

A TREATISE

ON

Collinsonia Canadensis.

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

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Collinsonia Canadensis.
(STONE ROOT.)

The Name.-This plant has the common names Knob-root, Knob-weed, Rich-weed, Rich-leaf, Horse-balm, and is improperly called Horse-weed, Hard-hack, and Heal-all. It is however best known under the rational name of *Stone-root*, which applies because the root is both very heavy and very hard, the term having been originally employed by the Shakers, who first packed the drug for commerce. Even when green it is as tough as a hickory knot, and when dry it is impossible to powder it by ordinary appliances. The writer has seen Stone-root break a steel mill, while the usual burrstone mill fails utterly as a pulverizer. Possibly Wild Yam-root (*Dioscorea villosa*) parallels Stone-root in toughness. In each case only the modern high speed steel mills are practical as pulverizers, whether the root be green or dry. Collinsonia grows in moist woods from Canada to Florida.

History.-The technical name, Collinsonia, was given this plant in honor of Peter Collinson,* an enthusiastic English merchant botanist, who, in early years (born 1693, died 1768), took great interest in transporting to England and cultivating new American plants. (See Drug Study No. IV, *Veratrum viride*, "History") Collinsonia was not, however, used in medicine at that early date, nor did it attract the attention of such authoritative observers of the regular school as the Bartons, Duglison, Zollicoffer and Griffith, probably because it possessed no prominent, poisonous or violent quality to make it conspicuous.

However, the bruised leaves have long been used (Lee) in domestic medicine, in form of cataplasm, for bruises and wounds. Collinsonia as now employed is one of the drugs exclusively established by Eclectics, with whom it has been in use from an early date. It is increasingly a favorite. The statement found in the first edition of King's Dispensatory (1854) is similar to that in Lee's New York Plants (1848), and also conforms to the various prints and reprints of the early Thomsonian authors as well as those of the early Eclectic school. This statement gave the text, for subsequent clinical work of Eclecticism on this drug.

It can not but be regretted that the qualities of Collinsonia as now familiar to Eclectic physicians are not better known to the Regular profession, whose interest, as well as that of their patients, would be conserved by such a useful addition to their materia medica. But this is also true of many other excellent Eclectic remedies. (See also Drug Study No. V, Chionanthus, page 2.)

Part Used.-From the date of the introduction of Collinsonia into Eclectic therapy, and until a moderately recent period, preparations of the root only were employed. But in recent years the herb has been commended by some authorities, and judging from the reports concerning it, bids fair to come into general use. (See p. 15.)

Description.- THE ROOT.-Collinsonia is dark-brown, nearly black, knotty, very heavy, and is covered by a mass of tough, black, wire-like fibers. The green crushed root has a slight, peculiar odor, which disappears on drying. Internally, the dried root is white, odorless, and imparts little taste, even when long chewed.

The active principles are very difficult to abstract, whether the drug be finely ground or powdered, its constituents demanding an element of time for their solution, regardless of the menstruum employed.* Either the green or the dried root of Collinsonia imparts a deep, red-brown color to any menstruum that finally abstracts its full qualities. This color arises from the fact that its virtues reside largely in the rootlets, the brown epidermis, and the slightly colored subjacent portions, which must not be excluded if the operator expects to produce a representative preparation. In connection with Professor Scudder, the writer, preceding 1875, experimented persistently with large amounts of Collinsonia, and these investigations were continued for many years thereafter. Thousands of pounds of drug were employed, numberless failures resulting, before we became convinced that a menstruum making a light-colored preparation is always objectionable as an abstractor, and that any manipulative method which yields a light, straw-colored liquid is markedly deficient as contrasted with the possibilities of a proper solvent.* We have never known a sophisticant nor an adulterant of Collinsonia root, nor yet any considerable admixtures.



*Peter Collinson was a Quaker philanthropist, a friend of Benjamin Franklin, who served England well both in commerce and science. To him Benjamin Franklin communicated his first essays on electricity which through Collinson's influence were read before the Royal Society. But alas, "the connoisseurs" did not deem them worthy of publication in the Transactions of the Society. Collinson was a liberal patron of the Philadelphia library and a friend to American progress. His special services concerning the introduction of American plants to England continued to near the date of his death, Veratrum viride having been transplanted by him in 1768 (see Veratrum viride).

*This is an example of the fact that the stereotyped formula of the Pharmacopoeia is often inadequate. The element of *time* is an important factor in the abstracting of many drugs which slowly give up their virtues to a solvent. The equilibrium between drug constituents and solvents is sometimes so nearly balanced as to almost favor the drug attraction instead of the liquid. In such cases prolonged maceration (coaxing) is an absolute necessity, and quick percolation is faulty. Whoever attempts to abstract Collinsonia in 48 hours by means of a rational amount of any menstruum is destined to disappointment, as also are physicians using such a product.

The Herb.-Bruised *Collinsonia* herb has a peculiar, disagreeable odor, and an acrid taste. It imparts to alcohol a green color and an aromatic flavor. Our preparation has been called "Aromatic Specific *Collinsonia*," in contra-distinction to the root preparation, which is devoid of aroma. Botanical descriptions of the plant may be found in any botanical treatise on the North American flora.

Constituents.-*Collinsonia* parallels other vegetable products that as a whole are useful, but in which the isolated structural fragments are not the equivalent of the drug. No definite therapeutical agent has ever been identified in *Collinsonia* or obtained from it. Mr. Lochman (1885) obtained resin, starch, tannin and wax from the plant, mucilage from the root, and traces of a volatile oil from the leaves, but nothing outside the usual constituents of plants. No alkaloid, essential oil, glucoside, or vegetable acid carrying even an individuality of its own, has been picked out of the drug. In this it differs from *Veratrum viride* (see Drug Study No. IV), which is such a mine of richness to the chemical juggler, yielding a multitude of questionable and mysterious educts. Nor, by reason of its insipidity and its lack of odor, can *Collinsonia* be classed with such drugs as *Chionanthus*, which, although devoid of chemical equivalents, is yet possessed of strong sensible qualities both of taste and smell. *Collinsonia*, like Ergot and most other vegetable remedies, is most valuable either as a whole, or in preparations carrying its selected qualities. Nochemistry, no heroic pharmacy can be tolerated in its manipulation.

Pharmaceutical Preparations.-The pharmacopoeia, from its first edition, 1820, has failed to give *Collinsonia* a place. The dispensaries, except the American, touch it gently, carrying about what Lee of New York wrote in 1848, and he took his brief record from Rafinesque, 1830. None of these parties venture to suggest a formula for a pharmaceutical preparation of the drug. The fluid extract, made by means of any formula whatever, with any menstruum whatever, and out of any kind of *Collinsonia*, green or dried, fresh or old, is often the only preparation at the command of physicians. Such extracts are naturally of many and different qualities, varying in accordance with all the conditions that govern preparations dominated by such different factors.

The "concentration or resinoid" of *Collinsonia* is even more uncertain than the extract in that, in addition to the foregoing, we have the effect of heat, the long spell of drying, and the admixture of inert material, whatever it may be. necessary to act both as an absorber and to enable the extract to be powdered and subsequently kept in the form of powder.* It has no intrinsic quality to speak its own praise. This "resinoid" was the cause of an acrid personal discussion between Professors John King and R. S. Newton about 1860. Newton lauded a prescription of the resinoid of *Collinsonia* and Morphine as a valuable compound. King asserted that the Morphine dominated the mixture, and that the so-called *Collinson* in was valueless. It is needless to say that King maintained his stand even in the face of the craze that then existed in behalf of the "new concentrations."

* It does not, however, necessarily follow that a dark preparation of *Collinsonia* is an authentic representative of the drug. In our experience light-colored preparations are defective but it can not be claimed that colored *Collinsonia* preparations are by that reason necessarily good remedies. Color is easily supplied if color only is wanted.

*Do not mistake such "concentrations or resinoids" as *C.ollinsonin*, *Cypripedin*, *Chionau thin*, *Geranin*, *Liatriin*, etc., indeed the majority of the list, are not definite compounds, nor will any maker of them assert that they have any scientific structural formation. They are even less uniform, less representative, than the commercial fluid extracts of the same drugs, and were relegated to professional oblivion by Eclecticism a quarter of a century ago.

Specific Medicine.- The preparation that is selected by the authors of the papers presented herein as representative of the therapy of Collinsonia is the Specific Medicine, which, as far as is possible, represents the full value of the very best Collinsonia. It has a brown-red color, an insipid taste, and is practically odorless. Added to water it scarcely precipitates, but the aqueous mixture inclines to opalescence. Specific Collinsonia is not to be commended by reason of carrying any one conspicuous chemical constituent or any group of structures. It is simply the result of long applied experimental pharmaceutical care and manipulative study spent in connection with a drug whose very indifference and lack of sensible qualities made the satisfactory evolution of a representative product exasperatingly tedious. Aromatic Specific Collinsonia is a preparation of the flowering top of the green, fresh herb, paralleling in strength that of the root. It has a green color, a not unpleasant fragrance, and a peculiar aromatic taste. It produces a greenish opalescence and a final precipitate, when mixed with water. Its aqueous mixture must therefore be stirred before administration. So far as we know, it is the only representative that has been made of the herb. On it the record of Collinsonia. herb in therapy has been established.

THE THERAPEUTICS OF COLLINSONIA.

By PROFESSOR W. N. MUNDY, M. D., Forest, Ohio.

This plant is, known under the various names of stone-root, rich-weed, rich-leaf, knob-weed, horse-balm, horse-weed. The plant, is claimed to possess the therapeutical values of an alterative, tonic, stimulant and diuretic.

Its principal therapeutical action seems to be exerted upon the venous system and mucous tissues. This action is largely through the medium of the pneumogastric, the drug relieving the conditions resultant from an irritation of the parts to which this nerve is distributed. In conditions attended with an arterial excitement and cardiac irritation it will overcome this irritation, and it is claimed it is through this same influence that it acts upon the mucous surfaces of the, stomach and other tissues of the body.

As a domestic remedy the bruised leaves have been used as a poultice in bruises, ulcers and sprains, and internally for various abdominal ailments.

The Specific Medicine Collinsonia we have used in various ailments for the past twenty years with considerable satisfaction. In studying its therapeutical properties there are three strongly distinctive indications which have served us as 'a sign-board for its internal administration. They are briefly: Congestion, Irritation and a sense of Constriction. This trinity of indications is characteristic, and easily remembered. Though these as a rule are sufficient, to them a fourth can be added with profit, namely, hemorrhoids.

This latter condition as a rule results from the first and second named, and all three are frequently due to a congestion of the portal system, upon which system Hale claims the remedy has a special action.

Its action as a tonic is upon the enfeebled muscular tissue, and from this, action the remedy has a distinct ability to overcome relaxed and atonic conditions of the heart muscles and walls of the veins and capillaries.

We esteem Collinsonia one of the best remedies we possess in chronic catarrhal diseases of the mucous tissues of the pharynx, naso-pharynx and larynx. In selecting it as a remedy in these diseases we follow the indications enumerated above, congestion, irritation and a sense of constriction. We find that chronic laryngitis, pharyngitis, and some forms of chronic bronchitis respond promptly to its therapeutic action. One of the most marked results in chronic catarrhal pharyngitis we ever witnessed resulted from the internal administration of Specific Collinsonia, uncombined with other remedies, save only the vehicle, simple syrup.

The conditions calling for its administration are a relaxed condition of the mucous tissues of the pharyngeal walls; they are of dark red color, and show evidences of an enfeebled capillary circulation.

Collinsonia has long been a popular remedy for that condition of the larynx known as " Minister's Sore Throat." This condition usually results from a prolonged and excessive use of the voice in a strained or unnatural key. The result is a congestion or hyperaemic condition of the vocal organs. This produces aphonia, cough, and a sense of, constriction, which is promptly relieved by this remedy. It relieves the congestion and gives tone to the enfeebled organs.

It is also an excellent remedy in the following diseases of the digestive system: chronic gastritis or indigestion, where the circulation is defective and digestion is attended with pain and nervous symptoms occurring before meals; also when in addition to the derangement of digestion there is a congestion of the liver and a tendency to hemorrhoids.

In the early stages of diarrhoea and some cases of dysentery Collinsonia is a good remedy, as well as in flatulent, biliary and infantile colic. Dr. John V. Shoemaker in Sajous Annual, 1888, ascribes to this remedy antispasmodic properties and prescribes it in gastralgia, where morphine and belladonna afford but temporary relief. Postle in the Ohio Transactions for 1902, page 122, says it is good in congestion and irritation of the mucous membranes, be it in the mouth, throat, lungs, kidneys, urethra or rectum. He warmly advocates it for nurse's sore mouth, esteeming it above any other remedy. The conditions calling for it are the same as elsewhere, namely, a reddened, irritated and congested mucous membrane of the mouth and throat.

Of all the internal remedies for hemorrhoids, it is without doubt the best. We have frequently prescribed it with success and we find upon investigation that many, in fact all, writers upon the remedy, to which we have access, accord to it the same value we do in hemorrhoidal conditions. It is indeed one of the pronounced indications for the remedy. Hemorrhoids frequently result from a derangement of the portal circulation. Hale says it has a special action upon this circulation; hence its value in congestion of the liver and its circulatory apparatus. Not only is it of value in hemorrhoids, but it relieves spasms of the sphincter ani, proctitis, prolapsus ani, and many of the vague pelvic and abdominal symptoms due to these conditions. It is in these conditions Shoemaker advises the use of suppositories made from the powdered root. It not only relieves these conditions, but frequently alleviates many of the reflex disorders induced by them, such as cough, asthma, chorea, headache and cardiac distress. We do not pretend to say it cures these diseases, no matter what may be the cause, but we desire it to be understood that it is only when they arise as reflex disorders from certain forms of rectal irritation which, convey the indications as above enumerated. In the conditions named we have clearly before us the indication, hemorrhoids and constipation, due to vascular engorgement of the pelvic viscera. A sense of constriction, heat and weight in the rectum, with dry, scybalous faeces.

In genito-urinary difficulties Collinsonia has also some therapeutic value. In incontinence of urine it often relieves when other measures fail. Shoemaker, quoted above, administers it after supper and at bed-time for this difficulty. In vesical and urethral hyperaesthesia and calculous affections it is also of considerable value.

In the National Transactions for 1899-1900, Dr. Hogan recommends it as a topical application, in dysmenorrhoea and chronic endometritis. It is also of considerable value in amenorrhoea and leucorrhoea when administered internally. This therapeutic value is no doubt due to its action upon the mucous surfaces.

As has been stated, it has considerable influence upon the pneumogastric, hence its use in some forms of functional heart difficulties, such as irregularities, especially when they are dependent upon hysteria or chlorosis.

The fact is apparent from what has been stated that the medicine is of value in congestion and irritation of the mucous membranes, no matter where located.

The indications for its use will be enumerated again without fear of being tedious. A sense of constriction with irritation in the throat, larynx or anus. A sense of constriction with tickling in the throat, with a cough arising from the use of the voice. A sensation as if a foreign body were lodged in the rectum, with contraction of the sphincter and a contracted and painful perineum. Sticking pains In the larynx, heart or bladder, vesical tenesmus. Our personal selection of the remedy is based, as we have noted above, upon the trinity-congestion, irritation, and a sense of constriction; these combined with a hemorrhoidal tendency or condition form a combination which points to the selection of this remedy with a positiveness that amounts to almost a certainty.

DOSAGE:-As a remedy in catarrhal affections of the throat we use Specific Collinsonia, half ounce or ounce; simple syrup or water, four ounces; teaspoonful to a dose. In hemorrhoidal conditions the dose is smaller. Half drachm Specific Collinsonia to a four ounce mixture. Dose, a teaspoonful.

Therapeutic uses of Collinsonia, from the writings of physicians who employ it.

Collinsonia Physiological Action.-Collinsonia stimulates the stomach, promoting its own absorption. It is actively tonic in its influence on the entire function of this organ, and from this influence its beneficial action is exercised upon the functions of all the vital organs.

Collinsonia acts as a tonic to enfeebled muscular structure of the heart. It is conspicuous in its ability to overcome relaxed and out of tone conditions of the walls of the veins. It has a direct influence upon atonic or dilated or otherwise impaired conditions of the veins and venous capillaries.

Specific Symptomatology.-In Piles with a sense of fullness, or of a foreign body in the rectum, in all relaxed conditions of the mucous membranes of the lower bowel, Collinsonia is the remedy. It works more promptly if there is passive congestion with blueness or dark discoloration of the membranes, showing imperfect venous capillary circulation.

Therapy.-It is a specific remedy for hemorrhoids. If they are of recent origin, they can be cured in from three days to a week with this agent. The most intractable cases will be relieved and permanently benefited by its persistent use.

In *catarrhal gastritis*, where the circulation is defective, Collinsonia, either alone or combined with hydrastis, is of first importance. These agents combined improve the tone of the stomach, strengthening its walls and its mucous membranes, and increasing the strength and character of its glandular structure. They increase the appetite and greatly improve the digestion and assimilation of food. This combination is a superb general tonic in relaxed and debilitated conditions, and combined with iron can hardly be excelled.

Acute inflammations do not readily yield to Collinsonia, although it is an excellent auxiliary to the indicated treatment. When piles are operated upon, this remedy may be given before and after the operation to advantage. The author has cured many cases by equal parts of Collinsonia and Hamamelis Virginica, giving twenty to thirty drops of the mixture every two hours. Distilled hamamelis can be injected into the rectum, or kept in contact with the external piles by a compress, especially during sleep. Or an occasional application of the liquor of the persulphate of iron in full strength can be made to stubborn external piles. Collinsonia is of great value in the hemorrhoids of the pregnant female, with imperfect venous circulation in the pelvic viscera.

Pain in the rectum from whatever cause, especially pain not attributable to a definite cause, and pain after surgical operations, is quickly and more or less permanently relieved by Collinsonia. In pain in the lower bowels, persistent and steady, Collinsonia is specific. Either single full doses or doses of five minims of the Specific Medicine every ten minutes, should be given in water. It is recommended as a remedy for diseases of the bladder, but it could hardly be of service unless in case of over-distended, relaxed and enfeebled walls, and muscular stricture of this organ with imperfect capillary circulation, perhaps, accompanying hemorrhoids.

Collinsonia is a *heart tonic* of direct and permanent influence. It does not seem to stimulate the heart to sudden action, but its continued use induces steady, permanent and highly satisfactory improvement in the strength and character of the organ, and a correspondingly improved general circulation.

It is valuable when the heart is debilitated from protracted fevers, or from *rheumatic inflammation*, or from overstrain. It will be found excellent in the bicycle heart, in conjunction with small doses of *cactus grandiflorus*.

In *chronic laryngitis or pharyngitis*, with relaxed walls of the larynx or pharynx, with dark discoloration and enfeebled capillary circulation, Collinsonia exercises a prompt and direct influence, especially in the condition known as *clergyman's sore throat*, caused or increased by the use of the voice.

In atonic conditions of the circulation of a local character, where *passive hemorrhages* are of frequent occurrence without apparent cause, where there is increasing debility, Collinsonia and hamamelis in conjunction given as above indicated are positive curatives.- *Webster, Materia Medica and Therapeutics*.

Collinsonia Canadensis.-Collinsonia is specific in minister's sore throat; administered in the proportion of: ℞. Specific Collinsonia, fl. ℥ ss; simple syrup, fl. ℥ jss. Half teaspoonful to a teaspoonful four times a day.

It proves beneficial in other cases of chronic laryngitis, in chronic bronchitis, and phthisis, allaying irritation, and checking cough.

It also exerts a favorable influence upon the digestive processes, improving the appetite, facilitating digestion, and acting as a general tonic.

It passes off through the kidneys, and exerts a tonic influence upon the entire extent of the urinary tract. I have thought that its influence was specially exerted upon and through the *pneumogastric*, relieving irritation of, and giving strength to parts supplied from this source.

Collinsonia is specific in the early stages of hemorrhoids, and will sometimes effect a cure in the advanced stages of the disease. In this case it is employed in small doses: ℞. Specific Collinsonia, gtt. x; water, ℥ iv. A teaspoonful four times a day.

I have given the therapeutics of Collinsonia thus briefly, that the points named might make the greater impression upon the reader. In regard it as one of the most direct and valuable agents of the materia medica, and one that will give satisfaction to whoever employs it.-*Scudder; Specific Medication*.

Collinsonia.-This is the remedy for hemorrhoids, with a sense of heat, burning or constriction in the rectum. It is a remedy for diseases of digestion, functional diseases of the urinary apparatus, and diseases of the reproductive organs, if the above symptoms are present. It is a remedy in diseases of the respiratory apparatus, when the irritation points in the larynx, with change in the voice, or inability to use it without irritation~ Add gtt. v to xx to water ℥ iv; a teaspoonful every two to four hours.-*Scudder, Specific Medication, page 402*.

Collinsonia Canadensis.- This old remedy occupies an important place in our materia medica. New remedies have supplanted many of our older remedial agents, but Collinsonia, in certain diseases, is still without a rival, and the wrongs over which it possesses a curative power are numerous, and cover a wide range of abnormal conditions.

Collinsonia Canadensis, commonly known as stone-root, ox-balm and several other local names, is usually found in rich, moist woods, from Canada to Florida. It grows from two to four feet in height, and has thin leaves from six to eight inches in length by three or four inches in width. The root, which 'contains its most active' medicinal properties, is from three to six inches in length, and covered with stem scars, giving it a knotty appearance.

In catarrhal conditions of the respiratory mucous membrane, most speedy and beneficial results are obtained from the timely exhibition of Collinsonia.

The cough of consumptives is greatly lessened by its use, as is also that caused by excessive use of the voice. In the chronic form of laryngitis, commonly known as minister's sore throat, it is a superior remedy when administered in medicinal doses, The prescription in this troublesome affection should be as follows:

℞ Specific Collinsonia, - - 3 ij.
Simple Syrup. - - - q. s. ad ℥ iv.

M. Sig. One teaspoonful every three or four hours.

The uniform and powerful action of Collinsonia upon the mucous membrane of the throat is also manifested in its curative influence in follicular pharyngitis and chronic bronchitis. In these conditions the dose should be from two to five drops of the Specific Medicine every two to four hours.

The tonic action of this drug upon the heart is direct, decided and permanent. It is one of our most efficient remedies when the heart is debilitated from long continued disease, and especially in protracted rheumatic troubles. It relieves the irritation of the heart, and increases its power and regularity of contraction. In mitral regurgitation it may be administered with confidence in its modifying power. In all functional wrongs of the heart its tonic influence is promptly made apparent. In doses of from two to five drops of the Specific Medicine it almost invariably relieves the distressing cough which frequently accompanies diseases of the heart.

Collinsonia has a specific action upon the vascular system, and the power of the capillaries is markedly increased under its influence. In passive hemorrhage, when the capillary circulation of the part involved is enfeebled, it exerts a speedily manifested controlling influence, and in all conditions showing a lack of tonicity of the walls of the blood-vessels it is specifically indicated. This power of increasing the tone of the circulatory system makes it an energetic remedial agent in many cases of dropsy. The dose employed in these conditions should be ten drops of the Specific Medicine every two or three hours.

In atonic states of the stomach Collinsonia constitutes a medicament which gives most satisfactory results, and is especially indicated in catarrhal gastritis when the circulation is defective. In bowel affections it soothes and heals, and gives tone to the intestinal mucous surfaces. It is therefore an agent of much value in many cases of diarrhoea and dysentery.

In hemorrhoids Collinsonia is our most efficient remedy, and will cure all cases susceptible to therapeutic action. Perhaps I can more clearly present its wonderful power over this abnormal condition, and at the same time more forcibly impress upon the mind the indications here calling for exhibition, if I briefly report a case occurring in my own practice. A feeble woman, about fifty years of age, consulted me in reference to hemorrhoids which had caused her much suffering for many years. She had recently consulted a surgeon who advised an operation, and another doctor told her he could speedily remove the affliction by injecting the tumors with a mixture of carbolic acid and sweet oil. An examination revealed numerous small piles protruding and displayed within the rectum largely dilated veins. She suffered from an almost constant sensation of some foreign body in the rectum, and a contraction of the sphincter, which at times became very painful.

I told her that her health was not such as to justify an operation, and that in view of the many dilated veins, the injection suggested would be somewhat dangerous, as a clot might possibly form and be forced into the portal circulation and cause embolism of the liver. On being assured that a considerable relief from her sufferings could be obtained by the judicious and continued use of medicine, she decided to place herself under my treatment. I gave her a vial of Specific Collinsonia and directed her to add ten drops of the medicine to thirty teaspoonfuls of water and take one teaspoonful of the dilution every two hours.

I also gave her a weak solution of the persulphate of iron, to which was added an equal quantity of the tincture of opium, and advised her to use the combination twice a day as a local application. This treatment was continued for six months, at which time the protruding piles had disappeared and the dilated veins had resumed their normal state.

The hemorrhoids of pregnant women, caused by imperfect venous circulation of the pelvic viscera are also subject to its control, and the unpleasant condition which gives a sense of constriction, weight and heat in the rectum, from which many child-bearing women suffer severely, yields with reasonable promptness to its soothing influence. Most pains in the rectum, when not caused by organic change, come within its healing properties. In all rectal diseases the small dose gives the best results.

Collinsonia exerts a tonic action upon the entire urinary tract, and in most diseases of the kidneys and bladder its curative power is quickly manifested. Under its influence the secretion from the kidneys is considerable augmented, and dropsical fluids removed. In catarrhal affections of the kidneys, bladder and entire genito-urinary organs, this drug will aid much in bringing about a complete recovery.

Collinsonia has a direct and stimulating action upon the absorbent system and mucous membranes, and is, therefore, of great usefulness in diseases of the glandular system. Its beneficial effect in dropsies is in no small degree owing to its stimulating influence upon the absorbent system. In wrongs of this nature it should be administered in doses of from five to ten drops of the Specific Medicine every two or three hours until the system is brought under its control, and then continued in medium or even small doses three or four times a day.

Collinsonia is a tonic, stimulant, astringent, diaphoretic, diuretic and alterative. In very large doses it is irritant and emetic.

The most prominent specific indications for Collinsonia are as follows: Irritation, with a sense of constriction in the larynx; oppression with tightness in the epigastrium; painful constriction in the rectum; hemorrhoids with constriction of the sphincter, and a sense of a foreign body in the rectum; passive congestion with dark discoloration of mucous membrane; relaxed condition of mucous membranes, especially of the lower bowel.

The dose of Collinsonia is ten drops of the Specific Medicine, but in many cases the best effect can be obtained by adding ten drops of the Specific Medicine to four ounces of water and administering one teaspoonful of the dilution every hour to every two or three hours.-John W. Fyfe, M.D.

Collinsonia is a very good alterative in chronic diseases of the urinary organs, acting specifically in many instances, in dropsy, calculous affections, etc. It has a good influence on the digestive process and improves the appetite. It relieves irritation of the mucous surfaces, especially of the pelvic viscera. It is valuable in atonic dyspepsia, and is specific for hemorrhoids with a constant sensation of some foreign body in the lower bowels. In atonic dyspepsia with constipation, good results may be expected from it. It is especially good if hemorrhoids are also present. It relieves hemorrhoids in the pregnant female. Use it in dysmenorrhoea, leucorrhoea, and prolapsus uteri, if there be hemorrhoids associated with these disorders. For these hemorrhoidal and other rectal disorders the small dose acts better than the large one. As a rule give the following.:

R̄. Specific Collinsonia, - - - gtt. x. to xv: or xxx
Aqua, - - - - - fl ℥ iv.

M. Sig. Dose, from one-half to one teaspoonful every three hours.

This agent has a specific influence on the tissues and valves of the heart, hence it becomes very valuable in some heart troubles. For rheumatic carditis it is a very reliable remedy. It is also valuable in chronic inflammation of the pericardium, giving rise to dropsical effusions. It is claimed to be an absolute specific for minister's sore throat, and in chronic disease of the larynx, bronchi, etc., checking the cough and disease.

For the throat trouble give it much stronger than recommended for hemorrhoids.

R̄. Specific Collinsonia, - - - ft 5 ss.
Simple Syrup, - - - fl ℥ iss.

M. Sig. Dose, from one-half to one teaspoonful every three hours.

Use the remedy in spermatorrhoea accompanied with hemorrhoids. Owing to the fact that it does not derange the stomach, it is an excellent remedy. *Extract from Locke's Materia Medica and Therapeutics.*

Collinsonia is said to be alterative, tonic, stimulant and, diuretic. It acts principally on the venous system and mucous tissues, and undoubtedly has a marked action on the vagus, relieving irritation in parts to which that nerve is distributed. Small doses of the green plant will promptly provoke emesis. It has long been a popular domestic remedy for various disorders. The bruised leaves were applied as a poultice in burns, bruises, wounds, sores, sprains, and for internal abdominal ailments. The root was used in female complaints, piles, urinary diseases, and gastro-intestinal affections.

The remedy has been used with varying degrees of success by the profession in female disorders, amenorrhoea, dysmenorrhoea, menorrhagia, vicarious menstruation, prolapsus uteri, leucorrhoea, threatened abortion, and pruritus-vulvae, dependent on varicosis.

Stone Root being diuretic, and tonic, was formerly much used in genito-urinary troubles. It was highly thought of in a calculous diathesis. While very much overrated, it is probable that it was not without beneficial results in toning up the renal organs and allaying irritation consequent upon the presence of gravel. It is certainly a good remedy in vesical catarrh. Good results have come from its employment in spermatorrhoea and varicocele, when accompanied by piles.

Catarrhal conditions, whether of renal, vesical, or genito urinary organs, or of the respiratory mucous surfaces, are speedily benefited by it. Even the cough of phthisis is rendered much less harassing by its administration.

One of the first uses of Collinsonia by Eclectics was in the treatment of that form of laryngitis known as "minister's sore throat." For this condition it is the best agent we possess. It is equally valuable in other forms of chronic laryngitis, pharyngitis, and in some cases of chronic bronchitis, and trachitis. It is an excellent remedy for aphonia, resulting from vascular hyperaemia, or from congestion. In throat troubles,

R̄. Specific Collinsonia, - - - 3 ii.-℥ j.
Simple syrup, q. s., - - - ℥ iv.

M. Sig. Teaspoonful every three or four hours.

In diseases of the gastro-intestinal tract, it is beneficial in relieving the irritation, improving the appetite, promoting the flow of gastric juice, and in exerting a decided tonic effect upon the organs involved. It is more clearly indicated when piles are present as a complication. It is a good remedy in indigestion, irritative dyspepsia, chronic gastritis, chronic gastric catarrh, diarrhoea, dysentery colic, and spasmodic conditions of the stomach and intestines. By its tonic action upon the bowels, it is a valuable remedy for constipation. Perhaps one of the most direct indications for Collinsonia, is a hemorrhoidal and constipated state due to vascular engorgement of the pelvic viscera., The most marked symptoms calling for it will be a sense of constriction, heat and weight in the rectum, with dry, scybalous feces. Under these conditions the remedy gives marked relief, especially so in pregnant women. In rectal ailments give the small dose,

R̄. Specific Collinsonia, gtt. x-xv.
Aqua, ℥ iv.

M. Sig. Teaspoonful every three or four hours.

Collinsonia acts upon the tissues and valves of the heart, relieving irritation, increasing its power to act, and regulating its, contractions. It is a serviceable drug in hydropericardium, rheumatic heart troubles, and functional disturbances due to irritation of the stomach.

Mitral regurgitation and the distressing cough of heart disease, are greatly benefited by its administration. ℞. Specific Collinsonia gtt. iij every hour. Lack of tonicity of the blood vessels is overcome by Collinsonia. In short, passive vascular engorgement with dilated capillaries, torpid portal circulation, and lack of muscular tonicity, call for stone root. The keynote is a *sense of weight and constriction* in the part affected. The dose should vary from one-tenth drop to fifteen drops Specific Collinsonia; the smaller dose being preferable in hemorrhoids. Prof. Scudder points out as indications for this drug, a sense of constriction, irritation in throat, larynx or anus, with tickling in throat, with cough arising from use of the voice; a sensation as if a foreign body were lodged in the rectum, with contraction of sphincter; and contracted and painful perineum.-*H. W. Felter, M. D., in The Medical Gleaner.*

Collinsonia.- This is not one of the newer remedies, but it is an efficient one nevertheless. Under old methods Collinsonia has been variously classified. It has been called a tonic, a diuretic, an astringent, a diaphoretic, an alterative, a stimulant, a carminative, a discutient, etc. Had we nothing but these names to guide us to a practical use of this, or in fact any other drug, there certainly would be room for guess-work. The fact that a drug is "said to be good" for such and such diseases, does not avail us much.

The Eclectic finger-boards pointing to the use of Collinsonia are few, but they are positive, and our experiences with the drug, based upon these indications, are sufficiently satisfactory to warrant us in not only recommending it, but in urging JOURNAL readers to its use. The late Prof. J. M. Scudder said of Collinsonia: "I regard it as one of the most direct and valuable agents of the *materia medica*, and one that will give satisfaction to whoever employs it. "The only qualification that we would attach to this declaration is, that a fresh and reliable preparation of the drug must be used. The indications pointing to the use of Collinsonia may be summed up in a very few words, They are *congestion, irritation, with a sense of constriction*, and its application as a remedy is beneficial, no matter what part of the digestive tract is most disturbed, The above indications are frequently pronounced in diseases of the throat or larynx, diseases of the stomach, and in diseases of the rectum and anus. Besides, we believe that through its general tonic affect, Collinsonia markedly benefits chronic disturbances of the genito-urinary organs.

AROMATIC SPECIFIC COLLINSONIA.

By PROFESSOR KENT O. FOLTZ, M. D., Cincinnati, O.

Regarding the use of Aromatic Specific Collinsonia would say that my attention was first called to the preparation of the flowering top of Collinsonia by Professor H. T. Webster, M. D., of Oakland, California, in the summer of 1890. My father, Wm. K. Foltz, M. D., has made use of it for the last five years. He states that in many conditions he prefers it to the root preparation. He says:

"My experience with Aromatic Specific Collinsonia has been very satisfactory in diseases of the respiratory passages, especially in pharyngitis, laryngitis and bronchitis. In rectal and cystic diseases it is a favorite remedy. It may be given with most confidence wherever there is vascular disturbance of the mucous surfaces with marked venous congestion, whether acute or chronic. In pharyngo-laryngitis I consider it specific. With the above indications I prefer Aromatic Specific Collinsonia to that of the root, and now invariably prescribe it as giving better and quicker results.

"I am inclined to the opinion that the aromatic principle in the green plant is an important remedial agent which does, not exist in the root. My use of the drug has been mostly along the line indicated, and has been so uniformly good that I seldom think of any other except the associate remedy."

My own experience with the drug has been mainly with laryngeal diseases, especially where hoarseness and tickling in the larynx were present, the result seeming much more satisfactory than with the preparation made from the root.

The indications for the use of the drug I have found no different than from those given for the Specific Medicine now in the market, the results, however, have been much more satisfactory From Dr. George P. Burtchby, who for years has used large amounts of Aromatic Specific Collinsonia.

Aromatic Specific Collinsonia has served me well. I have used it in diseases of the stomach with an irritable, heart; wrong coming through the pneumogastric nerve; laryngeal irritation, with hoarseness or loss of voice; pain in hypogastrium, when of rectal origin; functional heart troubles, and chronic inflammation of pleura.

The place in which this new preparation of Collinsonia has been of most use to me is in laryngeal troubles and diseases of the stomach, with enfeebled enervation and functional heart troubles. The dose I use is as follows: j to iij ʒ of Aromatic Specific Collinsonia to iv ʒ water. Teaspoonful of the mixture every hour in acute troubles: every three or four hours in chronic cases.

Indications and Uses of Specific Medicine Collinsonia.

This is the remedy for hemorrhoids, with a sense of heat, burning or constriction in the rectum. It is a remedy for diseases of digestion, functional diseases of the urinary apparatus, and diseases of the reproductive organs, if the above symptoms are present. It is a remedy in diseases of the respiratory apparatus, when the irritation points in the larynx, with change in the voice, or inability to use it without irritation.

For the latter purpose no remedy has exceeded Collinsonia in that form of laryngeal irritation and sub-acute inflammation known as "minister's sore throat"-chronic laryngitis. It is the remedy for hoarseness in those who speak or sing for a livelihood, such hoarseness being due either to vascular hyperaemia or to congestion. The small dose is most effectual in hemorrhoidal troubles while in laryngeal affections large doses are required.

Indications and Uses by J. M. Scudder, M. D. Indications.-Sense of constriction, with irritation in throat, larynx or anus.

Use.-In minister's sore throat; in chronic laryngitis, chronic bronchitis, and some cases of gastric disease. It allays irritation in some cases of urinary disease. A specific in hemorrhoids when the above indications are present.

Dose.- ℞. Collinsonia, ʒ i.
 Simple Syrup, ʒ iij.

M. A teaspoonful four times a day.

For the last use

℞ Collinsonia, gtts x.
 Water, ʒ iv.

M. A teaspoonful of the dilution four times a day.