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TINCTURES.\*

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Many officinal tinctures are too weak in alcohol. Firstly, as most tinctures are comparatively feeble preparations, when referred to their strength determined by the relative proportion of the solvent, the active constituents being highly attenuated and exposed, hence a deficiency of alcohol very materially impairs the permanence; secondly, an unsatisfactory menstruum either fails to exhaust the activity from lack of solvent power or by reason of mechanical obstructions inherent to a particular drug fails to permeate its natural structure completely; thirdly, the manner in which some officinal processes are conducted often vitiates the result; fourthly, compound tinctures are usually too complex, similar agents are thereby only multiplied, the aromatics are complicated and often actually superfluous, and artificial coloring matters worse than useless.

Therefore, by the first reason above given, in cases of remedies administered as tinctures in measurably large bulk, it would be advisable to secure a greater degree of concentration.

For the second reasons as above stated, it becomes almost indispensable to increase the alcoholic strength of many menstrua.

For the third reason preceding, where the officinal operation is in itself objectionable it is of the utmost importance that the process should be reconstructed.

For the last reason above set forth, it is the writer's opinion that

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