

[John Bremner Case with Medicines] Dr. William James Almon

Date: Late 18th century; exact date unknown.

Contributors

Contributor Role

Author

Contributor Name

Dr. William James Almon

Publication Format

Manuscript

Type

Medicine

Symptoms

head pain

headache

pain

pimples

paroxysm

sizy blood

Ingredients

thin gruel

rhubarb

bark

[LL]

calomel

honey

purgative powder

Places

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 case study describing treatment for sporadic head pain that includes prescriptions in Latin, pp. 59-60.

Transcription

Mr. [John Bremner](#), [a clerk] Aged of a plethoric habit was attack'd early this Morning with a most violent pain in his forehead between his two Eyes, his body was open and he appeared the day before perfectly well. I found his pulse very little altered from health, his appetite was good and he was free from fever, the part pained was hot to the touch and a few pimples appeared on it -- free from Any nausea: [VS] was used immediately to 12oz; the Blood was a little sizzly and I order'd him the following

Rx Calomel_ ?v. Pulv. Purg. ?i. Mel
q[uan]tum s[ufficit] fiat Bol[us] stat[im]
sum[endus]

to abstain from Animal food and to drink thin gruel for his common drink _ In the Evening the Bolus had operated and his headach was easier The Headach returned this Morning about the time it did yesterday but was not so severe: Bolus still Operating; the Afternoon & Evening he was entirely free from it__

The Headach returned this morning rather earlier than yesterday [about 6 AM] was extremely severe: large Blisters were applied behind his Ears yesterday mornng which not drawing so well as I could wish worsened today: as the Disease now evidently provd itself to be an Intermittent, a quotidian type: the Intermission perfect: I recommended as soon as his paroxyism was Over to begin with a tea spoonful of the Cortex

in wine & water every hour: as he was rather [--tive] to take a few grains of Rhubarb with each dose until this was removed--
14- this morning about seven AM. he had some little symptoms of his complaint: but nothing to speak of- 15 Grain of Rhubarb purged him twice: has taken his bark constantly & is to go on with it -- as the Cortex purges him 5 drops of LL was added to [each] dose
15-: Scarcely any symptoms of his complaint this Mor^g is to go on with his Bark, rests well at night
16- Free from any complaint is to have Meat for Dinner and continues his Bark
18- Went to the counting house to do duty this Mornng. has taken nearly [AR]: of Bark since the 15th--

21- Remains perfectly well--

Translation (from line 10)

Recipe: 5 drams of calomel, 1 dram of purgative powder, and as much honey as needed. Make a pill, to be taken immediately.

Translation and transcription by Winston Black

Annotations

John Bremner

The remedy used to treat Bremner appears also in "Table of the Effects of Medicines," Manuscript Notebook of Dr. William James Almon, pp. 95-97.

John Bremner Case with Medicines recipe from Early Modern Maritime Recipes:

<https://emmr.lib.unb.ca/recipes/197>