

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES RILIE STEPHENS, OF SALTILLO, MISSISSIPPI.

ALTERATIVE SIRUP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 367,679, dated August 2, 1887.

Application filed February 21, 1887. Serial No. 223,366. (No specimens.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES RILIE STEPHENS, of Saltillo, in the county of Lee and State of Mississippi, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Alterative Sirups; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use it.

My invention relates to an improvement in alterative sirups or medicinal compounds for the treatment of chronic diseases of different kinds; and it consists in the combination of certain ingredients, as will be more fully described hereinafter, and pointed out in the claim.

In compounding my medicine I take of prickly-ash, (*Xanthoxylum fraxineum*), four ounces; fringe-tree bark, (*Chionanthus virginica*), one pound; false unicorn-root, (*Helonias dioica*), one pound; sarsaparilla, (*Smilax officinalis*), one pound; sassafras, (*Laurus sassafras*), two drams. Of the prickly-ash the bark and berries are taken. Of the fringe-tree the bark of the root is used. Only the yellow sarsaparilla is used. Of the sassafras the bark of the tree and root are used. The sarsaparilla, false unicorn-root, fringe-tree bark, and prickly-ash are coarsely bruised and placed in four gallons of water, slowly evaporated over a fire to two gallons, and then the

mixture is strained, again placed over the fire, and brought to a simmer. To the compound is then added sugar, so as to give a more pleasant taste, and the compound is stirred until the sugar is dissolved, when it is removed from the fire. To the compound, when cold, is added sufficient alcohol (about twenty-four per cent.) to prevent it from souring, and oil of sassafras, (two drams to the gallon,) when the mixture is ready for use.

This medicine is to be used in the treatment of scrofulous enlargements of the glands, hereditary erysipelas, ulcerated sore leg, itch, salt-rheum, scrofulous sore eyes, and other similar diseases. The amount of the dose and how often it is to be taken depend upon the state of the disease. One or two table-spoonfuls of this tonic three times a day forms the usual dose.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

A compound composed of prickly-ash, fringe-tree bark, false unicorn-root, sarsaparilla, sassafras, and water, in the proportions described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JAMES RILIE STEPHENS.

Witnesses:

B. A. SMITH,
NORBIN JONES.