

"Hæmorrhage from the lungs connected with hepatic disease is curable by no other medicine so readily as by *Card. Mar.* It is also of great use in hæmoptysis dependent on diseases of spleen, with swelling and shooting in that organ and relief by lying on left side. Acute and chronic sore throats, and chronic asthma when connected with hepatic or splenic derangements yield to this remedy.

"An emaciated man of 40, with a yellowish grey complexion, had suffered for several years from asthma with severe cough with more or less expectoration of thick sputa. His general health was pretty good. Auscultation revealed sibilant and mucous rales, the right hypochondrium was swollen and painful. The left lobe of the liver was most sensitive and felt hard. Moderate pressure immediately caused difficulty of breathing and cough. He was never free from asthma, the breathing always panting and the voice hoarse. Any exertion increased the dyspnœa. At night the asthma was not so tiresome as the cough, which only towards morning became loose. As the affection evidently depended on disease of the liver, *Card. Mar.* was given. In a week the patient felt better, and after a fortnight the asthma and cough were gone. The patient now left off the medicine, but as his chronic liver malady was not quite well, the asthma and cough returned. He resumed the medicine, and after going on with it for a considerable time he was not quite well, the asthma and cough returned. He resumed the medicine, and after going on with it for a considerable time he was quite cured.

"I have already said that *Card. Mar.* is a valuable remedy in various hæmorrhages; certain it is when these depend on affections of liver or spleen *Carduus* is very efficacious, but it would seem also to be a good remedy for hæmorrhages independent of diseases of those organs. Professor Rapp says it is, next to *Bryonia*, the best remedy for the habitual epistaxis of young persons having a psoric origin. I have already given examples of its power over hæmoptysis, hæmatemesis, and passage of blood by stool. But it is also decidedly useful in metrorrhagia. This is often not an idiopathic affection of the uterus, but dependent on disease of the liver, spleen (or kidneys). In real affections of the liver and spleen we are not always able to find an actual enlargement of or severe pain in these organs. The previous occurrence of typhoid, intermittent fever, icterus or pneumonia may lead us to infer the existence of some alteration in the liver or spleen. This inference is strengthened by the presence of digestive derangements, disposition to diarrhœa or constipation, bitter taste, coated tongue, yellow color of temples and corners

of the mouth, muddy urine, light-colored stools, satiety, after very little food, sensitiveness of the hepatic region to pressure. In affections of the spleen or liver a peculiar complexion resembling anæmia. In a former paper I mentioned the good effects of large doses of *Bursa Pastoris* in metrorrhagia, but that *Card. Mar.* is a valuable remedy the following case will show:

"A young married lady, aged 27, who had already had two children, had suffered for eight years from frequent attacks of metrorrhagia, coming on at menstrual period. The hæmorrhage lasts twelve to fourteen days, and then leucorrhœa ensues. She suffers from costive bowels, is emaciated, yellow about temples and corners of mouth, bitter taste, and is very irritable. Her last child is six years old. Various gynæcologists have examined her, and declare there is no idiopathic uterine affection, but the liver is not swollen. For the last six months she had suffered from periodic hemicrania. She has undergone much treatment at the hands of celebrated physicians in various places, but without any good result. The yellow color of the temples and the digestive symptoms point to an affection of the liver; hæmorrhages attendant on liver disease demand *Carduus Mar.* She began to take the tincture on the sixth day of the discharge. After a few doses the discharge decreased, and after two days stopped completely, and no leucorrhœa followed. On continuing the medicine the next period was much less, and lasted only five days. The lady recovered her health, her complexion became normal, and her bowels regular. After a few months she declared that the 'miraculous drops' had cured her."

Dr. Kunze then alludes to Dr. Windelband's experience of the efficacy of *Card. Mar.* in varicose ulcers, mentioned above, and he then goes on:—

"It is a specific in local muscular rheumatisms dependent on liver disease. This rheumatism only attacks the abdominal muscles. It sometimes spreads to the hip and the thigh, and even down to the ankles, and there are often pains under the short ribs and in the sacrum.

"A married lady, aged 34, who had been confined four weeks previously, during her convalescence, got an affection of the peritoneum, with tearing, shooting pain on both sides of abdomen, sometimes concentrated in the center of the abdomen, where it gave her much pain on taking a deep breath. *Card. Mar.* in three days completely removed this rheumatic affection of the abdominal muscles.

"These abdominal pains accompanying liver affections may be so violent as to make us suspect peritonitis, but their rapid cure by *Card. Mar.* shows that this was not the case.

"A widow, aged 30, of greyish yellow complexion, complained of continued severe pains in the center of the abdomen, especially severe in the right mesogastric region. On pressure, or on the slightest touch of this part, which was hard and distended, the pain was very violent. Loss of appetite, tongue slightly coated, considerable fever. After taking *Card. Mar.* for three days all the symptoms disappeared.

"The following case will show its power in rheumatic affections of sacrum, hip and thigh: A woman, six months pregnant, complained of violent pains in the right hip, which extended to the middle of the thigh and ran down to the ankle. Along with them was violent sacral pain. She can only crawl along, limping and dragging her leg. The pains are particularly violent on rising from a seat and become gradually slighter on walking. Under the right short ribs she feels a slight tenderness on pressure, but no pain. After a week of *Tinct. Card. Mar.* she was completely cured of her rheumatic ailment."

I have frequently employed with advantage the tincture of *Card. Mar.* in cases of congestion of the liver, but from Drs. Kunze's and Windelband's observations it seems to have a much more extensive sphere of action than it has hitherto been credited with, except by Rademacher, to whom indeed medicine is chiefly indebted for a knowledge of its therapeutic virtues.—*Monthly Hom. Review.*

CACTUS GRANDIFLORUS.

Having used the *Cactus Grand.* in my practice the last ten years, I will give you my experience and its therapeutical effect upon the system. * * * * *

R Ten to twenty drops in four ounces of water; dose, teaspoonful as often as necessary.

I get better results from it by giving it in small doses and often, till we see its physiological effect. I use it in all forms of heart diseases, either organic or functional, when the pulse is accelerated, *but never* in a slow pulse. It is sedative in action, reducing the pulse and giving strength to the heart's action. Thus where we have a feeble pulse—80, 90 or 100—it will relieve the heart's action, and give it tone or strength. It is also anti-spasmodic when there is tightness in the chest, difficult breathing, inability to walk fast or walk up stairs, soon get out of breath, in a severe attack of angina pectoris, when the patient

wants all the doors and windows open—in such cases it will give prompt relief.

In all cases we have observed that there is difficult breathing in either organic or functional diseases of the heart; the feet, hands and body are cold, indicating an unequal circulation of the blood—too much blood in the heart and lungs, and not sufficient in the extremities, hence the oppression and *coldness*. The *Cactus*, given in small and frequent (every ten to fifteen minutes) doses, will, in a reasonably short time, remove the difficult breathing, and the hands and feet, as well as the body will soon get warm. This I have time and again observed at the bedside.

Then it must be not only an anti-spasmodic, but a stimulant to the capillaries and nervous system. I employ it in many forms of heart disease, whether functional or organic, such as palpitation, pericarditis, endo-carditis, hypertrophy, atrophy, angina pectoris, and valvular insufficiency. Thus, if we prescribe the *Cactus*, when indicated, given in small and frequently repeated doses, we will never be disappointed; but if you give it in large doses at long intervals you will always be disappointed.

It is also a fine remedy in rheumatism of the heart, as I find after having used it in a number of cases. I alternate it with tincture *Cimicifuga racemosa* in similar doses. It gives the patient prompt relief. I prefer to give the *Cactus* alone, though in all cases we must give such other remedies as are indicated. *Cactus*, properly prescribed, will cure *all* functional diseases of the heart, and ameliorate many organic affections and diseases of that organ.—*John A. Henning, M. D., in Medical Summary.*

Whooping Cough.—It has frequently been observed that in whooping cough epidemics a remedy meeting a majority of cases in one year will often fail of being effective in another. Thus *Naphtalin 3* was the remedy during one epidemic, while during the next *Camphora* did the work and during a third *Belladonna*. This was followed by an epidemic wherein *Coccus Cacti*, 1x trit., met almost all cases. This is one of the old Rademacherian remedies, and about one drachm of this was dissolved in four ounces of sweetened water and three teaspoonfuls were given daily, amelioration set in at once and the cure was generally completed within five days.—*Popul. Hom. Zeitung, Vol. XII.*

Symphitum Off.—An old and very valuable remedy. This plant is found all over Europe (and in some parts of North

America), in wet fields and ditches. We make a tincture out of it which has marvelous healing and cicatrizing properties. *Symphitum* must be a very old popular remedy; its reputation is well established, and it is mentioned in all the old medical "tomes." The decoction acts as an effective demulcent and pain-killer in severe bruises. It diminishes the irritation in wounds and ulcers, ameliorates and lessens too copious suppuration and promotes the healing processes. In homœopathic practice the tincture diluted with water is used with great success in fractures and bruises or other injuries of bones. Its effect is really extraordinary in injuries to sinews, tendons and the periosteum.

A few days ago a colleague consulted me about a horse with a stab wound in the fetlock which would not heal, do what he would, and which rendered locomotion impossible. (The doctor is by no means a young or inexperienced veterinarian.) I examined the wound, and at once recommended *Symphitum* θ . Within two weeks the animal was cured. This remedy really cannot be overestimated.—*Dr. Gottweis in Pop. Hom. Zeitung, Vol. VII.*

The Danger of Unboiled Milk.—Many people have a rooted objection to the taste of boiled milk, and, as a matter of fact, that liquid is generally drunk unboiled. The public will, perhaps, be more inclined to depart from the beaten track when they read of the following case brought to the notice of the Académie de Médecine by M. Ollivier, one of the physicians of the Hôpital des Enfants Maladies. Clinicians are moving heaven and earth to exorcise the ogre tuberculosis, and, in our anxiety to discover an antidote for the ravages of the terrible bacillus, we are apt to forget the old adage, "prevention is better than cure." The case related by M. Ollivier was that of a young lady aged twenty, whose family and personal health antecedents were excellent, but who had the misfortune of being brought up in a school where, in the space of a few years, six out of thirteen girls had fallen victims to tuberculosis, two being cases of tabes mesenterica. The young lady succumbed rapidly to tuberculous meningitis. An examination of the udder of the cow, which had for nine years supplied the school with milk, was, after death, found to be the seat of extensive tuberculous lesions. M. Mocard emphasized the contention of M. Ollivier

that unboiled milk should be banned, however healthy the cow yielding it may appear, by relating how the lymphatic glands of a calf in seemingly excellent condition, which, to the great disappointment of its owner, had died after a few days' illness, had been found stuffed with bacilli. A short time afterwards the mother of this calf—a fine beast, to which had been allotted numerous prizes—died in her turn, and the udders, lungs, and lymphatic glands were discovered to be tuberculous. The lesson taught by these two interesting communications is plain: avoid unboiled milk.—*Lancet, March 7th, 1891.*

If people would use the Romans-horn brand of sterilized milk they would avoid this danger. It is a pure Swiss milk highly condensed and preserved by the sterilizing process, contains no chemicals or other added substance. The following government analysis from the laboratory of Melbourne, Australia, is apropos:

MELBOURNE, 24th April, 1882.

I have examined the condensed liquid milk of the Romans-horn Milk Exporting Company; it is simply good ordinary milk concentrated by careful evaporation at very low temperature to one-fourth of its bulk. Thus, one quart of the liquid condensed milk mixed with three quarts of water will produce four quarts of good, honest ordinary fresh milk. This preparation having had no additions made to it in the shape of sugar, as is always the case with the ordinary condensed milk contained in tins, has many advantages, sugar often seriously interfering with many of the uses of milk, especially in cooking.

(Signed)

WM. JOHNSON, *Analyst.*

Rhus Aromatica—Recently, by the advice of Dr. J. S. McClanahan, of Booneville, Mo., I have treated this disease [*Diabetes mellitus*] very successfully with *Rhus Aromatica*, in doses of gtt. 30 of the tincture, given every two or three hours through the day. One of my first patients was an old man, some 74 or 75 years of age, who was very weak, and was passing a large quantity of urine, the specific gravity of which was 1040. Upon evaporation upon a slip of glass, over a lamp or candle, this yielded a large percentage of molasses. I put this old gentleman on *Lycopus* and *Nitrate of Uranium*, which treatment he continued a month; it reduced the quantity of the urine, but not the quantity of sugar. I then put him on *Rhus Aromatica*, three times a day, which he continued for one month, with a

great decrease in the quantity of urine and sugar. I now took the specific gravity of the urine and found it to be 1032. I continued the prescription another month, at the end of which he appeared to be much better, and said he felt well. He was gaining flesh and strength rapidly, and I advised him to continue the treatment another month; at the end of this time he reported himself perfectly well, and so continues up to last accounts. The *Rhus* is reported to be as good in diabetes insipidus as in diabetes mellitus. * * * The old gentleman had been visited by two of his brothers, both old and reputable physicians, both of whom pronounced his case incurable.—*Goss. Practice of Medicine.*

Calendula.—The other day I was told by a friend that he had, last autumn, chewed a *Calendula* leaf for a few minutes; the effect was most marked and very striking. It entirely removed for some days the difficulty in making water, with which he had long been troubled, and which is so common in elderly people. I have a suspicion myself that *Calendula* affects the spinal chord, from certain unpleasant feelings which I have when making it from the fresh plant.—*C. W., in the Hom. World.*

To the foregoing the editor of the *World* appends the following note: In response to our request for a fuller description of these feelings our contributor replies that the symptom was very difficult to describe. "There was such a feeling as if some overwhelming calamity was hovering over me as to be almost unbearable. Three years ago, just after making the tincture, my old enemy, the gout, nipped me in the middle of the spine, and in three days spoiled all my powers of walking; and then the dreadful feeling became very much exaggerated."

Sambucus Nigra.—This old remedy has had a revival by the pen of Dr. Georges L emoine in the *Gazette Medicale* of Paris. He principally employed it in nephritis, especially in the acute congestive form; its action then being more rapidly produced than in chronic Bright's disease. The first case he cites was that of a woman, 32 years of age, who, as a consequence of improper use of a catheter, acquired cystitis and ascending infectious

nephritis. There was considerable anasarca, the peritoneum and pleura contained liquid, and the patient was in danger of dying from œdema of the lungs. After the first day's use of the remedy the urine nearly doubled, while on the fourth day nearly ten times as much urine was passed as at first. The anasarca rapidly diminished, and it was not until the cellular tissues were entirely free from effusion that the quantity of urine and the number of diarrhœic stools were reduced.

Two other cases also of acute nephritis are given in which the results were satisfactory, but in six cases where nephritis was of long standing the effects were less apparent. Dr. L emoine states that in the œdema, in consequence of heart disease, the elder will likewise in the majority of cases produce improvement through its action on the kidneys and the intestine.

Sticta Pulmon. in Measles.—When the acute symptoms of measles have subsided, and the case is approaching convalescence, appetite is returning, and all signs point to a happy termination of the disease; a most troublesome complication often arises in the shape of a cough, which fails to respond to the ordinary remedies for bronchial affections. In the treatment of this condition I am indebted to Dr. W. C. Goodno, of Philadelphia, for the use of a remedy which has given me most satisfactory results. I refer to *Sticta Pulmonaria*. I am not familiar with the pathogenetic qualities of this drug, and cannot therefore explain its action in this connection. I only know that it "gets there" with great promptness and uniformity, and it is this knowledge which recommends it to my favor. Cases of this character, which might result in chronic bronchitis, or even threaten incipient consumption, yield to this remedy so speedily and so kindly, that I feel justified in according it the highest praise.—*Douglas Caulkins, M. D., in S. J. of Hom.*

Somnambulism.—Percy W., aged fourteen, nervous temperament. Has been troubled for the last three years by dreams and sleep walking. On one occasion he had got up, dressed, went into the yard and split wood for some minutes. Being watched, at the time, by his family who were awakened by the noise.

When aroused he merely said he had been dreaming of splitting wood. He asked why he had been brought down stairs and into the yard. His last adventure was more serious, he got up and walked out of an open window, falling fifteen feet to the ground. He gave one cry (which awakened his mother) and started for the stable on the opposite side of the road. He was overtaken and, when fully awake, declared that he was going to hitch up the horses and go to town; that he had felt sick and was going to see the doctor. He insisted that he had not been asleep and had come down stairs in the old-fashioned way. His parents found his head badly cut and arm injured. On examining head I found a Colles's fracture. After dressing the wounds I put him on *Bryonia*, 3x trit., one powder at night. The dreams gradually grew less, until at the end of five weeks he slept easily and naturally. A year has now gone and he has had no dreams, nor has he walked in his sleep for eight months.—*Dr. M. G. Violet in Medical Current.*

ASARUM CANADENSIS.

I was called in haste on the night of December 29th, 1890, to see Mrs. P., a married woman, and her child, aged about seven years. On arriving at the house I found them suffering from some strange form of poisoning. On inquiring as to whether any poisonous substance had been taken I was told that the mother, thinking she was suffering from amenorrhœa, had prepared a decoction from what she supposed to be the root of wild ginger, or *Asarum Canadensis*, and had taken a considerable quantity of the liquid. The child had also taken some of it with the hope that it would relieve a "bad cold." The symptom which the mother presented was intense pain in the mouth, throat, stomach, and bowels, which was continuous and burning in character. The face, hands, and the lower third of the forearm had the sensation of a thousand small sharp needles piercing the flesh in every direction, and there was also a great deal of burning about the wrists. The strangest symptom of all, however, was the eruption which was present. The skin of the face and all the subcutaneous tissues were much swollen, so that one eye was entirely closed and the other eye nearly so. The eruption resembled erysipelas, for the skin was red, thickly covered with pimples and vesicles, while scattered among these were several blisters of considerable size. The eruption was also present about each knee, cover-

ing a space as big as a hand, being chiefly confined to the popliteal region. In other portions of the body small pimples dotted the skin, and a few vesicles could be found here and there. I forgot to mention that the hands and fingers were much swollen, sufficiently so to make the fingers stand wide apart.

The constitutional symptoms consisted in frequent rigors, accompanied by a fever of about 101°; the pulse was 122 and weak. There was a good deal of nausea and some vomiting. During the remainder of the attack there were considerable swelling, pain and heat about the anus, and these symptoms were still more marked at the vulva; the labia majora, the nymphæ, and the vagina were greatly swollen, while the burning sensation caused a constant desire to urinate, although micturition was very difficult and painful.

The little girl's symptoms were identical with those of her mother except in degree, all of them being of a milder type, as she had not partaken so freely of the decoction. Another child, who had taken a very small quantity of the liquid, had the same eruption over its body.

The patients made a good recovery, although convalescence extended over three weeks.

I am altogether ignorant of the effects of wild ginger, except the account given in our different dispensaries, and if any of the readers can give me any information in regard to the use of wild ginger I shall be glad to hear from them. Is wild ginger poisonous? and if so, would it be likely to produce such characteristic symptoms? The husband of the woman gave me some of the roots, which had been collected last fall. They were from two to four inches long, varied somewhat in size, but averaged about the diameter of rye-straws. They were crooked and knotty, very brittle, and gave a pleasant, aromatic taste when chewed, which closely resembled that of cardamom.—*Dr. James Mitchell, M. D., in Medical News, March 7, 1891.*

Miss Boreton: You appear absent to-night, Mr. Wentman.

Wentman: Do I? A mere optical illusion, unfortunately, ma'am.

An Irish doctor recently reproved a friend for his too liberal use of brandy. "Bah!" said the latter, "I've drank of it since I was a boy, and I'm 60." "Very likely," replied the doctor, "but if you'd never drank of it perhaps you would now be 70."