

# A TREATISE

ON

## Thuja Occidentalis.

The Therapeutic Uses of Thuja are by PROFESSOR H. W. FELTER, M. D., Cincinnati, Ohio, Professor of Anatomy, Eclectic Medical Institute, Cincinnati, Author of the Therapy and Materia Medica of the American Dispensatory, Editor of Locke's Syllabus of Materia Medica and Therapeutics, History of the Eclectic Medical Institute.

The Selections are reprints of articles by

LYMAN WATKINS, M. D.

D. THOS. LONG, M. D.

D. G. HIMROD, M. D.

A. J. HOWE, M. D.

And Editorials from The Eclectic Medical Gleaner, The Eclectic Medical Journal, and The Homoeopathic News.

The Description, History, Chemistry, and Pharmaceutical Record are by JOHN URI LLOYD.

Treatise No. I embraces Thuja Occidentalis. Treatise No. II embraces Cactus Grandiflorus.

### TAKE NOTICE!

This is the first treatise of a series that in a similar way will present the most useful remedies known to physicians. They will also embrace promising drugs that are little known or that are the subject of inquiry by physicians. The first edition of this pamphlet included Crataegus, which has been transferred and will become a part of a subsequent treatise.

### **Drug Treatise, Number I.**

Issued by LLOYD BROTHERS, Cincinnati, Ohio.

COPYRIGHT, 1904

# Thuja Occidentalis.

(ARBOR VITAE-Tree of Life.)



THUJA  
OCCIDENTALIS.  
Natural Size. Made  
for this

The name is also spelled *Thuya* and pronounced in accordance. An evergreen, coniferous American tree, from 20 to 50 feet in height. It grows on rocky banks of rivers and in low swamps, from Pennsylvania northward. Thuja is used as a hedge plant.

History.-Thuja was introduced into Europe before 1600, and early attained a European reputation. Boerhaave employed distilled water of Thuja; Hahnemann introduced Thuja into the Homoeopathic school; Peter Kalm, 1753, reports that the bark and leaves were used locally in Canada; Schoepf, in 1785, commended it in scurvy; and other early authorities testified to its value. It was introduced into Eclecticism by Dr. Dickey, in 1862, through an editorial by Dr. Scudder, and then lay dormant until Prof. Howe, in 1880, began his study of the drug, which attained its popularity through his enthusiastic commendation of it. 'Professor Howe used only our Specific Medicine Thuja.

Part Used.-The fresh leaves and young twigs carry the fullest characteristics of the drug.

Constituents.-By distillation with steam, from 0.5 to 1.0 per cent. of a colorless volatile oil is obtained. It is of camphoraceous odor, destitute of astringency, and resembles oil of cedar or tansy. The chemical constituents, dextro-pinene, laevo-fenchone, dextro-thujone, pinipicrin, thujin, and other substances, have no established individual therapeutical values.

## PHARMACEUTICAL PREPARATIONS.

Specific Medicine Thuja.- This is the most conspicuous of the Thuja preparations, and introduced the drug generally through the writings of Professor A. J. Howe, M. D., for whom we first made the remedy. It is an alcoholic liquid of a deep green color, a fragrant Thuja odor, and an aromatic, balsamic, astringent taste. It was prepared for Professor Howe as free from inert extractives as possible, for he wished to inject it in hydrocele, and otherwise use it in surgery, where impurities were not to be tolerated. To this preparation he gave the name Lloyd's Thuja, in order that physicians wishing to employ the identical remedy might not be disappointed. When the preparation came into demand we placed it in our list of Specific Medicines, thus making our Specific Thuja, and Lloyd's Thuja of Professor Howe, identical. The great value of Thuja in surgery and as an antiseptic wash is due Professor Howe, and was established by the action of Specific Thuja. When Specific Thuja is dropped into water it imparts a milky and a balsamic odor, added in larger amount it produces a greenish, oily precipitate. It must not be confounded with an ordinary tincture or an extractive laden fluid extract of which numerous representatives are found in commerce.

Aqueous Thuja.-In some instances where alcohol is not admissible, and a fatty substance not desirable, an aqueous solution of Thuja is employed under the name. Felter's Thuja, Professor Felter having first used it. This preparation is an aqueous, highly astringent solution of the soluble principles of Thuja, practically destitute of the resin and fixed oils of Thuja. It has a dark brown color and a fragrant Thuja odor. It is not a watery extract, but an elegant pharmaceutical preparation, in which the final menstruum is aqueous.

Long's Thuja.-Owing to the irritating action of alcohol in the eye or on broken surfaces where the stimulating action of Thuja is desired we devised for Dr. D. Thomas Long, Topeka, Kansas, a preparation that is of unctuous condition, free from alcohol, and known as Long's Thuja, to be used where alcohol would be objectionable and oleaginous agents admissible. Long's Thuja is a dark green, bland, stimulating oleaginous substance possessing the full characteristic odor and flavor of the drug. When non-alcoholic Thuja is ordered we give this preparation.

Ointment of Thuja.-Is an oleaginous preparation less than half the drug value of Long's Thuja. It has a lighter color.

Oil of Thuja.-By distillation of Thuja in water, as has been said, a colorless, volatile oil of camphoraceous odor is obtained. It is destitute of astringency, resembles the oils of cedar and tansy, and is not characteristic of Thuja as a remedy. An extractive, astringent and stimulating, fixed Oil of Thuja of a deep green color, of a strong aromatic odor, has been made by us for some years under the name Oil of Thuja. This, mixed with petrolatum, can be used to make a stimulating ointment, similar to Long's Thuja, but inferior. ,

There is no official Fluid Extract of Thuja.

The preparations of Thuja herein described carry the full values of the drug, and as adapted to their several fields have established this drug in American therapy.

## **MEDICAL PROPERTIES AND USES OF THUJA AND ITS PREPARATIONS.**

**By PROFESSOR HARVEY W. FELTER, M. D.**

Thuja has become one of the most important remedies employed in Eclectic practice, both for its local and internal effects. Specifically it acts upon the vascular, cutaneous and mucous tissues, stimulating them to normal activity and in cases of flabby vessels exciting them to contraction, and in cases of cutaneous over-activity' restraining hypertrophies and excrescences. Furthermore, it is a decided antiseptic. Its general action may be said to resemble that of the terebinthines, and more particularly that class of which saving is a fair type. Like the latter, if carelessly employed, serious results may follow, showing chiefly in the form of irritation or inflammation.

While Thuja has a special field of action, some forms of administration are to be preferred over others in special cases. In this paper we divide the subject into the therapeutic uses of the *crude drug*, *Oil of Thuja*, *Specific Thuja*, *Long's Thuja*, and *Aqueous Thuja*, and give first the general well-known uses, and follow with conditions in which it is said to be useful, and where well authenticated give credit to the reporter.

Oil of Thuja.-Volatile Oil of Thuja is irritant and like the coniferous oils is capable of producing gastro-intestinal irritation and inflammation. Abortion is reputed to have resulted from its use.

Occasionally this remedy is administered for the expulsion of intestinal worms.

Crude Thuja Preparations.- The parts of the plant first employed were the leaves variously prepared by bruising, decoction, and in ointment. Thus a decoction was employed in malaria and the distillate, by Boerhaave, for the relief of dropsy The bruised leaves and the ointment were early employed for the amelioration of rheumatic pains and swellings. Hahnemann gave it some conspicuity and introduced it into Homoeopathy, while Schoepf used the drug in coughs, scurvy, rheumatism and fevers. The present use: of Thuja dates from the days of our Civil War when Dr. Dickey, of Ohio, employed the leaves as a discutient in chronic enlargement of scrofulous glands. The bruised leaves (the ointment is to be preferred) are still employed by some physicians as a stimulating dressing for ulcers and condylomata.

### **LOCALLY**

Specific Thuja.-One of the earliest uses of Specific Thuja, and one for which it has earned a well-sustained reputation is that. for the restraint and reduction of hypertrophic changes in the, mucous and cutaneous tissues. It will deaden and repress fungous granulations, and may be applied to proud flesh and ingrown (!) nail (overgrown granulations) with considerable success.

It has a marked action upon such chronic granulations as those of trachoma, but the remedy is painful and a better application is that of ointment of Long's Thuja (see *Long's Thuja*). On account of its constringing properties it may be employed to retard fungoid granulation and ulceration in epithelioma (not curative), bed-sores, sloughing wounds, fistulous openings, and to overcome the stench of senile and other forms of gangrene. Few mild agents have a greater reputation for the destruction of various kinds of papillomata and for condylomata about the nates. It does not cure all cases but is

best adapted when there is softness and foul exudations. It cures many, though not all, cases of genital or venereal warts. It may be applied full strength to the surface or hypodermatically. Employed as stated it is generally conceded to be the best agent for the removal of warts (verruca) on any part of the body. Specific Thuja, Aqueous Thuja, or the ointment, should be given a fair and prolonged trial in fissure of the anus. The Specific medicine is liable to aggravate the case at first, but the persistent use of it has cured some cases of this annoying malady.

Specific Thuja topically is a remedy for hemorrhage. It has checked hemorrhage from malignant growths, hemorrhoids (by hypodermatic injections in some instances) and it has given at least temporary relief in vascular and prolapsed rectum. Itching, sore, bleeding moles, have disappeared under its use and it has controlled hemorrhage in "bleeders." In such cases it has been applied locally after the extraction of teeth, for nasal hemorrhage and for incised wounds (E. P. Whitford). In this connection we would suggest its topical and internal use in purpura hemorrhagica, bearing in mind that the dose must be small, for it is well authenticated that such a state has been caused by the careless use of oil of juniper. G. W. Harvey endorses it as a remedy for bleeders, having controlled with it umbilical hemorrhage in a child of hereditary hemorrhagic diathesis, two children in the same family having died of umbilical hemorrhage, 10 and 15 days respectively after birth. Specific Thuja, full strength, was used by means of a compress. The use of Specific Thuja for the cure of bulging naevi, or "mother's marks" was first advocated by Prof. Howe, and others have testified to its merits in such cases.

Bullington reports the cure of a child in three weeks treated from birth with compresses of Specific Thuja. Combined with chloroform and menthol it makes a good styptic for use in dental surgery. No remedy appears to have given more success and less discomfort in the cure of hydrocele than this one when employed as first suggested by Prof. Howe. It must not be understood that the operation is wholly painless, for in some instances great pain is provoked. Perhaps carbolic acid is less painful but Thuja does not poison; an accident which may be looked for from carbolic acid. The usual method is to tap the distended sac of the tunica vaginalis testis and then to inject two (2) drachms of a solution of one (1) part of Specific Thuja to seven (7) parts of warm sterilized water. The parts are then to be carefully kneaded so that the fluid is made to penetrate every portion of the sac. More or less burning pain ensues together with a greater or less degree of swelling; after subsidence of the latter, if the work has been carefully executed, a cure is found to have resulted from adhesion of the contact surfaces due to the inflammation provoked. Dr. J. Scudder Hull reports the use of full strength Specific Thuja in a case cured by him after failure from an injection of iodine.

Prof. Watkins, was the first to report the value of this agent for cure of urethral caruncle., For this condition Aqueous Thuja is also valuable. Specific Thuja has given marked results in palmar eczema, hereditary and formidable in type, while many report its successful use in chronic dry eczema of furfuraceous character.

Diluted with water, Specific Thuja forms a good application for the relief of gleet, when kept up by reason of granular urethritis; Aqueous Thuja, however, is a better agent and productive of no discomfort.

Specific Thuja (diluted) may be employed upon flabby and ulcerated forms of sore throat, and for mild curable forms of diphtheria where the secretions are foetid, but even here the aqueous preparation is to be preferred. By inhalation it has given relief in chronic bronchitis, fetid bronchitis, bronchorrhoea, chronic nasal catarrh, and retro-nasal catarrh.

In all of the foregoing conditions Specific Thuja may be employed in full strength or diluted to meet the exigencies of the case.

#### INTERNALLY.

Specific Thuja.-Is valued as an internal agent, chiefly in affections of the mucous tracts, and more particularly those of the respiratory and genito-urinary organs. It may be used for haemoptysis (also by steam inhalation), though we have far better agents, but for those forms of bronchial troubles with fetid excessive expectoration it may rank with other terebinthines. Its greatest value internally is for the relief of urinal dribbling of the aged and the young, provided paralysis does not exist in the former or no preputial adhesion or phimosis is present in the latter. In five or six drop doses it relieves nocturnal enuresis in children when merely functional, and in the same sized doses it assists the local action of. Aqueous Thuja in gleet when accompanied by granular urethritis. Sometimes the following will serve better in habitual bed-wetting:  $\mathcal{R}$ . Specific Thuja, gtt. xxx; Specific Belladonna, gtt. xx; Water, fl.  $\mathfrak{z}$  iv. Mix. Sig.-One teaspoonful four times a day. Specific Thuja gives comfort in that unfortunate condition in old men with enlarged prostate in which the urine constantly dribbles, entailing much discomfort and misery, and producing unsightly stains upon the clothing. Whether it will reduce enlarged prostate has not been satisfactorily determined, but that it relieves weakness at the neck of the bladder is well established. It is especially useful in cystic irritability when associated with eczema or with gout. Specific Thuja is a remedy for atonic amenorrhoea when the genital tissues are flabby and lifeless.,

Long's Thuja.-The value of Long's Thuja in the treatment of granular ophthalmia (trachoma) can not be overestimated. When the granules are soft and pultaceous we have had excellent results from lightly passing the wetted alum pencil over the everted lid, making but one sweep at each treatment. The parts are then dried, especially if the sub-conjunctival tissue is much infiltrated, and the ointment applied by means of a hair pencil. The parts should be thoroughly covered. The patient soon learns to apply it, and once a day the ointment may be used. At first a smarting pain is produced, which passes away in a short time. Absolute cleanliness must be insisted upon and constitutional treatment given when demanded.

Aqueous Thuja.-Few topical agents give as satisfactory and prompt results as this preparation. It may be employed in most of the conditions named. under *Specific Thuja*, except where the intention is to produce irritation or inflammation, as in hydrocele. Internally it serves practically the same purpose as Specific Thuja and is devoid of alcohol. For use upon sensitive membranes it is to be preferred to alcoholic preparations. It may be used upon trachoma (less useful than Long's Thuja), excessive granulations, warts, granular urethritis, in nasal, vaginal, urethral, rectal and cystic catarrh, and combined with hamamelis is an excellent application for leucorrhoea. It gives prompt results in small nasal polypi, post nasal catarrh, and soft growths upon the Schneiderian membrane.

For acute gonorrhoea no combination excels the following:  $\mathcal{R}$ . Aqueous Thuja, one part; Lloyd's Colorless Hydrastis, one part; Warm Water, four parts. Mix. Sig.-Inject every three hours. If there is much soreness Specific Hamamelis, one part, may be added. The same combination gives excellent results in acute and chronic proctitis, especially that following dysentery, and is one of the applications, either alone or as combined above, for balanitis and abrasions or excoriations of the glans penis. Its most prominent use is for the relief of moist pultaceous chancroids. It may be employed full strength or diluted. It quickly relieves the pain, checks the discharges and odor, prevents lymphatic involvement, and heals the parts rapidly.

convert the sores into a traumatism, after which they will soon heal, with the application of aristol. There was a lady in my care in whom the lower lip of the uterine cervix was prolonged, indurated,

and of the gristly feel; in appearance it was whitish, and was well defined from surrounding tissues. I consulted some of my professional friends in regard to the matter, and the general opinion among them seemed to be that it should be excised, and that local treatment would do no good. But the patient objected to the operation, consequently I commenced making local applications of a mixture of 1/3 Thuja and 2/3 glycerine. An improvement was soon perceptible. The treatment was carried out twice weekly for three months, at the end of which time a normal condition was restored. I use Thuja quite frequently in sore throat. Sometimes there is nothing more than an increased redness and congestion, and at others, ulceration of a superficial character. In these cases, a brush is dipped in Thuja more or less diluted, as the case demands, and applied to the surfaces. In some cases of superficial ulceration about the roof of the mouth, fauces and tongue, it is of value, but not in all. Sometimes silver nitrate or other preparation does better, especially in syphilitic sores. Thuja is of considerable use in those tender and painful swellings which appear in the nose, just inside the external meatus. In this case, also, the brush is dipped in dilute Thuja, and then applied to the painful spot three or four times a day. I have also found it a satisfactory remedy for warts, moles, and small growths, which occur on the hands, face, head, and other parts of the body. A few applications of undiluted Thuja causes them to shrivel, and finally disappear.

A lady of my acquaintance was troubled with a slight fissure in the center of the lower lip, which, as she was of a pleasant disposition and much given to smiling, caused her a great deal of discomfort, for laughing was painful. This fissure had obstinately resisted treatment, both medical and surgical, for a year. I gave her Thuja, and told her to apply it to the fissure occasionally through the day. In a week or so the fissure was healed, and has remained so ever since, now six or eight months.

I have not attempted to make a formal presentation of the subject of Thuja, but simply to relate my every-day experience. No doubt many others have used the remedy in ways which I have not seen. I keep the remedy by me constantly and indeed would be at a loss sometimes without it. -  
*Lyman Watkins, M. D., in Eclectic Medical Journal.*

**Thuja Occidentalis.**-An eminent physician once said: "When I began the practice of medicine I had many remedies for each disease after many years experience, I had but one remedy for many diseases."

The one remedy I find most useful for the many diseases is the one at the head of this article. It is not a new remedy, for the record of its use extends over a period of two hundred years. To our Homoeopathic and Eclectic brethren are we indebted for much we know of its virtue. Their experiments have proven it to be slightly anodyne, stimulant, antiseptic, alterative, astringent and tonic, having its principal action on skin, mucous membranes and generative organs. From the above statement we see that Thuja will be useful in many cutaneous affections, particularly in eczema-more especially in the dry variety. In pruritis, whether anal or vulvar, when accompanied by fissures of the skin, it will be found useful and curative. In epithelioma of the face, in warts, tumors. and excrescences you will not be disappointed. For chapped hands, so troublesome in the fall of the year; in all mucous patches or ulcerations of the throat, whether syphilitic or diphtheritic; in ptyalism from mercury or iris, Thuja will be found valuable.

In nasal, vaginal, rectal, urethral or bladder irritations and vesiculitis, Thuja should be thought of. In hydrocele it is safer and surer than carbolic acid and iodine.

In trachoma and conjunctivitis it will remove the granulations and subdue the inflammation.

---

Professor A. J. Howe was born in Paxton, Massachusetts, April 25, 1825, his ancestors being of Revolutionary fame, and of New England extraction. He died in Cincinnati January 16, 1892, and is buried at Paxton, Massachusetts.

Professor Howe attended the Massachusetts district schools, and as a New England boy imbibed a love for Nature as well as of letters.

He entered Harvard College in 1849, graduating in 1853, after which he studied medicine with Dr. F. H. Kelley, of Worcester, Massachusetts. But he said that six years previous to entering Harvard he had studied medicine in this same College, under Dr. Calvin Newton, whose death occurred before his literary course was completed. Professor Howe always regarded Dr. Kelley as his preceptor. The year of his graduation from Harvard, and until 1854, he attended lectures at the Jefferson College, in Philadelphia. The next year, 1854-5 he attended the New York City College of Physicians and Surgeons and the College of Medicine, frequenting the hospitals for clinical advantages,

Professor Howe's inclination leaned largely to Surgery and Anatomy, and he was immediately made an instructor in the school from which he graduated, and for a time during the absence of the Professor of Surgery, Dr. Burnham, in Massachusetts Senate, Professor Howe cared for his patients. He next received a call from the Eclectic College of Medicine in Cincinnati, a rival at that time of the Eclectic Medical Institute. Upon the affiliation of the two, he was appointed Professor of Anatomy, and when Professor Freeman resigned, was elected to the vacancy in Surgery, This position he occupied with credit and conspicuity to the day of his death.

Professor Howe was a large, strong man, of commanding figure, and numbered among his close personal friends prominent physicians and surgeons of all branches of the profession. He was a man of great positive personal energy, determination and industry. He was very charitable to the poor, and ethical to a degree as concerned his co laborers. He was a prolific writer on scientific subjects outside of surgery, an active member of the Cincinnati Society of Natural History, a member of the Association for the Advancement of Science, and of the Cuvier Society of Cincinnati to all of which he contributed freely with his pen, He was President. of the National Eclectic Medical Association in 1882. From 1859 to the time of his death, Professor Howe wrote profusely for the Eclectic Medical Journal, and frequently for other journals. As an author he published the following in volumes: The Art and Science of Surgery; A Treatise on Fractures and Dislocations; A Manual of Eye Surgery; and Operative Gynaecology.

In 1858 Dr. Howe married Miss Georgiana Lakin, of Paxton, who, after his death, published a volume of his manuscripts titled: Miscellaneous Papers by Andrew Jackson Howe, and later a book for the young that he left in manuscript, "Conversations on Animal Life."

As a surgeon Dr. Howe was bold, quick and careful, fearless and yet kind. He was combative. dogmatic some might say, but never inclined to bitterness. He contended for principles, and nursed no painful recollections concerning an opponent, and fostered no self-made suspicions to be nursed and magnified concerning a friend.

As a therapist, Professor Howe was a man of few remedies, but these few were to him most important. He had a pride in certain preparations, and probably few men in medicine with an extended list of agents have left as many that live, increasingly in use, as those established by Professor Howe. Aqueous Pinus Canadensis was one of his introduced remedies thirty years ago and he wrote its praises freely. Following this came Howe's Juniper Pomade, Acid Solution of Iron, Viburnum Cordial, Escatol, Thuja (the subject of this Drug Treatise), and Dynamine. These preparations he said, will go down to posterity, for they have been proven, and his words seem to have been prophetic.

Professor Howe in the very prime of his apparent strength was attacked by a carbuncle, and strange as it may seem, fought against the very surgical methods he had himself employed so successfully all his life, He only acquiesced in the demands of his attendants, Drs. Russell and Spencer, when. too late, his energies were exhausted. .

I knew Howe well. He was a great man, a great surgeon, and deserves all that is said and thought of him by the friends he has left.

A longer biography of Professor Howe can be found in the Eclectic Medical Journal, Cin., Ohio, 1802, and Felter's History of the Eclectic Medical Institute.

Its cleanliness, ease of application, and lack of unpleasant odor makes it a very desirable remedy for these purposes, as it is also for catarrhal granulation of the cervix uteri, commonly called ulceration of the cervix. If the womb is displaced it should be reduced and tampons, saturated with Aqueous Thuja, applied three times a day, a thorough hot douche preceding each application. The Hydrastis, Thuja and Hamamelis combination suggested above is often of better service.

Aqueous Thuja is an excellent remedy for chapped hands, fissured nipples, syphilitic psoriasis, and mucous patches of mouth and throat. Touching with silver nitrate will hasten its action in mucous patches. It may be used with confidence in palmar eczema (eczema fissum), in anal and vulvar pruritis, when associated with fissures, and in the dry furfuraceous, forms of eczema. It has been advised for sore mouth due to ptyalism from mercury and iris-now rare conditions. Some prefer Aqueous Thuja for hypodermatic use. It will probably not equal Specific Thuja in warts, hydrocele, etc. In apthous conditions Thuja is less useful than treatment directed to the digestive organs.

Thuja has been lauded as a remedy for malaria and for worms, but we have better agents for these conditions., The specific and the ointment have been reputed agents for the removal of tarsal tumors and cystic growths about the eye, while for pterygium, complicated with sclerotic and palpebral inflammation, it has received notice in homoeopathic circles. In a case of our own it afforded temporary relief only, in a case of pterygium, the trouble promptly returning after withdrawal of the unguent. Full strength Specific Thuja, applied three or four times a day to rodent ulcer or lupus is accredited with a cure. This statement should be regarded 'with caution-probably mistaken diagnosis. It has been recommended for syphilitic psoriasis and nodules, taken internally and employed locally and internally for the relief of syphilitic rheumatism. The following cured a case of discharging urethral fistula in a man of 65, due to stricture from an old gonorrhoea.  $\mathfrak{R}$ . Specific Thuja,  $\mathfrak{3i}$ .; , Asepsin, grs. x; Sulphate of Hydrastin, grs. x; Water, fl  $\mathfrak{3iv}$ . Mix. Sig.-Inject a small syringe full after each micturition (C. B. Sargent). Use Specific Thuja, full strength upon cancrum oris and for ulcerated stomach.  $\mathfrak{R}$ . Specific Thuja,  $\mathfrak{3iii}$ ; Chloroform Water,  $\mathfrak{3iv}$ . Mix. Sig.-One teaspoonful every three hours together with five grains of Bismuth Subnitrate every four hours (P. F. Bullington). Apply Long's Thuja to itching eczematous spots (John Fearn). It has been successful in some cases of goitre, applied externally (Howe) and relieves tender swellings at the nasal orifice; it also relieves fissure of the lips (Watkins). Specific and Aqueous Thuja have been advised where the mouth feels sore as if it had been burnt. Together with proper hygienic observance nocturnal emissions are controlled by ten drop doses of Specific Thuja before meals and at bed time (J. P. Dice), and ten drop doses every two hours cured a severe deep-seated pain in the region of the clitoris following all-around orificial work. The pain came on during convalescence (Dice). Five to ten drops. of Specific Thuja, in a 2-drachm bottle filled with No. 30 pellets, dose every two hours, will cure many cases of leucorrhoea in young girls (Dice). Eight cases of hernia were cured by injection of Specific Thuja in and around the hernial rings, working it in contact with all parts by invagination of the scrotum. One-half drachm was injected every twelve to fourteen days, compresses and elastic bandage applied, and the patients placed in a recumbent posture for a few days. Pain and swelling were produced, a cure following (J. C. Dwyer, Valentine, Nebraska).

Following will be found a few selections concerning Thuja in disease treatment, as contributed to current medica literature by physicians who use it. Also a few of the original articles of Professor A. J. Howe, to whom credit for the general introduction of Thuja is mainly due. (See note, pp. 10 and 11.)

Little Things about Thuja.-When a patient comes into the office with some rawness and slight excoriation upon the head of the penis and around the corona gland is, a dilute solution of Thuia is applied with a soft camel's hair brush; then aristol dusted on, and a small amount of vaseline used to cover the surface. This is all that is needed to effect a cure. When the patient returns in a day or two, the trouble has disappeared. Sometimes a patient will come with two or three small soft chancres, which are revealed upon the under surface of the foreskin when it is retracted.

In this case the small brush is dipped in undiluted Thuja and applied to, the sores, after which they are dressed with aristol and vaseline. Usually two or three applications are sufficient. But if the chancres are numerous and deep, Thuja does not do as well as something stronger, that will convert the sores into a traumatism, after which they will soon heal, with the application of aristol. There was a lady in my care in whom the lower lip of the uterine cervix was prolonged, indurated, and of the gristly feel; in appearance it was whitish, and was well defined from surrounding tissues. I consulted some of my professional friends in regard to the matter, and the general opinion among them seemed to be that it should be excised, and that local treatment would do no good. But the patient objected to the operation, consequently I commenced making local applications of a mixture of 1/3 Thuja and 2/3 glycerine. An improvement was soon perceptible. The treatment was carried out twice weekly for three months, at the end of which time a normal condition was restored. I use Thuja quite frequently in sore throat. Sometimes there is nothing more than an increased redness and congestion, and at others, ulceration of a superficial character. In these cases, a brush is dipped in Thuja more or less diluted, as the case demands, and applied to the surfaces. In some cases of superficial ulceration about the roof of the mouth, fauces and tongue, it is of value, but not in all. Sometimes silver nitrate or other preparation does better, especially in syphilitic sores. Thuja is of considerable use in those tender and painful swellings which appear in the nose, just inside the external meatus. In this case, also, the brush is dipped in dilute Thuja, and then applied to the painful spot three or four times a day. I have also found it a satisfactory remedy for warts, moles, and small growths, which occur on the hands, face, head, and other parts of the body. A few applications of undiluted Thuja causes them to shrivel, and finally disappear.

A lady of my acquaintance was troubled with a slight fissure in the center of the lower lip, which, as she was of a pleasant disposition and much given to smiling, caused her a great deal of discomfort, for laughing was painful. This fissure had obstinately resisted treatment, both medical and surgical, for a year. I gave her Thuja, and told her to apply it to the fissure occasionally through the day. In a week or so the fissure was healed, and has remained so ever since, now six or eight months.

I have not attempted to make a formal presentation of the subject of Thuja, but simply to relate my every-day experience. No doubt many others have used the remedy in ways which I have not seen. I keep the remedy by me constantly and indeed would be at a loss sometimes without it.-  
*Lyman Watkins, M. D., in Eclectic Medical Journal.*

**Thuja Occidentalis.**-An eminent physician once said: "When I began the practice of medicine I had many remedies for each disease after many years experience, I had but one remedy for many diseases."

The one remedy I find most useful for the many diseases is the one at the head of this article. It is not a new remedy, for the record of its use extends over a period of two hundred years. To our Homoeopathic and Eclectic brethren are we indebted for much we know of its virtue. Their experiments have proven it to be slightly anodyne, stimulant, antiseptic, alterative, astringent and tonic, having its principal action on skin, mucous membranes and generative organs. From the above statement we see that Thuja will be useful in many cutaneous affections, particularly in eczema-more especially in the dry variety. In pruritis, whether anal or vulvar, when accompanied by fissures of the skin, it will be found useful and curative. In epithelioma of the face, in warts, tumors. and excrescences you will not be disappointed. For chapped hands, so troublesome in the fall of the year; in all mucous patches or ulcerations of the throat, whether syphilitic or diphtheritic; in ptyalism from mercury or iris, Thuja will be found valuable.

In nasal, vaginal, rectal, urethral or bladder irritations and vesiculitis, Thuja should be thought of. In hydrocele it is safer and surer than carbolic acid and iodine.

In trachoma and conjunctivitis it will remove the granulations and subdue the inflammation.

---

Professor A. J. Howe was born in Paxton, Massachusetts, April 25, 1825, his ancestors being of Revolutionary fame, and of New England extraction. He died in Cincinnati January 16, 1892, and is buried at Paxton, Massachusetts.

Professor Howe attended the Massachusetts district schools, and as a New England boy imbibed a love for Nature as well as of letters. He entered Harvard College in 1849, graduating 10 1853, after which he studied medicine with Dr. F. H. Kelley, of Worcester, Massachusetts. But be it said that six years previous to entering Harvard he had studied medicine in this same College, under Dr. Calvin Newton, whose death occurred before his literary course was completed. Professor Howe always regarded Dr. Kelley as his preceptor. The year of his graduation from Harvard, and until 1854, he attended lectures at the Jefferson College, in Philadelphia. The next year, 1854-5 he attended the New York City College of Physicians and Surgeons and the College of Medicine, frequenting the hospitals for clinical advantages,

Professor Howe's inclination leaned largely to Surgery and Anatomy, and he was immediately made an instructor in the school from which he graduated, and for a time during the absence of the Professor of Surgery, Dr. Burnham, in Massachusetts Senate, Professor Howe cared for his patients. He next received a call from the Eclectic College of Medicine in Cincinnati, a rival at that time of the Eclectic Medical Institute. Upon the affiliation of the two, he was appointed Professor of Anatomy, and when Professor Freeman resigned, was elected to the vacancy in Surgery, This position he occupied with credit and conspicuity to the day of his death.

Professor Howe was a large, strong man, of commanding figure, and numbered among his close personal friends prominent physicians and surgeons of all branches of the profession. He was a man of great positive personal energy, determination and industry. He was very charitable to the poor, and ethical to a degree as concerned his co laborers. He was a prolific writer on scientific subjects outside of surgery, an active member of the Cincinnati Society of Natural History, a member of the Association for the Advancement of Science, and of the Cuvier Society of Cincinnati to all of which he contributed freely with his pen, He was President. of the National Eclectic Medical Association in 1882. From 1859 to the time of his death, Professor Howe wrote profusely for the Eclectic Medical Journal, and frequently for other journals. As an author he published the following in volumes: The Art and Science of Surgery; A Treatise on Fractures and Dislocations; A Manual of Eye Surgery; and Operative Gynaecology.

In 1858 Dr. Howe married Miss Georgiana Lakin, of Paxton, who, after his death, published a volume of his manuscripts titled: Miscellaneous Papers by Andrew Jackson Howe, and later a book for the young that he left in manuscript, "Conversations on Animal Life."

As a surgeon Dr. Howe was bold, quick and careful, fearless and yet kind. He was combative. dogmatic some might say, but never inclined to bitterness. He contended for principles, and nursed no painful recollections concerning an opponent, and fostered no self-made suspicions to be nursed and magnified concerning a friend.

As a therapist, Professor Howe was a man of few remedies, but these few were to him most important. He had a pride in certain preparations, and probably few men in medicine with an extended list of agents have left as many that live, increasingly in use, as those established by Professor Howe. Aqueous Pinus Canadensis was one of his introduced remedies thirty years ago and he wrote its praises freely. Following this came Howe's Juniper Pomade, Acid Solution of Iron, Viburnum Cordial, Escatol, Thuja (the subject of this Drug Treatise), and Dynamine. These preparations he said, will go down to posterity, for they have been proven, and his words seem to have been prophetic.

Professor Howe in the very prime of his apparent strength was attacked by a carbuncle, and strange as it may seem, fought against the very surgical methods he had himself employed so successfully all his life, He only acquiesced in the demands of his attendants, Drs. Russell and Spencer, when. too late, his energies were exhausted.

I knew Howe well. He was a great man, a great surgeon, and deserves all that is said and thought of him by the friends he has left.

A longer biography of Professor Howe can be found in the Eclectic Medical Journal, Cin., Ohio, 1802, and Felter's History of the Eclectic Medical Institute.

---

Oftentimes a patient presents himself with balanitis or abrasions or excoriations on the head of the penis, or around the corona glandis. A few applications of Thuja will greatly relieve him and please you.

In soft chancres, when not too deep, a wash or ointment of Thuja will be sufficient. In catarrhal ulceration of the uterine neck a tampon of Thuja and glycerin will rapidly cure. Given internally in proper doses, it arrests passive hemorrhages. It will cure enuresis of children and check the dribbling of the aged when not of parietic origin. It is the remedy in vesical irritation-especially in aged women. In amenorrhoea, from pelvic atony, it must not be forgotten. In anal fissures and prolapsed rectum of children, either applied locally or used with the hypodermic syringe, a cure may be anticipated. Combined with chloroform and menthol it forms an efficient styptic for bleeding gums and hemorrhage after extracting teeth.

Thuja, in combination with hamamelis and hydrastis used as a rectal injection in acute and chronic proctitis, will not disappoint you. With nux vomica added you have almost a specific in those atonic conditions so often met with following dysentery. In these cases Thuja seems to act in a double capacity., By its astringent and anodyne powers it soothes the irritation and contracts the dilated blood vessels in the inflammatory stages, by its stimulating and tonic properties it restores vigor and gives vitality to the atrophic conditions.

In urethral caruncles a properly diluted solution applied with absorbent cotton or painted on with a camel's hair brush, will cause their disappearance without pain, the knife or danger of hemorrhage, much to the relief of the patient and the satisfaction of the practitioner.

In syphilitic psoriasis and nodules, Thuja combined with iris versicolor given internally is the equal of mercury and iodide of potash. In all diseases of bad blood, with warty excrescences or ulcerations showing prominence of papillae, either of cutaneous or mucous surfaces, Thuja can be relied on. It has been recommended in malaria, rheumatism and for worms. I have had no experience with it in these cases.

In leucorrhoea and gonorrhoea and all discharges of mucous surfaces, Thuja should be thought of. To obtain the full benefits of its use, much depends on the mode of its administration, and more on the preparation used. For internal administration it should be given in small doses frequently repeated, and its effects closely watched.

In vesical irritation, in large doses, it will increase rather than diminish the trouble. As a local application it can be used diluted one to four parts, or one to two, or equal parts. In chancroids and ulcers I frequently use it in full strength The fluid and solid extracts I find of unequal strength and unsatisfactory.

I keep it always in my case and find more use for it than for any other one remedy.-D. G. Himrod, M.D., in the *Daily Lancet*, Philadelphia.

Thuja Occidentalis in Trachoma.-Some unpleasant complications are to be expected from all alcoholic preparations when brought in contact with conjunctival surfaces. Such has been my experience during the past two years while giving this remedy a thorough trial in this formidable malady. In view of something better, which Prof. Lloyd is ever ready and able to produce, a non-alcoholic extract, made from fresh arbor vitae, was received at my office for trial. It is an elegant extract, carrying the consistency of honey drip, compatible with lard, or vaseline, and can be applied to exuberant sago-like bodies, either acute or chronic, in full strength, or dilute; as may be required in each individual case.

A sensation of warmth and slight stinging is experienced when first applied, especially in acute trachoma, which subsides in a few seconds. The mode of application must vary with each individual case. I have, with a camel's-hair brush, painted the spawn-like conjunctiva with full strength extract with gratifying results. When the sub-conjunctival tissue is greatly infiltrated, or the granulation exuberant, the lid should be everted over the tip of the index finger, and held in that position, removing the secretions until the surface is dry, then apply with a brush:

Rx. Thuja, non-alcoholic, Lloyd's,*	3 i.
Vaseline:	3 iii.

M. Rub thoroughly, until the entire granular surface is imbued with the unguent. The lid is then returned and its fellow treated likewise; after which the eye is kept closed for five or ten minutes, when the patient can return to his vocation, to be re-treated once a day. For children a weaker mixture should be used.

Rx. Thuja	gr. xx.
Vaseline	3 ij.

Constitutional treatment when demanded arid cleanliness should be enforced.

-D. Thos, Long, M. D., *The Medical Gleaner*.

Howe's Thuja or Specific Thuja.-The average druggist, when he gets a prescription calling for tincture of Thuja, will take a fluid extract and reduce it with alcohol till it is thought to represent a tincture of the medicine; but it is not what is designed or expected by the writer of the prescription. Howe's tincture is meant, and it contains many times as much medicine as that made from the common tincture. If the article 'made from a fluid extract be employed to inject a hydrocele it would make the patient scream with pain. If the writer of a prescription would indicate Howe's tincture, and the apothecary put up a common article, made from fluid extract, there would be cause for action. The ordinary stuff will not cure a syphilitic throat and ulcerative states generally, and I think it would fail to cure hydrocele. -*Editorial Eclectic Medical Journal*, 1891. (Dr. Howe used Specific Thuja, but as he introduced it to the profession, often called it "Howe's Thuja," see pages 2 and 3.)

The Specific Indications for Thuja.-By indications I understand experimental evidence that' a certain drug, Thuja for instance, will impress the diseased organism for the better, as manifested through symptoms. I have ascertained empirically or experimentally that Thuja, in appreciable doses, will act as an antiseptic upon diphtheritic states ,of the mouth, nose, and the throat, in stomatitis for instance. The medicine never aggravates diphtheria and always improves curable cases. Thuja always imparts a curative action to syphilitic ulceration of the mouth, fauces, and nasal passages. Thuja lessens the vascularity in *naevus maternus*, or "mother's mark," if applied frequently. Thuja thrown into the *Unica vaginalis testis*, after the serum of hydrocele has been evacuated, cures the disease. Thuja administered as an internal medicine will arrest passive hemorrhages by causing the vascular capillaries to contract. Thuja restrains enuresis, both the bed-wetting of children and the dribbling of the aged, unless paresis exists. Thuja in two or three drop doses reduces the swelling of prostatitis and has reduced the size of hypertrophied prostates. In the morbid states enumerated, and kindred disorders, Thuja is specifically indicated according to my testings. Several medical practitioners Of my acquaintance have verified my own statements. Tentative work on the therapeutics of Thuja has been earnestly pursued for eight years. Nothing but experimentation and careful discrimination can constitute a reliable indication. Speculation should not count.

---

\*This is now (see pp. 3 and 7) known as Long's Thuja.

The curative powers of Thuja in hydrocele have been tried in sixty cases in my own practice and without a failure to result in riddance of the disease. I considered that the drug was specifically indicated when I had cured four consecutive cases, though continued success made the indications more pronounced. If two had proved successes and two failures, the indications would have been doubtful; if three had turned out well and one failed, the remedy would have been indicated; if three had been failures and one a success, the forecast would have been against the agent, for other remedies have effected cures in a greater proportion of trials.-A. J. Howe, M. D., *Editorial Eclectic Medical Journal, Cincinnati, O.*

More About Thuja.-Within two months I have been solicited to treat goitre. The patients are women, and the deformity and inconvenience only moderate. I prescribed Specific Thuja as a local remedy, the fluid to be applied daily, at night; and in both instances there has been a satisfactory reduction in the size of the tumors, and a relief to the sense of constriction felt in the neck. The medicine does not discolor the skin.

A few weeks ago I wrenched masses of polypoid matter from a nasal cavity; and knowing that portions of the morbid structure were left untouched, I ordered daily injections of Thuja, a piston syringe being the implement advised as a medium to force the fluid into the nasal chambers. The traumatic surfaces have now healed, and the lacerated *remains* of the polypus are fast disappearing. The good work the remedy has done in establishing activity in tumors, encourages a more extended range for the uses of the medicinal agent. I shall try the remedy on warts the next time an opportunity to do so may present itself.-A. J. Howe, M. D., *Editorial Eclectic Medical Journal, Cincinnati, O.*

Thuja in Hydrocele.-Although I have published the method of employing Thuja in the treatment of hydrocele, I am still requested almost every day to tell a correspondent just how to execute the plan, what strength to employ, etc.

Well, here it is again: In an ounce of warm water pour an ounce of Specific Thuja. Mix by drawing up a quantity in a syringe, and forcing it back with the descent of the piston. Then draw up about two drachms of the dilute mixture in the barrel of the syringe, to be ready for use. Send a large exploring needle into the sac of the tunica vaginalis testis, and let the fluid escape. Now, before withdrawing the needle, place the nozzle of the loaded syringe into the needle's open mouth, and with a plunge of the syringe's piston send the diluted Thuja into the cavity recently distended with serum. Then to make the liquid enter every crevice in the sac of the hydrocele, the fingers should pinch and knead the scrotum quite vigorously. The hollow needle is then withdrawn, and the provoked pain is considerable for a half hour or so. The patient then goes about his business, and no additional treatment is required. For a day or two there is some swelling of the scrotum, making it appear that there has been a re-accumulation of serum, yet this passes off in a week, and the disease is radically cured-*Editorial Eclectic Medical Journal, A. J. Howe, M. D.*

Thuja in Hydrocele.-Dr. George W. Irick, of 49 N. Illinois Street, Indianapolis, Ind., writes us that after repeated failure from other remedies, he injected into a case of hydrocele equal parts of Specific Thuja and water. This case was an extremely severe one and in a patient 68 years old. To the surprise of everybody, the recovery was complete. The Thuja has full credit. The patient is now better than for years *before*.-*From the Eclectic Medical Gleaner.*

Thuja in Hernia.-Dr. J. C. Dwyer, of Valentine, Neb., writes that he has cured eight cases of hernia and greatly relieved three others, by injections of Specific Thuja in and around the hernial rings, working it into contact with all parts of the canal by invaginating the scrotum upon the end of finger, etc., etc. He injects one-half drachm every twelve to fourteen days, then applies a compress and elastic bandage, keeps the patient in the recumbent position as much as possible for a few days. There is some soreness or swelling for several days, but the Doctor has never observed *bad* results from its use. He is sure to use a clean syringe, etc. He believes the remedy is devoid of danger.-*Eclectic Medical Gleaner.*

Thuja for Anal Prolapsion.-Children and elderly persons are somewhat liable to protrusion of the anal folds during defecation. The defect hinges upon paresis of the fundament-partial paralysis of the defecatory apparatus. Locally stramonium may be employed to advantage, and so may hamamelis, but *Thuja* is specifically a topical restorative. It may be injected hypodermically, or applied as a lotion, reduced or diluted with water. It may be compounded with stramonium, hamamelis, and glycerine, the combination proving curative or restorative. A small quantity of the mixture may be injected within the anal apparatus or utilized as a suppository. Thuja is an excellent remedy to be applied in "orificial surgery;" it stimulates the sphincters and favorably impresses "postrectal ulcers." Thuja blows both hot and cold, it will impart tone to relaxed sphincters, and relax a rigid grip. The agent operates salutarily upon hemorrhoids, and restrains the dribbling of vesical incontinence. No "orificial surgeon" should be without the information here imparted. It will contribute pucker to the lips of a whistler, and prevent the involuntary discharge of *flatus*.--*Editorial Eclectic Medical Journal. A. J. Howe. M. D. ,*

Thuja Occidentalis in Affections of the Eye. Arbor vitae or Thuja is one of our most valuable remedies. It will cure lupus or rodent ulcer by applying the pure tincture to the diseased structure three or four times a day. A little smarting is at first experienced, which soon passes off. Excrescences of the skin will melt away under daily applications of the remedy. Its influence upon cystic growths, involving mucous membranes about the eye, has a most pronounced effect for good. Trachoma yields promptly under the daily use of the non-alcoholic extract. In some cases it may be diluted with water one-half. But the most pronounced benefit I have observed from its use in affections of the eye is in that of pterygium, complicated with sclerotic and palpebral conjunctivitis.

A young man who had been working in the dust was overcome and prostrated and brought home, when I was summoned to see him; found profound and severe headache, pain in the eyes; ordered hot pediluvia, warm bath to head and eyes, with indicated sedatives, and rest, in recumbent attitude. In two or three days he was all right, except sore eyes with the pterygium. Prescribed equal parts of water and Thuja, and in a few days the conjunctivitis had entirely disappeared, and the daily application of the above mixture to the pterygia (for both eyes were affected with them) for a month; they have both disappeared and are well. *The Homoeopathic News.*

Long's Thuja.-An extract to be used in the eye, alcohol being objectionable. Dr. D. Thomas Long, Topeka, Kansas, desired a preparation of the consistency of a cerate, embodying all the properties of the preparation of Thuja, in a form that could be mixed with vaseline. This is called Long's Thuja. It is of the consistence of a cerate, and will mix smoothly and evenly, with either vaseline, lard, cerate or oil, and is designed specially for unctuous preparation to be used in the eye; price 25 cents per ounce.-*The Eclectic Medical Gleaner*

### Specific Usages and Indications of Thuja.

Chancroid; verrucous growths of soft character and foul odor; enuresis of children, urinal dribbling of the aged; vesical irritation and atony; urine easily expelled upon coughing, sneezing, or muscular exertion.

### Dosages.

*Oil of Thuja* – 1 to 3 drops on sugar or in emulsion.

*Specific Thuja* – 1 to 20 drops.

*Aqueous Thuja* – 1 to 30 drops.

*Long's thuja* – Full strength to 1/8 strength.

Aqueous Thuja and Specific Thuja may be employed full strength or diluted according to purpose to be accomplished.

## Prices of Thuja Preparations

Specific Medicine Thuja	1/4-lb. Package, 60c each			By mail, 82c each
	1/2-lb. “ 1.15 “			Not mailable
	1-lb. “ 2.25 “			Not mailable.
Felter’s (Aqueous) Thuja	1-oz. “ 20c “			By mail, 29c each
	1/4-lb. “ 65c “			By mail, 87c each
	1/2-lb. “ 1.25 “			Not mailable.
	1-lb. “ 2.50 “			Not mailable
Long’s Thuja	1-oz. “ 25c “			By mail, 34c each
	1/4-lb. “ 90c “			By mail, 1.12 each
	1/2-lb. “ 1.75 “			Not mailable.
	1-lb. “ 3.50 “			Not mailable
Thuja Ointment	1-oz. “ 15c “			By mail, 24c each
	1/4-lb. “ 35c “			By mail, 50c each
	1/2-lb. “ 65c “			Not mailable.
	1-lb. “ 1.20 “			Not mailable
Oil of Thuja	1-oz. “ 60c			By mail, 69c each

For sale by Pharmacists generally and by all Wholesale  
Druggists of America

May, 1904

LLOYD BROTHERS, Cincinnati, Ohio