



*Cinchona Cortex peruvianus ruber*

Painted by Dr. W. Schell, May 1, 1793



disease as especially consisting in a phlogistic diathesis, I hold the bark to be absolutely improper, and have found it manifestly hurtful, especially in its beginning, and in its truly inflammatory state."

In the confluent small-pox the bark has been recommended to promote the rising of the pustules; this opinion our own experience teaches us to reject; but after the maturation of the pustules is completed, or where symptoms of putrescency, or a dissolved state of the blood supervenes, the bark cannot be too liberally employed. The other diseases in which the bark is recommended, are gangrenous sore throats, and indeed every species of gangrene; scarletina, dysentery, all hemorrhages of the passive kind; likewise other increased discharges; some cases of dropsy, especially when unattended with any particular local affection, scrophula, ill conditioned ulcers, rickets, scurvy, states of convalescence, certain stages of phthisis pulmonalis, &c.

The officinal preparations of the bark are the powder, the extract, the tincture, and the decoction. This last, though frequently employed, is in many respects inferior even to a simple watery infusion; but the best form is that of powder, in which the constituent parts are in the most effectual proportion.

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CINCHONA.—CORTEX RED PERUVIAN BARK TREE.  
PERUVIANUS RUBER.

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Cortex Peruvianus ruber officinarum.

THOUGH the specific character of this species has not yet been botanically determined, yet upon the testimony of Combe and Groschke<sup>a</sup> a drawing of it was sent to Linnæus from Peru, which was found in the Linnean Herbarium purchased by Dr. Smith, to whom we are obliged for the annexed figure. In the original drawing two specimens of the branches are given, one in its floral and the other in its capsular state; to which is also added, a sketch of

<sup>a</sup> See Blumenbach *Med. Biblioth. V. 2. p. 486.*



the bark. On these authorities, and on that of Murray, who, in his sixth vol. of the *App. Medicam.*<sup>d</sup> refers to this figure, we consider ourselves sufficiently warranted to present it to the publick, not doubting of its being peculiarly acceptable to our medical readers.

It has evidently the essential characters of the Cinchona, while it differs specifically from all the others which we have seen of this genus. From that of the *C. officinalis*, the disparity is so obvious, that on comparing the two figures, it does not require to be pointed out.

The medicinal qualities of the bark have been considered already with that of the preceding.

<sup>d</sup> See p. 45.

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ALOE PERFOLIATA SOCOTORINA. SOCOTORINE ALOE.

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*SYNONYMA.* Aloë socotorina. *Pharm. Lond. & Edinb.* Aloe Americana ananæ floribusque suave rubentibus. *Pluk. Almag. t. 240. f. 4.* Aloe (vera) foliis longissimis et angustissimis, marginibus spinosis, floribus spicatis. *Mill. Dict.*

*Class* Hexandria. *Ord.* Monogynia. *Lin. Gen. Plant.* 430.

*Eff. Gen. Ch.* Cor. erecta, ore patulo, fundo nectarifero. *Filam.* receptaculo inserta.

*Sp. Ch.* A. foliis caulinis dentatis amplexicaulibus vaginantibus, floribus corymbosis cernuis pedunculatis subcylindricis.

♂ *A. S.* foliis longissimis et angustissimis, marginibus spinosis, floribus spicatis.

THE root is perennial, strong, fibrous: the flower-stems rise three or four feet in height, and are smooth, erect, of a glaucous green colour, and towards the top beset with ovate bracteal scales: the leaves are numerous, and proceed from the upper part of the root: they are narrow, tapering, thick, or fleshy, succulent, smooth, glaucous, and beset at the edges with spiny teeth: the flowers are produced