

ACTION AND THERAPEUTICS.

Throughout the whole of India all classes of natives indulge in the habit of chewing betel leaves. White catechu and areca nut or betel nut, mixed with various spices and aromatics, are wrapped up in betel leaves which have been previously smeared with a little chunam or shell lime, and little masses of this mixture are chewed. This habit largely increases the amount of saliva. Betel leaves contain an aromatic oil. Warm and smeared with oil they are applied to the chest in bronchitis and pleurisy and to the breasts to retard the secretion of milk.

BENGAL KINO.

Butea Gummi. The inspissated juice from incisions of the stem of *Butea frondosa*.

Characters. Small, irregular, shining pieces of a very dark ruby colour.

Officially used in India and Eastern Countries.

ACTION AND THERAPEUTICS.

Butea gum, commonly called Bengal kino, is used for the same purposes and to make the same preparations as the kino known as East Indian, Madras, or Malabar kino (see p. 563).

BUTEA SEEDS.

Butea Semen. The seed of *Butea frondosa*.

Characters. Flat, uniform, about $\frac{1}{16}$ in. long, $\frac{1}{16}$ in. wide, and $\frac{1}{16}$ in. thick. Slightly, dark reddish brown.

Officially used in India and Eastern Countries.

Preparation.

Pulvis Buteæ Seminum.

Dose, 10 to 20 gr.

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Externally a paste made from these seeds has been used for ringworm. Internally the powder is given as a laxative and anthelmintic for round worms, in place of santalin. A dose of 20 grains a day for three successive days usually suffices.