

# THERAPEUTICAL VALUE OF THE MORE RECENT ADDI- TIONS TO THE GENITO- URINARY PHARMACOPŒIA.

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Three years ago the Drug Committee of St. Peter's Hospital recast the hospital pharmacopœia. It would have been obviously unwise to have included any of the newer remedies without good evidences as to their real value. It would have been still more unwise to have rejected them altogether. I undertook, therefore, to investigate these "new drugs" systematically in the out-patient department, and to report subsequently upon them. To make the inquiry thorough a large outlay of money would have been needed. This initial difficulty was overcome by the prompt generosity of Thos. Christy and Co., Lime street, London. Those well-known drug importers placed at my command for three years an unlimited supply of the new remedies which have been advocated for the treatment of genito-urinary disease. The following few grains of wheat remain after much winnowing.

*Kola* (*Sterculia acuminata*).—A powerful stimulant; contains 2·3 per cent. of caffeine, also theobromine. In the form of chocolate I found this drug to be of great value in tertiary syphilis, where large doses of potassium iodide have to be administered. The cases of syphilis in which the chocolate was first tried were often of the worst and most neglected type, being drawn from the neighbourhood of the London Docks. Later work has proved its value in the well-fed. Patients were able to take doses of 30 gr. to 60 gr. of the iodide without inconvenience as long as the kola was administered with it. It is now prepared in the form of a paste—"kola-tina"—like cocoa paste, as it is found

more effective in the liquid form. From 1 dr. to 2 dr. makes a breakfast cupful; where this is inconvenient, the stick kola-chocolate is eaten. Dose, 1 dr. to 2 dr.

*Salix Niger* (Black Willow).—A sexual sedative of decided value; useful in ovarian hyperæsthesia, also in prostaticorrhœa, spermatorrhœa, excessive seminal emissions, and enforced continence. In the latter disorders its action is good, but inferior to potassium bromide, this is, however, somewhat counterbalanced by its non depressant qualities. Dose,  $\frac{1}{2}$  dr. to 1 dr. Finding it of value in those wearisome cases of urethral neuralgias following gonorrhœa, I began to substitute soda salicylate for it. I was impressed by the relief this latter afforded. In cases of urethral pain in the adult, I first eliminate stone, stricture, urethral granulations, and over-acid urine, and then prescribe soda salicylate (5 gr. to 8 gr.), with a gratifying result.

*Lycopodium clavatum*.—The tincture is of real value in frequent micturition, irritable bladder, and cystospasmus, where such is not dependent upon actual disease or foreign body. It has been found useful in spasmodic retention of children. Dose 15 m. to 1 dr. Note: White lycopodium is an inferior substitute, but still of some value. Dose,  $\frac{1}{2}$  dr. to 1 dr., between bread-and-butter. Yellow lycopodium is useless.

*Kava Kava* (*Piper methysticum*). This drug is of benefit in pyelitis, cystitis (acute or chronic), and urethritis. It is inferior to copaiba, and sandal oil, but much more pleasant to take. It is of value when the oils are not tolerated. The inflammation seems to be increased at first. Fluid extract,  $\frac{1}{2}$  dr to 1 dr. on a full stomach.

*Stigmata Maidis* (Corn Silk).—Difficult to obtain at certain seasons, but of great value in pyelitis and renal colic. One case is especially worthy