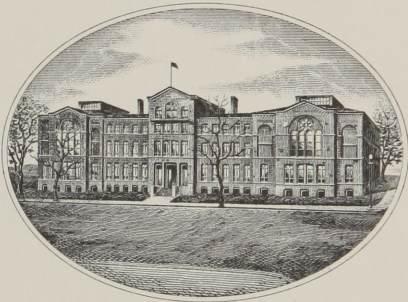


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U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare

Public Health Service

SICK MAN'S COMPANION,

OR A

SHORT NOTE

ON FEVER,

AND A

NEW METHOD OF CURE:

TOGETHER WITH

AN ENUMERATION

OF THE

SYMPTOMS

WHICH USUALLY ATTEND A NUMBER OF DISEASES

AND A

MODE OF TREATMENT

Prescribed with Medicine, the Production of

OUR OWN COUNTRY.

BY R. CARPENTER.

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JOHNSTOWN—PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR.

1812.





PREFACE.

MAN ever since his first transgression in the garden of Eden, has been subject to disease, pain and death. Indefatigable have been the endeavors, and assiduous the labors of many ingenious men, to search into the nature of medicine, that they might pour into the bosoms of the afflicted, the balm of consolation in the hour of distress. So far as it respects the causes and nature of diseases, the labors of modern authors have been crowned with great success; but it is a fact much to be lamented, that they so frequently fail of success, in their attempts to relieve the distresses of the afflicted; and particularly the faculty of our country, in their attempts to cure a disease called FEVER, which has of late years ravaged our country and proved a scourge to its inhabitants, and destroyed annually lives almost beyond calculation, even in the United States.

That means more adequate to the cause than what has hitherto been made use of should assiduously be sought for by the faculty, is a truth which no one; it is presumed, will attempt to palliate or deny.

Being impressed with this idea, and likewise fully persuaded, that the practice recommended in this work is superior in its present uncultivated state to the common practice, the author is induced in this way to communicate it to the world.

He is fully aware, that there are those men whose feelings and interest it would affect, should medicine of foreign countries be expunged from use in this country; that will start up like the horns which were said to be mown from the head of the monster Hydra, and oppose a work of this kind. But he is fully persuaded that there are those men, whose well wishes to their fellow-citizens will induce them to give it a fair trial, and whose honesty will lead them to give to *Cæsar, Cæsar's due.*

It is believed by the author that a book of this kind

PREFACE.

will be useful not only to the erudite gentlemen of the faculty, but to every family, for the reason, that there are many slight diseases that are neglected, that would not be, were the means of cure in their own hands, that finally prove fatal upon the account of that neglect. Every thing that would offend even the most delicate, has been carefully omitted, that all classes of people might have recourse to the book.

Under the above considerations it is submitted to the public, hoping that they will cover its imperfections with a veil of charity.

A NOTE ON FEVER, &c.



1st. FEVER, although usually defined to be an increased velocity in the circulation of blood, may with more propriety be defined to be an irregular circulation of blood, or in technical language, *morbid excitement*.

2d, Agreeable to this definition, every disease may with propriety be said to be a fever, or a species of it; for there is no disease but what participates of an irregular circulation of blood, or morbid excitement, and the irregular circulation of the blood is in fact the proximate cause and ground work of the disease; for no disease can exist while a regular or salutary excitement exists in the same system.

3d. That there might be a regular and salutary excitement, or circulation of blood, the God of nature hath endowed the heart and arteries with the power of contraction and relaxation, or in other words with a capability of being put in motion, and this capability is termed *excitability*, and the motion or action of the heart and arteries is called *excitement*.

4th. In order for a healthful state of the system it is absolutely necessary that there should be a regular and salutary excitement, that there might be a regular circulation of the blood, that every part of the system might receive a regular and due proportion.

5th. And whatever operates or acts upon the system so as to cause an irregular, morbid ex-

citement or action in the sanguiferous system, causes disease, and the effect is in proportion to the cause applied.

6th. And when the cure of a disease is attempted, the sole object should be to regulate an irregular excitement, and for this purpose it is very necessary that the errors of excitement should be accurately marked out in the mind.— It should also be determined whether the disease is of a general or of a local nature, and if it is of a local nature to what part of the system it is attached, that the remedies might with propriety be administered.

7th. If it is determined that the disease is general, and it is also discovered that there is a full hard pulse, or from the attending symptoms it is determined that the irregularity of excitement consists in an increase of it, the object should be to reduce it to the common level, and in this way to regulate it. But if on the other hand it is determined that the excitement is below par, the object then should be to raise it to a proper pitch, and in this way to regulate it.

8th. For the purpose of reducing an increased excitement, blood letting, emetics, cathartics, febrifuges, deobstruents, diuretics, &c. are proper remedies—And for the purpose of increasing a reduced excitement, that class of medicine called stimulants, should be used.

9th. In selecting from the materia medica the most proper medicine, it is presumed that the greatest difficulty in the cure of diseases is attached, and on this point it is necessary to be somewhat particular, for tradition and selfishness those hydra monsters of the world, have hitherto expunged (in a great measure) the most valua-

ble medicine that our country affords, (and perhaps no country affords better) so that they have either fallen into disrepute, or are not known among medicine.

10th. For the purpose of reducing an increased excitement, and of restoring an equilibrium of action in the system, blood-letting should frequently be resorted to, and likewise emetics and chathartics, and for these purposes the mandrake root is perhaps superior to any thing hitherto in use. If it is wished, both to puke and to purge, to an adult should be given, of the dried root when powdered, two tea spoons full and a half at once. If the object is to purge, the same quantity might be given in the course of six or eight hours, divided into six or eight portions. The Mandrake should frequently be repeated through the course of the disease.

11th. If it is concluded that the foregoing remedies will not be sufficient to regulate the excitement, febrifuges might also be given for this purpose; a decoction of Lobelia Ova, Snake root, Dragon root, Burdock seed, and blue violet root, of each a tea spoonfull when dried and powdered, might be put into a tea cup of water, and boiled for the space of six or eight minutes, when it is fit for use; and to an adult a tea spoonfull might be given every ten or fifteen minutes, until the increase of excitement is reduced to a proper level.

12th. Sweating—Although the use of this has hitherto by many been doubted, yet the author can vouch from experience of its efficacy, in numerous instances—It however is a remedy which should be resorted to not in every case of the fever, but in those cases where there is not a

great local determination, or a tendency to putrefaction—Sweating is peculiarly useful, and the most proper method of forcing a free perspiration is to take a bundle of Hemlock boughs, dip them in warm water, and then into the middle of the bundle put a hot stone, wrap the whole in a linnen cloth and put it betwixt the feet;—if this should not have the desired effect it might be put betwixt the knees, when it seldom fails of forcing a free perspiration. Sweating in many cases might be repeated every twenty-four hours.

13th. The reasons which are urged against sweating are the following: That heat is stimulant, and that it of course increases a fever instead of reducing it—To this I reply, that the rule in general holds good, but in the cases of the above kind there is an exception. The sweating, it is true, firstly produces an increased action, but at the same time it is a general action, or an action that is uniform throughout the whole system, which perhaps was not before the case. And experience teaches that after a free perspiration is in this way forced, that a fever subsides much more regular than it otherwise would have done, for the reason that the blood is forced into the extreme vessels, secretion, excretion and absorption is increased, and there is an equilibrium of action, although it is an increased one, which is a great step or an approximation towards health. For if an equilibrium of action can but be made to take place and continued, all that is necessary to be done is to increase or reduce the excitement to a proper or healthful state.

14th. Blisters in fevers, where there is a local determination to any particular part after evacu-

ations, are frequently used with success. They should be applied as near the part to which the determination takes place, as possible.

15. Drinks of saffron tea should be regularly given through the course of the disease: other cooling drinks might occasionally be given.

16th. Anodynes after evacuations might in many cases be used for the purpose of abating pain, causing sleep and checking diarrhoeas or an immoderate operation of physic.

Observations upon the foregoing mode of treatment in fevers.

1st. Bleeding letting, it is a well known fact, has a tendency to reduce an increased excitement, and of course must be directly useful in cases of this kind.

2d. It is also a well known fact, that mandrake root, if given in proper doses, effectually cleanses the alimentary canal, and promotes secretion, which is an object of importance in most fevers.

3d. The febrifuge above mentioned promotes a secretion of saliva, and consequently relieves the dryness of the mouth, regulates the action of the liver and other glands, causes an expectoration of phlem, and opens the passages of urine, reduces excitement, and abates pain.

4th. It is an object of importance in the treatment of fevers, that the physic which is given be not suffered to operate for any considerable length of time, for if it does, it usually increases excitement instead of reducing it. After the first operation of physic, two or three stools caused by physic is usually sufficient; and if it is like to operate more it should then be checked by giving small doses of opium or some other astringent.

5th. It is believed that the above mode of

treatment in fevers, is far superior to any practice hitherto in vogue, and would, if it was generally practised, be the means of saving many, perhaps valuable lives.

DYSENTERY.

This disease is a fever with a local determination to the intestinal canal, in consequence perhaps of pre-existing debility in those parts; the symptoms are a frequent discharge by stool, of a slimy or bloody matter, while the usual contents of the bowels are retained; a violent griping and frequent urging to go to stool, heat, thirst, &c.

CURE.—Firstly, give a drastic purge, that the contents of the stomach and bowels might be discharged—For this purpose, mandrake root or oil-nut bark, or the bark of the root of yellow or key-ash might be given.

After the operation of the physic, give shad-blows in decoction, or boil cod-fish, skins and drink freely. A decoction of blue violet roots, or an infusion in cold water of blackberry-briar root, or a strong decoction of mullen in new milk might occasionally be given.

COMMON QUINSY,

Is a fever with a local determination to those parts called the almonds of the ears. The symptoms are swelling pain, and redness of the parts, claminess of the mouth and throat; a frequent discharge of phlegm, and pain in swallowing.

CURE.—All that is usually necessary in this disease, is lobelia—it should firstly be given so as to puke—afterwards in small quantities, frequently repeated.

CROUP OR RATTLES,

Is a fever with a local determination to the wind-pipe or membrane, that lines it. It usually comes on in the night; the patient wakes out of sleep, with its face flushed, breathes with difficulty, and with a peculiar convulsive motion of the belly. The cough resembles the barking of a young dog—the pulse are tense and hard, but usually small.

CURE.—Vomit with lobelia; afterwards purge with mandrake, or boil for eight or ten minutes a sufficient quantity of lobelia, and give for a purge, warm bathing injections of tobacco, in decoction—blisters applied to the throat, cupping, &c.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

This is a fever with a local determination to the lungs and parts contiguous.

CURE.—A decoction of lobelia, shumakeberries, and hysop, boiled and sweetened with honey, and firstly taken so as to operate gently as a puke; afterwards in small or nauseating doses, frequently repeated, is an excellent remedy. Common leeks cut and pounded fine, and put with an equal quantity of sweet oil, is a very good remedy. Blisters, warm bathing and gentle purges.

RHEUMATISM.

This is a fever with a local determination to the part affected—It usually commences with the common precursors of fever, with pain in some part or parts which is sometimes fixed at others moveable.

CURE.—Bleeding, if the fever runs high

should be frequently repeated, until the pain and fever abates. Purges should be given to cleanse the stomach and bowels, and repeated according to the attending circumstances. Local applications to the pained part of cedar boughs, beach-bark, and comphrey roots, boiled down to the consistence of a plaster, is very useful. At the same time should be taken a strong decoction of burdock roots and seeds. Hemlock boughs, wrapped in double paper, and firstly covered with ashes—afterwards with hot embers and suffered to remain for a while, and applied to the pained part, is a good remedy. Mullen boiled down to the consistence of a salve; as also the skins of animals taken off quick, or brandy, salt and soap applied to the part is useful.

CHOLERA MORBUS.

The symptoms are a violent vomiting and purging of matter of a yellow or green colour; high fever, intense pain, pulse weak and quick; great thirst, eyes languid, stools slimy or mixed with blood. The patient draws up its feet and is in an uneasy posture.

CURE.—Chicken broth, in small quantities should frequently be given; a small blister should be applied to the pit of the stomach, and a strong decoction of bitter herbs should frequently be applied to the bowels; glysters of flax-seed tea, or of starch dissolved should be injected, and an infusion of blackberry briar root, in cold water might be used for a drink; weak lye might likewise be given, and when the pain is very intense, cold bathing might be applied.

CATARRH.

The symptoms are a difficulty of breathing

through the nose, a dull pain and sense of weight felt in the forehead; a stiffness and soreness in the motion of the eyes, a thin watery fluid from the eyes and nose; a peculiar kind of indolence felt over the whole body; pulse frequent, and a cough and hoarseness finally succeed.

CURE.—A snuff made of jack in the hedge should be taken constantly for six weeks; take likewise four ounces of bitter-sweet roots, one pound of celandine, one pound of dog-mack-emose bark, and one pound of gill-go-by-the-ground, and boil in one pail full and a half of water to one quart; to this decoction add the same quantity of gin, and take four glasses a day. In bad cases at the same time, take lobelia frequently in small doses, and smoke the nostrils with dog-mack-emose bark dried and set on fire, while the head is held over it.—Sweating in the first stage of the disease is a useful remedy.

JAUNDICE.

Yellowness of the skin and white of the eye, pains in different parts of the body, faintness at the stomach; a slow circulation of the blood, and an inclination to sleep whenever the body is still, are the symptoms which usually attend this disease.

CURE.—Purges of mandrake root, or of boiled Lobelia, or of the bark of the root of the key ash in decoction, might firstly be given, and in bad cases repeated. Blood root might also be taken in small doses, and frequently repeated; or take a pound of the wood and leaves of Bittersweet, bruise them and simmer them in wine one quart, for twelve hours over a gentle fire; strain off the liquor, and take a glass three times a day; or take a handful of the inner bark of

Witch Hazel, with Wormwood, Hops and Smal-
lage, bruise them in a mortar, and boil them in
a gallon of beer when it is new, half an hour ; to
this add three gallons more of beer, and let them
work together, when half a pint might be taken
every morning—Or make a strong decoction of
Horse Radish, Sarsaparilla roots, Burdock roots
and seeds, red Cherry bark, and Prickly Ash
bark ; to this decoction put an equal quantity of
rum, and take upon an empty stomach a glass
three times a day.

PILES, OR HEMORHOIDS.

CURE.—Firstly—drink a strong decoction of
Brook Alder tops frequently, and if there is
great pain, make a strong decoction of Mane-
wort, Celandine, and Cedar boughs, and sit over
the steam of them ; while in some convenient
vessel, make an ointment of Celandine and Mane-
wort, and annoint the affected parts. Clysters of
Shumake berries, or Damask Roses, in decoc-
tion, should frequently be injected ; a decoction
of Cedar boughs, Celandine and Colewort, should
be used for a drink.

WORMS.

The symptoms are, starting in sleep, puking,
rubbing the nose in consequence of its itching,
a sighing or suffocating manner of breathing,
pain in the side, hickups, sour breath, flushing of
the cheeks, lying much on the belly, swelling of
the partition of the nose and upper lip, jaundice,
convulsions, &c.

CURE.—Common salt given in doses of half
or three fourths of a teaspoonful, upon an empty
stomach, molasses in large quantities, a decoc-
tion of the bark of the roots of Brown Ash—

Rust of Iron is an excellent remedy, or take the buds of white Hemlock one quart, Sweet Fern the top and root two pounds, Alder tags or buds two pounds; boil in one pail full of water down to one quart, sweeten with molasses, and take three glasses a day; or take sweet fern roots and white walnut bark off the roots equal quantities, dry them and pound to powder, and take one tea-spoonful in molasses three times a day upon an empty stomach.

DIABETES.

As this disease consists of an unusual discharge of urine, it is unnecessary to make any further remarks upon its symptoms.

CURE.—For the cure of this disease, into two quarts of brandy you may put four ounces of spruce gum, and to an adult a glass might be given three times a day. Blue violets, the roots dried & powdered might be given in doses of half a tea-spoonful three or four times a day, and in this disorder, all such food or drinks as act as diuretics should be carefully avoided.

DROPSY.

This disease consists of a collection of watery fluid in the thorax, or abdomen, or some other cavity in the system.—For the dropsy of the thorax or abdomen, or for the dropsy which spreads itself over the body and lower limbs, make a strong decoction of dwarf elder, or of white oak bark; to this decoction add an equal quantity of gin, and take half a pint of the decoction every hour, until it has the effect of causing a free discharge of urine; after this make a decoction of white oak bark, juniper berries, the leaves of artichokes and burdock seed, and to this

decoction add an equal quantity of gin, and take a glass six times a day. If the system has become debilitated by the disease as is usually the case, stimulants, such as iron rust, steel filings, &c. might be given.

ASTHMA.

The symptoms are, difficulty of breathing, cough, and an irregular excitement. It is a fever with a local determination to the lungs, in consequence of pre existing debility in that organ.

CURE. Take lobelia, blood root, the roots of blue violet and ova, of each three tea-spoonful when dried and powdered, and boil fifteen minutes in one pint and a half of water, take out the herbs and roots, and to this decoction add an equal quantity of good rum and take six times a day a sufficient quantity to nauseate or make sick at the stomach. After taking the above a few days, make a syrrip of Celandine, dogmackeremose, hog brake roots and white solomon seal. Of this syrrip should frequently be taken a sufficient quantity to moderately increase the excitement.

GRAVEL, OR STONE.

CURE. Take lobelia, violets, chamomile and ribwort of each a handful, to this compound add one pint of white lye, and boil the composition ten or twelve minutes, strain off the decoction, and to it add one pint of Holland gin, and take as much as the stomach will bear, six times a day; at the same time take a glass of onion juice [of the tops] every night. Or, take fennel, lake weed and persly, steep in one pint of water and add to the decoction one pint of gin, and take a glass three times a day.

CONSUMPTION.

The symptoms which usually attend the consumption, the gravel, and some other diseases, are so commonly known that it is in a treatise like this unnecessary to enumerate them.

CURE. In some cases if the excitement runs high, it is necessary to reduce it by bleeding, as also to make use of gentle purges, such as the bark off the roots of sweet elder in decoction, or a decoction of the bark of the root of the yellow ash, &c. After this take dogmackemose bark, sweet elder bark and chamomile, of each four ounces, dragon roots, nettle roots and celandine, of each a pound, gill-go-by-the-ground, two pounds, white ash bark four ounces, boil the whole in two pails full of water half an hour, strain off the decoction and then boil it down to two quarts, to this add an equal quantity of Holland gin, and four ounces of maple sugar. Three fourths of a glass should be taken six times a day. For the cough and fever, take wood sorrel, a sufficient quantity to pound and get out one pint of juice, to this add one pint of rum, and four ounces of loaf sugar : half a glass should be taken six times a day. After the foregoing syrups have been given until the cough and fever and other symptoms pretty much abate, to complete the cure, take hog brake roots two pounds, white Solomon seal half a pound, dulcinary roots four ounces, alder tags or tops four quarts ; boil the whole in one pail full of water half an hour, then strain off the decoction and boil down to one quart ; to this add one pint of rum and two ounces of sugar, and take three glasses a day.

CANCERS.

In Cancers of considerable magnitude it is u-

sually the case that the blood becomes vitiated and bad, and must be cleansed, &c. before a cancerous humor can fully be eradicated from the system. For this purpose take one pound of the tops and roots of noble liverwort, one pound of dogmackemose bark, two pounds of sarsaparilla roots, sweet fern the tops and roots four pounds; put the whole into two pails full of water, boil the composition half an hour over a brisk fire, strain off the decoction and boil down to three pints, to this decoction add an equal quantity of gin, and take a glass three times a day. For a local application to the part, take the juice of the three leafed sorrel and apply to the part every three hours. Or take the juice of the narrow leafed yellow dock and wood sorrel, and dry away in the sun in a pewter platter to the consistence of an ointment, and apply to the part four times a day. Or boil a bushel of red oak bark two hours, take out the bark and boil down to the consistence of an ointment and apply to the part four times in a day.

For an occult cancer boil the bark of the root of the white ash, and reduce the decoction to the consistence of an ointment, and frequently apply to the part.

For a rose cancer take one bushel of tobacco stalks, put them into a kettle over the fire, burn them to ashes, leach the ashes with urine, to this lye add one quart of white lye made of the ashes of red ash. Boil them both to the consistence of a plaister, and apply it to the part seven times a day.

STOPPAGE OF URINE.

If from Cantharides, take frequently large draughts of warm water, say half a pint, every ten

minutes, until it has the effect of relieving the pain, &c. If from other causes, give a decoction of artichoke leaves, burdock seed, juniper berries, dandelions, dwarf eldar, wood betony, blue violets, gill-go-by-the-ground, dogmackemose bark, and bittersweet; or in slight cases give any one of the foregoing medicine singly, or two or three of them combined.

DIARHOEA.

In the cure of this disease, it is very necessary to understand its cause, that a proper remedy might be pointed out. If it proceed from worms, anthelmintics should be given; if from an acid in the stomach, alkalies and absorbents; if from weakness, stimulants, &c. Take lobelia one part, violets two parts, and oyster shells four parts, mix the whole together and take a tea-spoonful every three hours, and it is a very useful remedy for the complaint; if it proceed either from weakness or acidity, cud weed, nat grass, opium, &c. have their use.

HEART-BURN.

This disease is a belching of a hot aerid matter from the stomach into the throat, in consequence of an irregular action of the stomach.

CURE. Lobelia, if properly taken, is usually an effectual cure for this disease. It should be frequently taken in honey, in as large doses as the stomach will bear, and upon an empty stomach. Oyster shells, and other medicines of the same class, in many cases might with propriety be used. Equal quantities of beef's gall and chalk taken in doses of a tea-spoonful three times a day, is very efficacious—The gall should be dried and powdered, and mixed with the chalk.

CANKERASH.

In slight cases of this disease the following composition is usually sufficient to cure. Blood-root one ounce, good vinegar half a pint, honey two ounces, mix the whole together, and take a tea-spoonful every half hour. In severe cases, a portion of mandrake or boiled lobelia might first be given to clear the stomach and bowels, afterwards the above composition. The mouth should frequently be washed with sage tea, sweetened with honey. Weak lye should also frequently be drank.

SORE EYES.

In old cases of this complaint it is usually necessary to cleanse the system of humors, &c.—For this purpose a decoction of dogmackemose bark and gill goby by the ground made strong might frequently be drank. After this make a decoction of lobelia in spring water, strain off the decoction through a very fine cloth, and with it frequently wash the eyes. Or, take a handful of chamomile and boil in two thirds of a pint of new milk, until it curdles; after this strain off the whey and to it add an equal quantity of rum, and with this frequently wash the eyes. Some times it is necessary to purge, bleed, blister, &c.

BURNS.

If considerable fever be excited, it is necessary to bleed or purge, or both; but topical application to the part should chiefly be relied on. For this purpose take blue flag roots, cut them fine and pound them in a mortar to a poultice—or, bass-wood sprouts boiled in milk and water, and thickened with Indian meal—or, the roots of shumake prepared as the basswood sprouts,

should be applied to the part for twenty-four hours.—After this, an ointment made of the buds of white hemlock and the thinner rind of the white beach, simmered in hog's lard and water, and the water renewed eight or ten times, might be applied.—Or, an ointment made by simmering recent horse dung in hog's lard, might be used.

FEVER AND AGUE.

In this disease the excitement might be regulated by giving a combination of mandrake and lobelia, or lobelia alone—equal quantities of the mandrake and lobelia should be frequently given in as large doses as the stomach will bear. Take likewise two pounds of perificary, and two of white ash bark, and one pound of horse radish, and two handfuls of oak of Jerusalem, put them into a pailful of water and boil down to one quart; to this decoction add an equal quantity of gin, and take three glasses a day, and it is a very effectual remedy.

SCALD HEAD, OR TETTERS.

CURE. Firstly apply a poultice of wheat bread and milk, for forty-eight hours; then take two handfuls of strawberry vines, celandine and wood-betony juice, of each half a pint, hog's lard two pounds, and tar, one half pint; simmer the whole together one hour, and apply to the part affected. Such things as would cleanse the blood might also with propriety be given.

WENS, OR INCYSTED TUMORS.

This disease consists of a bag or sack, which forms in the flesh; which contains some kind of matter, and the tumor has received different names, from the different appearance of the mat.

ter which it contained—But the cure of all this kind of tumors may be performed much alike. A mode of cure which has been practiced with success in many instances by myself and others, is as follows:—Make a soap of liver oil and white lye; into this soap put the roots of cow lilies, as long as the soap will eat them up: with this soap frequently annoint the wen until it is cured. This ointment is an excellent remedy also for to remove a calice.

WHITLOW, OR FELON.

This disorder is a fever locally determined to the membrane or skin which covers the bones of the fingers. It usually commences by a pain resembling the pricking of a thistle or briar, but soon comes to be very painful, especially towards evening.

CURE. Make a thin mortar of lime and soap—take a thimble that has a top to it, fill the thimble with the mortar and place it directly over the part afflicted, bind it on with a cloth so as perfectly to exclude the air, and renew it every two hours for the space of ten hours; after this take the green bark of bittersweet and elder, boil them in milk and water and thicken the decoction with Indian meal, and apply to the part every 4 hours for the space of 24 hours; after this it may be healed with any mild ointment.

ITCH.

CURE. Make an ointment by simmering equal quantities of dock root and elacampane in hog's lard or fresh butter, until the roots become crisped, or hard—or, put the roots, after pounding them to poultice, into lard or fresh butter, and put them in the sun every day, for a month,

which makes an ointment much superior to the first. Or, take heart's ease, pound and get out a pint of the juice, add this to a pound of mutton tallow previously melted, just before it gets cold, stir them thoroughly together, that the tallow and juice may be completely mixed. Or, make a decoction of gill-go-by-the-ground, in water, and wash with this decoction. Or, make a decoction of the inner bark of witch hazel, in vinegar, and with this decoction wash.

CHAPPED, OR CRACKED HANDS.

This disease is not apt to prove mortal, altho' it is a very troublesome one.

CURE. Firstly, wash the hands in warm water; then rub on common soap, thoroughly—after this scour the hands in good house ashes, two minutes—after this, wash off the soap and ashes with warm water. This repeated a few times, seldom fails of completing a cure.

SALT RHEUM.

Firstly, to cleanse the blood, make a decoction of dogmackemose bark, sweet fern, and ground hemlock; to a quart of this decoction add one pint of gin, and take a glass three times a day. After taking this one week, make an ointment by simmering six common frogs in one pound of hog's fat or fresh butter two hours; with this ointment frequently annoint the part affected.

ULCERS, OR SORES.

Perhaps there is no disease to which the human frame is subjected, that the cure of is less understood than that of bad sores or ulcers. In the cure of a sore, it is very necessary that there should be a regular excitement, as it is almost

impossible to heal a bad ulcer while there is an irregular action in the system in general, or in the part affected; therefore the first step should be to regulate the excitement. If the system is in a state of debility, and the action of the heart and arteries too weak, stimulants should be used to raise it to the common level of excitement, and vice versa. If the excitement is too high, it should by proper remedies be reduced.

Lobelia is an excellent remedy to reduce an increased excitement, and to put the system into that state, in which a foul ulcer will readily put on a healthy appearance, and likewise heal; and when there is an inflammation or increased action in the part affected, it should also be regulated. For this purpose a strong decoction of dogmackemose bark might be used as a wash for the sore, and a handful of the herb gill-go-by-the-ground might be steeped and laid upon the sore, and frequently renewed; after proceeding in this way until a regular action takes place, the following salve to expedite the cure, might be applied:— Take tobacco two pounds and cider two quarts, simmer the tobacco and cider together over a gentle fire two hours, strain off the liquid, to this liquor add two pounds of hog's lard, and simmer them together; to this add beeswax and rosin of each a pound, previously melted; then strain it off again, and just before it gets cold stir in two ounces of dragon root powdered very fine—after the beeswax and rosin is added the salve should be stirred until it gets perfectly cold.

Or take the juice of green tobacco half a pint, dogmackemose bark, fir balsam bark, tamarack bark, millilet the top, bittersweet the wood, Solomon seal the root, of each a handful; rosin and

beeswax of each a pound and a half; honey half a pound, rum half a pint, hog's lard or fresh butter, two pounds and a half; simmer the whole together one hour, strain it, and it is fit for use: Blood root powdered, when dried, very fine, might be sprinkled into the sore before putting on the salve. Gill-go-by-the-ground, bruised and applied to a green wound, is a very useful application; being boiled with honey and verdigrise, and applied to a fistulas or foul ulcer, it doth very effectually cleanse them, &c.

When the blood has become vitiated or impure in consequence of an old sore, the following syrip might be used: Take dogmackemose bark, sweet fern the herb and root, and hog brake root, of each two pounds, boil in two pailfuls of water to three pints, to this add an equal quantity of gin, and take a glass three times a day.

ST. ANTHONY'S FIRE.

This disease is a fever with a local determination to the external surface of the part affected. The symptoms in bad cases of this disease are, the common precursors of fever; in a short time a redness or inflammation appears upon one side of the head, or upon one foot, or leg, or arm; after a few days it is usually the case that the redness appears upon the opposite side; at the conclusion of the disease the outer skin scales off in branny kind of scales.

CURE. Bleeding, in this disease, is a very proper remedy; also purges—and they should be repeated until the inflammation abates. Local applications of Indian meal applied dry to the part, or dry beach leaves, or a decoction of the leaves of the gooseberry bush, are proper rem-

edies. Poultices, fomentations and putting the feet into warm water, should be carefully avoided, as they rather increase the disease than the contrary.

HYSTERICIS.

In the paroxism or fit, give lobelia until it nauseates or makes sick at the stomach; in which case it usually relieves the cramp, &c.—After this take two handfuls of thoroughwort, boil in one pailful of water to one quart; to this decoction add an equal quantity of gin and take a glass three times a day, unless it should prove too physical—in which case the dose should be lessened. Small doses of lobelia might also be taken every four hours and continued until all the symptoms abate. To strengthen the system and prevent a return of the disorder, take a handful of blue vervine the tops, a handful of the roots of blue cohosh, and a small quantity of the roots of white Solomon seal, cover them in a kettle with water, boil them until the strength is exhausted from the roots, &c. After this take out the herbs and simmer the decoction down to a quart; to the decoction add the same quantity of rum, and take a glass every four hours.

PLEURISY.

The symptoms of this disease are the common precursors of fever, together with a local determination to the pleury or membrane lining the chest, in consequence of pre-existing debility in that part. Bleeding is peculiarly useful in this disease, and should be continued until the pain and fever abates. Purges of mandrake root, or a purge of lobelia one tea-spoonful, and blue violet roots three tea-spoonfuls, boiled in a tea-cup

of water fifteen minutes, might be given in small doses until it operated as physic. The decoction of lobelia and violets in small doses might be continued through the course of the disease. Blisters should also be applied to the side.

CHOLIC.

Common cases of choleric may be cured by giving a dose of lobelia so as to operate as a puke; but in bad cases of the disease it is necessary to purge also. For this purpose make a strong decoction of oil-nut bark, and take a sufficient quantity to operate as a cathartic; a decoction of gill-go-by-the-ground might also be taken if the disorder proceed from wind in the bowels.— In the last stages of the bilious choleric the root of blue violet is an excellent remedy; the dried root should be given in doses of a tea-spoonful every half hour, until it has the effect of opening the bowels.

DISEASES ARISING FROM THE DISUSE OF MERCURY.

The diseases arising from a bad use of mercury put on different appearances, and the symptoms are various. In the first place there is usually a distressing soreness of the mouth and throat, and an increased discharge of saliva; after this, weakness of the joints, back and stomach—pains in different parts of the body, and chronic complaints of almost every kind.

To cure the soreness of the mouth and to stop the discharge of saliva, and likewise to cleanse the system of this morbid material, lobelia is superior perhaps to any other medicine. It should be given in small doses, frequently repeated, and continued for some considerable length of time

—In which case it restores an equilibrium of action in the system, and a regular excitement. If it has caused a weakness in any particular part to which a plaister could be applied, after having administered the lobelia for eight or ten days, a plaister of the balsam which is extracted from the tamarack, might be spread upon a thin piece of leather and applied to the weakened part.— Sheet lead applied to a joint weakened by mercury, is said to have had very valuable effects.— While administering the above remedies, a syrip made of two pounds of dogmackemose bark, three of gill-go-by-the-ground and one of red cherry-tree bark, might be put into two pailfuls of water, and boiled down to two quarts; and one quart of gin added to the decoction, might be given three times a day, in doses of half a gill at a time.

TOOTH-ACHE.

The inner yellow bark of witch-hazel dried and powdered and boiled in vinegar, and tents wet in the decoction and put into hollow teeth easeth the pains thereof—In the tooth-ache, where the teeth are sound, the mouth should be washed with the decoction. Or, wet a tent in the juice of the stalks of Angelica and put into a hollow tooth, and it easeth the pain. A decoction of lobelia frequently taken into the mouth and guggled about, particularly in the side of the mouth to which the pain is attached, and a small quantity taken into the stomach so as gently to nauseate, is a very sovereign remedy.

EAR-ACHE.

If the cause of the pain be a sore in the ear, the heart of a roasted onion might be put into the ear as a poultice. The juice of the stalk of

Angelica, or the juice of gill-go-by-the-ground might frequently be dropped into the ear. If from other causes, three or four drops of the juice of the leaves of henbane, or a strong decoction of the herb might be dropped into the ear, and repeated every hour, until the pain abates—and if the leaves can be procured green, they might be warmed and laid upon the ear: otherwise, a poultice might be made by boiling the herb in water and thickening it with indian meal and applied to the side of the head upon the ear. The juice of the herb gill-go-by-the-ground dropped into the ear, helpeth the noise and singing with which some ears are troubled.

NOSE BLEED.

Allum sucked in the mouth is usually sufficient to stop a bleeding. The red blowed bath root dried and powdered and snuffed up the nose is a safe and sure remedy for the complaint.—The herb cinkfill powdered and snuffed up the nose is a very good remedy.

INWARD BLEEDING.

If there be a general weakness in the system, or a weakness of the part from which the blood issues, the following remedies might with propriety be used: Into one quart of brandy put one half pound of the onion part of buck thorn bruised, and take half a gill three times a day.

Or, take half a glass of the juice of jupiter herb, three times a day. Or, one tea-spoonful of powdered bath root might be taken three times a day.

KING'S EVIL.

In this disease the system should be cleansed of all humors, and the excitement regulated, or the disease cannot be cured—For this purpose

make a decoction of lobelia, by putting a tea-spoonful of the powdered herb into a tea-spoonful of water, and boil it six or eight minutes, and take as much as the stomach will bear every hour, for six or eight days; then apply a poultice to the part affected, made by thickening in Indian meal into a decoction of cicuta. At the same time a syrip made of noble liverwort and sweet fern, might be frequently taken. If there is an open sore, after applying the above poultice a few days, a salve made by putting a handful of cicuta and henbane into a half pound of hog's lard and simmering it over a gentle fire half an hour, might be applied to the part three times a day. Or the juice of wood sorrel might be dried away in the sun to the consistence of a salve, and applied as above.

PUKING.

In fevers, excessive vomiting might be checked by putting a spoonful of deershorn burned and powdered, into a pint of water, and boiling it for a few minutes, when a spoonful might be taken every five minutes or oftener. Excessive puking, the effects of emetic tartar, may be checked by drinking frequently large draughts of milk, warm from the cow. The juice of wormwood is many times used with success.—Parched corn powdered and small quantities of it taken, is sometimes also used with success.—Essence of peppermint, essence of tansy, &c. are remedies in this disease. If worms be the cause of puking, anthelmintics would be proper. If bile in the stomach, a puke to unload it of this offending matter, should be administered.

Although it is denied by many that common

fevers are communicated from one to another, yet it is a fact that cannot in reason be disputed, that those persons who attend upon those that are sick with fevers, are more subject to the disorder than others. The reason of it is obvious. It is always the case that there proceeds from a person laboring under a fever, a noxious effluvia, or vapor, which, if received with the air into the lungs, or being mixed with the saliva or juices of the mouth is carried into the stomach, impregnates the system with the seeds of the disease. This seed however very frequently lies dormant, or at least does not materially affect the system, (if there is not a pre-existing debility in the system) until it is roused into action by some co-operating cause, such as hard labor, heats and colds, &c. In which case the united causes both operating upon the same system at the same time, can scarcely fail of generating a disease. Therefore it is very necessary that those that attend upon the sick in fever, should have the means of preventing so fatal a disease, in their power. For this purpose a nauseating dose of lobelia might be taken morning and evening, which if continued while exposed to the noxious or morbid effluvia that arises from the sick, seldom fails of preventing the disease. A syrip made of thurerwort one handful, gill-goby-the-ground and burdock roots of each a handful, boiled in four quarts of water to two quarts, and a pint of gin added to the syrip, and half a gill taken every morning and evening, is a very good preventative. A decoction of dogmackemose bark, or half a tea-spoonful of the root of mandrake, dried and powdered and taken every day, might be used.

Observations upon the medicine recommended in the foregoing treatise, &c.

Amara Dulcis, or Bittersweet. This is a common shrub in our country, growing from an eighth of an inch to an inch in diameter, and to a considerable length, winding itself about other shrubs and trees. Bittersweet being bruised and tied about the neck, cures the vertigo or dizziness of the head. The berries bruised and applied to a felon, sometimes very soon removes the disorder. A pound of the wood and leaves bruised and infused in three pints of wine over a gentle fire for twelve hours and then strained, is an excellent remedy for obstructions of the liver and spleen, jaundice, dropsy, difficulty of breathing, bruises, congealed blood, &c. The infusion is gently purgative; one half pint might be taken by an adult, in the morning, or a gill might be taken morning and evening. Bittersweet is also an useful remedy in the consumption, and likewise those fits to which young children are subject.

Alder. Common alder grows upon the banks of streams, ponds, &c. and is so common in our country and so well known, that it needs no description. If a decoction of the bark and twigs of this shrub be drank, it strengthens the body, helps the piles, jaundice, &c.—its virtue being those of a stimulant, deobstruent and anthelmintic. If a decoction of the tags of the alder, with white hemlock buds and the tops and roots of sweet fern, be drank, it is an excellent remedy for worms.

Black Alder, called also Witch hazel. This shrub seldom grows to any great height, but remains like a hedge bush. The outer bark is of

a darkish color, checked with many white spots—the inner bark is yellowish, and when chewed in the mouth turns the spittle of a saffron color; the wood is of a white and of a dark red coal or heart color; the flowers are white, and turn into small round berries. The inner yellow bark of this shrub dried is gently purgative. The outward bark dried is gently astringent. A decoction of the inner bark in vinegar, cures the itch, kills lice, cures the tooth-ache, takes away scabs, fastens loose teeth, and keeps them sound. The inner bark opens obstructions of the liver, &c.—The outward bark dried and taken in small quantities in powder is a useful remedy in all fluxes of the body.

Angelica. This herb, in syrip, is used in colds and coughs, shortness of breath, asthma, &c. It also helps cholic pains, stoppage of urine, obstructions of the liver and spleen. It also easeth and discusseth all inward swellings, and helps digestion. The juice dropped into the ears helps deafness, and into the eyes helps dimness of sight; and into hollow teeth easeth the pains thereof. Tents wet in the juice of this herb and applied to a filthy or foul ulcer, cleanses and causes it to heal.

Ash Tree. The bark of the root of the yellow ash, in decoction, is an excellent purge, particularly in old or chronic complaints; it opens obstructions of the system in general, carries off all crudities and gross humors from the stomach and intestines. A decoction of the bark of the roots of the brown ash, is used in cases of worms.

Apple Tree. The bark of the sweet apple tree in decoction is gently stimulant, and deobstruent, and is very useful in the jaundice, and those

cases where strengthening is requisite.—

Cherry Tree. The bark of common wild red cherry is a powerful tonic, and with this intention may be used in cases of debility. It may be used in substance, that is, by drying the bark, and taking it in the powder; or it might be taken in decoction. This bark, and the bark of black cherry, is frequently used in the jaundice, and is a very good remedy in slight cases of the complaint.

Cud Weed. This herb somewhat resembles the herb called mouse ear—It grows in old fields and roads, to the height of about five or six inches, on dry land. This herb is gently astringent, and may be used with propriety in dysentery and diarrhoea, and other fluxes to which the body is subject.

Comphrey. The root of this herb is of a corroborant and strengthening nature, and when applied in the form of a poultice to weakened or sprained limbs, doth help them. A poultice applied to a limb affected with the rheumatism, is a very useful application. With the intention of strengthening, it may be applied to any part whatever, where it is necessary to strengthen.

Crow Foot—called also *Cuckoo Point*.—This herb grows in abundance in our country, in mowing and pasture grounds; it grows from one to two feet high, has a roughish leaf, and blows in the fore part of summer—the blow is of a bright yellow color. This herb, if bruised and applied to the skin, draws as perfect a blister as the Spanish Fly. The best method of using the herb for the purpose of blistering is, to mix the juice of the herb with a proper salve, while the salve is cooling, after having been

warmed. There is another species of this herb, the root of which is called pepper root. This root is of a very hot biting taste, and is as powerful as the crow foot, when applied for the purpose of blistering. The juice of this herb, or of the pepper root, is a good application to palsied limbs, and cold swellings; it stimulates the languid or torpid vessels, and produces a due degree of excitement.

Colewort. This is a small herb, growing in uncultivated grounds; in June and July bears a white blow, or flower; the leaves are indented at the edges, and somewhat roughish. This herb is of a very cooling nature, and makes a very good drink in fevers, and inflammations in general.

Celandine, or Sullendine. This herb grows upon moist wet grounds, and from one to three feet high; the stalk and leaves are of a blue or purplish color. Celandine is used in the piles, disentary, diarrhoea, consumption, jaundice, &c. It is of an obtunding, stimulating nature, and a very good herb in many cases.

Cohosh. Blue Cohosh grows in uncultivated grounds, and from one to two feet high; a number of stalks usually arise from one root, and towards the latter part of the season it bears a blue berry about the bigness of a currant. Blue cohosh is gently physical, and if taken to any considerable extent, opens obstructions in general, and operates considerably upon the glands of the mouth, causing a free discharge of saliva or spittle. Where the object is to open obstructions, and at the same time to strengthen the system, the root of this herb is a very good remedy.

Chamomile. The blows of this herb are mod-

erately stimulating, and may be used in weakness of the stomach, hysteric, jaundice, hypochondriac and billious complaints. The herb, if a small handful be boiled in new milk until it curdles, over a gentle fire, and the whey strained from the curd and an equal quantity of rum mixed with the whey, is an excellent remedy for sore or weak eyes.

Cedar. The bark and boughs of cedar in decoction, are corroborant and strengthening, and with this intention may be used in a variety of cases, where strengthening is requisite. A decoction of cedar boughs is particularly useful in the piles.

Blood Root. This root may with propriety be ranked among the best of medicine; it is of singular service in all pulmonary complaints, jaundice, dysentary, cankerash, whooping cough, &c. To have its full effect as an alterative, it should be given in small doses, and frequently repeated; a tea-spoonful might be divided into six or eight portions, and be taken in the course of a day. To have its effect as a puke, one fourth of a tea-spoonful might be taken every fifteen minutes, until it operated. Blood root in powder is a very useful application to an old or foul sore; it cleanses and causes them to heal. It should be finely powdered and dropped into the sore.

Burdock. The root of the burdock when taken to any considerable extent, strengthens, and opens obstructions of the system in general. The seed is a very useful thing for a drink in fevers, inflammations, &c; it opens the passages of urine, and causes a free perspiration. Burdock seed, if large quantities of it be taken in decoction, is particularly useful in the rheumatism.

Bay Tree, called also *Moose Misse*. This tree grows from ten to fifteen feet high; the bark somewhat resembles both in looks and taste, the cherry-tree bark; it bears a small round berry, which when ripe turns a reddish cast; they are of a bitterish aromatic taste, and contain a small whitish seed. The bark, as also the berry of this tree, is considered very useful in consumptive and debilitated cases, jaundice, &c;—it strengthens and opens the pores of the body, of course with these intentions it may frequently be used.—A decoction of the bark or of the berry, is as good a preparation as can be expected, perhaps, from this tree.

Buckthorn. The berries of buckthorn are moderately physical, & when given to any considerable extent, open very obstinate obstructions. Half a tea-cupful of these combined with an equal quantity of Balm of Gilead buds, put into a quart of gin, makes a very useful medicine in cases of debility or weakness. A glass should be taken three times a day, until it opens the bowels or operates gently as physic, when it should be taken but once a day.

Balm of Gilead. The buds of this tree are of a strengthening nature, and may with propriety be used in cases of debility or weakness.

Brook Liverwort. This herb grows upon the banks of ponds, streams, and upon old rotten logs, &c. It spreads itself upon the ground, & rises but a little above its surface. Brook liverwort is used in canker, old sores, &c; a decoction for either purpose is as good a preparation of the herb, perhaps, as can be made.

Brakes. The hogbrake grows from 1 to 3 feet, and usually larger than the common brake. The

oots of this brake are frequently rooted and dug up by the hogs, they being a favorite food of that animal. This root is frequently used in pulmonary or consumptive complaints, as also in the gravel or stone. This root, when taken in decoction to any considerable extent, opens the pores and strengthens the body, and has frequently much relieved the pain, &c. which those are afflicted with that are troubled with the gravel.

Bath root. This root is, when taken internally, powerfully stimulant and astringent; and is a very proper remedy in fluxes, or bleeding that arises from debility, and also bleeding of green wounds, the nose bleed, &c. The white blowed bath root is more powerful than that of the red; a teaspoonful of the dried root in powder is the common dose for an adult. This root is frequently used with success in the bilious cholic, common cholic, &c.

Brook Lime. This herb being simmered in butter and vinegar, and when warm, applied to a tumor, blotch, boil or any inflammation doth very much help them. It is also used in old or chronic and consumptive complaints.

Briar. The root of the blackberry briar when infused in water is of an obtunding healing nature, and is useful in the dysentary, cholera morbus and diarrhoea; it sheaths or heals the abrasion of the intestinal canal, and of course relieves the pain, &c. which usually attends these complaints.

Dandelion. The roots and blows of the dandelion are of an opening nature, and capable, if taken to a considerable extent, of opening very obstinate obstructions. They are used in ob-

structions of urine, obstructions of the liver, consumption, &c. To have their full effect, they should be taken in large doses in decoction or syrip, and frequently repeated. This herb is also used in dropsy, jaundice and hysterics.

Dogmackemose. This tree or shrub usually grows from ten to fifteen feet high, and commonly in clusters; in the middle of which grows up small whip-sticks, very strait; the bark is of a greenish hue, interspersed with dark streaks—the taste of the bark is somewhat bitterish. The bark of this bush is a very useful tonic, and deobstruent—a decoction of this bark is used to strengthen the system and cleanse the blood, in cancer, king's evil, consumption, dropsy, and in many old chronic debilitated complaints, and likewise where the blood has become vitiated by the itch, or by the long standing of an old sore.

Dragon Root, March Turnip, or Wake Robin. The stalk usually grows to the height of about a foot, and somewhat in looks resembles a serpent—the root very much resembles a flat turnip.—Its virtues are those of a strengthening and opening nature. It is used in colds, coughs, cholic, &c.

Dock. The yellow dock, in decoction, when taken inwardly, is an excellent remedy for cutaneous eruptions, for the scurvy, &c. and very effectually cleanses the blood from humors of every kind. If a proper portion of the root of yellow dock be put into hog's lard, and be suffered to remain in the sun for a number of days, it makes a fine ointment for the itch, and other eruptions on the skin. The juice of the narrow leaved yellow dock dried away in the sun in a pewter platter, to the consistence of an ointment,

is an excellent application to a cancer or king's evil.

Elder. The roots of the dwarf elder is used in dropsies, obstructions of urine, jaundice, gravel, &c. It is a very useful diuretic, and is capable of opening if combined with gin, very obstinate obstructions. The bark of the common sweet elder operates when taken, moderately as a cathartic; the bark of the root is the most powerful, and of course most proper where a more powerful cathartic is requisite.

Elacampane. The roots of elacampane in virtue resemble the yellow dock, and is equally as useful in the cure of cutaneous eruptions.

Feverfew. This herb is of an opening, stimulating nature, and with these intentions may be used in cases of obstructions, the effects of weakness, with propriety. It is also used in cases of worms, &c.

Fir Balsam. The bark of this tree is in decoction strengthening, and with this intention might be used in weakness of stomach, &c.—The balsam is also of a strengthening opening nature, and is used in coughs, bruises and pains of the breast and sides; it is also used in green wounds and old sores.

Gooseberry Bush. The bark of this bush is in decoction deobstruent, and with the intention of opening obstructions, may be given in a variety of cases.—A decoction of the leaves of this bush are a very useful application to hot swellings and tumors. This decoction is used as an application to the St. Anthony's fire.

Garlic. The roots of the garlic are used in cases of worms, and are applied to the soles of the feet in the head-ache, and in those convul-

sions to which young children are subjected —

Gill go-by-the-ground. This herb is called also *Alehoof*, *Ground Ivy*, and *Jack in the Hedge*. This herb is used in exulcerated lungs, and inward wounds.—It easeth griping pains in the stomach and bowels, helps the jaundice, and opens obstructions in general. A decoction in wine drank for some time, helps the sciatica or hip rheumatism. A little honey and burnt alum being added to the decoction in wine, makes an excellent gargle for a sore mouth.—The herb bruised and applied to a green wound is a very useful remedy. The juice of the herb boiled with honey and verdigrise is a good application to fistulas and foul ulcers, and to stop the spreading and eating of cancers. A strong decoction of the herb in water cures the itch, scabs and wheals, and other eruptions to which the skin is subjected. The juice of this herb, and of celandine and field daisies clarified, and a little fine sugar dissolved therein, is a sure remedy for all sore eyes. The juice dropped into the ear helpeth the noise and singing with which some ears are troubled.

Heart's Ease. This herb in decoction or syrup is used in convulsions of children, epilepsy, inflammation of the lungs, pleurisy, &c—it opens obstructions of the system, and allays heat. It is also used to cure the itch, and other eruptions of the skin.

Hemp. The seed of hemp, when taken in decoction, removes flatulency, and the wind cholick—opens obstructions of the liver, and cures the jaundice. To have its full effect, large doses should be taken at a time, & frequently repeated.

Hysop is a warming, opening herb, and is us-

ed in colds, coughs, whooping cough, &c.—

Horse Radish. The root of the horse radish is of a warming stimulant nature, and is used in flatulencies, indigestion and weakness of the stomach. The root is frequently bruised and applied to the soles of the feet, in fevers and other disorders, and also the hip in the sciata.

Hore Hound. Hore hound is used in coughs and debilitated cases, and is a very good remedy.

Horns. The horn of the deer, if a coffee be made therof by burning a piece of horn in the fire until it will powder, and then pound it fine and put one table spoonful of it into one quart of boiling water and steep it for a few minutes, is an excellent remedy to stop puking in fevers and other diseases, and also for weakness of the stomach, and debility in general.

Juniper. The berries of the juniper are frequently used in dropsies and other obstructions, and for these purposes are very useful.

Lobelia, called also *Indian Tobacco.* This herb grows spontaneously in roads, pastures, mowing grounds, &c. It grows from half a foot to a foot in height; towards the top come forth branches that produce in the forepart of summer a kind of blue and white blow, that afterwards turn into a husk or shell about the bigness of a flax-seed ball; this husk or bawl contains a number of seeds. The first year's growth of lobelia seldom rises much above the surface of the earth, and much resembles a young thistle. The herb when chewed in the mouth resembles in taste tobacco, excepting that it is much more biting and aerid. This herb, if taken in a dose of half a tea-spoonful of the herb dried and powdered, doth powerfully puke and purge—and

when rightly managed opens obstructions of the liver, causes a free perspiration, reduces excitement, allays heat, and operates peculiarly upon the glands of the mouth. Lobelia (being a very powerful medicine and its operation being very quick) should, unless in particular cases, be given in small doses, in which case its operation is perfectly safe. If the object is to puke, a tea-spoonful of the herb might be dried and powdered, and divided into eight portions—and an eighth part of the tea-spoonful might be taken every five minutes, until it operated as a puke—in this way it is perfectly safe. When given with an intention to purge only, it should be boiled ten or fifteen minutes, which destroys its emetic quality, but does not injure it as a purge. Lobelia is used in fevers, inflammations, asthmas, coughs, quinsies, dysenteries, diarrhoeas, dropsies, gravel and many other diseases.

Mandrake. This is a well known herb, in every country that produces it, upon the account of its fruit, which somewhat resembles a lemon. The root of the mandrake when taken to any considerable extent, operates both as a puke and a purge; very effectually cleanses the stomach and bowels, opens obstructions of the system in general, and operates peculiarly upon the liver and other glands of the system, particularly those of the mouth; causing as complete a salivation as can be caused by calomel, or any other medicine whatever. If two tea-spoonfuls of the dried and powdered root be taken at one time, it both pukes and purges; but if the two tea-spoonfuls be divided into six or eight portions and a portion be taken every fifteen minutes, it usually operates as a purge only, and very mild.

ly. Mandrake is an excellent purge in fevers of all kinds, jaundice, obstructions of the system in general, dysentary, diarrhoea, cankerash, dropsy, piles, coughs, &c—and in all old or chronic complaints, where a purge is requisite.

Mullein. This herb when taken inwardly, mollifieth and healeth abrasions and erosions of the intestines, and is of course useful in dysentery, &c. The seed and leaves of mullein boiled in wine draw forth splinters, &c. if applied to the part in which they are. The leaves bruised and wrapped in double paper, and covered with ashes and hot embers for a while, and then applied warm to a blotch, boil or tumor, dissolve and heal them. The seed being bruised and boiled in wine and applied to a joint newly set, taketh away the pain and swelling thereof.

Nettles. The root of the nettle is somewhat stimulent and diuretic, and may with propriety be used in numbness, debility, consumption, &c.

Ova. Ova usually grows upon dry ground, under the beech and maple tree, and from six to ten inches high; at the top of the stalk is a kind of husk or shell; the root is of an oval form, and of a blackish color, usually about the bigness of a patridge, or pheasant's egg. Its virtues are those of an opening and stimulating nature; it causeth sleep and easeth pain; its virtues resemble those of opium, except the astringent quality which the opium hath. Ova, after evacuations, operates kindly in fevers and inflammations, and may with propriety be given in most cases where an anodyne is necessary.

Thurerwort. This herb when taken in large doses operates as a puke and purge, opens obstructions of the liver and other glands. A

strong decoction of this herb is a very useful remedy in hysteric fits, jaundice, &c.

Tamarack Balsam. This balsam is contained in small cells, which may be found by cutting into the tamarack. This balsam is one of the most virtuous balsams hitherto known, for wounds or bruises in the breast, coughs, gleans, weaknesses, &c. The dose for an adult is but three or four drops, which is as much as the stomach will bear. This balsam spread upon leather makes an excellent strengthening plaster for the stomach and back, and likewise for joints, &c. that are affected with the chronic rheumatism, weakness, &c.

Violets. The blue violet that I here describe, grows spontaneously in mowings, by the side of streams, &c. It has a leaf about the bigness of a cent, of an oval form, and somewhat roughish. It bears a pale blue blow, and blows early in the summer—the leaf usually towards fall turns of a yellowish color.—The root is not commonly more than an inch in length, and appears jointed—and when chewed in the mouth becomes slimy, and when steeped in water becomes as slimy almost as the white of an egg. This root is used in the bilious cholic, dysentery, coughs, &c; it easeth the pain of the gravel, stoppage of urine, and is an excellent remedy in debilitated cases of almost every description.

An explanation of some of the technical terms used in the foregoing treatise.

Aperient, opening.

Acrid, sharp, corrosive.

Adult, come to maturity.

[system

Alterative, medicine that causes a change in the

Anthelmintic, medicine that destroys worms.

Astringent, binding.

Cathartic, physic.

Corroborant, strengthening.

Cutaneous, relating to the skin.

Corrosive, biting, sharp, acrid.

Debility, weakness.

Deobstruent, opening, aperient.

Diaphoretic, causing sweat.

Diuretic, opening to the passages of urine.

Emetic, puke. [arteries.

Excitability, power of action in the heart and

Excitement, the action of the heart and arteries.

Expectorant, medicine that causes to raise.

Flatulency, wind in the stomach and bowels.

Febrifuge, medicine to abate fever.

Hemorrhage, a flux of blood.

Intestines, the guts.

Lithontriptic, medicine for the gravel, or stone.

Mollify, to soften, &c.

Obstruction, stoppage.

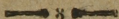
Pulmonary, relating to the lungs.

Perspiration, sweating.

Saliva, spittle.

Tonic, strengthening.

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