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 CHAP. II.

## CONSERVÆ.—CONSERVES.

CONSERVES are compositions of fresh vegetable matter with sugar. The form is designed to preserve such vegetables as lose their virtues by drying: to obviate the decomposition to which this matter is liable, three times its weight of refined sugar is in general necessary. The active matter of vegetables is, however, generally injured by keeping in this form; and, therefore, there is no conserve ordered in the Pharmacopœias of any powerful medicine, those which are inserted being merely recommended by their agreeable flavour, and being not used but as vehicles for the exhibition of more active remedies, under the form of bolus, pill, or electuary.

The Edinburgh College admit three conserves.

*Conserva exterioris recentis fructus CITRI AURANTII* fardula abrasa: Conserve of the outer rind of the Orange rasped by a grater;

*Conserva Fructus ROSÆ CANINÆ* maturi, a seminibus eorumque pube solícite purgati: Conserve of the Fruit of the Dog-hip, carefully freed from the seeds and included down;

*Conserva Petalorum ROSÆ GALLICÆ* nondum explicitorum: Conserve of the Unblown Petals of the Red Rose;

With regard to all which, they give, as the directions for their preparation, that the vegetable matter is to be beat

into a pulp, to which is to be added gradually, during the beating, three times its weight of refined sugar.

The London College have united the Conserves with the preparations named Electuaries, and have given them the common name of Confections. Of those which correspond with what have usually been denominated Conserves, they have retained the three which have a place in the Edinburgh Pharmacopœia: and have given the following directions for the preparation of each. The Dublin College admit only the Conserve of the Rhind of the Orange, and the Conserve of the Petals of the Red Rose.

*CONFECTIO AURANTII.* Confection of Orange Peel. Lond.

Take of the exterior Rhind of the Orange fresh, separated by a grater, a pound; Refined Sugar, three pounds. Bruise the rhind in a stone mortar with a wooden pestle, then adding the sugar, bruise again until they unite into a mass.

*CONSERVA AURANTII.* Conserve of Orange Peel. Dub.

To the Rhind of the fresh Seville Orange, rasped off, add, while beating it, three times its weight of refined sugar.

*CONFECTIO ROSÆ CANINÆ.* Confection of Dog-hip. Lond.

Take of the Pulp of the Dog-hip, a pound; Refined Sugar, beat down, twenty ounces. Rub them together until they form an uniform mass.

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

Take of the Petals of the Red Rose, not fully blown, with the heels removed, a pound; Refined Sugar, three pounds. Bruise the petals in a stone mortar, then, adding the sugar, beat again until they form an uniform mass.

*CONSERVA ROSÆ.* Conserve of Red Rose. Dub.

Pluck off the Petals of the Red Rose buds, from the calyces, and having freed them from the heels, beat them, adding gradually three times their weight of refined sugar.

Of the above Conserves, that of Orange Peel is so little used, that it is seldom to be found in the shops. The Conserve of Dog-hip is smooth and uniform in its consistence, and is therefore well adapted to the purpose to which it is applied, that of serving as a vehicle for active medicines, under the form of bolus or pill. The Conserve of the Petals of the Red Rose is supposed to retain their slight astringency, and at one time was celebrated as a remedy in hæmoptysis and phthisis. It is still a popular medicine in these diseases, being taken in the dose of an ounce in the morning, diffused in warm milk.

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### CHAP. III.

#### SUCCI.—JUICES,

**JUICES** are obtained from fresh vegetables by expression. They consist chiefly of the sap of the plant, mixed, more or less, with the proper juices; and according as these are in greater or less abundance, or easily expressed from their vessels, the juice will be more largely impregnated with them. It may hold dissolved mucilage, extractive matter, tannin, and any of the vegetable acids; and fecula is frequently suspended in it, with sometimes perhaps a portion of resin, diffused by the medium of the other principles.

When newly expressed, these juices are generally impure and viscid: on standing for some time, they deposite a quantity of mucilaginous and glutinous matter along with grosser impurities; the clear liquor is poured off, and pass-