

GROUP IX.

Agents Acting upon the Female Reproductive Organs.

BLACK HAW
VIBURNUM OPULUS
SENECIO AUREUS
HELONIAS
MITCHELLA
ALETRIS FARINOSA
CAULOPHYLLUM
FRAXINUS
POLYGONUM
LEONURUS CARDIACA
GOSSYPIUM
TIGER LILY
CYPRIPEDIUM
ARALIA

BLACK HAW.

Viburnum prunifolium.

Part Employed—Bark of the root.

CONSTITUENTS—

A brown resin, viburnin, valerianic, tannic, oxalic, citric and malic acids, sugar, earthy carbonates and phosphates.

Viburnin, a greenish-yellow, bitter principal, resinous, soluble in alcohol, sparingly soluble in water.

PREPARATIONS—

Extractum Viburni Prunifolii Fluidum, Fluid Extract of Viburnum Prunifolium. Dose from half a dram to one dram.

Specific Medicine Viburnum. Dose, from five to sixty minims.

Physiological Action—Its influence is exercised upon the womb, regulating its function and soothing irritation. The agent has not had thorough study to determine its exact physiological action. It however exercises its influence through the nervous centers, soothing nerve irritation and possessing marked antispasmodic properties. It influences the motor side of the cord, producing progressive muscular weakness, loss of reflex action and ultimate paralysis. It apparently

directly influences the action of the heart, as it lowers arterial pressure to a marked degree.

Its sedative influence upon the nervous system is conveyed to the uterus and appendages and there becomes apparent. It overcomes all forms of nervous irritation, and irregular functional action in these organs. It is the direct remedy for nervous conditions of the pregnant state.

Therapy—It is the remedy for dysmenorrhea, especially that characterized by cramp-like pains of spasmodic character. It promotes normal uterine contractions and antagonizes those of an irregular character. It is valuable in menorrhagia and metrorrhagia, either of an acute or a passive character. In all of these cases its use should be begun a few days in advance of the anticipated disorder and continued through and beyond the menstrual period.

Viburnum prunifolium is especially a uterine sedative in **threatened miscarriage**. It is particularly indicated in **habitual abortion**, preventing an anticipated occurrence and permanently overcoming the habit. I have had practical experience extending over thirty years, and have perfect confidence in the agent based on repeated success. In one of my cases it caused the womb to suspend expulsive action and to retain a dead fetus for months; given in large doses after the fourth month no return of the expulsive effort occurred until the seventh, when the agent was discontinued, after which a four-months mummified fetus was expelled without detriment to the health of the patient. She had decreased in size since the fourth month and there was no fetal movement. The agent, when there is no habit of abortion, will probably accomplish the desired result if begun after hemorrhage has continued some hours, if the membranes are not detached or the sac ruptured.

Doses of one dram of the fluid extract every hour are necessary until the pain subsides or the flow ceases. The patient must be kept in a recumbent position and perfectly quiet. It is safer to begin either preceding, or with the flow in these cases.

In habitual cases it is necessary to give the agent in occasional doses for one, two or more weeks preceding the time of the miscarriage, which usually occurs each time at the same month of the fetal life. As

the time approaches the patient is kept quiet and free from excitement, and the agent is given three or four times daily. The interval is shortened to one or two hours with the first suspicious indications at the usual time. If no symptoms appear the agent is continued beyond the period, and then perhaps in daily doses only for a week or two longer. The physician should advise the patient to remain constantly on the watch for indications suggesting the necessity of an increase in the doses. The agent will stop induced miscarriage, as well as other forms, if no injury has been done to the membranes.

In small doses, it is an excellent **partus preparator**, materially improving the conditions when irregular and distressing symptoms are present and greatly facilitating a speedy and uncomplicated normal labor. It controls **after pains** and prevents **post-partum hemorrhage**. It insures normal **involution** and assists in retaining a normal position of the womb subsequently, where malposition had previously existed.

In its influence in overcoming reflex nervous disturbances, it is often most efficient in controlling the **morning sickness** of pregnancy and the entire train of distressing symptoms present at this time. It changes the mental condition of the patient from that of depression and despondency, to one of cheerfulness and hopefulness.

There is probably no proprietary remedy advertised for female complaints, and for promiscuous use in cases of this character, that does not contain *viburnum prunifolium* as the basic remedy. Its field of usefulness is a wide one as far as the genito-urinary apparatus is concerned.

It is the remedy for **sympathetic disturbances** of the heart, stomach and nervous system, common to sensitive ladies with irritable nervous systems, preceding or during the menstrual epoch, depending on vasomotor derangement. It must be given in advance and continued through the period.

In a number of cases, when given for menstrual irregularities, or for the distress induced by **uterine displacement**, in previously **sterile females**, pregnancy has promptly occurred, proving the influence of the agent in restoring normal functional ovarian activity.

It must not be overlooked in the treatment of **irregular sudden**,

menstrual flow, occurring during eruptive and low continued or violent inflammatory fevers, especially in young ladies. This occurrence is not uncommon in smallpox, scarlet fever, diphtheria, measles, pneumonitis, pleuritis, phthisis and typhoid fever. It is sometimes of serious import, and masked sepsis undoubtedly occurs in the cases, with severe peritonitis or metritis, to which the patient may succumb. With antiseptic douches and disinfectant measures, *viburnum* internally is the surest remedy known, in this condition. It is given in conjunction with other indicated remedies, and its use must be begun promptly upon the appearance of the flow.

Viburnum is well classed among **the tonics**, as there is usually a general improvement in all the body functions while it is taken which is usually permanent. It has a very satisfactory effect upon derangements of the stomach and intestinal tract, especially in females when the whole system is out of tone. It restores the nerve influence, improves the circulation, supplies nutrition to the womb and ovaries. It is valuable in dysmenorrhea which is due to debility.

It is mildly efficacious in irregular muscular movements, in **chorea**, especially if occurring from early menstrual derangement, and in some cases of **paralysis agitans**.

It is advised in hysteria, hystero-epilepsy, and petit mal, but its influence is mild. It will act in harmony with *cimicifuga* and *passiflora* and the bromides in these cases. It is an agent of great usefulness, and its field broadens with every practitioner, as his knowledge of its influence increases with practical experience in its use.

VIBURNUM.

Viburnum opulus.

Synonyms—Cramp Bark, High Cranberry, High-bush Cranberry.

PREPARATIONS—

Fluid Extract High Cranberry. Dose, from ten to thirty minims.

Specific Symptomatology—The specific influence of the agent is exercised in relieving **irregular spasmodic** pains of the **womb** and **ovaries**. It is antispasmodic in its action upon the entire pelvic viscera, influencing **spasmodic contractions** of the **muscular structure** of the **bladder**, and **spasmodic stricture** to a limited extent.

One of its specific indications is **pain** from the pelvic organs which begin in the back, extending through to the loins and down the thighs. This is corrected with twenty drops every hour or two. If this is accompanied with severe or profuse menstruation with a sensation of dragging weight in the back, the pains extending clear around the body, a drop or two of *cimicifuga* or ten drops of *helonias* with every dose will relieve the pain.

Therapy—Given prior to labor it is a partus preparator of much value, but its action is limited largely to its antispasmodic influence upon erratic pains. It is given with much benefit in severe after-pains, in hysterical conditions, with convulsive phenomena, and in spasmodic dysmenorrhea. It is of advantage in that it prevents miscarriage., but to an extent greatly inferior to *viburnum prunifolium*, which agent, in fact, fully covers the field of operation of this agent, except in its anti-spasmodic influence.

SENECIO.

Senecio aureus.

Synonym—Life Root.

CONSTITUENTS—

A bitter, acid principle, tannin, mucilage.

PREPARATIONS—

Extractum Senecionis Fluidum, Fluid Extract of Senecio. Dose, from half a dram to one dram.

Specific Medicine Senecio. Dose, from one to forty minims.

Physiological Action—Its specific influence is exercised upon the reproductive organs of the female, whether there be **amenorrhea**, **dysmenorrhea**, **menorrhagia** or **metrorrhagia**—a disordered condition of the uterine functions—it is regulated by this agent; a general out-of-tone condition of the uterus or appendages, a relaxed condition of the supports to the womb, resulting in mild forms of displacement. It may be given between or during the menstrual periods. In a general hyperaemic, irritable and atonic condition of the pelvic organs, it works to the best advantage. The results are not immediate, but they are marked when they do occur.

It is of value in engorged, **atonic conditions** of the **male sexual organs** also; it increases functional activity, and is of value in **impotency**, although but mildly so. It is a reliable diuretic. It adds tone to, and increases the function. of the urinary apparatus, and overcomes urinary irritation; in stranguary it has a direct influence.

Therapy—The agent is specifically a **tonic** to the nervous and muscular structure of the **reproductive organs** in the **female**. It regulates the **periodical discharges**, overcoming irregularity in the quantity of the monthly flow. It will render valuable assistance in the permanent cure of **leucorrhea**. It removes the sensation of weight and engorgement experienced by many ladies in pelvic disorders, especially accompanying uterine displacements, giving great relief.

It will be found of value in **gonorrhoea**, **gleet** and **prostatorrhoea**, and also in the sexual irritability, and impotence of the male.

Senecio has an influence on the mucous surfaces, relieving congestion and correcting catarrhal disorders. It **assists digestion**, stimulates the secretion of gastric fluids and overcomes the conditions which cause the food to lie heavily in the stomach. In the accumulation of frothy saliva it is useful and in a constipation accompanying uterine disorders it is especially valuable.

The agent has exercised an active influence in a number of cases of **capillary hemorrhage**. It has been given in **haematuria** in spoonful doses of the fluid extract, three or four times a day, with positive results. In **albuminuria**, with occasional attacks of haematuria, especially if occurring during pregnancy, the agent will act promptly. In hemorrhage of the lungs, or from the stomach of a passive character, it will work well. In **menorrhagia** or **metrorrhagia** it is directly indicated.

Co-operatives—In acts in harmony with *viburnum*, *helonias*, *aralia*, *mitchella repens*, and other agents of this character.

HELONIAS

Chamaelirium luteum

Synonyms—Chamaelirium Luteum Blazing Star, Unicorn Root.

CONSTITUENTS—

Chamaelirin, fatty acid.

PREPARATIONS—

Extractum Heloniatis Fluidum, Fluid Extract of Helonias. Dose, from five to thirty minims.

Specific Medicine Helonias. Dose, from one to twenty minims. Helonin. Dose, from two to five grains.

Physiological Action—*Helonias* in large doses is a cardiac poison. In medicinal doses it is emetic, tonic, diuretic, vermifuge. Cattle are killed by feeding on it and the decoction will kill insects.

Specific Symptomatology—The most direct indication for the use of this agent is a dragging sensation in the extreme lower abdomen, and inclination to pull up, to hold up, or support the abdominal pelvic contents. In women suffering from pelvic engorgement and uterine prolapsus, with disordered menstruation, one drop of the tincture or fluid extract every two or three hours will relieve that sensation permanently.

Therapy—Homeopaths believe *helonias* to be particularly suitable for female disorders, where there is feeble constitution, where the nervous system is weakened and the patient is easily fatigued. It is restorative, promotes nutrition, promotes secretion of healthy fluids. It is peculiarly tonic.

Where **disorders** of the **stomach** are present with uterine or kidney disease, it should exercise a direct action. It cures **amenorrhea** and **menorrhagia** which depend on uterine atony. Where malpositions occur from weakness—loss of tone—where there is dragging sensation constantly present in the lower abdomen, or at the menstrual epoch, it is directly indicated. For the case of the worn mother who watches over the care of her charge, as well as for the young girl budding into womanhood, carefully and properly selected, this remedy will certainly give satisfactory results.

It is a pure and active restorative; is nutritious and promotes secretion; it promotes normal activity of the glandular organs. When glandular action is prevented, from the influence of uterine or renal disease, it is

especially serviceable. The underlying indication is uterine atony.

It will cure **amenorrhea**, **menorrhagia**, some cases of **leucorrhoea**, and the **dragging down sensations** in the lower abdomen, which results from simple displacements. It will also relieve erratic pains of stomach and gastric disorders which depend upon or accompany this condition.

Wherever there is a tendency to **uterine displacements**, it should be used. If these disorders are present with **threatened abortion**, the remedy should be combined with *viburnum*, and both be given in full doses to prevent that condition. It, however, works more perfectly in combination with *aletris farinosa* and *cimicifuga* in **atonic** conditions, while *caulophyllum* and *viburnum* act best where **irritable** conditions are present. The remedy will also control hemorrhages of a passive character.

In addition, it is a general tonic improving the character of all the organs in their functional operations, and especially improving the tone of the **digestive apparatus**. It is a liver remedy of rare value, in many cases accomplishing most satisfactory results when there is deficient or perverted action.

A number of our physicians have spoken most highly of its action in **albuminuria**. It will be found valuable in those cases where the cause is some fault of the liver, as deficient action of that organ, and not due to heart or circulatory faults.

A number of excellent observers have confirmed this statement. Dr. S. B. Munn of Connecticut used it for many years with very satisfactory results. From another observation its influence would be improved in certain cases by the addition of *phytolacca* and where there is marked toxemia by *echinacea*.

If the sensation of dragging and weight occurs in the male from cystic disorder, the relief is fully as satisfactory. The general action of the agent in these cases is that of a **tonic** to the **genito-urinary** apparatus. It quickly overcomes the phosphatic diathesis, and in urinary irritability is serviceable, especially if from atonic causes. It is useful in impotence, and its properties as an aphrodisiac have been often noted.

MITCHELLA.

Mitchella repens.

Synonyms—Partridgeberry, Squaw Vine.

CONSTITUENTS—

Saponin-like, resin, wax, dextrine, mucilage.

PREPARATIONS—

Specific *Mitchella*. Dose, from five to sixty minims.

Syrupus *Mitchellae* Compositus, Compound Syrup of *Mitchella*.
Dose, from one to two drams.

Therapy—The sphere of action of *mitchella* is upon the reproductive organs, particularly upon those of the female. It is not enlarged upon by our writers, but is known positively to a few practitioners. It is **par excellence** the **partus preparator**. The importance of removing every possible influence that increases in any way the severity of **labor**, does not impress itself upon physicians, unless an exceedingly severe labor is anticipated, when the excess pain is alleviated at the time by chloroform and morphine. Not only can all complicating influences be removed, but the nervous system can be so influenced that parturition to the mother can be shorn of dread and terrors, and can be looked forward to without anxiety or fear. We are so apt to think of the pain and horror of labor as a natural inheritance for each mother—something that she must expect, and should not try to shun, that we do not take the care we could in many cases, to shield her from it.

If a good preparation of *mitchella* be administered once or twice daily for the sixth and seventh months of pregnancy, three times daily for the eighth month, and in larger doses as confinement approaches, the influence upon the entire system will be most marked. I have observed this influence in so many cases that doubt is impossible. Erratic pains and unsatisfied longings are removed, the nervous system assumes a tranquil condition, reflex symptoms abate, the urinary function is performed normally, the bowels become regular, imperfect digestion is improved, and the appetite becomes natural. Labor approaches, devoid of the irritating, aggravating complications, the preparatory stage is simple, the dilatation is completed quickly, the expulsive contractions are strong, unirritating, and effectual, and are much less painful than without the remedy; involution is rapid and perfect, there are no subsequent complicating conditions to contend with, the patient's

strength is not abated, and the function of lactation is in its best condition. This has been proven in very many cases. After making the above statements, evidences accumulated rapidly confirming their truth.

Auxiliary measures such as judicious dieting, a thorough oiling of the enlarged abdomen, and an occasional hot sitz bath for the last few weeks will materially assist the remedy. Less of it need be taken.

The bark of the fresh root in hot infusion given occasionally during the progress of labor when no previous care of the patient has been afforded the physician, will work wonders in some tedious aggravating cases.

In **uterine disorders** at other times this agent is a most effectual remedy. It overcomes painful menstruation, regulates the function, relieves congestion in the pelvic organs and soothes general irritation of the nervous system from uterine or ovarian causes.

Dr. Hemminger of Pennsylvania uses *mittella* to **prevent abortion**. He gives it in twenty drop doses three times a day. In two years he had six cases that had aborted from one to three times each, always with dead children. With the use of this medicine, each of the six gave birth to a healthy child. The medicine was given throughout the entire period of gestation.

Co-Operatives—It works harmoniously with *cimicifuga*, *pulsatilla*, *aletris*, *helonias*, *senecio aureus*, and *viburnum*. Combinations of these agents compose the usual proprietary compounds, advertised as “female regulators.”

ALETRIS.

Aletris farinosa.

Synonym—Star Grass, False Unicorn Root, Starwort.

CONSTITUENTS—Not analyzed.

PREPARATIONS—

Extractum Aletridis Fluidum, Fluid Extract of Aletris. Dose, from ten to fifteen minims.

Specific Medicine Aletris. Dose, from one to sixty minims.

Action—Emetic, narcotic, cathartic, tonic.

Aletridin. Dose, from one-half to one grain.

Specific Symptomatology—The conspicuous influence of this agent is upon the womb. It is indicated when the patient complains of **extreme weakness** in the **uterine structures**, when there is general feebleness induced from overwork or from oversexual indulgence, or from too **frequent child bearing**. In hyperactivity of the womb and ovaries from lack of tone, deficient menstruation, or sterility from this cause, pale insufficient flow at protracted intervals; anemia and chlorosis, with insufficient menses in young girls, the agent is of great service.

Therapy—In the above named condition when iron or other tonics are used for their general influence, this remedy should be given for its specific effect. Its direct influence upon the pelvic organs is sometimes magical under such circumstances. *Aletris*, in large doses, is narcotic, emetic and cathartic. It is a fine tonic and is efficient in flatulent colic and dyspepsia, increasing the tone of the stomach; used also with benefit in general and local debility. It is a host in hysteria.

One of our correspondents says he has frequently given *aletris* in cases of threatening abortion, for three, four, five and six months, the woman going her full term without any untoward effect, rendering the labor easy and safe. In **chlorosis**, **amenorrhea**, **dysmenorrhea**, and all engorged conditions of the uterus, as well as prolapsus of that organ, it is a charming remedy. It can be given alone, or combined or alternated with *caulophyllum*, or with *cimicifuga*, *senecio* or *helonias* as indicated.

“I have often combined *aletris* and *viburnum opulus*, or *viburnum prunifolium*. The *viburnum* will allay pain; both are sedative to the uterine and ovarian nerve centers. I do not know of any better remedy for such troubles than *aletris* and *viburnum*, as anti-abortive. The dose is the same of *viburnum opulus* and *viburnum prunifolium*. It is a valuable remedy for uterine colic and other abdominal pains. Hence in ovarian irritation, or dysmenorrhea, *viburnum* will promptly relieve the pain.

“Flatulent colic is quickly relieved with equal parts of the fluid extracts of *aletris*, and *dioscorea*; ten drops given every hour; if the first dose

does not relieve, which it often does, repeat. In leucorrhœa, *aletris*, four times a day, or every four hours, will act promptly, if continued, where there is a debilitated condition, defective nutrition and anemic. If there is pain in the hips and back, constipation and piles, *aesculus hippocastanum* can alternate with the *aletris*."

It acts promptly upon **prolapsus** or retro or ante-version with relaxed and enfeebled tissues. In emaciated and enfeebled women the influence of this remedy is markedly conspicuous. It improves the function of the ovaries, overcoming **sterility** and correcting habitual **abortion** promptly. In the extreme nausea of pregnancy with vomiting, dizziness, or fainting **spells**, this agent has a direct influence and may be relied upon.

It is not sufficiently well known, but is a constituent of many of the proprietary "mother's cordials" or "female restoratives" on the market. It acts exceedingly well with *helonias*, *senecio aureus*, *viburnum*, and *caulophyllum* or *cimicifuga*.

While given for its influence-upon the reproductive organs, it tones the stomach, increases the appetite, improves the digestion and the appropriation of food, and thus directly promotes the elaboration of good blood.

CAULOPHYLLUM. *Caulophyllum thalictroides.*

Synonym—Blue Cohosh.

CONSTITUENTS—

Caulophyllin, leontin, two resins, gum, tannin.

PREPARATIONS—

Caulophyllin. Dose, from one-fourth to one grain.

Extractum Caulophyllum Fluidum, Fluid Extract of Caulophyllum. Dose, five to ten Minims.

Specific Medicine Caulophyllum. Dose, from one to ten minims.

It is often necessary to continue this remedy, in whatever form given, over a considerable period of time in order to obtain its best results.

Specific Symptomatology—Felter and Lloyd give the following indications: Uterine pain, with fullness, weight and pain in the legs-, fullness of tissues, as if congested; debility of the nervous system, with impaired muscular power; spasmodic muscular pains, articular pain, rheumatic pains of asthenic plethora, epigastric and umbilical colicky pains, dull frontal headache, great thirst; as an oxytocic; to relieve false pains and uterine irritability; sexual debility, with excitability; spasmodic uterine contractions, dysmenorrhea, irregular menstruation, cramp-like pains in the stomach and bowels after eating, pain in the toes and fingers not due to tissue changes.

Therapy—In **chronic uterine** disorders, in broken down constitutions with various reflex symptoms, the remedy is a specific. In the **amenorrhea** of young women, at the commencement of the menstrual period, it may be given with confidence. In **painful menstruation** it has an established reputation.

Dr. Hewitt of Chicago learned when a boy the use of *caulophyllum* in **scarlet fever**. When he became a physician, he put that knowledge to test very many times and always with success. He has positive confidence in this remedy, having seen such uniformly good results.

From the end of the sixth month to the close of pregnancy is a period when many distressing symptoms are manifested, which may, in a measure, be relieved by *caulophyllum*.

The growth of the fetus has been compared to an apple, which, when fully ripened, falls from the tree. The effect of *caulophyllum* is to **prolong gestation** till the fetus is fully developed, labor being a physiological process at full term, and not pathological, therefore less protracted, less painful, and less liable to accidents.

Many writers confirm the opinion that *caulophyllum* or caulophillin are excellent remedies in **labor**, contributing to the relaxation of a **rigid os**, increasing the strength of the pains. It will also assist materially in controlling an **abortion**. Using it in conjunction with *viburnum*, this influence will be enhanced.

This remedy as a **partus preparator** is equal in some cases to *cimicifuga*, and comparable with *viburnum* and *helonias*. It prevents **premature delivery** by a superior tonicity, which it induces in all the

reproductive organs. It has caused many cases to overrun their time a few days, and yet easy labors and excellent recoveries have followed. It is a satisfactory remedy where there is a habit of having severe after pains, or where there are false labor pains, not productive of good, or where subsequent to the labor there are hourglass or other undue spasmodic uterine contractions.

It is a beneficial remedy in **hysteria**, and where there is constant **ovarian irritation**, or pain in the mammary glands, accompanied with general irritation; also in chronic disease of the uterus and ovaries or of the cervix. Also where there is cramp-like pains during **menstruation** or pain and soreness of the uterus, attributed to rheumatism. It is of much benefit in subinvolution.

Caulophyllum, although chiefly known as a remedy for the diseases peculiar to women, has been employed with advantage as a sedative and to control congestion, in **bronchitis**, pneumonitis and **whooping-cough**.

In **deficient labor pains**, *caulophyllum* is generally a reliable remedy.

A sufficient dose of the remedy may be given every ten minutes, till the pains become regular and efficient.

FRAXINUS.

Fraxinus americana.

Synonyms—Black Ash, Elder Leaved Ash, or White Ash.

PREPARATIONS—

Specific fraxinus, ten to sixty drops.

The **Homeopathic mother tincture**, same dosage.

Specific Symptomatology—Uterine disease, depending upon subinvolution. Dragging pains in the lower abdomen—great weight; a sensation of hardness extending into the vagina; irregular lochial or menstrual discharge; general plethora; constant headaches, with soreness and pain in the top head.

Accompanying these symptoms there is a sore spot on the top of the head which is hot, and where if continued the hair becomes stiff and brittle.

This is often accompanied with persistent headache difficult to control. The headache is not influenced by eating or sleeping. It resembles an anemic headache as it is more or less constant, unless relieved by the recumbent position or by a position in which the hips are raised and the head lowered.

Therapy—In uterine diseases, where there is no permanent organic change, Dr. Shafer gave this remedy first place. He used it for several years, and his observations should carry weight. It is indicated in uterine **tumors**, of somewhat speedy growth, and in **hypertrophy** of the **uterus**. Where the tumors are of long-standing its influence is less satisfactory. It influences cell proliferation in hypertrophy, assisting in the reduction of size of an enlarged organ and in the restoration of a correct position, normal function and normal size.

One patient had a sensation of much weight in the lower abdomen with a sensation of hardness extending down into the vagina, pressure in the rectum, hard and **enlarged cervix**, greatly enlarged womb, constant sensations of desire to pass urine with no relief when passed. The organ was reduced to normal size in four months' time, by the persistent use of twenty minim doses of this remedy four times daily. No other agent was used.

Another case of hypertrophy, resulting from a miscarriage, was as satisfactorily cured. Cases of **subinvolution**, following a poor getting up, after labor, were satisfactorily cured with this remedy alone. The agent must be given immediately following confinement in those cases where convalescence threatens to be protracted.

One young lady, severely injured by falling from a carriage, had severe uterine inflammation, which left chronic enlargement, as its result. She had been told that hysterectomy only would cure. The organ was enlarged to six times its usual size, though she was only eighteen years old. She was completely cured with this remedy alone.

Prior to the use of this remedy, for uterine disorders, it was recommended as one that influences the chylopoietic viscera. In large doses it will induce active purgation. It has found a place in the treatment of diseases of the liver or spleen, in that form known as ague cake, resulting in obesity, dropsical affections and constipation.

POLYGONUM.

Polygonum punctatum

Synonym—Smart-weed.

CONSTITUENTS—Not analyzed.

PREPARATIONS—

Specific Polygonum. Dose, from one to sixty minims.

Therapy—In **suppression** of the **menses** from cold, thirty drops in hot water may be drunk every two hours. It is a prompt remedy. It may be begun two weeks before the menses should next appear, if one period has passed, and given every four hours in cold water, until a day or two before the expected time, when it can again be given in hot water. It acts well, also, when there is general plethora.

More recently, I have used it in conjunction with one or two of the other uterine remedies, carefully selected, in all forms of menstrual suppression, except in feeble and anemic patients, and have, found it efficient and readily controllable.

It acts promptly upon the skin and kidneys and seems to be to a certain extent antispasmodic, as in **hystero-epilepsy**, or epilepsy depending upon suppression of the menses, it relieves the paroxysms and reduces the number of the attacks.

Goss recommended it when there was **urinary suppression** from cold and in retention with lack of power in the bladder.

In certain forms of **flatulent colic**, when the pains are sharp and lancinating, intermittent, and of a severe griping character, it is curative.

LEONURUS.

Leonurus cardiaca.

Synonym—Motherwort.

CONSTITUENTS—

Bitter principle, volatile oil.

PREPARATIONS—

Extractum Leonuri Fluidum, Fluid Extract of Leonurus. Dose, from a half to two drams.

Specific Symptomatology—This agent is positive in **suppressed lochia** from any cause, **amenorrhea from cold**; **dysmenorrhea**, with morbid nervous excitability, and **hysteria**.

Prof. John King regarded *motherwort* as superior to all other remedies in suppression of the lochia, giving it internally and applying a fomentation of the herb over the lower abdominal region. The author has used it with excellent results.

Therapy—It is prescribed in the above conditions, also in delirium tremens, typhoid state in fevers, chronic diseases with wakefulness, restlessness, disturbed sleep, spinal irritation, neuralgia of the stomach and head, feeble digestion, general debility, chorea, convulsions, nervousness from irregular menstruation, palpitation of the heart, associated with uterine disease, amenorrhea, with chlorosis, cachexia and an irritable, excitable, enfeebled state of the nervous system, spasms and harrassing bearing down pains, and morbid sensibility from uterine disease, pain in the pelvic and lumbar regions in females.

Dr. Dawes of England uses *leonurus* for its action upon the heart. It is a simple heart tonic, promoting normal action, probably very mild in its influence. It would work well combined with *cactus* or *crataegus* or both, especially in the presence of *nux vomica* or *collinsonia*.

Motherwort is tonic and laxative, a diaphoretic somewhat like *asclepias*, an emmenagogue like *cimicifuga* and a nervine like *scutellaria*.

GOSSYPIUM.

Gossypium herbaceum.

Synonym—Cotton.

CONSTITUENTS—

An acrid resin, glucose, starch, fixed oil, tannin.

PREPARATIONS—

Extractum Gossypii Radicis Fluidum. Fluid Extract of Cotton-root Bark. Dose, from one-half to one dram.

Specific Medicine Gossypium. Dose, from five to twenty minims.

Purified cotton (Surgeon's cotton), collodion.

Therapy—*Gossypium* is used as an **emmenagogue** and **parturient**.

It has a wide reputation among the slave women of the South as an abortifacient. It was used by them in the form of a strong infusion of the green root and is of value in suppression of the menses from whatever cause. It produces firm, regular and strong uterine contractions, much resembling *ustilagomaydis* and *cimicifuga* in its action. It may be used in **uterine inertia** to increase the natural expulsive power of the womb and prevent the dangers of post-partum hemorrhage. It is a **hemostatic** of some power being used principally to control the hemorrhage of **uterine fibroids** and **incipient cancer**. It is a valuable agent for metrorrhagia and menorrhagia, but is not in general use, as the uterine tonics and stimulants in common use accomplish these results in their wider beneficial influence.

TIGER LILY.

Lilium tigrinum.

PREPARATIONS—

Specific Medicine Tiger Lily. Dose, from one to ten minims.

Physiological Action—In 1863 Dr. Jeffries Wyman reported a case in which vomiting, purging, drowsiness, etc., were believed to have been produced in a little girl by the pollen of the tiger lily.

Tiger Lily seems to act upon the sympathetic nerves of the pelvis, increasing their strength and tone. It operates through the spinal cord, decreasing sexual irritability and materially improving the pelvic circulation. This influence is exercised best when the uterus and ovaries are greatly engorged and if there be **displacement** or **subinvolution**. Those conditions which occur from getting up too soon after confinement are improved by it, and those where the parts are slow in recovering tone, from any cause, or where there is danger of **permanent prolapse** from engorgement, are benefited by it.

Specific Symptomatology—Neuralgic pain in the uterus, ovaries, and mammae, acid leucorrhoea excoriating to the labia, causing an eruption about the vulva and inflammation of the vagina; nausea from uterine disease or pregnancy; headache from uterine disease; nervous sick-headache; chronic inflammation of the uterus, with displacement; tedious recovery after child-birth; amenorrhoea, with burning pain in the ovaries; distress about the heart, with prolapse of the uterus; pain under the left breast; dysmenorrhoea; neuralgic pain in the uterus and ovaries extending down the inside of the thighs; a sense of weight and downward pressure in the lower abdomen; uterine displacements in general from debility.

Therapy—These symptoms of **uterine disease**, cured or relieved by *tiger lily*, show the action of the remedy within a limited sphere; but it is probable that it has a much wider range of action, as we find that the common *white meadow lily* was employed by the early settlers in this country as a general and local tonic in **prolapsus uteri**; and as a tonic in debilitated states of the female organs of generation, and in dropsy, while the root of the *white pond lily* was used as a local application to ulcers and inflammations.

Prof. John King says:

“I recollect a lady who, several years since, was pronounced by several physicians to have uterine cancer, and which resisted all their treatment; she was permanently cured by a squaw, who gave her to drink freely of the decoction of a root, as well as to inject it in the vagina, which proved to be that of the white pond lily—**Nuphar Alba**. (*Nymphaea odorata*)”

Guided by the influence of these agents on the symptoms of disease, and by the diseases cured or relieved by them, we conclude that their action is similar.

Dr. Baldwin, of Michigan, uses the fluid extract of **Nuphar Lutea** in the local treatment of chronic uterine disease of whatever character or however severe, with the most gratifying results. His experience has extended over several years. The preparation is applied in full strength with cotton or on a tampon.

CYPRIPEDIUM.

Cypripedium pubescens.

Synonym—Yellow Ladies' Slipper.

CONSTITUENTS—

Volatile oil, volatile acid, two resins, starch, fixed oil, sugar.

PREPARATIONS—

Extractum Cypripedii Fluidum, Fluid Extract of Cypripedium.

Dose, from ten to thirty minims.

Oleo-resin of Cypripedium. Dose, from one to three grains.

Specific Cypripedium. Dose, from five to sixty minims.

Administration—It must be given in rather large doses. A preparation of the fresh root should be employed, as it loses its properties by drying.

The best results have been reported when doses of fifteen grains of the powdered root have been given, but from one to four grains every three or four hours is usually sufficient to relieve the nervous symptoms of typhoid fever.

Specific Symptomatology—The conditions in which this agent has been used may be summed up as follows: Nervousness, restlessness with constant change of position, irascibility, abnormal excitability, sleeplessness, nervous irritation from atony, neuralgia, delirium, nervousness of infants, hypochondriasis, morbid sensitiveness of the eyes, nervousness from long illness, abnormal irritability, nervousness from over-exertion of the mind, hysteria, delirium tremens, nervous headache, nervousness from gastro-intestinal irritation, irritation of the brain in young children with threatened convulsions.

Therapy—*Cypripedium* exercises a special influence upon **nervous conditions** induced by or depending upon disorders of the **female genito-urinaryorgans**. **Hysteria, melancholia**, restlessness with morbid excitability, sleeplessness, and pain from **general hyperaesthesia** induced by uterine or ovarian disorder will be benefited by this remedy. It will also relieve mental depression from spermatorrhea and venereal excesses, acting somewhat like *pulsatilla*.

With children it allays **cerebral hyperaemia** from teething, irritation of the brain in scrofulous children, with nervousness and sleeplessness,

and irritation in cases in which the mental faculties are prematurely developed.

It may be used in morbid vigilance, and jactitation in **typhoid fever**, **typhomania** and great sinking of the vital powers in adynamic fevers, also where there is morbid depression from chronic dyspepsia.

Cyripedium stimulates the nervous system in a moderate degree, and is suitable for cases where nervousness is the chief feature. It will relieve pain where restlessness and nervousness are associated with headache or neuralgia. Under its influence these patients become cheerful, and the nervous agitation disappears.

The action of *cyripedium* is feeble, and relieves only functional derangement.

In scrofulous children its action is only temporary, and the syrup of calcium phosphate, with Fowler's solution, and cod-liver oil may be added to the treatment to overcome the constitutional tendency to development of tubercular disease.

ARALIA.

Aralia racemosa.

Synonym—American Spikenard.

CONSTITUENTS—

Volatile oil, resin, sugar, pectin, starch.

PREPARATIONS—

Specific Medicine Spikenard. Dose, from five to forty minims.

Specific Symptomatology—Suppression of the menses from cold. **Suppression** of the **lochia** with pain in the uterine region. **Chlorosis**, **dysmenorrhea**. **Acrid leucorrhœa** with an offensive odor. Bearing down pain from prolapsus uteri. Indolent, irritable, fetid ulcers.

Therapy—The agent is also prescribed with advantage in **asthmatic breathing**, humid asthma, hay-fever, bronchitis, and laryngitis in the early stage, coughs and colds, earache and deafness.

Chronic pulmonary complaints, phthisis, scrofulous enlargement of glands, chronic catarrh, pain in the stomach in gouty subjects, rheumatism, syphilis. Cachectic conditions are benefited by this remedy, also irritation of the bladder and kidneys, with scanty urine.

Aralia racemosa is stimulant and diaphoretic with a special affinity for the respiratory organs. It may be given to produce perspiration in the early stages of coughs and colds and to asthmatic patients whose complaint is aggravated by catarrh from taking cold.

In chronic complaints of the **uric acid** or gouty diathesis, and in syphilis, it increases waste, removes morbid products from the system, and gives tone to all the organs.

As a local application in chronic ulcers and chronic skin diseases it is both stimulant and antiseptic.

In foul smelling and acrid leucorrhoea, used as an injection, it acts as a disinfectant and may be employed to advantage.

A preparation made from the fresh root should always be employed, to get the best results.