

Externally it is mixed with twice its bulk of any fixed oil as a rubefacient to relieve pain in myalgia and rheumatism. Internally it is carminative.

### GYNOCARDIA OIL.

**Oleum Gynocardiae.** *S. 0. n. 9.* Chaulmoogra oil. The fatty oil expressed from the seed of *Gynocardia odorata*, or of *Gynerium nigrum*.

**CHARACTERES.** A brownish yellow oil or fat, with characteristic odour and somewhat acid taste. Soluble in ether, chloroform, or alcohol.

**Composition.** Its chief constituent is gynocardic acid, a yellow, oily body, with a burning taste.

**Dose, 5 to 10 m., increased to 30 to 60 m.**

It is best given in capsules.

Officially used in India and Eastern Colonies.

#### Preparation.

**Unguentum Gynocardiae.** Gynocardia oil, 1; hard paraffin, 4; soft paraffin, 5.

#### ACTION AND THERAPEUTICS.

The active properties of this oil have been ascribed to gynocardic acid. Externally the oil is a powerful rubefacient, and may cause great pain when applied to raw places, but an ointment (3 fl. dr. to 1 fl. oz. of lanolin) has been used for very chronic psoriasis. Internally it is a gastro-intestinal irritant. It has been much praised for leprosy, in which disease it is applied externally and given internally. The stomach may be trained to tolerate large doses. It certainly does not cure leprosy, but many consider that it retards the disease.

### SESAME OIL.

**Oleum Sesami.** The oil expressed from the seed of *Sesamum indicum*.

**CHARACTERES.** A limpid oil of a pale yellow colour, a faint odour, and a bland taste.

Officially used in India, African Colonies, Eastern Colonies, and North American Colonies, instead of olive oil, to make liniments, ointments, and plasters.