best purgative we possess.

As an external application, it is equally advantageous when judiciously employed.

SUB-SULPHAS HYDRARGYRI  
FLAVUS. (E.)

*Olim, Turpethum Minerale.*

SUB-SULPHATE OF QUICKSILVER.

*Formerly, Turpeth Mineral.*

The sub-sulphate of mercury is a very powerful medicine when used internally, acting as a strong emetic in doses of two or three grains. Given in this way it has sometimes cured hernia humoralis very quickly. I have seen it repeatedly used as an errhine in the quantity of an eighth, or a quarter of a grain, mixed with a little liquorice powder or the compound powder of asarabacca, once or twice in the day, in cases of amaurosis, when the disease was supposed to depend upon a debilitated state of the optic nerve; but I cannot say I have ever seen it decidedly advantageous in this complaint.

HYDRARGYRI SULPHURETUM  
RUBRUM. (L.)

RED SULPHURET OF QUICKSILVER.

This is principally employed in fumigations against venereal ulcers in the mouth, throat, and nose. Mr. Pearson, from his experiments, concludes that, where

it is an object to put a stop to the progress of the disease suddenly, the sulphuret of mercury if thrown upon a red hot iron and the fumes be inhaled, will often answer better than any other means. It is liable, however, sometimes to induce violent salivation, and that rapidly; and, consequently, great debility. Mercury must likewise be introduced into the constitution by inunction, as if no fumigations had been made use of.

INFUSUM ARMORACIÆ COMPOSITUM,  
COMPOUND INFUSION OF HORSE  
RADISH.

℞ Armoraciæ radicis recentis concisæ,  
Sinapis seminum contusorum singulorum  
unc. j.  
Aquæ ferventis O. j.

Macerate for an hour in a close vessel, and strain off the clear liquor. The dose of this infusion is from an ounce and a half to two ounces, three or four times a day. It may occasionally be rendered more agreeable by the addition of a little spirituous water. See Confectio Sinapeos.

INFUSUM CAPSICI.  
*INFUSION OF CAPSICUM, OR  
INDIAN PEPPER.*

℞ Capsici baccarum capsulæ gr̄ iv.  
Aquæ distillatæ unc. vj.

Infuse for two hours, in a close vessel, and strain off the clear liquor. It is necessary to remark, that the capsule of the capsicum only should be used, and not the red powder, as the latter contains common salt, and, for the most part, the red oxide of lead,

This infusion is a powerful stimulus when applied externally to a sensible part, and as such it has been strongly recommended in ophthalmia from relaxation, and in amaurosis from the same cause: it should be applied to the edge of the tarsus by means of a camel's hair brush in the former case, and dropped into the eye in the latter, to the quantity of two, three, or four drops; in both cases the pain it occasions is exceedingly great, and it requires great firmness on the part of the patient to bear a continuance of its use.

In gutta serena, where the pupil has appeared incapable of being influenced by a strong light, or when the disease has been preceded by great and continued pain in the forehead, I have never seen the capsicum do the least good.

INFUSUM CINCHONÆ CUM CALCE.  
*INFUSION OF BARK, WITH LIME.*

℞ Cinchonæ pulveris unc. ij.  
 Liquoris calcis O. ij.

First rub the bark with a small quantity of the lime water in a marble mortar, pouring on the remainder gradually; afterwards infuse them together twenty-four hours in a close vessel, and when the fæces have subsided, strain off the clear liquor.

This is an elegant form for administering the bark. The lime is said to increase the strength of this infusion, by rendering a greater portion of the cinchonin of the bark soluble in the water. See the article Cinchona.

INFUSUM LINI. (L.)  
*INFUSION OF LINSEED.*

℞ Lini usitatissimi seminum contusorum  
 unc. j.  
 Glycyrrhizæ radicis concisæ unc. ss.  
 Aquæ ferventis O. ij.

Digest in a close vessel placed near the fire, for four hours, and strain.

This is intended as a beverage in strangury and gonorrhœa, to be drank to the quantity of a quart during

the day. It is a useful drink likewise after lithotomy, or after any of the operations where the bladder or urethra have been immediately concerned. If the bowels be torpid or confined, two or three ounces of fresh figs and half an ounce of gum arabic, (gummi acaciæ,) may be added to each quart of the infusion; and it should then be made into a decoction, by being boiled fifteen or twenty minutes.

INJECTIO COPAIBÆ.  
INJECTION OF COPAIBA.

R. Copaibæ drach. j.  
Mucilaginis acaciæ unc. ss.  
Aquæ rosæ unc. vj.

Rub the copaiba and mucilage well together and add the rose water.

INJECTIO CUPRI SULPHATIS.  
INJECTION OF SULPHATE OF  
COPPER.

R. Cupri sulphatis gr̄ vj.  
Aquæ distillatæ unc. vj.  
Tincturæ opii drach. j.  
Misce.

INJECTIO HYDRARGYRI.  
*INJECTION OF QUICKSILVER.*

℞ Unguenti hydrargyri drach. j.  
Olei olivæ unc. j.  
Misce.

This injection should be warmed previous to using.

INJECTIO HYDRARGYRI SUBMU-  
RIATIS.  
*INJECTION OF SUBMURIATE OF  
MERCURY.*

℞ Hydrargyri submuriatis drach. ij.  
Mucilaginis acaciæ unc. ss.  
Liquoris calcis O. j.

Rub the submuriate and mucilage well together, and add, gradually, the lime water. See remarks under Injectio Zinci Sulphatis.



INJECTIO PLUMBI CARBONATIS.  
INJECTION OF CARBONATE OF  
LEAD.

℞ Plumbi carbonatis drach. j.  
Tragacanthæ pulveris compositi drach. ij.  
Opii pulveris scrup. j.  
Aquæ ferventis O. j.

INJECTIO THEÆ.  
INJECTION OF TEA.

℞ Theæ viridis foliorum drach. j.  
Aquæ ferventis unc. vj.

Macerate in a close vessel till cold, and strain.

INJECTIO ZINCI SULPHATIS.  
INJECTION OF SULPHATE OF  
ZINC.

℞ Zinci sulphatis drach. ss.  
Aquæ distillatæ O. j.  
Misc.

Among the whole class of remedies employed for surgical purposes, there is scarcely one which has occasioned a greater diversity of opinion, than injections in the cure of gonorrhœa. Opinions diametrically opposite, supported by names alike con-

spicuous and eminent, we have neither the judgment nor temerity to reconcile; and shall content ourselves with observing, when injections have appeared serviceable and when otherwise, so far as we have had an opportunity of observing. At the commencement of gonorrhœa, the irritation and ardor urinæ is often so great as to occasion the greatest possible distress; the urethra then being so exquisitely sensible that the slightest distention of its orifice or canal, even by fluids of the blandest nature, gives the most exquisite pain. The inflammation in this stage is evidently of the tonic kind, with an accumulated quantity of nervous sensibility, incompatible with the mere stimulus of distention or even contact with a foreign body: there is a copious secretion of the mucus which lubricates the canal, which at first is thin and acrid, from containing a greater quantity of the salts of the blood; there is a degree of irritative fever excited;—the urine is oftentimes scanty and high coloured, and whenever it is passed aggravates all the symptoms, leaving an increased desire to pass more urine, attended with a burning smarting pain. The intention of cure, then, would here appear to be that of lessening the inflammation of the parts by removing the distention, and of diminishing the stimulating properties of the urine.—We should also endeavour, as much as possible, to take off the accumulated sensibility of the urethra, so as to render it less susceptible both of the stimulating properties of the urine and of the gonorrhœal discharge. To answer these views, leeches applied

to the under part of the urethra along its whole course would appear a means likely to be useful, together with the free use of cold saturnine applications externally applied to the penis. The bowels should be freely evacuated, and determination induced both to the kidneys and skin, so as to excite a free diaphoresis and a copious flow of urine; by which means we take off the heat and inflammation of the urethra, remove the irritative fever, and greatly diminish the stimulating properties of the urine. Opium may likewise be had recourse to, either alone or combined with camphor, or with antimony and hemlock: hyoscyamus and belladonna may likewise be tried. Do injections, used at first, tend to produce these effects, or do they not rather retard them? When the violence of the symptoms are abated, and the increased secretion and discharge are kept up by an atonic state of the parts, injections, by corrugating, stimulating, or strengthening the relaxed internal surface of the urethra, would certainly seem more eligible and proper; but here again objections present themselves, which, though, perhaps, not founded on any true pathological reasoning, would still appear valid by consequences which too frequently supervene. There is an uncertainty in applying the injection equally and regularly, by which means its astringent or stimulating properties may bring on sudden or increased action in some of the relaxed vessels, so that they shall either become thickened or enlarged, or pour out a considerable quantity of inflamed lymph,

which may afterwards become the ground work of adhesions; or induce an irregular puckering of the internal membrane; either of which effects may give rise to stricture. Of the injections enumerated, those containing mercury are most extensively employed. The *Injectio Hydrargyri Submuriatis* is very commonly resorted to. The *Injectio Hydrargyri* is a milder form, and in one instance where gonorrhœa had continued beyond six weeks, it was almost instantly put a stop to by once using it. The *Injectio Copaibæ* is more stimulating, and is perhaps better fitted for females, when a discharge is kept up from a relaxed state of the rugæ or folds of the vagina, whether arising from gonorrhœa, from too frequent coition, or from the fluor albus or whites. The *infectio Plumbi Carbonatis*, *Zinci Sulphatis*, and *Cupri Sulphatis*, are all of them astringent; their astringency increasing in the order they are here arranged. The *Infectio Zinci Sulphatis* made double the strength prescribed, is one which Mr. Astley Cooper very generally employs for the radical cure of hydrocele, and that almost with uniform good effect. It may be worth while here to remark that, in a conversation I once had with Mr. George Babington, late Surgeon in the Guards, he observed to me that he was in the habit of curing all the obstinate gonorrhœas which came under his care, and which were very considerable, by large and frequent doses of the copaiba; and that even in the active stage of gonorrhœa he employed it with success; but he never had recourse to injections.

LINIMENTUM ÆRUGINIS.  
LINIMENT OF VERDIGRIS.

℞ Æruginis præparatæ unc. j.

Acidi acetici unc. vj.

Mellis depurati unc. xiv.

Dissolve the verdigris in the vinegar, and strain through linen; afterwards add the honey, and boil the whole over a slow fire to the consistence of a thick syrup.

This preparation, after standing some time, deposits its thicker parts, which in the older Pharmacopœias, was denominated the Unguentum Ægyptiacum, the thinner parts going by the name of the Mel Ægyptiacum.

Both under verdigris, and the formula gargarisma æruginis, we have taken an opportunity of expressing our opinion on the propriety of using this composition to affections of the mouth and fauces: that it is possible for a portion of it to be conveyed into the stomach, from which circumstance much inconvenience might be occasioned; and that the same intention intended to be answered by it may be effected by means less hazardous.

It must be confessed, however, that aphthæ and ulcers of the mouth and tongue, particularly where there exists a disposition for them to run into a sloughing state, or when they are connected with a syphilitic cause, and the system is under the action of mercury, are often very suddenly and happily meliorated and

healed by using the linimentum æruginis; but it must be recollected that a small portion only should be applied, and that by means of a probe armed with lint; likewise that the mouth should be well gargled or cleaned afterwards, either with the common gargle or gargle of myrrh.

LINIMENTUM AMMONIÆ.  
LINIMENT OF AMMONIA.

℞ Ammonia Liquoris subcarbonatis unc. ss.  
Olei olivæ unc. iss.  
Misce.

This is a strongly stimulating application.

To each ounce of the liniment a drachm of camphor, rubbed down with a little spirit of wine, may be added; or the liniment may be made with the liquor ammoniæ,—this is left, however, to the option of the surgeon.

LINIMENTUM AMMONIÆ CUM ANTI-  
MONIO TARTARIZATO.  
LINIMENT OF AMMONIA WITH  
TARTARISED ANTIMONY.

℞ Linimenti ammoniæ unc. j.  
Antimonii tartarizati drach. j.  
Misce.

See Unguentum Antimonii.

LINIMENTUM AMMONIÆ CUM OLEO  
TEREBINTHINÆ.

*LINIMENT OF AMMONIA WITH  
OIL OF TURPENTINE.*

℞ Linimenti ammoniæ unc. jss.  
Olei terebinthinæ rectificati unc. ss.  
Misc.

This liniment will not unfrequently afford very sudden and permanent relief in chronic rheumatism, in lumbago, sciatica, and affections of the knee and ankle joints, depending on a gouty or rheumatic cause.

LINIMENTUM BITUMINIS COMPO-  
SITUM.

*COMPOUND LINIMENT OF TAR.*

℞ Petrolei barbadensis unc. j.  
Camphoræ pauxillo spiritus rectificati in  
pulverem redactæ unc. ss.  
Misc.

This liniment is not unfrequently recommended by Mr. Forster, Senior Surgeon of Guy's Hospital, in affections of long standing, whether of the knee or ankle joints, where he suspects any degree of thickening about the ligaments, or an effusion of lymph. It should be spread upon leather and applied round the

part or parts, with direction to renew its use every fourth or fifth day.

LINIMENTUM CAMPHORÆ.  
*CAMPBOR LINIMENT.*

℞ Camphoræ,  
Liquoris potassæ subcarbonatis singulorum  
unc. j.  
Olei olivæ unc. jv.

This liniment possesses similar properties to, and may be used with equal advantage as, the liniment of Mr. Ware, with which he recommends the outside and edges of the eyes to be moistened, by means of the finger, night and morning, when vision is rendered imperfect from a supposed deficiency of power in the optic nerves, or from an incipient amaurosis. It is a pretty strong stimulant, but acts more gradually than the compound camphor liniment. The camphor should first be dissolved in the liquor of potash, and the oil should be added.

LINIMENTUM CAMPHORÆ COM-  
POSITUM. (L.)  
*COMPOUND CAMPBOR LINIMENT.*

℞ Camphoræ unc. ij.  
Liquoris ammoniæ unc. vj.  
Spiritus lavandulæ, O. j.

Let the water of ammonia be mixed with the



spirit of lavender; and distil from a glass retort, with a slow fire, sixteen ounces. In this dissolve the camphor. In order to save the trouble of distilling, rectified spirit of wine may be employed; but it is more expensive. This is a powerfully stimulating and penetrating liniment.

LINIMENTUM ELEMI.

LINIMENT OF GUM ELEMI.

℞ Unguenti elemi compositi unc. vj.

Olivæ olei unc. xij. Misce.

This is a stimulating digestive liniment. It may often be used with advantage for promoting the discharge from blisters, setons, and issues. It will likewise often be useful if applied to the edges of the eyelids, in the ophthalmia incident to old age.

LINIMENTUM HYDRARGYRI. (L.)

LINIMENT OF QUICKSILVER.

℞ Unguenti hydrargyri fortioris,

Adipis suillæ, singulorum unc. j.

Camphoræ drach. ij.

Spiritus rectificati g<sup>ss</sup> v.

Liquoris ammoniæ unc. j.

To the camphor, dissolved in the spirit of wine, add the water of ammonia, together with the oint-

ment of quicksilver previously mixed with the lard. This and the preceding liniment are both of them taken from the Pharmacopœia of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, similar ones to each of which I have frequently seen employed. The addition of the liquor ammoniæ in the latter one, renders it more stimulating, and, probably, enables the absorbents to take in a greater share of the mercury. This liniment would appear admirably calculated as a remedy for external chronic venereal pains, for removing nodes, tophi, &c. remaining after a mercurial course, and for some indolent rheumatic pains of the muscles and ligaments. It should be well rubbed into the parts affected night and morning by the patient; if by an assistant, it will be requisite to have the hand covered with bladder or oil-skin; a caution requisite whenever mercurial frictions are conducted by an assistant. See remarks under Ung. Hydrargyri.

LINIMENTUM PLUMBI ACETATIS  
COMPOSITUM.  
COMPOUND LINIMENT OF ACETATE  
OF LEAD.

℞ Liquoris plumbi acetatis unc. j.  
Olivæ olei unc. ij.  
Tinct. opii drach. ij. Misce.

See remarks under Liquor Plumbi Acetatis.

LINIMENT OLEI CUM CALCE.  
*LINIMENT OF OIL WITH LIME.*

R Olei lini unc. xij.  
Liquoris calcis unc. vj.

Agitate the oil and lime water briskly together till they are well incorporated.

In cases of burns and scalds, where the cuticle has been destroyed, I have seen this liniment pretty extensively employed, particularly after the violence of the inflammation in the first instance had been got under by other means. The part, or parts, should be kept covered with this liniment, spread upon fine old linen; taking care that the rags covering the sores are always in a state of moisture.

LINIMENTUM OPII.  
*LINIMENT OF OPIUM.*

R Linimenti saponis compositi unc. iss.  
Tinct. opii unc. ss. Misce.

This liniment is very similar to the anodyne balsam of Bates. It is greatly recommended for sprains, bruises, and chronic rheumatic pains. Where, how-

ever, there is considerable inflammation from the injury communicated, or a considerable degree of ecchymosis with great tension and pain, I should feel inclined to discourage the adoption of so active a stimulant, and defer its use till the urgency of the first symptoms have been removed by local blood letting, and by discutient or emollient applications.

LINIMENTUM SAPONIS COMPOSITUM.  
COMPOUND SOAP LINIMENT.

℞ Saponis albi duri unc. iij.  
Camphoræ unc. j.  
Spiritus rosmarini O. j.

Digest the soap in the spirit.

LIQUOR ARGENTI NITRATIS.  
LIQUOR OF NITRATE OF SILVER.

℞ Argenti Nitratis  
Aquæ distillatæ unc. viij.  
Misc.

This is a mild solution of the Nitrate of Silver, which see.

LIQUOR ALUMINIS COMPOSITUS. (L.)  
COMPOUND LIQUOR OF ALUM.

℞ Aluminis  
Acidi acetici  
Zinci sulphatis singulorum unc. ss.  
Aquæ ferventis O. ij.

Dissolve the alum and zinc in the boiling water; then strain through paper.

This is a useful astringent application. It will often answer in removing chilblains; in curing slight excoriations of the cutis; in taking down superficial excrescences; and in correcting the ichorous discharge or hæmorrhagic tendency in some old ulcers.—It may be employed as a good collyrium in the ophthalmia senilis.

LIQUOR ARSENICALIS. (L.)  
ARSENICAL LIQUOR.

℞ Arsenici oxydi præparati, in pulverem subtilissimum triti.  
Potassæ subcarbonatis ex tartaro, singulorum gr̄ 64.  
Aquæ distillatæ O. j.

Boil the arsenic and subcarbonate of potash till the arsenic is completely dissolved; then strain through

fine linen, when cold. This preparation differs in strength from the Aqua Arsenicalis.—The College direct half an ounce of the spirit of lavender to be added, and the waste occasioned by the boiling to be made good with distilled water. The dose is from eight to twenty drops twice in the day.

It would almost however appear desirable, from the uncertain quantity contained in a drop as being subject to the influence of various causes, that this liquor be more diluted, in order to its being exhibited in a larger and more certain dose. If instead of the sixty-four grains, two grains only be dissolved in the pint of water, the dose may with safety be half an ounce.

LIQUOR HYDRARGYRI OXYMURI-  
ATIS. (L.)  
LIQUOR OF OXYMURIATE OF MER-  
CURY.

℞ Hydrargyri oxymuriatis gr̄ viij.  
Aquæ distillatæ unc. xv.  
Spiritus rectificati unc. j.

Dissolve the oxymuriate in the distilled water, and add the spirit.

This is a cheap and convenient form for administering this muriate. The dose is two drachms twice in the day. It should be recollected that all these solutions, when administered internally, be given in glass

or wooden vessels; as metallic substances are, more or less, subject to decompose them.

Other menstruums have occasionally been employed by different practitioners, as more effectual vehicles for exhibiting the oxymuriate of mercury.

℞ Hydrargyri oxymuriatis gr̄ ij.

Tincturæ cinchonæ unc. ij.

Triturate the muriate with the tincture till it is perfectly dissolved.

This medicine was first introduced to notice by Mr. Astley Cooper, as an excellent tonic and mercurial alterative in strumous enlargements and scrofulous ulcerations;—in some of the secondary symptoms of lues;—in sloughing buboes, where the other forms of mercury were found to disagree; in exostoses and periosteal inflammations from a scrofulous taint; and in those mixed cases of scrofula and lues which are now become so very common and difficult of cure. The dose to an adult is from a drachm to two drachms twice in the day. It may be given either in the decoction of bark or guaiacum, or in the decoctions of sarsaparilla, conjoined as useful auxiliaries; or it may be exhibited as an auxiliary itself in some cases of confirmed lues, conjoined with mercurial frictions, or even with the internal use of calomel, or the pilula hydrargyri.

℞ Hydrargyri oxymuriatis gr j.  
Syrupus papaveris unc. iv.

The oxymuriate of mercury should be intimately triturated with a small portion of the syrup, and the remainder should be gradually added; taking care that the solution be complete.

This was first administered at Guy's Hospital, by Mr. Stocker, apothecary of that institution, to a patient labouring under an inveterate venereal sore throat, where the ulceration and sloughing were considerable, and after all the common means had failed.

The dose recommended was a table-spoonful twice a day, or oftener, according as the stomach and bowels might be influenced by its use.

After a short period of strict adherence to this medicine, the greatest possible alteration, both in the appearance of the ulcer, and in the patient's health, took place; and in a few weeks the man was discharged from the hospital quite well.

I have seen the same solution made use of in two similar affections, and with the same beneficial result.



LIQUOR ACIDI NITRICI.  
*NITRIC ACID LIQUOR.*

R Acidi nitrici g<sup>tt</sup> xxx.  
Aquæ distillatæ Oj.  
Sacchari albi unc. ss. Misce.

The above quantity may be drank, in divided doses, during the day. See Acidum Nitricum.

The sulphuric acid may be administered in the same way as a useful tonic and astringent.

LIQUOR CALCIS.

*LIME WATER.*

Formulæ are given both in the London and Edinburgh Pharmacopœias, for making this preparation.

Lime water forms a highly useful and efficacious menstruum, for rendering some of the preparations of mercury most effectual as external applications. See Lotio Hydrargyri Submuriatis, and Lotio Hydrargyri Oxymuriatis: lime water has been used in psora and tinea capitis, but with little or no benefit.

LIQUOR PLUMBI ACETATIS. (L.)  
*LIQUOR OF ACETATE OF LEAD.*

℞ Plumbi oxydi semivitrei Oij. unc. iv.  
Acidi acetici cong. vj.

Mix and boil over a gentle fire to six pints, during which the mixture should be constantly stirred. After the liquor has stood some time, so that the fæces have subsided, strain.

This preparation, the acetate of lead, better known by the old name of Extractum Saturni, or Goulard's Extract, is a remedy much used by surgeons, when properly diluted, as an external application in superficial and phlegmonic inflammations of the skin; in slight inflammatory affections of the eyes; and in some kinds of herpetic eruptions; likewise as a general remedy to burns and scalds where the cuticle remains entire. It is usually employed as recommended by the London College under the form of liquor plumbi acetatis dilutus, which consists of a drachm, by weight, of the liquor plumbi acetatis, mixed with a pint of distilled water, together with a drachm, by measure, of proof spirit of wine. This liquor, for the generality of purposes wherein it is employed, will be found to answer very well; but when used as a collyrium, in some cases it will be found much too strong, and the patient will not be able to bear it above half the strength. The

late Mr. Justamond, as also Dr. Cheston, of Gloucester, were in the habit of applying the liquor plumbi acetatis, combined with an equal portion of a spirit resembling the tinctura ferri muriatis, to the edges of cancerous sores; but we must confess we do not see very clearly with what intention the lead was employed. We should suppose that the tinctura ferri, or what was tantamount to the same, was applied for the purpose of putting a stop to the frequent hæmorrhages, so common in such kind of sores: and indeed we know that Mr. Justamond used it for this express intention, the good effect of which every surgeon of experience must have witnessed; but then, if the lead were conjoined in order to remove the irritation, or according to some to paralyse the extremities of the bleeding vessels, opium, not only as most effectually allaying pain and taking off irritation, but likewise as being free from the pernicious consequences sometimes supervening from the use of lead to a large abraded surface, would be preferable. Indeed it is a question with some whether lead in any form should ever be applied to an open and irritable wound, or to an abraded surface.

LIQUOR POTASSÆ. (L.)

LIQUOR OF POTASH.

AQUA POTASSÆ. (E.)

WATER OF POTASH.

Formulae are given, both in the London and Edinburgh Pharmacopœias, for making the liquor and aqua potassæ, either of which may be adopted. As a remedy we have noticed its use under the following article. It may be given in doses of ten, fifteen, or twenty drops, in linseed or liquorice tea, twice in the day.

In the Pharmacopœia of St. Thomas's Hospital a formula is given for the more accurate exhibition of this remedy. It is the following:

AQUA KALI PURI DILUTA.

℞ Aquæ kali puri unc. j.

— distillatæ unc. ij. misce. Dosis, drachma una bis die ex unciis quatuor infusi lini.

N. B. The old names are here retained, conformable to the original prescription.

It will be found much too strong, and the patient will not be able to bear it above half the strength. The

LIQUOR POTASSÆ SUB-CARBONATIS. (L.)

LIQUOR OF SUB-CARBONATE OF POTASH.

AQUA CARBONATIS POTASSÆ. (E.)

WATER OF CARBONATE OF POTASH.

We do not notice the liquor subcarbonatis potassæ from any supposed merit it may possess as an external application, but from the frequency with which some surgeons have administered it in cases of gravel and stone. Previous to the accurate analysis of human calculi, by Fourcroy and others, every species of stone was thought to give way to the action of alkaline medicines, and under this impression they were almost universally had recourse to, without discrimination or judgment, in such complaints. At present little is expected from alkalies, except in cases where the stone is known to consist almost entirely of uric acid; and in such instances the liquor subcarbonatis potassæ is given in doses from twenty to forty drops, or even to a drachm, in a bason of thin gruel, linseed or liquorice tea. In cases of gravel, where a quantity of red sabulous matter is frequently discovered at the bottom of the chamber-pot, the liquor subcarbonatis potassæ may prove eminently serviceable, such matter being found to consist principally of uric acid; but probably

under such circumstances the liquor potassæ is to be preferred. For, notwithstanding the weak affinity which exists between potash and carbonic acid, so slight indeed, that it really acts as an alkali when administered internally, yet the liquor of pure potash, besides that the quantity given is not only much less bulky, and to the generality of stomachs much less nauseous, is equally, or more certain in its effect; and if we wish to exhibit the greatest possible quantity of alkali, we can safely, and for the most part agreeably, recommend the soda water, as an auxiliary, to be taken in the way of common drink. The liquor potassæ has been found to relieve some of those stomach affections which are not unfrequently connected with nephritic complaints, more effectually than the liquor subcarbonatis potassæ; but, after all, the exhibition of these remedies ought not to be persevered in for too great a length of time, since such a practice has sometimes been attended with disadvantageous consequences to the system; and it is the opinion of some of our best surgeons, that the operation which too frequently we are obliged to have recourse to, is rendered more hazardous by the previous free use of alkalies, in whatever form they may have been employed.

Given in doses from twenty to forty  
a drachm, in a basin of thin gruel, mixed or ligno-  
rice tea. In cases of gravel, where a quantity of red  
sandy matter is frequently observed at the bottom  
of the chamber-pot, the liquor subcarbonatis potassæ  
may prove eminently serviceable, such matter being  
found to consist principally of uric acid; but probably

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LOTIO ACIDI NITRICI.  
*NITRIC ACID LOTION.*

R Acidi nitrici drach. j.  
Aquæ distillatæ O. j. Miscæ.

The nitrous acid lotion is much used as an application to spongy granulations, and to old fœtid ulcers attended with a thin ichorous discharge. It is often too one of the best means we can employ for correcting the fœtor, and for promoting the exfoliation of diseased bone.

LOTIO AMMONIÆ ACETATIS.  
*LOTION OF ACETATE OF AMMONIA.*

R Liquoris ammoniæ acetatis unc. vj.  
Spiritus rectificati unc. ij. Miscæ.

This lotion will be found very generally serviceable in mammary inflammations, previous to suppuration, and at the commencement of all external glandular swellings, more particularly after local blood-letting. I have frequently seen it extremely useful in discussing paronychia, or whitlow of the fingers, after the application of leeches. It should be applied by means of three or four folds of old linen, which are to be kept constantly wet.

LOTIO AMMONIÆ MURIATIS.  
 LOTION OF MURIATE OF AMMONIA.

℞ Ammoniæ muriatis unc. j.  
 Acidi acetici impuri O. ss.  
 Aquæ distillatæ O. j. Misce.

This lotion contains discutient properties in a very powerful degree. It will probably prove more efficacious if a smaller quantity of the ingredients, but in the same relative proportions as above mentioned, be mixed together at a time and made use of as soon as they are united.

LOTIO AMMONIÆ MURIATIS  
 SPIRITUOSA.  
 SPIRITUOUS LOTION OF MURIATE  
 OF AMMONIA.

℞ Ammoniæ muriatis unc. j.  
 Spiritus rectificati unc. iv.  
 Acidi acetici impuri O. ss. Misce.

The lotio ammoniæ muriatis, and the lotio ammoniæ muriatis spirituosa, are both from the Pharmacopœia of Guy's Hospital. For discussing some kinds of slow chronic inflammations about the ligaments of the joints, or for removing any thickening or indur-



rations, consequent upon an injury to such parts, it will not unfrequently be found to afford more essential service than any other form of lotion we can employ.

LOTIO CALCIS.

LOTION OF LIME.

R Liquoris calcis unci. vj.

Spiritus tenuioris unci. iij. Misc.

This lotion is held in high repute by some practitioners, as an excellent application, in the first instance, to burns and scalds where the cuticle remains entire.—It should be used cold and the parts kept constantly covered with it by means of fine linen cloths.

LOTIO HYDRARGYRI OXY-MURIATIS.

LOTION OF OXY-MURIATE OF QUICKSILVER.

R Hydrargyri oxymuriatis gr̄. iv.

Aquæ distillatæ O. j. Misc.

A few drops of rectified spirit of wine, or one or two drops of the marine acid, will greatly expedite the solution of the muriate of quicksilver in the water. This lotion will be found essentially useful in many affections of the cuticle of an herpetic nature; in

psora it will often succeed without the least danger or inconvenience, used as a wash to the eruption night and morning. In psorophthalmia it is almost an infallible specific.

LOTIO HYDRARGYRI OXY-MURIATIS  
FLAVA.

YELLOW LOTION OF OXY-MURIATE  
OF QUICKSILVER.

℞ Hydrargyri oxymuriatis scrup. ij.  
Liquoris calcis ℞. ij.

Rub the muriate of quicksilver with the lime water till it become a yellow oxyde of mercury. This lotion is extensively employed against external syphilitic eruptions, as also in scabies, and desquamations of the cuticle; and sometimes with good effect to those destructive ulcers of the nose and face denominated *Noli me Tangere*.

LOTIO HYDRARGYRI SUBMURIATIS  
NIGRA.

*BLACK LOTION OF QUICKSILVER.*

R Hydrargyri submuriatis drach. ij.  
Liquoris calcis O. j.

Rub the calomel with the lime water till it become a black oxyde of mercury, which will be suspended in the fluid by brisk agitation.

The black wash of mercury is very extensively employed in most of the venereal wards of the different hospitals in London, as one of the best applications to syphilitic sores. To chancres, when not disposed to slough, this wash will oftentimes act like a charm, inducing them to heal almost in a few hours, and even when they are in a sloughing state, if it be applied warm in the form of poultice with linseed meal, it will, very generally, produce the same good effect. Ulcers too of the extremities, attended with a sloughing cellular membrane, often succeed better under the use of this poultice, than by any other means. In removing fungous excrescences situated about the roots of the nails, the lotio hydrargyri nigra is often very beneficial. Previous to the use of this wash, the phials containing it should be well agitated, when a portion of it should be poured into a shallow vessel, on the bottom of which is placed one or more pieces of lint, as circumstances may

require; the clear liquor should then be gradually poured away, which leaves the black oxyde of mercury upon the lint, in which way it should be applied.

LOTIO MYRRHÆ.

LOTION OF MYRRH.

℞ Tincturæ myrrhæ,  
Liquoris calcis sing. unc. j.  
Misc.

This lotion is given us by Dr. Kirkland, in his Medical Surgery, as a good application for taking down fungous flesh. In a case of fungus of the brain, he found it extremely proper and serviceable, by dipping into it dossils of lint, and applying them to the excrescence.

LOTIO OPII.

LOTION OF OPIUM.

℞ Opii extracti mollis drach. ij.  
Aquæ distillatæ O. j.

Dissolve the opium by trituration, adding the water gradually; to facilitate the solution, the water may be used in a state of boiling.

Where opium is indicated as an external appli-

cation, this lotion will be found a convenient form for applying it.

LOTIO PICIS.

LOTION OF PITCH.

℞ Acidi picis rectificati unc. j. ℞  
Aquæ distillatæ O. j.  
Misce.

This lotion is useful for curing certain eruptions about the heads and necks of children, attended with desquamation of the cuticle and not unfrequently accompanied with an ichorous discharge, yet very different from tinea capitis. It has been recommended for removing freckles.

LOTIO PLUMBI ACETATIS.

LOTION OF ACETATE OF LEAD.

℞ Liquoris plumbi acetatis drach. j.  
Spiritus tenuioris unc. j.  
Aquæ distillatæ O. j. Misce.

This lotion is very extensively employed in cases where a preparation of lead is indicated. See Liquor Plumbi Acetatis.

LOTIO PLUMBI ACETATIS COM-  
SITA.  
COMPOUND LOTION OF ACETATE  
OF LEAD.

℞ Liquoris plumbi acetatis drach. ij.  
Acidi acetici unc. iv.  
Spiritus tenuioris unc. j.  
Aquæ distillatæ O. j.

The proportion of lead in this lotion is greater than in the preceding one, but it is in a state of more complete solution by the addition of the distilled vinegar. It is very discutient and sedative.

LOTIO POTASSÆ SULPHURETI COM-  
POSITA.  
COMPOUND LOTION OF SULPHURET  
OF POTASH.

℞ Potassæ sulphureti unc. ss.  
Saponis Venetæ unc. j.  
Spiritus rectificati unc. iv.  
Tinct. Myrrhæ unci. ss.  
Liquoris calcis O. j.

The soap and sulphuret of potash are to be well triturated together, after which the lime water is to be

gradually added, and lastly the spirit of wine and tincture of myrrh.

This lotion has been greatly recommended in tinea capitis, upon the authority, we believe, of Mr. Barlow, an eminent surgeon in Lincolnshire. In the cases, however, in which we have seen it employed, it certainly did not afford that benefit which was anticipated from its adoption. Before using it, it is requisite to shave the head clean, first cautiously separating and cleaning with warm soap and water all the matted hair. The head should then be well washed with this lotion night and morning, and in order to retain it to the part as long as possible, slips of lint should be dipped in the lotion, with which the whole head should be covered, and which should be confined on by means of an oil-skin cap.

## LOTIO SULPHURIS.

## LOTION OF SULPHUR.

℞ Sulphuris præcipitati drach. ij.

Plumbi acetatis scrup. j.

Aquæ rosæ unc. viij. Misce.

This lotion is mentioned by Dr. Graves, in his valuable *Conspectus*, upon the authority of the late Mr. B. Bell, as being an effectual remedy against herpetic eruptions in the face of females, used night and morning.

## LOTIO ZINCI ACETATIS.

## LOTION OF ACETATE OF ZINC.

℞ Zinci acetatis drach. j.

Aquæ distillatæ O. j. Miscæ.

℞ Zinci sulphatis drach. ss.

Aquæ distillatæ O. j.

Either of these lotions will frequently be found extremely serviceable in slight excoriations of the cuticle, in chronic ophthalmia, and in general for removing any small fungous excrescence, or for checking such a disposition.

## MEL HYDRARGYRI.

## HONEY OF QUICKSILVER.

℞ Hydrargyri cum creta unc. ss.

Mellis depurati unc. j.

Rub these together till they are minutely incorporated. Lint smeared with this composition and applied to irritable venereal sores will in some cases be found an easy suitable application. Ulcers of the mouth or fauces, of a venereal character, may be covered by means of a camel's hair brush, with this preparation, with perfect safety, and not unfrequently with benefit. I have once known the sloughing state of a chancre corrected by the mel hydrargyri, after many other ap-



plications had been used without effect. Perhaps the following may be offered as a more certain preparation of mercury.

℞ Hydrargyri oxydi cinerei drach. j.  
Cretæ præparatæ drach. iij.  
Mellis depurati unc. j.

### MEL ROSÆ. (L.)

#### HONEY OF ROSES.

The honey of roses is often used to slight ulcerous excoriations about the mouth and lips: if the subborate of soda, (borax), be mixed with the mel rosæ, in the proportion of two scruples or a drachm of the former to an ounce of the latter, a very useful application is formed for aphthous affections incident to children.

### MISTURA COPAIBÆ.

#### MIXTURE OF BALSAM OF COPAIBA.

℞ Copaibæ unc. ss.  
Mucilaginis acaciæ gummi unc. j.  
Mellis dispumati unc. j.  
Aquæ distillatæ unc. xij.

The Copaiba being well triturated and intimately

blended with the honey and mucilage, the water is to be gradually added, so as to form a mixture. Copaiba is a heating, irritating, stimulant; at the same time, however, it is highly beneficial in certain affections of the urinary organs. In gleans it is often of immediate benefit, and in the atonic stage of gonorrhœa, or in blennorrhœa urethræ as it is denominated, I have known three or four doses put a stop to the discharge. Taken so as to prove laxative, as in doses of half a drachm or a drachm, twice or three times a day, it is recommended as an effectual remedy in cases of piles; if, however, the hæmorrhoidal vessels be in a state of great tension; or if there be much external tumefaction, accompanied with general fever, these symptoms should first be removed previous to the use of the copaiba. In the case of an elderly lady whom I had the honour of attending, in conjunction with Doctor Babington, and whose complaint was judged to be an ulcer of the bladder, from the nature of the symptoms, (a copious purulent sediment in the urine after standing a little time,—great pain previous to, and after, making water,—constant pain in the lumbar region shooting down the left thigh,—tenesmus,—together with frequent lancinating pains in the rectum and regio pubis), the balsamum canadense was directed to be taken in a decoction of leek beards; but this medicine heating, Dr. B. prescribed the copaiba in the form of an emulsion, with mucilage, honey, and the *mistura amygdalæ*: of this the lady was not able to take more for a dose than what contained ten or

twelve drops of the copaiba. After the first week or ten days some alleviation of her symptoms was effected, and the quantity of copaiba was increased to thirty drops for a dose. In a short time she took half an ounce in the day, with a gradual amendment of her complaint, and persevering in the use of the copaiba for three months, she was entirely relieved, though she had not been able to leave her room for near a twelvemonth previous to seeing Doctor Babington.

The dose is from an ounce to two ounces, three times a day.

**MISTURA BALSAMI PERUVIANI.**  
**MIXTURE OF PERUVIAN BALSAM.**

℞ Balsami Peruviani drach. ij.

Mellis depurati unc. j.

Aquæ distillatæ unc. vij.

This mixture is prepared in the same method as the preceding one. It is a warm, aromatic, stimulating medicine; and for promoting the granulating process in indolent ulcers of the lower extremities, particularly in females where the habit is leucophlymatic or dropsical, the balsamum Peruvianum has been used both externally and internally with considerable benefit. In paralytic numbness, or in chronic rheumatic pains, the balsamum Peruvianum will sometimes be found an efficacious remedy. In a case of paralysis of the wrists,

accompanied with general tremor, arising from the noxious effects of lead, the *mistura balsami Peruviani*, with the conjunction of calomel every night at bedtime, soon effected a permanent cure.

The dose is from an ounce to two ounces, three times a day.

MISTURA CATHARTICA.  
CATHARTIC MIXTURE.

℞ *Menthæ sativæ exsiccatae* unc. j.

*Aquæ ferventis* unc. xv.

*Sodæ sulphatis* unc. iij.

*Potassæ super-tartratis* draoh. j.

*Antimonii tartarizati* gr̄ ss.

Macerate the dried mint in the boiling water for a quarter of an hour, and in the strained liquor dissolve the crystals of tartar, sulphate of soda and tartarised antimony. This is the common house physic of Guy's Hospital. The dose is from two to six ounces in the morning.

## MISTURA GUAIACI. (L.)

## GUAIAACUM MIXTURE.

℞ Guaiaci gummi-resinæ drach. iss.

Sacchari purificati drach. ij.

Mucilaginis acaciæ gummi drach. ij.

Aquæ cinnamoni unc. viij.

Rub the gum resin with the sugar and mucilage, and gradually add the cinnamon water. This medicine possesses similar properties to, and, in general, may be used with equal advantage as, the mistura balsami Peruviani.

## MISTURA MOSCHI.

℞ Moschi scrup. ij.

Sacchari albi drach. jss.

Ammonia carbonatis drach. ss.

Spiritus lavandulæ compositi drach. j.

Spiritus juniperi unc. j.

Aquæ cinnamoni unc. v.

Rub the musk and sugar together till they are intimately incorporated, after which add the ammonia dissolved in the cinnamon water, together with the other spirits.

We are induced to offer this medicine to public

notice, under the form recommended by the late ingenious Mr. White, of Manchester, from the great benefit it has afforded in some cases of sloughing phagedenic ulcers, both venereal and strumo-syphilitic, in Guy's Hospital. It is found generally in the course of a few hours to raise the pulse, to lessen the irritability of the ulcer, to put a stop to the sloughing, and to promote a healthy appearance: this I have seen it effect in the most desperate cases. From the expense of the musk it is often adulterated with blood, dried and coarsely powdered; and sometimes with asphaltum; also with a gritty resinous substance like the gum kind: for a means of detecting these abuses, see Duncan's Pharmacopœia, page 288. After the bad condition of these ulcers has been changed by the musk, the ammonia may be continued alone with advantage; but it is often requisite to have recourse again to the musk. In sphacelus and mortification I have seen it do great service, particularly in elderly people. See an ingenious account of the powers of Musk in Gangrene and Mortification, by the late Mr. White, of Manchester, in which several cases are clearly and amply detailed.

#### MOXA.

#### MUGWORT.

In the Pharmacopœia Chirurgica, published by the Philanthropic Society of St. George's Fields, and which has become a very popular work, the moxa is spoken

of and recommended as preferable to the actual cautery, and a translation given from the Apparatus Medicaminum of Murray, both as to the mode of preparing and applying it. This soft lanuginous substance, says Murray, is prepared by the inhabitants of Japan and China, from the tops of the dried plant and from the leaves, by first bruising them with an iron pestle, and afterwards rubbing them between the hands, so as to separate all the downy parts. Of this a little cone is prepared, nearly an inch long, which being moistened with saliva and affixed to the part in pain, is set fire to. On account of its soft downy nature, it gradually consumes away till it reaches the surface, first with a sense of glowing heat to the patient, but afterwards with intolerable pain. The part thus burnt soon passes into a state of suppuration, which is sometimes promoted or hastened by means of bruised onion or garlic.

A similar down may be collected from different plants; from the globe thistle, from the leaves of centaury, from the torch-weed, or from flax. The effect produced is the same as from applying the actual cautery, or caustic potash; but it is a harsh empirical kind of practice, and which, we believe, no surgeon of eminence would now think of adopting.

**MUCILAGO ACACIÆ GUMMI.**  
**MUCILAGE OF GUM ARABIC.**

Put half an ounce of the clear picked gum into two ounces of cold distilled water, and suffer it to remain till dissolved.

**MUCILAGO CYDONIÆ SEMINUM.**  
**MUCILAGE OF QUINCE SEEDS.**

℞ Cydoniæ seminum drach. j.  
 Aquæ distillatæ O. ss.

Boil over a slow fire till the liquor become thick and viscid.

**MUCILAGO TRAGACANTHÆ GUMMI.**  
**MUCILAGE OF GUM TRAGACANTH.**

℞ Tragacanthæ gummi electi unc. j.  
 Aquæ ferventis O. j.

Macerate in a close vessel for twenty-four hours, afterwards let the mucilage be beat smooth and even with a wooden spatula.



OLEUM CAMPHORÆ.  
CAMPHORATED OIL.

℞ Camphoræ unc. j.  
Olivæ olei unc. iv.  
Olei terebinthinæ rectificati unc. iss.

Rub the camphor with the olive oil till it is dissolved, and add the rectified oil of turpentine. This application is powerfully stimulating, and by some said to be powerfully antispasmodic. It is recommended in deep-seated rheumatic affections attended with much pain, to be rubbed freely upon the part or parts affected, which are afterwards to be covered with new flannel: I have known it sometimes suddenly relieve lumbago and sciatica; and often afford great benefit in indolent chronic pains about the ligaments and joints. It is said to have removed suppressio urinæ, by being rubbed over the regio pubis. It is likewise one of those forms on which much reliance has been placed, as a rubifacient at the commencement of spina ventosa and hip disease; but in these affections it requires to be used with great circumspection, and probably never before local bleeding. It may not be improper here to observe, that all applications containing camphor as their chief ingredient, are to be recommended with necessary caution to incipient swellings of the joints; more particularly where there exists any appearance of a gouty diathesis, or where this disease has prevailed previously; for it is

the opinion of some experienced practitioners that retrocedent gout has been occasioned by camphor rubbed upon a gouty extremity. The camphorated oil is sometimes prescribed with good effect as a liniment to the whole abdomen, in cases of ascites, after the operation of paracentesis.

OLEUM USITATISSIMI LINI. (L.)

OLEUM LINI USITATISSIMI. (E.)

*OIL OF LINSEED.*

Linseed oil has sometimes been used as an external covering to recent wounds, and cancerous sores; but we believe with no other effect than that of being a soft easy covering.

OLEUM OLIVÆ CARYOPHYLLATUM.  
*OLIVE OIL UNITED WITH OIL OF  
CLOVES.*

R Olivæ olei unc. j.

Olei caryophylli unc. ss.

Misce.

This combination appears to be very similar to the celebrated embrocation of Roche, so strongly recommended for whooping cough; and probably will be

found equally advantageous if a small quantity of it be rubbed upon the stomach, with a warm hand, night and morning, for fifteen or twenty minutes.

OLEUM SUCCINI CUM OPIO.  
*OIL OF AMBER WITH OPIUM.*

℞ Succini olei unc j.

Tinc. opii unc. ss. Misc.

This is an application which we should venture to employ externally to that painful affection of the face, denominated tic Douloureux; it is, however, like all other remedies in this affection, uncertain in its effects. It should be rubbed upon the part in pain by means of flannel, and if the complaint be connected with caries of the teeth, a small quantity of the oil may be applied to the part diseased.

OPIUM PURIFICATUM. (L.)  
*PURIFIED OPIUM.*

The effects of opium are so well understood that the surgeon employs it in certain affections with an almost perfect assurance of success. Its modus operandi has been the subject of so much controversy, that it would be only to rouse the keenness of criticism were we to venture an opinion favourable to either party. Its powers of

excitement, however, for it is in general thought to be a most diffusible stimulus, are by no means equal to produce those sedative effects which always ensue from its use; and probably the precise nature of its action upon the common sensorium, or upon the living solid, remains yet to be explained. It is a medicine which possesses the power of allaying all painful irritation in a most remarkable degree, and obviating the power of impressions both upon the body and mind. Hence it is essentially beneficial in most spasmodic affections; in all inflammations from local causes; in burns and scalds; in violent contusions on the extremities; in all lacerated wounds; in fractures; in all irritable ulcers; and particularly in that species of inflammation and sphacelus, which so commonly attacks the toes and margin of the feet in elderly people, and for which it received the greatest recommendation to general notice from Mr. Pott. Here, however, I am persuaded, it only acts by diminishing the general irritability of the system, and by removing the disposition in the contiguous parts to participate so readily of the previous disease; for medicines possessing similar powers upon the system, possess the same power, more or less, in relieving this complaint.

PILULÆ ALOES CUM FERRO.  
*ALOETIC PILLS WITH IRON.*

R Aloes spicatae extracti drach. iss.  
Myrrhæ-gummi-resinæ drach. ij.  
Ferri sulphatis drach. j.  
Extracti gentianæ q. s.

The myrrh, aloes, and iron being reduced into fine powder, are to be formed into a mass proper for making pills, by beating them up with a sufficient quantity of the extract of gentian.

This composition was the pulvis aloes cum ferro of the London College; but it is here directed to be formed into pills, instead of employing it as a powder, by substituting the soft extract of gentian for the dry.

The quantity here prescribed will be sufficient to form 120 pills, of which two, three, or four may be taken once or twice a day. In some ulcers of the lower extremities, particularly in females of a leucophlegmatic or strumous habit, more especially if there be a vicarious discharge from them with much œdema of the leg and foot, the alvine excretion at the same time being indolent and irregular, these pills will not unfrequently be found a very useful auxiliary to the external applications.

The dose is from two to four once or twice in the day.

PILULÆ ANTIMONII CUM OPIO.  
*PILLS OF ANTIMONY WITH OPIUM.*

℞ Pulveris antimonalis gr̄ viij.  
Op̄ii purificati duri gr̄ ij.  
Confectionis cynosbati q. s. ut pilulæ qua-  
tuor formentur.

The hard purified opium being rubbed into fine powder, and the pulvis antimonalis added, they are to be beat into a mass proper for forming into pills, with the confection of hips. This quantity being divided into four pills, one or two of them may be administered every three or four hours, in those local inflammations and ulcerations, which are accompanied with great heat and pain, and which so commonly attack the feet of elderly people. I have likewise seen them afford great relief in gonorrhœa during its active stage, when the patient has been distressed occasionally in the night with priapisms and chordee. They may likewise for the most part be exhibited where opiates are indicated, unless there exist any affection of the stomach, which might be increased by the antimony.

## PILULÆ ARGENTI NITRATIS.

## PILLS OF NITRATE OF SILVER.

R Argenti nitratis gr̄ vj.

Micæ panis drach. ij.

Aquæ distillatæ q. s.

The nitrate of silver being reduced into fine powder in a glass mortar, the crumb of bread must be added, and by means of a few drops of distilled water a mass must be formed of uniform consistence, to be divided into twenty-four pills.

This is a convenient form for administering the nitrate of silver, as being less likely to disorder the stomach than in any other way.

In several cases of *noli me tangere* which have come under my care, the argenti nitras has certainly produced more good than any other medicine with which I am acquainted. In a case of this kind, where both the nostrils and the left under eye-lid had suffered materially, the ulcers going on to spread, the cheeks being thickly incrustated with honey-comb like scabs, from whence an acrid ichorous discharge was poured forth, fretting and inflaming the cuticle of the whole face, and after a number of different remedies had been employed to no purpose, these pills were prescribed; and a wash consisting of eight grains of the same metallic salt, with eight ounces of elder flower

water, was recommended twice or three times a day externally.

A pill was directed to be taken night and morning, gradually increasing one daily, till the patient took twelve in the day, six night and morning. Before a week had elapsed some amendment was perceptible, the patient observing that "her face felt more dry than ever she had experienced it before, and drying things were always good for it."—After the expiration of two months under this plan, six pills being taken night and morning, which to the patient produced a sensible glow in the stomach, and tended to keep the bowels in a soluble state, the disease had entirely given way, the nostrils and eye-lid being perfectly cicatrized over, and the incrustations of the cheeks all removed, the cuticle looking clear and healthy,

### PILULÆ ARSENICI.

#### ARSENIC PILLS.

℞ Oxydi arsenici albi recenter parati scrup. j.  
Fructus piperis nigri selecti drach. ij.  
Mucilaginis gummi acaciæ drach. iij.

This is the famous Asiatic pill, which was purchased and made public by the English Literary Society at Calcutta.

The oxyde of arsenic and black pepper are directed to be beat at successive intervals in an iron mortar for



four days; after which they are to be levigated on a marble slab into an impalpable powder, and then formed into a mass with the mucilage, to be divided into 170 pills, of which the dose is one pill, night and morning, for fifteen or twenty days.

The following formula would appear to us much less operose and equally advantageous.

R Oxydi arsenici albi,

Potassæ sub-carbonatis singulor. gr̄ x.

Aquæ distillatæ drach. viij.

These being put into a Florence flask and placed over a gentle fire, the water is to be suffered to boil gently, till it is reduced to three drachms, after which, let it be filtered into a glass mortar, and by means of crumb of bread form a mass to be divided into eighty-five pills. The arsenic pill is much celebrated in India and China, as a specific for elephantiasis, even of the most inveterate kind; for obstinate syphilitic eruptions; for diseases arising from the continued and injudicious use of mercury; for leprosy and cancer; and for all glandular enlargements in strumous and cachectic habits.

On the internal use of arsenic we have only to observe, that to us it has always appeared a most formidable and unmanageable remedy; and particularly when exhibited in any thing like a solid form, even in the most divided doses.

PILULA COLOCYNTHIDIS.  
COLOCYNTH PILL.

℞ Colocynthis extracti compositi drach. j.  
Saponis drach. ss.

Beat into a mass to be divided into twenty pills.

PILULA COLOCYNTHIDIS COMPOSITA.  
COMPOUND COLOCYNTH PILL.

℞ Extracti colocynthis compositi.  
Pilulæ aloes cum myrrhâ singul. drach. ss.

Beat into a mass to be divided into twelve pills.

PILULA COLOCYNTHIDIS CUM HY-  
DRARGYRI SUBMURIATE.  
COLOCYNTH PILL WITH SUBMU-  
RIATE OF MERCURY.

℞ Extracti colocynthis compositi gr̄ xlviij.  
Hydrargyri submuriatis gr̄ xij.

Beat into a mass to be divided into twelve pills.

The intention of these three several formulæ is sufficiently obvious; they are all more or less purga-

tive, and must be resorted to as the surgeon may determine.

**PILULÆ CONII COMPOSITA.**  
**COMPOUND HEMLOCK PILL.**

℞ Hydrargyri submuriatis gr̄ ix.  
Extracti conii drach. j.  
Camphoræ drach. ss.  
Spiritus rectificati, g<sup>tt</sup> v.

Rub the camphor with the spirit till it be dissolved, after which add the submuriate of mercury and extract of hemlock; let the whole be then beat into a mass, to be divided into twenty-four pills.

The above pills have been much celebrated in relieving spasmodic stricture; they are given in the same way, and frequently in the same disorders as the *Pilulæ Hydrargyri submuriatis cum Conii extracto*, from which they only differ, virtually, in the addition of the camphor.

**PILULA DULCAMARÆ.**  
**PILL OF BITTER-SWEET.**

℞ Sulphureti antimonii drach. jss.  
Extracti stipitum dulcamaræ unc. ss.  
Pulveris stipitum dulcamaræ q. s.

Beat the precipitated sulphuret of antimony and

extract of bitter-sweet till they are intimately incorporated; after which, by the addition of the powder, make a mass of proper consistency to be divided into ninety pills.

The dose of these pills is one, two, or three, twice or thrice in the day, in cutaneous affections, where the dulcamara has been recommended and found serviceable. They may be made a very useful auxiliary to the decoction. See Decoctum Dulcamaræ.

### PILULA GUAIIACI.

#### PILL OF GUAIIACUM.

℞ Guaiaci gummi-resinæ drach. iij.  
Balsami Peruviani q. s.

Beat the guaiacum powder with the balsam till a proper mass is made; which is to be divided into forty-eight pills.

Dose ij. ad iv. with each dose of the decoction if requisite; or, alone, thrice in the day, in cases where this remedy is indicated. See Decoctum Guaiaci.

PILULA GUAIIACI COMPOSITA.  
COMPOUND PILL OF GUAIIACUM.

℞ Gummi resinæ guaiaci drach. ij.  
Extracti opii gr̄ vj.  
Hydrargyri submuriatis gr̄ xij.  
Antimonii tartarizati gr̄ iv.  
Tincturæ myrrhæ q. s.

The gum resin of guaiacum being well triturated with the hard extract of opium, add the submuriate of mercury and tartarized antimony, and with a sufficient quantity of the tincture of myrrh form a mass to be divided into thirty-six pills.

I have known all the secondary symptoms of syphilis yield to these pills, after a month or six weeks continuance of them, when the more usual means had proved ineffectual.

The dose, two, or three, night and morning.

PILULA HYDRARGYRI.  
MERCURIAL PILL. (L.)

℞ Hydrargyri purificati drach. ij.  
Confectionis rosæ drach. iij.  
Glycyrrhizæ pulveris drach. j.

Triturate the mercury with the confection of roses.

till the globules perfectly disappear ; after which add the liquorice powder, and beat the whole into an uniform mass.

(E.)

Or,   ℞ Hydrargyri purificati  
Confectionis rosæ singulor. unc. j.  
Amyli pulveris unc. ij.

(D.)

Or,   ℞ Hydrargyri purificati,  
Extracti glycyrrhizæ, singulor. drach. iij.  
Pulveris glycyrrhizæ drach. iss.

The mode of forming the mercurial pill, as prescribed by the Edinburgh and Dublin Colleges, must be the same as that directed by the London College. The Edinburgh College directs the mercury to be triturated with the confection of roses, till the globules perfectly disappear, after which the starch is to be added and the mass formed ; the Dublin College directs the mercury to be triturated with the extract of liquorice root softened with warm water to the consistence of honey, till the same effect is produced ; the liquorice root in fine powder is then to be added, and the whole beat into a uniform mass.

The division of the mercury by the confection of roses is effected more readily and more permanently than by the extract of liquorice, and as such would appear to be a more certain remedy ; the addition, however, of the liquorice powder, by the London College,

is objected to by Dr. Duncan, on account of its extreme aptness to become mouldy; but this is not the case provided the liquorice powder be not adulterated with some improper and spurious substance. The substituting of the powdered starch for the liquorice powder, as directed by the Edinburgh College, gives the pill a much firmer consistency; but we should suppose that it renders it by keeping, hard and brittle, by which it is not improbable that the mercury may again run into its metallic state, as is notoriously the case when it has been triturated and divided by a solution of the gums; more especially after keeping a long time. The mercurial pill, in a medicinal point of view, is, perhaps, one of the most effectual mercurial preparations for curing lues. It is, however, occasionally subject to run off by the bowels, an effect which diminishes the certainty of the remedy, and weakens the patient. To obviate this inconvenience opium is generally added, from the quantity of a fourth of a grain to a grain. Two or three grains of rhubarb powder exhibited every morning for a week will not unfrequently answer the same end; or five, ten, or fifteen grains of the compound powder of ipecacuanha may be given every night at bed-time: this will in general correct the inconvenience, and remove any griping pains in the bowels.

PILULA HYDRARGYRI OXYMURIATIS.  
PILL OF OXY-MURIATE OF MER-  
CURY.

℞ Hydrargyri oxymuriatis gr xv.  
Ammoniāe muriatis gr xx.  
Aquāe distillatāe ferventis unc. ss.  
Micæ panis q. s.

The muriate of mercury being well rubbed in a glass mortar with the muriate of ammonia, pour on the boiling water gradually, and a complete solution will be effected; afterwards add a sufficient quantity of the crumb of bread to absorb all the fluid, which is to be well beat into a mass, to be divided into 120 pills.

In forming these pills, and all others wherein any metallic oxyde or salt is employed, a wooden spatula should be employed instead of a metal one. The pills should likewise be kept in liquorice, or fine hair-powder, in preference to chalk or magnesia.

The dose of these pills is one, night and morning: the stomach will, however, not unfrequently bear two of them at night; and in some aggravated cases one may be administered in the middle of the day with additional benefit.

The above formula was first presented to me by Dr. Curry, of Guy's Hospital; and recommended with great advantage in those cases wherein the liquor hy-



drargyri muriatis is generally employed. The solution however is often found to nauseate, or produce some inconvenience in the stomach and bowels; an objection the pills are less liable to, as well on account of their gradual solubility in the stomach, as that the corrosive state of the metallic salt is much corrected by the mucilaginous quality of the bread.

PILULA HYDRARGYRI SUBMURIATIS.  
*PILL OF THE SUBMURIATE OF  
MERCURY.*

R Hydrargyri submuriatis, pp. gr̄ xij.  
Confectionis cynosbati, q. s. ut fiant pilulæ  
xij.

The dose of these pills is one, two, or more, night and morning, as the nature of the case may require, or as the patient's constitution is able to bear. In syphilitic affections, however, the submuriate of mercury is best combined with opium in the generality of cases. See Hydrargyri Submurias.

Or,  
**PILULA HYDRARGYRI SUBMURIATIS.**  
 (L.)  
**PILL OF SUBMURIATE**  
**OF MERCURY; anciently PLUMMER'S**  
**PILL.**

℞ Hydrargyri submuriatis,  
 Antimonii sulphureti singulor. drach. j.  
 Guaiaci gummi-resinæ pulveris drach. ij.  
 Copaibæ q. s. ut fiant pilulæ 60.

This we believe to be the original recipe of Dr. Plummer, Professor of Medicine in Edinburgh. It is given in the new Pharmacopœia of Dr. Duncan, under the form of compound antimonial pill, and instead of the gum resin of guaiacum and copaiba, the extract of gentian and Spanish soap have been substituted; and so far as regards the composition of the pill, this alteration is certainly for the better, but in a medicinal point of view, the formula as we have given it appears preferable.

In the Pharmacopœia of Guy's Hospital three of these pills are directed to be taken night and morning, drinking after each dose a pint of the decoction of guaiacum.

These pills have been long celebrated in leprosy, and in most cutaneous eruptions. I have repeatedly seen their great good effect in many cases of secondary

syphilitic symptoms, particularly when affecting the skin. They have been greatly recommended in sloughing venereal buboes; in glects remaining after the cure of gonorrhœa; in pimply affections of the face; in old ulcers of the legs, attended with a thin ichorous discharge, and accompanied with great pain and swelling; in sciatica; and in all stages of syphilis. Whey, Bristol water, and decoction of the woods have been generally recommended at the same time, to be taken pretty copiously. Under the action of such remedies, and indeed under all mercurials, it is particularly requisite to be careful against taking cold.

PILULA HYDRARGYRI SUBMURIATIS  
CUM CONII EXTRACTO.

*PILL OF THE SUBMURIATE OF  
MERCURY WITH HEMLOCK.*

℞ Hydrargyri submuriatis gr. vj.

Conii Extracti drach. j.

Misce—fiat pilulæ xij.

In some indolent scrofulous ulcers, in buboes of an equivocal character, and in incipient glandular swellings, this pill will be found highly advantageous. See John Pearson on the Venereal Disease; Kirkland's Medical Surgery; and Justamond's Surgical Tracts, by Houlston.

The dose is from one to two, once, twice, or three times a day.

PILULA SODÆ CUM SAPONE.

*SODA PILL WITH SOAP.*

R Sodæ carbonatis drach. ij.

Saponis drach. j.

Syrupus zingiberis q. s.

Beat the soda, being first finely pulverized, with the soap, and with the syrup of ginger form a mass, to be divided into forty-eight pills.

Three or four of these pills may be taken twice or three times in the day in calculous and nephritic complaints, where alkalies are indicated or found to afford relief. In irritability of the bladder, accompanied with painful micturition, or a desire to pass the urine frequently, and which upon standing deposits a ropy puriform sediment, these pills will often be found very beneficial: as a useful auxiliary, a strong infusion of the uva ursi may be advantageously recommended after each dose of the pills.

PILULA TEREBINTHINÆ.  
TURPENTINE PILL.

℞ Terebinthinæ chiæ drach. ij.  
Pulveris rhabarbari drach. j.  
Balsami copaibæ q. s.

The turpentine being liquified in a water bath, stir into it the powder of rhubarb; and when cold, beat up the mass with a sufficient quantity of the balsam of copaiba, so as to render it of a proper consistency for forming into pills of five grains each. This is one of the many select formulæ taken from the Pharmacopœia of Guy's Hospital.

The dose of these pills is from three to six, once or twice a day, in gleet and other affections of the urinary organs remaining after gonorrhœa.

PILULA TEREBINTHINÆ COMPOSITA.  
COMPOUND PILL OF TURPENTINE.

℞ Terebinthinæ chiæ  
Gummi olibani sing. drach. j.  
Ferri sulphatis scrup. j.  
Bals. Peruviani q. s.

The gum olibanum and sulphate of iron being reduced into fine powder, add the turpentine, and beat them into a mass, with a sufficiency of the balsam of

Peru, to be divided into twenty pills. The dose of these pills is the same as the preceding: they have frequently been found highly serviceable in the same affections; more especially in females.

PLUMBI SUPERACETAS. (L.)

ACETIS PLUMBI. (E.)

ACETATE OF LEAD.

*Formerly, Sugar of Lead.*

The superacetate of lead dissolved in distilled water, in the proportion of a drachm to a pint of fluid, is a good external application in some cases of superficial inflammations, especially of the phlegmonic kind; also against slight bruises of the skin, and inflammatory affections of the eyes. It may be applied, in general, by means of cloths soaked in the solution; or the solution may be mixed with crumb of bread, (which has been previously soaked in boiling water, and afterwards squeezed as dry as possible) and applied in the form of a cold cataplasm. If an ounce of the Acidum Aceticum be added to each pint of this solution, it will, in some instances, be found a superior application.

## POTASSA FUSA.

## FUSED POTASH.

Formerly Pure Kali.

The potassa fusa is one of the most violent caustics, next to the actual cautery, that we possess; acting on the living substance immediately on its coming into contact with it, and entirely destroying it to some extent; leaving a deep black eschar or dead discoloured part, which after a time is separated from the surrounding living substance, and a deep abraded secreting surface remains, forming what is called a drain or deep issue. Both the cause and consequence have very generally, in surgical language, been comprehended under the term *caustic*.

Caustics are chiefly called for in deep-seated chronic or strumous inflammations, for the purpose of inducing a counter action by means of the inflammation and loss of substance they produce, and the consequent secretion of pus which takes place; thus effecting a resolution of the injury which is going on within.— In diseases of the hip-joint, in spina ventosa, in incurvations of the spine, and in complaints of a similar character, issues and drains (whether excited by the caustic or other means), are chiefly called for, and as a preference is usually given to the caustic in order to produce them, the following is the usual mode generally practised :

A circular piece of adhesive plaster being provided, sufficiently large to cover the whole of the abscess intended to be opened; upon the middle of it a number of narrow oblong pieces of the same adhesive are placed, (the adhesive being outward,) at parallel distances, and crossing each other at right angles, so as to form a sort of square with a hollow centre, in which the caustic is placed. This square being raised high enough to contain the caustic, the whole must be covered with another circular portion of adhesive, nearly the size of the original one, having a hole cut in the centre, corresponding to the hollow containing the caustic, and through which the caustic is intended to act upon the part to which it is applied. By this contrivance the danger of the caustic spreading and destroying too great an extent of surface is in a great measure obviated.

After the removal of the caustic, the common white bread and milk or linseed-meal cataplasm should be applied, and renewed twice a day, till the eschar separate.



PULVIS HYDRARGYRI SUBSULPHATIS  
COMPOSITUS.

COMPOUND POWDER OF SUBSUL-  
PHATE OF MERCURY.

℞ Hydrargyri subsulphatis gr̄ j.  
Pulveris asari drach. jss.  
Misce.

Divide the above quantity of sub-sulphate of mercury and powder of asarabacca, being first intimately united, into eight parts, one of which may be used as an errhine once or twice in the day in cases of gutta serena; in ozæna; and not unfrequently with advantage after the removal of polypi.

PULVIS IPECACUANHÆ COM-  
POSITUS. (L.)

COMPOUND POWDER OF  
IPECACUANHA.

℞ Ipecacuanhæ radicis pulveris  
Opii purificati, in pulverem triti, singulor.  
drach. j.  
Potassæ sulphatis unc. j.

Rub the purified opium into an impalpable powder with a small quantity of the potash, and gradually

throw in the remainder together with the powder of ipecacuan; taking care that the mixture be complete. The dose of this powder is from eight to twenty grains. It is an admirable remedy for quieting the bowels when affected by mercurial inunctions, or by the internal exhibition of that metal. It will be proper, not unfrequently, to direct small doses of this remedy at the time you may be employing mercury in any shape; particularly if the patient's bowels be troubled with tormina or twitchings. In exanthema mercuriale it is often exceedingly proper, after evacuations, by its gently determining to the skin and by procuring rest. Given to the quantity of ten or fifteen grains, at the commencement of gonorrhœa, every night when the patient is going to rest, it will be found to prevent priapisms and chordée, or to lessen the pain arising from them.

PULVIS MYRRHÆ.  
POWDER OF GUM MYRRH.

I have seen the fine powder of gum myrrh of great service as a gentle stimulant to fistulous openings, and other ulcers about the verge of the anus; and, indeed, to almost all ulcers which required gently stimulating; more particularly in parts where there exists much cellular substance, or where pressure is inadmissible.

A powder consisting of three parts of cinchona,

and one part myrrh, was very generally and indeed very usefully employed by the older surgeons, for correcting an unhealthy discharge from a large open surface; for giving tone and action to indolent or ill conditioned sores; and not unfrequently, for taking off any hæmorrhagic tendency, whether in old or recent ulcers or wounds, arising from atony or debility.—It has likewise an excellent effect in removing the unpleasant odour so frequently connected with such a state of parts.

PULVIS RHABARBARI.  
POWDER OF RHUBARB.

The powder of rhubarb has been much recommended by Mr. Holme, and others, as an external application to ulcers of a spongy nature; more particularly if attended with an exuberancy of granulations, or when bearing a glassy aspect: the effect is that of a mild tonic astringent. We believe, however, that the nitric acid or the argenti nitras, are in general preferable and more effectual; especially if pressure, as recommended by the practice of Mr. Baynton, be had recourse to, which of itself will often answer every intention.

**PULVIS RHABARBARI COMPOSITUS.**  
**COMPOUND POWDER OF RHUBARB.**

℞ Rhabarbari pulveris  
 Sodæ carbonatis singulor. unc. j.  
 Calumbæ pulveris unc. ij.  
 Misce.

This powder is much recommended in scrofulous enlargements of the glands, and in many eruptive complaints of an anomalous character. The dose is from a scruple to a drachm twice in the day, administered in any convenient liquid: it should be given, however, in such quantity as gently to act upon the bowels, and the practice should be followed up for some weeks.

**PULVIS RHABARBARI CUM HYDRARGYRI SUBMURIATE.**

**POWDER OF RHUBARB WITH SUBMURIATE OF MERCURY.**

℞ Pulveris rhabarbari unc. j.  
 Hydrargyri submuriatis,  
 Zingiberis radicis pulveris sing. drach. ij.  
 Misce.

The dose from twelve to fifteen or twenty grains, administered as a brisk purge.

In some cases jalap may be advantageously substituted for the rhubarb.

PULVIS RHABARBARI CUM JALAPA.  
POWDER OF RHUBARB WITH  
JALAP.

℞ Rhabarbari pulveris drach. vj.  
Jalapæ pulveris unc. ss.  
Zingiberis pulveris drach. iss.  
Misce.

This is in general a mild and effectual purgative.  
The dose is from fifteen grains to half a drachm or a  
drachm, as occasion may point out.

PULVIS SABINÆ COMPOSITUS.  
COMPOUND POWDER OF SAVIN.

℞ Foliorum sabinæ pulveris unc. ij.  
Acetatis cupri,  
Hydrargyri nitrico-oxydi singulor. unc. ss.

The nitric-oxyde of mercury and verdegris being  
reduced to fine powder, add the savin, and let the  
whole be well mixed.

This powder has been greatly celebrated for de-  
stroying venereal warts: they will however frequently  
require extirpation with the scissars, after which this  
powder sprinkled on them, will very generally prevent  
their return.

PULVIS SODÆ SULPHATIS COM-  
POSITUS.  
COMPOUND POWDER OF SULPHATE  
OF SODA.

℞ Sodæ sulphatis unc. j.  
Potassæ nitratis drach. ij.  
Misce.

The above quantity being pulverised and well mixed, may be divided into nine powders, of which one may be exhibited three or four times a day in common gruel, barley water, or linseed infusion; some prefer as a vehicle for administering this powder, a solution of gum acaciæ. Notwithstanding we have no specific remedy for the cure of gonorrhœa, yet the nitre and soda in the above proportions, and given in such quantity as to determine to the kidneys rather than the bowels, appear to produce more relief by lessening the irritability of the urethra and diminishing the stimulating properties of the urine, than most other remedies: indeed I have often seen gonorrhœas which had continued for a length of time, giving great distress and uneasiness to the patient, completely cured by the above means in a few days.

PULVIS UVÆ URSI COMPOSITUS.  
*COMPOUND POWDER OF UVA URSI.*

℞ Pulveris uvæ ursi unc. j.  
Sodæ carbonatis unc. ss.  
Misce.

The dose is from fifteen grains to a drachm, twice or three times in the day. It is greatly recommended in nephritic and other affections of the bladder.

TEREBINTHINÆ OLEUM.  
*OIL OF TURPENTINE.*

The oil of turpentine is a strong stimulant. It is sometimes used as a styptic to stop bleeding, particularly where the hæmorrhagy proceeds from an atonic state of the vessels; as from loose spongy granulations, from varicose veins, or cancerous sores. Within these late years, it has obtained great celebrity, as one of the most effectual remedies in the cure of burns and scalds.

TINCTURA BENZÖINI COMPOSITA. (L.)  
COMPOUND TINCTURE OF GUM  
BENJAMIN.

℞ Benzöini unc. iij.  
Styracis balsami colati unc. ij.  
Balsami tolutani unc. j.  
Aloes spicatae extracti unc. ss.  
Spiritus rectificati O. ij.

Macerate for fourteen days and strain.

This tincture was held in high repute as an internal remedy, with some of our former surgeons; being considered an excellent vulnerary and corrector of acrimony, both in internal and external wounds and bruises.

This practice, however, has fallen to the ground, with the ideas that gave rise to it; and the tincture of Benjamin is now only employed as an external covering to superficial cuts, or slight lacerated wounds, at least by surgeons.

TINCTURA CINCHONÆ. (L.)  
TINCTURE OF CINCHONA.

℞ Cinchonæ lancifolæ corticis contriti, unc. vij.  
Spiritus tenuioris O. ij.

Macerate for fourteen days and strain.



The college have here considerably increased the quantity of the cinchona bark to the proportion of spirit. It is, however, only to be considered as an auxiliary to the bark in substance.

The dose is from a drachm to half an ounce.

TINCTURA FERRI AMMONIATI. (L.)  
AMMONIACAL TINCTURE OF IRON.

℞ Ferri ammoniati unc. iv.  
Spiritus tenuioris O. j.

Macera & cola.

This preparation, as Dr. Duncan observes, is merely a solution of the ammoniated iron in proof spirit. I have often seen this tincture administered in strumous and rickety affections with much benefit to the patient, more particularly to children. The usual dose to an adult, is from ten drops to the quantity of a drachm, to be taken in warm water twice or three times in the day.

Probably the best rule of regulating the exhibition of this remedy, like all others which are apt to nauseate or disorder the stomach, is to begin with small doses, and gradually to increase the dose as far as is admissible without exciting much inconvenience to the patient.

The late Mr. Justamond very strenuously advocated the use of the ammoniacal iron in scirrhus and cancer,

and in most other glandular affections, administering it to an extent scarcely credible with those who have not gone far out of the usual routine of exhibiting several of the metallic preparations, or with such as feel alarmed at deviating from the practice of giving minute and divided doses of any active remedy. Mr. Justamond, however, much as he excelled in the treatment of such disorders, appears to have gone too far into the praise of this preparation; especially when he gave it in confirmed scirrhus or open cancer, under an impression that he was in possession of a remedy somewhat deserving the appellation of a specific against these most formidable of all human ills in the shape of disease. So far as I have had an opportunity of witnessing the influence which this, or any other metallic or vegetable preparation possesses over true scirrhus or cancer, at least in a curative point of view, I am sorry to observe, that I believe no benefit whatever is, or ever will be, obtained from medicine internally exhibited: that is, benefit effectual and permanent. Such is the opinion of some of our first surgeons and physiologists, which I fear will be more strengthened in proportion as the nature and constitution of the parts so diseased are examined into by minute dissection, after extirpation or removal from the sound parts. If we are to consider scirrhus as a disease of disorganised structure, often beginning in a part over which the living principle has comparatively little influence, unconnected with any specific poison in the habit acting on this particular part, and against which the animal solid is

incapable of defending itself, either in preventing a further increase, or in throwing off the disease through the means of any remedy; which scirrhus, without removal, will soon run into an open sore, generating a discharge in some instances as dangerous as the poison of the rattle-snake, which, after destroying the diseased parts, goes on to act with equal violence on the adjoining substance, or into which state the adjoining substance immediately falls, whether it be gland, cellular substance, muscle, skin, blood-vessel, or nerve; it would seem inconsistent with the laws of pathology and therapeutics, that any internal remedy should be capable of acting upon such a disease: for no medicine can produce resolution in an enlarged disorganised substance, but through the medium of the absorbents, and here is a complaint in which not only the functions of the absorbents are obliterated, but the vessels themselves entirely diseased, and in such a state as not to be influenced by any power which the system can exercise over them.

How far the disposition to the complaint may be put a stop to before it has produced an alteration in the functions incompatible with restoration, is what we have seldom the means of judging of; for the disease is not often discovered till this opportunity is gone by. How far a recurrence is to be prevented, after the diseased part has been removed by the surgeon, is at the present day a matter of speculative hypothesis and mere opinion, and must for ever remain so, till pathology has discovered to us the true nature of the

malady, or at least so far illustrated its character that we are no longer in doubt as to its constitution and cause.

In glandular enlargements, however, whether resulting from mere debility or depending upon some strumous affection; whether as a consequence of previous inflammation or originating out of slow and gradual obstruction; the ammoniacal iron, and several of the other preparations of iron, acting as remedies which quicken the circulation and impart a degree of tone to the living fibre, will not unfrequently be found highly beneficial, often producing a complete resolution of the enlargement. We see the same results daily from the judicious exhibition of mercury in such complaints; sometimes by giving the alkalies; often by cinchona; by a change of air and diet; or in short by whatever accelerates the circulation and imparts strength to the constitution. True scirrhus may, sometimes, be kept under by a vigorous adoption of such suitable means as have been recommended and proved by men of the first eminence. Cancer may be meliorated by proper external dressings, and by mild and easy applications. The constitution may, for a longer or shorter time, be assisted and supported, so as to bear up, in a degree, against the encroachments of the one, or the destructive ravages of the other; but I believe the only probable relief for an advancing scirrhus is the knife; and the best possible treatment for a cancer, after it has got to that state as to forbid removal, is to endeavour to give the patient as much ease and support as

may be, by a proper and discretional use of those remedies, both external and internal, which are found most to relieve and assuage bodily pain, and to quiet mental suffering.<sup>a</sup>

TINCTURA FERRI MURIATIS. (L.)  
MURIATED TINCTURE OF IRON.

R Ferri carbonatis O. ss.  
Acidi muriatici O. j.  
Spiritus rectificati O. iij.

Pour the muriatic acid upon the carbonate of iron in a glass vessel, and allow the mixture to stand three

<sup>a</sup> "BENIGN SCIRRHUS," (says the scientific Pearson, in his Principles of Surgery, a Book which I hope every Surgeon in the Kingdom is in possession of,) "is to be preserved from assuming a MALIGNANT FORM by, 1st, Low and Vegetable Diet—2dly, By saline purgatives, at due intervals—3dly, By the application of Leeches, under proper regulations—4thly, By avoiding all violent emotions of the Mind—5thly, By supporting, or defending, the part from injury and irritation, by means properly adapted to the situation of the disease—6thly, By solutions of Lead, combined with Alcohol, which have been found beneficial in alleviating pain. But we would protest against the man, who by trusting to, or trifling with any remedies, in an external Scirrhus, where all appearances favour the expectation of permanent advantage from the removal of it, makes his patient lose an opportunity that can never be recalled."

or four days, occasionally agitating the liquor with a wooden spatula; after which it must be carefully poured off from the fæces and the spirit added.

As an external application the muriated tincture of iron is a very strong styptic, possessing both stimulating and escharotic properties in a powerful degree. Applied to the extremities of bleeding vessels both in cancerous sores and loose spongy fungi and excrescences, it will often succeed in stopping the hæmorrhagy. I have seen it of use in removing some of those marks upon the skin, denominated *Nævi*: also in destroying the roots of such excrescences as frequently proceed from the gums and alveolar processes, the greater part of their substance having been first removed by ligature.

As an internal remedy, in a surgical point of view, the *tinctura ferri muriatis* has obtained great celebrity with some, for the removal of spasmodic stricture in the urethra, and for relieving retention of urine from the same cause. We believe Mr. Cline was the first who employed it with this intention, giving ten drops in a glass of warm water every ten minutes, till a resolution of the spasm took place. It certainly may, occasionally, be found a very powerful antispasmodic, by the influence which it exercises over the stomach; and more particularly, perhaps, in affections of the urinary organs.

Might it not be found serviceable in some cases of gravel and stone, when the concretion has been found to consist principally of phosphate of lime, as is not unfrequently the case?

The usual dose to an adult is from fifteen to forty drops in a glass of warm water, twice or oftener in the day.

**TINCTURA GUAIIACI AMMONIATI. (L.)**  
**AMMONIATED TINCTURE OF**  
**GUAIIACUM.**

℞ Guaiaci gummi-resinæ contritæ unc. iv.

Spiritus ammoniæ aromatici O. iss.

Macerate for fourteen days and strain.

The guaiacum tincture is a heating stimulating medicine. It is often serviceable in the cure of old indolent ulcers, where the habit requires energy and vigour.

The dose is from a drachm to half an ounce, in warm water, gruel, or barley water, twice a day, or oftener.

**TINCTURA LYTTEÆ. (L.)**  
**TINCTURE OF LYTTEÆ.**

℞ Lyttarum contusarum drach. iij,

Spiritus tenuioris O. ij.

Macerate for fourteen days and strain.

The tincture of the blistering-fly possesses all the irritating and medicinal properties of the insect, and as such is not unfrequently made use of in conjunction

with other stimulants of a milder character, as a rube-  
facient and stimulant. It is likewise conjoined with  
unguents, for the purpose of keeping up a discharge  
from a part already abraded.

As an internal remedy, great caution is requisite in  
the exhibition of it. It has been found, however, to  
carry off the remains of a gleet both safely and effectually,  
after other remedies had proved ineffectual; as  
likewise to cure fluor albus, and to put a stop to increased  
discharges from the vagina. It has been given with  
effect in diabetes; also in partial and general paralytic  
debility. See Vol. I. of the Edinburgh Medical Journal.  
The usual dose is from ten to thirty drops, twice  
or three times a day, in any convenient vehicle; but it  
has latterly been given in much greater quantity.

TINCTURA MYRRHÆ. (L.)

TINCTURE OF MYRRH.

℞ Myrrhæ contusæ unc. iij.  
Spiritus rectificati unc. xxij.  
Aquæ distillatæ O. iss.

Macerate for fourteen days and strain.

The tincture of myrrh is a heating stimulant.  
It is often found a very useful application to sordid  
ulcers, and to caries of the bones, either alone or di-  
luted with water: used with any of the calcareous  
tooth-powders, by dropping a few drops upon the tooth.



brush, it is thought by some of our best dentists to preserve the teeth, by giving tone and firmness to the gums.

## TINCTURA OPII. (L.)

## TINCTURE OF OPIUM.

℞ Opii duri contriti unc. iiss.

Spiritus tenuioris O. ij.

Macerate for fourteen days and strain.

The strength of this solution is here reduced to a less degree of certainty by using the unpurified opium.

The dose is from fifteen to fifty drops, as often as occasion may require See the article opium.

A vinous solution of opium has been much recommended in some chronic and strumous ophthalmies: one or two drops to be instilled into each inflamed eye.

UNGUENTUM ANTIMONII TAR-  
TARIZATI.OINTMENT OF TARTARIZED AN-  
TIMONY.

℞ Antimonii tartarizati drach. jss.

Cerati cetacei unc. j.

Misce.

This ointment is much celebrated for the relief of deep-seated chronic pains and inflammations in the neighbourhood of the joints. Its operation after a time is very peculiar, producing small distinct pustular inflammations, which soon terminate in maturation. After the full effect of the ointment has been produced, a common bread and milk poultice should be applied, and as soon as the parts are healed the ointment should again be had recourse to. It is often necessary to continue this alternate plan for a very long period, but it is generally with a happy result.

UNGUENTUM ARSENICI.  
OINTMENT OF ARSENIC.

R Oxydi arsenici pulveris drach. j.  
Adipis suillæ,  
Cerati cetacei singulor. drach. vj.

Melt the hog's lard and cerate of spermaceti over a slow fire; after which pour the melted fluid upon the oxyde of arsenic in a glass mortar, and triturate till the whole is intimately united.

This is a powerful stimulant and corrosive. It is sometimes used to destroy the surface of cancerous sores, or that species of ulcer denominated *Lupus*. I have known it applied to an incipient chancre with good effect; it requires, however, great caution when used.

UNGUENTUM ÆRUGINIS.  
OINTMENT OF VERDIGRIS.

℞ Æruginis præparatæ pulveris  
Hydrargyri submuriatis singulor. drach. j.  
Cerati resinæ unc. j.  
Terebinthinæ venetæ unc. ss.

Melt the cerate of resin, and add the turpentine; after which stir in the verdigris and calomel in a state of previous commixture and levigation.

This ointment is recommended to general notice as a cure for the tetter or ring worm, which latterly has shewn itself in several families and schools, both in the metropolis and in different parts of the country. It is said to have been imported into this island from the East Indies. Its seat is the hairy scalp, and the objects of its attack are children from infancy to the age of puberty.

It would seem, from the opportunity afforded me of judging, to present itself under several forms; but whether arising out of some difference of its infectious principle, or from constitutional peculiarity to be variously affected, I cannot determine. These different species appear remediable by means more or less mild and disagreeable: the aggravated kind of tetter, however, has hitherto resisted, under my care, all attempts at cure, except when treated with the Unguentum Æruginis, which I have not yet seen fail. In one species of the complaint, the first sign which presents itself is a discolouration of the hair; it loses its

brightness, assumes a dingy yellowish hue, and falls off. The scalp soon becomes rough and puffy, and somewhat elevated, with desquamation of the cuticle. This species, beginning first at a point, spreads rapidly, takes on a circular form, and leaves an unhealthy bald blotch. In another species, the tetter creeps along the scalp in irregular lines, destroying the hair in its progress. In some cases the hair appears to fall off without any affection of the scalp; but upon examination it will be found much whiter than natural, with a degree of transparent glossiness. To these several forms I have generally seen one or other of the following formulæ succeed: the Lotio Potassæ Sulphureti, the Lotio Picis, the Lotio Sulphuris, the Lotio Hydrargyri Oxymuriatis. Under all circumstances the head should be kept quite close shaved; and the application which may be employed should be used night and morning. In some instances a solution of lunar caustic has cured the disease very readily, used in the proportion of a drachm to an ounce of water. After the tetter has been covered a few times with the solution, at intervals of one or two days, and the eschars separated, the scalp beneath will, if a cure be effected, appear sound and healthy: indeed it would almost seem desirable to the species of ring-worm above described, to make use of the caustic wash as a preliminary means. The aggravated kind of tetter is very different from any of the preceding: very difficult of cure, and most distressing to the patient. Even with the use of the Unguentum Æruginis, the

greatest possible care and attention are requisite; and that for a continuance with some patients almost impossible to be complied with. If, however, the remedy prove certain in its effects, neither the length of time necessary to complete a cure, nor the unpleasantness of it can be thought any consideration; especially if placed in comparison with so loathsome a disease.

In the greater number of cases where the ointment has been tried (and in all it has succeeded), the disease had previously advanced to a formidable state. I have, however, had opportunities of observing this kind of tetter from its first commencement. A small speck of crustaceous matter is observed adhering to some part of the scalp, generally, I think, on that part which covers the occipital bone. In this crustaceous coat, which appears to form an eschar in the scalp, one or more hairs are enveloped, which are so closely united to it as to appear almost inseparable. Indeed there can be no doubt but that the matter is secreted by the hair or hairs so encircled; for, if eradicated, they will be found in a state of disease, their base being thickened, semi-transparent, and connected with a small globular speck of black shining matter, which in some cases appears adhering by a peduncle, and in others encircled as it were, in part, by the extremity of the hair. If this coating of crustaceous matter be removed with the point of a probe, and the diseased hairs eradicated, the tetter, too frequently, soon re-appears; and that occasionally with more virulence. Removing the incrustated matter, and completely destroying

the abraded surface of the scalp, whether with a solution of Nitrate of Silver, or by any other escharotic, has hitherto disappointed my expectations of permanent relief. In conducting the cure of this species of tetter by the preceding preparation of verdigris, it is necessary that the scalp be kept close shaved, and that the head be washed clean every night with warm soap and water, and afterwards with bran and water, and then rubbed perfectly dry. The ointment may be applied either on lint, thinly spread, or it may be rubbed on with the finger: an oil-skin cap should likewise be worn during the whole time the ointment is used.

It is further necessary to observe, that the use of this ointment in some cases is apt to fret and irritate the skin: often producing an erysipelatous affection, and exciting small pustular eruptions: should this circumstance occur it will be proper to discontinue the preparation, and to make use of some slight astringent wash, once or twice in the day, with a little mild ointment at bed-time: very frequently these latter means having carried off the erysipelas and eruption, the original complaint will be found to have been cured.

#### UNGUENTUM CERÆ.

#### WAX OINTMENT.

R Ceræ flavæ unc. vj.

Olei olivæ O. j.

Melt over a slow fire, and agitate briskly till cold. This is a mild unctuous covering.

UNGUENTUM CONII.  
OINTMENT OF HEMLOCK.

℞ Conii foliorum contusorum lib. j.  
Adipis præparatæ lib. iss.

Melt the hog's lard over a slow fire and throw in the bruised hemlock; after which boil gradually till the leaves become friable, when the melted fluid must be strained and expressed. This ointment is often found an excellent covering for irritable, scrophulous, and painful sores. It may be found a useful auxiliary to the internal use of Hemlock, in that species of ulcer which attacks the toes and fingers at their line of junction with the foot and hand; likewise in spreading irritable sores of whatever character.

UNGUENTUM ELEMI COMPOSITUM. (L.)  
COMPOUND OINTMENT OF GUM  
ELEMI.

℞ Elemi lib. j.  
Terebinthinæ vulgaris unc. x.  
Sævi præparati lib. ij.  
Olei olivæ unc. ij.

Melt the elemi and mutton suet over a gentle fire;

after which stir in the turpentine and oil, and strain through linen.

This is a stimulating digestive ointment. It may be usefully employed for promoting a discharge from issues and setons.

UNGUENTUM GALLÆ COMPOSITUM.  
COMPOUND OINTMENT OF GALLS.

℞ Gallarum pulveris drach. ij.  
Opii purificati duri pulveris drach. j.  
Liquoris plumbi acetatis drach. ij.  
Adipis præparatæ  
Cerati cetacei aa unc. j.

The hog's lard and mutton suet being melted together over a slow fire, the powder of galls and opium, previously mixed, is to be gradually sprinkled in, and the liquor of acetate of lead added; after which the ointment is to be stirred till it is cold.

This is a mild astringent application, and admirably suited for hæmorrhoids, and some superficial ulcerations of the surface, where the granulations are too luxuriant, or the discharge too profuse—mixed with an equal portion of wax ointment a good application is formed for burns and scalds, where the cutis has been destroyed and the active stage of inflammation gone by.



UNGUENTUM HYDRARGYRI FOR-  
TIUS. (L.)STRONGER OINTMENT OF MER-  
CURY.

℞ Hydrargyri purificati lib. ij.  
Adipis præparatæ unc. xxij.  
Sevi præparati unc. j.

Triturate the mercury with the prepared suet and a small portion of the lard, till the globules perfectly disappear; after which add the remainder of the lard, and let the whole be intimately mixed.

This is the stronger ointment of quicksilver as prepared by the London College. It is requisite that the trituration be constant and uniform, and continued in the first instance till the globules are perfectly extinguished, and afterwards till the ointment is intimately mixed.

Several of our first chymists have supposed that the strength of this preparation depends greatly upon the quantity of sebacic acid in the lard, owing to the more complete oxydisement of the metal; and that if old rancid lard were employed we should be in possession of a much stronger mercurial preparation. It is certain that if a small quantity of old mercurial ointment be employed with the mutton suet in the first instance, the extinction of the quicksilver is much more rapid and effectual. The London College directs a

milder ointment of quicksilver to be formed, by adding to the stronger kind double the quantity of hog's lard.

Camphor, in the proportion of a drachm to an ounce of the ointment, is sometimes added in order to render this application more stimulating, and to promote the absorption of mercury.

What Dr. Duncan observes on this head however is extremely pertinent and proper.

" These ointments are principally employed, not with a view to their topical action, but with the intention of introducing mercury in an active state into the circulating system, which may be effected on the sound skin of any part by gentle friction, particularly on the inside of the legs and thighs. For this purpose, these simple ointments are much better suited than the more compounded ones with turpentine and the like, formerly employed; for by any acrid substance topical inflammation is apt to be excited, preventing further friction, and giving much uneasiness.

" To avoid this, it is necessary, even with the mildest and weakest ointment, to change occasionally the place at which the friction is employed."

He further observes, that " it is requisite the ointments in which the mercury is extinguished by trituration, should be prepared with very great care; for upon the degree of triture which has been employed, the activity of the mercury very much depends."

For the purpose of inducing salivation by mercurial inunction for the cure of the venereal disease, I have generally seen an ointment consisting of equal portions

of the stronger ointment of mercury and hog's lard made use of; of this, two drachms or half an ounce, rubbed well in at going to bed, the patient wearing flannel, keeping his room, and living upon a milk diet, will, in general, excite full and copious ptyalism in eight or twelve days, and frequently in a much shorter period. It should however be recollected, that much depends upon the state and constitution of the patient, and upon the continuance and *quantity* of the disease.

UNGUENTUM HYDRARGYRI NITRATIS. (L.)  
OINTMENT OF NITRATE OF MERCURY.

℞ Hydrargyri purificati unc. j.  
Acidi nitrici unc. ij.  
Adipis præparatæ unc. vj.  
Olei olivæ unc. iv.

Pour the nitric acid upon the mercury in a glass retort, placed under an open chimney, and when the solution is complete, mix it, while yet hot, with the lard and oil liquified together, and stir with a wooden spatula till cold.

This ointment is a strong stimulating application. It is in great celebrity for curing ophthalmia tarsi, smeared upon the cilia every night at bed-time; likewise for chronic scrophulous ophthalmia, applied to the

turgid vessels of the tunica adnata by means of a camel's hair brush. I have often seen it used with success for removing a thickening and opacity of the cornea.

It may occasionally be softened with a little almond oil, or diluted with an equal portion of wax ointment.

UNGUENTUM HYDRARGYRI NITRICO  
OXYDI. (L.)  
OINTMENT OF NITRIC OXYDE OF  
MERCURY.

℞ Hydrargyri nitrico oxydi unc. j.  
Ceræ albæ unc. ij.  
Adipis præparatæ unc. vj.

To the melted lard and wax add the nitric oxyde of mercury finely pulverised.

UNGUENTUM HYDRARGYRI OXIDI-  
RUBRI. (E.)  
OINTMENT OF RED-OXIDE OF MER-  
CURY.

℞ Adipis suillæ unc. j.  
Hydrargyri oxidi rubri drach. j.  
Misce.

This quantity may be mixed by trituration on a marble slab; if a larger quantity be prepared at once, it will be necessary to liquify the lard over a gentle fire, and then add the red oxide of mercury, stirring the mixture till cold. In either case the red oxide should be very minutely pulverised.

The formula here given is that of the Edinburgh College. We may remark, however, that we have often felt regret that a formula of unguent, containing the red oxide of mercury (formerly the red nitrate) for its base, should have been omitted in our late London Pharmacopœia. The present college, apparently sensible of this deficiency, have given us a formula similar in strength to that of the Edinburgh, under the title of "Unguentum Hydrargyri Nitrico-oxidi," making the preparation of firmer consistency by adding a portion of white wax to a diminished quantity of hog's lard, which we think an improvement.

The remarks of Dr. Duncan under this formula, in his very excellent Dispensatory, have been so often verified by our own observations, that it would be doing injustice to a work which stands unrivalled for general utility in its kind, not to quote them.

"The Unguentum Oxidi Hydrargyri rubri is an excellent stimulating ointment, often of very great service in indolent ill-conditioned sores, when we wish to excite them to greater action. As an eye ointment its effects are most remarkable in the cure of all inflammations of the tunica conjunctiva, and more particularly when there is a thickening and swelling of the inner mem-

brane of the palpebræ. In such cases it seems to act with much greater certainty, if applied immediately after the eye-lids have been scarified. In inflammation, accompanied with specks, it has a most powerful effect in removing both. It is also useful in all those ophthalmias which so frequently appear after small-pox, measles, and eruptive diseases of the hairy scalp."

Mr. Wasse, an eminent practitioner in the borough town of Thirsk, in the north riding of Yorkshire, is in the habit of using an ointment similar to this of the Edinburgh College, with the addition of the liquor plumbi acetatis; I believe the proportions are a drachm of the water of acetate of lead to an ounce of the unguent. Under the fostering care of this gentleman I had abundant opportunity of witnessing the superior efficacy of this form of ointment in all those affections noticed by Dr. Duncan, during the early period of my surgical and medical education; nor shall I ever forget to appreciate with due value the general instruction and practical information which I received under the care and guidance of this good man.

UNGUENTUM HYDRARGYRI SUB-  
MURIATIS.OINTMENT OF SUBMURIATE OF  
MERCURY.

℞ Hydrargyri submuriatis drach. j.

Cerati cetacei unc. j.

Misce.

See Hydrargyri Submurias.

## UNGUENTUM PICIS ARIDÆ. (L.)

OINTMENT OF PITCH.

℞ Picis aridæ.

Ceræ flavæ.

Resinæ flavæ singulor unc. ix.

Olei olivæ lib. j.

Liquify together over a gentle fire, and strain through  
linen.

This ointment is a powerful digestive and strong  
stimulant.

UNGUENTUM PICIS LIQUIDÆ. (L.)  
OINTMENT OF TAR.

℞ Picis liquidæ.

Sevi præparati, singulor. lib. j.

Melt together and strain through linen.

This ointment has been much extolled for removing tettery eruptions, and for curing some species of breakings out of the hairy scalp greatly resembling tinea.

Both the above ointments, as likewise the cerate of yellow rosin, have been much used and recommended as good *digestives*—the practice, however, of employing these forms of ointment is generally exploded.

UNGUENTUM PLUMBI ACETATIS  
COMPOSITUM.

COMPOUND OINTMENT OF ACETATE OF LEAD.

℞ Unguenti ceræ unc. j.

Hydrargyri nitrico oxydi drach. j.

Liquoris plumbi acetatis drach. j.

Extracti opii mollis drach. ij.

Triturate the soft extract of opium with the nitric



oxyde of mercury and liquor of acetate of lead; after which mix in the ointment of wax, and let the whole be well blended together. This is an admirable form of ointment for cleaning some kinds of sloughing ulcers and chancres. I have seen chancres heal under its use which had resisted all other applications.

UNGUENTUM RESINÆ FLAVÆ CUM  
OLEO TEREBINTHINÆ.  
OINTMENT OF YELLOW RESIN WITH  
OIL OF TURPENTINE.

This ointment, or rather epithem, is made by blending as much oil of turpentine, by trituration, with the cerate of resin as it will take up.

On the authority of Mr. Kentish, the oil of turpentine, which is a very strong stimulant, has of late been very ingeniously and very strenuously recommended to general notice, for its *specific* influence in the relief and cure of burns and scalds.

The intention is that of keeping up, in a minor degree, the stimulating influence of caloric; so as to enable the vessels of the inflamed surface to get rid of their contents, by a recovery of their former tone and power, without falling into that atonic state of inflammation, which is generally followed by the death and destruction of their substance, in consequence of the powerful effects of the exciting cause being too rapidly

withdrawn. This theory is extremely ingenious, but savours strongly of the Brunonian principles.

The rapid evaporation of the oil suddenly conveying off a considerable portion of the accumulated quantity of heat evolved by the injury, and which in itself becomes an exciting cause of inflammation, may, perhaps, be considered one, if not the principal, means of effecting the benefit accruing from its use.

Perhaps the whole of its action is explicable upon this principle of evaporation, and upon the stimulus which, at the same time, it imparts:—removing by the one effect inflammation and heat, and by the other giving power to the vessels; thus establishing, as it were, the relative bearing between action and power.

Mr. Kentish, in his treatment of burns and scalds, directs the oil of turpentine to be previously made warm; and afterwards cloths to be dipped into it, with which the injured parts are to be entirely covered, and the oil is to be renewed as often as the cloths become dry, till the pain has abated, and the inflammation is relieved; after which, if there be any suppuration, the parts are to be dressed with the above ointment.

I am not, by my own experience, enabled to speak as to the decided superiority of the above practice; neither have I the wish to depreciate its merits, or dissuade its adoption—by some of my friends I have heard it very warmly recommended; but, in the trials made with it in one of our large public hospitals, wherein Mr. Kentish's rules were strictly followed, and which

I had an opportunity of closely observing, it was very unsuccessful.

In one instance, the hands, arms, and face being much burnt by an explosion from gunpowder, the liquor plumbi acetatis compositus and the oleum terebinthinæ were conjointly made use of to different parts, in which there did not exist any perceptible difference, in the extent of the injury, either by the feelings of the patient, or to the eye of a by-stander. In the parts to which the liquor was applied, the inflammation subsided much sooner; and the suppurative process which took place afterwards was much milder and more healthy under the unguentum plumbi acetatis and unguentum zinci, than was that treated with the oleum terebinthinæ. Five other cases were all unfavourable under Mr. Kentish's plan of cure.

UNGUENTUM SABINÆ.  
OINTMENT OF SAVIN.

℞ Foliorum sabinæ recentium, contritorum  
unc. iv.  
Ceræ flavæ unc. iij.  
Adipis præparatæ lib. j.

In forming this ointment much care and attention are requisite.

The hog's-lard being first slowly melted, the savin leaves should be added, when the lard should be heated

to the boiling point, in which state it should be kept till the leaves are friable; the wax should then be added in a state of liquefaction, and the ointment should be briskly agitated till it is cold.

The savin ointment is intended for keeping up a discharge from a part already vesicated or abraded.

UNGUENTUM SAMBUCI.

OINTMENT OF ELDER.

R Sambuci florum lib. ij.

Adipis præparatæ lib. ij.

Boil the elder flowers in the lard till they become crisp and friable, after which strain through linen,

This is a mild unctuous covering.

UNGUENTUM SULPHURIS. (L.)

OINTMENT OF SULPHUR.

R Sulphuris sublimati unc. iij.

Adipis præparatæ unc. viij.

Misce.

This ointment possesses all the specific properties of the sulphur for the cure of psora. It may be rendered much more agreeable by the addition of a small quantity of oil of lemon. As a more effectual cure

for psora, pruritus, and other mixed cuticular affections bearing the character of one or other of these diseases, the London College have given us the following formula :

UNGUENTUM SULPHURIS COMPOSITUM. (L.)

COMPOUND OINTMENT OF SULPHUR.

R Sulphuris sublimati lib. ss.  
Veratri radice contritæ unc. ij.  
Potassæ nitratis drachm. j.  
Saponis mollis lib. ss.  
Adipis præparatæ lib. iss.

Mix the whole well together.

This ointment, however, will be found much too powerful for irritable and delicate people; and especially as an application to children,

UNGUENTUM SULPHURICI ACIDI.  
OINTMENT OF SULPHURIC ACID.

R Adipis præparatæ unc. ij.  
Acidi sulphurici drach. ij.

Misce.

This ointment should be formed in a Wedgewood's mortar. It is said to cure psora.

UNGUENTUM VERATRI. (L.)  
OINTMENT OF WHITE HELLEBORE.

℞ Veratri pulveris unc. j.  
Adipis præparatæ unc. viij.  
Olei limonis drach. j.

The hog's lard being melted over a slow fire, stir in the hellebore powder and oil of lemon, and briskly agitate the mixture till it is cold.

This ointment is much used and recommended for psora and pruritus. It should be used every night.

UNGUENTUM ZINCI. (L.)  
OINTMENT OF ZINC.

℞ Zinci oxydi unc. j.  
Adipis præparatæ unc. vj.

Misce.

This ointment will be found useful in some species of ophthalmia, smeared upon the tarsi every night at bed-time.

It may likewise be applied with advantage to a part nearly cicatrized over, as a gentle stimulant and astringent.