

# [A Plaster to Treat Liver Pain] Dr. William James Almon

**Date:** Late 18th century; exact date unknown. | 1790/01/01 to 1800/01/01

## **Compiler**

Dr. William James Almon

## **Author**

John Sabatier

## **Publication Format**

Manuscript

## **Type**

Medicine

## **Symptoms**

pain  
tumefaction  
costiveness  
uneasiness  
inspicated bile

## **Ingredients**

mercurial ointment  
hog's lard  
opium powder  
opium  
leather  
sticking salve  
calomel

## **Places**

Bath  
England  
Halifax  
Nova Scotia

**Source:** Manuscript Notebook of Dr. William James Almon

**Institution:** Nova Scotia Archives | **Source Origin:** Almon Family Fonds | **Reference:** MG 1 / Microfilm Reel 10,045

## **Description**

A recipe from Mr. John Sabatier of Bath for a salve used in a plaster applied to treat liver pain arising from blocked bile ducts, p. 265.

## **Transcription**

1[March 17th 1800.] Extract of a letter from Mr. John Sabatier dated Bath\_  
My complaint was a constant pain more or less

Violent on the region of the Liver attended sometimes with tumefaction, and costiveness; it arose from inspissated bile that would not pass through the ducts. **Calomel** afforded but temporary relief. Mere Ointment rubb'd in none. \_ Since July last the following plaster which I renew every week or ten days and keep constantly on the part has entirely removed all pain and uneasiness whatever and acts as a gentle and constant Cathartic rendering all in internal Medicines unnecessary-- Instead of taking half a Pill or one every night I dont take one in three Months

#### Recipe

$\frac{2}{3}$ <sup>rd</sup>s Mercurial Ointment the Usual sort triturated with hogs lard mixd with  $\frac{1}{3}$ <sup>d</sup> best Opium in powder laid thick on the centre of a thick Leather the size of a crown piece \_ the Margin of which must be spread with sticking salve of the same size to make it adhere to be applied separately in as many places as the pain is felt  
I have never known this application affect the Mouth

#### Annotations

Calomel:

Mercury chloride, once used as a purgative as well as an insecticide and fungicide.

A Plaster to Treat Liver Pain recipe from Early Modern Maritime Recipes: <https://emmr.lib.unb.ca/recipes/190>