

most desperate flooding cases. It may well be doubted, however, whether beyond its emetic effect ipecacuanha exerts any influence over uterine hæmorrhage. Zinc would probably answer equally well. Dr. George Bird tells me that he once witnessed, in the case of a Syrian Jewess, the prompt suppression of flooding by her attendant, who crammed down the patient's throat a handful of her hair. Probably the mechanical excitation of vomiting would prove useful in flooding.

Trousseau recommended ipecacuanha to be taken for some days immediately after childbirth as a useful means to promote the natural functions peculiar to that time.

Ipecacuanha acts most surely as an emetic when given in divided doses at short intervals; as five grains in a little warm water every five or ten minutes.

**VERATRUM VIRIDE.
VERATRUM ALBUM.
VERATRIA.**

VERATRIA ointment excites a sensation of warmth and pricking followed by coldness. Unless applied for some time it does not excite inflammation, but then it produces a red itching rash. It is a very valuable remedy for neuralgia, and like aconite has most influence over neuralgia of the fifth nerve. An ointment of the pharmacopœial strength is generally strong enough when applied to the face, but in other neuralgias a stronger ointment is required. Dr. Turnbull, who largely employed veratria ointment, used a preparation containing twenty and sometimes even forty grains to the ounce. These strong ointments not uncommonly prove very useful in sciatica when rubbed along the course of pain for twenty minutes to half an hour twice or three times a day. This strong ointment is sometimes useful in the neuralgic pain

consequent shingles. The susceptibility to its action varies; thus, in some persons numbness and a sensation of coldness is easily produced, and may last several days.

Like aconitia ointment, it is often useful in sick headache, where the pain is accompanied and followed by tenderness of the skin. It should be well rubbed over the seat of pain on the very commencement of the attack. It excites less irritation and sometimes succeeds better than the aconite, often very quickly subduing the pain and preventing the vomiting, and reducing the duration of an attack to one or two hours, or even a few minutes, while previous to the veratria treatment it used to last one, two, or three days.

Dr. Turnbull used a strong ointment to rheumatic joints, and no doubt it relieves some cases, although, unfortunately, it more generally fails.

Turnbull also applied the ointment to the chest of patients suffering from heart disease, with rapid irregular pulse, hurried breathing, much lividity and dropsy, palpitation and inability to lie down—to cases indeed usually benefited by digitalis. The ointment not uncommonly relieved these symptoms, the patients passing a large quantity of urine, even six pints a day. He maintains that it acts differently on the system when absorbed by the skin than when administered by the mouth. He likewise employed a strong ointment to the painful joints at the onset of an attack of gout. Care must be taken, especially with the stronger ointments, not to apply them to the broken skin, or they will excite much pain and inflammation.

When sniffed up the nose the smallest quantity excites violent sneezing, sometimes lasting for hours.

Mr. Bullock, of Philadelphia, describes two alkaloids existing in veratrum viride, called respectively veridia and veratroidia; one soluble, the other insoluble, in ether. According to Horatio Wood they differ greatly in their action on the body. Both depress the pulse and Dr. Wood thinks the functions likewise of the spinal cord. Veridia is but slightly, if at all, a topical irritant, and neither purges nor vomits.

Veratroidia is somewhat irritant, and is an emetic, and sometimes is cathartic: Neither alkaloid affects the brain.

In large doses the veratrum preparations produce nausea and vomiting sometimes severe and prolonged. *V. viride* is said to act often as a purgative, but this is far from being frequently the case, even after doses large enough to cause great prostration and vomiting. *Veratrum album* is said to be more purgative than *V. viride*. These effects occur when the medicine is injected under the skin (Oulmont). In animals poisoned by veratrum no trace existed of inflammation of the intestines.

The active principles of these substances pass readily into the blood, as is sufficiently proved by the symptoms they occasion; dull, heavy, frontal headache, sometimes accompanied by shooting or stabbing pain over one or both brows, in the pit of the stomach, and at the region of the heart. The heart is greatly affected; for the pulse grows slow and weak, and may sink from 70 or 80 to 40 or 35 beats in the minute, becoming at the same time so weak as to be scarcely felt at the wrist. Pushed to the full extent this drug prostrates greatly the muscular strength, to the extent, perhaps of rendering walking impossible, and the muscles may twitch and jerk spasmodically. The surface is bedewed with a clammy sweat, the features are pinched, and there may be complete blindness and deafness, but delirium is rare. Dangerous as these symptoms appear, yet if the drug is discontinued they speedily pass away. Some self-experimenters have experienced dull, aching pains, made worse by movement, and tonic and atonic contractions of the muscles, sometimes violent, especially of the face and extremities. This substance has the same prostrating effect on birds, and in America is sometimes used to destroy these animals; it makes them too weak to fly, and thus they are easily caught; but if left awhile, the effects of the drug pass off, and they escape.

Veratrum has been compared, on the one hand to *digitalis*; on the other, to *aconite*. Like *digitalis*, it is said to strengthen the contractions of the heart, and to weaken them

only when the dose is excessive. The properties of veratrum appear to be more allied to those of *aconite*.

Kölliker's experiments lead him to conclude that veratria excites the medulla oblongata and spinal cord, producing slight transient tetanic convulsions; that it directly affects the striped muscles, paralyzing them, but that probably it does not affect the brain, the sensory, or motor nerves. He further believes that it paralyzes the heart by its direct action on that organ, and not through the pneumo-gastric nerve; for after destroying the functions of this nerve by curare, veratria still paralyzed the heart.

Dr. Paul Guttman has investigated minutely the physiological action of veratria injected under the skin, or swallowed. A very small quantity soon excites in frogs heightened reflex irritability, powerful muscular contraction being excited by the movements of the animal, or by irritation. The frog soon becomes tetanized, while voluntary movement and muscular contractility on galvanic stimulation become quickly abolished, the brain apparently remaining unaffected. Veratria produces paralysis, likewise, in warm-blooded animals, but tetanus very rarely, these animals dying either from respiratory or cardiac paralysis. The general paralysis of the voluntary muscles is not owing to muscular exhaustion produced by powerful tetanic contractions; for paralysis is produced in warm-blooded animals without tetanus, and in frogs muscular contractility is lost in limbs protected from tetanus by division of their nerves; for on severing the femoral nerve the muscles lose their irritability equally as soon as those of a limb with an unsevered nerve, although, owing to the division of the femoral nerve, no tetanic convulsions in the limb took place. Further, by tying the abdominal aorta to protect the posterior extremities from the influence of the poisoned blood, they became tetanized, but retained their irritability for a considerable time. The paralysis is not owing to any alteration in the trunks of the motor nerves; for, so long as the muscles contract under direct galvanic stimulation, so long do the nerves conduct impressions to the muscles. The loss of motion de-

pend, therefore, either on changes produced in the muscles or in the terminations of the motor nerves. As the motor nerve trunks are unaffected, and nerve poisons spread either centripetally, like curare or conia, or centrifugally, like the cyanides, there being no known instance of a poison affecting solely one end of a nerve, veratria probably affects the muscles, and not the terminations of the motor nerves. The rapid occurrence of rigor mortis and acid reaction of the muscles makes it probable that veratria kills the muscles; for these phenomena do not set in early after nerve-poisoning. Veratria induces rigor as soon as muscular irritability is destroyed. Veratria produces no morphological change in the muscles till rigor mortis sets in.

As veratria affects the frog's heart much less than the other muscles, and, as unlike the effect of most other cardiac poisons, the cessation of the heart's contractions takes place in physiological order, Guttman concludes that it is less markedly a heart-poison than many other poisons.

Veratrum has been said to lower the temperature in health; but according to Dr. Squarey's observations on University College Hospital patients, this is not the case.

Veratrum viride has been employed in the convulsions of children, chorea, typhoid fever, scarlet fever, measles, pneumonia, and pleurisy. In regard to pneumonia and pleurisy, some authorities consider that veratrum is useful only in the sthenic forms, acting then like tartar emetic or aconite; others, however, as confidently recommend this remedy in the asthenic forms. The numerous published cases tend to support the efficacy of this remedy in pneumonia. Out of forty cases published by Dr. Kieman, five died, making a percentage of 12.5; but of these some were in a desperate condition before undergoing treatment, so that the percentage is probably higher than it would have been had the medicine been employed at the beginning of the attack. Dr. Drasche has recorded seventy-three cases, showing the beneficial effect of this remedy. It greatly lessened the pulse, and lowered the temperature from 1° to 3° C., quieted the breath-

ing, changed the character of the expectoration to a light yellow colour and rendered it scantier, and calmed the patients. It did not appear to shorten the acute stage, but seemed even to lengthen it. This observer states, that veratrum retards the resolution of the lung, and sometimes produces vomiting of watery grass-green fluid, and occasionally diarrhoea. On discontinuing the remedy before the decline of the disease, the pulse again immediately rises. The experience of others, though favourable to the veratrum treatment, has not been so successful; indeed, it is obvious how very difficult it is to ascertain whether the effects attributed to it were really due to the veratrum. According to some observers, veratrum reduces the pulse, but often only temporarily, and if its effects are to be maintained, it must be given in increasing doses. Further, while it is admitted that the temperature is reduced, it is not lowered to the extent stated by Drasche, nor is the inflammation checked or shortened.

Typhoid fever, it is said, may be beneficially treated by veratrum.

Oulmont has pointed out that the alkaloid veratria will not produce on the body the effects just described, which must therefore be owing to some other constituent of the plant; hence the tincture, not the alkaloid, should be used.

In the treatment of the foregoing diseases it is better to give small doses, as one or two minims every hour, rather than larger ones at longer intervals. It has been pointed out already, that it is requisite to augment the dose gradually in order to keep the pulse down, otherwise it will sometimes suddenly rise to 120 or 140 beats, which, however, may be reduced again in a few hours by a small increase of the dose.

Veratrum is said to be efficacious in removing the pain of acute rheumatism, and in controlling and shortening the fever. It is also said to be of service in neuralgia, sciatica, and lumbago, and in the "congestive headache" which occurs at the menstrual period.

Veratrum album has been used with success in the vomiting and purging of summer diarrhoea.

COLCHICUM.

WHILE the physiological effects of colchicum are very similar to those of veratrum, yet one cannot be therapeutically substituted for the other.

Strong preparations of colchicum, applied to the skin, irritate, excite redness, pricking, and smarting, and the powder of the colchicum sniffed up the nose excites sneezing and watery discharge from the eyes and nose.

Colchicum is acrid to the taste, produces much irritation of the fauces, and increase of saliva, sometimes in such quantity as might well be termed salivation.

Colchicum is an irritant to the stomach and intestines, and produces its effects, whether swallowed, or injected into the veins.

Small doses, continued for some time, produce a coated tongue and disagreeable taste, impair the appetite, excite more or less thirst, with pain at the epigastrium, rumblings of the stomach, and looseness of the bowels.

Should vomiting occur, the ejected matters are bilious, or composed of mucus, and after a large dose may contain blood. The stools are soft, or even liquid, and of a high colour; but after a large or poisonous quantity they are at first of the character just mentioned, but afterwards become dysenteric, consisting of slime and blood, accompanied with much straining and cutting pains in the belly.

Colchicum is rarely used in diseases of the alimentary canal. It has been employed as a cholagogue, and, it is said, with success in cholera.

Colchicum, it is supposed, is most serviceable in both gout and rheumatism when it purges; but others hold purgation to be not only unnecessary but injurious; and there is no doubt that colchicum will as quickly cure an attack of gout without purging.

Colchicum quickly enters the blood, and in full doses soon excites warmth at the stomach, with a glow and outbreak of

perspiration of the whole surface of the body, throbbing of the vessels, and reduction of the force and frequency of the pulse.

Poisoning by this plant or its preparations produces profound prostration, sometimes pain in the head, pinched features, perspiring, clammy skin, small, weak, or intermittent quick pulse, and not unfrequently strong muscular twitchings, accompanied by pain; indeed, pains have been felt in all the extremities, and Dr. Henderson narrates a case in which most of the joints were painfully affected. Colchicum is said to cause pain in the urinary tract, with smarting on micturition.

After a quantity sufficient to produce the symptoms just detailed, the stomach and intestines are found much congested and inflamed.

It is reputed to be diuretic, and to stimulate, even in healthy persons, the secretion of a large quantity of urinary water and uric acid; but these statements have not been confirmed by the observations either of Böcker or Garrod, which show that if it acts at all on the kidneys, colchicum rather lessens the amount of excreted water, urea, and uric acid.

To Dr. Garrod the profession is indebted for an exact knowledge of the nature of gout. This philosophical observer has shown that in gout there is a retention, with possibly an increased formation, of uric acid in the system. From the urine of gouty patients, very little, or, in some cases, even no uric acid can be obtained, while plenty can be detected in their blood. The urates thus circulating through the tissues are deposited in various parts of the body, and excite active and painful inflammation.

Colchicum, it is well known, gives prompt relief from the pain, inflammation, and fever of gout. But how? Does colchicum cause the elimination of uric acid from the system through the kidneys, and so remove the condition on which the gout immediately depends? Now Dr. Garrod has experimentally shown that colchicum exerts no influence on the elimination of uric acid in gouty people. Colchicum must

therefore control gouty inflammation without in any way affecting the condition on which the gouty inflammation in the first instance depends. Colchicum, therefore, is merely palliative, removing for a time the patient's sufferings, but, as experience abundantly proves, in no way protecting him from their recurrence. For it is on all hands accepted that colchicum is inoperative to prevent a return of the attack; nay, many who suffer from it are of opinion that, while the medicine removes altogether an existing attack, it ensures the speedier return of another. Hence, gout-ridden people commonly advise their fellow-sufferers to abstain from colchicum. But a gouty sufferer is apt to continue gout-engendering habits, and to forget that, as he grows older, his gouty tendency grows stronger.

The effect of colchicum on the gouty inflammation is very rapid; for a large dose of the medicine, say a drachm of the wine, often removes the severest pain in the course of one or two hours, and soon after the swelling and heat subside. Some observations, conducted by Dr. Rickards and the author, show that, while the pain is thus quickly subdued, the temperature of the body falls very little during that day, but on the following morning there is generally a considerable decline, and often a return to the healthy temperature; but, should the fall be postponed a longer time, then on the second day after the use of the colchicum a continuous decline of the temperature takes place, till all fever disappears.

There are two methods of employing colchicum. Some give small doses, others give a drachm of the wine, others even two drachms at a time. The larger dose sometimes produces sickness, diarrhoea, and great temporary weakness, but it extinguishes the pain at once. Small doses give like results only after some days.

Colchicum is sometimes of use in the treatment of various diseases occurring in gouty persons: for instance, bronchitis, asthma, chronic urticaria and other eruptions, dyspepsia, etc.

Seeing the rapid effect of colchicum on gouty inflammation, it is singular how little influence this drug manifests on other kinds of inflammations, as pneumonia, erysipelas, or acute rheumatism. Many employ it in acute rheumatism, some giving it in the synovial, others in the fibrous form of rheumatism.

PODOPHYLLUM.

PODOPHYLLUM is a powerful purgative, and is generally considered a cholagogue.

Dr. Anstie, who has studied the action of podophyllum on dogs and cats, found that in from two to ten hours after the injection of an alcoholic solution into the peritoneal cavity, and after the effects of the alcohol had ceased, podophyllin excited vomiting and almost incessant diarrhoea. Dr. Anstie does not usually describe the character of the stools; but in one experiment he states that they consisted of glairy mucus, and in two other experiments the stools were highly coloured with what looked like bile. In many of the experiments the stools contained blood. The animals suffered great pain, and soon became exhausted. At the *post-mortem* examination the œsophagus was healthy, but the stomach somewhat congested, induced, as Dr. Anstie suggests, by the violent efforts of vomiting. The small intestines, especially at the lower part of the duodenum, were intensely congested, and in some instances the lower part of the duodenum was extensively ulcerated. The large intestines were but slightly inflamed. Although the injections were poured into the abdominal cavity, the peritoneum itself was not at all inflamed, not even around some unabsorbed granules of podophyllin. The contents of the intestines were liquid. In all the instances in which the effect of the medicine on the heart and respiration is mentioned, respiration ceased before the heart stopped.

From these experiments it is evident that podophyllin has an especial affinity for the small intestines, and chiefly for the duodenum.

The results of these experiments, and the fact that podophyllin produced no apparent change in the liver, led Dr. Anstie to conclude that it is not a cholagogue. The Edinburgh Committee carefully investigated the action of podophyllin on healthy dogs. Their reporter, Dr. Hughes Bennett, states that doses of podophyllin varying from two to eight grains diminished the solid constituents of the bile, whether they produced purgation or not, and that doses which produced purgation lessened both the fluid and solid constituents of the bile.

But, assuming that podophyllin is incapable of increasing the secretion of bile in health, it by no means follows that in this respect it is inoperative in disease. It is quite conceivable that podophyllin and other remedies may remove certain morbid conditions of the liver which arrested the secretion of bile, and so act indirectly but efficaciously as cholagogues; and surely it is far better to promote the secretion of bile by restoring the liver to health, than to give a drug (if such exist) to compel a diseased liver to secrete. In the one case we remove the hindrance to the secretion of the bile; in the other, if it is possible, we compel the secretion in spite of this obstacle. The experience of those who have largely used this drug is strongly in favour of its possessing cholagogue properties; and the author's experience leads him to a like conclusion.

For instance, its effects are very marked on the motions of children with the following symptoms:—During the early months of life, and especially after a previous attack of diarrhoea, obstinate constipation may occur, with very hard motions, crumbling when broken, and of a clay colour, often mottled with green. Sometimes the passage of the hard stools through the sphincter of the rectum occasions great pain, causing the child to scream at each evacuation. At the same time there may be much flatulent distention of the belly,

which excites frequent colic, this, in its turn, making the child cry, often without cessation. This morbid condition of the motions is frequently observed in children of one or two months old, who are fed instead of suckled. The author knows nothing so effectual in bringing back the proper consistence and yellow colour to the motions as podophyllin. A grain of the resin should be dissolved in a drachm of alcohol, and of this solution one or two drops are given to the child on a lump of sugar, twice or three times in the day. The quantity administered must be regulated by the obstinacy of the bowels, which should be kept open once or twice a day. Under this treatment the motions often immediately become natural, the flatulent distention of the belly gives way, and the child quickly improves. The restoration of the colour to the motions is probably owing to the increased secretion of bile by the action of the podophyllin.

That disagreeable cankerly taste, unconnected with excess in alcoholic drinks, generally occurring only in the morning, but sometimes continuing in a less degree all day, gives way usually to podophyllin; and, if it fail, mercury generally answers. It is true that this symptom, when due to constipation, is removable by many purgatives, but podophyllin and mercury answer best.

Small doses of podophyllin are highly useful in some forms of chronic diarrhoea. Thus a diarrhoea with high-coloured motions, with cutting pains, is generally relieved by small doses of podophyllin, the bowels becoming regular, and the pain speedily subsiding. This medicine is especially indicated if this form of diarrhoea occur in the early morning, compelling the patient to leave his bed several times, but improving after breakfast or by the middle of the day; or sometimes diarrhoea does not occur after breakfast, but returns early next morning. Indeed podophyllin will generally cure this morning diarrhoea, even if the motions are pale and watery. By means of podophyllin the author has cured chronic diarrhoea of watery, pale, frothy motions, with severe cutting pain, even when the diarrhoea has lasted for

many years. Two or three minims of a solution containing a grain of podophyllin in two drachms of rectified spirit should be given three or four times a day.

Podophyllin is very useful in some forms of sick headache. The nature and the order of the symptoms differ greatly in different cases of sick headache. Some, for instance, are accompanied by constipation, others by diarrhœa, and in each of these kinds the stools may be either too light or too dark in colour. But there are, besides, many other varieties of sick headache. Where the headache is preceded, accompanied, or followed by a dark-coloured bilious diarrhœa, podophyllin generally does good. Two or three minim doses of the solution just mentioned, given three times a day, will restrain the diarrhœa, lighten the colour of the motions and, if the medicine, is persevered with, either prevent the attacks, or considerably prolong the intervals. When the diarrhœa is of a light colour, and the motions evidently contain too little bile, it is considerably benefited by a hundredth part of a grain of bichloride of mercury, given three times a day. Again, when the headache is accompanied by constipation, and the motions are of a dark bilious character, a free podophyllin purge every day or alternate day is very useful. Even in those nervous headaches, occurring either just before, at, or directly after, the menstrual period, if associated with constipation and dark-coloured stools, purgative doses of podophyllin often give relief.

I know that it is now generally held, and on conclusive evidence, that in sick headaches or as they are often termed nervous headaches, migraine, hemicrania, the origin of mischief is situated in some part of the central nervous system, and it is asked therefore:—Of what use is it to give medicine to act on the stomach, liver or intestines?

It is further urged that when sickness, diarrhœa, or constipation accompany or follow the headache, they are the result and not the cause of the attack. Granted that the central nervous system is the seat of the complaint, yet it is excited in various ways in different people, one cause producing an

attack in one person, but failing to excite one in others. Thus a single or several articles of diet will with some surely bring on an attack. In some persons the fit is preceded by diarrhœa, bilious or pale; in others by constipation; again in others it is clearly traceable to uterine derangement. It is true that even in any of these cases certain circumstances common to all will precipitate an attack, as fatigue, over excitement or nervous exhaustion. Yet these patients in many of their attacks experience, almost unfailingly, warning by symptoms due sometimes to the stomach, or the bowels, or the womb. It appears therefore to me that the treatment of this disease must be of three kinds. One treatment should be directed to the removal of the affection of the nervous system; another to the prevention of the exciting cause; and lastly a third treatment to the subdual of an attack, as for instance by means of applications to the seat of pain, and also as I believe by means of medicines which act on the stomach, or liver, or intestines, or womb. (See Counter-irritation.)

Experience certainly leads me to hold firmly that the foregoing directions, with respect to treatment are correct; that where the attacks are preceded by hepatic or intestinal disturbances, podophyllin or mercury are very useful agents, nay, I am inclined to believe that they are serviceable even when the symptoms only accompany the pain, and are probably the result and not the cause of the attack. Although it may be urged that it is folly to treat the effects in order to remove the cause, still, as we have seen in the section treating of counter-irritants, that local applications to the seat of pain appear to control the central nervous disease, there is no reason why remedies which affect the terminations of the other affected nerve, namely, the vagus should not also be able to modify the central affection.

Some American physicians go so far as to say that this drug fulfils all the indications of mercury. In America it is called vegetable mercury.

The injection of podophyllin under the skin has been

recommended. It is readily soluble in equal parts of liquor potassæ and water; and, if the drug is pure, this solution is not precipitated by the addition of water. The injection of this solution to the extent of one-third to one-tenth of a grain quickly purges, sooner, it is said, than when given by the stomach, and it causes no pain.

Podophyllin is a rather uncertain purgative. The pure drug causes very little griping. In too large doses, it is very apt to produce slimy and bloody stools, particularly in children.

STAPHISAGRIA.

THIS seed, made into an ointment, is employed only as an external application, to destroy the lice which infest the bodies of dirty persons.

Formerly the seeds were ground to a meal, which was mixed with a simple ointment. On account of the large quantity of oil in the seeds the meal was always very coarse, and the ointment thus made was a gritty and uncomfortable application. This inconvenience Squire has remedied. "Finding" he says "that this meal contained a certain amount of oily matter, the author had the oil removed from a small quantity of the meal by percolation with ether, and found that the meal was then capable of being reduced into a fine powder." This powder he tried in several cases of phthiriasis (louse disease), and found it quite inert. He found that the proportion of oil extracted from the meal amounted to as much as one half (by weight) of the meal. On making trial of the oil, suitably diluted with olive oil, he found it as efficient as any remedy he has ever tried against phthiriasis. "A cheap way of preparing the oil for application is to digest the seeds in melted lard, and strain

while hot. The filtrate is an ointment of the seeds of staves-acre. Two drachms of the bruised seeds should be used to an ounce of lard."

ACTÆA RACEMOSA.

THIS medicine is used much more extensively in America than in England. It has been employed for centuries by the Indians and settlers, for chorea and many uterine diseases, and to assist the uterus to expel the child. Those most experienced in the employment of this drug speak loudly in its praise.

Although not used as a local application to the skin, some assert that given internally it will prevent the pitting of small-pox.

Actæa is said to be useful in simple and malignant sore throat, and in that troublesome, chronic, and obstinate disease in which the mucous membrane of the pharynx is quite dry, and spotted over with inspissated mucus.

This remedy is not, as far as the author knows, used in stomach or intestinal disease.

Absorbed into the blood, it depresses both the force and frequency of the pulse. Some compare it to aconite, and use it for similar purposes. It has been given, it is said, with much success, in influenzas and catarrhs, accompanied with headache, stiffness of the muscles, dull, aching pain in the bones, and a bruised sensation as if the body had been beaten all over.

This plant has been much used in acute rheumatism and it is stated that it quells the pain speedily. It is also extolled for lumbago and sciatica; and it is said to subdue lumbago more effectually than any other remedy.

The author has given this plant a patient trial in lumbago and sciatica, and in those cases of chronic rheumatism where