

Particular directions for a family medicine chest / prepared by Jonathan Webb, apothecary and chemist, Salem.

Contributors

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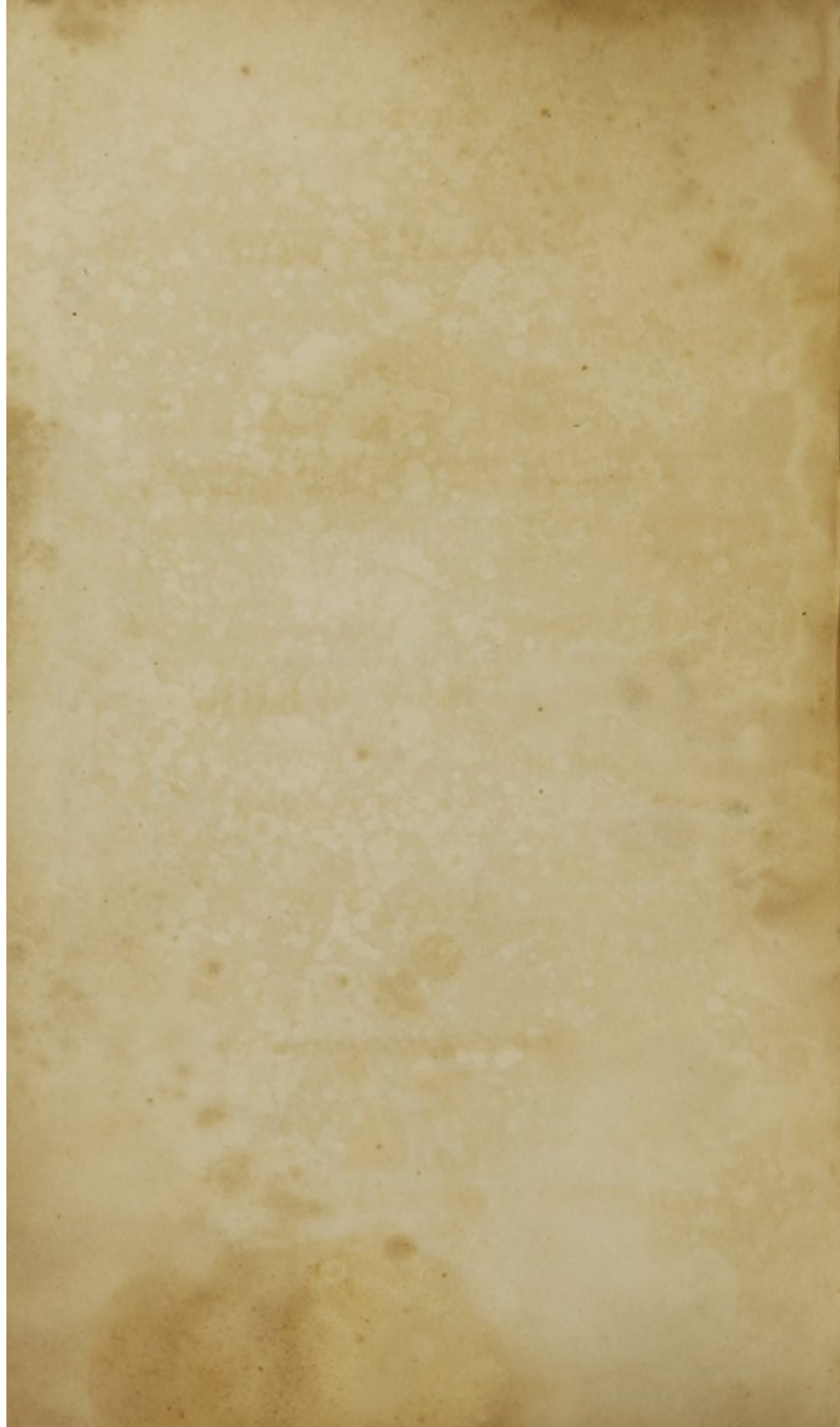
Prepared
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IXS



PARTICULAR

DIRECTIONS

FOR A

FAMILY MEDICINE CHEST.

PREPARED BY

JONATHAN WEBB,

APOTHECARY AND CHEMIST,

SALEM.



SALEM:

PRINTED BY WARWICK PALFRAY, JR.

1819.

PRELIMINARY REMARKS.

THE Medicines contained in the Chest accompanied by these directions, are of a genuine quality. The preparations and Tinctures are made generally according to the *Edinburg Dispensatory*. The Sweet Nitre and the Volatile Spirits are prepared in *Salem*, of a superior quality, and equal to any prepared in the world.

Whether a person feels competent to prescribe for himself or not, he will find it for his interest to purchase one of these *Chests*, because he will obtain his medicine at a wholesale price, of the *best quality*; and in addition to this, will always have them at hand, and save the delay and trouble of sending to the *Apothecary* when it is least convenient.

The subscriber considers himself responsible for the genuine quality of the medicines, and will be happy to answer all orders with promptitude and fidelity.

JONATHAN WEBB.

DIRECTIONS.

No. 1. ELIXIR PROPRIETATIS.

When taken as a cathartic, two or three table spoonfulls are a dose. This medicine, combined with an equal quantity of *Huxham's Tincture of Bark*, is advantageously given to children while teething, to correct a weak flatulent state of the bowels. Dose, from 25 to 50 drops, in a little warm tea of any kind, three or four times a day.

No. 2. TINCTURE RHUBARB.

This may be taken in doses of one or two table spoonfulls, in a small wine glass of water, and is an excellent warm purgative, in cold flatulent cholicky complaints, or affections of the bowels.

No. 3. TINCTURE OF GUAIACUM.

Good for weakness, or pain, faintness at the stomach, and for sudden cramp-like and rheumatic pains. Dose, 25 drops, once or twice a day, on sugar.

No. 4. PAREGORIC.

Taken in a little water, it allays that tickling sensation in the windpipe, which provokes coughing. Dose, 30 to 60 drops. In spasmodic Asthma, combined with OXYMEL, it gives very considerable relief. It should be given cautiously in recent coughs, attended with fever, and shortness of breath; it should also be *very cautiously* given to young children.

No. 5. OPODELDOC.

This is a very good application for strains, bruises, &c. A little of it should be poured on a warm hand, and rubbed on the part affected; when rubbed in dry, more must be used, and the rubbing continued for some time, and the part immediately after should be covered with warm flannel.

No. 6. LAUDANUM—BE CAREFUL!!

Good to ease pain, and procure sleep; to check the excessive operation of pukes or purges. It is given in doses from 15 to 30 drops, in tea, wine, or water. The above dose is for an adult; more may be given if the case is an extreme one. It should never be given in large doses, unless by direction of the physician. In all cases, caution is necessary.

No. 7. SPIRITS OF LAVENDER.

This may be given on sugar, or in a little wine. Dose, from 30 to 80 drops, in cases of languor, lowness of spirits, and faintness.

No. 8. YELLOW GUM DROPS.

This is a very good medicine for a weak flatulent state of the bowels; also for a weak stomach. Dose, 20 to 50 drops, taken on a little fine sugar, or in wine.

No. 9. OXYMEL.

This is an active medicine, and is the form under which Squill is generally given as an expectorant—it is very useful in obstinate coughs. It is given in doses of a spoonfull or two. Shake the phial.

No. 10. BALSAM DROPS.

Good in a bad cold, or in a high burning fever. Shake the phial, and give 20 or 30 drops in a little herb tea, and if necessary, repeat it two or three times a day. Keep the person warm in bed, and they will produce a free and gentle sweat.

No. 11. ELIXIR VITRIOL.

Dose, from 15 to 25 drops, in a glass of water. It is good for weakness at the stomach, checks night sweats, attendant on hectic fevers, and makes an excellent gargle for inflammatory sore throats. It may be given to advantage with a decoction of any kind of *Bark*. It will often answer as a tonic medicine where bark fails.

No. 12. PEPPERMINT DROPS.

Dose, from 10 to 30 drops, on loaf sugar. The sugar, after dropping on the medicine, may be dissolved in hot water, and taken as warm as possible. It is an excellent remedy in flatulent and cholicky pains, also in fits of spasmodic asthma.

No. 13. VOLATILE SPIRITS.

Proper to be held to the nose, in faintings or fits. Fifteen or twenty drops may also be taken in a little water, or herb tea, and the temples rubbed with strong vinegar.

No. 14. SWEET SPIRITS OF NITRE.

Sweet Spirits of Nitre allays fever, quenches thirst, and resists putrefaction. Dose, 20 drops to a tea spoonfull, taken in simple, or *Barley water*.

No. 15. HUXHAM'S TINCTURE.

Dose from one to three spoonfulls, in a decoction of Bark, or pure water. Is used as a stimulant and tonic medicine, in cases of debility and weak stomachs. It should be taken a few minutes before eating.

No. 16. CASTOR OIL.

This is very useful in Cholic and Dysentery. Dose, one ounce, or two large spoonfulls. It is a very good cathartic in any case where it agrees with the stomach. Infants may take one tea spoonfull at a dose—it may be given morning and evening, or as occasion may require.

No. 17. ELIXIR SALUTIS.

Take two or three table spoonfulls of this in cholics, pains in the bowels and stomach, which proceed from wind and other slight causes. It is a cordial, warming medicine, and gently laxative. One spoonfull, mixed with the same quantity of *Castor Oil*, (No. 16,) and 15 or 20 drops of *Essence Peppermint*, (No. 12) added to it, is an agreeable dose, when moderate purging is wanted.

No. 18. PURGING POWDERS.

When brisk and thorough purging is necessary, give one of these powders, (No. 18) in molasses, early in the morning, and work it off with water gruel, or water porridge.

No. 19. RHUBARB POWDERS.

This is a gentle purge, operating without violence. In diarrhœa, or in any bad purging, where gentle physic is necessary, one of these powders, (No. 19) may be given in molasses or syrup in the morning, and worked off with water gruel.

No. 20. PURGING PILLS.

Good in cases of costiveness or cholic, or where gentle and moderate purging is necessary. Give one of these pills, (No. 20) in the evening, and if necessary, continue taking them several evenings at bed time, in any thing most convenient.

No. 21. POWDERED IPECAC—(for Pukes.)

Ten grains of this powder, mixed in a spoonfull of warm water, is a dose for a child from one to three years old; to younger children it may be given in divided doses, and repeated every 20 or 30 minutes till it operates. Dose for a grown person, 15 grains. *to 25.*

No. 22. FEVER POWDERS.

Proper in all fevers, when hot and thirsty. Give a teaspoonfull, dissolved in herb tea, every two or three hours. If the pains and fever be very violent, it may be administered oftener—but in such cases the person ought first to be blooded, and sometimes a vomit is necessary.

No. 23. SUGAR OF LEAD.

Sugar of Lead, dissolved in equal parts of vinegar and water, makes a good wash for inflammatory swellings, caused by bruises and sprains and broken bones—one moderate spoonfull of the powder (or one of these powders) to a pint of liquid. Apply a rag dipped in it to the part, and repeat it often enough to keep it moist. When the skin is broken, omit the vinegar.

No. 24. BASILICON SALVE.

Proper to dress wounds with, new or old, when they require stimulating and digesting. Spread on a linen rag or lint.

No. 25. HEALING SALVE.—(*Turner's Cerate.*)

This salve, spread on a linen rag, is proper to be applied to sores, burns, scalds, or any slight disorder of the skin. It is also proper to skin over wounds, after they have been filled with flesh by No. 24, and to dress blisters.

No. 26. POWDER FOR PROUD FLESH.

(*Red Precipitate.*)

A most excellent remedy for spongy or proud flesh. Sprinkle on enough to cover the proud flesh, then lay on a piece of dry lint just large enough to cover the sore, and a pledget of Basilicon over the whole.

No. 27. DIACHYLON PLASTER.

This plaster answers very well for slight wounds or sores, and to be spread on a rag, to be applied over other dressings, to keep them on the wounds.

No. 28. SPICE BITTERS.

See the Directions around them.

No. 29. BARK, (Yellow.)

Bark is an excellent tonic medicine, in convalescence from Typhus fevers; also in intermittent fevers and chronic rheumatism. It is much more effectual in the form of powder, where the stomach will bear it. Dose, one teaspoonfull every two or three hours, in a little wine or pure water. In extreme cases, it has been taken to the extent of one or two ounces in twenty four hours. In cases of extreme debility, where putrid symptoms are threatened, it may be taken to any extent the stomach will bear. When it is used in the form of decoction, pour one quart of boiling water upon an ounce of the bark, and boil away to a pint. Dose, from one to three table spoonfulls, every three or four hours.

No. 30. CREAM OF TARTAR.

This is a gentle laxative, and makes an agreeable beverage, which may be drank in warm weather, when the bowels are not relaxed. In eruptions and diseases of the skin, equal quantities of this and of *Flowers of Sulphur* may be mixed in molasses, and two or three spoonfulls taken every morning. The acid beverage used in warm climates, under the name of *Imperial Drink*, is made as follows: Take of Cream of Tartar three drachms, one lemon peel; pour on them a quart of boiling water, and when cold, add enough of refined sugar to make it palatable.

No. 31. FLOWERS OF SULPHUR.

Dose, one drachm in molasses; it is a good opening medicine in piles, and eruptions of the skin. In chronic Rheumatism and Gouty complaints, a tea-spoonfull of this medicine, with half the quantity of *Ginger powder*, in a glass of milk every morning, is an excellent remedy. Mixed with hog's fat, it makes a very good *Ointment for Itch*.

No. 32. QUASSIA.

Quassia is an excellent tonic bitter in irritable stomachs, that will not bear Bark. It is prepared by infusing one ounce in one quart of water, and boiled to one pint.

No. 33. BLISTERING SALVE.

To be spread on soft leather, and applied to any part of the body, first rubbing the part with warm vinegar till it looks red; let the plaster remain on about *twelve hours*, or longer if not well drawn. After the plaster is removed, slit the raised skin, and dry up the water with a linen rag, and dress it with salve, (No. 25) twice a day. Blisters are proper in nervous fevers. When the patient is delirious, apply one to the back of the neck. They are likewise proper in convulsions and inflammation of the eyes. A Blister applied to the back of the neck, will sometimes remove a *violent head-ache*.

No. 34. SALTS, (Epsom or Glauber.)*

Let one of these papers be dissolved in half a pint of warm water, and taken when cool. They are a good cathartic in any case where a cooling purge is necessary, particularly in feverish habits, or inflammation of the eyes.

*The *Epsom Salts* will be found in the Chest, packed in doses. The *Glauber Salts* are in a box accompanying the chest.

*Epsom Salts are contained in a Box
accompanying the chest—Common Salts are*

No. 35. STRENGTHENING PLASTER.

Spread upon leather, this may be applied to weak or sprained parts, and to broken limbs after the bandages are removed.

No. 36. SNAKEROOT.

Virginia Snakeroot makes an excellent stimulant infusion, and determines to the skin. It is given in low fevers, either by itself, or decocted with Bark. One ounce will make one quart of tea. Dose, half a gill—when it is steeped with bark, add a quarter of an ounce of the root to an ounce of Bark.

No. 37. CALOMEL. (MERCURY.)

This is a very useful and efficacious medicine, but requires caution and judgment in its administration; it is a preparation of *Mercury*; and strict attention to the *directions* should be adhered to, or mischief may be produced by it. After bleeding, blistering, &c. *one or two grains* of this medicine may be given in molasses every *six or eight* hours, till the disease abates, unless the looseness or weakness of the patient, (both of which it increases) forbids its longer use. It is also very good in bad pleurisies. Calomel has been used for worms by a celebrated empiric, in doses of five grains each, and in some instances it has proved efficacious.

No. 38. BARLEY.

Pearl Barley makes an excellent nourishment and drink for the sick in any febrile complaint. Take two table spoonfuls; first scald it, and after pouring off the first water, pour on one quart of water which is hot, and boil it till it becomes soft; strain and drink freely.

No. 39. CHAMOMILE FLOWERS.

Make a tea by pouring a pint of boiling water on a dozen or twenty of the flowers, which may be freely drank in fevers to which people are subject in hot climates, and to assist the operation of an emetic.

No. 40. CAMPHOR.

Dissolve a table spoonful in a pint of strong spirit. This solution is good to bathe sprains and bruises, and may be used as a substitute for *Opodeldoc*, (No. 5.)

No. 41. ARROW ROOT.

This is a very delicate and nutritious article, and may be taken in every complaint where nourishment is wanted. First wet a table-spoonful of the powder with a little cold water, that it may be reduced to a paste; then pour on half a pint of boiling water, stirring it at the same time, and it is done. It may be given in milk, coffee, or chocolate.

No. 42. CASCARILLA BARK.

This is a very good bitter tonic medicine, in cases of *Dyspepsia*, or want of appetite. It is taken in decoction, made in the same way, and taken in the same manner as Bark, (No. 29.)

No. 43. SQUILL PILLS.

From two to three of these Pills may be considered a Dose—taken at bed time, or twice a day. This is a powerful medicine in promoting expectoration, and increasing the secretion of urine; hence it is a valuable medicine in chronic Coughs and Asthmatic affections, attended with viscid phlegm, and in dropsical complaints.

No. 44. ASSAFŒTIDA PILLS.

This is a most valuable remedy. Its action is quick and penetrating, and it affords great and speedy relief in spasmodic, flatulent, hysteric, and hypochondriacal complaints, especially when they arise from obstructions in the bowels. Assafœtida promotes digestion, and enlivens the animal spirits, &c. From one to three of these pills may be given for a dose.

No. 45. FOAMING MEDICINE.

Foaming Medicine, or Sal Æratus, is an excellent substitute for *Salts of Wormwood*, so called, and an improvement upon it, as it is the same kind of medicine rendered mild; by being saturated with carbonic acid gas, while it retains all its neutralizing principle. The best way of taking it, is to rub 20 or 30 grains to a powder; and dissolve it in a spoonful of pure water in a coffee cup, and while it is in the hands of the patient, add to the solution half a spoonful of Lemon juice, or one spoonful of good vinegar, and drink it as quick as possible while foaming. It is efficacious in correcting a sour stomach. It is also a cooling medicine in fevers, and causes the food to set better on the stomach. It may be taken every 2, 3, or 4 hours.

No. 46. EMETICS. ✕

Emetics are proper in pains of the head or stomach, and ill tasted mouth, bad digestion, loss of appetite, and at the beginning of almost every disease, particularly fevers.—Dissolve one of these powders in half a pint of hot water, and give about a wine glass full every 15 or 20 minutes, till it operates sufficiently, drinking freely of warm water during the operation.

✕ These powders are Tartar Emetic.
Specac is considered best—

No. 47. GUM ARABIC.

This article makes a nutritious drink, and may be given in any stage of sickness—one ounce, or one paper, may be dissolved in a pint of hot water; after it is strained and sweetened, it may be given for drink to the diseased person.

ARTICLES IN THE CHEST.

BILIOUS PILLS,
BRITISH OIL,
LINT,
TAPE,
LEATHER,
SPONGE AND CORKS.

SCISSORS,
COURT PLASTER,
LANCET,
CALCINED MAGNESIA,
KNIFE,

*Deans pills
Sticking plaster.—*

*For Wine Drops.
— See last page.—*

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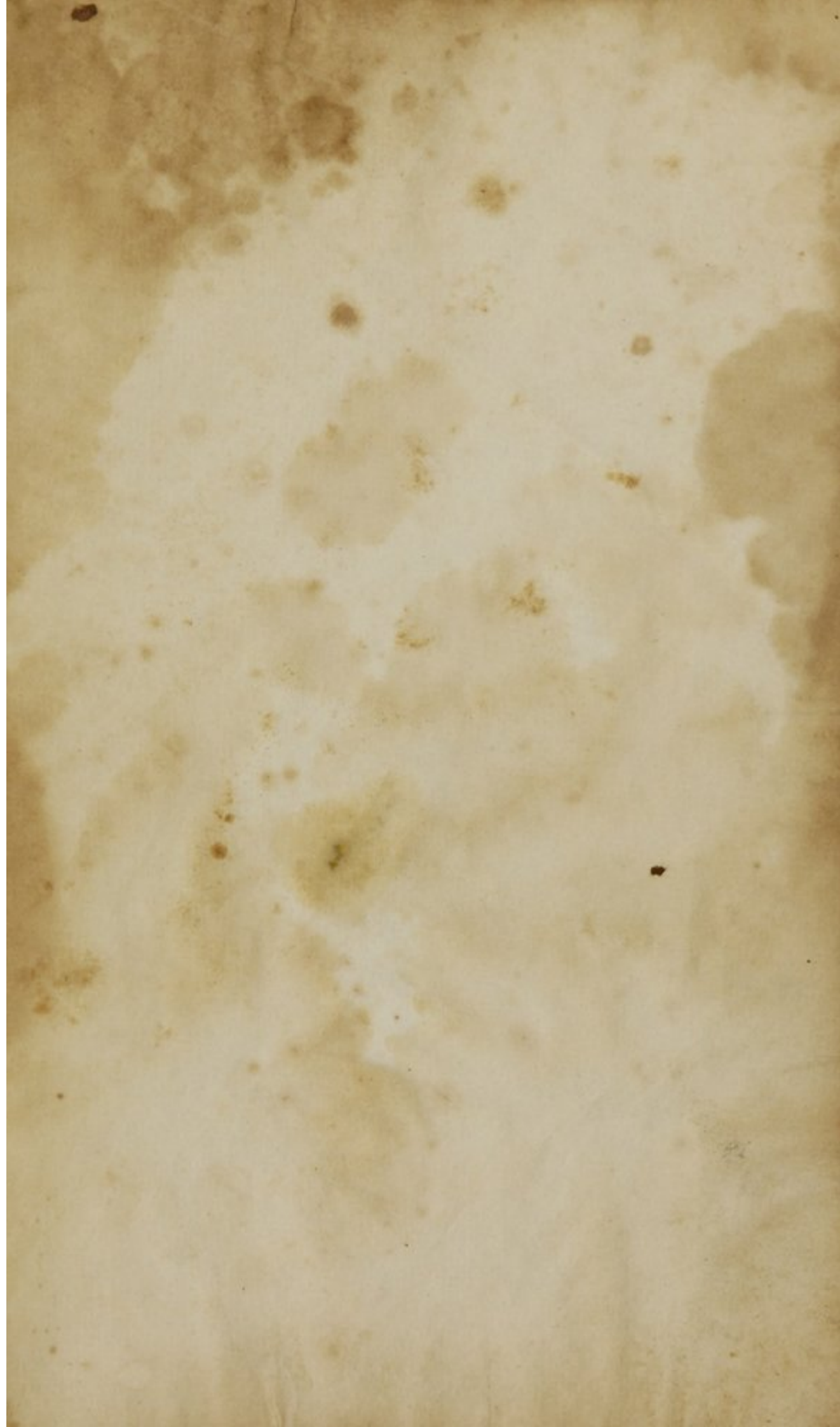
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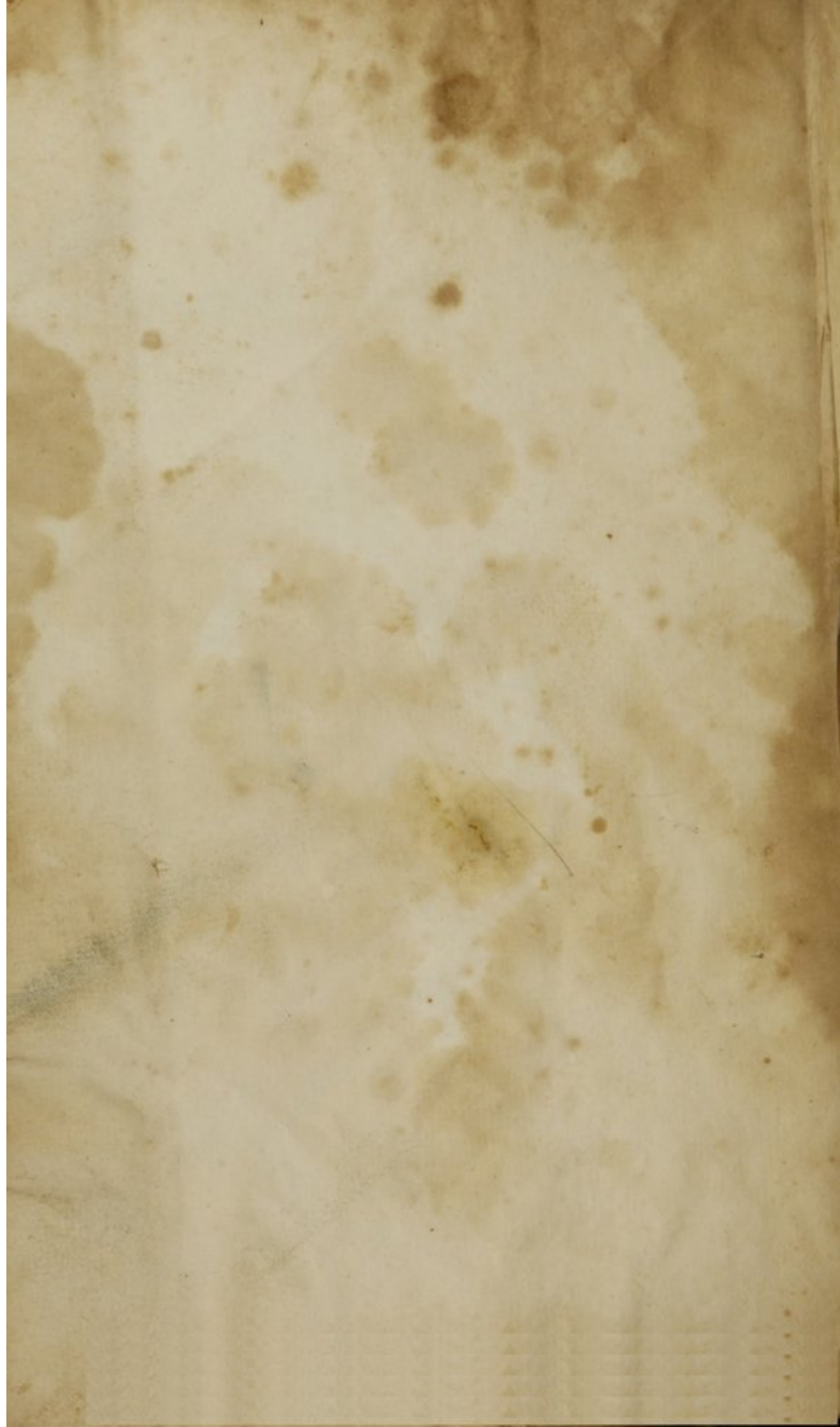
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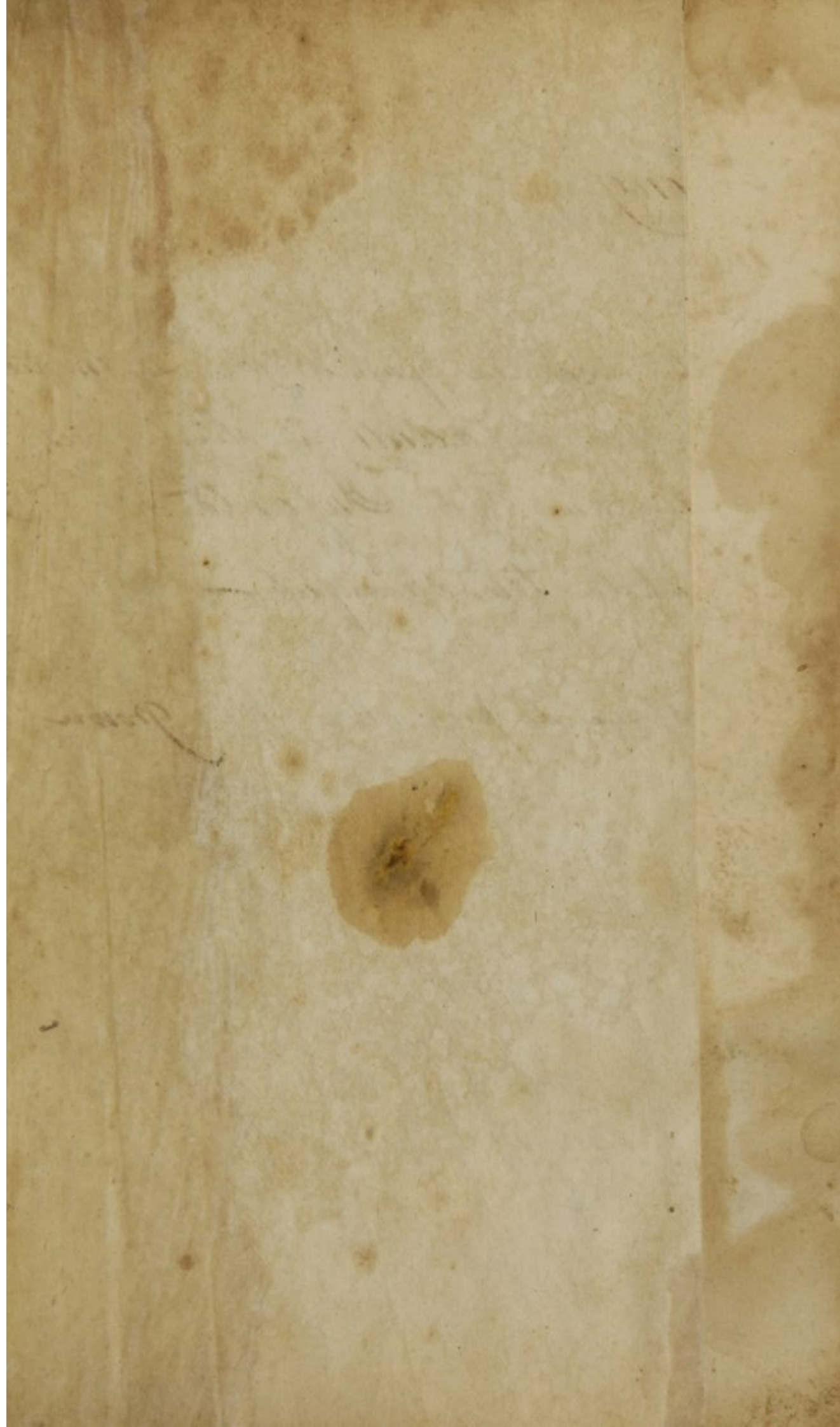
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ABP









A.

Wine of Antimony

This is an Article much used in Families as an emetic,
— half an ounce is a dose for an adult in slight cases,
+ from half to a whole drachm for Infants. —
that is from half to a whole tea Spoonful —

As an emetic, Ipecac is much preferable for grown
persons —



Med. Hist.

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