

# ◇ MEDICAL CRITICISM. ◇

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## “PHYSICIANS’ PRESCRIPTIONS CAREFULLY PREPARED,” AND TRANSLATED.

As our legislators evince their paternal interest in their constituents by enacting that the said constituents shall be informed what proportion of chicory is mixed with their coffee, they may be expected, in their more luminous moments, to conclude that it is worth while for those of the constituents who take medicine, to know what they are taking. Until these luminous moments arrive, it is probable that we shall anticipate a clause in the medical reform-bill of the future, by “carefully” prescribing, for our readers, and translating as we proceed. Let them “use as directed,” the following prescription:—

PEPSINE,—SIX [6] GRAINS.

Lanquid ladies who have become a prey to that insidious disease, consumption, and who may be seeking aid from pepsine, in relation to their digestive powers, will feel reassured as to its virtue, when they learn that the compound is the felicitous result of scraping the stomachs of pigs; the last repast of the luckless porker may not improbably have been made from the lungs of a consumptive cow, so that the suffering ladies can, if so disposed, apply the principle of “*similia similibus curantur*,” (like disorders are cured by their like) under the circumstances.

MORPHINE,—ONE-HALF [ $\frac{1}{2}$ ] GRAIN.

The euphonious name given to this product of opium, is traceable to the learning acquired by the medical practitioners, while passing through college; it is named after *Morpheus*, the god of sleep, and as a not infrequent consequence of its administration is a sleep from which the sufferers do not wake, no one can affirm that it is not well named.

AROMATIC SPIRIT OF AMMONIA,—TWO [2] DRACHMS.

In the case of Ammonia again, it ought to be consolitary to all who are induced to imbibe this liquid, that the classical attainments of their medical advisers have enabled them to dignify the droppings of horses, whence it is obtained, with “the style and title” of Jupiter Ammon.