

On Ulcers Hippocratesby Francis Adams

—1 must avoid wetting all sorts of ulcers except with wine, unless ulcer be situated in a joint. For, the dry is nearer to the sound, the wet to the unsound, since an ulcer is wet, but a sound part dry. And it is better to leave the part without a bandage unless a cataplasm be applied. Neither do certain ulcers admit of, and this is the case with the recent rather than the old, with those situated in joints. A spare diet and water agree with ulcers, and with the more recent rather than the older; and with ulcer which either is inflamed or is about to be so; and where is danger of gangrene; and with the ulcers an inflammation in; and where there is danger of convulsion; and in wounds of belly; but most especially in fractures of the head and thigh, any other member in which a fracture may have occurred. In the of an ulcer, it is not expedient to stand; more especially if ulcer be situated in the leg; but neither, also, is it proper to sit or walk. But quiet and rest are particularly expedient. Recent, both the ulcers themselves and the surrounding parts, will least exposed to inflammation, if one shall bring them to a suppuration expeditiously as possible, and if the matter is not prevented from by the mouth of the sore; or, if one should restrain the, so that only a small and necessary quantity of pus may be formed, and the sore may be kept dry by a medicine which does not irritate. For the part becomes inflamed when rigor and throbbing; for ulcers then get inflamed when suppuration is about to form. A sore suppurates when the blood is changed and becomes heated; that becoming putrid, it constitutes the pus of such ulcers. When seem to require a cataplasm, it is not the ulcer itself to which must apply the cataplasm, but to the surrounding parts, so that pus may escape and the hardened parts may become soft. Ulcer either from the parts having been cut through by a sharp instrument, excised, admit of medicaments for bloody wounds ('enaima), and will prevent suppuration by being desiccant to a certain degree., when the flesh has been contused and roughly cut by the weapon, is to be so treated that it may suppurate as quickly as possible; thus the inflammation is less, and it is necessary that the pieces of flesh which are bruised and cut should melt away by becoming putrid, converted into pus, and that new flesh should then grow up. every recent ulcer, except in the belly, it is expedient to cause to flow from it abundantly, and as may seem seasonable; for will the wound and the adjacent parts be less attacked with inflammation., in like manner, from old ulcers, especially if situated in the, in a toe or finger, more than in any other part of the body. when the blood flows they become drier and less in size, as being dried up. It is this (the blood?) especially which prevents such from healing, by getting into a state of putrefaction and corruption., it is expedient, after the flow of the blood, to bind over the a thick and soft piece of sponge, rather dry than wet, and to above the sponge some slender leaves. Oil, and all things of a mollient and oily nature, disagree with such ulcers, unless they getting nearly well. Neither does oil agree with wounds which been recently inflicted, nor yet do medicines formed with oils, more especially if the ulcer stands in need of more cleansing., in a word, it is in summer and in winter that we are to smear oil these sores that require such medicines. —

—2 purging of the bowels agrees with most ulcers, and in wounds the head, belly, or joints, where there is danger of gangrene, such as require sutures, in phagedaenic, spreading and in otherwise ulcers. And when you want to apply a bandage, no plaster to be used until you have rendered the sore dry, and then indeed may apply them. The ulcer is to be frequently

cleaned with a sponge, then a dry and clean piece of cloth is to be frequently applied, and in this way the medicine which it is supposed will agree it is to be applied, either with or without a bandage. The hot agrees better than winter with most ulcers, except those situated the head and belly; but the equinoctial season agrees still better them. Ulcers which have been properly cleansed and dried as they be, do not usually get into a the state. When a bone has exfoliated, has been burned, or sawed, or removed in any other way, the cicatrix such ulcers become deeper than usual. Ulcers which are not cleansed, not disposed to unite if brought together, nor do the lips thereof of their own accord. When the points adjoining to an ulcer inflamed, the ulcer is not disposed to heal until the inflammation, nor when the surrounding parts are blackened by mortification, when a varix occasions an overflow of blood in the part, is the disposed to heal, unless you bring the surrounding parts into healthy condition. _____

_____3ulcers, if somewhat hollow, you must scarify all along their, or to the extent of half the circle, according to the natural of the man. When erysipelas supervenes upon any sore, you purge the body, in the way most suitable to the ulcer, either or downward. When swelling arises around an. ulcer, and if ulcer remain free from inflammation, there will be a deposit of fin process of time. And whatever ulcer gets swelled along with and does not subside as the other parts subside which inflamed and swelled at the same time, there is a danger that an ulcer may not unite. When from a fall, or in any other way, part has been torn or bruised, and the parts surrounding the ulcer become swelled, and, having suppurated, matter flows from the by the ulcer, if in such cases a cataplasm be required, it not be applied to the sore itself, but to the surrounding parts, that the pus may have free exit, and the indurated parts may be. But when the parts are softened as the inflammation ceases, the parts which are separated are to be brought toward one another, on sponges and applying them, beginning from the sound parts advancing to the ulcer by degrees. But plenty of leaves are to bound above the sponge. When the parts are prevented from coming by a piece of flesh full of humors, it is to be removed. the ulcer is deep seated in the flesh, it is swelled up, both the bandaging and the compression. Such an ulcer should be cut upon a director (specillum) if possible, at the proper time, so to admit a free discharge of the matter, and then the proper treatment to be applied as may be needed. For the most part, in every hollow which can be seen into which can be seen into direct without any swelling present, if there be putrefaction in it, or if flesh be flabby and putrid, such an ulcer, and the parts which it, will be seen to be black and somewhat livid. And of corroding, those which are phagedaenic, spread and corrode most powerfully, in this case, the parts surrounding the sore will have a black sub-livid appearance. _____

_____4for swellings and inflammation in the surrounding parts. mullein, the raw leaves of the trefoil, and the boiled leaves the epipetrum, and the poley, and if the ulcer stand in need of, all these things also cleanse; and likewise the leaves the fig-tree, and of the olive, and the horehound, all these are be boiled; and more especially the chaste-tree, and the fig, and olive, and the leaves of the pomegranate are to be boiled in like. These are to be used raw: and the leaves of the mallow pounded wine, and the leaves of rue, and those of the green origany. all these, linseed is to be boiled up and mixed by pounding it a very fine powder. When there is danger of erysipelas seizing ulcers, the leaves of woad are to be pounded and applied raw in cataplasm along with linseed, or the linseed is to be

moistened the juice of strychnos or of woad, and applied as a cataplasm. the ulcer is clean, but both it and the surrounding parts are, lentil is to be boiled in wine and finely triturated, and, mixed with a little oil, it is to be applied as a cataplasm; the leaves of the hip-tree are to be boiled in water and pounded a fine powder and made into a cataplasm; and apply below a thin, piece of cloth wetted in wine and oil; and when you wish to contraction, prepare the leaves of the hip-tree like the lentil, the cress; wine and finely-powdered linseed are to be mixed together. this is proper: linseed, and raw chaste-tree, and Melian alum, these things being macerated in vinegar.

5pounded the white unripe grape in a mortar of red bronze, and it through the strainer, expose it to the sun during the day, remove it during the night, that it may not suffer from the dew; it constantly during the day, so that it may dry equally, and contract as much virtue as possible from the bronze: let it be to the sun for as great a length of time as till it acquire thickness of honey; then put it into a bronze pot with the fresh and sweet wine, in which turpentine resin has been previously, boil the resin in the wine until it become hard like boiled; then take out the resin and pour off the wine: there should be the greatest proportion of the juice of unripe grape, next of the, and third of the honey and myrrh, either the liquid (stacte) otherwise. The finest kind is to be levigated and moistened by a small quantity of the same wine poured on it; and then this is to be boiled by itself, stirring it in the wine; and when it appears to have attained the proper degree of thickness, it is to be poured into the juice of the unripe grape; and the finest natron to be toasted, and gently added to the medicine, along with a smaller of the flowers of copper (flos aeris) than of the natron. you have mixed these things, boil for not less than three days, a gentle fire made with fuel of the fig-tree or with coals, lest catch fire. The applications should all be free from moisture, the sores should not be wetted when this medicine is applied in form of liniment. This medicine is to be used for old ulcers, also for recent wounds of the glans penis, and ulcers on the head ears. Another medicine for the same ulcers: -The dried gall of fox, the finest honey, white wine, in which the shavings of the have been boiled, frankincense, of myrrh an equal part, of saffron equal part, the flowers of copper, in like manner of liquids, the proportion of wine, next of honey, and least of the gall. -Wine, a little cedar honey, of dried things, the flowers copper, myrrh, dried pomegranate rind. Another: -Of the roasted of copper half a drachm, of myrrh two half-drachms, of saffron drachms, of honey a small quantity, to be boiled with wine. -Of frankincense a drachm, of gall a drachm, of saffron three; let each of these be dried and finely levigated, then, having, triturate in a very strong sun, pouring in the juice of a grape, until it become of a gelatinous consistence, for three; then let them be allowed to macerate in an austere, dark-colored, wine, which is gradually poured upon them. Another: -Boil roots of the holmoak in sweet white wine; and when it appears to be properly done, having poured off two parts of the wine, and the lees of wine as free of water as possible one part; then boil, it, so that it may not be burnt, at a gentle fire, until it appears to have attained the proper consistence. Another: -The other are to be the same; but, not withstanding, instead of the wine, the strongest white vinegar, and dip into it wool as greasy as be procured, and then, moistening it with the lees of oil, boil, pour in the juice of the wild fig-tree, and add Melian alum, and, and the flowers of copper, both toasted. This cleanses the better than the former, but the other is no less desiccant. -Dip the wool in a very little water; and then, having added third part of wine, boil until it attain the proper

consistence. these, recent ulcers are most speedily prevented from getting into state of suppuration. —————

—————6:—Sprinkle on it dried wakerobin, and add the green bark of fig-tree, pounding it in the juice: do this with or without wine, along with honey. Another:—Boiling the shavings of lotus with (the vinegar should be white); then mix the lees of oil and tar-water, and use it as a liniment or wash, and bandage above. Things in powder prevent recent wounds from suppurating, or may be used for cleansing the sore along with vinegar, or for with wine. —————

—————7:—Sprinkle (on the sore?) lead finely triturated with the recement copper; and sprinkle on it, also, the shavings of lotus, and the of copper, and alum, and chalcitis, with copper, both alone, with the shavings of lotus. And otherwise, when it is wanted to these in a dry state, do it with the Illyrian spodos triturated the shavings, and with the shavings alone. And the flowers of alone, in the finest powder; and birthwort, when scraped and pounded, may be sprinkled on the part. Another, for bloody myrrh, frankincense, galls, verdigris the roasted flower of, Egyptian alum roasted, vine flowers, grease of wool, plumbago, of these things is to be diluted, in equal proportions, with like the former. And there is another preparation of the same:—The vinegar of a white color, honey, Egyptian alum, the finest; having toasted these things gently, pour in a little gall; cleanses fungous ulcers, renders them hollow, and is not pungent.:—The herb with the small leaves, which gets the name of Parthenium, and is used for removing thymia (warts?) from the glans, alum, chalcitis, a little crude Melian alum (?); sprinkle a dried elaterium, and a little dried pomegranate rind in like. —————

—————8:—herb which has got the name of lagopyrus, fills up hollow and ulcers; (when dried it resembles wheat; it has a small leaf that of the olive, and more long;) and the leaf of horehound, oil. Another:—The internal fatty part, resembling honey, of a much dried, of water two parts, of linseed not much toasted and levigated, one part. Another:—Of the dried fig, of the flower copper levigated a little, and the juice of the fig. The preparation dried fig:—The black chamaeleon, the dried gall of an ox, the things the same. Of the powders:—Of the slender cress in a raw, of horehound, of each equal parts; of the dried fig, two parts; linseed, two parts; the juice of the fig. When you use any of these, apply above it compresses wetted in vinegar, apply a sponge the compresses and make a If the surrounding parts be in a state, apply to them any medicine which may appear suitable. —————

—————9:—you wish to use a liquid application, the medicine called caricumbe rubbed in, and the bandages may be applied as formerly described the same principle. The medicine is prepared of the following:—Of black hellebore, of sandarach, of the flakes of copper, lead washed, with much sulphur, arsenic, and cantharides. This be compounded so as may be judged most proper, and it is to be with oil of juniper. When enough has been rubbed in, lay aside medicine, and apply boiled wakerobin in a soft state, either rubbing in dry, or moistening it with honey. But if you use the caricuma dry state, you must abstain from these things, and sprinkle the on the sore. The powder from hellebore and sandarach alone. Another liquid medicine:—The herb, the leaf of which resembles arum (wakerobin) in nature, but is white, downy, of the size of ivy-leaf: this herb is applied with wine, or the substance which upon the branches of the ilex, when pounded with wine, is to applied. Another:—The juice of the grape, the strongest vinegar, flower of copper, natron, the juice

of the wild fig-tree. Alum, most finely levigated, is to be put into the juice of the wild, and it is to be put into a red bronze mortar and stirred in sun, and removed when it appears to have attained proper consistence.

—10—are other powders:—Black hellebore, as finely levigated as possible, to be sprinkled on the sore while any humidity remains about it, while it continues to spread. The bandaging is the same as when are used. Another, in like manner:—The driest lumps of salt to be put into a copper, or earthen pot, of equal size, as much possible, and not large, and the finest honey, of double the size the salt, as far as can be guessed, is to be poured upon the lump salt, then the vessel is to be put upon coals and allowed to sit until the whole is consumed. Then, having sponged the ulcer cleansed it, bandage it as before, and compress it a little more. day, wherever the medicine has not been taken in, sprinkle it, press it down, and bandage. But when you wish to remove the medicine, in hot vinegar until it separate, and again do the same things, it away, if necessary. Another corrosive powder:—Of the most levigated misy, sprinkle upon the moist and gangrenous parts, a little of the flower of copper, not altogether levigated. Another equally corrosive:—Having sponged the ulcer, burn the most wool upon a shell placed on the fire until the whole be consumed; reduced this to a fine powder, and sprinkled it on the sore, the bandage in the same manner. Another powder for the same:—The black chamaeleon, when prepared with the juice of the. It is to be prepared roasted, and alkanet mixed with it. Or., and Egyptian alum roasted, and sprinkle on them the Orchomenian. For spreading ulcers:—Alum, both the Egyptian roasted, and Melian; but the part is to be first cleansed with roasted natrons sponged; and the species of alum called chalcitis roasted. It to be roasted until it catch fire.

—11—old ulcers which occur on the fore part of the legs; they become and black:—Having pounded the flower of the melilot and mixed with honey, use as a plaster. For nerves (tendons?) which have cut asunder:—Having pounded, sifted, and mixed with oil the roots the wild myrtle, bind on the part; and the herb cinquefoil (it white and downy, and more raised above the ground than the black), having pounded this herb in oil bind it on the part, then remove it on the third day.

—12(?)—These medicines are to be used in winter rather than summer. Emollient medicines which make the cicatrices fair:—Pound in mucous part of the squill and pitch, with fresh swine's, and a little oil, and a little resin, and ceruse. And the grease a goose, fresh swine's seam, and squill, and a little oil. The wax, fresh clean grease, or squill and white oil, and a little. Wax, swine's seam (old and fresh), and oil, and verdigris, squill and resin. Let there be two parts of the old grease to fresh, and of the other things, q. s. Having melted the grease is fresh, pour it into another pot; having levigated plumbago and sifted it, and mixed them together, boil and stir at first; until when poured upon the ground it concretes; then taking it the fire, pour it all into another vessel, with the exception the stony sediment, and add resin and stir, and mix a little oil juniper, and what has been taken off. In all the emollient medicines which you add the resin, when you remove the medicine from the, pour in and mix the resin while it is still warm. Another:—Old's seam, wax, and oil, the dried shavings of the lotus, frankincense.,—namely, of the frankincense one part, and of the other one, and of the shavings of the lotus one part; but let there be parts of the old grease, one of wax, and of fresh swine's seam part. Another:—Or old swine's seam along with the fresh grease a goat;

when cleaned, let it retain as little as possible of its: having triturated or pounded it smooth, pour in oil, and the lead with the spodium and half the shavings of the lotus.:- Swine's seam, spodium, blue chalcitis, oil. _____

_____13 Burns:- You must boil the tender roots of the ilex, and if they be very thick and green, it must be cut into small parts, and poured in white wine, boil upon a gentle fire, until it appears to be of the proper consistence, so as to be used for a liniment. it may be prepared in water after the same manner. Another, not:- Old swine's seam is to be rubbed in by itself, and it is to be melted along with squill, the root of which is to be divided and applied with a bandage. Next day it is to be fomented; and having old swine's seam and wax, and mixed with them oil, frankincense, the shavings of lotus and vermilion, this is to be used as a liniment. boiled the leaves of the wakerobin in wine and oil, apply a. Another:- When you have smeared the parts with old swine's let the roots of asphodel be pounded in wine and triturated, rubbed in. Another:- Having melted old swine's seam, and mixed resin and bitumen, and having spread it on a piece of cloth and it at the fire, apply a bandage. When an ulcer has formed on back from stripes or otherwise, let squill, twice boiled, be pounded and spread upon a linen cloth and bound on the place. Afterward the of a goat, and fresh swine's seam, spodium, oil, and frankincense to be rubbed in. _____

_____14 which arise on the feet, either spontaneously or otherwise, neither the swellings nor the inflammation subside under the of cataplasms, and although sponges or wool, or anything else bound upon the sound part; but the swelling and inflammation return themselves again, an influx of blood into the veins is the cause, not occasioned by a bruise. And the same story applies if this in any other part of the body. But blood is to be abstracted, the from the veins, which are the seat of the influx, if be conspicuous; but if not, deeper and more numerous scarifications to be made in the swellings; and whatever part you scarify, this to be done with the sharpest and most slender instruments of iron. you have removed the blood, you must not press hard upon the with the specillum, lest you produce contusion. Bathe with vinegar, do not allow a clot of blood to remain between the lips of the, and having spread greasy wool with a medicine for bloody wounds, having carded the wool and made it soft, bind it on, having wetted with wine and oil. And let the scarified part be so placed that determination of the blood may be upward and not downward; and not wet the part at all, and let the patient be put upon a restricted and drink water. If upon loosing the bandages you find the scarifications, apply a cataplasm of the fruit of the chaste-tree and linseed. if the scarifications become ulcerated and break into one another, must be regulated by circumstances, and otherwise apply whatever appears to be proper. _____

_____15 a varix is on the fore part of the leg, and is very superficial, below the flesh, and the leg is black, and seems to stand in need having the blood evacuated from it, such swellings are not, by means, to be cut open; for, generally, large ulcers are the consequence the incisions, owing to the influx from the varix. But the varix is to be punctured in many places, as circumstances may indicate. _____

_____16 you have opened a vein and abstracted blood, and although the be loosed the bleeding does not stop, the member, whether the leg, is to be put into the reverse position to that from which blood flows; so that the blood may flow backward, and it is to allowed to remain in this position for a

A Universal Download Edition

greater or less spacetime. Then bind up the part while matters are so, no clots of blood allowed to remain in the opening. Then having applied a double, and wetted it with wine, apply above it clean wool which been smeared with oil. For, although the flow of blood be violent, will be stopped in this way. If a thrombus be formed in the opening, will inflame and suppurate. Venesection is to be practiced when person has dined more or less freely and drunk, and when somewhat, and rather in hot weather than in cold. _____

_____ - 17 in cupping, the blood continues to flow after the cupping-instrument been removed, and if the flow of blood, or serum be copious, this is to be applied again before the part is healed up, so to abstract what is left behind. Otherwise coagula of blood will be retained in the incisions and inflammatory ulcers will arise from. In all such cases the parts are to be bathed with vinegar, after they are not to be wetted; neither must the person lie upon scarifications, but they are to be anointed with some of the medicines bloody wounds. When the cupping instrument is to be applied below knee, or at the knee, it should be done, if possible, while the stands erect. END