The India officer's and trader's pocket-guide. In purchasing the drugs and spices of Asia and the East-Indies: With practical directions for the choice of diamonds, and an accurate account of the Chinese touch-needles [by W. Lewis] ... To which are prefixed, a complete account of the officers privilege ... and the duties of, and drawbacks on, East India goods. / Compiled from authority by H.D.S. [i.e. H.D. Steel].

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James Craig.

1802.

James Craig &c

Austen friars

London

1815

The INDIA OFFICER's and TRADER's POCKET-GUIDE,

IN PURCHASING THE

DRUGS AND SPICES

OF

ASIA AND THE *EAST-INDIES:*

With practical Directions for the

CHOICE OF DIAMONDS,

And an accurate Account of the

CHINESE TOUCH-NEEDLES.

To which are prefixed,

A complete Account of the OFFICERS PRIVILEGE, outward and homeward bound; a LIST of the CLEARING-STORES homeward; the Quantities of Piece and weighable Goods allowed to a Ton; and the Duties of, and Drawbacks on, East-India Goods, agreeable to the Confolidation-Act.

THE SECOND EDITION.

COMPILED FROM AUTHORITY BY H. D. S.

LONDON:

Printed for D. STEEL, Number 1, UNION-Row, the Lower End of the MINORIES, LITTLE TOWER-HILL.

M.DCC.LXXXIX.

PRICE FIVE SHILLINGS.

Entered at Stationers-Hall, according to Act of Parliament.

PRIVILEGES

Given to Officers in the Eaſt-India Service, outward and homeward bound.

OUTWARD BOUND.

THE tonnage allowed outward to commanders and officers of ſhips of 755 tons burthen and upwards, is as follows; thoſe of a leſs burthen to be allowed in proportion.

	Tons.	Ft.
Commander —	56	20
Chief Mate —	5	0
Second Mate —	4	0
Third Mate —	3	0
Purſer — —	3	0
Surgeon — —	3	0
Fourth Mate —	2	0
Fifth Mate —	1	0
Boatſwain —	1	0
Gunner — —	1	0
Carpenter —	1	0
Surgeon's Mate —	1	0

Captain's Steward —	10 feet each.
Ship's ditto — —	
Caulker — —	
Sail-maker — —	
Cooper — —	
Captain's Cook —	
Ship's ditto — —	
Carpenter's Firſt Mate-	
4 Quarter-Maſters —	
4 Midſhipmen —	
Armourer — —	
Midſhipmen and Cock-	
ſwain —	

The commanders are allowed to ſhip any part of their privilege in lead,—ſteel,—rod, hoop, bolt, and bar, iron,—anchors,—grapnels,—and red and white lead,—anchors and grapnels not to exceed the weight of 5 tons.

The tonnage of the commander's indulgence in gruff goods, goods by weight (not being metals) and other goods allowed to be carried out in private trade, and taken by meaſurement, is limited to the amount of 38 tons.

The officers are allowed to ſhip their reſpective indulgences in lead,—ſteel,—rod, hoop, bolt, and bar, iron,—red and white lead,—and any gruff or meaſurable goods, not prohibited by the company.

The tonnage of all wheel carriages to be aſcertained from the moſt accurate eſtimate of the ſolid contents of the wheels and carriage, and the body to be taken according to the actual meaſure of the caſe in which it ſhall be packed.

The tonnage of wine and other liquors in bottles to be computed at the uſual rate of 36 dozen to the ton.

It is to be obſerved as an invariable rule, (unleſs in ſome very particular caſes, of which the committee of ſhipping are to determine,) that all articles in private trade (liquors as above excepted) which with their packages weigh more than they meaſure, be taken by weight, and ſuch packages as meaſure more than they weigh be taken by meaſurement.

The company do not permit to be exported, in private trade, cloth or any ſorts of woollen goods, copper, warlike ſtores, clocks, toys, or other articles ornamented with jewels and bullion, except bullion in China ſhips; and ſhould the commanders and officers of thoſe ſhips, not be able to inveſt to the amount of the under-mentioned ſums reſpectively in goods, in that caſe the court will permit them to carry out bullion to make up the amount, viz.

Commander —	£3000	Fourth Mate —	£100
Chief Mate —	300	Fifth Mate — —	50
Second Mate —	200	Boatſwain — —	50
Third Mate —	150	Gunner — —	50
Purſer — —	150	Carpenter — —	50
Surgeon — —	150		

The commanders of China ſhips are farther allowed to carry out ſeparately to the amount of 3000l. in bullion for the purchaſe of gold, but the whole quantity of goods and bullion, as well as the coral and other articles hereafter mentioned to be carried out, muſt not exceed the allowance of tonnage to each perſon as before-mentioned.

The commanders and officers of ſhips in the company's ſervice, are allowed to inveſt the following ſums in coral, amber, coral beads, amber beads, pearls, emeralds, and any ſort of precious ſtones, upon producing an invoice of the amount upon oath, and paying the ſame duties to the company,

pany, and conſulage or commiſſion in India and China, as the traders in thoſe articles pay for the ſame; and on all exceedings of theſe allowances they will farther be charged freight by the company for the ſame.

Commander	—	£2000	Fourth Mate	—	£300
Chief Mate	—	500	Surgeon —	—	300
Second Mate	—	400	Purſer —	—	300
Third Mate	—	300			

The preceding tonnage, and other allowances, are for the proper uſe and account of the aforeſaid perſons, and they are not on any conſideration allowed to diſpoſe of their own, or make uſe of the privilege of any other perſon whomſoever, unleſs the court ſhall at any time think proper to diſpenſe with the ſame.

CERTIFICATES.

The commanders and officers are at liberty to pay any part of the produce of their outward adventure into the company's caſh in India, for which they may have certificates granted them on the court of directors, at the uſual rates of exchange, not exceeding 5000*l.* ſterling, during the courſe of the voyage, to be divided among them as under, which will become payable, a moiety in 90 days, and a moiety in 365 days, after ſight.

Commander	—	£3510	Fourth Mate	—	£124
Chief Mate	—	310	Fifth Mate	—	62
Second Mate	—	250	Boatſwain —	—	62
Third Mate	—	186	Gunner —	—	62
Purſer —	—	186	Carpenter —	—	62
Surgeon —	—	186			

Particulars of Stores allowed the undermentioned Officers, outward.

Chief Mate —	24 dozen of wine, beer, or other liquor
	2 firkins of butter
	1 cwt. of cheeſe
	1 cwt. of grocery
	1 caſe of pickles

Second Mate—20 dozen of wine, beer, or other liquor
other articles the ſame as chief mate.

Third Mate—16 dozen of liquor
2 firkins of butter
1 cwt. of cheeſe
½ cwt. of grocery
1 caſe of pickles

Fourth Mate—12 dozen of liquor
other articles the ſame as third mate.

Fifth Mate—10 dozen of liquor
1 firkin of butter
½ cwt. of cheeſe
½ cwt. of grocery
1 caſe of pickles

Surgeon—14 dozen of liquor
other articles the ſame as chief mate.

Purſer—The ſame as Third Mate.

Gunner, Carpenter, Boatſwain, and Surgeons.—Each the ſame as the Fifth Mate.

And on Petition are uſually farther allowed as under;

The chief mate, ſecond mate, purſer, and ſurgeon. } one puncheon of rum.

The Third Mate, for the Uſe of the Meſs, ditto

HOMEWARD BOUND.

The tonnage allowed homeward to the commanders and officers of ſhips of 755 tons burthen and upwards, is as follows; thoſe of a leſs burthen are allowed in proportion.

	China Ships.	Other Ships.	
	Tons.	Tons.	Feet.
Commander — —	38	30	32
Chief Mate — —	5	4	0
Second Mate — —	4	3	8
Third Mate — —	3	2	16
Purſer — — —	3	2	16
Surgeon — — —	3	2	16
Fourth Mate — —	2	1	24
Fifth Mate — —	1	0	32
Boatſwain — —	1	0	32
Gunner — — —	1	0	32
Carpenter — — —	1	0	32

No

No charge will be made for exceſs of tonnage homeward, provided ſuch exceſs is within the quantity of 30 tons, if the commander has not refuſed to take on-board any goods tendered to be laden on the company's account.

N.B. Petty officers, not mentioned as above, and ſeamen, are allowed 1-10th of a ton, each.

The following goods are not permitted to be imported in private trade, and if brought are forfeited.

Java Coffee	Saltpetre
Cotton Wool	Terra Japanica or Cotch
Cotton Yarn	Tea (except in China and
Raw Silk	Bencoolen ſhips.)

The following goods are not permitted to be imported in China ſhips, but may be brought in ſhips from any other parts.

Muſk	Arrack (except for ſhip's
Camphire	uſe.)

The undermentioned quantities of TEA are allowed to be imported in each China and Bencoolen ſhip, and them only, on payment of the following duties to the company. Viz.

	7 per cent. on ſale value.	17 per cent. on ſale value.	Total.
	lb	lb	lb
Captain — —	688	8648	9336
Chief Mate — —	90	1138	1228
Second Mate — —	72	912	984
Third Mate — —	54	682	736
Surgeon — —	54	682	736
Purſer — —	54	682	736
Fourth Mate — —	36	456	492
Fifth Mate — —	18	228	246
Boatſwain — —	18	228	246
Gunner — —	18	228	246
Carpenter — —	18	228	246

On all exceſs of the before-mentioned quantities of tea, a mulct of 20 per cent. on the ſale value will be charged, over and above the 17 per cent. duty. No mitigation of the mulct will be made on any account whatever.

The

The under-mentioned quantities of PIECE-GOODS are allowed to be imported in each ſhip on payment of the cuſtoms, and 7 per cent. duty on the ſale value to the company.

	May be brought of the following Muſlins, viz. Alliballies, Abroahs, Coſſaes, Doreas, Jamdannies, Mulmuls, Nainſooks, Neckcloths, Tanjeebs, Terrindams.	May be brought of other Muſlins and Callicoes the following Quantities, viz.	May be brought of coloured Piece Goods, the following quantities, viz.	May be brought of Nankeen cloth in China Ships only, in other Ships Nankeen Cloth will come under the Deſcription of Goods in ſecond Column.
	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.
Captain — — —	1232	1848	1848	1228
Chief Mate — — —	160	240	240	164
Second Mate — —	128	192	192	128
Third Mate — — —	96	144	144	96
Purſer — — —	96	144	144	96
Surgeon — — —	96	144	144	96
Fourth Mate — —	64	96	96	64
Fifth Mate — — —	32	48	48	32
Boatſwain — — —	32	48	48	32
Gunner — — —	32	48	48	32
Carpenter — — —	32	48	48	32

If the captain and officers do not bring the whole quantity of goods deſcribed in the firſt column, the deficiency may be made up with thoſe deſcribed in the ſecond column.

Privileges homeward bound.

On

On all exceſs of the before-mentioned quantities of piece-goods 20 per cent. on the ſale value will be charged over and above the cuſtoms and 7 per cent. duty; and no deviation will be made from this rule on any account or pretence whatſoever.

And the following other goods are allowed to be imported ſubject to the limitations and duties mentioned.

ARRACK.

Twenty leaguers are allowed in each ſhip, except in thoſe from China, on paying the cuſtoms and exciſe, and to the company 2 per cent. on the ſale value, and ſix pence per gallon; upon what exceeds that quantity two ſhillings per gallon will be charged.

Proportional ſhares of the quantities allowed as follows. Viz.

	Gallons.		Gallons.
Captain —	— 1971	Fourth Mate —	— 102
Chief Mate —	— 256	Fifth Mate —	— 51
Second Mate	— 205	Boatſwain —	— 51
Third Mate —	— 154	Gunner —	— 51
Purſer —	— 154	Carpenter —	— 51
Surgeon —	— 154		

CHINA WARE, CABINETS, CHINA FANS AND PICTURES, CHINA IMAGES, JAPAN WARE, LACQUERED WARE, AND SCREENS.

Twenty tons are allowed in each ſhip from China, in other ſhips only two tons are allowed in each, on paying the cuſtom, and to the company 9 per cent. on ſale value of China and lacquered wares, and on other articles 7 per cent. all exceedings of that quantity will be charged 30*l.* for each ton, and ſo in proportion for a greater or leſs quantity.

Proportional

Proportional ſhares of the quantities allowed as follows, Viz.

	In China Ships.		In India Ships.	
	Tons.	Cub. Feet.	Tons.	Cub. Feet.
Captain — —	12	13	1	11 3/5
Chief Mate — —	1	31	0	8
Second Mate — —	1	15	0	6 2/5
Third Mate — —	0	48	0	4 4/5
Purſer — — —	0	48	0	4 4/5
Surgeon — —	0	48	0	4 4/5
Fourth Mate — —	0	33	0	3 1/5
Fifth Mate — —	0	16	0	1 3/5
Boatſwain — —	0	16	0	1 3/5
Gunner — —	0	16	0	1 3/5
Carpenter — —	0	16	0	1 3/5

Note, Fifty cubical feet of the laſt-mentioned goods are equal to a ton.

RATTANS.

One thouſand bundles are allowed in each ſhip (a bundle is calculated by weight, two hundred weight and a quarter is equal to ten bundles) upon paying the cuſtom, and to the company 7 per cent. all exceedings to pay ten ſhillings per bundle, as far as one hundred bundles, and all other exceedings are forfeited.

Proportional ſhares of the quantities allowed as follows, Viz.

	Bundles.		Bundles.
Captain — —	616	Fourth Mate — —	32
Chief Mate — —	80	Fifth Mate — —	16
Second Mate — —	64	Boatſwain — —	16
Third Mate — —	48	Gunner — —	16
Purſer — — —	48	Carpenter — —	16
Surgeon — —	48		

DRUGS, and any ſort of goods not particularly mentioned.

Any quantity may be imported paying the cuſtom, and to the company 7 per cent. on the ſale value, provided, with the other articles brought, the tonnage allowed is not exceeded.

In

In caſe a ſhip does not in the whole exceed the ſeveral quantities of tea, piece-goods, arrack, China ware, lacquered ware, and rattans, no charge will be made for any particular perſon's exceedings, provided ſuch perſon is in the whole within his limited proportion of tonnage as before-mentioned.

All the preceding articles will be included in and reckoned as part of the tonnage allowed; and in caſe of any exceeding in the ſaid reſpective tonnage ſo allowed, the court of directors will charge a farther duty, over and above all other duties, of forty pounds for each ton, and ſo in proportion for a greater or leſs quantity.

It muſt be obſerved, that every article brought home by the commanders and officers muſt be regiſtered at the factory or place taken on-board, and that the court of directors will charge for each cheſt of tea and each half-cheſt of China ware that ſhall be regiſtered and not delivered into the company's warehouſe in England, ſeven pounds; and for all other goods found deficient of the quantity regiſtered, the committee of private trade have uſually charged the duties that would have become payable thereon, and by the Manifeſt-Act the commander is liable to heavy penalties for any deficiencies of this nature, and that goods brought, not regiſtered, are forfeited.

LIST of CLEARING-STORES allowed each Officer in each Ship homeward.

EXPLANATION OF THE FOLLOWING TABLE.

The figures at the top of the columns, denote, 1. captain; 2. chief mate; 3. 2d mate; 4. 3d mate, ſurgeon, and purſer; 5. 4th and 5th mates, boatſwain, gunner, carpenter, ſurgeon's mate, ſhip's and captain's ſtewards, and captain's cook; * ſmall; 6. 6th mate, midſhipman, quarter-maſter, and petty-officers; 7. captain's ſervants, taylor, barber, &c.

CHINA WARE.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5	6.	7.
Baſons, pint and half-pint —	48	36	24	24	24	8	4
Bowls —— ——	36	12	12	12	6	4	2
Cups and ſaucers ——	36	36	36	36	24	24	12
Clay and China figures ——	48	24	24	18	12	6	—
Chamber pots — ——	12	6	6	4	2	—	—
Candleſticks — ——	12	6	6	6	2	—	—
Ciſterns —— ——	2	1	1	1	—	—	—
Coffee pots —— ——	4	2	2	2	2	—	—
Diſhes —— ——	72	36	30	24	12	6	—
Fruit ditto —— ——	24	—	—	—	—	—	—
Guglets and baſons ——	12	6	4	3	2	—	—
Garden pots — ——	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jars —— ——	12	6	6	6	*6	—	—
Ditto ſweetmeats ——	6	4	4	4	2	—	—
Mugs —— ——	24	18	12	9	6	3	2
Ornamentals — ——	36	24	18	12	12	—	—
Plates —— ——	300	120	84	72	48	24	12
Sauceboats —— ——	12	6	4	4	2	—	—
Salts —— ——	12	6	6	6	4	—	—
Tea pots —— ——	12	8	6	6	4	2	1
Tea-table ſets — ——	4	3	2	2	1	1	—
Tureens —— ——	6	4	3	2	2	—	—
LACQUERED WARE.							
Cabinets and bureaus ——	2	1	1	1	1	—	—
Dreſſing boxes ——	2	2	1	1	1	—	—
Eſcrutore Hand ——	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Patch boxes — ——	12	10	10	6	4	2	—
Screens and Leaves ——	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tea cheſts —— ——	1	1	1	1	—	—	—
Tea boards —— ——	12	6	6	6	2	1	1
Tea tables —— ——	2	1	1	1	1	—	—
Waiters —— ——	12	6	6	6	4	2	—
Fans —— ——	36	24	24	24	12	6	4
Enamelled bread baſkets—	6	2	1	1	1	—	—
Ditto tea-kettles and ſtands—	2	1	1	1	1	—	—
Ivory or roſewood tea cheſt -	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mangoes —— gall	20	10	10	10	10	6	—
Pictures painted on glaſs —	12	4	3	3	3	—	—
Paper prints — ——	72	48	36	24	18	6	—
Sweetmeats — gall	6	3	3	3	3	—	—
Sago —— lb	40	20	15	15	10	—	—
Sugar candy — lb.	60	30	20	20	20	10	—
Soy —— gall.	15	6	6	6	5	2	—
Tamarinds —— lb.	100	40	30	30	30	—	—
Wine —— doz.	20	6	3	3	3	—	—
Wax candles — lb	60	20	10	10	10	—	—

PARTICULARS of the TONNAGE of GOODS, as calculated to make up the Tonnage for the Freight of Goods brought in East-India or China Ships to Europe, viz.

PIECE-GOODS.

FORT ST. GEORGE.

	Pieces to the Ton.
Allejars — —	800
Betellees — —	400
Callawapores —	800
Chints of all sorts —	R.400
Ginghams — —	800
Izzarees — —	800
Longcioths — —	160
Moorees — —	800
Sallampores — —	400
Saftracundies —	800

BENGAL.

Addaties — —	700
Alliballies — —	400
Allachaws — —	1200
Allibannies —	R.800
Arras —	R.400
Atchabannies —	800
Baftaes —	R.400
Bandannoes, or Taffa de Foolas —	R.800
Carridarries — —	600
Callipatties — —	400
Coopees — —	600
Callicoes — —	400
Chillaes — —	600
Chowtars — —	600
Chunderbannies —	800

BENGAL.

	Pieces to the Ton.
Chinachures —	R.800
Cambrics —	R.400
Chucklaes — —	400
Cuſhtaes — —	800
Coſſaes — —	400
Charconnaes — —	600
Cuttannees —	R.800
Dooſooties —	R.400
Dungaries —	R.400
Doreas — —	400
Dimities — —	600
Diapers, broad —	400
Ditto narrow —	600
Elatches —	R.800
Emmerties — —	600
Gurrahs — —	400
Ditto long — —	200
Ginghams, coloured —	600
Humhums — —	400
Habaſſies — —	600
Humhums quilted —	100
Jamdannies — —	800
Jamwars — —	600
Laccowries — —	600
Lungees Herba —	800
Mulmuls — —	400
Ditto handkerchiefs —	400
Mahamodietes —	400
Mamodies —	R.400

PIECE-GOODS.

BENGAL.

	Pieces to the Ton.
Nillaes —	— 800
Nainſooks —	— 400
Peniaſcoes —	— 800
Photaes —	—R.800
Percaulas —	— 800
Putcahs —	—R.400
Romals —	—R.800
Sannoes —	— 400
Seerbetties —	— 400
Seerbands —	— 600
Seerſuckers —	— 600
Seerhaudconnaes	— 400
Seerſhauds —	—R.400
Seerbaſts —	— 400
Shaulbaſts —	— 400
Succatoons —	—R.800
Sooſeys —	— 400
Sorts —	— 400
Taffaties of all ſorts	—R.800
Tanjeebs —	— 400
Tepoys —	—R.800
Terrindams —	— 400
Tainſooks —	— 400

BOMBAY.

Annabatches	—R.400
Bombay ſtuffs	—R.400
Byrampauts —	— 400
Bejutapauts —	—R.400
Boralchawders or brawls	1200

BOMBAY.

	Pieces to the Ton.
Betellees —	— 400
Chelloes —	—R 400
Chints of all ſorts	—R.400
Dooties —	—R.400
Guinea ſtuffs, large	— 600
Ditto, ſmall —	— 1200
Longcloths, whole pieces	160
Ditto, half ditto	— 320
Lemanees —	—R.800
Muſters —	— 400
Nunſarees —	—R.400
Neganepauts	— 400
Niccanees large	— 600
Ditto ſmall —	— 600
Salampores —	— 400
Stuffs brown—	—R.400
Tapſeils large	— 400
Ditto ſmall —	— 600

CHINA.

Nankeen cloth	—R 400
Silks of all ſorts	—R.800

China ware, 50 cubical feet to the ton, or about 4 cheſts of the uſual dimenſions.

Other meaſurable goods 50 cubical feet to the ton.

N.B.

PIECE-GOODS.

N.B. Where the letter R. is ſet againſt pieces of 400 to the ton it ſhews thoſe goods are to be reduced, or brought to a ſtandard of 16 yards long and 1 broad.

Where againſt pieces of 800 to the ton to ten yards long and 1 broad.

EXAMPLE.

1000 pieces of 12 yards long and $1\frac{1}{8}$ broad, at 400 to the ton, make 844 pieces, or 2 tons 44 pieces.

1000 pieces of $10\frac{1}{2}$ yards long and $1\frac{1}{8}$ broad, at 800 to the ton, is 1181 pieces, or 1 ton, 381 pieces.

WEIGHABLE GOODS.

		Cwt. to the Ton.
Arrangoes	— —	20
Aloes —	— —	16
Benjamin	— —	20
Borax	— —	20
Cardemoms	Fine goods	12
Cakelack	— —	16
Carmenia Wool	—	10
Cambogium	— —	20
Caſſia Lignea	—	8
Caſſia Buds	— —	12
Camphire	— —	15
Cotton Yarn	Fine Goods	10
Cowries	Gruff ditto	20
Coffee	Fine ditto	18
Cinnabar	— —	16
Cloves	— —	12
Dragon's Blood	—	20
Gum Arabic	— —	16
—— Elemi	— —	16
—— Ammoniacum	—	16
—— Opoponax	—	16
—— Sagapenum	—	18
—— Sarcocol	—	18
Indigo	— —	12
Iron Kintlage	—	20
Muſk —	— —	20
Myrrh	— —	16
Mother-of-Pearl Shells		20
Nux Vomica	— —	15
Pepper	— —	16
Quickſilver	— —	20
Rhubarb	— —	8
Raw Silk	— —	10
Ditto in cheſts	—	8
Ditto in bales or bundles		10
Redwood	— —	20
Rice —	— —	20
Shellack	— —	16
Seedlack	— —	18
Sticklack	— —	16
Saltpetre	— —	20
Senna --	— —	8
Sago —	— —	16
Ditto packed in China ware		—
Tutenague	— —	20
Turmeric	— —	16
Tincal	— —	16
Tea, Green	— —	8
—— Bohea	— —	10
Arrack Gauge	gallons	252
Canes	— Tale	3000
Wanghees and Bamboes		3000
Rattans equal to 16 cwt.		6000

A LIST OF THE KING's DUTIES,

Payable on all Goods imported from the *Eaſt-Indies*, *China*, and other Parts within the Limits of the honourable the *Eaſt-India* Company's Charter:

ALSO

The Drawbacks allowed on Exportation, agreeable to the Conſolidation-Act.

	Duty.			Drawback.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Arrack — Cuſtom per gall.	0	0	9	0	0	8
Exciſe ditto	0	4	3	0	0	0
(The Cuſtom and Exciſe on Arrack is paid by the Company, and delivered to the purchaſer free of this duty.) Total	0	5	0			
Brandy and geneva of the manufacture of India, Cuſtom for every 100*l.* groſs price at the company's ſale	37	16	3	36	1	3
Exciſe per gall. — —	0	4	3	0	0	0
Ditto and ditto of the manufacture of Europe, Cuſtom per gall. —	0	0	9	0	0	8
Exciſe ditto —	0	4	3	0	0	0
Aloes cicotrina — per lb	0	1	2	0	0	9

Aloes

		Duty.			Drawback.		
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Aloes hepatica —	per lb	0	0	6	0	0	4
Amber — —	ditto	0	1	5	0	1	3
Ambergris — —	oz. troy	0	2	0	0	1	4
Assafœtida — —	per lb	0	0	3	0	0	2
Argentum sublime, or quickfilver	ditto	0	0	8	0	0	6
Arrangoes for every 100*l.* grofs sale		31	13	3	29	16	0
Balsam artificial —	per lb	0	1	6	0	1	0
——— natural or Gilead	ditto	0	1	6	0	1	0
Bdellium — —	ditto	0	0	3	0	0	2
Benjamin — —	ditto	0	0	6	0	0	4
Bezoar ſtones —	oz. troy	0	2	6	0	1	8
Borax refined —	per lb.	0	1	0	0	0	8
—— unrefined, or tincal	ditto	0	0	3	0	0	2
Cambogium — —	ditto	0	0	6	0	0	4
Cantharides — —	ditto	0	1	0	0	0	8
Camphire refined —	ditto	0	0	8	0	0	$5\frac{1}{2}$
——— unrefined —	ditto	0	0	4	0	0	$2\frac{3}{4}$
Cardamoms — —	ditto	0	0	9	0	0	6
Caſſia fiſtula — —	ditto	0	0	3	0	0	2
—— lignea — —	ditto	0	0	4	0	0	$2\frac{3}{4}$
—— buds — —	ditto	0	0	4	0	0	$2\frac{3}{4}$
Callicoes, plain white, per piece, which is 10 yards if narrow, 6 yards if wide — —		0	5	3	0	5	0
And for every 100*l.* grofs price at the company's ſale —		16	10	0	0	0	0
Drawback of the laſt duty if exported to Africa —		0	0	0	16	10	0
if exported to the Britiſh colonies or plantations in America — —		0	0	0	11	15	0
if exported to any parts or places beyond the ſeas, except to the Britiſh colonies or plantations in America, if the ſaid goods ſhall have been printed, ſtained, or dyed, in this kingdom — —		0	0	0	16	10	0

if

	Duty.			Drawback.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
if exported to any parts or places beyond the ſeas, except to Africa or the Britiſh colonies or plantations in America, if the ſaid goods ſhall be exported without having been printed, ſtained, or dyed, in this kingdom —	0	0	0	14	10	0
Moſt of the goods which pay this duty are the following.						
Byrampauts whi. / Baftaes / Callipatties / Caſſaes patna / Chowtars / Dooſooties / Dotties white / Emmeities / Gurrahs / Ginghams white / Humhums / Izzarees / Laccowries / Longcloths / Moorees / Mammoodies / Percaulas / Putcahs / Sannoes / Sallampores / Succatoons / White cloth / White dungarees						
Candles of wax — per lb.	0	1	9	0	0	0
Carmenia wool — ditto	0	0	9	0	0	8
Canes, walking, dragon's bloods, or wanghees per thouſand	2	1	3	2	0	0
Carpets Perſia per ſquare yd	1	4	9	1	3	7
China ware and clay figures, for every 100*l.* groſs price at the company's ſale — —	47	10	0	45	5	0
Cinnamon — — per lb.	0	4	5	0	4	0
China root — — ditto	0	0	5	0	0	3½
Cinnabrium or vermilion ditto	0	0	7	0	0	4¼
Coffee — — per cwt.	1	18	6	1	15	0
Inland duty of Exciſe paid by the purchaſer, before taken out of the warehouſe, for home conſumption — per lb.	0	1	8	0	0	0

Cotton

	Duty.			Drawback.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Cotton manufactures, not otherwiſe particularly enumerated or deſcribed, for every 100*l.* groſs ſale	50	0	0	48	10	0
Cotton yarn — — per lb.	0	0	3½	0	0	3
Cotton wool — — free	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coloquintida — per lb.	0	0	6	0	0	4
Columbo-root — ditto	0	0	6	0	0	4
Coculus Indicus — ditto	0	0	5	0	0	3 5/12
Coſtus dulcis et amarus ditto	0	0	4	0	0	2 3/4
Coral whole poliſhed — ditto	0	3	0	0	2	0
—— —— unpoliſhed— ditto	0	1	6	0	1	0
—— in fragments — ditto	0	0	3	0	0	2
Cowries, for every 100*l.* groſs price at the company's ſale —	31	13	4	29	16	0
Cordivants dreſſed — per doz.	1	3	6	0	14	9
Cloves — — per lb.	0	2	8	0	2	5
Cakelack — — ditto	0	0	1	0	0	0 3/4
Cubebs — — ditto	0	0	2	0	0	1½
Dimities white — per yard	0	1	6	0	1	5
And for every 100*l.* groſs price, at the company's ſale —	16	10	0	0	0	0
Drawback of the laſt duty if exported to Africa —	0	0	0	16	10	0
if exported to the Britiſh colonies or plantations in America — —	0	0	0	11	15	0
if exported to any parts or places beyond the ſeas, except to the Britiſh colonies or plantations in America, if the ſaid goods ſhall have been printed, ſtained, or dyed, in this kingdom —	0	0	0	16	10	0
if exported to any parts or places beyond the ſeas, except to Africa or the Britiſh colonies in America, if the ſame ſhall not have been						

	Duty.			Drawback.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
been printed, ſtained, or dyed, in this kingdom—	0	0	0	14	10	0
Diagridium or ſcammony per lb.	0	2	6	0	1	8
Dragon's blood — ditto	0	0	8	0	0	5½
Dragon's-blood canes per thouſand	2	1	3	2	0	0
Drugs manufactured, not otherwiſe particularly enumerated or deſcribed, for every 100*l.* groſs price, at the company's ſale —	40	0	0	38	6	3
Moſt of the goods which pay this duty are the following.						
Aqua fortis Foſſil Alkali Goa ſtones Oils chymical Tincture of rhubarb, and all other tinctures						
Drugs unmanufactured, not otherwiſe particularly enumerated or deſcribed, for every 100*l.* groſs price, at the company's ſale. —	31	0	0	29	2	6
Moſt of the goods which pay this duty are the following.						
Aloes from the Cape Arſenic Caſſia minea Cardamom ſeeds Caſtor ſeeds Garden ſeeds Gum Copal Jeſuit's bark, or cortex Peruv. Jeſuit's beans Nux vomica Rag pearl Seed pearl Stags horns or harts horns Squinanthum Terra Japonica Turbith thapſia Unknown drugs						
Elephants teeth — — per cwt.	1	10	10	1	8	10
Folium Indicum — — per lb.	0	0	6	0	0	4
Galbanum — — — ditto	0	0	4	0	0	2¼
Galls — — — free.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Galangal — — — per lb.	0	0	2	0	0	1½
Garnets rough — — ditto	0	5	6	0	5	0
——— cut — — — ditto	1	9	9	1	8	3

Geneva

		Duty.			Drawback.		
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Geneva. See brandy, (for Cuſtoms, &c.)							
Ginger green	— per lb.	0	0	6	0	0	4
Gum opoponax	— ditto	0	1	4	0	0	11
—— ſarcocol	— ditto	0	0	4	0	0	2¾
—— ſagapenum, or ſerapium	ditto	0	0	4	0	0	2¾
—— ammoniacum, or ammoniac	d°	0	0	4	0	0	2¾
Gum fragacant, or tragacanth	lb.	0	0	3	0	0	2
—— lack, lumplack, or cakelack	per lb.	0	0	1	0	0	0¾
—— animi — —	ditto	0	0	3	0	0	2
—— elemi — —	ditto	0	0	2½	0	0	1½
—— ſenica, Senegal, or Arabic	ditto	0	0	6	0	0	0
Gold plate, wrought	per oz. troy	2	7	8	0	0	0
Hurſe ſkins —	— per ſkin	0	0	2	0	0	1¾
Indigo —	— free	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lapis calaminaris	— per cwt.	0	3	8	0	0	0
—— contrayerva	— per oz	0	0	9	0	0	6
—— tutiæ —	— per lb.	0	0	3	0	0	2
—— lazuli —	— ditto	0	0	6	0	0	4
Lacquered or japanned ware, for every 100*l.* groſs price, at the company's ſale	— —	49	10	0	47	0	0
Lead white —	— per cwt.	0	4	5	0	2	11
Lignum aſpalathum	— per lb.	0	0	2	0	0	1½
Manna —	— ditto	0	0	6	0	0	4
Maſtich white	— ditto	0	0	6	0	0	4
——— red —	— ditto	0	0	3	0	0	2
Mother-of-pearl ſhells, rough	ditto	0	0	4	0	0	2¾
Mace —	— ditto	0	4	0	0	3	8
Manufactured goods, not otherwiſe particularly enumerated or deſcribed, for every 100*l.* groſs price, at the company's ſale —		37	16	3	36	1	3
Moſt of the goods which pay this duty are the following,							
Amber beads unbound							
Artficial flowers							
Books bound or Butterflies and inſects preſerved							

		Duty.			Drawback.		
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Bamboe achar	Mother-of-pearl beads, necklaces, *&c.*						
Carpets of Turkey.	Mother-of-pearl counters						
Cornelian ſtones	Mocha and cambay ſtones						
Coral beads	Mangoes						
China ink	Pickles						
Cane blinds	Painted bamboe ſticks						
Cane hats	Paper prints						
Cane mats	Paper painted						
Cherong	Paper white						
Copper enamel'd	Rice-flowers, images, *&c.*						
Curry ſtuff	Roſewood furniture						
Chineſe muſical-inſtruments	Soy						
Conchou cloth	Shawls						
Drawers and cabinets of Black and Sandall wood	Sugar brown						
	Skins dreſſed						
Fans	Turkey carpets						
Fireworks	Vermicelli						
Glaſs bottles	Wrought copper						
—— wares	Wood frames carved and gilt						
Handles for knives	Walking-ſticks inlaid						
Ivory toys	Wax of bees, white						
India glue							
Kittiſols							
Leaves for making curry ſtuff							
Landſcapes in ſtone							
Myrobalans dry — per lb		0	0	1	0	0	$0\frac{3}{4}$
—— condited — ditto		0	0	2	0	0	$1\frac{1}{2}$
Muſk — per oz. troy		0	2	0	0	1	4
Muſlins plain, nankeen cloth, muſlins or white callicoes, flowered or ſtitched, for every 100*l.* groſs price, at the company's ſale —		18	0	0	10	0	0

Moſt

	Duty.			Drawback.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Moſt of the goods which pay this duty are the following.						
Allibalies	Nankeens or Nankin cloth					
Addaties						
Baftaes ſtriped	Rings					
Ballaſore handkerchiefs	Seerhaudconnaes					
	Seerbetties					
Bettellees	Seerbands					
Coſſaes	Seerſhauds					
Chundraconnaes	Subnums					
Doreas	Terrindams					
Ditto gold	Tanjeebs					
Jamdannies	Tartores					
Mulmuls	And all white muſlins					
Nainſooks						
All white goods made into apparel, *&c.* and all goods flowered or ſtitched with thread, as						
Callicoes	Fuſtians					
Muſlins	Dimities					
Stitched with thread or ſilk.						
Madeira wine,						
Cuſtom per ton of 252 gall.		19	12	0	0	0
if exported to any Britiſh colony or plantation in America — per ton		0	0	0	19	12
ditto to any other place do		0	0	0	16	9
Exciſe per ton of 252 gallons		11	18	0	0	0
if exported to any Britiſh colony or plantation in America — per ton		0	0	0	9	11
ditto to a ſettlement in the Eaſt-Indies — ditto		0	0	0	6	11
ditto to other parts or places beyond the ſeas ditto		0	0	0	3	15
Total duty, per ton		31	10	0		
or per gall.		0	2	6		

Myrrh

	Duty.			Drawback.		
	l.	*s.*	*d.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*
Myrrh — — per lb.	0	0	6	0	0	4
Nutmegs — — ditto	0	2	0	0	1	10
——— condited — ditto	0	0	10	0	0	7
Olibanum — — per cwt.	1	1	0	0	14	0
Opium — — per lb.	0	1	6	0	1	0
Orpiment, or auripigmentum cwt.	0	8	9	0	5	10
Pepper — — per lb.	0	0	0½	0	0	0
Inland duty, paid by the purchaſer before taken out of the warehouſes for home conſumption — —	0	0	6	0	0	0
Pepper long — per lb.	0	0	2½	0	0	1½
Prohibited goods, wares, and merchandiſes; prohibited to be worn or uſed in Great-Britain, imported for exportation only, for every 100*l.* groſs ſale —	6	15	0	0	0	0

Moſt of the goods which pay this duty are the following.

Arras
Allegars
Atchabannies
Abbawars
Atlas cuttanees
Bejutapauts
Byrampauts
Brawls
Bandannoes
Bombay ſtuffs
Carridarries
Chillaes
Chintz
Cotton romals
Chilloes
Coopees
Cuſhtaes
Callawapores
Cotton romal handkerchiefs
Chanderbannies
Cherconnaes
Chucklaes
Cuttannees
Dickmonſoys
Dyſookſoys
Dimities painted
Elatches
Ginghams ſtrip'd
——— coloured
Guinea ſtuffs
Gurrahs ſoot
Gold atlas
Habaſſies
Herba lungees
Jilmils
Jamwares flowered
Jamdannies ditto

		Duty.			Drawback.		
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Kiſſaſoys	Saſtracundies						
Kingcobs	Sannoes						
Longcloth blue	Seerſuckers						
Lemmanies	Silk handker-						
Lungees	chiefs						
Nillaes	Silk ſtockings						
Niccannees	Sicterſoys						
Neganepauts	Sooſeys						
Photaes	Shalbafts						
Poiſes	Silk ſkeins						
Peniaſcoes	Silk wrought						
Pallampores	Taffaties						
Painted gauze	Tepoys						
ſilk	Tapſeils						
Romals	Tuta humſey						
On exportation to Africa (except to the iſlands of Madeira, the Canary iſlands, the Azores or Weſtern iſles) the following Drawbacks are to be allowed on prohibited goods, viz.							
Allejars	— per piece	0	0	0	0	0	7
Bejutapauts	— ditto	0	0	0	0	1	0
Byrampauts	— ditto	0	0	0	0	0	9
Blue long cloths	— ditto	0	0	0	0	2	0
Brawls —	— ditto	0	0	0	0	0	2
Callawapores	— ditto	0	0	0	0	0	9
Cuſhtaes	— ditto	0	0	0	0	0	7
Coopees	— ditto	0	0	0	0	0	7
Chintz —	— ditto	0	0	0	0	0	9
Chelloes	— ditto	0	0	0	0	0	9
Cotton romals	— ditto	0	0	0	0	0	6
Guinea ſtuffs	— ditto	0	0	0	0	0	2
Niccanees ſmall	— ditto	0	0	0	0	0	7
——— large	— ditto	0	0	0	0	0	9
Negampauts	— ditto	0	0	0	0	1	0
Photaes—	— ditto	0	0	0	0	0	9
Saſtracundies	— ditto	0	0	0	0	1	0
Tapſeils	— ditto	0	0	0	0	0	0

Pictures,

	Duty.			Drawback.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Pictures, under 2 feet square each	1	5	8	0	0	0
——— above 2 feet — ditto	2	11	4	0	0	0
——— above 4 feet — ditto	3	17	0	0	0	0
Quickſilver, or argentum ſublime per lb.	0	0	8	0	0	6
Radix contrayerva — per lb.	0	0	6	0	0	4
Rattans — per thouſand	0	19	3	0	18	0
Reeds bamboe, for every 100*l.* groſs price, at the company's ſale —	28	5	0	26	5	0
Rhubarb — — per lb.	0	1	6	0	1	0
Rice — — per cwt.	0	8	10	0	8	10
Rum of the manufacture of India, Cuſtom for every 100*l.* groſs price, at the company's ſale —	37	16	3	36	1	3
Exciſe per gall.	0	3	7	0	0	0
Rum of Britiſh colonies in America, Cuſtom per gall.	0	0	5	0	0	5
Exciſe per gall.	0	3	7	0	0	0
Sapan wood — — free	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sago — — per lb.	0	0	3	0	0	2
Saltpetre — — per cwt.	0	7	9	0	7	3
Sal ammoniac — free	0	0	0	0	0	0
Saunders yellow — per lb.	0	0	3	0	0	2
——— red — free	0	0	0	0	0	0
Senna — — per lb.	0	0	6	0	0	4
Seedlack — — ditto	0	0	2	0	0	1½
Silk raw — per lb of 16 oz.	0	3	0	0	0	0
If exported to Ireland —				0	2	10
Except to Ireland —				0	2	0
Silver plate, ungilt, per oz. troy	0	3	3	0	0	0
—— —— part gilt — ditto	0	3	7	0	0	0
—— —— gilt — ditto	0	3	10	0	0	0
Shellack — — per lb.	0	0	2	0	0	1½
Spikenard — — ditto	0	1	4	0	0	11
Squilla — — per cwt.	0	2	6	0	1	8
Sticklack — — free	0	0	0	0	0	0
Storax calamita — per lb.	0	0	9	0	0	6
Sugar-candy brown — per cwt.	4	19	0	4	14	0
——— white — ditto	7	8	6	7	1	0
Succades — — per lb.	0	1	6	0	1	5

Snuff

	Duty.			Drawback.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Snuff — — per lb.	0	3	3	0	0	0
Tamarinds — — ditto	0	0	2	0	0	1½
Tea, for every 100*l.* groſs price, at the company's ſale				To Ireland & America		
Cuſtom —	5	0	0	5	0	0
				To Ireland & America		
Exciſe —	7	10	0	7	10	0
The duties muſt be paid by the purchaſer before the tea is taken out of the warehouſe.						
To be paid on the quantity allowed for tret alſo.						
Tincal — — per lb.	0	0	3	0	0	2
Turbith root — — ditto	0	1	0	0	0	8
Turmeric — — ditto	0	0	2	0	0	1½
Vermillion — — ditto	0	0	7	0	0	4½
Unmanufactured goods, not otherwiſe particularly enumerated or deſcribed, for every 100*l.* groſs price, at the company's ſale —	28	5	0	26	5	0
Moſt of the goods which pay this duty are the following.						
Agates rough, ſmall and large	Reed canes					
Birds neſts	Rough pebbles					
Bamboe pieces	Roſe wood					
Bamboe reeds	Sandall wood					
Camels hair	Sea-horſe teeth					
Caſſue nuts	Sea-ſhells rough					
Chian pepper in the pod	Tygers teeth					
	——— claws					
	Tutenague					
Ebony wood	Tortoiſeſhells					
Ginger	Tobacco					
India weed	Wax of bees, yel.					
Paddy						
Wormſeeds — — per lb.	0	0	6	0	0	4
Wanghees — per thouſand	2	1	3	2	0	0
Zedoaria — — per lb.	0	0	6	0	0	4

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ACACIA

IS the inſpiſſated juice of a plant of the thorn kind, growing in Egypt, Arabia, and other parts. Two ſorts are known, acacia vera and acacia Germanica. The former is a gummy ſubſtance, uſually of a firm conſiſtence, but not very dry. We meet with it in round maſſes, encloſed in thin bladders, from four to eight ounces in weight. Outwardly it is of a deep brown colour inclining to black, and of a lighter brown within, inclining to red or yellow. Acacia Germanica is a juice expreſſed from the unripe fruit of the ſloe-buſh, and differs from the preceding in being harder, heavier, darker in colour, ſharper in taſte, and particularly in this, that its aſtringency may be procured by rectified ſpirit as well as by water, whereas the Egyptian acacia is not at all diſſoluble by ſpirit.

The following particulars ſhould be attended to in chooſing acacia vera. It has little or no manifeſt ſmell; applied to the tongue it quickly ſoftens, diſcovering a rough and not very ungrateful taſte, followed by a ſenſation of ſweetneſs. If quite pure, it diſſolves totally in water; if otherwiſe, the impurities remain undiſſolved.

AGALLOCHUM, ſee LIGNUM ALOES.

AGARIC

Is a fungus growing on the trunks of trees: the medical agaric is that met with on old larch-trees in the Levant. It comes forth on the tree in Spring and increaſes till Autumn, when it is cut off, the cortical part ſeparated, and the inſide whitened, by being expoſed for ſome time to the ſun. We receive it in light irregular pieces of different magnitudes and of a chalky whiteneſs. The beſt is eaſily cut with a knife, friable betwixt the fingers, and free from hard, gritty, or coloured, veins.

AGNUS CASTUS,

A willowy ſhrub, bearing flexible rods, with long tender leaves. Its ſeeds, which are medicinally uſed, are like pepper. The beſt are thoſe which are large, freſh, plump, and unwithered.

ALOES:

The inſpiſſated juice prepared from the fleſhy-leaved plant of the ſame name. There are three ſorts:

ALOE SOCOTRINA, brought from the iſland of Socotora, in the Indian Ocean, wrapt in ſkins. It is of a bright ſurface, in ſome degree tranſparent; of a yellowiſh red colour, with a purple caſt, when in the lump, and of a golden colour when reduced to powder. It is hard and friable in Winter, ſomewhat pliable in Summer, and ſoftens between the fingers. Its bitter taſte is accompanied with an aromatic flavour, but not

ſufficient

ſufficient to prevent its being diſagreeable; the ſmell is not very unpleaſant, and is ſomething like myrrh. To try its purity, boil four ounces in a quart of water, and it will diſſolve into a dark-coloured liquor; if adulterated, the impurities will remain undiſſolved. If, in the package of this drug, there ſhould be any mixture of rubbiſh, it will be more advantageous to cleanſe it in India, the duty being paid by weight, and purity much advancing the price. The packages ſhould not weigh more than 150 or 200 pounds; if not more than 100 it will be better. The purchaſer ſhould calculate his loſs on the ſkins, &c. at double the real diſadvantage; and the inſide of the package ſhould be greaſed, to prevent the aloes from ſticking.

Aloe Hepatica is produced in other parts as well as in the Eaſt. The beſt is uſually imported from Barbadoes in gourd-ſhells, an inferior kind in pots, and a ſtill worſe in caſks. This kind is generally darker-coloured and leſs clear than the Socotrine, and generally more compact and dry, though ſometimes quite ſoft and clammy, particularly the caſk-ſort. Its taſte is intenſely bitter and nauſeous, without the aromatic flavour of the Socotrine, and its ſmell is much ſtronger and more diſagreeable. If any of this ſort be brought from India, care ſhould be taken that it be not liquid, a circumſtance that leſſens its value in England conſiderably.

Aloe Caballina, caballine or horſe aloes, is eaſily diſtinguiſhed from both the preceding by its ſtrong rank ſmell;

in other reſpects it nearly agrees with the hepatic, and is not unfrequently ſold in its place: it is ſometimes prepared ſo pure and bright as to render it difficult for the eye to diſtinguiſh it from the Socotrine; but it is quickly diſcovered by the rankneſs of the ſmell; ſhould this alſo be diſſipated by art, the aromatic flavour of the finer aloes is a ſufficient criterion. But it will not be profitable to bring either caballine or hepatic aloes from India.

AMBER,

A marine bitumen, uſually found on the coaſt of Pruſſia, and of which India produces ſome. If genuine, when rubbed on cloth, or hard with the hand, it will attract a needle, feather, ſtraw, or other like ſubſtance. By friction, alſo, it will diſcloſe a phoſphorical light in the dark.

AMBERGRIS

Is a ſubſtance the origin of which has been much controverted; the prevailing opinion (ſeemingly confirmed by ſome chemical experiments) is, that it is a marine bitumen, thrown by ſtorms on the coaſts where it is found, or floating on the ſurface of the ſea. It is a ſolid ſebaceous ſubſtance, not very ponderous, of ſeveral colours, from aſh-coloured and white, through different ſhades, to black. The beſt is the aſh-coloured or grey, variegated like marble, and often marked with white ſpecks. It is generally in ſmall maſſes, though we have been told of pieces that weighed 100 pounds. It is of a looſe texture, pulverable in a degree like wax,

breaking

breaking rough and uneven, and frequently containing pieces of ſhells and other things of that nature. That which is all black or entirely white is good for little; as is the ſmooth, uniform, and perfectly pure; theſe being commonly falſified or factitious. The beſt ambergris is ſometimes covered with a blackiſh cruſt and mixed with foreign ſubſtances; however, the cleaneſt ſhould be choſen.

In the choice of this commodity, the aſh-coloured, beforementioned, intermingled with yellowiſh or blackiſh ſpecks or veins, is to be preferred: it has ſcarcely any particular taſte, and very little ſmell, unleſs heated or much handled, when it is very fragrant and agreeable to moſt people. If it be pure, when a hot needle is thruſt into it, it yields a very pleaſant ſmell, which the adulterated will not. But the beſt proof of its genuineneſs is, that, in a ſtrong heat, it proves almoſt totally volatile.

AMBER-SEED,

Or muſk-ſeed, is flat and kidney-ſhaped, about the ſize of a large pin's head, of a greyiſh colour on the outſide and white within: it is produced by a ſhrub growing in the Eaſt and Weſt Indies. Theſe ſeeds have a fragrant ſmell, approaching to that of muſk, and a ſlightly aromatic but ſomewhat bitter taſte.

AMMI VERUM

Is the produce of an Egyptian plant. It is a ſmall ſeed, of a yellow colour inclining to red, having an acrid aromatic

taſte

taſte and a fragrant ſmell. It is ſeldom uſed here, the ammi vulgare being ſubſtituted, which is commonly cultivated in gardens.

AMMONIACUM, GUM,

Is brought from ſeveral parts of Aſia either in fine tears, or drops, or in maſſes compoſed of them, of a milky whiteneſs; the external parts of the maſs commonly incline to yellow or brown; and the white tears change to the ſame colour on being expoſed for ſome time to the air. This gum has a ſtrong ſmell and a diſagreeable ſweetneſs of taſte, followed by a ſenſation of bitterneſs. It turns any liquid but ſpirits milky, on diſſolution.

Gum ammoniac, in maſſes, ſhould be choſen full of drops, without filth or ſeeds, dry, brittle, growing ſoft by the fire, and being eaſily reduced to a white powder, of a ſharp taſte and ſmell. The drops ſhould be round, white, internally and externally, of a ſmell not unpleaſant, of a bitter taſte, and free from ſeeds or other foreign ſubſtances.

AMMONIACUM, SAL,

Is a volatile ſalt brought chiefly from Egypt, ſometimes in conical loaves, commonly in round cakes, convex on one ſide and concave on the other. It ſhould be choſen of a very ſharp penetrating taſte, white, clear, tranſparent, dry, with the internal part perfectly pure and of an almoſt tranſparent whiteneſs; the outſide is for the moſt part foul, and of a hue inclining to yellow, grey, or black; but it ſhould be

every

every way as clean as it can be procured. When broken, it muſt appear as if full of needle-points.

AMOMUM VERUM,

True amomum, is the fruit or ſeed-veſſel of an Oriental plant. This fruit, in figure, is like a grape, and contains, under a membraneous covering, a number of ſmall, rough, angular, ſeeds, of a blackiſh-brown colour on the outſide, and whiter within. The ſeeds are lodged in three diſtinct cells, and thoſe in each cell joined cloſely together, ſo that the fruit, on being opened, appears to contain but three ſeeds. Ten or twelve of theſe pedicles, about an inch long, ſtand together upon a woody ſtalk. The ſeeds are a ſtrong grateful aromatic, of a penetrating fragrant ſmell, and of a warm pungent taſte.

That amomum is beſt which is freſh and large, the pods being round, of a light colour inclining to grey, heavy, and well filled with odoriferous grains. To have the grains neat and clean, they ſhould be ſeparated from the ſhell, which is of little uſe. The amomum whoſe pods are light and grains wrinkled is of no value.

ANACARDIUM

Is a fruit of the ſhape of a flattened heart, produced by the Malacca bean-tree. It is covered by two tough rinds, between which is lodged an acrid matter, in a liquid ſtate while the nut is freſh, but which grows dry by keeping. The goodneſs of the anacardium conſiſts in its being large, plump, dry, and freſh.

ANIME, GUM,

Is a reſinous ſubſtance which flows by inciſion from the trunk of the tree that produces it. It has a light pleaſant ſmell, and little or no taſte. Its colour is a fine pale yellow, and it ſhould be quite tranſparent. It readily breaks between the teeth, but, on long chewing, ſoftens and ſticks together. It is produced in North and South America as well as in the Eaſt.

This gum ſhould be choſen white, dry, brittle, and clean. If genuine, when laid on a red-hot iron, it immediately melts, catches flame, and burns quickly away, with a fragrant ſmell, leaving only a ſmall quantity of light-coloured aſhes.

ANISUM STELLATUM,

Indian or ſtellated aniſe, a fruit or ſeed-veſſel, conſiſting of ruſty-coloured, hard, wrinkled, huſks, about half an inch long, joined together by their ends, to the number of ſix or ſeven, in the form of a ſtar, each including a gloſſy ſeed that is internally white. It is the produce of a ſmall tree growing in Tartary, China, and the Philippine iſlands. The huſks of theſe ſeeds have a glowing, ſweetiſh, aromatic, taſte, but not fiery. The ſeeds have little ſmell, but fill the mouth, in chewing, with an agreeable aromatic flavour, of the ſame nature with that of the huſks, but weaker, accompanied with a greater ſweetneſs.

ARABIC, GUM,

The inſpiſſated juice of the Egyptian acacia. It is in ſmall clear maſſes, of an inſipid viſcous taſte, ſemi-tranſparent, of a clear whitiſh or very pale yellow colour: the clearer and more pellucid the better the gum. When this gum is pure, it will diſſolve totally in water, otherwiſe it will leave a foul ſediment. Gum Senegal, which is ſometimes ſold for it, is in larger and darker-coloured maſſes, not ſo ſmooth, but rougher on the outſide. The beſt package is a ſtrong iron-bound caſk.

ARECA,

Areck, or betelnut, is a fruit univerſally ſought after throughout India, but it is not a commercial article in Europe.

The areca is the produce of a tall thin tree of the palm-kind. The ſhell, which contains the fruit, is ſmooth without, but rough and hairy within, reſembling the cocoa-nut, and being about the ſize of a green walnut. The kernel is near the ſize of a nutmeg, much reſembling it externally, and having, when cut in two, the ſame veiny appearance. In the center of the fruit, while it is ſoft, is contained a greyiſh and almoſt liquid ſubſtance, which hardens as the nut ripens. When ripe and freſh, this fruit is aſtringent but not unpalatable, and the ſhell inclines to a yellow colour. The chief uſe made of areca is to chew it with the leaves of betel, mixing therewith a chalk called chunam, and ſometimes other perfumed compoſitions.

Mr. Groſe (in his Voyage to the Eaſt-Indies) farther ſays, "They uſe it both raw and boiled; which laſt operation,

" they ſay, adds ſtrength to it. But I would not adviſe " any one to taſte it green, ſince it affects the animal ſpirits " ſo powerfully, that, inſtantaneouſly, as it were, thoſe who " are not uſed to it fall down in a trance; it is true, they " recover preſently, and without any ill conſequences."

ARLET,

A kind of cumin, for which there is ſome trade at Surat. There are three ſorts of it, the white, the black, and the ſmall; of which the white is preferred. It is little known in Europe.

ASA FŒTIDA

Is a fetid concrete juice of a large plant growing in Perſia. When this plant is grown to a proper age and ſize, the root is bared of earth, ſkreened from the ſun by the leaves that have been pulled off, cut horizontally after ſome days, and again carefully ſkreened: in a day or two, the juice gradually riſes and accumulates on the ſurface, whence it is collected, and the ſuperficial part of the root, that has become dry, is cut off, that the remaining moiſture may be extracted and collected in a ſimilar manner. This juice, as it firſt iſſues from the root, is liquid and white like milk; it gradually acquires different degrees of conſiſtency. It has a ſtrong fetid ſmell, and a nauſeous, ſomewhat bitter, biting, taſte: the ſtronger theſe are the better, as age diminiſhes both.

This

This drug is originally in ſmall drops, but, when packed, it forms irregular maſſes, compoſed of little ſhining lumps or grains, which have the different ſhades of white, brown, red, or violet. It ſhould be choſen clear, freſh, ſtrong-ſcented, of a pale red colour, and variegated with a number of fine white tears. Its peculiar ſcent and taſte will diſtinguiſh the genuine from the adulterated.

A Z U R E,

Or lapis-lazuli, is a compact ponderous foſſil, leſs hard than flint, that takes a high poliſh, and is uſed, in an inferior intention, for toys, *&c.* Its moſt valuable purpoſe is in making that beautiful colour called ultramarine blue. It is found in detached lumps, uſually about the ſize of a man's fiſt, frequently ſmaller, and ſometimes in pieces of four or five pounds weight. It is very ſeldom covered with any coat or cruſt, but reſembles thoſe ſtones which have been waſhed off from whole ſtrata, and ſmoothed or rounded by accidents afterwards. Its ſurface is naturally ſmooth and gloſſy; its colour, a very elegant blue, beautifully variegated with white or clouded ſpots, and with gold-coloured ſhining veins. For any purpoſe but toy-making it is moſt valuable the leſs it has of theſe variegations. It is the production of Aſia and Africa: a much inferior kind is likewiſe brought from Germany.

It is to be choſen of a fine cloſe texture, heavy, of a deep indigo-blue colour, having as few ornamental gold-coloured veins as poſſible, and ſuch as calcines in a ſtrong fire without emitting any ſmell. It is ſometimes rubbed over with olive-oil to increaſe its colour. This impoſition may be diſcovered

by breaking the ſtone: if it be paler within than without, it is a proof that the ſtone was falſified If the azure-ſtone be of a good quality, its colour will remain unchanged when it is red-hot in the fire. The lapis Armenus, which externally reſembles this ſtone, may be readily diſtinguiſhed, by its being leſs hard, and ſoon loſing its blue colour in a moderate fire.

BALSAM OF MECCA,

Or balm of Gilead. A reſinous juice that diſtils from a tree growing between Medina and Mecca. It is much uſed by the Aſiatic ladies as a coſmetic. The tree is ſcarce; and the liquor which iſſues from it ſmells like turpentine, but more ſweet and pleaſant. That which drops from old trees is thicker than that produced by young ones, but their effects are the ſame. When the liquor is not clear and tranſparent, it is not uncommonly owing to the veſſels that have contained it, the balſam being no worſe in point of quality. This commodity is very liable to adulteration; and the following method is recommended to diſcover the impoſition.

Cauſe a drop or two of the liquid balſam to fall into a glaſs of clear water: if the drop go to the bottom, without riſing again to the ſurface, or if it continue in a drop, like oil, it is a proof that the balſam is adulterated. If, on the contrary, it ſpreads upon the ſurface of the water, like a very thin cobweb, ſcarcely viſible to the eye, and, being congealed, may be taken up with a pin or ſmall ſtraw, the balſam is pure and natural.

Other modes of trial are likewiſe mentioned. If the pure balſam be dropped on woollen, it will waſh out; if adulterated,

terated, it ſticks to the place. The genuine, dropped into milk, coagulates it, which the ſpurious will not. When a drop of the pure balſam is let fall on red-hot iron, it gathers itſelf into a globule, whereas oil or ſpurious balſam runs and ſheds itſelf all around. The genuine balſam alſo feels viſcid and adheſive to the fingers, which the adulterated does not. If ſophiſticated with wax, it is diſcovered by the turbid colour, never to be clarified: if with honey, the ſweet taſte betrays it: if with reſins, by dropping it on live coals it yields a blacker flame, and of a groſſer ſubſtance, than the genuine.

When the balſam is too thick to be taken out of the bottle, it need only be placed near the fire, the ſmalleſt degree of heat eaſily liquifying it. The bottles muſt not be quite full, leſt they ſhould break, as this liquor is apt to rarify.

Balſamum is the Latin name of the tree whence the balſam iſſues: opo-balſamum is the juice which diſtils from the tree, that is, the balſam; carpo-balſamum is the fruit; and xylo-balſamum is the wood. Theſe are all uſeful.

Carpo-Balsamum ſhould be choſen freſh, plump, ponderous, of a hot biting taſte, and ſmelling, in ſome moderate degree, like the balſam. Hypericum is ſometimes mixed with it; which may be diſcovered by its exceſs in ſize, its vacuity, want of virtue, and peppery taſte.

Xylo-Balsamum ought to be in ſmall knotty rods, the rind red, the wood white, reſinous, and having a ſcent ſomewhat like the balſam.

BANGUE,

BANGUE,

A ſpecies of opiate in much repute throughout the Eaſt for drowning care. It is the leaf of a kind of wild hemp, little differing, as to leaf or ſeed, (except in ſize,) from our hemp. The effects of this drug are, to confound the underſtanding, ſet the imagination looſe, and induce a kind of folly and forgetfulneſs. Mr. Groſe ſpeaks of it in the following manner. "Bangue is an intoxicating herb, in the "uſe of which it is hard to ſay what pleaſure can be found, "it being very diſagreeable to the taſte, and violent in its "operation, which produces a temporary madneſs, that, in "ſome, when deſignedly taken for that purpoſe, ends in "running what they call a muck, furiouſly killing every "one they meet, without diſtinction, till themſelves are "knocked on the head, like mad dogs. But this practice "is much rarer in India than it formerly was."

BDELLIUM

Is a gum-reſin in ſome degree reſembling myrrh, and it is not unfrequently imported with a conſiderable quantity mixed amongſt it. It is in ſingle looſe drops, not concreted into cakes. Theſe drops are of a very irregular ſize, ſome of them as large as hazel-nuts, many leſs than a pea, and ſome few bigger than the firſt-mentioned. They are ſeldom regularly round, often crooked, and of an irregular ſhape. The colour of this gum is a duſky browniſh red; it is ſemi-tranſparent, moderately heavy, and conſiderably hard; taken into the mouth, it grows ſoft and tough in the manner of maſtic; its ſmell is not diſagreeable; its taſte inclines to bitter, but not ſo much as that of myrrh. It readily takes fire, and

burns

burns very briſkly, with a white bright flame, though it crackles all the time, and frequently throws little fragments of matter to the ſurface of the flame.

Bdellium is not perfectly ſoluble in aqueous or ſpirituous menſtrua: a conſiderable part of it is ſoluble in common water, and the remainder may be diſſolved in well-rectified ſpirit of wine. We meet with it not only among myrrh, but often among gum Senegal, which it much leſs reſembles.

The characteriſtics for chooſing Bdellium are copiouſly expreſſed in the preceding deſcription: to aſſiſt the memory, they may be thus collected: this gum ſhould be ſomewhat tranſparent, the more ſo the better, of a bitter taſte, of a duſky reddiſh-brown colour, moderately heavy and hard, becoming ſoft and tough in the mouth.

BEAN of St. IGNATIUS,

Improperly ſo called, is the ſmall ſolid ſeed of a fruit of the gourd-kind, growing upon a tree in ſome of the Philippine iſlands, and in which the Chineſe trade.

The figure of this ſeed is irregular; it is nearly the ſize of a ſmall nutmeg, with a muſky ſcent, when freſh, and a taſte ſomewhat bitter. Its external colour is grey: but it inclines to black, when ſtripped of the thin ſkin which inveſts it. The inſide reſembles a dark-coloured jelly, but it is of as hard a conſiſtence as horn, ſo that it is difficult to cut or break it. If grated, (which is the eaſieſt way of uſing it,) it appears white in thoſe places touched by the points of the grater, which deceives thoſe who ſee it of that colour. In order to view its natural colour, it muſt be cut through the middle with a knife, driven in by a hammer or mallet.

BEN, OR BEHEN,

Is a name appropriated to two articles, the ben-root and the ben-nut; the former is again divided into the white and the red; the white ben-root is grey without and inclining to white within, of a taſte almoſt inſipid, which however leaves a diſagreeable bitterneſs, when kept ſome time in the mouth. The red ben is a fibrous root, brown on the outſide and inclining to red within. Both ſorts ſhould be choſen freſh, dry, of a deep colour, and of an aromatic aſtringent taſte.

The BEN-NUT is of a light colour, about the ſize of a filbert, of a triangular, but ſomewhat round, ſhape, including a kernel of the ſame figure, covered with a white ſkin. It is the produce of a tree growing ſpontaneouſly in the Eaſt-Indies and in America. Theſe nuts ſhould be choſen of a diſagreeable, bitter, oily, taſte, freſh, plump, and ſound.

BENZOIN,

Or benjamin, is the concrete reſinous juice of a tree growing in the Eaſt-Indies and in North-America. Benzoin is in drops and lumps: the former is ſeldom or never met with: the latter is compoſed of ſmall grains, of a colour inclining to white or yellow, with a purple caſt on the ſurface. It is very inflammable, and diffuſes a fragrant ſmell while burning. It is gathered in the following manner. When the benzoin-trees are ſix years old, the natives of the iſlands of Sumatra and Java cut them in ſeveral places under the large

large branches, in an oblique direction, quite into the wood: the benzoin flows from theſe wounds, is white and ſoft at firſt, but by degrees becomes harder, and acquires a darker colour on the ſurface by being expoſed to the air.

In order to be of a good quality, this gum ſhould be extremely clean, of an agreeable ſcent, very reſinous, and intermixed with many white tears. That which is very brown, black, and without ſmell, is to be rejected. The maſs ſhould be broken quite through, to ſee that it poſſeſſes the neceſſary qualities.

BETEL.

The practice of chewing betel is univerſal in India, as well as on the coaſt of China: it is produced at all entertainments and viſits amongſt the natives, and even to Europeans, ſome of whom, eſpecially the Portugueſe, have adopted the habit. The doſe (if it may be ſo called) muſt neceſſarily conſiſt of three ingredients, the betel-leaf, the areca, or betel-nut, and chunam; for, wanting any of theſe, that deep red colour, which reſults from their mixture in maſtication, would alſo fail.

The betel-leaf is ſomething like that of a laurel, and grows upon poles, like the hop. This leaf is full of large fibres, which, with the middle one, are generally ſtripped off by the finger-nail. It has a hot biting taſte, not unpleaſing to thoſe who are uſed to it.

The chunam is only burnt lime, made of the fineſt ſhells. It is kept in gold, ſilver, and metal, boxes, and muſt be moiſtened for uſe. See catechu.

BETELNUT, ſee ARECA.

BEZOAR, LAPIS,

A medicinal ſtone, to which extravagantly-efficacious qualities were formerly attributed, but which latterly has been more lightly eſteemed. It is produced in the ſtomach of an animal of the goat-kind, inhabiting the mountains in different parts of Perſia, and deſcribed by naturaliſts in the following manner, under the name of gazella Indica. It is of the ſize of our common deer; and its coat of hair is of a grey colour inclining to a ruſty brown. The head is ſhaped like that of our goat; the horns are near three feet in length, when the creature is full-grown; they are ſtrait, and, in that part which is near their inſertion on the head, they are annulated, or marked with circular riſings; and all the other part is black, ſmooth, and gloſſy. The tail is near a foot in length, and is covered with hair of the ſame colour with that on the reſt of the body, but conſiderably longer. The legs are very ſtrong, and covered with ſhort hair. The creature is very nimble, and jumps about upon the rocks like our goat.

Beſide the Oriental, there are German and other, bezoars, which are leſs valuable. The genuine Oriental bezoar is commonly of an oval form, and between the ſize of a hazle-nut and a walnut: if larger, it is more valuable; if ſmaller, of no value. This ſtone is externally ſmooth and gloſſy, and compoſed of ſeveral ſhining coats, like an onion, incloſing either a powdery ſubſtance, or a nucleus, round which they are formed. The colour moſt valued is a ſhining olive or dark green; but there are ſome whitiſh, ſome grey, and ſome of a dull yellow. Purchaſers ſhould be careful in chooſing this drug. The real bezoar has little ſmell and no taſte.

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It ſhould be as large as poſſible: the very ſmall pieces ſhould be intirely rejected, as they are moſt commonly increaſed in quantity with factitious ſubſtances reſembling them.

When a red hot needle, on entering the bezoar, occaſions it to fry and ſhrivel, it is not genuine: if it only throw off a ſmall ſcale or cruſt, without entering, it is good.

If, on rubbing it over paper, previouſly ſmeared with chalk or quick lime, it leave a yellow taint on the former, or a green one on the latter, it is a good ſtone.

If the bezoar, after ſoaking five or ſix hours in luke-warm water, remain unchanged, in weight, colour, or conſiſtence, it is genuine. Nor ſhould it appear ſenſibly acted upon by rectified ſpirit any more than by water.

The powder, after agitation with water or ſpirit, ſubſides uniformly and totally, leaving no greeniſh matter diſſolved in the liquors, as thoſe powders do in which the bezoar-tincture has been imitated by certain vegetable matters.

BIRDS NESTS

Are generally brought to Europe as preſents. The bird, who forms this neſt, is a kind of ſwallow, the upper part of whoſe body, including the head and tail, is of a dark colour, and the under part is white: its head is ſmall; its bill is ſhort, thick, crooked, light-blue, and ſhining: its legs are ſhort and ſlim: the wings are long, extending beyond the tail. Theſe ſwallows frequent the high rocks, where they build their neſts.

Theſe neſts differ from each other in ſize, thickneſs, colour, and weight. Their diameter is commonly three fingers breadth on the top, and their perpendicular depth in the

middle ſeldom exceeds an inch. The ſubſtance of theſe neſts is white inclining to red, ſomewhat tranſparent: their thickneſs is little more than that of a ſilver ſpoon; and their weight is from a quarter to half an ounce. They are very brittle, and have a ſhining gummy appearance internally, when broken. As the induſtry of the bird applied the matter in ſmall glutinous pieces, at intervals, the neſts ſeem wrinkled, or ſlightly furrowed, on the ſurface. This deſcription muſt be underſtood of thoſe neſts that are dry and have been ſome time kept. While they are attached to the rocks, or other places, they are more pliable, larger, and heavier.

Theſe neſts are compoſed of an animal ſubſtance, which the birds procure on the ſhore when the ſea ebbs. They fix on a kind of ſtar-fiſh, of a gelatinous conſiſtence, of which each conveys a bill-full to the place deſtined for its neſt, applying it by threads, one over the other at ſeveral times, and flying backward and forward till the work is completed. Some perſons aſſert that the birds get the glutinous matter from oyſters or other ſhell-fiſh that abound in thoſe ſeas. It is not improbable that theſe ſwallows procure the materials for their neſts both from ſtar-fiſh and ſhell-fiſh, their ſtrong crooked bills demonſtrating their capability.

A neſt bears three denominations, head, belly, and foot. The foot is yellow, dirty, and has many feathers in it, being the part which ſticks to the rock. The belly is yellow, but free from dirt. The head is white and tranſparent, and twice as valuable as the foot. A neſt ſhould be choſen dry and very brittle; if moiſt, it will be tough and pliable. The foot and belly may with pains be made head, by picking the feathers and waſhing the dirt out, and laying them in

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the dew, on moonſhiny nights, which will whiten them by degrees; but, if the ſun come to them, they then grow yellower, and ſpoil.

BORAX, ROUGH,

Or tincal, is a cryſtalline ſalt, brought from the Eaſt-Indies in a very impure condition, conſiſting partly of large ſix-ſided cryſtals, but chiefly of ſmaller irregular ones, of a white or green colour, joined together in one lump by a fetid, greaſy, or oily, yellow ſubſtance, intermingled with ſand, ſmall ſtones, and other impurities.

The purchaſer, in chooſing rough borax, ſhould obſerve, that the cleaneſt and brighteſt ſolid pieces, reſembling white ſugar-candy, which ſhould be greaſy to the touch, and of a rank ſmell, are the beſt.

Refined Borax ſhould have a pungent taſte but ſomewhat ſweet, and ſhould be perfectly white and free from all impurities. The high duty on refined borax renders it unprofitable in England, as rough borax can be eaſily purified.

Calambac, ſee Lignum Aloes.

CAMPHORA,

Camphor, or camphire, a ſolid unctuous concrete, that is procured in India by boiling the branches and other parts of the tree which produces it. It has a fragrant ſmell, and a

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ſomewhat bitter, aromatic, pungent, taſte, accompanied with an impreſſion of coolneſs. A ſpecies of camphor is likewiſe found naturally concreted into little grains in the medullary part of the camphor-tree. Specimens of this (in Europe) are only found in the cabinets of the curious.

The Indians diſtinguiſh two kinds of camphor, a finer and a coarſer. The latter is the Japaneſe kind, beforementioned, procured by boiling; the former, produced in Borneo and Sumatra, is ſo highly valued by the natives that it is very rarely to be met with in Europe. The Japaneſe value this ſort ſo much, that, for one ounce of it, they will give five or ſix of what they make; and the Chineſe value it ſo highly as to give 35*l.* for ſixteen ounces.*

The tree, whence the Japaneſe procure their camphor, is a ſpecies of bay-tree, which grows to a large ſize. They cut the root and moſt tender ſhoots into ſmall pieces, which they put into large iron or copper kettles, placed over a moderate fire. To theſe kettles they adapt earthen heads, of a conical ſhape, with a riſing hollow neck, in which the camphor is received as it riſes. When the proceſs is over, they knead this matter with their hands into cakes, which are what we call rough camphor. Theſe cakes incline to a brown or grey colour, and are compoſed of ſmall grains, mixed with ſome impure matter: they are not very heavy nor very compact, but eaſily crumble to pieces. If theſe cakes be tolerably pure, they will, when ſet on fire, burn away and leave but few aſhes; the fewer the better. The beſt package is an iron-bound caſk, lined with tutanag, to prevent evaporation. Into this the camphor ſhould be cloſely preſſed.

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* RAYNALL's Hiſtory of the European Settlements in the Eaſt and Weſt Indies, tranſlated by Juſtamond.

This crude camphor the Dutch purify by pulveriſation and farther ſublimation, when it receives the appellation of refined camphor: it is in hollow, round, thin, cakes, of the ſame form with the head of the veſſel they were ſublimed in. Theſe cakes are compoſed of a delicate pure reſin, perfectly clean and white, very bright and pellucid, moderately compact in texture, ſomewhat fat to the touch, ſoftening and growing tough under the teeth. This refined camphor has a ſmell and taſte of the ſame kind with the rough, but more acrid. A ſmall piece of it will inflame the whole mouth, on chewing, and impreſs a ſenſe of coldneſs at the ſame time. When pure, it is more volatile than any other of the vegetable reſins; inſomuch that it will fly off wholly, by degrees, if expoſed to the air. When ſet on-fire, it burns quite away, without leaving any reſiduum. The duties and charges render it unprofitable to bring any refined camphor, the unrefined being eaſily purified.

CANDERROS.

This is the name given to an Eaſt-Indian gum not much known among us, though ſometimes imported. It is a pellucid white ſubſtance which bears a good poliſh, and has been turned into various kinds of light toys. Garcias and ſome other authors tell us that the people of Borneo, and ſome other places, where camphor is produced, have the art of adulterating crude camphor with conſiderable quantities of this gum, which is known by the name of canzuri or kawzuri, as well as by the preceding.

CARDAMOMUM,

Or cardamum. There are three ſorts of cardamoms, the largeſt, the middle-ſized, and the ſmalleſt. Of theſe the two latter ſorts only come from the Eaſt-Indies, the firſt being the common ſeed of paradiſe, which comes from the coaſt of Africa, and is externally like the others, but particularly diſtinguiſhable by its hot peppery taſte. The ſecond ſort grows in the kingdom of Java: the pods are long, rather triangular than round, full of cornered, reddiſh-brown, hot, aromatic, grains. The third ſort (which is that commonly in uſe) is gathered in the kingdom of Cananor, in the Malabar country. The pods, which grow on ſhort ſtalks, are triangular, tough, of a light-grey colour, a little ſtriped, containing ſeveral angular, brown, ſmall, grains, of a hot, ſpicy, aromatic, taſte, and pleaſant ſmell.

Cardamoms ſhould be choſen full, cloſe, and difficult to be broken: thoſe, which have not theſe properties, are ſtale and decayed. They ſhould alſo have a piercing ſmell, with an acrid bitteriſh taſte, and ſhould be well-dried, ſound, and large. The beſt package is a ſtrong ſound cheſt, properly ſecured from damp, the leaſt greatly reducing their value.

CARPO-BALSAMUM

Is the fruit of the tree producing the balſam of Mecca. This fruit is an oblong berry, about the ſize of a pea, with a brown wrinkled rind, marked, from top to bottom, with four ribs, and of an agreeable taſte and ſmell. The only uſe the Europeans make of it is in the Venice treacle and mithridate; and this is not a great deal, as cubebs or juniper-berries are generally ſubſtituted.

CAS-

CASCARILLA,

Or Indian bark. This bark conſiſts of a collection of little tubes or pipes, and is in ſmall bits, of the thickneſs of cinnamon, of the colour of ruſty iron, of an acrid, aromatic, and bitter, taſte, and of a ſweet and pleaſant ſmell, eſpecially when it is burnt. It generally wants its outer rind, which is rough and of an aſh colour. The moſt valuable is what is thick, fat, ſcented, ſmooth, and without the leaſt aſperities.

CASSIA BUDS

Are brought chiefly from China, and are ſaid to be the berry of the caſſia-tree. They bear ſome reſemblance to a clove, but are ſmaller, and, when freſh, poſſeſs a fine, rich, cinnamon, flavour. They are to be choſen ſound, freſh, and free from ſtalks and dirt.

CASSIA FISTULA

Is the fruit of a tree that grows ſpontaneouſly in Egypt and ſome parts of the Eaſt-Indies, and from thence has been introduced into America. It is a long ſlender pod, of about an inch in diameter, and from one foot to two feet in length. Externally it is of a dark brown colour, ſomewhat wrinkled, with a large ſeam running the whole length upon one ſide, and another, leſs viſible, on the other ſide. It is yellowiſh within, divided, by woody partitions, into a number of little cells, containing hard, flattiſh, oval, ſeeds, incloſed in a ſoft black pulp. This pulp has a ſweetiſh taſte, followed

by more or leſs of an ungrateful kind of acrimony. The oriental caſſia has a more agreeable ſweetneſs and leſs acrimony than the American, to which it is preferred on that account. The eye may diſtinguiſh them from each other; the oriental pods being ſmoother, ſmaller, having a thinner rind, with a pulp of a deeper ſhining black colour, than the American.

The Egyptian, or oriental, caſſia is to be choſen in full and freſh pods, heavy, and not rattling when ſhaken; when broken, the pulp, which is the medicinal part, ſhould be of a ſhining black colour, ſweet and agreeable, with little or no roughneſs or acerbity; which acerbity and roughneſs are too predominant when the pods have been gathered unripe; neither ſhould it be mouldy or dry, which is the caſe when it has been long kept.

CASSIA LIGNEA

Is the bark of a tree growing in the iſland of Ceylon, and much reſembling cinnamon, in appearance, ſmell, and taſte. It is brought to us in a kind of tubes, into which it naturally rolls itſelf up in drying. Theſe are ſometimes of the thickneſs of the ordinary tubes of cinnamon, and of the ſame length; but uſually they are ſhorter and thicker, and the bark itſelf alſo thicker and coarſer. It is of a tolerably ſmooth ſurface and browniſh colour, with ſome caſt of red, but much leſs ſo than cinnamon. It is of a leſs fibrous texture and more brittle, of an aromatic ſmell and taſte, truly of the cinnamon kind, but the ſmell weaker, and the taſte much leſs acrid and biting. It is diſtinguiſhed from cinnamon by this want of pungency, and yet more by its being

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of a mucilaginous or gelatinous quality, when taken into the mouth and held there ſome time. There is ſome that inclines to a yellow, and ſome to a brown, colour, but theſe varieties depend on accidents that do not at all affect its value. It is to be choſen in thin pieces, of an agreeable, biting, and aromatic, taſte; and the beſt is that which approaches neareſt to cinnamon in flavour.

This bark, when good and freſh, diſſolves in the mouth, on chewing, into a kind of ſlime; powdered and boiled in water, it renders a conſiderable quantity of the fluid ſo thick and glutinous as to become of the conſiſtence of a jelly, on cooling.

The tree which produces the caſſia lignea is a different ſpecies of the ſame genus with the cinnamon tree. It is ſeparated from the branches of this tree in the ſame manner as cinnamon. They take off the two barks together in autumn or ſpring, and, ſeparating the rough outer one, which is of no value, they lay the inner bark to dry, which rolls up, and becomes what we call caſſia lignea.

CASSUMUNIAR

Is a moderately large root of a plant growing in the Eaſt-Indies, which we uſually meet with cut into irregular ſlices, of various forms, for the ſake of drying. The root is of a tuberous and irregular ſhape, bent and jointed or knotted. Its ſurface is ſomewhat wrinkled, and its cortical part is marked, at certain diſtances, with a ſort of circles or rings, ſomewhat prominent, which ſurround it. It is of a cloſe texture, very hard and heavy. It will not cut freely with a knife, nor eaſily powder in a mortar. When cut, it ſhews

a ſmooth ſhining ſurface, of a dirty greyiſh white, with an unequal admixture of yellow. It is of a briſk aromatic ſmell, ſomewhat reſembling ginger, and of a pungent bitteriſh taſte. It is to be choſen in large firm pieces, as plump as can be, of the moſt fragrant ſmell, and of an acrid taſte. It is hardly liable to any adulteration, except that of putting pieces of the long zedoary among it, and this is eaſily diſcovered by the ſize and figure of the latter, (which ſcarcely ever exceeds an inch in diameter, frequently leſs,) and by its internal white colour when broken.

CATECHU,

Very improperly called terra Japonica, or Japan earth, is the inſpiſſated juice of the Eaſt-Indian tree of the palm kind. We meet with this ſubſtance in irregular flat cakes, ſhewing a ſmooth, brown, ſhining, ſurface, on breaking, in the beſt ſpecimens, and being frequently mixed with ſand and other impurities to the quantity of an eighth part. There is a finer kind, rarely to be met with, compoſed of fine thin flakes, lying regularly over each other, and quite pure. This drug is known by ſeveral names in India, khaath, cate, catechu, caetchu, *&c.* It is prepared from the decoctions and juices of different aſtringent trees, but the moſt eſteemed is that prepared from the areca, which ſort is chewed with betel and chunam. Catechu has little or no ſmell, and a ſweeter aſtringent taſte than moſt ſubſtances of that claſs. The finer kind readily melts in the mouth, the coarſer more ſlowly, with a burnt taſte and gritty. The degree of purity this drug poſſeſſes may be known by diſſolving it in water; if perfectly pure, it will be totally diſſolved, if otherwiſe, the impurities will remain behind. Ca-

Catechu is dry and pulverable; externally, of a reddiſh colour; internally, of a ſhining dark brown with a ſlight caſt of red. The deepeſt-coloured, heavieſt, and moſt compact, is accounted the beſt.

CAYELAC,

A ſweet-ſcented wood which grows in the kingdom of Siam. The Siameſe and Chineſe burn it in their temples. It is a part of the commodities exported from Siam to China.

CEDRIA,

A reſinous liquor, iſſuing from the great cedar-tree, or cedar of Lebanon. When good, cedria yields a ſtrong ſmell, is tranſparent, of a thick fat conſiſtence, ſo that, in pouring out, it does not fall too faſt or freely, but equally, drop by drop. The cedria is properly the tear of the cedar: ſome call it the gum, and others the pitch, of the cedar. The ſame denomination is alſo given to the cedelæon, or oil of cedar, which differs little from the reſin, except that it is of a thinner conſiſtence.

CHINA-ROOT

Is produced both in the Eaſt and Weſt Indies; but the qualities of the former are more powerful than thoſe of the latter. It is an oblong, thick, jointed, root, full of irregular knobs, of a reddiſh brown colour on the outſide, and of a pale red within. The Oriental root is conſiderably paler and harder

harder than the Weſt-Indian: when cut, it exhibits a cloſe, ſmooth, gloſſy, ſurface. It ſhould be choſen large, ſound, heavy, freſh, of a pale red colour internally. While new, it will ſnap ſhort and look glittering within; if old, the duſt flies from it when broken, and it is light and kecky. It is of no value if the worm be in it.

CINNABAR,

A ponderous, red, ſulphureous, ore of mercury, produced in the Eaſt-Indies, Spain, Hungary, and other parts of the world. It comes from the Eaſt in pieces of an irregular ſize with a ſmooth outſide. It is of an elegant deep-red colour, both externally and internally, which is much improved by grinding the lumps to powder. The heavieſt cinnabar ſhould be choſen, free from earthy or ſtony matter, and ſuch as will leave a beautiful red on white paper.

CINNAMON.

The cinnamon of our ſhops is a thin bark, rolled up into ſmall pipes, from the thickneſs of a gooſe-quill to that of a man's thumb, and of various lengths. The bark itſelf is alſo of different degrees of thickneſs; but commonly about as thick as a ſhilling. Its ſurface is tolerably ſmooth, but not gloſſy: its texture is fibrous and moderately firm: it eaſily breaks, and is not heavy. Its colour is brown with a mixture of red: it is of an extremely fragrant aromatic ſmell, and of a pungent but very agreeable taſte. That which is ſmall is generally reckoned preferable to the larger kind, and the long pipes are eſteemed more valuable than the

ſhort;

ſhort: ſuch as are very thick and cracked on the outſide are ſeldom good. The Dutch having monopolized this article, together with mace, cloves, and nutmegs, it is hazardous to purchaſe them in India.

The greateſt deceits, practiſed in the ſale of cinnamon, are, ſelling ſuch as has, by diſtillation, loſt its eſſential oil, and ſubſtituting caſſia lignea for cinnamon. The firſt of theſe deceptions is diſcovered by want of pungency in the cinnamon; the ſecond, by the caſſia's becoming mucilaginous, when held a little time in the mouth, which the true cinnamon never does. When the pipes, which have been diveſted of their fragrant oil by diſtillation, are laid for ſome time among good cinnamon, they re-aſſume their virtues, which, at the ſame time, are loſt by the good cinnamon in proportion as they are imparted to the bad; ſo that the one cannot be diſtinguiſhed from the other without examining every pipe. But, as this would be an immenſe labour, the purchaſer ſhould be careful that the perſon with whom he deals be thoroughly honeſt.

Our cinnamon is the interior or ſecond bark of the tree which produces it: the people who collect it take off the two barks together, and, immediately ſeparating the outer one, (which is rough, and has little fragrance,) they lay the other to dry in the ſhade, in an airy place, where it rolls itſelf up in a tubular form.

CIVET,

A ſoft, unctuous, odoriferous, ſubſtance, nearly the conſiſtence of honey or butter, produced in a bag growing from the lower part of the belly of an animal uſually called a civet-

civet-cat, but properly of the wolf or fox kind. The fineſt ſort is of a pure, lively, whitiſh, colour, of a very fragrant ſmell, and an unctuous rather ſharp taſte. It grows yellow on the ſurface, and becomes leſs valuable, by keeping, as it loſes much of its volatility. It comes principally from the Braſils, ſome comes from Guinea, and a blackiſh ſort from the Eaſt-Indies, which is the leaſt valuable of any.

CLOVES

Are the produce of a tree that grows in the Molucca iſlands, and reſembles the laurel. The extremities of its numerous branches are loaden with a prodigious quantity of flowers, which change from white to green, and finally grow red and hard; in which ſtate they are denominated cloves. When gathered, the clove becomes of a deep brown, aſſuming a dark yellowiſh caſt as it dries. To gather the cloves, the boughs of the tree are ſtrongly ſhaken, or they are beaten down, with long reeds, into large cloths ſpread to receive them. They are afterwards either dried in the ſun or in the ſmoke of the bamboo-cane. The ungathered cloves, that eſcape notice or are purpoſely left, continue growing till they are about an inch in thickneſs, when they are called mother-cloves, and, falling off, produce new plants, which do not bear in leſs than eight or nine years. The Dutch preſerve theſe, while freſh, by way of a ſweet-meat. This article, like cinnamon, being a monopoly, falls under the like obſervations. See cinnamon.

To be in perfection, the clove muſt be full-ſized, heavy, oily, and eaſily broken, of a fine ſmell and a hot aromatic taſte,

taſte, ſo as almoſt to burn the throat. The colour ſhould be very dark; and, when handled, it ſhould leave an oily moiſture upon the fingers. While freſh, the clove affords a very fragrant, thick, reddiſh, oil, upon ſimple preſſure.

The Dutch often diſtil parcels of cloves to the loſs of near half their ſubſtance: they then dry and mix them among thoſe that are freſh, from which the impoveriſhed ones extract part of the virtue. By this mixture the purchaſer is more readily deceived: but, when the cloves are examined, thoſe, which have once loſt their virtue, always continue not only weaker than the reſt but of a much paler colour: and, whenever they look ſhrivelled, having loſt the knob on their top, and are light and pulverable, it affords good reaſon to ſuſpect that this has been the caſe. The Dutch ſell them by weight; and, knowing they become conſiderably heavier by imbibing water, a very unfair advantage is made of it.

When a quantity of cloves is ordered, the bags are hung over a veſſel of water a certain time, and an addition of ſeveral pounds weight is thus made. In the ſpice-iſlands, a bag of cloves, in one night's time, will attract ſo much moiſture that it may eaſily be ſqueezed out.

COCULUS INDICUS,

Indian berry, is a ſmall kidney-ſhaped berry, having a wrinkled outſide, with a ſeam running along the back. It is of a bitter taſte, light, and of a brown colour on the ſurface. It is the produce of a tree bearing heart-ſhaped leaves and bunches of white flowers, which are ſucceeded by theſe berries. They grow in Malabar, and are generally brought from Bombay. They ſhould be ſound, dry, and clean.

COFFEE

Is the produce of a low tree, common in Arabia Felix. The main ſtem grows upright, and is covered with a light-brown bark: the branches are produced horizontally and oppoſite, croſſing each other at every joint, and forming a pyramidical appearance. The leaves alſo ſtand oppoſite: when full-grown, they are about five inches long, and two inches broad in the middle, decreaſing toward each end. The white flowers, produced at the baſe of the leaves, are ſucceeded by green oval berries, which change from that colour to red and black. Theſe berries contain two ſeeds each, flat and furrowed on one ſide, and convex on the other, and are not to be gathered till they will fall from the tree with ſhaking. When gathered, they are to be carefully dried. The beſt coffee is in ſmall berries, of a pale green ſhade, which ſhould be uncorrupted by moiſture or mouldineſs. In the package and carriage of this commodity, it ſhould be carefully preſerved in a ſtate of drineſs.

COLOCYNTHIS,

Or coloquintida, is the dried pulpy ſubſtance of a ſpecies of gourd, growing near Aleppo. It is ſoft and eaſily cut. The little ſmell it has is diſagreeable; and its taſte is nauſeous, acrid, and extremely bitter. Colocynth is to be choſen dry, light, tough, of a good bright colour, and not duſty. It is not much in uſe.

COLUBRINUM LIGNUM,

Snake-wood, or ſnake-root, is a woody part of the tree that produces the nux-vomica. It is a heavy cloſe ſubſtance, covered with an iron-coloured bark, of a yellow colour internally with whitiſh ſtreaks. In raſping or ſcraping, this wood emits a faint, but not diſagreeable, ſmell; when chewed for ſome time, it diſcovers a very bitter taſte. It ſhould be choſen in ponderous ſound pieces, about a foot and a half long, free from worms and duſt.

CONESSI,

The bark of a ſmall tree, growing on the Coromandel coaſt and in the iſland of Ceylon. It is of a blackiſh colour on the outſide, covered more or leſs with a white moſs or ſcurf, and of a taſte gratefully auſtere and bitter. The bark of the ſmall young branches, which has the leaſt moſs or ſcurf, is preferred. It has but lately been brought into Europe, and is little known in the ſhops.

The following obſervations, among others on the ſubject, are to be found in the Edinburgh Medical Eſſays, in a letter to Mr. Monro.

" The tree, of which I gave you ſome of the bark, as a " ſpecific in diarrhœas, grows on the Coromandel coaſt, " and is called coneſſi. The coneſſi-ſeca, or coneſſi-bark " of the ſmall young branches of the tree, which has leaſt " moſs or external inſipid ſcurf on it, is to be choſen, and " all that ſcurf is to be ſcraped off."

COSTUS,

A root about an inch in circumference, brought from the Eaſt-Indies, of a pale, greyiſh, or whitiſh, colour, on the outſide, and yellow within. An Arabian, a bitter, and a ſweet, coſtus were formerly diſtinguiſhed; at preſent we are acquainted with this one only, which is not much in uſe. This root has an agreeable violet ſmell, and a warm bitteriſh taſte, both of which are chiefly confined to the brittle cortical part, the internal, tough, woody, matter having little of either. The roots ſhould be choſen fine, fair, heavy, ſound, and clean.

CUBEBÆ,

Cubebs, are the produce of a tree growing in the iſland of Java. The cubeb is a ſmall dried fruit like a peppercorn, but generally ſomewhat longer. It is of a greyiſh brown colour, and compoſed of a wrinkled external covering, incloſing a ſingle ſeed, blackiſh on the ſurface and white within. The cubebs are a warm ſpice, of a pleaſant aromatic ſmell, and of a hot pungent taſte, weaker than that of pepper, but of the ſame kind. Its acrimony remains long on the tongue, and brings forth a conſiderable quantity of ſaliva. We ſometimes meet with this article in an unripe ſtate, when it is very ſmall, the covering much wrinkled, and the incloſed ſeed of a ſofter kind than when ripe. Cubebs are to be choſen large, freſh, ſound, and the heavieſt that can be procured.

CURCUMA,

Or Turmeric, a ſmall root, of an oblong figure, uſually met with in pieces from half an inch to an inch or two in length, and about an inch in circumference. Its ſurface is uneven and knotty, and the longer pieces are ſeldom ſtrait. It is not eaſily cut through with a knife, heavy, hard to break, and of a gloſſy ſmooth ſurface when it is cut through. Its external colour is a whitiſh pale grey, with a faint yellowiſh tinge; internally, when broken, it is a fine, bright, pale, unmixed, yellow, when the root is freſh; by keeping, it becomes reddiſh, and at length is much like ſaffron in the cake. It ſpeedily gives a fine yellow tinge to water, and the ſame colour to the ſpittle when chewed. It is eaſily powdered in the mortar, and, according to its age, makes either a yellow, an orange-coloured, or a reddiſh, powder. It has a kind of aromatic ginger-like ſmell, and a warm, bitteriſh, diſagreeable, taſte. The curcuma-roots ſhould be freſh, thick, heavy, and hard to be broken.

This root is produced in China and Bengal: the former ſort is moſt valuable. Caſks are preferable to bags for packing it, the leaſt damp rendering it uſeleſs.

CYPERUS ROTUNDUS,

Round cyperus, conſiſts of ſeveral roundiſh roots, about the ſize and ſhape of an olive, connected by fibres; rough and ruſty-coloured on the outſide, whitiſh or yellowiſh within. It has a pleaſant aromatic ſmell, and a warm bitteriſh taſte. The roots ſhould be freſh, ſound, and clean.

DATES

Are a fruit ſomewhat of the ſhape of an acorn, from two inches to leſs than an inch in length. They are compoſed of a thin, light, and gloſſy, membrane, ſomewhat pellucid and yellowiſh, which contains a fine, ſoft, and pulpy, fruit, that is firm, ſweet, and rather vinous, to the taſte; within this is incloſed a ſolid, tough, hard, kernel, of a pale grey colour, on the outſide, and, within, finely marbled like a nutmeg.

This fruit ſhould be choſen large, full, freſh, yellow on the ſurface, ſoft, and not too much wrinkled; their taſte ſhould be vinous, and they ſhould not rattle when ſhaken.

DRAGON's-BLOOD,

Sanguis draconis, a reſin obtained from a kind of palm-tree, growing in the Eaſt-Indies. It is either in oval drops, wrapped up in flag-leaves, or in large, and generally more impure, maſſes, compoſed of ſmaller tears. It is, exterternally and internally, of a deep duſky red colour, and, when powdered, it ſhould become of a bright crimſon, but, if it be black, it is worth little. It eaſily melts over the fire, and is inflammable, diffuſing a ſingular and not diſagreeable ſmell. When broken and held up againſt a ſtrong light, it is ſomewhat tranſparent. It has little or no ſmell or taſte, what it has of the latter is reſinous and aſtringent. The dragon's-blood in drops is much preferable to that in cakes, which latter is more friable, leſs compact, reſinous, and pure, than the former. Several artificial compoſitions, coloured with true dragon's-blood or other materials, have been put off inſtead of this article: ſome of theſe diſſolve like

gums

gums in water, and others crackle in the fire without proving inflammable; whereas the genuine dragon's-blood readily melts and catches flame, and is ſcarcely acted on by watery liquors. It is moſt prudent to purchaſe only the drops, rejecting the impure maſſes.

DURIO,

Or durion, the name of a fruit much eſteemed in the Eaſt-Indies. It is of the ſize of an ordinary melon, of a conic ſhape, and covered with a thorny coat. When thouroughly ripe, the fruit opens at the extremity into five parts, and, the openings running by degrees up to the top, the inner ſubſtance, or pulp, is diſcovered. This is of a whitiſh colour, and of a very agreeable flavour, which may not unaptly be compared to that of cream and ſugar, but it is of a more firm conſiſtence. This fruit contains, in every compartment, five large ſeeds, perfectly reſembling the common cheſnut, but that they have no other covering than their own ſkin.

The fruit, to thoſe who never taſted it, ſmells diſagreeably; but, after it has been once eaten, recommends itſelf before all other food both for ſmell and ſavour: and is in ſuch high eſteem with thoſe who indulge their appetites, that they believe it impoſſible for any perſon to be ſatisfied with it. It is exceedingly plentiful and cheap in Malacca in the months of June, July, and Auguſt; in the other months its price riſes.

It is ſaid there is a ſurpriſing antipathy between this fruit and the betel; it being ſo great, that, if you carry a few

leaves

leaves of betel into a place where the durio is kept, it will all become rotten: and, if any one ſhould have his ſtomach diſordered, by eating immoderately of the durio, he will quickly be relieved by applying a betel-leaf thereto. Or, if ſome leaves of betel be ſwallowed, after eating the durio, no injury will be ſuſtained. This is not well-authenticated.

EBONY

Is plentifully produced in Cochin-China. If it be found, black, heavy, and without white wood, it will be ſufficiently uſeful for moſt purpoſes.

ELEMI

Is the concrete reſinous juice flowing from a tree of the olive-kind, and is the produce of the Eaſt and Weſt Indies. The Eaſt-Indian elemi is uſually in oblong cakes, and generally wrapt up in flag-leaves. The beſt ſort is ſoft; but, by long keeping, the ſurface will harden. It is ſemi-tranſparent, and of a pale yellow colour, a little inclining to green. Its ſmell is ſtrong though tolerably pleaſant, and its taſte is ſlightly bitter. It is very inflammable, and readily diſſolves in oil over the fire.

EUPHORBIUM,

The concrete reſinous juice of a prickly ſhrub, of the ſame name, produced in Africa and on the Malabar coaſt.

Euphorbium is in drops, or tears, of an irregular form, ſome of which are found, on being broken, to contain little thorns, twigs, flowers, and other vegetable matters; others are hollow without any thing in the cavity. The tears are of a bright light-yellow, between a ſtraw and a gold colour on the outſide, and white within. It has not much ſmell, but its taſte is violently ſharp and acrimonious. It is to be choſen dry, clean, and of a bright colour. Its acrid taſte is the great mark of its goodneſs; and this ought to be ſuch as to inflame the whole mouth on holding a very ſmall piece therein for a ſhort ſpace of time.

FOLIUM INDICUM,

Or malabathrum, is the produce of a plant common in Malabar. The leaf is large, of an oblong figure, ſmooth and gloſſy on the upper ſide, and leſs ſo on the lower. Its colour is a duſky-green on one ſide, and a pale-brown on the other. It is furniſhed with three ribs, running its whole length, very protuberant on the lower ſide; and it has two ſmaller ones near the edges. Its ſmell, while freſh, is aromatic and agreeable, ſomewhat reſembling that of a mixture of cloves and cinnamon; its taſte is rather acrid and bitteriſh, but very aromatic: when chewed, it renders the ſaliva ſlimy and glutinous. The more aromatic their flavour, and the warmer their taſte, the freſher and better they are. The tree that produces the malabathrum is the caſſia lignea tree.

GALANGAL.

There are two ſpecies of this root known, the greater and the ſmaller; of theſe the latter only is eſteemed in Europe.

GALANGA MAJOR, or great galangal. This is a tough woody root, of about an inch or an inch and a half thick, of a brown colour on the outſide, and whitiſh within, having a very thin bark, which is beſet at about a quarter of an inch diſtance with rings or circles. It is of a bitteriſh taſte, and ſomewhat aromatic, but weaker in all its qualities than the

GALANGA MINOR, or ſmall galangal, which is a much ſhorter and ſmaller root. We meet with it in pieces about an inch long, ſeldom two inches, and half an inch thick, of a reddiſh-brown colour on the outſide, and a pale red within, being knotty, and having ſeveral circular rings, that ſtand out beyond the reſt of the ſurface. It is of an extremely firm compact texture, but not heavy. It cuts with difficulty, and the knife leaves a gloſſy ſmooth appearance. It is to be choſen full and plump, of a bright colour, very firm and ſound, and of an acrid, hot, peppery, taſte, leaving a ſtronger impreſſion in the mouth than that ſpice does.

GALBANUM

Is the produce of an ever-green plant, frequently found in Perſia, and in ſome parts of Africa. When this plant is in the third or fourth year of its growth, it naturally exſudates drops of galbanum at the joints: the natives, to increaſe the produce, wound the main ſtem at this time at a ſmall diſtance

diſtance above the root; the juice flows plentifully, and is collected for uſe.

Galbanum is a gummy-reſinous, rather unctuous, ſubſtance; ſometimes in the natural drops or tears, but more frequently in maſſes compoſed of a number of theſe blended together. The drops, when perfect, approach near to a roundiſh or oblong figure; but they commonly loſe their form in the maſſes: theſe are pale-coloured, ſemi-tranſparent, ſoft, and tenacious. In the beſt ſpecimens they appear compoſed of clear whitiſh tears, often intermixed with the ſtalks and ſeeds of the plant. When freſh and new, the maſſes and tears are white, and with age change to yellow or brown.

It is almoſt unneceſſary to obſerve, that, when the tears can be procured, they are to be preferred to the maſſes or cakes. Theſe tears ſhould be fattiſh, moderately viſcous, and gloſſy on the ſurface. Such as are too ſoft, of a dark-brown colour, and mixed with ſticks or other foreign ſubſtances, are to be rejected. The beſt cakes are thoſe of a light yellow colour, of a ſtrong, piercing, and, to moſt perſons, a diſagreeable, ſmell, of a bitteriſh warm taſte, not very humid nor yet quite dry, being of a nature between a gum and a reſin, flaming in the fire, and with difficulty diſſolved in oil. The leſs dirt, chips, ſtalks, or other impurities, the better. A mixture of two parts of rectified ſpirit, and one of water, will beſt ſhew its quality, by diſſolving all the pure gałbanum, and leaving the impurities.

When its foulneſs renders it of little value, it is beſt purified by incloſing it in a bladder, and keeping it in boiling water, till it melts or becomes ſoft enough to be ſtrained by preſſure through a hempen cloth. If this proceſs be ſkilfully

managed, the galbanum loſes but little of the eſſential oil, ſome of which is generally carried off in evaporation.

GAMBOGE.

This is the concrete reſinous juice of certain trees growing in Cambodia and other parts of the Eaſt-Indies. It is in cakes or rolls, externally of a browniſh yellow, internally of a deep red or orange colour. It has no ſmell, and, when firſt chewed, makes but little impreſſion on the taſte; but, after remaining ſome time in the mouth, diſcovers a conſiderable acrimony.

If this drug be wetted and rubbed upon the nail, it gives a curious bright lemon-colour; by which, and its appearing ſmooth and clear from impurities, it is known to be good. The ſmall cakes or rolls are moſt profitable in London.

GINGER

Is plentifully produced in the Eaſt and Weſt Indies. This root ſpreads itſelf near the ſurface of the earth; and, when arrived at maturity, it is dug up and dried either in the ſun or an oven.

Ginger ſhould be choſen new, dry, well-fed, not eaſy to break, of a light browniſh green colour, reſinous within, and of a hot pungent taſte.

GINGER, green, or preſerved, will retain its flavour ſeveral years. The Eaſt and Weſt Indies furniſh this commodity; and the Weſt-Indian kind is here preferred. The beſt is in ſmall and ſomewhat tranſparent lumps, of a pale yellow colour: the inferior ſort is more opaque, and browner, being fibrous, or ſtringy, when broken.

GINSENG.

This plant was formerly thought to grow no where but in China and Tartary, but it has been diſcovered in North-America, particularly in Canada and Pennſylvania, whence conſiderable quantities have been exported. On comparing theſe with the Chineſe ſpecimens, no material difference could be obſerved, in quality or appearance, except that the Chineſe, in general, were rather paler-coloured externally, and internally ſomewhat whiter. It is aſſerted that the American roots have been received in China as the true ginſeng, though without the ſuppoſed advantage of their method of preparing it. And it will probably render the importation of the coſtly Chineſe ſort unneceſſary.

Father Jartoux, a Jeſuit, and miſſionary in China, among other obſervations on this plant, has the following. The plant dies yearly; and the age of the root may be known by the number of ſtalks it has ſhot forth, when the marks of them are fair and intire: but, very old roots not being much eſteemed, the people who gather this commodity have the precaution to cut off ſome, or even all, theſe knobs, before they dry the root. The natives themſelves are ſo nice, in this particular, that they will not uſe an imperfect root, nor

any

any one but what has evident marks that the upper knob is the real head, not having more than one or two under it.

After the ginſeng is gathered, it is waſhed and ſcoured, then dipped in ſcalding water, and prepared by the following proceſs. A ſort of yellow millet is put into a veſſel with a little water, and boiled over a gentle fire: the roots are laid over the veſſel upon ſmall tranſverſe pieces of wood, being firſt covered with a cloth, or having ſome other veſſel placed over them. This gives them the colour admired by the Chineſe. When the roots are dried, they muſt be kept cloſe, in ſome dry place, otherwiſe they are in danger of corrupting, or of being deſtroyed by worms.

Ginſeng is to be choſen ſound and firm: if the worm be in it, the root is worthleſs. It ſhould be moderately heavy, not very tough, but ſuch as will ſnap ſhort, and afford an agreeable ſmell. It ſhould be carefully packed, ſo as to be kept extremely dry. It would not be imprudent to cut the roots through, as the Chineſe frequently introduce a piece of lead to increaſe the weight.

GRAINS OF PARADISE,

Called, by ſome, greater cardamoms, are angular ruſty-coloured ſeeds, ſmaller than pepper, and apparently reſembling cardamom-ſeeds, from which, however, they differ in their properties. Theſe ſeeds poſſeſs ſomewhat of the cardamom-flavour, joined with the heat and pungency of pepper, while freſh and ſound.

GUM ARABIC, GUM ELEMI, *&c.* ſee ARABIC, ELEMI, *&c.*

HERMODACTYL

Is a Turkiſh root, repreſenting the figure of a heart cut in two. Its ſubſtance is compact, yet readily pulverable. Its external colour is a light-brown, its internal white, and its ſmell and taſte but little. Hermodactyl ſhould be choſen as freſh as poſſible.

HYPOCISTIS.

The inſpiſſated juice prepared from a certain vegetable production which, in the warmer climates, grows up from different kinds of the ciſtus, or rock roſe. Hypociſtis is in conſiderably hard and heavy flat maſſes, of a fine ſhining-black colour, (like that of liquorice,) when freſh broken, and of a duſkier black on the ſurface.

JAPAN EARTH, ſee CATECHU.

INDIGO

Is a dyer's drug, manufactured in the Eaſt and Weſt Indies from a plant called anil. The colour is drawn from this plant by boiling; when the water is poured off, and churned or agitated till the grain is formed. The matter then ſubſides; and, when it is well ſettled, the water is poured off. The indigo is afterwards put into ſhallow wooden boxes: when it begins to harden, it is cut into ſlices, and left to dry in the ſun. The proceſs is different in the Weſt-Indies.

The

The beſt Oriental indigo is ſaid to be called ſequiſſe. It ſhould be in flat pieces, moderately thick and hard, clean, inflammable, and not ſandy; light enough to ſwim in the water, for, if it ſink, it is to be rejected. The colour ſhould be a fine blue, internally marked a little with ſilvery ſtreaks, and appearing rather red when rubbed on the nail.

JUJUBÆ,

Jujubes, a half-dried fruit of the plumb-kind, produced in the Southern parts of Europe as well as in the Eaſtern countries. The latter is of a blackiſh hue, much darker than the former, which is of a reddiſh-yellow colour. It is furniſhed with an aſh-coloured cup at the bottom, from which it eaſily parts. The European jujube ſuperſedes the uſe of the Eaſtern in this quarter of the globe.

JUNCUS ODORATUS,

Sweet-ruſh, or camel's hay, is the produce of Turkey and Arabia, whence it is exported in bundles, about a foot long, compoſed of ſmooth ſtalks, that bear a reſemblance to barley-ſtraws in ſhape and colour. The leaves are like thoſe of wheat, and it is full of a fungous pith. Towards the tops of the ſtalks are ſometimes found ſhort woolly ſpikes of imperfect flowers, ſet in double rows. The ſweet-ruſh, when in perfection, has an agreeable ſmell, with a warm, ſomewhat bitter, but not unpleaſant, taſte.

LABDANUM

Is a reſin of the ſofter kind. Two ſorts of it are diſtinguiſhed: the one in cakes, or maſſes, of an irregular ſize, the other in rolls, twiſted like the rolls of a ſmall wax candle. This drug is ſaid to be collected, in the heat of Summer, by lightly bruſhing the ſhrub that produces it with a kind of rake, having ſtraps or thongs of leather fixed to it, inſtead of teeth: the unctuous juice adheres to the thongs, and is afterward ſcraped off with a knife. The maſſes of labdanum are dark-coloured, of the conſiſtence of a ſoft plaiſter, of a ſtrong but not diſagreeable ſmell, accompanied with a warm, aromatic, rather unpleaſant, taſte. The coiled labdanum is harder than the preceding, and contains a conſiderable quantity of ſand, amounting (in ſome ſpecimens that have been examined) to three-fourths of the whole. The maſſes have not near ſuch a quantity of impurities; ſome little duſt, &c. blown on this reſin while it remains upon the ſhrub, cannot be avoided.

LACCA,

Or ſtick-lac, is a concrete brittle ſubſtance, of a dark-red colour, incruſted on pieces of ſtick: internally, it is divided into ſeveral cells; and is ſaid to be the reſinous juice of certain trees, collected by winged red inſects, of the ant-kind, impregnated with their tinging matter, and by them depoſited either on the branches of trees, or on ſticks faſtened in the earth for that purpoſe, intended as a kind of hive or receptacle for themſelves or the young inſects. This opinion carries a conſiderable degree of probability with it, as ſmall red bodies have been frequently obſerved in the cells, which

appear to be the young inſects. Should the cells, by any means, be void of theſe, the lac is of little uſe, as they principally afford that beautiful colour for which this drug is valuable.

Stick-lac is to be choſen of a dark-red colour externally, but, when held up againſt the light, it ſhould look bright and lively. When broken, it ſhould appear in ſparkling diamond-like points. The amber-coloured, and that which is yellow or brown, is to be rejected. When chewed, it ſhould impart a vivid crimſon colour to the ſpittle. If this kind of lac be run into a lump, it is of little value.

Seed-Lac is the preceding ſeparated from the ſticks, which ſhould be large, free from woody pieces or other impurities, and of a fine bright-red colour, agreeing with the deſcription of ſtick-lac in its other qualities.

Shell-Lac is made, by liquefaction, from the above-mentioned, and formed into thin tranſparent cakes, which poſſeſs leſs of the animal tincture than the other kinds. It ſhould be of a clear, tranſparent, deep-yellow, colour, inclining to red: if ſpecky, droſſy, black, liver-coloured, dull, or cloudy, it is little valued in Europe. When laid on red-hot iron, ſhell-lac will inſtantly catch fire, and burn away with a ſtrong but not diſagreeable ſmell, if pure and clean.

LAPIS LAZULI, ſee AZURE.

LEMNIAN EARTH

Is a fat, viſcid, ſlippery, clay, of a pale red colour. It is commonly in ſmall cakes, or lozenges, marked with different characters. They counterfeit this earth very nicely in ſome parts of the Eaſt. That earth is reckoned the beſt which, when bruiſed between the fingers or held in the mouth, appears moſt like fat, and contains the leaſt ſand. Europe is furniſhed with an approved ſuccedaneum in the French bole.

LIGNUM ALOES,

Agallochum, or calambac, is the wood of a tree deſcribed in the following manner by ſome reſpectable authors. This tree much reſembles the olive; it grows here and there in the woods, and is carefully watched. The trunk is of three colours, and diſtinguiſhed by different names. Immediately under the bark it is black, compact, and heavy, called, by the Portugueſe, *pao d'aquila*, eagle-wood: the next wood is of a tan-colour, light, full of veins, and ſomewhat like rotten-wood: the heart is that tabac, or calambac, wood ſo much eſteemed in the Indies. Calambac wood ſhould be choſen of a ſhining yellow colour and well veined externally, but more inclined to white within, and of a highly reſinous quality. It ſhould have a fragrant ſmell, with a bitter aromatic taſte, and be of a ſufficient ſoftneſs to receive an impreſſion from the teeth or nails. The true calambac is generally in flat bits; and its goodneſs is eaſily tried by putting a piece in the fire: if it ſeem to melt, like wax, and emit an agreeable

ſcent, while burning, (which ſhould continue till it is wholly conſumed,) the wood is of a good quality.

The lignum aloes, or agallochum, known to the European druggiſts, is different from the calambac abovementioned, though bearing an external reſemblance, it being harder, drier, more like duſt in the mouth, and weaker in all its qualities. It is that part of the tree which encloſes the calambac and is next to the eagle-wood. The nearer it approaches to the properties of the calambac the better it is. The beſt ſort brought into Europe has a ſlightly-bitter reſinous taſte, and a light aromatic ſmell.

LIGNUM RHODIUM, ſee ROSE-WOOD.

MACE

Is a thin, flat, membraneous, ſubſtance, of a lively, reddiſh-yellow, ſaffron-like, colour, enveloping the ſhell of the fruit whoſe kernel is the nutmeg. The mace, when freſh, is of a blood-red colour, and acquires its yellow hue in drying; which operation is performed in the ſun, upon hurdles, fixed one above another. This ſpice has a pleaſant aromatic ſmell, and a warm, bitteriſh, pungent, taſte. It is of an oleaginous nature, abounding with the ſame kind of oil as the nutmeg, but thinner, and in a greater quantity. It is to be choſen freſh, tough, oleaginous, of a fragrant ſmell, and of a good reddiſh-yellow colour. The ſtate it is in, when packed up, ſhould be particularly attended to: if it be too dry, it will be broken, and loſe much of its fragrance; if too moiſt, it will be ſubject to decay and breed worms. Being a monopoly, this article is ſubject to the ſame obſervations as cinnamon. See cinnamon.

MAS-

MASTICH,

A concrete reſin, obtained from the lentiſk-tree, by tranſverſe inciſions made in the bark about the beginning of Auguſt. It is in ſmall, yellowiſh-white, tranſparent, drops, of a reſinous, and rather aſtringent, taſte, with a light agreeable ſmell, eſpecially when rubbed or heated. In chewing, it firſt crumbles, ſoon after ſticks together, and becomes ſoft and white like wax. It is to be choſen clear, of a pale-yellow colour, well-ſcented, and brittle. Such as inclines to black, green, or is dirty, muſt be rejected. When free from impurities, it totally diſſolves in rectified ſpirit.

MERCURY,

Or quickſilver, is ſometimes found in the earth in its fluid form, and is then called virgin mercury; but, for the moſt part, it is intimately blended with ſulphur, or other earthy matters, into a ſtate of ore. The ſulphureous ores are of a more or leſs beautiful red colour; the earthy or ſtony ones, grey, yellowiſh, brown, lead-coloured, *&c.* The principal mines are in Spain, Hungary, and the province of Friuli in the Venetian territories. Some quantity is alſo brought from the Eaſt-Indies.

A chemical writer of ſome eminence ſays, that mercury is ſufficiently good, and fit for moſt purpoſes, which, when expoſed to the fire, is quickly and totally exhaled, ſo that no part of it is left. He farther obſerves, it is a common, though falſe, opinion, that good and genuine mercury, after depuration in a ſilver veſſel, leaves a yellow ſpot behind it; which, however, is never readily obſerved, unleſs the mercury

cury has been frequently amalgamated with gold, and afterwards ſeparated from it.

When mercury is adulterated with lead, biſmuth, or the like ſubſtances, the abuſe may be diſcovered by the addition of vinegar, which will acquire a ſaccharine ſweetneſs upon being rubbed or boiled with it.

MUSK

Is the excrementitious blood of a quadruped about the ſize of a goat, which is either naturally ſecreted and collected by human induſtry, or contained in the ſmall bag of the animal, when killed at a proper ſeaſon. The ſort moſt eſteemed is that from Tonquin in China. An inferior ſort is brought from Agria and Bengal, and a ſtill worſe from Ruſſia.

Muſk is a dry, light, friable, ſubſtance, of a dark colour, with a purple tinge. Its taſte is ſomewhat bitter, and its ſmell too ſtrong to be agreeable in any quantity. We meet with it in grains, which feel unctuous, ſmooth, and ſoft, and are eaſily crumbled between the fingers. Theſe grains are in a bladder, or ſkin, about the ſize of a pigeon's egg, or larger, each bladder containing from two or three drachms to an ounce in weight. The genuine bags of muſk are ſo ſtrongly ſcented as to offend the head when applied cloſe to it. The cavity containing the muſk is generally about three quarters of an inch long, and half an inch wide. The whole external ſubſtance is membraneous rather than fleſhy, and its aperture is guarded by a ſphincter-muſcle: the inner membrane, immediately incloſing the muſk, is full of

blood-

blood-veſſels all over; and, towards the orifice of the bag, ſeveral glands are diſtinguiſhable in it, ſerving for the ſecretion of this perfume.

This drug ſhould be choſen of a very ſtrong ſcent, in the dry and ſound natural bags of the animal, not in the factitious ones made of ſkins ſewed together, which may be diſtinguiſhed by the cloſeneſs and length of the hair on the latter kind of bags, theſe factitious ones having more and longer hair than the genuine, and that generally of a paler colour.

A ſmall quantity of muſk, macerated for a few days in rectified ſpirit of wine, imparts a deep colour and a ſtrong impregnation to the ſpirit. This tincture, of itſelf, diſcovers but little ſmell, but, on dilution, it manifeſts the full fragrance of the muſk, a drop or two communicating, to a quart of wine or watery liquors, a rich muſky ſcent. The quantity of liquor which may thus be flavoured by a certain known proportion of muſk, appears to be the beſt criterion of the genuineneſs and goodneſs of this commodity.

Few drugs are more liable to ſophiſtication than muſk. It is adulterated on the ſpot with the animal's blood, which acquires ſo ſtrong a ſcent of it, after drying among it, that it may paſs alone on the unſuſpicious for real muſk. This fraud may be diſcovered by the largeneſs of the lumps, or clots, as the blood dries to a harder and firmer ſubſtance than the genuine muſk. It is ſometimes mixed with a dark-coloured friable earth. This appears, to the touch, of a more crumbly texture, and harder, as well as heavier, than the genuine muſk. But this deception is beſt diſcovered by burning a ſmall quantity; in which caſe, muſk, adulterated in this manner, leaves a large and heavy remainder; the genuine,

nuine, or even that mixed with blood, either evaporates, or leaves only a few white aſhes.

Mr. Boyle obſerves, that, when muſk begins to decay, it is a practice in the Eaſt-Indies to put it into a bag, full of needle-holes, and hang it in a neceſſary-houſe, but not low enough to touch the filth: others keep it wrapped up in linen, well moiſtened with rank urine.

MYROBALANS,

Or purging Indian plumbs, are of five kinds. The firſt, called citrini, are of a yellowiſh-red colour, hard, oblong, and about the ſize of an olive. The ſecond, called black, or Indian, myrobalans, are wrinkled, without a ſtone, and of the ſize of an acorn. The third, called chebulic myrobalans, are the ſize of a date, of a yellowiſh-brown colour, pointed at the end. The fourth, called emblici, are round, rough, the ſize of a gall, and of a dark brown colour. The laſt, called belerici, are hard, yellow, round, the ſize of an ordinary prune, and leſs angular than the reſt. They abound in Bengal, Cambaya, and Malabar. The Indians eat them preſerved in different manners, and uſe them likewiſe in making ink and dreſſing leather. They were formerly much eſteemed in Europe, but the preſent practice rejects all the kinds.

MYRRH

Is a vegetable product of the gum-reſin kind, diſtilling by inciſion, and ſometimes ſpontaneouſly, from the tree that produces it. Myrrh is generally in grains, from the ſize of

a pea to that of a horſe-bean, or larger. Their figure is as irregular as their ſize; round, oblong, or contorted. Theſe grains are of a reſinous greaſy ſubſtance, not hard to break: their colour is a reddiſh-brown with a mixture of yellow; their ſmell is ſtrongly aromatic; and their taſte is acrid, warm, bitter, and rather diſagreeable, though ſomewhat ſpicy. When broken, myrrh is often ungulated, that is, marked with ſmall, white, ſemi-lunar, ſpecks. It is to be choſen in clear pieces, light, friable, unctuous, and of the bittereſt taſte; that which is foul and black muſt be rejected. When pure, myrrh will diſſolve in boiling water; but, as the liquor cools, a portion of reſinous matter ſubſides.

There are ſometimes found, among myrrh, hard ſhining pieces, of a pale-yellow colour, reſembling gum Arabic, but without taſte or ſmell. Sometimes maſſes of bdellium are mixed with it; which are darker-coloured, more opaque, ſofter than myrrh internally, and which differ from it in taſte and ſmell. Sometimes an unctuous gummy-reſin, of a moderately ſtrong, but ſomewhat ungrateful ſmell, with a durable bitteriſh taſte, obviouſly different from bdellium and myrrh, is found with this drug. And ſometimes we meet with hard, compact, dark-coloured, tears, leſs unctuous than myrrh, of an offenſive ſmell, and a moſt ungrateful bitterneſs, ſo as, when kept ſome time in the mouth, to provoke retching, though little of it be diſſolved.

NAPHTHA,

A very pure, clear, thin, mineral, fluid, found floating on ſprings that iſſue from the hills in ſeveral parts of Aſia and

the Eaſt-Indies. It is thinner than the expreſſed vegetable oils, but rather thicker than the fine diſtilled ones. It is of a ſharp briſk taſte, with a penetrating bituminous ſmell. The criterion of its purity is, its burning wholly away without leaving any ſediment. See petroleum.

NARDUS INDICA,

Or ſpikenard, is a bunch of ſmall, tough, ruſty-brown, fibres, cohering cloſely together, but not interwoven, about the ſize of a finger. Sometimes two or three bunches iſſue from one head, and ſometimes bits of leaves and ſtalks, in ſubſtance, are found among them. It is the buſhy top of the root, or the remains of the withered ſtalks and leaves, of the Eaſt-Indian plant that produces it. The taſte is moderately warm and ſharp, accompanied with an agreeable flavour.

NITRE.

The earth, from which nitre is extracted, in Perſia and the Eaſt-Indies, is a yellowiſh marl: it is found in the bare cliffs, in the ſides of hills, expoſed to the Northern and Eaſtern winds, and never in any other ſituation. This earth is light and crumbly; and, though ſubject to accidental variations of colour, from being mixed with other earths, yet its peculiar qualities eaſily diſtinguiſh it; for it melts very freely in the mouth, and impreſſes a ſtrong taſte of ſalt-petre.

The

The people collect vaſt quantities of this earth, and, after preparing ſeveral pits, lined with firm and tough clay, they fill them half with water and half with the nitrous earth. The earth ſoon melts away, when they add more water, ſtir the whole thoroughly together, and let it ſtand four or five days. A hole is then made in one ſide of the pit, and, by means of a channel, cut to a proper depth, and lined with the ſame clay, they let all the clear water run out of that pit into another, encloſed on all ſides, except on the North-Eaſt, with high walls, but open at the top.

In this pit, the action of the ſun and air, by degrees, evaporates the water; and the ſalt, which that fluid had extracted from the nitrous earth, ſhoots into cryſtals about the ſides of the pit. Theſe cryſtals are ſmall, imperfect, and impure; but of the ſame ſix-ſided figure with the cryſtals of nitre, though they are generally without the pyramids at the end, and often too ſhort for their thickneſs. They are of a browniſh or duſky colour; and in this ſtate they are ſent over to us, being the rough nitre we receive from the Eaſt-Indies. This article requires no particular directions, as it is but little ſubject to adulteration.

NUTMEGS

Are the produce of a tree growing only in the Banda iſlands, reſembling a pear-tree. The nutmeg is the aromatic kernel of a fruit about the ſize of a peach. The outer covering, when the fruit is ripe, opens ſpontaneouſly, and diſcovers the red membrane, called mace, forming a reticular covering, through which is ſeen the hard woody ſhell that includes the nutmeg. There are two kinds of nutmegs to

be met with, the male and the female: the former, which is much inferior to the latter, the Dutch diſtinguiſh by the name of wild nutmegs, and they are more oblong than the female. The nutmeg differs in goodneſs according to the age of the tree, the ſoil, &c. It is moſt eſteemed when it is heavy, firm, of a full plumpneſs, of a light-grey colour, with the inſide finely marbled, and when it is of a fat oily body. Theſe are the ſigns of its freſhneſs. Care ſhould be taken that it be not worm-eaten. or shrivelled &c

Nutmegs, being a monopoly of the Dutch, fall under the ſame obſervations as cinnamon. See cinnamon.

NUX VOMICA

Is a flat roundiſh ſeed, or kernel, about an inch broad, and near a quarter of an inch thick, on both ſides prominent in the middle, of a grey colour, covered with a woolly kind of matter, internally hard and tough like horn, having a taſte conſiderably bitter, with very little ſmell. It is not much in demand.

OIL OF CINNAMON,

Cloves, Mace, Nutmegs, and the other aromatic oils, diſtinguiſhable by the ſcent they retain of the ſubſtances whoſe names they bear, are very ſeldom procured genuine. It is not profitable to bring them from the Eaſt. Some chymical writers have recommended the following experiments to aſcertain the purity of theſe oils.

If

If there be any ſuſpicion that the diſtilled aromatic oils are adulterated with pinguious ſubſtances, the fraud may be diſcovered by pouring highly-rectified ſpirit of wine upon them; for this liquor immediately imbibes and reſolves the particles of the pure oil, leaving in the bottom a large quantity of expreſſed oil, generally, either of almonds or ben-nuts. But, as the more ſkilful may avoid diſcovery by this method, it will be prudent to join the following with it. When theſe oils are poured into common water, if adulterated, the water immediately becomes milky; an effect that is not produced by pure oil, when put into cold water and left to itſelf.

When oil of turpentine or pine is mixed with theſe oils, if a piece of cloth, ſoaked in them, be expoſed to a warm fire, the ſubtile fragrance is immediately exhaled, and the turpentine ſmell diſcovers itſelf.

OLIBANUM

Is a gummy-reſin, brought from Turkey and the Eaſt-Indies in drops or tears. It ſmells moderately ſtrong and reſinous, but not very pleaſant: the taſte is pungent and ſomewhat bitter: it ſticks to the teeth in chewing, becomes white, and turns the ſpittle milky. The drops are of a pale-yellow colour, which by age becomes reddiſh. Laid on red-hot iron, olibanum readily catches flame, and burns with a ſtrong, diffuſive, not unpleaſant, ſmell. If it be run into a maſs, mixed with dirt and rubbiſh, having but few tears, it is of little value.

OPIUM

Is the inſpiſſated juice of the white poppy, chiefly collected by wounding the cortical part of its head at a proper time. It is uſually made up in roundiſh cakes, from ſix ounces to a pound in weight, flattened, and covered with leaves, or other vegetable ſtuff, to prevent their ſticking together. It is produced in many parts of the Eaſt; but that which is made at Patna, on the banks of the Ganges, is thought preferable to any other.

Opium is of a heavy denſe texture, ſoft enough commonly to receive an impreſſion from the finger. Its colour is a duſky yellow, at firſt ſight appearing almoſt black. It has a faint diſagreeable ſmell, and a hot, biting, ſomewhat bitter, taſte. The Europeans formerly eſteemed the Egyptian opium beyond all other; but, latterly, when this drug has a good ſmell, with a proper degree of moiſture, being tenacious rather than friable, it has been equally eſteemed.

OPOPONAX

Is a concrete juice obtained from the root of a flower-bearing plant, that grows ſpontaneouſly in the warm Eaſtern climates. It is a gum-reſin, of a tolerably firm texture, uſually in ſmall grains, but ſometimes in large maſſes, formed by a number of theſe, connected with a matter of the ſame kind. The maſſes are generally loaded with foreign ſubſtances, and are much inferior to the pure looſe drops.

The fineſt opoponax is in grains, from the ſize of a pin's head to that of a large pea. The internal colour of theſe grains is a pale yellow, frequently mixed with white; and externally they incline to a red or orange colour. They are

moderately

moderately heavy, of a ſomewhat fat or unctuous appearance, ſmooth on the ſurface, of an acrid bitter taſte, and a ſtrong diſagreeable ſmell. Opoponax ſhould be choſen in clear pieces, with the before-mentioned qualities. Such grains as are black and too hard are to be rejected. The maſſes, or cakes, are uſually of this black colour, and full of ſticks and ſtraws.

ORPIMENT,

When pure, is a beautiful foſſil ſubſtance, of a foliated texture and fine luſtre; but it is generally found mixed with a ſolid ſubſtance called zarnich, approaching its own nature, though without its luſtre or foliaceouſneſs. This zarnich has been commonly ſuppoſed a part of the orpiment; but, as theſe ſubſtances have ſeparate qualities, and are frequently found in large quantities, entirely diſtinct, without the leaſt intermixture, this opinion is plainly erroneous. Experience has ſhewn that zarnich is granulated, ſoluble in oil, and friable; on the contrary, orpiment is flaky, not ſoluble in oil, and flexible.

As zarnich is not received in the materia medica, unleſs by miſtake under the name of orpiment, it is to be obſerved, that, as the common kinds of them are green and yellow, orpiment is conſequently thus diſtinguiſhed, although, in reality, there be no ſuch ſubſtance in nature as green orpiment; ſo that whatever is ſeen of a green colour, under the name of orpiment, is to be rejected as chiefly zarnich, being commonly a maſs of the latter, containing a ſmall quantity of the former. However, the purchaſer will not be deceived who holds in memory this good rule, that nothing be

bought

bought, under the name of orpiment, but what is compoſed entirely of flakes, or plates, for no zarnich is ſo.

PEPPER,

Black, is the ſmall, round, aromatic, fruit of a trailing plant, which flouriſhes on the coaſt of Malabar, and in the iſlands of Java, Sumatra, and Ceylon. It is not ſown, but planted, and great care is required in the choice of the ſhoots. It produces no fruit till the end of three years, and then bears ſo plentifully, the three or four ſucceeding years, as frequently to produce two crops in a year; the bark then begins to ſhrink, and the ſhrub declines faſt, ſo that, in twelve years time, it ceaſes to bear.

Black pepper is to be choſen of a pungent ſmell, extremely acrid and hot to the taſte, in large grains, firm, ſound, and with few wrinkles; but it will always have ſome, which are occaſioned by its being dried in the ſun. Care ſhould always be taken that the largeſt grains have not been picked out, as is ſometimes done.

White Pepper is diſtinguiſhed into common and genuine: the latter is very ſeldom met with, and approaches nearly to the properties of the black pepper, the nearer the better. The common white pepper is weaker and worſe in all its qualities than the black, being nothing more than that ſort decorticated by maceration in water, as bits of the dark-coloured ſkin have ſometimes been obſerved upon the grains, when in Europe. In chooſing it, regard ſhould be had

had to the ſtrength of its qualities, its ſoundneſs and firmneſs; and particular care ſhould be taken that it has not been died white.

LONG PEPPER is the fruit of an Eaſt-Indian plant of the ſame kind with that which produces the black pepper, which fruit is gathered unripe, and dried. It is of a round form, about an inch and a half in length, nearly the ſize of a large gooſe-quill, having numerous minute grains diſpoſed round it in a kind of ſpiral direction. The whole fruit is of a browniſh-grey colour, of a texture not very firm, and it eaſily ſhatters to pieces by a blow. It is light, and, when freſh broken, has a diſagreeably pungent ſmell.

Long pepper is to be choſen in large full pieces, freſh, not broken, duſty, nor worm-eaten, and ſuch as, after taſting, leaves a very laſting heat in the mouth. When too long kept, it is worthleſs, as it becomes rotten and duſty.

PETROLEUM

Is a fluid bitumen, or mineral oil, iſſuing from the clefts of rocks, or from the earth, or found floating on the ſurface of certain ſprings in ſome parts of Europe, but more plentifully in the warmer climates The more fluid petrolea have been diſtinguiſhed by the name of naphtha, (which ſee,) and the thicker by the appellations of piſſaſphaltum and piſſelæum. Petroleum is very light and pellucid, though ſometimes ſlightly tinged; it is of a pungent acrid taſte, and a ſtrong penetrating ſmell. The finer kinds are not very

frequently met with, but fine petroleum may be diſtinguiſhed by the facility with which it takes fire, on the approach of a flaming body, without contact; and by its extenſibility, as a drop of it will ſpread over two or three feet of water, forming a many-coloured film on the ſurface. It floats on, and is indiſſoluble in, rectified ſpirit of wine. Paper, wetted with it, becomes as tranſparent as when wetted with oil, but this effect continues not long, the paper becoming opaque as the oil dries away.

RHAPONTICUM

Is a root of a duſky-colour on the ſurface, and a looſe ſpongy texture, more aſtringent and leſs purgative than rhubarb, which it reſembles in appearance, and has ſometimes been miſtaken for it. It is diſtinguiſhable from rhubarb by leaving a mucilaginous taſte in the mouth, unknown to the true rhubarb, and by its regularly-marbled red, white, or yellow, colour, when cut; which colours are diſpoſed in a radiated manner.

ROSE-WOOD,

Rhodium, a denſe compact wood growing in the Eaſt-Indies and other parts, which we uſually meet with in pieces, ſplit from larger maſſes. It is externally of a whitiſh colour, internally of a deep-yellow with a caſt of red; though theſe colours are ſometimes varied. In the moſt perfect ſpecimens we meet with, the external part is pale, and neareſt the heart it darkens. In theſe alſo it appears that this wood is

cut

cut from a knotty tree, with an irregular grain, having ſeveral convolutions, in the midſt of which are cluſters of circular fibres, including a fine fragrant reſin. The lignum aloes, and that moſt eſteemed kind of it, the calambac, with the other fragrant and precious woods, appear to be of this kind; and they are more valuable the more they have of theſe fibrous reſinous knots, which are the parts greatly preferable to the reſt for other uſes, as well as for diſtillation.

Roſe-wood has a ſlightly bitteriſh, ſomewhat pungent, balſamic, taſte, and a fragrant ſmell, eſpecially when ſcraped or rubbed, reſembling roſes. It ſhould be choſen ſound, heavy, of the deepeſt colour, and in the largeſt pieces that can be procured, of the moſt irregular knotty grain, well filled with the reſinous fibres. The ſmall, thin, pale, light, pieces are to be rejected.

RHUBARB

Is an oblong tapering root growing plentifully in China and Tartary, and likewiſe in Turkey and Ruſſia. The oriental rhubarb is in pieces of four, five, or ſix, inches in length, and three or four in diameter at the top. It is of a ſmooth even ſurface, moderately heavy, but not hard: externally of a yellow colour, with an admixture of brown; internally variegated with lively reddiſh ſtreaks, forming a marbled appearance when cut. The yellow is the ground-colour, and the red is diſpoſed in ſhort irregular veins, much in the manner of the darker-coloured nutmegs.

The Chineſe are very careful in their manner of drying it. They take up the root only in Winter, or early in the Spring, before the leaves begin to appear. They cut it into ſuch

pieces as they think proper, and lay it on a table in a ſhady place, turning it once or twice a day for two or three days; after this they ſtring the pieces on a cord, at a diſtance from one another, and then hang them up in a ſhady place, where they may dry leiſurely. It is by this management the rhubarb is rendered ſo firm and ſolid as we find it; for, if it were hung up to dry at once in a warm airy place, it would become light and ſpongy. They ſay alſo, that, if the root be taken up in the Summer, it is not only light and of little value, but that it has nothing of the reddiſh marbling, which is one of the great characters of its goodneſs.

Sometimes the rhubarb-root is cut down the middle, and afterwards divided into pieces of four or five inches in length, which appear flat, and dry better than the round. For ſome time paſt, flat rhubarb has ſold conſiderably better than round of the ſame goodneſs.

Rhubarb is not ſo often adulterated as damaged. To be good, it ſhould be particularly dry and ſound; if it be wet or rotten, it is worthleſs. By long keeping it frequently grows mouldy and worm-eaten; and ſome of the more induſtrious artiſts are ſaid to fill up the worm-holes with mixtures, and to colour the outſide of the damaged pieces with powder of the fine rhubarb, or with ſome cheaper materials. The marks of its goodneſs are, the livelineſs of its bright nutmeg colour when cut, its being firm and ſolid, but not flinty or hard, its being eaſily pulverable, and appearing, when powdered, of a bright-yellow colour, mixed with a ſlight caſt of red. On chewing, it ſhould impart a deep ſaffron tinge, and not prove ſlimy, or mucilaginous, in the mouth. It ſhould yield a fine yellow colour on being infuſed a few minutes in water. Its taſte is ſomewhat acrid, bitteriſh, and

rather

rather aſtringent. Thoſe pieces which appear green or black, when broken through the middle, ſhould be rejected.

SAGAPENUM

Is the concrete gummy-reſinous juice of an Oriental plant not well known. It is met with in drops, and in maſſes compoſed of thoſe drops: but the looſe drops are much finer and purer than the maſſes. In both forms, it is a compact ſubſtance, conſiderably heavy, of a reddiſh colour outwardly, but paler within, and clear like horn. It grows ſoft on handling, ſo as frequently to ſtick to the fingers. The larger, darker-coloured, broken, maſſes of bdellium are ſometimes ſubſtituted, but they may eaſily be diſtinguiſhed by the weakneſs of their ſmell. Sagapenum has a ſtrong ſmell, ſomewhat of the leek-kind, and a moderately hot biting taſte.

SAGO

Is the produce of a ſingular tree, growing in the Molucca iſlands. This tree affords a nutriment from its trunk and vital ſubſtance, its fruit being a ſuperfluous and uſeleſs part. It grows wild in the foreſts, and multiplies itſelf by ſeeds and ſuckers. It riſes to the height of thirty feet, and is about ſix in circumference. The bark is an inch thick, and the inner rind is compoſed of an aſſemblage of long fibres, interwoven with each other. This double coat contains a kind of ſap, or gum, that falls into meal. The tree, which ſeems to grow merely for the uſe of man, points out the meal by a fine white powder that covers its leaves, and is

a certain indication of the maturity of the ſago. It is then cut down to the root and ſawn into ſcantlings, which are divided into four quarters, for the better extracting the ſap, or meal, they contain. After this ſubſtance has been diluted in water, it is ſtrained through a kind of ſieve, which retains the groſſer particles, the reſt is thrown into wooden moulds, where it dries and hardens. The natives eat the ſago diluted with water, and ſometimes baked or boiled. Through a principle of humanity, they reſerve the fineſt part of this meal for the aged and infirm. A jelly is ſometimes made of it, which is white, and has a pleaſing flavour. The ſago-cakes, reduced to grains, are imported into Europe.

The kind, preferred in England, is of a red bloom-colour; it diſſolves eaſily in hot water, making a fine jelly. That which boils red is more valued than the brown. The beſt package is an oak caſk, as the leaſt damp deſtroys its value.

SAPAN WOOD

Is brought to Europe in logs of a middling ſize. It ſhould be ſound, and internally of a deep red colour.

SAL AMMONIACUM, ſee AMMONIACUM.

SANGUIS DRACONIS, ſee DRAGON'S BLOOD.

SARCOCOLLA

Is a gummy-reſinous juice, produced in Perſia and Arabia. It is in ſmall, crumbly, ſpongy, light-yellow, grains, with a few inclining to red mixed among them. Their taſte is ſomewhat bitter and acrid, followed by a nauſeous kind of ſweetneſs.

ſweetneſs. The tears are about the ſize of peas; and the whiteſt, as being the freſheſt, are preferred. This gum ſoftens in the mouth, bubbles and catches flame from a candle, and diſſolves almoſt wholly in water, when pure and genuine.

SAUNDERS-WOOD

Is of three ſorts, yellow, white, and red. Yellow ſaunders is a beautiful wood, of a cloſe texture and fine grain. It is uſually in blocks, formed from the heart of the tree, and cleaned from the inveſting bark. Its colour is a pale-yellow; and it is of an extremely ſweet perfumed ſmell, ſomewhat like a mixture of muſk and roſes. It has an aromatic taſte, ſomewhat bitter, and agreeably pungent. Theſe qualities, joined with ſoundneſs, are the characters of its goodneſs.

WHITE SAUNDERS is a wood much reſembling the former, and is either in long ſlender pieces or in chips. It is of a light colour, with a fragrant ſmell and taſte; but far weaker than yellow ſaunders in all its qualities.

RED SAUNDERS is very different, in colour and quality, from either of the preceding. It is commonly in blocks of a conſiderable length, which appear to be the heart of the tree that produces it, ſeparated from the ſoft outer wood and bark. It is of a dark red colour externally, and of a fine blood-red within. Its taſte is very inconſiderable, and rather

ther auſtere. Its ſmell is very trifling, and without any perfume like the other kinds.

SANTONICUM SEMEN,

Or worm-ſeed, is a ſmall, light, oval, ſeed, compoſed of a number of thin membraneous coats. It is of a greeniſh-yellow colour, with a caſt of brown. Theſe ſeeds eaſily crumble, by rubbing between the fingers, into a fine chaffy kind of ſubſtance. Their ſmell is of the wormwood-kind, moderately ſtrong, but not very agreeable. Their taſte is very bitter and ſomewhat acrid.

Worm-ſeed ſhould be choſen freſh, inclining to a green colour, with a ſharp, bitter, diſagreeable, taſte, and having as ſmall a mixture of the chaffy matter, ſtalks, and leaves, as poſſible. The Turkey-ſort is moſt eſteemed.

SCAMMONY,

Or diagrydium, is of two ſorts, the Aleppo and the Smyrna ſcammony. It is the concrete gummy-reſinous juice of a ſpecies of convolvulus. The ſcammony is extracted by laying bare the upper part of the root, wounding it pretty deeply, and placing a ſhell, or ſome other receptacle, to receive the milky juice, which hardens into maſſes.

Aleppo Scammony, which is preferable to the other, is in irregular, light, friable, maſſes, of a cavernous, or ſpongy, texture, and of different ſhades of colour, from a grey or yellowiſh white almoſt to a black. Its ſurface is naturally ſmooth and even between the holes; when freſh broken,

it

it is ſomewhat bright and gloſſy ; but, when powdered, it is of a browner colour. Its taſte is acrid, nauſeous, and ſomewhat bitter, accompanied with a faint diſagreeable ſmell.

SMYRNA SCAMMONY is in compact ponderous pieces, of a black colour, harder, and of a much ſtronger ſmell and taſte than the preceding kind ; full of ſand and other impurities. This ſort ſhould be rejected.

That ſcammony ſhould be choſen which eaſily crumbles between the fingers, being gloſſy when freſh broken. On contact with any fluid, ſcammony ſhould immediately become white ; and, when diſſolved in equal parts of rectified ſpirit and water, (*i. e.* in proof ſpirit,) it ſhould leave no dregs.

SEED-PEARL,

Or ragged pearl, is the denomination given to the coarſe rough pearl and the very ſmall ones, unfit for ornamental purpoſes, which are medicinally employed.

It is ſaid that counterfeit pearls, made of clay, coated with the white matter of oyſter-ſhells, have been ſubſtituted for the genuine : the clay may be diſcovered by its acquiring additional hardneſs in the fire, and reſiſting acids : whereas true pearls calcine in the fire and become quick-lime, and readily diſſolve in acids.

SENA

Is the leaf of an annual, woody, pod-bearing, plant, imported dry from Alexandria, in Egypt. It is of an oblong figure, pointed at the ends, particularly at the end oppoſite

to where it grows to the ſtalk. In the middle, it is about a quarter of an inch broad, and it is ſeldom more than an inch in length. Sena is of a lively yellowiſh-green colour, of a firm texture, ſomewhat thick and flat. Its ſmell is faint, but not diſagreeable; its taſte is ſomewhat bitter, nauſeous, and acrid.

There is a leſs valuable ſort brought from Tripoli, diſtinguiſhable by the obtuſeneſs of its ends, by its being larger, of a finer green, and ſomewhat rough to the touch. There are two or three other inferior ſorts, diſtinguiſhable by their being either narrower, longer, and ſharper-pointed; or larger, broader, and round-pointed, with ſmall prominent veins; or of a freſh green colour, without any yellow caſt.

In chooſing it, the ſhape of the leaf ſhould aſſure us that it is of the Alexandrian kind: it ſhould be freſh, of a good ſmell, ſoft to the touch, and clear from ſtalks. The leaves ought, alſo, to be of an entire yellowiſh-green colour, not ſpotted with black.

SNAKE-WOOD, ſee COLUBRINUM LIGNUM.
SPIKENARD, ſee NARDUS INDICA.

STORAX.

Solid ſtorax is the odoriferous reſin of a middle-ſized tree, bearing a filbert-like fruit, naturally growing in Aſia. Two ſorts of this reſin are commonly diſtinguiſhed; ſtorax in the tear, and common ſtorax in larger maſſes. The former is not in ſeparate tears, or but very rarely: it is generally in maſſes, compoſed of whitiſh and pale reddiſh-brown tears, or having an uniform reddiſh-yellow or browniſh appearance, being

being unctuous and ſoft like wax, and free from viſible impurities. This is preferred to the common ſtorax, in large maſſes, conſiderably lighter and leſs compact than the preceding, and having a large admixture of woody matter like ſaw-duſt. Although the impurities of this kind of ſtorax render it leſs valuable than the firſt-mentioned, yet it is not leſs uſeful, nor its medical qualities leſs potent, after purification, by ſoftening it with boiling water, and preſſing it out from the fæces between warm iron plates; a proceſs that is unneceſſary with the former kind.

TAMARIND.

The fruit of a tree growing in Arabia and in the Eaſt and Weſt Indies. The fruit is a pod, ſomewhat reſembling a bean-cod, including ſeveral hard ſeeds, together with a dark-coloured viſcid pulp. This pulp is connected with the ſeeds by numerous tough ſtrings or fibres; and theſe are freed from the outer ſhell. The Oriental ſort is drier, darker-coloured, and has more pulp, than the Weſt-Indian: the former is ſometimes preſerved without addition, the latter has always an admixture of ſugar. Red, brown, and black, is brought from the Eaſt-Indies: of theſe the black is the beſt. The more pulp the better.

TEA

Is the leaf of a ſhrub growing in ſeveral parts of China, Japan, and Siam. The dealers in this article diſtinguiſh many kinds, which, however, are all leaves of the ſame

tree, and may be reduced to the three general diviſions, ordinary green teas, finer green teas, and bohea.

The leaves of the common green tea are ſomewhat ſmall, crumpled, much twiſted, and cloſely folded together in drying: the colour is a duſky green, and the ſmell agreeable. The leaves of the fine green tea are larger, leſs crumpled and twiſted in the drying, and more lax in their folds; of a paler colour, but more blooming, approaching to a blue-green. All the ordinary green teas give a ſtrong yellowiſh-green colour to boiling water, and the fine green teas give a pale-green, or light ſtraw-colour.

Bohea tea conſiſts of ſmaller leaves than either of the others, and thoſe more crumpled and cloſely folded. Its colour is dark, inclining to black.

The ſhrub that produces tea ſeldom riſes higher than five or ſix feet. It is much branched and ſpreading: the leaves are oblong, pointed at the ends, and ſerrated at the edges. Theſe leaves are collected generally in April and May, and the young ones, taken from the new ſhoots, are ſeparated from thoſe gathered off the old branches. Upon ſuch diſtinctions as theſe, and on ſeparately gathering full-grown and only budding leaves, are founded the different qualities of our tea.

After gathering, the leaves are dried, and ſeparated according to their ſize, *&c.* Bohea-tea is gathered before the leaves are perfectly opened, and is made to undergo a greater degree of heat than green, to which its colour and peculiar flavour are in a great meaſure owing.

TERRA JAPONICA, ſee CATECHU.

TINCAL, ſee BORAX.

TRAGACANTH,

Or adraganth, or, as it is uſually called, gum dragon, is the gum exuding from a prickly plant of the ſame name, that grows wild in the warm climates. This commodity comes chiefly from Turkey, of different colours and qualities, from a pale white to dark and opake. It is uſually in long, ſlender, worm-like, pieces, and ſometimes it is in roundiſh drops, which are rare. It is moderately heavy, of a firm conſiſtence, rather tough than hard. It is with difficulty pulveriſed, unleſs it be dried, and the peſtle and mortar kept warm. Its natural colour is a pale white, and the cleaneſt ſpecimens are ſomething tranſparent. It has little or no ſmell, and a taſte rather diſagreeable. It melts in the mouth to a very ſoft mucilage, without ſticking to the teeth as gum arabic does. The moſt ſtriking difference between this and the other gums is, that it gives a thick conſiſtence to a much larger quantity of water, and is with difficulty diſſoluble, or rather diſſolves but imperfectly. When put into water, it ſlowly imbibes a great quantity, ſwells into a large volume, and forms a ſoft, but not fluid, mucilage: by agitation and an addition of water, a ſolution may be obtained, but the gummy mucilage ſettles to the bottom on ſtanding.

For medical purpoſes, gum tragacanth ſhould be choſen in long twiſted pieces, ſemi-tranſparent, white, very clear, and free from all other colours: the brown and particularly the black are to be wholly rejected. Theſe laſt ſorts, however, though leſs valuable, are ſtill uſeful to the different artificers who have occaſion for this gum.

TUR-

TURBITH

Is the cortical part of the root of a ſpecies of convolvulus, brought from the Eaſt-Indies in oblong pieces, of a brown or aſh colour on the outſide, and whitiſh within. At firſt, it makes an impreſſion of ſweetneſs on the taſte, but, when chewed for ſome time, betrays a nauſeous acrimony. The beſt is ponderous, not wrinkled, eaſy to break, and diſcovers to the eye a large quantity of reſinous matter.

TURMERIC, ſee CURCUMA.

TUTTY,

Or lapis tutiæ, is a clayey or argillaceous ore, of a ſemimetal, called zinc, found in Perſia, formed on cylindrical moulds into tubulous pieces, of different lengths, like the bark of a tree, and baked to a moderate hardneſs. On the outſide it is of a brown colour, and full of ſmall protuberances; ſmooth and yellowiſh within, ſometimes with a whitiſh, and ſometimes with a bluiſh, caſt. The fineſt is that which is of a good brown on the outſide, and of a yellow tinge within, the thickeſt, brighteſt, moſt granulated, the hardeſt to break, and that which has the leaſt foulneſs among it.

The preceding account of the origin of tutty, though contrary to the received opinion, is ſupported by authors of reſpectable authority, and by its chymical properties. That the common opinion, of its being a ſublimate produced in the European founderies, where zinc is melted with other metals, is erroneous, appears from this reaſon, that tutty is not found, upon ſtrict enquiry, to be known at thoſe founderies,

deries, and by its conſiſting, in great part, of an earth not capable of riſing in ſublimation. Thus much, however, is probable, that ſublimates, or the common ores of zinc, are often mixed with argillaceous earths, and baked hard, in imitation of the genuine Oriental tutty.

WORM-SEED, ſee SANTONICUM SEMEN.

ZEDOARY

Is brought over in oblong pieces, of a moderate thickneſs, and two or three inches long, or in roundiſh pieces, about an inch in diameter. In the beſt ſpecimens, it is of an aſh-colour, or light-grey, externally, and white within. Its ſmell is agreeable, and its taſte aromatic and ſomewhat bitter. It impregnates water with its ſmell, a ſlight bitterneſs, a conſiderable warmth and pungency, and a yellowiſh-brown colour. Zedoary ſhould be choſen dry, large, heavy, and ſound.

Various Articles of private Trade from India.

ARAC,

ARRAC, or rack, is a ſpirituous liquor bought at Batavia or Malacca, and uſed in making punch. This is a branch of trade, of which the Dutch have almoſt deprived the Portugueſe, the art of making it being transferred, for the moſt part, from Goa to Batavia. The beſt arrack in Batavia is ſold for about fifteen pence the gallon.

The

The Goa arrack is made from a vegetable juice called toddy, which flows by inciſion from the cocoa-tree. The Batavia arac is made from rice and ſugar. There is likewiſe a ſhrub from which arac is made.

The manner of making the Goa arac is this. The juice of the trees is not procured in the way of tapping, as we do, but the operator provides himſelf with a parcel of earthern pots, with bellies and necks like our ordinary bird-bottles: he makes faſt a number of theſe to his girdle, and any way elſe that he commodiouſly can about him. Thus equipped, he climbs up the trunk of a cocoa-tree; and, when he comes to the boughs, he takes out his knife, and, cutting off one of the ſmall knots, or buttons, he applies the mouth of the bottle to the wound, faſtening it to the bough with a bandage; in the ſame manner he cuts off other buttons, and faſtens on his pots, till the whole number is uſed: this is done in the evening, and, deſcending from the tree, he leaves them till the next morning; when he takes off the bottles which are moſtly filled, and empties the juice into the proper receptacle. This is repeated every night, till a ſufficient quantity is produced, and the whole, being then put together, is left to ferment, which it ſoon does.

When the fermentation is over, and the liquor, or waſh, is become a little tart, it is put into the ſtill, and, a fire being made, the ſtill is ſuffered to work as long as that which comes over has any conſiderable taſte of ſpirit.

The liquor thus procured is the low wine of arac, and this is ſo poor a liquor, that it will ſoon corrupt and ſpoil, if not diſtilled again, to ſeparate ſome of its phlegm; they therefore, immediately after, pour back this low wine into the ſtill, and rectify it to that very weak kind of proof-ſpirit, in

which

which ſtate we find it. The arac we meet with, notwithſtanding its being of a proof-teſt, according to the way of judging by the crown of bubbles, holds but a ſixth, and ſometimes but an eighth, part of alcohol, or pure ſpirit; whereas our other ſpirits, when they ſhew that proof, are generally eſteemed to hold one half pure ſpirit.

ARRANGOES

Are a kind of beads, formed from the rough cornelian, or ſome ſtone of that nature, chiefly in demand for the African trade. Theſe are of different ſorts. Thoſe cut from the beſt ſtones are from two to three inches long, barrel-ſhaped, clear, pale, variouſly coloured, with a good poliſh, and free from flaws. Thoſe of the ſecond ſort are from one to two inches long, and inferior in cut, poliſh, and quality. Thoſe of the third ſort are the irregular refuſe ſtones, from half an inch to an inch in length, flawed and dull.

CANES,

Called dragon's-blood, muſt be ſound, taper, ſupple, and clouded, the more ſo the better. The middle joint muſt be thirty-ſix inches long, and the top and bottom joints eight or ten more.

CANES, called japans or wangees, muſt be pliable, tough, round, and taper, the knots being at regular diſtances.

CANES, called rattans, muſt be ſound, well-glaſed, full four yards long, not ſmaller than the little finger, and of a pale-yellow colour.

CANES, called walking-canes, to be of any value, muſt be ſound, heavy, tapering, twenty-eight inches long in the joint, at leaſt, and the more clouded the better. Canes, thirty-ſix inches long in the joint and upwards, are moſt in demand.

CARMENIA WOOL

Is a kind of goat's-hair, of a pale-brown colour. The purchaſer ſhould be careful that it be dry and free from dirt.

CARPETS OF PERSIA

Pay ſo heavy a duty that they are an unprofitable purchaſe.

CORAL

Is eaſily procured in Italy and Turkey, and of the beſt quality. India receives large quantities from Europe, the produce of the former place being leſs eſteemed.

COTTON YARN

Is not much in demand. The Bengal ſort is the moſt valuable.

COW-

COWRIES

Are ſea-ſhells, uſed as ſmall money in India and on the coaſt of Africa. They muſt be ſound and clean: the ſmaller the more valuable.

ELEPHANTS TEETH

Are valuable in proportion to their ſize and ſoundneſs. The ſtrait white teeth, without flaws, and not very hollow in the ſtump, but ſolid and thick, are the beſt.

The beſt weigh	— —	50 lb. each.
The next weigh	— —	40 lb. each.
The third weigh	— —	30 lb. each.
The fourth weigh	— —	20 lb. each.

The ſmaller are of little value.

GARNETS

Are ſeldom found in a perfect ſtate. Their colour naturally is a ſtrong red, with a faint caſt of blue. The moſt valuable ſtones are the largeſt, and thoſe of the cleareſt and brighteſt colour.

GOA STONES

Are a factitious preparation of mineral ſubſtances, mixed with perfume, in very little demand.

HURSE-SKINS

Are the ſkin of a fiſh with a hard rough coat, chiefly uſed in Europe to cover ſmall pocket-caſes.

SEA-HORSE TEETH

Are of little conſumption.

TUTANAG

Is formed into blocks of about twenty pounds each. There is no difficulty in buying it, only to ſee that it be free from droſs.

LACQUERED-WARE and CHINA muſt be purchaſed at diſcretion, faſhion varying their value daily.

Candied nutmegs, rice, ſuccades, or mixed ſweetmeats, together with tiger-ſkins and leopard-ſkins, dreſſed, uſually come as preſents.

USE OF THE CHINESE TOUCH-NEEDLES,

OR THE METHOD OF JUDGING OF THE FINENESS OF GOLD FROM ITS COLOUR.

From the Philoſophical Commerce of the Arts, by W. LEWIS, *M.B. and F.R.S.*

THOSE, who are accuſtomed to the inſpection of gold variouſly alloyed, can judge nearly, from the colour of any given maſs, the proportion of alloy it contains, provided the ſpecies of alloy be known. Different compoſitions of gold, with different proportions of the metals which it is commonly alloyed with, are formed into oblong pieces, called needles, and kept in readineſs for aſſiſting in this examination, as ſtandards of compariſon.

The ſtandard-gold of this kingdom is of twenty-two carats; that is, it conſiſts of twenty-two parts of fine gold and two of alloy. The Chineſe reckon by a different diviſion, called touches, of which the higheſt number, or that which denotes pure gold, is one hundred; ſo that one hundred touches correſpond to our twenty-four carats; ſeventy-five touches to eighteen carats; fifty touches to twelve carats; and twenty-five to ſix: whence any number of the one diviſion may be eaſily reduced to the other.

The proportions, in the compoſition of the ſeveral needles, are adjuſted in a regular ſeries according to the carat weights. The firſt needle conſiſts of fine gold, or of twenty-four carats; the ſecond, of twenty-three carats and a half of fine gold and half a carat of alloy; the third, of twenty-three carats of fine gold to one carat of alloy; and ſo on, the gold diminiſhing, and the alloy increaſing, by half a carat in each needle,

needle, down to the twentieth carat: all below this are made at differences of whole carats; half a carat being ſcarcely diſtinguiſhable, by the colour of the maſs, when the proportion of alloy is ſo conſiderable. Some make the needles no lower than to twelve carats, that is, a mixture of equal parts of gold and alloy: others go as low as one carat, or one part of gold to twenty-three of alloy.

Four ſets of theſe needles are commonly directed; one in which pure ſilver is uſed for the alloy; another with a mixture of two parts of ſilver and one of copper; the third with a mixture of two parts of copper to one of ſilver; and the fourth with equal parts of the two: to which ſome add a fifth ſet, with copper only, an alloy that ſometimes occurs, though much more rarely than the others. If needles ſo low as three or four carats can be of any uſe, it ſhould ſeem to be only in the firſt ſet: for, in the others, the proportion of copper being large, the differences in colour, of different ſorts of copper itſelf, will be as great as thoſe which reſult from very conſiderable differences in the quantity of gold. When the copper is nearly equal in quantity to the gold, very little can be judged from the colour of the maſs.

In melting theſe compoſitions, the utmoſt care muſt be taken, that no loſs may happen to any of the ingredients ſo as to alter the proportions of the mixtures.

The colours are beſt examined by means of ſtrokes drawn with the metals on a particular kind of ſtone, brought chiefly from Germany, and called, from this uſe, a touch-ſtone; the beſt ſort of which is of a deep-black colour, moderately hard, and of a ſmooth but not poliſhed ſurface. If it be too ſmooth, ſoft gold will not eaſily leave a mark upon it; and, if rough, the mark proves imperfect. If very hard, the frequent cleaning of it from the marks, by rubbing it with tripoli or a

piece

piece of charcoal wetted with water, gives the ſurface too great a ſmoothneſs; and, if very ſoft, it is liable to be ſcratched in the cleaning. In want of the proper kind of ſtone, moderately ſmooth pieces of flint are the beſt ſubſtitutes: the more theſe approach in colour to the other the better.

The piece of gold, to be examined, being well cleaned in ſome convenient part of its ſurface, a ſtroke is to be made with it on the ſtone; and another, cloſe by it, with ſuch of the touch-needles as appears to come the neareſt to it in colour. If the colour of both, upon the ſtone, be exactly the ſame, it is judged that the given maſs is of the ſame fineneſs with the needle: if different, another and another needle muſt be tried, till one be found exactly correſponding to it. To do this readily practice only can teach.

In making the ſtrokes, both the given piece and the needle of compariſon are to be rubbed ſeveral times backward and forward upon the ſtone, that the marks may be ſtrong and full, not leſs than a quarter of an inch long, and about a tenth or an eighth of an inch broad: both marks are to be wetted before the examination of them, their colours being thus rendered more diſtinct. A ſtroke, which has been drawn ſome days, is never to be compared with a freſh one, as the colour may have ſuffered an alteration from the air; the fine atoms, left upon the touch-ſtone, being much more ſuſceptible of ſuch alterations than the metal in the maſs. If the piece be ſuppoſed to be ſuperficially heightened by art in its colour, that part of it, which the ſtroke is deſigned to be made with, ſhould be previouſly rubbed on another part of the ſtone, or rather on a rougher kind of ſtone than the common touch-ſtones, that a freſh ſurface of the metal may

be

be expoſed. If it be ſuſpected to be gilt with a thick coat of metal, finer than the internal part, it ſhould be raiſed with a graver to ſome depth, that the exterior coat may be broken through: cutting the piece in two is a leſs certain way of diſcovering this abuſe; the outer coat being frequently drawn along, by the ſheers or chiſel, ſo as to cover the divided parts.

The metallic compoſitions, made to reſemble gold in colour, are readily known by means of a drop or two of aqua-fortis, which has no effect upon gold, but diſſolves or diſcharges the marks made by all its known imitations. That the touch-ſtone may be able to ſupport this trial, it becomes a neceſſary character of it not to be corroſible by acids; a character which ſhews it to be eſſentially different from the marbles, whereof it is by many writers reckoned a ſpecies. If gold be debaſed by an admixture of any conſiderable quantity of theſe compoſitions, aqua-fortis will, in this caſe, alſo, diſcharge ſo much of the mark as was made by the baſe metal, and leave only that of the gold, which will now appear diſcontinued, or in ſpecks. Silver and copper are in like manner eaten out from gold on the touch-ſtone; and hence ſome judgement may thus be formed, of the fineneſs of the metal, from the proportion of the remaining gold to the vacuities.

Ercker obſerves that hard gold appears on the touch-ſtone leſs fine than it really is. It may be preſumed that this difference does not proceed from the ſimple hardneſs; but from the hardneſs being occaſioned by an admixture of ſuch metallic bodies as debaſe the colour in a greater degree than an equal quantity of the common alloy. Silver and copper are the only metals uſually found mixed with gold, whether in

bullion

bullion or in coin; and the only ones whoſe quantity is attempted to be judged of by this method of trial.

The Chineſe are ſaid to be extremely expert in the uſe of the touch-ſtone, ſo as to diſtinguiſh by it ſo ſmall a difference in the fineneſs as half a touch, or a two hundredth part of the mixture. The touch-ſtone, as I am informed, is the only teſt by which they regulate the ſale of their gold to the European merchants; and in thoſe countries it is ſubject to fewer difficulties than among us, on account of the uniformity of the alloy, which, there, is almoſt always ſilver; the leaſt appearance of copper being uſed in the alloy gives a ſuſpicion of fraud. As an aſſay of the gold is rarely permitted in that commerce, it behoves the European trader to be well practiſed in this way of examination: by carefully attending to the above directions, and by accuſtoming himſelf to compare the colours of a good ſet of touch-needles, having the fineneſs marked on each, it is preſumed he will be able to avoid being impoſed on, either in the touch itſelf, or by the abuſes, ſaid to be ſometimes committed, of covering the bar or ingot with a thick coat of finer metal than the interior part, or of including maſſes of baſe metal within it. A ſet of needles may be prepared for this uſe, with ſilver alloy, in the ſeries of the Chineſe touches; or the needles of the European account may be eaſily accommodated to the Chineſe by the following table, calculated on the principles already explained. It may be obſerved, that the gold ſhoes of China have a depreſſion in the middle, from the ſhrinking of the metal in its cooling, with a number of circular rings, like thoſe on the balls of the fingers, but larger: the ſmaller and cloſer theſe are the finer the gold is ſaid to be. I have been told, that, when any other metallic maſs is included within,

the fraud is diſcoverable at ſight, by the middle being elevated inſtead of depreſſed, and the ſides being uneven and knobby: but that the ſame kind of fraud is ſometimes practiſed in the gold bars, where it is not diſcoverable by any external mark.

TABLE of Correſpondence between the European and Chineſe Diviſions repreſenting the Fineneſs of Gold. (See Page 85.)

Carats.		Touch.	24ths
24	Are equal to	100	0
23¾		98	23
23½		97	22
23¼		96	21
23		95	20
22¾		94	19
22½		93	18
22¼		92	17
22		91	16
21¾		90	15
21½		89	14
21¼		88	13
21		87	12
20¾		86	11
20½		85	10
20¼		84	9
20		83	8
19¾		82	7
19½		81	6
19¼		80	5
19		79	4
18¾		78	3
18½		77	2
18¼		76	1
18		75	0
17¾		73	23
17½		72	22
17¼		71	21
17		70	20
16¾		69	19
16½		68	18
16¼		67	17
16		66	16
15¾		65	15
15½		64	14
15¼		63	13
15		62	12
14¾		61	11
14½		60	10
14¼		59	9
14		58	8
13¾		57	7
13½		56	6
13¼		55	5
13		54	4
12¾		53	3
12½		52	2
12¼		51	1
12		50	0
11¾		48	23
11½		47	22
11¼		46	21
11		45	20
10¾		44	19
10½		43	18
10¼		42	17
10		41	16
9¾		40	15
9½		39	14
9¼		38	13
9		37	12
8¾		36	11
8½		35	10
8¼		34	9
8		33	8
7¾		32	7
7½		31	6
7¼		30	5
7		29	4
6¾		28	3
6½		27	2
6¼		26	1
6		25	0
5¾		23	23
5½		22	22
5¼		21	21
5		20	20
4¾		19	19
4½		18	18
4¼		17	17
4		16	16
3¾		15	15
3½		14	14
3¼		13	13
3		12	12
2¾		11	11
2½		10	10
2¼		9	9
2		8	8
1¾		7	7
1½		6	6
1¼		5	5
1		4	4
¾		3	3
½		2	2
¼		1	1

Method

Method of bringing ſeveral Touches of Gold into one.

Let the fineneſs of each ſort be multiplied by its particular weight, and let their products be added together, for a dividend: then make the diviſor by adding the weights together. The quotient will be the fineneſs, or touch.

Example. 10 Tale. — 94 Touch. — 940
10 — — 92 — — 920

20 | 20)1860(93, Touch of
180 [the whole.
60
60
. .

PRACTICAL DIRECTIONS
FOR PURCHASING
DIAMONDS.

THE diamonds of the Eaſt-Indies are produced in the kingdoms of Bengal, Golconda, Viſapour, and in the iſland of Borneo. When the mine lies in a rock, the diamonds are found in ſeveral little veins of a half, and ſometimes a whole, inch broad, out of which the miners, with hooked irons, draw the ſand, or earth, in which the diamonds are. When the vein terminates, they break the rock, that the track may be found again and continued. The ſtones are ſeparated from the earth, or ſand, by waſhing. The miners work quite naked, except a thin linen cloth before them; and, beſide this precaution, they have alſo in-

ſpectors to prevent their concealing any ſtones, which, notwithſtanding, they effect, by watching an opportunity to ſwallow them.

In the choice of diamonds, obſerve that they be white, clear, and ſmooth, free from holes or flaws, and that they ſpread well: the coarſeſt ſort is called boart, which is of very little value, and uſed by lapidaries when bruiſed.

The chief things to be obſerved, in buying rough diamonds, are, I. the colour, II. cleanneſs, III. ſhape.

I. COLOUR.

1. The colour ſhould be perfectly cryſtalline, and reſembling a drop of clear ſpring-water; in the middle of which you will perceive a ſtrong light, playing with a great deal of ſpirit. If the coat be ſmooth and bright, with a ſmall tincture of green in it, it is not the worſe, and ſeldom proves bad: if it be a deep green, even, and the colour clear and bright, the ſtone is little the worſe; but a dull cloudy green is a bad colour: if there be a mixture of yellow with green, it is not ſo valuable. If a ſtone be of a light, dark, or cloudy, brown, with a ſmooth coat, it will prove ſoft, and cannot be cut to advantage, as it is in danger of being flawed.

2. If a ſtone has a rough coat, that you can hardly ſee through it, and the coat be white, and look as if it were rough by art, and clear of flaws or veins, and no blemiſh caſt in the body of the ſtone, (which may be diſcovered by holding it againſt the light,) the ſtone will prove good. If a ſtone be large, and the coat ſo rough as to prevent inſpection, it will be worth while to have two windows poliſhed, on oppoſite ſides of the ſtone, by which the clearneſs or foulneſs may be diſcovered. Small ſtones are not worth this expence.

3. It

3. It often happens that a ſtone ſhall appear of a reddiſh hue, on the outer coat, not unlike the colour of ruſty iron, yet, by looking through it againſt the light, you may obſerve the heart of the ſtone to be white, and ſuch ſtones are generally good and clear, if the red fouls be not too deep, and can be cut out without much waſting the ſtone.

4. All ſtones of a milky coat, whether the coat be bright or dull, if never ſo little inclining to a bluiſh caſt, will prove of an indifferent colour after cutting.

5. You will meet with a great many diamonds of a rough, dark, cinnamon-coloured, coat: this ſort is generally very hard, and, when cut, contains a great deal of life and ſpirit, as all hard ſtones do, of whatever colour they may be: but the colour is very uncertain; it is ſometimes white, and ſometimes brown, and ſometimes a very fine yellow.

II. CLEANNESS.

1. Concerning the fouls and other imperfections, that take from the value of the diamond, we muſt obſerve, all diaphanous ſtones are originally fluids and ſpirituous diſtillations, falling into proper cells of the earth, where they lie until they are ripened, and receive the hardneſs we generally find them of. Every drop forms an entire ſtone, contained in its proper bed, without coats. While this petrific juice, or the matter which grows in the ſtone, is in its original tender nature, it is liable to all the accidents we find in it, and by which it is ſo often damaged: for, if ſome little particle of ſand or earth fall into the tender matter, it is locked up in it, and becomes a foul black ſpot; and, as this is bigger or leſs, ſo it diminiſhes the value of the ſtone.

2. Flaws are occaſioned by ſome accident, ſhake, or violence, which the ſtone received whilſt in its bed. And this frequently

frequently occaſions an open crack in the ſtone, ſometimes from the outſide to the center, and ſometimes in the body of the ſtone, which does not extend to the outſide; but this is much the worſt, and will require great judgement to know how far it does extend: it takes half from the value.

3. The next and greateſt care will be to avoid beamy ſtones: and this requires more ſkill and practice than any thing yet ſpoken of. Indeed, a great many ſtones are a little beamy in the roundeſt, (by which I mean the edges,) but it is not ſo very material, though it diminiſhes the life of the diamond. By beamy ſtones, I mean ſuch as look fair to the eye, and yet are ſo full of veins to the center, that no art or labour can poliſh them. Theſe veins run through ſeveral parts of the ſtone, and ſometimes through all; and, when they appear on the outſide, they ſhew themſelves like protuberant excreſcences, from whence run innumerable ſmall veins, obliquely croſſing one another, and ſhooting into the body of the ſtone: the ſtone itſelf will have a very bright and ſhining coat, and the veins will look like very ſmall pieces of poliſhed ſteel riſing upon the ſurface of the ſtone. This ſort of ſtone will bear no poliſhing, and is not better than a piece of boart. Sometimes the knot of the veins will be in the center, the fibres will ſhoot outward, and the ſmall ends terminate in the coat of the diamond: this is more difficult to diſcover, and muſt be examined by a nice eye; yet you may be able, here and there, to perceive a ſmall protuberance, like the point of a needle, lifting up a part of the coat of the ſtone: and though, by a good deal of labour, it ſhould be poliſhed, it will be a great charge, and ſcarcely pay for the cutting, and therefore it is to be eſteemed as little better than

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the former. But, if you be not careful, the Indians will throw one of theſe ſtones into a parcel, and oftentimes the largeſt.

III. SHAPE.

The next thing to be obſerved is their ſhape, which a little experience will quickly ſhew how to diſtinguiſh. It conſiſts of three articles: ſtones in four points, ſtones in two points, and laſques.

1. Stones in four points conſiſt of four equilateral triangles at top, and the ſame at bottom. This is the moſt complete ſhape, and what nature would produce in all diamonds, were ſhe not controuled by the ſteel-corns of the ſoil that forms the bed in which the firſt tender matter was caſt. This form produces, when cut, thick, ſquare, good, ſtones.

2. Stones in two points are when four of the triangular planes are broader than the other four. This will make a thinner brilliant, have more life, and be more ſpread and valuable, in proportion to its ſize.

3. A ſtone, which is naturally well-formed for a drop, (*i. e.* of a flat pear-form,) is more valuable than a ſtone of the ſame weight, formed for a brilliant, as it loſes much leſs in cutting.

4. Laſques, or la crades, is the term for all diamonds cut and poliſhed in India, in which the colour and defects are more apparent.

To know what the weight of a rough diamond will be, when cut and poliſhed, a piece of lead ſhould be caſt of the propoſed ſize, and filed to the proper ſhape, which will give the required weight; lead being exactly three times as heavy as a diamond.

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The value of rough diamonds is extremely uncertain: weight and ſize alone will not direct in this matter; they ever give place to quality and ſhape. Experience and practice are the only means that can lead to a certainty. This will be evident by an attention to the prices in the following catalogue of ſeveral parcels of rough diamonds, which were ſold by auction, at the Bank coffee-houſe, near the Royal-exchange, on Thurſday, January 28, 1779, Aſher Goldſmid, ſworn broker.

Lot	R. Diamonds.	Weight,	Sold at	£	s.	d.
1	— 13 —	38¾ car.	— per car. —	3	14	0
2	— 14 —	35 —	— ditto —	3	4	0
3	— 33 —	66 —	— ditto —	3	8	0
4	— 108 —	108 —	— ditto —	2	14	0
5	— 201 —	100 —	— ditto —	2	10	6
6	— 29 —	15 —	— ditto —	1	8	6
7	— 1 —	62½ gr.	— —	160	0	0
8	— 1 —	30 —	— —	64	0	0
9	— 13 —	38¾ car.	— per car. —	3	13	6
10	— 37 —	73½ —	— ditto —	3	7	6
11	— 200 —	100 —	— ditto —	2	12	6
12	— boart —	38 —	— ditto —	0	18	6
13	— 1 —	32½ gr.	— —	86	0	0
14	— 16 —	36 car.	— per car. —	3	8	0
15	— 16 —	13 —	— ditto —	2	14	0
16	— 26 —	52 —	— ditto —	3	9	0
17	— 112 —	112 —	— ditto —	2	15	0
18	— 179 —	33 —	— ditto —	2	2	6
19	— 9 —	28¾ —	— ditto —	4	0	0
20	— 13 —	32¼ —	— ditto —	3	13	0
21	— 46 —	91½ —	— ditto —	3	5	6
22	— 12 —	21 —	— ditto —	3	3	0
23	— 32 —	39¾ —	— ditto —	2	16	6
24	— 7 —	10 —	— ditto —	2	17	6
25	— 121 —	121 —	— ditto —	2	13	0
26	— 20 —	15 —	— ditto —	2	2	6
27	— 204 —	101½ —	— ditto —	2	10	0
28	— 148 —	37 —	— ditto —	2	1	6
29	— 89 —	36 —	— ditto —	1	5	0

THE END.