

hanging in the air), of real mummy, of human blood still warm, of each one ounce; of human suet, two ounces; of linseed oil, turpentine and Armenian bole (*i.e.*, a kind of clay found native in Armenia, an impure silicate of aluminium containing considerable oxide of iron), of each two drachms. Mix all well in a mortar, and keep the salve in an oblong narrow urn."

Van Helmont and others had different formula, using the fat of bears, bulls or wild boars, powdered earthworms and other like delectable materials.

A wound was treated by anointing the weapon which caused the wound, or if that was not available a splinter dipped in the patient's blood, with this ointment; and the weapon or splinter was then laid away in a cool place.

In the meantime, the wound was to be carefully washed with fair clean water, covered with a clean, soft, linen cloth, and cleansed once a day from pus and other impurities.

The theory given out was that the dead criminal or animal died full of secret reluctance and vindictive murmurs and with a high flame of revengeful feeling. This continued after his death, and the posthumous character of revenge remained firmly impressed upon the blood and fat in the unguent. The moment the blood on weapon or splinter came in contact with this most malignant substance, it was roused to active excitement, and so obtained full power to cure its fellow blood left behind in the wounded man; and this it did by sucking out the dolorous and exotic impression from the wound.

I do not believe that Paracelsus really held any such theory; but mysticism was the fashion of the time, just as giants were the fashion in literature, when that other great physician, Rabelais, wrote, and so, of course, Rabelais had to write about giants in that astounding book abounding in pearls of wisdom, unfortunately, however, to be sought for in a bucketful of filth. Patients then required magic as they still require medicine. Then a wounded man would have been as much disappointed and dissatisfied by simply having his wound washed as a typhoid patient would now be without something to take besides care. Placebos have and always had their place in your science.

If any one desires to know the treatment of wound, *secun-*