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## SECTION VII.

### DECOCTIONS.

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Decoctum album.

*White Decoction.*

**T**AKE of calcined Hart's-horn, an ounce ;  
Spring-water, three pints ; boil them  
together 'till only a quart remains behind ;  
to which, without straining, add an ounce of  
Cinnamon-water, made without Spirit, and  
two drams of white Sugar ; and mix them to-  
gether.

Decoctum album compositum.

*Compound White Decoction.*

Take of burnt Hart's-horn, six drams ;  
Crabs-eyes, three drams ; Roors of the greater  
Comfrey and Tormentil, of each two drams ;  
Spring-water, three pints ; boil them toge-  
ther, so that there may remain a quart of  
liquor, when strain'd thick ; to which add an  
ounce of Cinnamon-water, made without  
Spirit ; and half an ounce of Diacodium ; and  
mix them all together \*.

\* This is a well-contriv'd Decoction, to be used as com-  
mon drink, or instead of the foregoing, in case of a violent  
diarrhœa, or hæmorrhage.

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Decoc-

## Decoctum Amarum.

*Bitter Decoction.*

Take of Gentian-root, a scruple; tops of the lesser Centory, Camomile-flowers, and the seeds of *Carduus benedictus*, each a dram; Spring-water, six ounces; boil them together a little, then strain off the Decoction.

## Decoctum Amarum cum Senna.

*Bitter Decoction with Senna.*

In the former bitter Decoction, infuse for a night, one dram of the leaves of Senna; and strain off the liquor. It is likewise prepared with a double, triple, &c. quantity of Senna.

## Decoctum Commune pro Clystere.

*Common Decoction for Glysters.*

Take of the leaves of Mallows, of the herb Mercury and Camomile-flowers, each half an ounce; Fennel-seed, and Linseed, of each two drams; Spring-water, a pint and half: boil them together, till a third part of the liquor is exhaled, then strain off the remainder.

## Decoctum Diascordij.

*Decoction of Diascordium.*

Take of Diascordium, an ounce; *Japan* Earth, half an ounce; Spring-water, a pint.  
and



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and half: boil them so as to leave a pint of liquor, when strain'd thick; to which add of Cinnamon-water, made with Spirit, and Diacodium, each an ounce; and mix them together\*.

Decoctum ad Ictericos.

*Decoction for the Jaundice.*

Take the roots, together with the leaves, of the greater Celandine; the roots of Turmeric, and Madder, of each an ounce; Spring-water, three pints: boil them together till there remains a quart of the strain'd liquor; to which, when cold, add the juice of two hundred Millepedes; and two ounces of the Syrup of the five opening roots; and mix them together †.

Decoctum ad Nephriticos.

*Nephritic Decoction.*

Take of red Cicers, two ounces; Barley, an ounce; the roots of Marshmallows, Fennel, Liquorise, and Rest-harrow, each half an ounce; six fat Figs; ston'd Raisins of the Sun, and wild Carot-seed, of each six drams;

\* This is doubtless an excellent astringent medicine, and well contrived in the form of a decoction; which admirably fits it for the end proposed, whether by way of draught or glyster.

† A decoction so well adapted cannot but be of great service in the cure of the Jaundice, when used freely by the patient as ordinary drink.

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Spring

Spring-water, three quarts; boil them together, so as to make two quarts of liquor when strain'd\*.

Decoctum Nitrosum.

*Decoction of Salt-Petre.*

Take of well purified Nitre, half an ounce; white Sugar, two ounces; Cochineal, a scruple; Spring-water, five half pints: boil them together to a quart; then pour out the Decoction, after it is clarify'd by standing †.

Decoctum Pectorale.

*Pectoral Decoction.*

Take of the root of *Florentine Orrice*, half an ounce; six fat Figs, four stoned Dates, stoned Raisins of the Sun, and Barley, of each an ounce; Spring-water, three pints: boil till it comes to a quart; and towards the end of the operation, add of *Liquorise-root*, the leaves of *Ground-Ivey*, and *Scabious*, *Maiden-hair*, and the *Flowers of Colts-foot*, each half an ounce; lastly, strain off the Decoction.

\* In case of the Stone or Gravel, this doubtless is an excellent emollient and diuretic liquor, to be drank freely, if it finds a passage by urine.

† The design of this *Decoctum Nitrosum* seems to be for a liquor to be drank in fevers, and other inflammatory cases; for which it is very well calculated.

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Decoctum *Serpentariæ* compositum.  
*Compound Decoction of Snake-root.*

Take of *Virginia* Snake-root, six drams; Spring-water, a quart; boil to the consumption of one half: then, towards the end of the operation, add of *Venice-Treacle*, half an ounce; *Cochineal*, a scruple; strain it off thick, and mix therewith an ounce and half of *Diacodium*.

*This is only made in defect of the Tincture\*.*

*Infusum Sennæ.*

*Infusion of Senna.*

Take of the leaves of the great *Water-Figwort*, and of *Senna*, each an ounce and half; *Salt of Tartar*, and bruised *Ginger*, of each a dram; Spring-water, in the state of boiling, a pint; infuse them together for a night, then strain off the liquor.

GENERAL RULES for making  
 DECOCTIONS.

I. *The first rule, above laid down for the extracting of Tinctures, holds equally for the preparation of Decoctions.*

\* See *Tinctura Serpentariæ composita.*

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II.

- II. *The Woods, Roots, Seeds, with all the dry ingredients of a hard texture, ought to be first put in; as the others (among which we reckon Liquorise) should be added towards the end of the operation.*
- III. *All Decoctions should be clarified by the strainer, and by standing to subside; unless when they are expressly required to be thick: and in this case too they ought to pass a coarse strainer.*



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