

TINCTURES

1828 Websters Dictionary-

TINCTURE, n. [L. tinctura.]

1. The finer and more volatile parts of a substance, separated by a menstruum; or an extract of a part of the substance of a body, communicated to the menstruum. Hence,
2. In medicine, a spiritus solution of such of the proximate principles of vegetables and animals as are soluble in pure alcohol or proof-spirit; wine or spirits containing medicinal substances in solution.

Tincture. Medicine dissolved in alcohol, or proof spirits. {1868 JNL, HBH 226.20}

"The work of this institution, as indicated in the various reports of the superintendent, is largely that of personal instruction to each patient upon the causes that lead to alcoholism, the effect upon the physical system and upon the mental and moral character, and the means to be used in overcoming the habit, and in antidoting this poison which has been imbibed into the system, and which permeates the whole being of man. **The system of reform is not medicinal; it is not a system of drugging and purging, nor a gradual tapering off in the use of alcohol.** The watchword at the portals of this institution is **total abstinence from alcohol in every form.** **There are no alcoholic tinctures in medicines, no mild tonics, reinforced by other stimulants or narcotics,** but **total abstinence from the use of alcohol in any form**, whether mixed with malt, quinine, ginger, eggs, milk, cider, or lemonade. {RH February 10, 1885, par. 9}

"**Pure, Poisonous Alcohol**" The Present Truth 16, 38.

E. J. Waggoner

"Articles are often appearing in PRESENT TRUTH, on the evil effects of **alcohol** in intoxicating drinks, which I do not question; but my question is this: Are these bad properties in the pure **alcohol**, or rectified spirits of wine, as it is called? If it is, I am at a loss to understand how such good results as I have experienced and seen, are brought about with **tinctures** made from roots, barks, and herbs, with this spirit. Could you tell me if the bad properties of the spirit are neutralised by these roots, barks, and herbs? If they are not, could you kindly tell if there is anything else that may be used in place of the **alcohol**? Will you kindly answer through PRESENT TRUTH, and oblige," etc. {September 20, 1900 EJW, PTUK 599.3}

Alcohol is a poison, and only a poison. When taken pure it is a narcotic poison, very quickly causing death. **It is not food, and never has any other than a destructive effect upon the human system**, which has no use for it, and which exerts itself to get rid of it as quickly as possible. Adulteration may make it less harmful, unless the adulterant be another deadly poison, like alcohol itself. Those are facts, well known to all chemists, and may be demonstrated by experiment; but of course the statement of the facts is all that is possible in the columns of a paper. {September 20, 1900 EJW, PTUK 599.4}

Alcohol is used in the preparation of **tinctures**, because it is such a powerful solvent, and also because of its preserving qualities. You are of course aware that **alcohol** is used in preserving specimens of diseased flesh,

etc, because it hardens the tissue. From this its effect on the stomach and other organs of a living person may be understood. Absolutely pure **alcohol**, it may be stated, is a very rare thing, as it has such an affinity for water, absorbing it from the atmosphere. The simple truth is, that if any good is ever done by **tinctures** of roots, barks, and herbs, it is in spite of the **alcohol** in which they are held in solution; and the doubtful good that they do is more than effect by the poisonous effects of the alcohol. {September 20, 1900 EJW, PTUK 599.5}

Now a word as to the supposed good effects of **tinctures and decoctions of roots, herbs, etc.** It should be understood that **nothing** that is taken into the stomach can have any good effect on the system unless it is absorbed as food, being assimilated, so that it builds up the body, making blood, bone, muscle, nerve tissue, etc. **Whatever cannot be used in this way is a poison, more or less injurious, according to its strength.** A thing that is not food may be neutral in its action, that is, not tending to destroy tissue. In that case its evil effect consists only in that it puts extra work upon the organs, to get rid of it. To coin a term, we might say that it is a passive poison. Suppose now that the **bark, herbs, roots, etc.,** from which **tinctures** are made, were food, which in most cases they are not, do you not see that the amount received into the system in a dose of the tincture is so infinitesimal that it could not possibly have any effect upon it to build it up? If the article were food, one would need to take several gallons of the tincture in order to get a mouthful of nourishment. **If the herbs are harmless, then one gets only the ill effects of the **alcohol**;** if they are poisonous, as they frequently are, then one is affected just so much more for the worse. {September 20, 1900 EJW, PTUK 599.6}

"But I have experienced good effects from taking these **tinctures, and have seen them in others."** {September 20, 1900 EJW, PTUK 599.7}

My dear friend, there are thousands of men who have experienced just those same "good effects" from taking the **alcohol** alone (diluted, of course, since no man could take pure alcohol and live); and they will tell you of others whom they know have been benefited by regular doses of **alcohol** in gin, brandy, whisky, stout, porter, or other liquor. **"Wine is a mocker," and "whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." It deceives by benumbing the nerves, so that they are not conscious of the diseased condition.** There is at the same time, at first, a sense of exhilaration, a stimulation, because the blood is quickened in its circulation, to try to eject the intruder. **This is absolutely all the "good effect" that **alcohol**, whether alone or in combination as a **tincture**, ever has. No real cure was ever effected by it, nor ever can be.** People who take these **tinctures**, or drug medicines of any kind, usually need to keep taking them, just as the toper needs to take his dram every morning, in order to "fit him for work." {September 20, 1900 EJW, PTUK 599.8}

But you reply that you know instances where people have been cured of their disease after taking these **tinctures or other drugs, so that they did not need to continue their use, but left them off.** Let me tell you that I have known a great many people who have been cured of their diseases, who have taken no drugs at all; and such ones stand by far the best chance. **The others, of whom you speak, got well in spite of that which they took.** They had strong constitutions, or were subject to some other conditions which were good, and so they got well, and their cure was attributed to the medicine, which had no other effect than to retard the cure. This is not random talk, but the language of truth and soberness. {September 20, 1900 EJW, PTUK 599.9}

The sum of the whole matter is this: Life cannot come from anything but life. It is not only senseless, but wicked, to put death into the system, expecting to get life from it. **By good food, fresh air, pure water, proper clothing, regular, judicious exercise, and cleanliness, and with all and above all, intelligent faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, God conveys His life to us. By these means we live. By rejecting them, or abusing them, or substituting poisonous drugs for any of them, we take death to ourselves.** Do you love life? Then take it in its fullness and freshness, and shun the way of death. {September 20, 1900 EJW, PTUK 599.10}

“CAUSES OF DISEASE.

There are two ways in which disease may be occasioned:—

First, by the introduction of improper substances, commonly known as poisons.

Secondly, by the misrelation or improper use of good things, or hygienic agents.

Of the poisons that may enter the system from without and thus become a cause of disease, the following are among those best known :—

Of inorganic poisons, alkalis, acids, salts, oxides, earths, metals, alcohol, and all other distilled and fermented liquors, poisonous gases, and malarious exhalations. The organic poisons may be of either vegetable or animal origin. Of the vegetable poisons, some of the most common are opium, tobacco, aconite, ipecac, colchicum, quinine, etc.” (Hygienic Family Physician by M. G. Kellogg pg 210)

2. Its medical qualities. - It is considered to be a most powerful narcotic, emetic, cathartic, and diuretic. Its effects, as a medicine, upon the system, are severe nausea and vomiting, cold sweats, universal tremors, and extreme debility. As an emetic, it is said to exceed all others in its promptness, violence, and permanence of impression. It is said to be peculiarly efficacious in expelling other poisons from the stomach, on account of the promptness and violence with which it acts, and can be applied as well externally, in the form of a poultice to the stomach, as internally, and with the same effect. It has been tried in a few cases of this kind with success, when all other remedies failed. Dr. Fowler has also used it with success in a few cases of dropsy and dysury, "but it should be remembered that not one of his cures was effected by the pipe, the quid, or the snuff box. The forms in which he uniformly ordered it were either infusion, tincture, or pills." But, even as a medicine, it should be used with the utmost caution; for it, as a remedy, often proves more fatal than the disease, which the following facts will show. "A medical practitioner," says Paris, "after repeated trials to reduce a strangulated hernia, injected an infusion of tobacco, and shortly after sent the patient in a carriage to the Westminster Hospital, for the purpose of undergoing the operation; but the unfortunate man arrived only a few minutes before he expired." {July 24, 1855 JWe, ARSH 9.13}

The Common Use of Tobacco, like Alcohol, is a violation of the laws of life, and assails Body, Intellect, and Soul.-What right has a man to whip himself into the use of a nauseous, noxious poison, which in time, will blunt the acumen of all his five senses, disturb his appetite, diminish nutrition, muscle, strength, and all his capacities to serve God? Is it not a sin to rob God? What right has man to use a drug which disturbs the healthful action of his mind, disposes it to be irritable at one time and sottish at another, and, in cases sadly numerous, smites it with forgetfulness, idiocy, or outright insanity? Is it no sin to destroy intellect? {January 30, 1866 UrSe, ARSH 67.10}

Health and Temperance, Scientific Congress on Nature of Alcohol.—In the summer of 1909 an international conference on alcoholism was held in London, to which most of the great nations sent scientific men or delegates. Comparing the results of investigation made in all parts of the world, finding that these results agreed, representative medical leaders of the conference drew up a report in the form of a statement defining the nature of alcohol, as follows: {1919, SBBS 197.4}

"Exact laboratory, clinical, and pathological research has demonstrated that alcohol is a dehydrating, protoplasmic poison, and its use as a beverage is destructive and degenerating to the human organism. Its effects upon the cells and tissues of the body are depressive, narcotic, and anesthetic. Therefore, therapeutically, its use should be limited and restricted in the same way as

the use of other poisonous drugs."-"Speech of Hon. Richmond P. Hobson, in the House of Representatives. Feb. 2, 1911," pp. 2, 3. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1912. {1919, SBBS 197.5}

Health and Temperance, Alcohol a Poison.—The last word of science, after exact research in all the domains, is that alcohol is a poison. It has been found to be a hydrocarbon of the formula C_2H_6O , that is produced by the process of fermentation, and is the toxin, or liquid excretion or waste product, of the yeast or ferment germ. According to the universal law of biology, that the toxin of one form of life is a poison to all forms of life of a higher order, alcohol, the toxin of the low

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yeast germ, is a protoplasmic poison to all life, whether plant, animal, or man, and to all the living tissues and organs.—Id., p. 3. {1919, SBBS 197.6}

INTOXICATION FROM FOOD

Did you ever, my "temperance" friend, stop to think that this is precisely what takes place after a heavy meal of your favorite beef or turkey or chicken? Of course you did not notice it so much if you had hard work in the open air; neither does the drinker feel the effects of his potations so much if he can keep exercising in fresh air. It was when you sat down, a you felt quite incline to after your meal, that you dozed off. {December 1899 EJW, MEDM 5.3}

Sometimes the effects are much more marked. You have doubtless witnessed cases where the drinker's stomach was protesting against the poison of alcohol and was relieving itself of some of the load; and as you have turned aside, you have wondered how a man can make such a filthy brute of himself. But did you never have the same experience?—"No; I have never drunk liquor." But you have frequently had "bilious spells," have you not? Did you think that you ought to be blamed because of them? Did you not rather regard yourself as a poor sufferer to be pitied? And so you were; yet you were in exactly the same condition as the drunkard. You were both suffering from what you had put into your mouth and swallowed. The drunkard swallowed poison; you may not have swallowed poison, but you at least took that which made poison after you swallowed it. Wherein were you better than he? Do you not see that the injunction to be filled with the Spirit instead of being drunk with wine has a very wide application? {December 1899 EJW, MEDM 5.4}

This (*coffee*) poison is not only an intoxicant and a narcotic, acting upon and paralyzing the nerves, but it retards digestion as well. Of course there is not as much of this poison in a given quantity of coffee as there is in the same quantity of tobacco; but is the same terrible poison, and that is enough for any one to know who would be free from its ruinous effects. This also further illustrates the principle that from tea to hashish, through alcohol, tobacco, and opium, there is a graduated scale of intoxicants (poisons) which, in their action upon the system, gradually shade into one another, all producing, or being capable of producing, consecutive paralysis of the various parts of the nervous system. {May 24, 1898 ATJ, ARSH 329.7}

"More 'Oppositions of Science Falsely So-called'" The Advent Review and Sabbath Herald 76, 29 , p. 460.

SO-CALLED science has made another immense contribution to the tide that is already flooding the world. Prof. W. O. Atwater, of the Wesleyan University, has announced that "scientific" discovery that **alcohol "is a food."** "After long and careful experiments on various men," he made the announcement, June 13. Harper's Weekly summarizes his report, as follows:— {July 18, 1899 ATJ, ARSH 460.1}

Alcohol in limited quantities is not a poison, but serves some of the uses of food, like sugar and starch: it supplies heat and energy, and protects the material of the body from consumption, but **does not make new tissue**. It is useful as a fuel, but not to repair the machine. Professor Atwater does not recommend it as a food. He says that its effect on the brain and nerves is often

such as to counteract its food value, and that the moderate use of it often leads to excess. But he holds that, taken in small quantities, it is a food, and not a poison, and that from two to two and a half ounces may be consumed without harm in the course of a day. {July 18, 1899 ATJ, ARSH 460.2}

It would be difficult to get more false teaching and contradictions into the same space than is set down in that paragraph. {July 18, 1899 ATJ, ARSH 460.3}

1. Alcohol in any quantity is poison, and does not and can not serve any of the uses of food. Alcohol, in its whole course in the human system, acts contrary to nature. It affects the nerves first of all; indeed it affects only the nerves, first, last, and all the time. It tears down, instead of building up. It gets strength out of a man without putting strength into him. Anything that acts that way in the human system is a poison, and a poison only; and can not be in any sense a food. {July 18, 1899 ATJ, ARSH 460.4}

2. It is literally impossible to supply "heat and energy," and to "protect the material of the body from consumption," without making new tissue. The statements that it does do so are not only contradictory to the truth, but are contradictory to themselves; for it is recognized that new tissue must be made, that the machine must be repaired. Yet alcohol is given the wonderful property of supplying heat and energy, and protecting the material of the body from consumption! It is possessed of the amazing quality of causing the machine to go, and at the same time of keeping it from wearing out! That is simply not true. Alcohol is not divine, nor does it bear in itself "the promise and potency" of perpetual motion. {July 18, 1899 ATJ, ARSH 460.5}

The truth is, and is here recognized, that there is waste of tissue, in fact, every motion in or of the human system, even to thinking, consumes material of the body, and so causes loss of tissue. Now anything that induces energy without supplying tissue, does it simply, and can do it only, by consuming the material of the body. But anything that induces consumption of the material of the body without supplying new tissue, only tears down and destroys the human system; and that is poison. It is confessed in this "scientific" announcement, that alcohol "does not make new tissue," does not "repair the machine" while it does induce energy; and that is in itself a confession that alcohol is not a food, but a poison. {July 18, 1899 ATJ, ARSH 460.6}

It is exceedingly proper, therefore, that Professor Atwater "does not recommend it as a food." Yet what a contradiction it is that "a food" can not be recommended as a food by the very person who, by "long and careful experiments," has scientifically discovered that "it is a food"! {July 18, 1899 ATJ, ARSH 460.7}

But he can not recommend it as a food because "its effect on the brain and nerves is often such as to counteract its food value;" that is to say, the effect of a food is such as to destroy its food value! That simply demonstrates again that it is not a food at all, but poison only. {July 18, 1899 ATJ, ARSH 460.8}

Yet after all this contradiction of the truth, and self-contradiction in the statements themselves, which demonstrate that it is a poison, he still "holds that, taken in small quantities, it is a food, and not a poison, and that from two to two and a half ounces may be consumed without harm in the course of a day." Now when it is understood that alcohol can not be taken raw, and that in the course of a day a person must take about three average drinks of whisky, or two quarts—about fourteen glasses—of lager beer, or a pint and a half of claret, in order to consume two and a half ounces of alcohol, it can in some measure be estimated what an immense contribution to the tide of drunkenness is made in this latest "scientific" "discover" and announcement by a professor of high standing in his profession and in a Methodist university and theological school. {July 18, 1899 ATJ, ARSH 460.9}

If ever the divine warning were needed, to "avoid . . . oppositions of science false so-called," that time is just now, when all the evils of drunkenness and of Spiritualism are "scientifically" commended to the world. {July 18, 1899 ATJ, ARSH 460.10}