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# TONGA.

## **The Fijian Remedy for Neuralgia.**

This remedy has been used for several centuries by the aborigines of the Fiji Islands, though introduced to the notice of the profession in England only about a year ago.

The success attending its use in the hands of Drs. Sidney Ringer and Wm. Murrell, of London, England, induced us to dispatch an agent to the Fiji Islands for the collection of a quantity of this valuable drug. Heretofore the secret of its source had been jealously guarded by the Fiji chiefs, the knowledge of its composition being handed down as an heirloom from one generation to another. Through Mr. Ryder, a resident from Fiji, a specimen of the remedy was first brought to England, with the statement that he received it from a European who had married a chief's daughter, and had learned the secret from his father-in-law.

Tonga, as prepared by the Fijians, is a compound of several plants, and occurs in the form of small loose bundles, the remedy being enveloped in a wrapper of the inner bark of the cocoanut tree.

The natives administer it in the form of an infusion, but it has been found that alcohol much more thoroughly extracts its active principles.

Drs. Ringer and Murrell base their report of the use of the drug on a sufficient number of cases, and C. Bader, Ophthalmic Surgeon to Guy's Hospital, says: "The results obtained by Drs. Ringer and Murrell fully coincide with mine. I have notes of cures of brain and kidney disease in which Tonga alone succeeded in removing pain. All cases of Neuralgia (supra- and infra-orbital branches of the fifth nerve) with swelling of the temporal veins during the attack were benefited."

Reports from Sidney, Australia, show that Tonga has also been successfully employed as a remedy for neuralgia by the profession of that country.

THE FLUID EXTRACT CAN BE OBTAINED FROM

**PARKE DAVIS & CO.,**

**Manufacturing Chemists and Pharmacists, DETROIT, MICH.**

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# LIPPIA MEXICANA.

## **A New Expectorant.**

This new Mexican remedy is introduced to the medical profession of this country on the authority of Dr. A. H. Saxton, Baltimore, Md., who has communicated the results of his experience in its use in an article in the January, 1881, number of the THERAPEUTIC GAZETTE.

The demulcent and expectorant properties claimed for the drug by Dr. Saxton, are such as must commend it to the careful attention of the profession, and especially so during the season of catarrhal affections of the respiratory passages. A remedy which combines demulcent with expectorant properties, and at the same time does not nauseate, must meet with favor. The cases reported by Dr. Saxton would also seem to show the drug to be possessed of an alterative influence in the respiratory mucous membrane which must enhance its value in those chronic affections so often rebellious to treatment.

We prepare a tincture of Lippia Mexicana and will be pleased to furnish a reprint of Dr. Saxton's article on application.

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