

PHARMACOPŒIAL VEGETABLE DRUGS.

a place in all the early domestic works on medicine, and seems to be alike credited to the American Indians and the early settlers. In Eclectic medication wahoo has been a favorite since the days of Dr. Beach. Under the names "nine barks" or "seven barks" it has a domestic record transplanted to proprietary remedies that use these titles. The Eclectic "concentration" *euonymin* has been conspicuous in England, but has since fallen into disuse. (See Bulletin of the Lloyd Library, No. XII, *The Eclectic Resins, Resinoids, Oleo-Resins, and Concentrated Principles.*)

EUPATORIUM

Eupatorium perfoliatum, boneset, or thoroughwort, is indigenous to the temperate regions of the Eastern United States, and in the form of an infusion or tea was very popular with the settlers; being found in every well-regulated household. As a bitter tonic its uses became known to the early members of the American medical profession, and was handed therefrom to physicians of the present day. Its American history is probably paralleled by the record of this herb in other countries.

FICUS

The fig tree (*Ficus carica*) is native to Asia Minor and Syria, extending into Africa and Oriental countries, the Mediterranean islands, and elsewhere. It is now cultivated in the temperate countries of the entire world. The fig tree and its leaves are repeatedly mentioned in the Scriptures, where they are symbolical of peace and plenty. Charlemagne, in 812, ordered its cultivation in Central Europe, and in the reign of Henry VIII fig trees still standing in the garden of Lambeth Palace were brought to England, though the fig was unquestionably cultivated in England before that date. The fig has been used from all times as a food and as a confection, and it is repeatedly mentioned in the Arabian Nights. Its tri-lobed leaf is synonymous with primitive religions and has occupied a more or less conspicuous place in symbolic worships from the earliest date.

FOENICULUM

Fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare*) is indigenous from the Caspian Sea to the Greek peninsula and other Mediterranean countries, growing wild over a large part of Southern Europe, especially in the vicinity of the sea. It is also cultivated in favorable localities, as in Saxony, France, and Italy. Charlemagne encouraged its cultivation. Its employment in Northern Europe has been from all time, as is indicated by the fact that Anglo-Saxon domestic medical recipes dating from at least the eleventh century give it a place. The use of the seeds in domestic medication in the form of infusion as well as its employment in bread-making is too well established to need more than a mention.

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FRANGULA

Buckthorn, *Rhamnus frangula*, grows in wet places throughout Europe, Siberian Asia, and the Northern African Coast. From a very early date it has been known as a cathartic as well as a coloring agent. A decoction of the bark has been in domestic use both as a dye for cotton, wool, and silk fabrics, and as a cathartic, in which (latter) direction it is very effective. No written professional record antedates its domestic use, and perhaps as a "rheumatic remedy" it has no domestic superior.

GALLA

Oak galls (*Quercus infectoria*) are mentioned by Theophrastus (633) and other ancient writers, and they were prescribed by Alexander Trallianus (11) as a remedy in diarrhea. They are derived from varieties of the oak, Smyrna being one of the export points. In that city we have seen them in large quantities, in process of sorting for exportation. As an astringent, galls have long been employed in decoctions in domestic practice in the countries where they are obtained as excrescences on the oak.

GAMBIR

Gambir (or gambier) (*Ourouparia gambir*) is a shrub native to the countries bordering the Straits of Malucca, being found also in Ceylon and India. The dried juice of an Indian tree (*Acacia catechu* and *Acacia suma*) is often confused with gambir, and its extract (catechu or cutch) is only too often substituted therefor. Gambir has been obtained from the Orient from the beginning of historical records, and in those countries, mixed with other substances, seems ever to have been used as an astringent in domestic medicine. Both gambir and catechu, as these products are often called indifferently, have ever been articles of export to China, Arabia, and Persia, but were not brought into Europe until the seventeenth century. They are similarly astringent, and although the U. S. P., 1900 edition, drops the word catechu, it is questionable as to whether in commerce a close distinction is drawn in the product.

GAULTHERIA (THE OIL)

The first record of the therapeutical use of this oil, as is often the case with valuable medicines, is to be found in empirical medicine. The proprietary remedy, very popular about the beginning of this century under the name "Panacea of Swaim," or "Swaim's Panacea," introduced it.

This remedy gave added impetus to our Compound Syrup of Sarsaparilla, having become so popular as to force itself to the attention of the profession. The Sarsaparilla Compound of the name "Sirup or Rob Anti-Syphilitica" was closely associated with Swaim's Panacea and Ellis, 1843, after giving the formula of "Sirup Rob Antisyphilitica"