

**NEW PROVINGS OF THE  
FOLLOWING REMEDIES: CISTUS  
CANADENSIS, ZINZIBER,  
MERCURIUS PROTO-JODATUS**

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New Provings of the Following Remedies: Cistus Canadensis, Zinziber, Mercurius Proto-Jodatus  
by Constantine Hering & C. Gundelach & W. James Blakely

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CONSTANTINE HERING & C. GUNDELACH & W. JAMES BLAKELY

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NEW PROVINGS

OF THE

FOLLOWING REMEDIES:

CISTUS CANADENSIS,

By CONSTANTINE HERING, M. D.

COBALTUM,

By CONSTANTINE HERING, M. D.

ZINZIBER,

By C. GUNDERLACH, M. D.

MERCURIUS PROTO-JODATUS.

By W. JAMES BLAKELY, M. D.



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## CISTUS CANADENSIS L.

*Helianthemum canadense* Michaux, *Rockrose*, also named: *Frostwort*, *Frostweed*, *Frostplant*, because the roots throw off small white icicles, which can be seen on frosty mornings, even when all other plants already show little dewdrops with all the colors of the rainbow.

In Eaton's *Botany* (8th ed., 1840,) we find, page 263: "In November and December of 1816, I saw hundreds of these plants sending out broad, thin, curved ice-crystals, about an inch in breadth from near the roots. These were melted away by day, and renewed every morning for more than twenty-five days in succession. P. 198, This has often been observed in the sand-plains two miles north of New Haven, Conn."

Wm. Darlington, in his *Flora cestricea* (1837) says, page 314: "Prof. Eaton and Dr. Bigelow have noticed the formation in freezing weather of curiously curved ice-crystals near the root. I have seen them very beautiful in the *Cunita mariana*, and Mr. Elliott remarked the same in the *Conyza bifrons*."

Has a satisfactory explanation anywhere been given of this most remarkable fact?

According to Noak, *Cistus canadensis* is not mentioned in Schoepf's *Materia Medica Americana*, nor in Bigelow's *American Medical Botany*. Can any of our colleagues give the earliest quotations?

It is an old popular medicine in this country for all kinds of so-called scrofulous diseases, and had, after being introduced into Great Britain in 1799, gained such a reputation that it was cultivated from seeds. We may suppose, that in this way its reputation was lost again. Because, according to Darlington, it grows only on dry mica-slate hills and ser-

pentine rocks, and is rare; according to Eaton it is abundant at the foot of Pine-rock, New Haven, on the barren plains.

Thus, like *Belladonna*, which requires lime-stone ground, and *Pulsatilla*, which requires a ferreous soil, *Cistus canadensis* seems to be dependent on the presence of talc, (magnesia.) If the analogy is allowable, we might conclude, it will follow the Magnesia as well as the *Belladonna* follows the Calcareo, and the *Pulsatilla* the Ferrum. These plants are often indicated by the correspondence of the minerals to a given case, and being often complementary to them, may thus be given by preference, where those minerals have already been administered with success, and *vice versa*.

Dr. Ives, of Yale College, has given it with great success in scrofula, eruptions and other chronic diseases. Dr. Parrish also applied it with great effect. Favorable reports have been published by Dr. Webb of Madison County and by Dr. Fuller of Hartford. Dr. Tyler of New Haven, Ct. published a treatise on it; some extracts from which, taken from the New Haven Palladium of March, 1852, have been given among the symptoms.

In the years 1835 and 1836, Dr. G. H. Bute made the first provings with the tincture and first centesimal potency.

In scrofulous cases, which had resisted even our antipsoric remedies, he made, led by the similarity of some of his symptoms with some symptoms of such cases, the first attempts to cure, and with great success even with the  $\frac{1}{100}$ . In tracheal complaints, where he had not succeeded with his first potency, he was obliged to raise the potences to the 15th centesimal. Later, it was given with increasing success in the 30th by several homœopathicians. Lately most remarkable cures have been made by the 200th.

A communication of Dr. G. H. Bute to C. Hering, of the 1st of January, 1837, was printed January 18th, in the *Correspondenzblatt der homœopathischen Aerzte*, No. 13, a paper in quarto, published only to save the high postage among the members of the Academy at Allentown, Pa. It was copied in *Jahr's Manual*, and from this by Noak &



Trinks in their Manual, 1843, as well as Daphne indica and others; and on page 659, the most absurd remark was inserted: part of the symptoms cured were not contained in the proving. This must be, as a matter of course, the case with every drug, even in some measure with those most proved. By symptoms obtained on the healthy in proving, we get the first indication to apply it as a medicine; and if we succeed decidedly in cases with such a medicine, we may afterwards also make use of the symptoms cured. According to Hahnemann, the latter have a subordinate value, unless they are of a general character, as for instance in our *Cistus*; the great sensibility to the slightest draft; the remarkable appearance of bodily symptoms after vexation, &c. The absurd note mentioned above may have impeded the more frequent use of the *Cistus* and other valuable additions to our *Materia Medica*, as it contains the following remark, page 659:

“As the observations of Dr. C. Hering, because they had “been made, as well on the healthy as on the sick, *always* “with the highest dilutions and in Globules, which is an “equally ridiculous, useless, and resultless experimenting—“have been so little corroborated, we must withhold our “confidence from the proving of this plant also,” etc.

This note, not written by Dr. Noak, but by the other editor of this manufactured compilation, was used and quoted as an authority by the ignorant, to the great injury of our cause. It was written by one who knew that his assertion was not true, because he had augmented his own *Materia Medica* by the provings I had handed to him of *Plumbum*, *Cantharides*, *Sabina*, and *Paris*; and by one who knew that I had made all my provings up to this time with the strongest doses or the lower potencies, one single experiment excepted, the proving of the *Theridion*.

All the provings he objected to in his note as “ridiculous,” have been made *by others and not by myself*, and have besides that, been made with the tincture and the first dilution. It is “useless” to say more, but I hope it will not be “resultless”

in lessening the quotation of such an authority as the above mentioned compilation, which is only surpassed in ignorance and boasting by another, in the hands of a great many in this country.

In the *Modell-Pharmacopœa*, made by order of the Centralverein, and prefaced and praised by the same Trinks,—not only in 1845, in the first edition, page 85, but also in 1854, in the second, page 99,—an inexcusable mistake is made, and our essentially different Rockrose confounded with a common shrub, growing everywhere in Germany. If Gruner has made his tincture from the *Cistus helianthemum* or *Helianthemum vulgare* for the German Homeœopaths, it is no wonder they do not find it corroborate what we have observed from our American plant.

The nearest relative to it is the old and once famous *Resina Ladanum* or *Labdanum* from *Cistus creticus*, *Cyprius* or *Ladaniferus*, now obsolete and hardly to be had genuine. We have to leave the proving of this to our friends on the shores of the Mediterranean.

B. Dr. Bute's Observations.

G. The symptoms of a very careful proving with Globules of the X., by Dr. Gosewisch, (January 30, 1837,) (died in Wilmington, 1853).

\* Indicates cured symptoms.

R. R. Related reports by different persons.

In all other cases the name of the observer is given.

The numbers (1,) (15,) (30,) (200,) indicate the potence.

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#### MIND.

\*All mental excitement greatly increases the suffering. (1) B.

\*Bad effects from vexation. (1) B.

\*After supper, until bed time—cheerfulness. G.

\*Mental agitation increases the cough. (15) B.

5. \*Every mental excitement is followed by stitches in the throat, producing a cough. (1) B.

## HEAD.

- Headache all day; oppressive. B.  
 Pressure above the eyes in the forehead. B.  
 Pressure in the glabella. B.  
 Headache in the sinciput after being kept waiting for dinner, which is better after eating. G.
10. Headache in the right side, with piercing pain in the eye. 16.  
 Generally the headache *grows worse towards evening* and lasts all night. (Puls.) G.  
 Coolness on the forehead. 172.  
 \*Head drawn to one side by swellings on the neck. 181.

## EYES.

- Feeling as of a weight above the eyes. B.
15. Pressure above the eyes. 7.  
 Spasmodic piercing pain in the middle of the upper rim of the right eye socket, with some headache on that side. G.  
 Stitches in the left eye.  
 Feeling as though something were passing around in the eye, with stitches. B.  
 \*Scrofulous inflammation of the eyes of long standing. R. R.

## EARS.

20. Discharge from the ears of water and bad-smelling pus. B.  
 \*Discharge from the ears. (15) B.  
 Inner swelling of the ears. B.  
 High swelling beginning at the ear and extending half way up the cheek. B.  
 Inner swelling and discharge from the ears. B.
25. \*Tetters on and around the ears extending into the external meatus. C. Hg.  
 Swelling of the parotid glands. 170.

## NOSE.

- Sneezing* without cold in the head or any other cause. B.  
 \*Evenings and mornings frequent and violent sneezing. B.  
 Cool feeling in the nose. 45.