

SECTION XVII.

OINTMENTS.

Unguentum Ægyptiacum.

Egyptian Ointment *.

TAke of Verdigrease, reduced to fine powder, five ounces; of Honey, fourteen ounces; of Vinegar, seven ounces; boil them together, over a gentle fire, to the consistence of an Unguent.

Unguentum Album.

The white Ointment.

Take of unripe Oil-Olive, three pints; of Ceruse, a pound; of white Wax, nine ounces; and mix them together, according to art, so as to make an Unguent.

* This medicine seems to be improperly call'd an ointment; as it receives no oil, or other unctuous ingredient in its composition: 'tis also generally made so thin, or else becomes so by the settling of the Verdigrease, as not to resemble an unguent in consistence. 'Tis however of very considerable virtues, and frequently used externally, by churgeons, to keep down fungous flesh, take off excrescences, and the like; but being, in many cases, too sharp and corrosive, Dr. Fuller advises to abate of those qualities, by the addition of Frankincense.

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Unguentum album Camphoratum.

White Ointment with Camphire.

This is made by adding to the preceding *white Ointment*, when removed from the fire, an ounce of Camphire, rubb'd with a few drops of Oil of Almonds, and mixing them together.

Unguentum ad Ambusta.

Ointment for Burns.

Take of the inner rind of fresh Elder, and of the fresh leaves of the same tree, each two ounces: bruise them well, and boil them in two pounds of Linseed Oil, till the aqueous moisture is consumed; then press out the Oil, and dissolve in it six ounces of white Wax; and, whilst they remain fluid, sprinkle the following powders therein; keeping the whole perpetually stirring, *viz.* Powder of Ceruse, three ounces, and of Calamine, an ounce: then taking the mixture from the fire, and permitting it to cool a little, add thereto two drams of Camphire, reduced to a powder, by being rubb'd with a few drops of Oil of Almonds; lastly mix all together, so as to make an Ointment thereof*.

Unguentum Antipforicum.

Ointment for the Itch.

Take of Ellicampane-root, and the root of sharp-pointed Dock, each three ounces: slice

* This seems to be an excellent Unguent for the purposes express'd by its title; and deserves always to be kept in readines; to provide, in the best manner, against such contingencies as we meet with every day.

and bruise them; then pour thereon three pints of Spring-water, and a pint of Vinegar: boil them to a half, and strongly press out the remaining Liquor; to which add six ounces of the leaves of fresh Water-creffes; and two ounces of those of Sage: let the herbs be well bruis'd, and mix'd up with four pounds of Hog's lard; then boil all together till the aqueous moisture is exhald, and press out the Ointment; whereto put four ounces of the Oil of Bays, and mix the whole together*.

Sulphur may be hereto added occasionally.

Unguentum Antipsoricum, cum Mercurio.

Ointment for the Itch, with Mercury.

This is made of the preceding Ointment, by adding thereto four ounces of Quick-silver, kill'd by being ground with a proper quantity of *Venice Turpentine*; and mixing them together, according to the rules of art, so as to make an Unguent.

Unguentum, seu Linimentum Arcaei.

The Ointment or Liniment of Arcaei.

Take of Hog's-lard, a pound; of Goat's Suet, two pounds; of Gum Elemi, and *Venetian Turpentine*, each a pound and half: melt

* If that stubborn cutaneous distemper, the Itch, be curable by vegetable preparations, this Unguent bids fair to effect it; but in case of failure, you see the compilers order the assistance of sulphur to be used at discretion; and in the following Unguent, what rarely fails, the assistance of Mercury.

them

them together, then strain the whole, and make thereof an Unguent, according to art †.

Unguentum Basilicon.

The Ointment Basilicon.

Take of yellow Wax, Goat's-Suct, white Rosin, dry Pitch, and *Venice Turpentine*, each half a pound; of Oil-Olive, two pounds and a half; dissolve the other ingredients in the Oil, stir them well together, then strain the whole, for an Ointment*.

Unguentum Citrinum.

The yellow Ointment.

Take an ounce of Quick-silver, and dissolve it in as much Spirit of Nitre, as will serve for that purpose; then add, by degrees, a

† The Author of this Ungent, who was a very good chirurgeon, tells us, it at the same time ripens, digests, deterges and incarns; and that in so certain and excellent a manner, as never once to have failed him; so that, says he, all those it was used to, justly gave it the name of *Balsam. De recta Vulnerum Curatione. Lib. I. Cap. iv.*

* The title of this Unguent should denote it possess'd of royal or uncommon virtues; but according to the original prescription of *Mesue*, it seems an indifferent composition of the four ingredients Wax, Rosin, Pitch, and Oil: the addition of the Turpentine and Goat's-Suct here, certainly improves it as a digestive, in case of wounds, which is its principal use: but still, it perhaps yields in virtues to the *Basilicon Flavum* of the *London Dispensatory*, on account of the *Burgundy Pitch* there directed, instead of the common sort here; which alteration is said to prevent its generating fungous flesh, as the other sort is apt to do.

pound

pound of melted Hog's-Lard; and mix them into an Ointment †.

Unguentum Desiccativum rubrum.

The red drying Ointment.

Take of Oil-Olive, a pound and half; and of white Wax, half a pound; melt them together, and when removed from the fire, sift in the following Ingredients, reduced to powder; viz. of Bole *Armeniac*, and Calamine, each four ounces; of Litharge of Gold, and Ceruse, each three ounces; and of Camphire, first rubb'd with a little Oil of Almonds, three drams: then stir them briskly together into an Ointment*.

Unguentum Dialthææ.

Ointment of Marshmallows.

Take of the Oil of Mucilages, two pounds; of yellow Wax, half a pound; of white Rosin, three ounces; and of *Venice Turpentine*, an ounce and half: mix them together, and make an Ointment, according to art ‖.

† For the purposes of a detergent, this seems to be a fine contrivance.

* The *Unguentum desiccativum rubrum* of the *London Dispensatory* is by much too stiff and crumbly for an Ointment; on account of the over-proportion of the dry powders to the unctuous ingredients, which is here considerably lessen'd, by dropping the *Caput mortuum* of *Vitriol*, and reducing the quantities of the other dry things.

‖ When the Oil of Mucilages is ready prepared, this is a very compendious way of making the Ointment of Marshmallows.

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Unguentum Dialthææ compositum.

Compound Ointment of Marshmallows.

Take of the Ointment of Marshmallows, four ounces ; of Gum-Ammoniac, dissolved in a proper quantity of Spring-Water, and strain'd, an ounce ; of Linseed-Oil, two ounces : Melt the Ointment and the Oil together ; then add the Solution of the Gum-Ammoniac, thicken'd a little over the fire, and whilst it yet remains hot ; lastly, boil all together, till the aqueous moisture is consumed, so as to make an Ointment*.

Unguentum Diapompholygos.

Ointment of Pompholyx.

Take of unripe Oil, twenty ounces ; of the Juice of common Nightshade-berries, eight ounces ; boil them together, over a soft fire, till the Juice is exhale'd ; then, towards the end of the operation, dissolve five ounces of white Wax in the Oil, and removing it from the fire, add thereto, whilst it yet remains hot, the following Ingredients, reduced to powder ; viz. four ounces of Ceruse ; of calcined Lead and Pompholyx, each two ounces ;

* This is a judicious composition, and not chargeable with the faults committed by others in ordering the compound Ointment of Marshmallows.

and

and of clean Frankincense, an ounce: mix all together into an Ointment*.

Unguentum Epispasticum.

Blistering Ointment.

Take of Hog's-Lard, and *Venice* Turpentine, each three ounces; of yellow Wax, half an ounce; of Cantharides, two drams: Melt the Lard and Wax together, then add the Cantharides in powder; lastly, the Turpentine; and mix all together into an Ointment †.

Unguentum Mercuriale, seu Neapolitanum.

The Mercurial or Neapolitan Ointment.

Take of Quick-silver, a pound; of *Venice* Turpentine, and liquid Storax, each two ounces; grind them together in a mortar, till the globules of Mercury are no longer

* This Ointment is here ordered in a more simple and elegant manner than we commonly meet with it: but among us, 'tis very little used; tho' as here described it might, to very good purpose, in hot or phagedenic ulcers, that weep a saline, acrimonious or corrosive matter, &c.

† This ointment seems principally intended to dress blisters withal; in order to render them perpetual, or keep them running during pleasure; as may commodiously be effected by spreading a little thereof upon a piece of linen, and applying it occasionally to the part,

visible;

visible; then add thereto three pounds of melted Hog's-Lard, and four ounces of Oil of Bays: mix all together into an Ointment, according to the rules of art*.

Unguentum Nervinum.

Nerve Ointment.

Take of the Leaves of Male-Southernwood, Marjoram, Mint, Penny-royal, Rue, Savin, and Sage; of the Flowers of Camomile, and Lavender; of the Tops of St. *John's*-wort, and Rosemary, each an ounce: let the Herbs be fresh gather'd, well bruised, and boiled till their aqueous part is evaporated, in five pounds of Neat's-foot Oil, and three pounds of Beef-Suet; then press out all that will run; add thereto half a pound of Oil of Bays, and mix them together into an Ointment †.

* The liquid Storax is here added with judgment; both as it promotes the entire dissolution of the mercurial globules, by its viscosiry, and gives the whole a grateful scent.

† The contrivance of this Ointment wou'd be very good, if none of the essential Oils of the Ingredients were lost in the boiling; nothing at all that is foreign to the design of a warm invigorating external medicine entering its composition. As it here stands, 'tis a much more simple and judicious prescription than the *Unguent Nervinum* of the *London Dispensatory*; and if it wants of strength, that may easily be given it occasionally by means of the chemical Oils of the same plants as are here order'd.

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Unguentum Nutritum.

The Ointment called Nutritum.*

Take of Litharge of Gold, and of Vinegar, each half a pound; of unripe Oil, a pound and half: Grind them well together in a mortar, pouring in at one time a little Oil, and at another a little Vinegar, till the latter no longer appears disunited, but the whole mixture becomes a white Unguent.

Unguentum Ophthalmicum.

Ointment for the Eyes.

Take of the Ointment of Tutty, an ounce; of the Sugar of Lead, two scruples; of white Vitriol, a scruple; of Camphire, half a scruple: mix them together, and make thereof an Ointment, by the rules of art †.

* This Ointment seems to have received its name from the manner of its preparation, which is, as it were, by Nutrition; the operator now and then feeding it with Oil, and now and then with Vinegar; which being thus incorporated with the Litharge, form, to appearance, a kind of chyle, or a white uniform nutritive mixture. 'Tis of use in drying up, or stopping the flux of serous humours, and the gletty matter that ouzes from old ulcers. The proportion of the Oil to the other ingredients, is here judiciously augmented; to prevent its becoming too stiff, brittle and unfit for use, as we commonly find it in our shops; whence it comes to be little valued among us.

† For simplicity and excellence, few ophthalmic Unguents can compare with this.

Unguentum Opodeldoch.

The Ointment Opodeldoc ||.

Take of the Roots of Angelica, long Birthwort, and Masterwort, each two ounces; of the leaves of Basil, Organy, Sage, and wild Thyme; as also of the Flowers of Rosemary and Lavender, each an ounce and half; of Juniper-berries, of Bay-berries, and of Cumminseed, each an ounce: slice and bruise the Ingredients, all of them being taken dry, and pour thereon a gallon of rectified Spirit of Wine; digest them, without heat, for three days, in a close vessel; then set them in a warm *Balneum Mariæ*, for some hours; afterwards press out the liquor, and add thereto an ounce of Camphire, and two pounds of *Venetian Soap*, cut into small slices; then with a gentle heat of a *Balneum Mariæ*, digest all again in a circulating vessel, with the junctures luted, till it becomes an Ointment.

Unguentum Pectorale.

Pectoral Ointment.

Take of the Ointment of Marshmallows,

|| The meaning of the name *Opodeldoch* is not well understood; 'twas originally given by *Paracelsus* to a plaister which he very much commends against ulcers; and which he seems to have judiciously applied as a surgeon; however whimsical he might have been in giving it this chemical Title, according to his usual liberty in coining words, or transposing and changing their letters.

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two ounces; of *Sperma Ceti*, half an ounce; of Oil of Mace, obtained by expression, two drams; of the distill'd Oils of Aniseed and Rosemary, each half a dram; of the Oil of sweet Almonds, an ounce: melt the Ointment of Marshmallows, the *Sperma Ceti*, and the Oil of Almonds together; then having removed them from the fire, put in the distill'd Oils, and the Oil of Mace, so as to make an Ointment according to the rules of art*.

Unguentum Populeon.

Ointment of Poplar.

Take a pound of the fresh gather'd Buds of the black Poplar; bruise them and mix them well with four pounds of fresh Hog's-Lard, to be kept, in this state, put up in a close, glazed Vessel, till the following Herbs are in season. Then take of the Leaves of Hemlock, black Henbane, Lettice, Garden Poppy, Elder, the greater Houfeleck, common Nightshade and Orpin, each three ounces; bruise them all, and put them to the Lard, mix'd with the Poplar-Buds; now boil them, over a soft fire, till the

* There is nothing in the composition of this Ointment that forbids its internal use, as a good Balsamic or Pectoral medicine, provided the Oil of Mucilages be carefully made for the Ointment of Marshmallows contain'd therein. However, its title denotes it design'd for external application; and indeed by being rubbed warm upon the chest, it cannot but be of considerable efficacy in some diseases of that part.

aqueous

aqueous moisture is consumed; then strain and strongly press out the Ointment*.

Unguentum Rosaceum, vulgò Pomatum.
Rose Ointment, commonly called Pomatum.

Take any quantity of Hog's-Lard, cut it into small pieces, put it into a glazed earthen vessel, and pour thereon as much Spring-water as will float some inches above it: Let them stand together for ten days, the Water being shifted once a day; then melt the Lard, with a very soft heat, and throw it into a sufficient quantity of Rose-water; wherein let it be well work'd; then pouring the Water off from it, add a few drops of Oil of Rhodium †.

* This prescription hath rejected some superfluous ingredients, still retained in other Dispensatories; and render'd the composition more simple, without any diminution of its virtues.

† Scarce any Dispensatory-writers appear so well acquainted with the most approved ways of working the medicinal Simples, as the learned physicians of *Edin-burg*; which shews they have taken uncommon pains, and not disdain'd to inquire into the too much slighted practices of artizans. This, here deliver'd, seems to be the true way of making the common Pomatum; which has been found so much better than that of the Apothecaries, as to induce them to take it wholly of persons whose trade it is to make it. The secret seems principally to lye in working the prepared fat up to a spume; a moderate heat being applied near the surface when put into the pot.

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Un-

Unguentum Saturninum, vulgò Balsamum
Univerfale.

*Ointment of Lead, commonly called the
Universal Balsam.*

Take of Litharge of Gold, and red Lead, each a pound; of Vinegar, four pints; and boil them together till one half of the liquor is wasted; then strain off the other; to the remainder add the same quantity of Vinegar, and proceed to boil and strain as before, till the operation shall have been performed six several times: Then mix all the parcels of strain'd liquor together, in a glazed earthen vessel; and exhale them to the consistence of an Extract: Take of this Extract, and of white Wax, each three ounces; of Oil-Olive, a pound: and mix them together, according to the rules of art, so as to make an Ointment*.

Unguentum Tutia.

Ointment of Tutty.

Take of Tutty, two ounces; of Calamine, an ounce; of new unfalted Butter, a pound:

* As Vinegar is so good a solvent for Lead and Litharge, it may be worth the pains to prepare the Extract, for this Unguent, in the manner here described: 'tis without dispute a much better way than using calcined Lead, and crude Litharge; and this, if it had no other advantage, wou'd give it the preference, as a healer and a dryer, to that Ointment of Lead usually ascribed to *Foesius*, and adopted in the *London Dispensatory*.

having

having melted the Butter, sprinkle the powders therein, and keep all stirring till it becomes an Ointment.

Unguentum Vermifugum.

Ointment against Worms.

Take of the Leaves of female Southernwood, common Wormwood, Rue, Savin, and Tansey, each two ounces; bruise and boil them, with a pound and half of Oil-Olive, and a pound of Hog's-Lard, till the aqueous moisture is consumed; then strain and press out all that will run; to which add of the Gall of an Ox, and of *Succotrine Aloes*, each an ounce and half; of Colocynth, and Wormseed, each an ounce; boil them all together, keeping them continually stirring, so as to make an Ointment*. But observe that the Aloes, the Colocynth, and the Wormseed, are first to be reduced to very fine powder †.

* Here we have an instance of a composition, where the ingredients, tho numerous, conspire to the same intention, and seem to uphold each other's virtues: there is nothing improper, or indiscreetly admitted in the whole; so that it cannot well fail of answering its end, as an external application in the case of worms.

† See the Rules for the making of Ointments at the end of the *Section* of Plaisters.