

phoretic, diuretic, and sedative, and it appears to exert a lowering influence upon the heart's action. In large quantities it must be regarded as a dangerous poison.

A decoction of the bark possesses valuable therapeutic properties, as a diuretic, and diaphoretic, effects scarcely to be ascribed to the volatile oil, inasmuch as nearly, if not the whole of this is expelled by boiling. Baron Von Mueller concluded that the bark contained in all probability an alkaloid, and investigation proved that these anticipations were well founded. To this alkaloid M. N. J. Zeyer gave the name of "Atherospermine."

*Prostanthera lasianthos*, Labillardière—(one of the few species of Labiatae, which attain to large arborescent growth). Found in Tasmania, Victoria and New South Wales.

Yield: 100 lbs. of fresh leaves gave 2.60 fluid ounces. The oil is a limpid, greenish-yellow fluid: odor, mint-like: taste rather mild mint-like: after taste not disagreeable. Specific gravity 0.912.

*Prostanthera rotundifolia*—Yield, 100 lbs. of the fresh herb gave 12.00 fluid ounces. This oil in smell and taste, resembles the last: in color it is somewhat darker. Specific gravity 0.941.

*Mentha Australis*. This plant and the two following are true Mints. They are all available in very considerable quantity in Victoria and are also found in New South Wales, South Australia and Tasmania.

Yield: 100 lbs. of the fresh herb gave from 1.10 to 3.00 fluid ounces. This oil both in taste and smell scarcely differs from ordinary oil of peppermint, it is however somewhat coarser than the best samples of that article.

*Mentha grandiflora*—Yield, 100 lbs. of the fresh herb gave 5.00 fluid ounces. This oil has a fiery, bitter and unpleasant nauseous taste, together with the characteristic after taste: and, except for medicinal purposes, could not be used as a substitute for common peppermint. Specific gravity 0.924.

*Mentha gracilis*—Yield, 100 lbs. of the fresh herb gave 3.00 fluid ounces. This oil in its properties more closely resembles the *M. Australis* than the *M. grandiflora*. Its odor is like that