

A treatise on the employment of glycerine in the treatment of saccharine diabetes and more particularly on the advantageous effects of the anti-diabetic liqueurs and syrups / prepared by P. Garnier, chemist and distiller, Noyon (Oise), near Paris.

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A TREATISE
ON THE
EMPLOYMENT OF GLYCERINE
IN THE TREATMENT OF
SACCHARINE DIABETES

and more particularly on the advantageous effects
OF THE ANTI-DIABETIC

LIQUEURS AND SYRUPS

PREPARED BY

P. GARNIER

Chemist and Distiller

NOYON (OISE), NEAR PARIS.



P A R I S

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TREATISE.

Everyone speaks of diabetes, everyone fears it; but this is rather from instinct than from a precise knowledge of this strange disease, from which, but too frequently, we suffer without being aware of it.

Saccharine diabetes, or glycosuria, is an affection characterized by the presence of sugar in the urine.

The quantity of sugar thus thrown off varies in each patient; being sometimes not more than a few grammes per litre of urine; but too often the quantity is much greater, and it is not uncommon to see certain persons thus lose several hundreds of grammes of sugar in twenty-four hours.

Saccharine diabetes is not only serious on account of the exhaustion of the organism which it produces, and which inevitably throws the unfortunate sufferer into consumption; but still more so on account of the morbid predispositions which

it creates, and which spring up so insidiously and rapidly as in but too many cases to baffle medical art.

In a case in which a healthy person would have but a simple furuncle, a diabetic subject would be liable to a serious anthrax. A simple erysipalis would in his case become phlegmonous and even gangrenous. All wounds are dangerous in glycosuric subjects from the fact that they can seldom profit by the resources of surgery, on account of the grave consequences to which the most simple sore, the slightest traumatism, may give rise. In a word, diabetic subjects are peculiarly liable to contract serious diseases.

Far be it from us to wish to frighten the readers of this Treatise; but it is necessary that they should be convinced of the importance of prompt and careful treatment in the strange disease of which we speak.

Glycerine, or the sweet principle of oils, though long since well known to chemists, has only recently entered the domain of therapeutics.

The honour of having first thought of the employment of this substance in the treatment of

cutaneous diseases and the dressing of wounds is due to English doctors. The remarkable works of Doctor Demarquay have particularly contributed to propagate in this country a perfect knowledge of the numerous purposes to which this precious substance may be applied, in a surgical point of view.

At the present day, glycerine is in constant use in the art of perfumery, and the *materia medica* also utilizes it to a great extent; but until very recently it was principally for outward application that glycerine was employed, as well as the numerous preparations of which it entered into the composition.

The internal use of glycerine has often been prescribed in the case of certain affections of the digestive tube; but it was rather as a sort of topic, or, on account of its sweet taste, as a medium of administering other medicinal substances, than as a therapeutic agent capable of undergoing, in our organism, certain useful transformations.

Besides, another difficulty tended to check physicians and apothecaries in the use of glycerine as an internal remedy; and that was the

almost impossibility of finding it, in commerce, in a pure state—a very important consideration. For unless this substance is pure it will neither be taken without repugnance by patients, nor be tolerated by the organism.

Immediately upon pure glycerine being at their disposition this first difficulty disappeared; but its internal use still remained very restricted until Doctor Schultzen, of Dorpat (Russia), thought of prescribing its use in the treatment of saccharine diabetes.

Nothing is, *à priori*, more rational than the introduction of this substance into the therapeutics of glycosuria. In point of fact, glycerine is chemically a triatomic alcohol, capable of being totally absorbed into the system, on condition of its being introduced in suitable doses, and producing the same effects as the spirituous liquors so frequently employed in the treatment of diabetes, without any of the disagreeable results which arise from the use of the latter.

The efforts of the physician of Dorpat were crowned with success, and the author of this treatise, who submitted himself to Doctor

Schultzen's regimen, has succeeded by this means in curing himself of a very grave case of diabetes, which ordinary remedies could only temporarily alleviate.

Thanks to the works of modern physicians, we are now in possession of an efficacious remedy for saccharine diabetes. It is demonstrated that by means of hygienic practices properly applied, and, above all, by a special alimentation, we may correct, weaken, and even eradicate this disease. But the anti-diabetic regimen, consisting above all, as is known, in the deprivation of ordinary bread, feculents, and sugar, and the exclusive use of dark meats, either broiled or roasted, together with generous wines and spirituous liquors, is frequently badly supported.

This regimen, with which is associated ideas of viscid bread, very soon becomes wearisome, and many patients, tired of its rigours, prefer the chances of a return or of an increase of sugar in their urine to a continuation of the deprivation of their favorite dishes.

At present, thanks to the indications of Doctor Schultzen, of Dorpat, the severity of anti-diabetic

regimen can be mitigated without running any of the risks which such imprudence generally entails.

In fact, it is clearly demonstrated that glycerine is an excellent anti-diabetic remedy, which acts on the system in the same manner as alcohol, and is completely, or nearly completely, absorbed, provided it be taken in suitable doses.

In a communication which we recently made to the Academy of Medecine and the Academy of Sciences, of which we give the conclusions at the end of this Treatise, we have established this fact in the most peremptory manner, and give publicity to our own personal observations, as to the efficacy of glycerine as an anti-diabetic agent.

In the course of our researches on this subject we have observed that glycerine, even in its purest state, if taken alone, is often repulsive to the stomach, and we have, after much study, found a means of combating the repugnance of patients. This means consists in preparing, with glycerine chemically purified, *liqueurs* and syrups in which there is no sugar, and which are taken with pleasure.

CONCLUSIONS

OF OUR REPORTS TO THE ACADEMY OF MEDICINE
AND THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.

1. Glycerine, taken in doses of from 1 oz. to 1½ oz. per day, is a powerful aid to the advantageous effects of the special alimentary regimen.

2. The continuation of its use permits of considerable mitigation in the severity of that regimen.

3. Glycerine, if taken in suitable doses, is entirely absorbed into the system, without producing any organic disorders.

4. The prolonged use of glycerine, in the form of *liqueurs* and syrups, moderates and even prevents the formation of sugar in the system.

P. GARNIER.



PREPARATIONS:

LIQUEUR CURAÇAO.

— **PEPPERMINT.**

SIROP GARNIER.

These preparations unite to the agreeable qualities of good productions the merit of being excellent anti-diabetic remedies.

METHOD OF USAGE.

From $1\frac{1}{4}$ oz. to $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz. to be taken daily, thus :

A wineglass-full of *liqueur* after breakfast and dinner.

A glass of syrup diluted with water, which is very agreeable for quenching the thirst, in the morning, before breakfast, or during the day.

P. GARNIER, Noyon.

DEPOTS:

CAMP, at Vichy.

BASTIEN, 9, Rue Saint-Martin, Paris.

GARNIER'S LIQUEURS AND SYRUP

10 shillings per Bottle of 36 ounces.

Paris.—Printed by E. Brière, 275, rue Saint-Honoré.

PREPARATION

LITHIUM CITRATE.

PREPARATION

AND

These preparations have been prepared in accordance with the directions of the British Pharmacopoeia and are of high purity and of uniform strength.

METHOD OF USE

From 12 to 14 grains to be taken three times a day.

1. The solution of the Lithium Citrate is to be taken with water.

2. The solution of the Lithium Citrate is to be taken with water, and the solution of the Lithium Citrate is to be taken with water, and the solution of the Lithium Citrate is to be taken with water.

P. L. LITHIUM CITRATE.

PREPARATION

AND

PREPARATION

BARNES'S LITHIUM AND SODIUM

These preparations have been prepared in accordance with the directions of the British Pharmacopoeia and are of high purity and of uniform strength.

These preparations have been prepared in accordance with the directions of the British Pharmacopoeia and are of high purity and of uniform strength.