Alexander Leslie Blackwood
A Manual of Materia Medica Therapeutics and Pharmacology

Leseprobe

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von Alexander Leslie Blackwood
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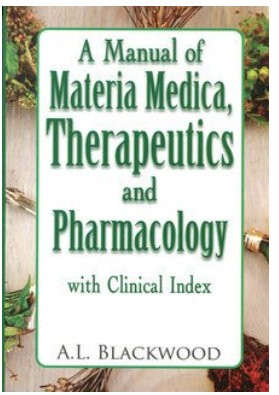

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BLACKWOOD'S
MATERIA MEDICA

HOMOEPATHIC PHARMACEUTICS

The *American Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia,* the *British Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia,* the *Pharmacopoeia Homoeopathica Polyglotta* and the *American Institute of Homoeopathy Pharmacopoeia* are the four principal works on the preparation of homoeopathic medicine. The latter work in its second edition is called the *Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia of the United States.* These publications were all used in this compilation of Homoeopathic Pharmaceutics.

The *American Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia* classifies the various plants, animals, etc., into nine classes, each substance being prepared according to the rules laid down in its particular class. The drug power of the resulting medicine being the drug power of the particular class under which it is prepared. This classification is also used in the German Pharmacopoeia.

Preliminary to the preparation of the various medicines, the following pharmacopoeia rules are to be observed:

All utensils, including bottles, corks, measuring glasses, mortars, spatulas, spoons, sieves, presses, chopping blocks, etc., must be thoroughly cleansed. The bottles should be white flint glass, and where remedies are affected by the light, black glass should be used. The glass should be of the best quality ; mortars for pulverizing hard substances should be of highly polished iron ; for triturating purposes either porcelain or wedgewood ; spatulas and spoons must be made of horn, bone or porcelain. The tincture press has to be simply constructed, so as to be readily cleaned, and all parts

of it that come in contact with the medicinal plant should be gold plated.

The three menstrua that are mostly used in homceopathic pharmacy are distilled water, pure alcohol and saccharum lactis.

Water should be distilled in a gold-lined, or block tin still. The first and last portions of the yield should not be used.

Only pure grain alcohol that has been redistilled, thereby entirely freeing it from fusel oil, is to be used in homoeopathic pharmacy. This is reduced to 87 per cent., which is the standard strength, by adding one part of distilled water to seven parts of pure alcohol, which is about 95 per cent.—that is, it is 95 per cent. pure.

Certain tinctures must be attenuated (in order to get a perfect solution) with an alcohol that is still more dilute, therefore the 87 per cent is further diluted by making a mixture of seven parts of 87 per cent alcohol and three parts of distilled water. This is known as dilute alcohol.

The test for fusel oil is to slowly add to the alcohol its own weight of pure, concentrated sulphuric acid. If the alcohol is pure, it remains colorless, but if fusel oil is present, a reddish color will be developed from a formation of amyl sulphuric acid.

Saccharum lactis, the common name of which is sugar of milk, the formula being $C_{12}H_{22}O_{11}H_2O$, is one of the constituents of milk. The casein of the milk is coagulated by addition of rennet; this being removed, the residue is a solution of milk sugar, called whey. This substance is crystallized; the crystals are afterward dissolved in water, filtered through charcoal and recrystallized; the second yield is a chemically pure sugar of milk.

Formerly this substance was obtained almost entirely from Switzerland, but American manufacturers have in the last few years surpassed the Swiss in the quality of this product.

Globules, or pellets, are made of pure cane sugar in a wooden lined, copper kettle. The addition of any substance, such as starch, flour, glucose or glycerine, for any purpose, is an adulteration and not allowable.

The sizes of pellets are numbered from 8 to 80. The

be of a reliable make, the writer specifying the particular manufacture.

Many chemicals are incompatible with the other and should never be included in the same prescription, as, for instance, mineral acids with the alkalies, metallic salts with the alkalies and tannic acid, being precipitated by them, the alkaloids with tannic acid and caustic alkalies, also all drugs are incompatible with their antidotes.

The following is the maximum dose of some of the more important drugs:

Aconitina, $^1/_{300}$ grain, with caution.
Atropine, $^1/_{120}$ to $^1/_{60}$ grain.
Acetanilid, 5 grains.
Antipyrin, 3 to 20 grains.
Amyl nitris, 1 to 3 minims, by inhalation.
Arsenic, Fowler's solution, 1 per cent., 2 to 10 minimi
Caffeine cit., 2 to 8 grains.
Camphor, 3 to 20 grains.
Cannabis Indica, 2 to 5 grains.
Chloral, 5 to 20 grains.
Digitalis, $^1/_2$ to 3 grains.
Ergot, 30 to 60 grains.
Nux vomica, 1 to 4 grains.
Strychnina, $^1/_{60}$ to $^1/_{20}$ grain.
Opium, $^1/_4$ to 2 grains.
Laudanum tincture, 3 to 20 minims.
Morphine sulph., $^1/_8$ to $^1/_4$ grain.
Phosphorus, $^1/_{100}$ to $^1/_{90}$ grain.
Saccharin (to replace sugar in diabetes), $^1/_2$ to 2 grains.
Salol, 5 to 30 grains ; child, $^1/_4$ to 1 grain.
Santonin, adult, 1 to 5 grains.
Sulphonal, 15 to 40 grains.

For the purpose of abbreviating, symbols are often used in prescription writing. The subjoined list being some of those most commonly used, their definitions also being given:

Receipt,	P,	Take.
Ana,	A. A.,	Of each.
Add,	Ad.,	Let be added.
Ad Libitum,	Ad. Lib.,	At pleasure.

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Aqua,	Aq.,	Water.
Aqua Fervens,	Aq. Ferv.,	Hot water.
Bis indies,	Bid.,	Twice daily.
Conguis,	C,	A gallon.
Capiat,	Cap.,	Let him take.
Cochleare,	Cochl,	A spoonful.
Compositus,	Com.,	A compound.
Doses,	D.,	A dose.
Decanta,	Dec,	Pour off.
Destilla,	Dest.,	Distil.
Detur,	Det.,	Let it be given.
Dilutus,	Oil.,	Dilute.
Drachma,	Drach.,	A drachm.
Fiat,	F.,	Let it be made.
Fiat Pilula,	F. Pil.,	Make into a pill.
Fluidus,	FL,	Fluid.
Granum,	Gr.,	A grain.
Gutta,	Gt.,	A drop.
Indies,	Ind.,	Daily.
Misce.	M.,	Mix.
Octarius,	O.,	A pint.
Omni hora,	Omn. Hor.,	Every hour.
Partes aequales,	P. Ae,	Equal parts.
Pilula,	Pil,	A pill.
Pulvis,	Pulv.,	A powder.
Quantum sufficit,	Q. S.,	As much as is sufficient.
Signa,	S.,	Give directions.
Semen,	Sem.,	Seed.
Singulorum,	Sing.,	Of each.
Spiritus,	Sp.,	Spirit.
Syrupus,	Syr.,	Syrup.
Tinctura,	Tinct. or Tr.,	Tincture,
Tritura,	Trit.,	Triturate.
Libra,	Lb.,	A pound.
Uncia,	,	An ounce.
Fluiduncia,	Fl. ,	A fluid ounce.
Drachma,	,	A drachm.
Scrupulum,	,	A scruple.
Minimum,	M.,	A minim.

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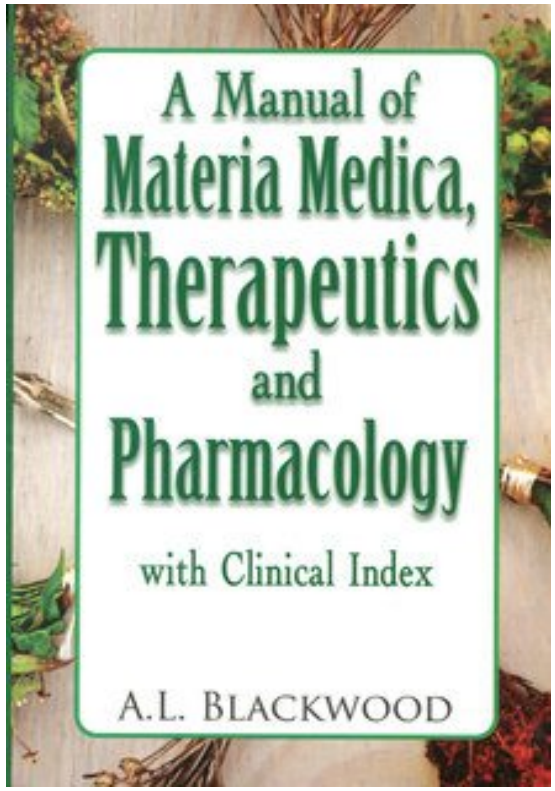

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