

DR. WILSON'S FAMILY ANTI-BILIOUS AND PRESERVING PILLS



Are confidently offered to the public as a safe, pleasant and certain remedy for a great variety of diseases. In preparing them, their author has expended much time and thought, that they might be suitable for all climates, all seasons, and all constitutions. Remembering the injunction of Celsus, which was impressed upon him by a judicious teacher at many a bedside while yet in his pupilage, that it was not enough to cure, but that the cure should be effected "*tuto cito et jucunde*,"—as safely, quickly, and with as little distress to the patient as possible,—he, in this prescription, has left out all mineral medicines, not because he doubted their efficacy when employed judiciously, and watched by one who would recognize the first indications that they were overstepping the bounds of doing good, and should therefore be stopped; but because he knew that the vegetable world furnished medicines equally suitable to relieve disease, and equally safe not to remain lurking in the system after expelling the disease, leaving it more liable to new diseases, from cold or exposure, or chemically amalgamating with food or other articles which might be taken into the stomach, and from it into the blood, and so bringing on those hosts of chronic disorders which every day add much to the mortality of the human race.

But it was not enough that they should be safe, not to leave behind more ills than they cured—they must be safe to be put into the hands of those unskilled in medical lore, least acquainted with the delicate machinery of the human frame—safe to use in diseases to all appearance so opposite in their nature, as costiveness and diarrhoea, fever and general debility—safe also to use when the sun's rays bring us their maximum of heat, or when our part of the earth is wrapped in its icy mantle.

Our bodies are so constituted that it is necessary for us at short intervals to supply from external materials, called food, the waste of our system. Every breath we draw, every motion we make, asleep or awake, voluntary or involuntary, uses up a portion of our body. This used up portion then becomes waste, and is carried by the veins back towards the heart; but in so passing most of it is carried into what the medical faculty call the portal circulation, or the blood flowing through the liver, and the vessels of the intestines. From this the liver drains off the bile, and other waste portions exude through the coats of the vessels into the bowels, to mingle with the portions of food which the stomach did not

digest. The liver pours out this bile to mingle with the food just after it leaves the stomach, and goes into the small intestines, from which the lacteals absorb all the useful portion, and carry it to mingle with the blood, which goes to the lungs to be mixed with air, and then carried by the arteries for the nutrition of the body.

The bile serves as a natural purgative to excite the intestines, and carry off the waste material, by a daily evacuation at stool. The kidneys from this same portal circulation carry off some salts dissolved in the water of our food, which, if it passed through the bowels, would excite them and keep them sore.

The skin by its free perspiration helps to keep down the great heat of the body produced by the chemical changes within it, and by the rays of the sun; and it also serves to keep the blood of such a consistency that it may keep moving through the arteries and veins and yet not exude through their coats, and so produce dropsy.

Knowing this connection between the different parts, how one complements and supplements the other, we can understand how diseases are brought about, and how those which seem most opposite may really be the same, and are to be similarly treated.

Indigestion—or, as it is more frequently called, Dyspepsia, that is a faulty state of the stomach, rendering it unable to properly prepare the food put into it for its assimilation into blood—lies at the foundation of the disorders which afflict the human race. It cannot be otherwise. A foul source cannot afford a pure stream. Food being the source of our blood, must affect that blood, just in proportion to its proper preparation for being changed into blood. If food, when swallowed, instead of finding a clear, healthy stomach to act upon it, gets into one foul with slime and unhealthy secretions, changing the pure gastric juice which should be there into a festering, corrupt, fermenting compound, which cannot reduce the food into the normal pulpy state required for passing through the lower orifice of the stomach, and being acted on by the lacteals it continues a long time in the stomach, it gradually begins to ferment, the first process of decay, and in doing so, it brings on that dreadfully distressing feeling as if a lump of lead lay in the pit of the stomach. As it ferments it sours, and produces eructations into the throat of acid, or bitter gas, or wind, or possibly a bitter liquid, WATERBRASH; the acidity produces HEARTBURN; then if vomiting does not follow, or some active purgative is not taken to work it off, the fermenting food forces its way down into the bowels with much PAIN and FLATULENCE; coming down in this state it finds the liver irritated by the distress and pain from its near neighbour, the stomach; its ducts partially or wholly closed by spasms; and fails to get its due admixture of bile; the consequence is that a great part of it the lacteals refuse to take up to mingle with the blood, and it