

[Observation on a Species of Leprosy] Dr. William James Almon

Date: Late 18th century; exact date unknown.

Contributors

Contributor Role

Compiler

Contributor Name

Dr. William James Almon

Publication Format

Manuscript

Type

Medicine

Symptoms

leprosy

lepra ichthyosis

Ingredients

elm tree bark

juniper

mercurials

antimonials

nitre

tar water

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 method for curing leprosy with a decoction of elm bark, p. 20.

Transcription

Observation on a species of Leprosy properly
fermed Lepra ichthyosis.

The description of its peculiar appearance being well known
we shall only mention our author's method of Cure, which
is by a substance of the vegetable class, viz- the inner
bark of the elm tree, a remedy which has cured all
the cases of this kind, that have occurred to him, three
of which he relates, in which the juniper decoctions,
mercurials, antimonials, [nitre](#), tar water, the
bark and warm bathing had failed. In these
cases from three ounces to a pint of the elm decoction
were taken every day. At the same time
the body should be kept rather laxative, a large
proportion of vegetable diet should be used, the
least perspirable meats should be avoided, and if
the disorder be obstinate the decoction should be
continued for some months or repeated, if the
disorder returns with the cold weather.

Annotations

[nitre](#)

Potassium nitrate in mineral form, known also as saltpeter or saltpetre. (Also niter)

Observation on a Species of Leprosy recipe from Early Modern Maritime Recipes:
<https://emmr.lib.unb.ca/recipes/436>