
HOANG-NAN.

(STRYCHNOS GAUTHERIANA.)

SYNONYM—TROPICAL BINDWEED. FAMILY—LOGANIACEÆ.

The exact physiological properties of Hoang-Nan have not yet been definitely determined, but experiments show it to be a decided spasmic which property it combines with peculiar alterative powers, and a property, so far as peculiar to itself, which gives it a specific action against the poison of venomous serpents, and even rabies.

Hoang-Nan has been given with benefit in Paralysis.

The reports of its effects in Leprosy certainly encourages the hope that it will prove valuable in this disease. It has also been employed with benefit in Indolent Ulcers and Scrofulous Sores, changing the diseased action and promoting cicatrization.

As an Antidote to the Poison of Serpents its efficiency has apparently been established beyond a doubt, and the instances reported of its employment in Hydrophobia point to it as a possible remedy in that hitherto incurable affection.

The alterative properties of the drug have been demonstrated in the treatment of Syphilides and in scrofulous affections.

DUBOISIA.

(DUBOISIA MYOPOROIDES.)

This drug has already largely supplanted atropia in eye practice, as a dilator of the pupil and as a paralyser of the muscles of accommodation.

The advantages of Duboisia over atropia lie in its more prompt action, its less irritating effect on the conjunctival membrane, the fact that it produces less dryness of the throat and fauces, and in the fact that it causes less constitutional disturbance.

We prepare an extract of the drug which is a more eligible preparation for general use than the alkaloid.

QUEBRACHO.

(Aspidosperma Quebracho Blanco.)

In many cases of pulmonary disease of a self-limited nature, such as pneumonia, capillary bronchitis, etc., the want of some agent which would aid in the prolongation of life, by keeping up the oxygenation of the blood, for a short time until the disease has spent itself, has been keenly felt.

Quebracho has proven itself, both through the physiological experiments of Penzoldt, and experience in its use in disease, to be such a drug. It is a direct respiratory stimulant, increasing the depth of the inspiration and facilitating the supply of oxygen to the venous blood. Under its use the lividity of the lips and prolabia disappears and the painful dyspnoea improves.

In emphysema and asthma it has also been given with pronounced benefit, and it is undoubtedly one of the most valuable acquisitions of late years.

We prepare a fluid extract of the drug.

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