

**THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL  
OF MEDICINE; VOL.  
XXVII, AUGUST 1908,  
NO. 8, PP. 317-360**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649198429

The Calcutta journal of medicine; Vol. XXVII, August 1908, No. 8, pp. 317-360 by Various

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**VARIOUS**

**THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL  
OF MEDICINE; VOL.  
XXVII, AUGUST 1908,  
NO. 8, PP. 317-360**



THE  
CALCUTTA JOURNAL  
OF  
MEDICINE

Vol. xxvii.]

August 1908.

[No. 8.

OLEUM JECORIS ASELLI.

[In L'Art Medical, for July, a delineated action of Cod liver oil has appeared, from Dr. G Sieffert. There is another from the pen of Dr. H. Clarke in his Materia Medica which has not been incorporated in it. We think it would serve the interest of homoeopathy better to connect them together in one place than to present the account of the oil as given by Dr. G. Sieffert alone. *C.J.M.*]

OLEUM JECORIS MORRHUAE. CODLIVER OIL.

*Bibliography.*

Collin, *Precis de matiere medicale*, Paris, 1903.

Eoalle, Delpechet et Peuvrier, *Pharmacopée homoeopathique française*, Paris, 1898.

Farrington, *A Clinical Materia medica*, Philadelphia, 1889.

E. Hale, *New Remedies*, New York, 1875.

Lauder Brunton, *Action of Medicaments*.

Lilienthal, *Homoeopathic Therapeutics*, Philadelphia, 1890.

Manquat, *Traite de therapeutique*, Paris, 1900.

Mayhofer, *Maladies des organes respiratoires*.

Neidherd, in the *United States Medical and Surgical Journal*.

G. Pouchet, *Precis de Pharmacologie*, Paris 1907.

G. Sieffert, *Formulaire de Therapeutique positive*. Paris, 1899.

J. H. Clarke, *Dictionary of Practical Materia medica*, London, 1902.

## I. GENERALITIES.

Cod-liver oil, a popular remedy, is a natural product which may be obtained by expression of the liver, from heat and fermentation. It has three principal varieties, the pure oil, the light amber coloured oil, and the brown oil.

The brown oil causes its bad odour and disagreeable taste, and cannot be easily taken for therapeutic use; the pure oil is rich in medicinal elements and it is light amber coloured. For this reason, preference is given to the pure oil in practice. It unites in the best conditions the essential constitutive parts: phosphorus, iodine, bromine, sulphur and the alkaloids.

Cod-liver oil, said M. Collin, has an odour of sardine and insipid taste of the fish. Slowly soluble in alcohol and readily soluble in ether, it has an acidity varying between 0.1 to 1.80 per cent. Its density moves between 0.923 and 0.930; it marks 39° in the oleometer of Lefevre; the oleo-refractometer gives the deviation of 38° to 45°.

The chemical composition is very complex. It contains:

1. Fat (oleine, palmetine and butyrine);
2. Special organic acids (morrhucic and phospho-glyceric);
3. Volatile alkaloids (butylamine, hexylamine, and dihydro-lutidine);
4. Fixed alkaloids (merlusine, morrhucine, homo-morrhucine, and micro-morrhucine). The organic bases are accompanied by tyrosamine.
5. Principal minerals (chlorine, bromine, iodine, phosphorus, in the state of phosphoric and phospho-glyceric acids) carbonate of calcium, magnesium and soda.

Cod-liver oil, said M. G. Pouchet, unites in the proportion of 1000 to 5 centigrammes of bases and 1 gramme of morrhucic acid; 25 to 30 centigrammes of phosphorus; 4 to 5 centigrammes of iodine; 0.5 to 1 centigramme of bromine; 1 centigramme of iron. It is given by spoons and sippets from 6 to 7 milli-grammes of alkaloids and 12 to 15 milli-grammes of morrhucic acid. The re-distribution of alkaloids, according to Gantier and Mourgues, is for 100 grammes of bases, amyline 30c.,

other ammoniacs compose 18; dihydrolutidine 10; aselline 7; morrhaine 35. The fats contained in the oil of the liver of cod are eminently assimilable, for the slight acidity of the oil, so that its mixture with the hepatic ferments and the materials of the bile favour emulsion.

In commerce, it is seen, falsified cod-liver oil embellishes many shops or in its place other animal oils as the oils of the liver of ray fish and dog fish, the oil of spermaceti whale and vegetable oils mixed with iodine and rendered odorated by the oil of whale are also observed.

## II. PATHOGENESIS.

The following is a resume of experiments practised on healthy man by E. Hale, Neidhard, Fairbanks, Wood and Farrington.

*General symptoms.* Recrudescence of forces and general health. Aspect more florid and healthy than before. Lassitude and general prostration. The patient thinks himself fortunate and suffers great nervous irritation (after the use for many months of the medicament taken a spoonful by the mouth). Hot air is disagreeable. Atrophy. Emaciated person gains weight. Creeping sensation all over body with rush of blood to heart, soreness all round body to back. Fluttering (like a watch) rising from sacrum to occiput, affecting abdomen and chest in such a way that she becomes transfixed, unable to move hand or foot, and it arrests movement if in motion at time of seizure. Stitches and bearing down in one or other side; worse from bending side inward. Contraction of muscles: musculo-fibrous rheumatism.

*Moral.* Melancholic temperament. When he spoke of himself, employed third person. Sensation as if he was going to be insane. Feels miserable all over, with great nervous irritation. Sensation as if out of her mind.

*Sleep.* Insomnia and raving of animated objects during fever and excitement. Less sleep than usual, with nocturnal sweat. Insomnia after 3 A.M., with general perturbation. Dreams of seeing objects in the room during sleep.

*Fever.* Chilly each evening, for quarter of an hour with acid vomiting and diarrhoea (cured by *Iris. v.*). Constantly chilly; feels as if constantly taking cold. Chills from occiput down back and round abdomen. Chill: 3 A.M., in evening, with vomiting and purging for six hours; with spasmodic pain in region of navel (returned every evening for four days, relieved by *Iris. v.*) Chilly on going to bed; afterwards heat, worse in hot room. Chill and hectic fever, with pulsative pains in spleen. Sensation of coldness on going to bed, followed by fever and heat in chest. Chilliness at 3 A.M., remaining for an hour and followed by fever, pulse 100 to 120. Chilly in evening, afterwards fever and palpitation of heart.

Flushes of heat. Fever and heat in whole body. Pulse frequent, varying between 100 and 120, constant thirst. Sensation of creeping in body with afflux of blood in head. Tertian fever, repeating four times, each time for two hours, afterwards disappeared; chilliness in back and around abdomen (cured by *Eupatorium perfoliatum*). Flushes of heat in head, with red face, heat in stomach, and fever in extremities of toes, persisting for eight to ten hours. Flushes of heat; face red, stomach hot, heat to tips of toes. Heat in palms; every night. Fever and excitement every night producing wakefulness. Tertian intermittent.

Fever for two hours at night, followed by abdominal transpiration, principally in superior parts of body. Transpiration every night or constant. Fever followed by violent sweat, specially of head, neck and arms. Sweat every night; with smell of the oil; only on lower limbs. Cold perspiration all day.

*Head.* Obtuse headache in front and vertex. Giddiness: every thing appearing black. Headache in morning, with constant nausea and vomiting. Headache from left to right temporal regions. Giddiness in head. Dull aching pain in forehead. Steady aching sensations from left to right temple. Aching about inner part of right eyebrow, as if in periosteum.



**Bursting headache** after coughing as if head would split. Pain from occiput to forehead with nausea.

*Eyes.* Lachrymation on walking in open air, more pronounced in left. Pressure on eyes; lids swollen and so heavy that it is difficult to open them. Blackness before eyes and blindness, with tendency to close eyes, at the same time sensation of coldness. Obtuse pain in right eye. Eyes swelled. Heaviness over eyes with dry and parched bands. Aching, pain in right eye when using it. Lachrymation when walking in open air, worse left. Lids so heavy, can hardly raise them. During chill, blindness. Every thing turns black.

*Ears.* Fetid suppuration of ears. Deafness, not able to hear in left ear; abscess in right ear.

*Nose.* Dry coryza, cough and sneezing. Epistaxis in inclined position, with amenorrhœa. Chronic catarrh and ozena. Fluent coryza, hoarseness and redness of chest.

*Face.* Red and burning. Growth of skin which transformed into soft hair in chin and upper lip (after using Cod-liver oil for two months). Face red. Growth of short, thick hair on chin and upper lip (in a woman).

*Mouth.* Yellow coating on tongue. Sensation of dryness in mouth; constant thirst. Pain in tongue, after using Cod-liver oil. Putrid smell from decayed tooth ceased when taking the oil. Tongue: loaded; coated yellow. Parched feeling in mouth. Fetid breath cured.

*Throat.* Soreness in throat. Tickling at base of throat, with cough after dinner. Soreness in throat after hawking up phlegm. Chronic sore throat, with expectoration of yellow mucus. Tickling in throat; weakness in breath. Thyroid gland swollen.

*Taste and Appetite.* Loss of appetite. Repugnance to milk. Nausea and thirst and loss of appetite. Vomiting bitter and acid. Voracious appetite diminished in rioty children). Vomiting; of bile and mucus with bitter and acid at expiration of chill. Acid vomiting with chill.

*Stomach.* Nausea and malaise of stomach. Heat in region of stomach. Weight and oppression in pit of stomach. Pressive and tensive pain. Acid vomiting and relaxation with pain in stomach. Thirst: great, constant; before and during chill. Nausea. Vomiting. Weight in stomach.

*Abdomen.* Malaise and pressure in region of liver, aggravated by pressure and exercise. Pulsative pain in splenic region with repercussion in side. Shooting and tearing pain in splenic region, aggravated by respiration and touch. Soreness and heaviness in region of liver, increased by exercise; sore like a boil on pressure. Heavy pain in right side with numbness of right arm as if dead. Beating pain in spleen. Aching in splenic region on breathing and coughing, with pain at apex of scapula (at end of chill). Jerking, drawing pains in region of spleen. Flatulence relieved. Atrophia mesenterica.

*Stool and Anus.* Diarrhoea at night and in early morning. Diarrhoea with chill. Constipation with burning of hands and feet, sometimes with cold feet.

*Urinary organs.* Reddish urine with red sediment. Pain in region of kidneys. Soreness in kidneys, following soreness in liver. Discharge of mucus from urethra with burning every morning during stool. Acceleration of urinary secretion. Incontinence of urine, cured.

*Female Sexual organs.* Evacuation of yellow matter from uterus, with weakness in back. Acts as emmenagogue. Meneses reestablished (cure). Increase of menstrual flow so strong as to render a suspension of the oil necessary. Soreness of both ovaries; dysmenorrhoea. Leucorrhoea: yellow, with weak back.

*Respiratory organs.* Shortness of breath with dull cardiac palpitations. Asthma continually increasing in intensity, pain arresting respiration, in right side of chest, upon and along scapula, sometimes traversing scapula through and through. Pain in upper part of scapula. Violent stitches in left side, persisting for sometimes. Oppression and heat in

chest. Stitches in right side, with prolonged respiration, remaining during whole journey: Pain in chest and stomach with cough. Pressure in chest with violent access of cough in morning. Sensation of excoriation in right chest extending to back. Slight dry cough. Cough during whole night, with palpitation of heart. Tickling cough in middle of superior part of throat with palpitation of heart. Expectoration of yellow mucus. Glairy viscous, yellowish-green expectoration, with salty taste. Glairy, whitish, thick expectoration with violent cough. Whitish expectoration with pain in side, aggravates when patient bends in side. Spitting of blood.

Cough: all night; hard spells in morning; hacking; tickling in middle of upper chest with palpitation; violent with retching night and day; with stitches on raising arm; worse from draughts of air; worse on lying down at night, prevents sleeping; loose all day; from exposure to cold, damp weather, with emaciation and weakness; better when fever comes on. Expectoration: yellowish-green, saltish, tough; tough white; white; bloody mucus.

Weakness in chest and back, worse left. Soreness all over chest, or in centre, with hacking cough and aching between shoulders, worse right side; in chest and stomach with cough; worse by motion. Burning pains in spots, in some one portion of chest. Burning and heat in left chest; through to back, with cough. Pains in upper chest on coughing. Pneumonia of both upper lobes of lungs. Pain through lower chest to back. Pain right side above and below scapula; breathing arrested by soreness; sharp stitches left side. Sensation of excoriation in left chest; worse upper and lower part of left chest, extending to back. Weakness in breast; tickling in throat. Phthisis.

*Heart.* Rheumatic pain in region of heart and in muscles of chest. Sudden stitches in heart. Cardiac palpitation with oppression and anxiety. Palpitation of heart; with cough; with short breath. Rush of blood to heart, with a creeping sensation all over body. Pulse accelerated, soft and small.