

as being accomplished, not with a cart wheel turned on them; but by being beaten with a rod. Which of the *mints* is referred to I am unable to say. The ancient Greeks employed an herb which they called *menthos*, also termed "eduosmon," or the sweet-smelling herb. This is thought to be the "pipertia."

The *Almond-tree*, being a native of Asia, was well known to the Jews. "Luz," translated *hazel* in Genesis, was another word for almond, and should have been so rendered.

*Sulphuret of Antimony* was known in most ancient times as a black pigment, and was used by both Greek and Asiatic ladies as a paint for their eyebrows. Mr. Rimmel, in his admirable "Book of Perfumes," says, "Jewish women were mostly adorned with great physical beauty. Not content, however, with their natural personal attractions, they tried to enhance them with various cosmetiques." They were addicted to the practice of "painting" quite as much as the ladies of our own day. We are told that when Jezebel expected Jehu "she painted her face." Mr. Rimmel and Pereira both think it was her eyes to which she gave that dark hue, which was thought so fascinating. Ezekiel refers more directly to this practice in the words, "Thou didst wash thyself, paintedst thine eyes, and deckedst thyself with ornaments." Pereira informs us it was the sulphuret of antimony that was thus used.

*Balm of Gilead* was supposed to have a medicinal virtue, to which there is direct reference in the question asked by the prophet Jeremiah, "Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why, then, is not the health of the daughter of my people healed?" In another place it is said, "Take balm for her pain; if so be, she may be healed." And again, "Go into Gilead, and take balm; in vain shalt thou use many medicines, for thou shalt not be cured." It was an article of commerce at a very early period; for we read that the company of Ishmaelites to whom Joseph was sold by his brethren came from Gilead with their camels, bearing spicery and balm and myrrh, to carry it down to Egypt." We learn the value placed upon it from the fact that when Jacob sent his sons the second time to the ruler of Egypt, desiring to propitiate him, he bade them "take a present, a little balm, a little honey," etc. Pliny says, "To all other odours whatever, the balsam is preferred." It was esteemed so precious a rarity that both Pompey and Titus carried a specimen to Rome in triumph. "A small piece of the resin," says Theophrastus, "was so odoriferous, that it filled a large space with its perfume." He adds, that in his time only two enclosures of small extent were known to produce this tree. It was obtained from the *Balsamodendron Gileadense*, or *opobalsamum*. Pereira says it is whitish, turbid, thick, very odorous liquid, which resinifies and becomes yellow by keeping. Its physiological effects are believed to be similar to balsam copaiba and the liquid turpentine. The most wonderful properties were formerly ascribed to it.