ORDER XXVIII.-BINOXIDE OF MANGANESE.

MANGANE'SH BINOX'YDUM.-BINOXIDE OF MANGANESE.

(Manganesii Oxidum, E.)

HISTORY.—Native binoxide of manganese has been long known and used in the manufacture of glass (Magnesia Vitriariorum;) but until Kaim, in 1770, succeeded in extracting a peculiar metal from it, it was usually regarded as an ore of iron. It is commonly termed Native Black or Peroxide of Manganese, or

for brevity Manganese.

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NATURAL HISTORY.—The oxide of manganese used in chemistry and pharmacy is the native anhydrous binoxide, called by mineralogists Pyrolusite. It is found in great abundance in Cornwall, Devonshire, Somersetshire, and Aberdeenshire, from whence most of what is met with in commerce in this country is obtained. The principal mines of it are in the neighbourhood of Launceston, Lifton, and Exeter. The Upton Pyne mine, once celebrated for its oxide of manganese, has yielded scarcely any for several years past, if, indeed, it be not completely worked out. Pyrolusite is also found in Saxony, Hungary, France, and other countries of Europe.

PREPARATION.—Native binoxide of manganese after being raised from the mine is broken into small pieces, about the size of peas, and then washed to separate the earthy impurities. It is afterwards ground in mills to an impalpable powder.

PROPERTIES.—This mineral occurs massive, columnar, crystallized, and pulverulent: the form of the crystals is the right rhombic prism. The massive variety has sometimes a metallic lustre, but is generally dull and earthy: its colour is iron black or brownish: it soils the fingers in handling it: its sp. gr. varies from 4.6 to 4.9: it is tasteless, odourless, and insoluble in water: it yields a black powder.

Characteristics.—When heated it yields oxygen gas. Mixed with common salt and sulphuric acid it gives out chlorine. Heated with sulphuric acid it evolves oxygen, and forms a sulphate of the protoxide of manganese. It is infusible before the blow-pipe; dissolves in fused borax with effervescence, and colours the globule of an amethystine colour. If it be digested in hydrochloric acid until chlorine cease to be evolved, and the solution be slightly supersaturated with ammonia, we get rid of the sesquioxide of iron: the filtered liquid throws down a white precipitate with ferrocyanide of potassium.

Composition .- Pure binoxide of manganese has the following composition :-

AL	239.5.	Eq. Wt.		Per Cent.		Forchammer.		Berzelius and Arfvedson.	
Manganese Oxygen									
Rinoxide of Manganese.	1	. 44		100.0	******	. 100-00		100.00	

Purry.—The native binoxide is, however, never pure: it usually contains oxide of iron, carbonate of lime, sulphate of baryta, and argillaceous matter. Its purity is judged of by the quantity of oxygen which it is capable of yielding; or of the quantity of chlorine set free when this oxide and hydrochloric acid are allowed to act on each other. The quantity of chlorine set free can be estimated by the quantity of protosulphate of iron which it peroxidizes. (Graham, Elements of Chemistry, p. 536.) The brown varieties are inferior to the black ones.

Muriatic acid aided by heat dissolves it almost entirely, disengaging chlorine: heat disengages oxygen. Ph. Ed.

Physiological Effects.—The effects of this substance are imperfectly known. Vol. I.—90

Kapp (Hufeland's Journ. Bd. xix. St. 1, S. 176.) first employed it internally. He regards it as a permanent stimulant, and says it promotes the appetite and digestion. Vogt (Pharmycodynamik.) places it among the tonics, and considers it to be intermediate between iron and lead, but his views are altogether theoretical, as he does not seem to have employed it. Dr. Coupar (Brit. Ann. of Med. Jan. 13, 1837, p. 41.) has described several cases of disease which took place among the men engaged in grinding it at the chemical works of Messrs. Tennant and Co., in Glasgow: from these it appears that, when slowly introduced into the system, it produces paralysis of the motor nerves. The disease commences with symptoms of paraplegia. It differs from the paralysis of lead in not causing colica pictonum or constipation, and from mercury in first affecting the lower extremities, and in not exciting tremors of the affected part. C. G. Gmelin (Versuche, ü d. Wirkungen, &c.) tried the effect of the sulphate of the protoxide of manganese on animals, and found that it caused vomiting, paralysis, without convulsions, and inflammation of the stomach, small intestines, liver, spleen, and heart. Gmelin observes, as remarkable, "the extraordinary secretion of bile produced by it, and which was so considerable that nearly all the intestines were coloured yellow by it, and the large intestines had a wax-yellow colour communicated to them." (Op. cit. 90.) It deserves notice, in connexion with this effect, that the sel désopilant of Rouvière, used as a quack remedy to evacuate bile, contains chloride of manganese. (Journ, de Chim. Méd. v. 534.)

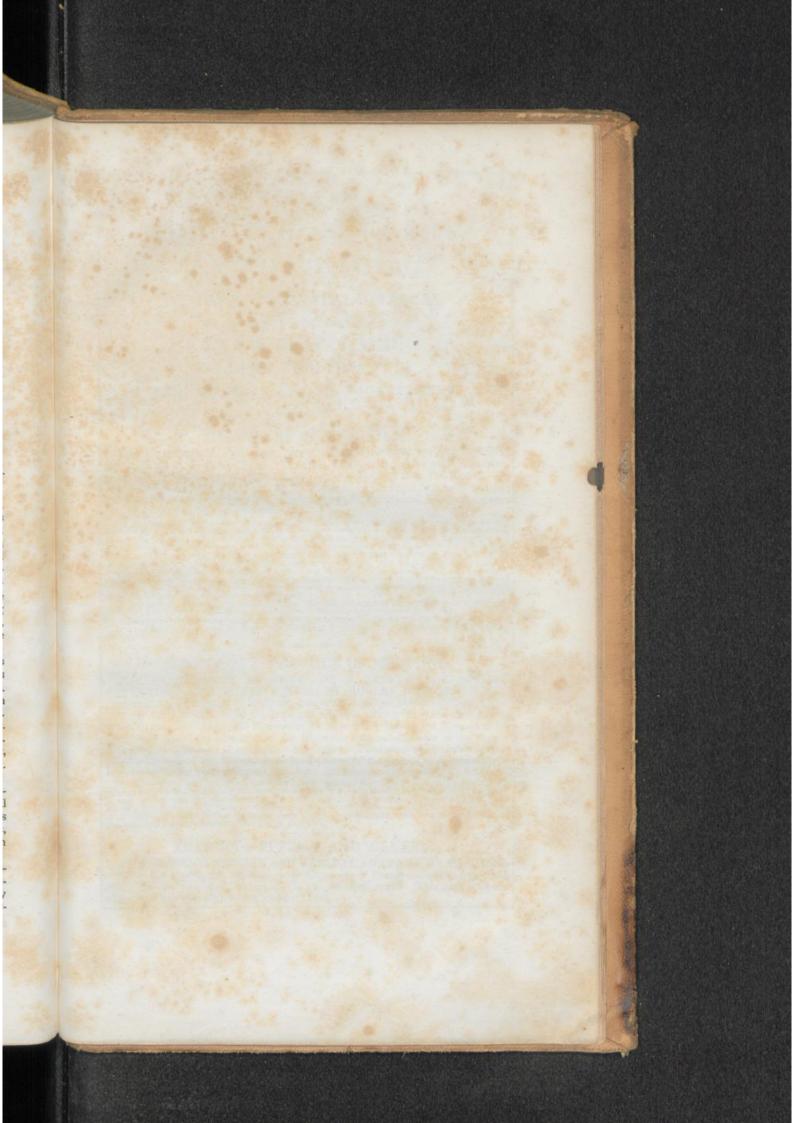
Dr. Thomson has seen an ounce of the sulphate swallowed without any effect, except the free action of the bowels. (Coupar, op. eit.) Hünefeld (Horn's Archiv. f. Med. Erf. 1830, quoted by Wibmer, Wirk. d. Arzn.) gave to a rabbit nearly two drachms of manganesic acid, in three days, in doses of ten or fifteen grains. The only obvious effect was increased secretion of urine. The animal being killed, the peritoneum and external coat of the colon was found of a greenish colour [protoxide of manganese is green,] the muscles were readily lacerated and pale, the liver was inflamed, the bile increased. Wibmer (Op. cit.) gave six grains daily of the carbonate of the protoxide of manganese to a rabbit during many weeks. No disturbance of function was observed. The animal was killed, but neither in the blood nor the muscles could the least trace of manganese be

Uses.—It is rarely employed in medicine. Kapp (Op. cit.) administered it, as well as the salts of manganese, internally as well as externally in the various forms of syphilis. In herpes, scabies, and the scorbutic diathesis, he used it with benefit. Brera (Harless, Neues Journ. d. Ausl. Med. Lit. Bd. viii. St. 2, S. 57.) used it in chlorosis, scorbutus, hypochondriasis, hysteria, &c. Otto (Froriep's Notizen, Bd. xii. No. 22, S. 347.) administered it in cachectic complaints with favourable results. Odier (Handb. d. pr. Arzneiwiss. quoted by Richter.) employed it in cardialgia. It has been applied as an absorbent in the treatment of old ulcers, as a depilatory, and as a remedy for skin diseases, especially itch and porrigo. (Rayer, Treat. on Skin Diseases, by Willis, p. 58.)

ADMINISTRATION.—Internally it has been given in the form of pills, in doses varying from three grains to a scruple, three or four times in the day. As a local agent it has been used in the form of gargle, composed of two or three drachms of the oxide diffused through five or six ounces of barley water. An ointment, consisting of one or two drachms of oxide to an ounce of lard, has also been used.

In chemistry and pharmacy it is employed in the manufacture of oxygen, chlorine, and iodine. In the arts it is used by the bleacher for the production of chlorine; by the glass-maker to destroy the brown colour communicated to glass by iron; and to give an amethystine tint to plate-glass; and by the potter for colouring earthenware.

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Notice has already been given of the appearance of this work: we have become satisfied of its sterling value, and, therefore, without hesitation, feel justified in again recommending it to the immediate notice of practitioners.—Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.

MULLER'S PHYSIOLOGY.

ELEMENTS OF PHYSIOLOGY; BY J. MÜLLER, M.D., Professor of Anatomy and Physiology in the University of Berlin, &c. Translated from the German by WILLIAM BALY, M.D., Graduate in Medicine of the University of Berlin. Arranged from the Second London Edition by John Bell, M.D., Lecturer on Materia Medica and Therapeutics, &c., &c. In One Volume, Svo.-Just ready.

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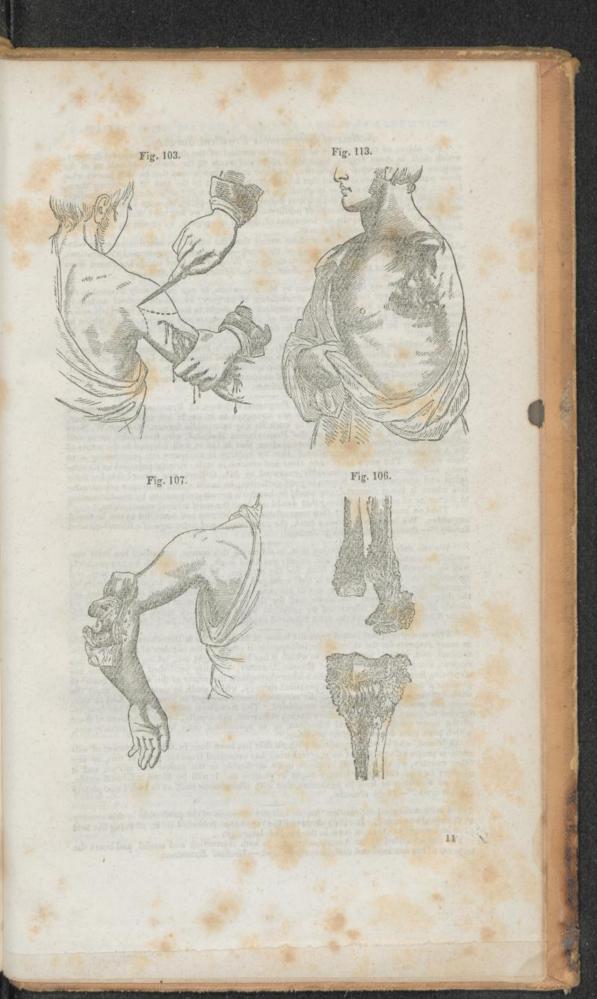
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Extract from the Article-Lobélia.

CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS .- A strong decection of lobelia dropped into rectified spirit deposits a precipitate (gum). Acetate, and especially diacetate of lead, form yellow precipitates with the decoction. Protonitrate of mercury also forms a

Copious precipitate. (For other chemical characteristics, see above.)

Physiological Effects.—An accurate account of the effects of this plant on man and animals is yet wanting. But from the observations hitherto made its operation appears to be very similar to that of tobacco (see p. 317); and from this circumstance, indeed, it has been called the *Indian Tobacco*. I have before remarked, that both in its taste and in the sensation of acridity which it excites in the throat, it resembles common tobacco. This analogy between nicotiana and lobelia, originally noticed by the American practitioners, is confirmed by Dr. Elliotson. (Lancel, April 15, 1837, p. 144.)

a. On Animals generally.—Horses and cattle have been supposed to be killed by eating it accidentally. (Thacher, American New Dispensatory, p. 2.) An extraordinary flow of saliva is said to be produced by it on cattle. (Lancel, May 13,

1837, p. 299.)

[Mr. Procter administered a grain of lobelina in solution to a cat. In less than two minutes it produced violent emesis, and much prostration, from which the animal fully recovered in three hours. Again, one grain of the substance in an ounce of water was administered directly into the stomach of the animal by an elastic tube. Immediate and total prostration was the consequence, which in half an hour rendered the animal almost motionless; the pupils of the eyes were much dilated. The animal gradually recovered its strength, but the effects of the prostration were evident for fifteen hours afterwards. No emetic or cathartic effects resulted. (Am. Journ. of Pharm. vol. xiii. p. 10.)-J. C.]

8. On Man. - az. In small doses it operates as a diaphoretic and expectorant. Mr. Andrews, (Lond. Med. Gaz. vol. iii. p. 260.) who speaks from its effects on himself, says, it has "the peculiar southing quality of exciting expectoration without the pain of coughing."

β2. In full medicinal doses (as βj. of the powder) it acts as a powerful, nauseating emetic. Hence it has been called the emetic weed. It causes severe and speedy vomiting, attended with continued and distressing nausea, sometimes purging, copious sweating, and great general relaxation. These symptoms are usually preceded by giddiness, headache, and general tremors. The Rev. Dr. M. Cutler, (Thacher, op. cit.,) in his account of the effects on himself, says, that taken during a severe paroxysm of asthma, it caused sickness and vomiting, and a kind of prickly sensation through the whole system, even to the extremities of the fingers and toes. The urinary passage was perceptibly affected, by producing a smarting sensation in passing urine, which was probably provoked by stimulus on the bladder. It sometimes, as in the Rev. Dr. Cutler's case, gives almost instantaneous relief in an attack of spasmodic asthma. Intermittent pulse was caused by it in a case mentioned by Dr. Elliotson. Administered by the rectum, it produces the same distressing sickness of stomach, profuse perspiration, and universal relaxation, which result from a similar use of tobacco.

77. In excessive doses, or in full doses too frequently repeated, its effects are those of a powerful acro-narcotic poison. "The melancholy consequences resulting from the use of Lobelia inflata," says Dr. Thacher, (op. cit.) "as lately administered by the adventurous hands of a noted empiric, have justly excited considerable interest, and furnished alarming examples of its deleterious properties and fatal effects. The dose in which he is said usually to prescribe it, and frequently with impunity, is a common teaspoonful of the powdered seeds or leaves, and often repeated. If the medicine does not puke or evacuate powerfully, it frequently destroys the pa-

tient, and sometimes in five or six hours." Its effects, according to Dr. Wood, (United States Dispensatory,) are, "extreme prostration, great anxiety and distress, and ultimately death, preceded by convulsions." He also tells us that fatal results (in America) have been experienced from its empirical use. These are the more apt to occur when the poison, as is sometimes the case, is not rejected by vomiting.
USES.—Lobelia is probably applicable to all the purposes for which tobacco has

been used (see p. 319). From my own observation of its effects, its principal

value is as an antispasmodic.

1. In asthma (especially the spasmodic kind) and other disorders of the organs of respiration.—Given in full doses, so as to excite nausea and vomiting, at the commencement of, or shortly before, an attack of spasmodic asthma, it sometimes succeeds in cutting short the paroxysm, or in greatly mitigating its violence; at other times, however, it completely fails. Occasionally it has proved serviceable in a few attacks, and, by repetition, has lost its influence over the disease.

To obtain the beneficial influence in asthma, it is not necessary, however, give it in doses sufficient to excite vomiting. Dr. Elliotson (Lancet, April 15, 1837, p. 144,) recommends the use of small doses at the commencement, and says that these should be gradually increased, if neither headache nor vomiting occur; but immediately when these symptoms come on, the use of the remedy is to be omitted. Given in this way, I can testify to its good effects in spasmodic asthma. It has also been used in croup, hooping-cough, and catarrhal asthma, but with no very encouraging effects.

2. In strangulated hernia, Dr. Eberle, (Treat. of the Mat. Med. vol. i. p. 48, 2d ed.) employed it effectually, instead of tobacco, in the form of enema.

3. As an emeric, it has been employed by Dr. Eberle (op. cit.) in croup; but its energiate is ten distraction.

operation is too distressing and dangerous for ordinary use.

ADMINISTRATION.—It may be given in powder, infusion, or tincture (alcoholic or ethereal.) Dr. Reece employed an oxymel. The dose of the powder as an emetic, is from grs. x. to Dj.; as an expectorant, from gr. j. to grs. v. It deserves especial notice that the effects of lobelia are very unequal on different persons, and that some are exceedingly susceptible of its influence. (Elliotson, Lancet, June 1832; and April 15, 1837.

1. TINCTURA LOBELIE, E. (U.S.): Tincture of Lobelia.—Lobelia, dried, and in moderately fine powder, 3v.; Proof Spirit, Oij. This tincture is best prepared by the process of percolation, as directed for the tincture of capsienm; but it may also be made in the usual way by digestion.)—[The U. S. P. directs Lobelia, four ounces; Diluted Alcohol, two pints. Macerate for fourteen days and filter, or proceed by displacement.]—Dose, as an emetic and antispasmodic, from f3j. to [3], repeated every two or three hours until vomiting occur; as an expectorant mx. to [3]. For children of one or two years old, the dose is mx. mxx.

2. TINCTURA LOBELLE ETHEREA, E.; Ethereal Tincture of Lobelia.—(Lo-

belia, dried, and in moderately fine powder, 3v.; Spirit of Sulphuric Ether, Oij. This tincture is best prepared by percolation, as directed for tincture of capsicum; but it may be also obtained by digestion in a well-closed vessel for seven days.)

This may be used in the same doses as the alcoholic tincture.

With some persons the ether is apt to disagree, and for such the alcoholic tineture is preferred. Whitlaw's ethereal tincture, used by Dr. Elliotson, consisted of Lobelia, lb. j.; rectified spirit, Oiv.; spirit of nitric ether, Oiv.; spirit of sulphuric ether, živ. Macerate for fourteen days, in a dark place. (Lancet, June 3, 1837.)

[As has been stated, page 385, heat injures the activity of lobelia, when its active principle is in a free state, and though combined with a weak acid in the last boiling is found.

plant, boiling is found to impair the activity of the decoction, hence in making preparations which require heat, some acid, as the acetic, should be associated with it. A VINEGAR OF LOBELIA may be prepared by treating four ounces of lobelia by displacement, with two pints of diluted acetic acid. With vinegar of lobelia by displacement, with two pints of diluted acetic acid.

lia, a syrup may be made in the same manner as syrup of squills.

By treating the powdered seeds with eight parts of diluted alcohol, containing 1 per cent. of acetic acid, a preparation is obtained possessing the activity of lobe-

lia in a concentrated form (Procter) .- J. C.]

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