

substances, which are directly opposed in quality to opium, and irritate instead of soothing the surfaces to which they are applied, are valuable precisely on that account: they rouse the system, for instance, from a state of lethargy, which otherwise would probably terminate in death; or they stimulate the stomach to reject any substance of a poisonous nature, which may have been either intentionally or accidentally introduced into it, and they thus contribute to the preservation of life. Remedies of this character, though not exclusively belonging to the vegetable kingdom, are frequently afforded by it.

But, in enumerating the medicinal auxiliaries which mankind derive from the vegetable kingdom, let me not omit the restorative virtue of that gift of Heaven, which, though by its abuse it may intoxicate the mental faculties and undermine the general health of the body, is calculated most assuredly, when rightly used, not only to revive the drooping energies, but to rekindle the almost expiring spark of life. Survey the wretched subject of what is called *typhus*, while oppressed by those symptoms which justify the use of this restorative; when the glazed eye and squalid skin, the feeble circulation and muttering delirium, announce the near approach of death, unless the proper medicine be interposed; and then watch the beneficial effect of this divine remedy. They who have witnessed the progress of typhus fever in some of its forms,