

M A G N E S I A.

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MAGNESIA ALBA.

WHITE MAGNESIA.

**T**AKE of bitter purging Salt,  
Kali, of each two pounds.  
Distilled Water, boiling, twenty pints.

Diffolve the bitter Salt and the Kali separately in ten pints of water, and filter through paper; then mix them. Boil the liquor a little while, and strain it whilst hot through linen, upon which will remain the WHITE MAGNESIA; then wash away, by repeated affusions of distilled water, the vitriolated Kali.

REMARK.

## R E M A R K.

Magnesia is a peculiar earth, forming, when united to the vitriolic acid, a purgative salt, easily soluble in water, whilst common absorbent earths, united with this acid, form compounds astringent and scarcely soluble.

In separating Magnesia from this salt, a double elective attraction takes place, the acid leaving the Magnesia, and joining the mild Kali, whilst the Magnesia receives the fixed air discharged from the Kali: hence two new products, a vitriolated Kali and Magnesia united with fixed air. The former is dissolved by water, the latter is precipitated. It is in general esteem for correcting acidity in the stomach of children, in whom it generally proves laxative when given from a scruple to a dram. To adults it is given more largely in Cardialgia, &c.

## MAGNESIA USTA.

## BURNT MAGNESIA.

Take of white Magnesia four ounces by weight.

Expose it to a strong heat for two hours; and, when cold, put it into a glass vessel to be close stopt.

REMARK.

## R E M A R K.

Here the Magnesia is deprived of the fixed air, constituting more than half its weight, without being converted into a caustic lime, and remaining equally mild with the preceding aërated Magnesia. If sufficiently burned, it does not effervesce with acids, and therefore is held more applicable to complaints in the primæ viæ of adults, attended with flatulence, and often purges briskly in the dose of a dram or two.

## PRÆPARATA