

The natural history of lac, amber, and myrrh : with a plain account of the many excellent virtues these three medicinal substances are naturally possessed of, and well adapted for the cure of various diseases incident to the human body: and a restorative balsamic tincture ... / By John Cook.

Contributors

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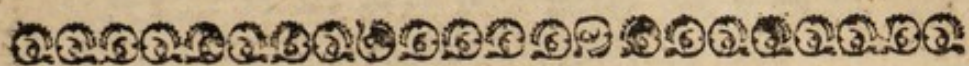
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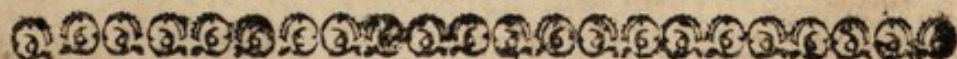


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THE
NATURAL HISTORY
OF
LAC, AMBER, and MYRRH.

[Price Six-pence.]



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THE
NATURAL HISTORY
OF
LAC, AMBER, and MYRRH;

WITH A

Plain Account of the many excellent Virtues
these three Medicinal Substances are naturally
possessed of, and well adapted for the Cure of
various Diseases incident to the Human Body:

AND A

RESTORATIVE BALSAMIC TINCTURE,
which in many extraordinary Cases gives speedy Re-
lief, as are fully described in the following Treatise.

In universum, nemo probè uti possit medicamento com-
posito, qui simplicium vires priùs non accuratè didi-
cerit.

GALEN *de Comp. lib. I.*

By JOHN COOK, M. D.
Of LEIGH, in ESSEX.

L O N D O N :

Sold by Mr. WOODFALL, Charing-Cross ; Mr. PAR-
KER, New Bond-Street ; Mr. FLEXNEY, in Hol-
bourn ; Mr. DILLY, in the Poultry ; and Mr. JACOB,
opposite the Monument.

MDCCLXX.

THE

NATURAL HISTORY

OF

LAC AMBER, and MYRIN

WITH A

This Account of the many excellent Virtues
these three Mineral Substances are naturally
possessed of, and well adapted for the Cure of
various Diseases, is added to the former Part.

AND A

RESTORATIVE SALADIC TINCTURE,
which is a most powerful Remedy for
all the Disorders of the Urinary Tract.

In the Appendix is added a full and
complete Account of the several
Mineral Waters of the Kingdom of
France.

By JOHN COOK, M.D.

Physician in Ordinary

to His Majesty King George III.

LONDON

Printed by W. Woodfall, Stationer, No. 15, St. Paul's Church-yard, London.
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MDCCLXX



P R E F A C E.

A PREFACE is become so very common, that a Book looks naked without one. It puts me in mind of the stone steps before the door that introduces one into the building.

My end in this piece is to recommend simple, or but little compounded medicines, in order to cure the many calamities incident to human bodies.

For the best rule in all cases of physic is, to answer the end by exhibiting as few medicines as possible, and never to make a
cure

cure worse than the disease. Such fair practice will always procure the best reputation amongst those whose applause is most valuable, and ever honourably support the dignity of the profession; and what is above all, secure the satisfaction of a Good Conscience, which jewel, when a Doctor is departing hence, is more valuable than all worldly riches.

Wherefore I would recommend such plain remedies as are either simple, or, when there happens a necessity for compounds, are made up of no more ingredients than are absolutely requisite to answer the indications, and the scope of the physician.

This sort of simple, or but lightly compounded, remedies I always prefer in my practice before those pompous compositions, wherein some men seem to have hoped to surmount diseases by the mere dint of the multitude of ingredients; and
that

that I do upon these few following reasons :

1. It is less difficult to foresee the operation of a simple, than of a very compound medicine ; so that a physician may proceed more securely in using the former than the latter sort of remedies.

2. Another superior advantage of simple medicines is, that they are more safe to the patient than compounded ones, especially if he be a valetudinarian.

3. Another benefit accruing from the use of simple medicines is, that thereby the patient may, without burdening his stomach, or nauseating the remedy, take a larger dose of the prescription, or of that ingredient of it wherein the virtue chiefly resides.

For whereas physicians are sometimes obliged to stint themselves in the dose of
the

the medicine, for fear of disgusting the patient, or oppressing his stomach, where there are many things heaped together in a moderate dose of one compounded medicine, those ingredients that are either superfluous, or at least are less efficacious, must necessarily take up a considerable part of that determinate dose, and consequently leave much the less of the more appropriated, or useful, ingredients.

4. The fourth thing that may recommend the use of simpler medicines is, That they are cheaper, and more easy to be procured than compound ones. This assertion is so self-evident as to need but little proof; and where several simples are required, one or more of them may oftentimes be difficult to be got, and all of them will still be troublesome, if not chargeable to be fetched, and to be made up in a composition.

Wherefore

Wherefore *Parable Remedies* *, as BOYLE calls them, are very handy, and useful, easily obtained, without applying to the apothecaries shops (which are not every where near, nor always furnished with them), as those of other tradesmen. Thus with bricklayers or masons we meet with quicklime, whose bare infusion in water, about a pound to a gallon, is of itself a good medicine for the scurvy, diarrhœas, diabetes, &c. and may be made the basis of several other good remedies, for inward, and outward uses besides.

Thus lintseed oil, oil of turpentine, expressed oil of walnuts, Venice soap, water that has stood long on filings of iron, tar-water, and several other such, are all good, ready, and effectual remedies in the hands of the skilful,

Lastly, I wish physicians would employ simple medicines as much as conveniently

* Are such medicines as are easily procured, as being always prepared ready at hand.



P R E F A C E.

may be, as that method is one of the likeliest ways (and perhaps little less than absolutely necessary) to promote the practical knowledge of the *Materia Medica*. For whilst in one receipt a multitude of ingredients are mingled, if not confounded, it is almost impossible to know with any certainty, to which of the simples the good or bad effects of the remedy is to be attributed, or whether it be not produced by a power resulting from the particular qualities of all of them united into one temperament, and by its means acting conjointly, and, as the school-men speak, *per modum unius*.

So that by this complex way of heaping up, or blending, many simples into one compound remedy, I see not how, in many cases, men will be able to discover the true qualities, good or bad, of particular bodies, that are comprised under the name of *Materia Medica*; whereas when a physician often employs a simple, and observes the effect of it, the relief or prejudice

judice of the patient may very probably, if not with medical certainty, be ascribed to the good, or bad, qualities of that particular remedy ; and this I avouch of my own knowledge from long practice (being near Sixty-five years of age), is the real case with the four neat, safe, and cheap medicines described in the following Treatise ; and as such I sincerely recommend them to the Public, hoping they will prove a blessing to the afflicted, who stand in need of such assistance.

JOHN COOK.

London, over-against the
Monument, Sept. 12th, 1769.

index of the present day very probably
it may be the most certain, because
to the good of the quality of the par-
ticular remedy, and the I myself of my
own knowledge from long practice (being
near sixty-five years of age) in the real case
with the four best, late, and old, and in-
crease described in the following (to wit)
and as such I have very much improved them
to the public, hoping they will find a
place in the office, who find it need-
ful to be able to

JOHN COOK.

London, over against the
the end of the street, near the

THE
NATURAL HISTORY
OF
LAC, AMBER, and MYRRH.

Corporis Auxilium Medico committe fidei.

C H A P I.

L A C.

- I. *The natural history of Gum Lac.*
- II. *Its excellent Virtues.*
- III. *The manner of taking it.*

I. **L** A C, improperly called Gum Lac, is a kind of wax of a red colour, collected in the East Indies by certain insects, and deposited on sticks fastened for this purpose in the earth. It is brought over to us either adhering to the sticks, or in small transparent grains, or in semi-transparent flat cakes: the first is called Stick Lac; the second, Seed Lac; and the third, Shell Lac, of which our sealing wax, when coloured with vermillion, is generally made.

On

On breaking a piece of Stick Lac, it appears composed of regular cells, like the honey-comb, with small corpuscles of a deep red colour lodged in them : these are the young insects, and to these it is the Lac owes its tincture ; for, when freed from them, its colour is very dilute. The Shell and Seed Lacs, which do not exhibit any insects or cellular appearance upon breaking, are supposed to be artificial preparations of the other : the Seed sort is said to be Stick Lac bruised and robbed of its more subtile parts ; and the Shell to be the Seed Lac melted, and formed into cakes. The Stick Lac is therefore the genuine sort, and ought alone to be employed for medicinal purposes. This concrete is of great esteem in Germany, and other countries, for laxity and sponginess of the gums proceeding from cold, or scorbutic habit. For this use, the Lac is boiled in water with the addition of a little Allum, which promotes its solution ; or a tincture made from it with rectified spirit. This tincture is recommended also internally for seminal weakness, and in rheumatic and scorbutic disorders. It has a grateful smell, and not an unpleasant, bitterish, astringent taste. The principal use of Lac among us is in certain mechanic arts, as a colouring drug, and for making sealing-wax ; but my solution of its substance renders it an excellent medicine, and inferior to none for the diseases under the next Head specified.

II. The virtues of the Essence of Lac, as prepared by my directions, and under my inspection, by Mr. John Jacob, Chymist and Druggist, opposite the Monument, London, as are all the others here following, are many and excellent.

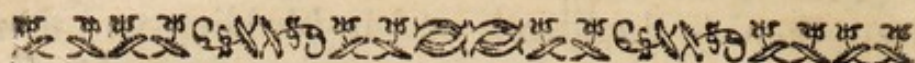
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This solution of Lac is extraordinary for strengthening the gums, and in bleeding and scorbutic exulcerations of them, mixed up with honey of roses. Internally, it is a grand specific against the scurvy, and corroborant in female weaknesses. Its warmth, pungency, and manifestly astringent bitterish taste, point out its virtues in these cases to be considerable. Tho' common practice among us has not yet received it.

It is the very best medicine known in nature in that Species of the Scurvy which proceeds from putrefaction, where the vessels are weak and infirm, or in part eat away by the acrimony of the distemper, and the breath smells foetid.

This excellent, safe, and cheap medicine will cure the Scurvy alone, where curable, if taken for some time, without the fatigue, trouble, and charge, of many, repeated, compound prescriptions or preparations. In short, the blood must be impregnated therewith, without which no cure, either from this or any other, tho' the very best medicine, can reasonably be expected.

III. The dose is from 20 to 30 drops to children, two or three times a day, for whose rickets it is an excellent remedy; and to grown people from 60 to 80 drops, or more, in a glass of sack, brandy, or herb tea.



CHAP. II.

A M B E R

I. *The natural history of Amber.*II. *Its excellent Virtues.*III. *The Method of taking it.*

AMBER is a solid, brittle, bituminous substance, dug out of the earth, or found upon the sea-shore. The largest quantities are met with along the coast of Polish Prussia, and Pomerania. It is of a white, yellow, or brown colour, sometimes opake, and sometimes very clear, and transparent. The dark coloured and opake sorts, by digestion with certain expressed oils, and animal fats, become clearer and paler coloured, more pellucid, and considerably harder.

Amber, boiled in water, neither softens, or undergoes any sensible alteration; exposed to a greater heat, without addition, it melts into a black mass, like some of the more common Bitumens; set on fire, its smell resembles that which arises from the finer kind of pit-coal; distilled in a retort, it yields an oil of a peculiar strong smell, and a volatile acidulous salt, which, when purified, is an excellent diuretic.

Amber, in substance, has very little smell, or taste; and, if taken inwardly, ever so finely powdered, passes through the body, very little, if any thing, changed; and hence it has by some been reckoned a mere inactive earthy body.

It

It was formerly, but erroneously, accounted an absorbent, and as such had a place in the compound powder of crabs claws : it certainly has no title to this class of medicines, as being acted upon by any Acid. It is supposed to be of service in the *fluor albus*, hysteric affections, &c. and in these intentions it is sometimes exhibited in the form of impalpable powder to the quantity of a Dram ; but I cannot see to what good effect, as it is in substance indigestible by the power of the stomach ; but by being rendered potable by my chemical preparation, it answers those ends most effectually. Boerhaave extols a solution of this drug, as having incredible efficacy in all those distempers which proceed from weakness and relaxation, and in hypochondriacal, hysterical, and cold languid cases. In short, this preparation proves a very excellent aromatic balsam, which, at present, is one of the useful obtainables from this singular concrete.

It was long controverted, what kind of substance Amber was, and whether it belonged to the vegetable, animal, or mineral kingdom : but now it is generally allowed to be a bituminous juice, or resin, which from a *fluor* grows hard, and brittle ; for that it was once in a state of fluidity, is evident from the several parcels thereof, which contain inclosed insects of various kinds therein. The whitest and most transparent is reckoned the best. It is of no service in medicine *per se*, as its tincture, like that of Lac, is too compact to open, and yield to the natural elaborations of the stomach.

Amber is produced plentifully in Russia, which is famous for being the proper and native country
C of

of it. Though this singular Bitumen be generated in the earth, there is plenty of it found in the Baltic, by the shore of Ludvic, where it swims on the water, and is carried along by the waves, whence it is taken up in nets.

The places most remarkable for Amber, are the villages of Filch-hausen, Gros-ducstein, Wenichen, and Palmoniet; nor even is this amber produced from the sea, but in tempestuous agitations of the waters is washed out of the bowels of the earth by the waves, and at last thrown towards the shores: very properly then may this bituminous body be reckoned at last in the class of minerals; for it is a product of the earth, and contained within its proper veins, as well as pit-coal, or other minerals are.

The courses of these veins were discovered some years ago, by order of king Frederic, in the following manner. In digging, they first met with sand, which being removed, the next thing that offered was a stratum of white clay. Digging under this, they opened a lignineous stratum that seemed compacted of old wood, which, however, could be set on flame. Under the bottom of this stratum, in most parts, they found ore of vitriol, which, being exposed to the open air, shot forth into flowers of vitriol, free from the least tincture of copper, and like those which proceed from the Hessian iron ore. At last, digging still deeper, they came upon a stratum of sand, out of which in several places, with convenient instruments, they extracted abundance of choice Amber: for it is a thing worthy observation, that sand is usually the matrix of Amber.

After

After the same manner do they get it out of the Marcasite near Kastrin; and in the territories of Stolpen, and Dantzic, it is also found in Lumps. Hence appears the falsity of the old fable, which would have us believe that Amber is the resin of trees, which distils from their bark into the sea, and is there digested by the sun into a substance of that kind.

The true manner in which this Bitumen is generated, seems to be this: From that bituminous fossile wood, just now mentioned, by the accession of the subterranean heat, there distils an oil much like Naphtha, or Petroleum, which in penetrating the subjacent strata passes through the vitriolic ores, whereby mixing with its acid, it is coagulated into a substance of a regular form.

The reasonableness of which opinion will appear from these following considerations: That Amber at its first growth was Liquid, is proved from its being often seen conglobated by nature itself in a round form; from insects being included therein; which could never have been, had not the matter they are circumvolved in been liquid. That Amber is a concretion of an oil much like Petroleum is plain, because oil of Amber comes near to Petroleum both in smell and virtue, and both are equally difficult to be dissolved by the most rectified spirit. And Charlton, a sagacious observer of nature, affirms, that pieces of this bitumen have been frequently found, which hold Naphtha and Petroleum included within them. Besides, acid salt of Amber is of a very fixed nature, and not inferior in virtue to the acid of Vitriol. And lastly, what will afford great light

in this affair is, Those physical experiments in which it is observed, that all distilled oils, scarce one excepted, and amongst them aromatick oils, being mixed with oil of vitriol, or pretty strong Aqua-fortis, condense into a resiniform mass, which, when held to the fire, is readily set on flame. And what is more still, fossile wood, and coals by distillation, and rectification, yield an oil very like oil of Amber, and Petroleum, or oil of peter; and which the very disposition of the strata abovesaid, is also a good proof in this matter.

II. Many are the excellent virtues of Amber, especially when taken inwardly, in a cold state of the Brain, in Catarrhs, in the Head-ach, sleepy and convulsive disorders; in the suppression of the menses, hysterical and hypochondriacal affections; and in hæmorrhages, or bleedings.

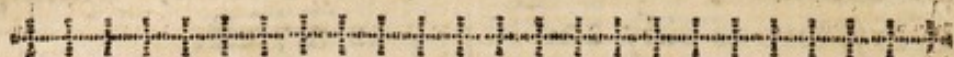
In all weakness of the nerves, tremblings, and lax constitutions, (which the extraordinary moisture of our climate renders most people, more or less, subject to) where those instruments of sensation are relaxed, or unbraced, it is salutary. And it is even good for old age also; as well as in all cases where a purulent matter is formed in the body, or any foul inward ulcer in the lungs, kidneys, or elsewhere, wants to be cleansed; likewise in the epilepsy, or falling sickness; upon which accounts it was justly recommended by the late Van Helmont, who greatly increased his reputation by its means. And there was a physician, who became very famous from this single medicine alone, and continued in great repute so long as he kept it a secret, which, indeed, is not my talent, but to render all useful things that I know
of

of common, for the good of the Public, wishing every one as easy and happy as myself.

III. Externally, Amber is used as a fumigation. The fumes of it received at the mouth are often found successful in the beginning of quinsys; a falling down of the uvula, or palate of the mouth; or swelling of the tonsils; for a catarrh, or running at the nose, and eyes.

Applied to wounds, and ulcers of all sorts, it excellently deterges or cleanses them when foul, and heals them. Several have justly recommended Amber as a great preservative of health, and long life, for which I intend to enter upon a course thereof myself: and surely, when once a physician takes his own medicine, the patient need never be afraid to follow the example.

The dose is 60 or 80 drops for grown persons, two or three times a day, in any liquid.



C H A P. III.

M Y R R H.

I. *The natural history of Myrrh.*II. *Its many excellent Virtues.*III. *The Manner of taking it.*

I. **M**YRRH is a concrete, gummy, resinous juice, brought from the East-Indies in globes, or drops of various colours and magnitudes. The best sort is of a brown or reddish yellow colour, somewhat transparent; of a light, pungent, bitter taste, with an aromatic flavour; though not sufficient to prevent its proving nauseous to the palate; and a strong, though not disagreeable smell.

The medical effects of this aromatic bitter are to warm and strengthen the viscera, or bowels, and dissolve thick tenacious juices. It frequently occasions a mild diaphoresis, and promotes the fluid secretions in general. Hence it proves serviceable in languid cases; diseases arising from a simple inactivity; those female disorders which proceed from a cold, mucous, sluggish indisposition of the humours; suppressions of the uterine discharges; cachectic disorders, which proceed from cold.

Myrrh, I say, is a resinous gum, that comes from some parts of Arabia and Æthiopia. Fuchs-
sius

fius with others distrusts the officinal Myrrh being genuine, because it answers not Dioscorides' character of it; but Bauhin and Perkinson judge otherways.

The Staete of the ancients was a kind of liquid myrrh, which Pliny relates to have flowed from a tree of its own accord; but Dioscorides affirms to have been a solution, and expression of the true Myrrh with water; which latter opinion is also supported by Codrus.

That which is most clear, brittle, light, and fragrant of smell, is best. It is of great use in medicine, so as to enter into compositions almost of all intentions. It is warm, and bitter, and on that account is helpful to the stomach. It will frequently by a prudent administration remove agues: in malignant and pestilential fevers, it has ever been reckoned excellent, and in times of the plague people carry it about them, and chew it to prevent infection. It is of manifest service in ripening the small-pox, especially that sort where the pustules rise with a pellucid humour.

Its bitter taste makes it difficult in such cases to give to children, otherwise there is nothing more safe, and efficacious; as likewise in abating that restlessness arising from tickling defluxions of rheum; and by the same quality it is good in all catarrhs. Its peculiar bitterness makes it effectual against worms, and the *Elixir Proprietatis* is much the better medicine for what it has of this in its composition.

II. As to the many excellent virtues of the essence of myrrh, as prepared from my directions, they are admirable; and it makes a medicine, which no common simple infusion in spiritus (the method

method the tincture is generally made by) can any ways come up to. It is good in all cases where both the *primæ* and *secundæ viæ*, that is, the first and second passages, are to be opened; any foul or corrupt humour to be deterged; or the animal juices stand in need of a balsam to preserve them from dissolution, or putrefaction.

It is principally used in all female weakneses, or where Nature deviates with the sex. It is also good for infarction, or obstructions of the lungs, hoarseness, coughs, quinsies, pleurifies, colics, and for worms, and internal decays.

Hence it proves highly serviceable when ulcers are seated in the kidneys, and the bowels, &c. It is of wonderful efficacy in almost all distempers peculiar to the fair sex, that proceed from a cold and watery cause, or too great a laxity or flabbiness of the vessels, as particularly in that disagreeable exulceration of the vessels of the womb, which causes the *fluor albus*. It may also be of great service in cases of sterility, or barrenness.

It also proves of service in tertian and quartan agues.

Its external uses in surgery are no less considerable than its internal in other parts of medicine. It powerfully deterges or clears fistulas, and it effectually cures most wounds and ulcers; for outwardly applied, it is a great detergent: wherefore Ruilandus compounds it in many plasters, and our own surgeons mostly use it now in their dressings.

Myrrh makes an excellent dentifrice, and keeps the gums from wasting, or being offensive. But its most celebrated virtues are its being both a great cleanser and strengthener of the uterus.

It

It provokes the menses, forwards delivery, and is indeed good in all hysterical affections.

The famous oil of Myrrh *per deliquium*, or melting, is made by putting gum myrrh in fine powder in the excavated hollow in the white of a hard boiled egg, and setting them in a moist cellar till the Myrrh dissolves. This indeed is the only menstruum yet known, besides my own here used in making the essence of Myrrh, that can well dissolve it.

In the scurvy, attended with corruption of the gums, and a loss of their substance, it serves to stop the growing evil, and preserves them from further injury; and it is justly held in great esteem for keeping clean the tendons, periosteum, and most kinds of ulcers.

In fine, the medicinal virtues of Myrrh have ever been esteemed so great, that all Antiquity was employed in finding out ways to dissolve it, though not with any extraordinary success, as now we have at last happily hit upon; for it is exceeding difficult of solution, without which, as a medicine, it cannot do any good; for if taken into the body, or even the other two substances, viz. Lac and Amber, though reduced to ever so fine a powder, it is not digested by the force of the stomach, but is vented as crude as when taken in.

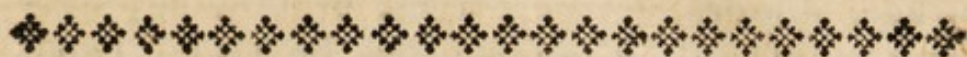
Hence Van Helmont tells us in his Treatise of Long Life, that he who can render Myrrh soluble by the body, has the secret of prolonging his days. And indeed there seems to be some truth in the assertion, since it cures most desperate ulcers, and prevents all manner of putrefaction in the human body, and animal substances.

D

Thus,

Thus, for instance, was a bird, or any other small animal, or an insect, to be dipped several times successively in the tincture of Myrrh, it would soon be perfectly penetrated, or embalmed thereby, and converted into a kind of Egyptian mummy, capable of remaining entire for numerous ages; which is an operation that, in the common way of embalming, cannot be so well performed in the space of many months.

III. The dose is from 15 to 50 drops, or more, in any herb-tea, twice or thrice a day.



C H A P. IV.

B A L S A M I C T I N C T U R E.

*The character of A CORROBORATING BALSAMIC
TINCTURE, prepared by my direction.*

IT far excels the *Balsamum Traumaticum* of the shops, Fryer's and Vervain's famous balsams, Beaume de Vie, and even Turlington's Balsam of Life, the many singular virtues of which are these following.

It is a good remedy against the wind colic, and the sciatica; for a weak stomach caused by phlegm; to ease pain; expel sand, and subulous matter from the kidneys, beyond belief; to repair strength, and prolong life.

Externally it cures the tooth-ach, or gives ease when violent, proceeding from a caries, or rottenness; or from a flux of sharp serum, if applied to the gums with a bit of cotton. It also cures wounds, ulcers, and bruises, and is excellent for seminal weakness in both sexes.

This Tincture is also an excellent pectoral, and cures coughs, and stitches; it gives great relief likewise in the asthma; nor is it a contemptible medicine in rheumatic and gouty disorders, especially if mixed with equal quantity of the *Balsamum Guajacinum*.

It

It recovers strength to those who are weakened by age, diseases, hæmorrhages, or bleeding, outward or inward, if a few drops be taken twice or thrice a day in a morning, or before meals.

It has a singular efficacy in diseases of the head, and debilities of the nerves, particularly in loss of memory, the palsey, *gutta serena*, hardness of hearing, and dullness of the senses. In these disorders, and for want of virility, it may be likewise applied outwardly, and frequently, to foreheads, temples, and perinæum, with a piece of linen cloth doubled. It is not less effectual in the vertigo, obstinate head-ach, and *hemicrania*, when used both inwardly, and outwardly; especially if the cause lies in the *primæ viæ*, or first passages, and proper regard be had thereto.

Nothing can equal it in fainting-fits; for it gives fresh vigour to the heart, and promotes the circulation of the blood by both taking it inwardly, and by applying a little of it to the region of the heart.

It has not its equal in diseases of the stomach and intestines, and all weakness thereof; wherefore in nauseas, decayed appetite, vomiting, too great a slipperiness of the intestines, it yields immediate relief. In the inflation of the stomach, a symptom of the hypocondriac affection, when applied to the region of the stomach with hot flannel, it gives present ease.

It prevents chronic diseases from suppressed perspiration, and a sluggish circulation of the blood; such as the cachexy, scurvy, dropsy, stone in the kidneys, bladder, and moist asthma. It likewise promotes the excretion, or discharge of impure humours, and prevents their accumulation in the body.

body. When epidemical, and putrid diseases are frequent, proceeding from too moist and nebulous state of the air, it will be proper to take a few drops every morning, in any liquid.

Externally, it heals putrid ulcers of the gums, and other parts. In weakness of the joints proceeding from the gout, or rheumatism, if the weak parts are frequently anointed therewith, it will restore them to their pristine vigour.

In the troublesome symptoms of pregnant women, it has very salutary effects. If the woman is low and weak, it promotes child-birth by restoring the decay of strength, unless any thing else contraindicates, as no medicine, though ever so excellent, can be fit for every thing; nor is this for high, plethoric, hot, sanguine constitutions.

In short, this preparation, of all balsamic tinctures of the kind, has surely the justest right to that grand title of BALSAM OF LIFE, and it is great pity any private family should be one day without it.

The dose is from 40 to 60 drops, three times a day, in any liquor, in a morning fasting, an hour before dinner, and at going to bed.

N. B. In taking any of the foregoing medicines, a little air and exercise will be serviceable, and the patient is desired to abstain from high-seasoned food, rich sauces and salted meat, which are generally disagreeable to the stomach, and hard to digest.

CON-

C O N C L U S I O N.

I N general these three Chemical Essences, and the Balsamic Tincture, are all excellent in their kind. They are balsamic, healing, corroborating, exhilarating, deobstruent, and when taken in a large dose even purgative. They are proper in all climates, and seasons, and to all ages, and are as good, and effectual after many years keeping, as when first prepared.

They all, and each one, greatly resist putrefaction in the body ; brace up the relaxed, or slackened nerves ; serve to drain off superfluous humours ; to cure distempers proceeding from a cold, viscid, or pituitous cause in the joints, or inactivity of the vessels ; and are of very great use in various cases of surgery also.

And what may still be farther added to the recommendation of medicines taken in this form preferable to those under any other, is, that the dose is reduced to a very small volume, or quantity, and puts the stomach, and bowels, to no trouble to digest them. They are both light and pleasant, cheap, and easy to be taken, and pass unchanged by the digestive faculty directly into the blood, to act immediately both on the solids and fluids of our bodies, which is more than can be said of most other medicines taken inwardly, that either lose much of their virtue in undergoing through a long course the digestive power of the parts they pass ; or if they consist of principles rigid, or indigestible, act too violently on the first passages to afford any assistance to the human frame.

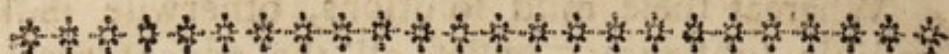
Whereas

Whereas these mild solutions, otherwise indigestible substances, possess all the advantages of safe and salutary medicines, without being subject to any of the inconveniencies of the other; and which, as such, I most conscientiously recommend to both rich, and poor, without fraud, or sinister design, for the benefit of the Public.

JOHN COOK, M. D.

of LEIGH in ESSEX.

F I N I S.



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