

and deobstruent, in cases where milder remedies have little effect. But a great deal of caution is requisite in its use; the dose, at first, ought to be only a few drops; if considerable, it proves violently emetic or cathartic.

TINCTURA ZINGIBERIS. *Lond. Dub.**Tincture of Ginger.*

Take of

Ginger sliced, (in coarse powder, *Dub.*), two ounces;

Proof-spirit, two pints.

Digest in a gentle heat for seven days, (macerate fourteen, *Lond.*) and strain.

THIS tincture is cordial and stimulant, and is only employed as a corrigent to purgative draughts.

## CHAP. XXXII.

## TINCTURES MADE WITH ETHEREAL SPIRITS.

WE have classed these tinctures by themselves, because they are more strongly characterised by the nature of the menstruum than of the substances dissolved in it. Indeed, the ethereal spirits are used in these instances, not to dissolve substances which would resist the action of alcohol and water, but for the sake of their own direct action on the system.

TINCTURA ALOES ÆTHEREA. *Ed.**Ethereal Tincture of Aloes.*

Take of

Socotorine aloes,

Myrrh, of each, in powder, one ounce and a half;

English saffron, sliced, one ounce;

Sulphuric ether, with alcohol, one pound.

Digest the myrrh with the sulphuric ether with alcohol for four days, in a close vessel; then add the saffron and aloes.

Digest again for four days, and, when the fæces have subsided, pour off the tincture.

THIS tincture agrees generally in its effects with the other tinctures of aloes, the only difference arising from the more penetrating and stimulating nature of the menstruum itself.

ÆTHER SULPHURICUS CUM ALCOHOLE AROMATICUS. *Ed.*  
*Aromatic Sulphuric Ether with Alcohol.*

This is made of the same aromatics, and in the same manner, as the *Compound Tincture of Cinnamon*; except that, in place of diluted alcohol, sulphuric ether with alcohol is employed.

This is designed for persons whose stomachs are too weak to bear the following acid tincture: to the taste it is gratefully aromatic, without any perceptible acidity.

ACIDUM SULPHURICUM AROMATICUM. *Ed.*  
*Aromatic Sulphuric Acid.*

Take of

Alcohol, two pounds;  
 Sulphuric acid, six ounces.

Drop the acid gradually into the alcohol. Digest the mixture with a very gentle heat, in a close vessel, for three days, and then add of

Cinnamon, bruised, one ounce and a half;  
 Ginger, bruised, one ounce.

Digest again, in a close vessel, for six days, and then filter the tincture through paper placed in a glass funnel.

ALTHOUGH the name given to this preparation by the college does not sanction its arrangement with the ethereal tinctures, yet I have ventured to place it here, from the belief that the alcohol is completely or partially changed, by the digestion with the acid, into an ethereal spirit; and that the principal difference between this and the preceding tincture consists in the presence of the acid, which, however, is not to be considered as the menstruum by which the tincture is formed, but as an acid mixed with the ethereal tincture.

*Medical use.*—This is a valuable medicine in weakness and relaxation of the stomach, and decay of constitution, particularly in those which proceed from irregularities, which are accompanied with slow febrile symptoms, or which follow the suppression of intermittents. It frequently succeeds, after bitters and aromatics by themselves have availed nothing; and indeed great part of its virtues depend on the sulphuric acid; which, barely diluted with water, has, in those cases where the stomach could bear the acidity, produced happy effects.

It is very usefully conjoined with cinchona, and other tonic barks, both as covering their disagreeable taste, and as coinciding with them in virtue. It may be given in doses of from ten to thirty drops, or more, several times a-day.