

the root of the Bonduc shrub in 10 grain doses is reported to be even more effectual in the above cases than the seeds themselves.

53. **Borax.** Biborate of Soda.

Sohágá, Tinkál (*Hind.*), Sohágá (*Beng., Duk., Punj.*), Vávut, Vávuth (*Kash.*), Venkámam (*Tam.*), Elegámam (*Tel.*), Ponkámam, Vellákaram (*Mal.*), Bili-gára (*Can.*), Vengámam, Puskara (*Cing.*), Lakhiya, Let-khya (*Burm.*), Pijar (*Malay.*).

54. Borax of good quality is met with in most bazaars; if good it should be in transparent, colourless, crystalline masses or pieces of various sizes, inodorous, with a cool saltish taste. After having been exposed to the air for some time, as that found in the bazaars has generally been, it becomes covered with a whitish powder or efflorescence, which being removed shows the transparent crystal beneath. If brown or dirty, or otherwise impure, it may be rendered fit for medical use by dissolving one pound of it with one drachm of quicklime in three pints of water, straining through cloth and evaporating by exposure to the sun in an open vessel or over a gentle fire. Dose from 20 to 40 grains for an adult.

55. *In Aphthæ or Thrush* (small white spots and ulcerations in the mouths of infants and young children) a mixture of powdered Borax (1 drachm) and Honey (1 ounce) is one of the best applications which can be used; it should be applied by means of the finger to the spot twice or thrice daily. *In Fissures*

or *Cracks in the Tongue in adults, which occur in the advanced stages of Consumption, Fever, &c.*, an application twice the strength of the above, proves highly serviceable. In *Mercurial Salivation*, a solution of Borax (half an ounce), in water (eight ounces) forms an excellent gargle.

56. *To Sore Nipples* a solution of Borax, one drachm to one ounce of water, should be applied before and after suckling the infant, or it may be employed in the form of ointment (a drachm of Borax to an ounce of ghee). These applications are also serviceable when applied to *inflamed and painful Piles*.

57. *As a means of allaying the distressing Irritation of the Genital Organs, both of males and females*, the latter especially, a solution of Borax (half an ounce) in eight ounces of water or Camphor julep (67) sometimes affords more relief than anything else. Cloths saturated with it should be kept to the parts, and in the case of women it should also be used in the form of vaginal injection. It also proves very useful in allaying the *Irritation of Nettle-rash, Prickly Heat, and other Skin Diseases*.

58. *In prolonged and tedious Labours* dependent apparently on want of action or power in the uterus to expel the foetus, and in *Abortion* under the same circumstances, 30 grains of Borax with 10 grains of powdered Cinnamon, in a little warm conjee, may be given every one or two hours to the extent of three or four doses. This may also be given in *Convulsions attendant on Labours*. In doses of 10 grains, 10 with of Cinnamon, thrice daily, it also occasionally proves

useful in *Suspension or Irregularity of the Menstrual Discharge* and in some *Chronic Uterine Affections*.

59. *To Ulcerated Buboës, and Sloughing Ulcers*, a solution of Borax (two drachms in a pint of water or Camphor julep) often proves very useful by cleansing the surface and hastening the healing process. It should be applied on rags well over the whole sore, and renewed frequently by night and day. For dressing *Delhi Sores*, and stimulating them to healthy action, a favourite application is composed of Borax, Sulphur, and Catechu, of each finely powdered, one drachm, and lard or ghee one ounce. This may be advantageously used in other forms of *Ulceration*.

60. *For Ringworm*, a solution of Borax (one drachm) in distilled vinegar (two ounces) is stated to be an effectual application.

61. **Butea Gum. Bengal Kino.** The inspissated juice obtained from the stems of *Butea frondosa*, *Roxb.**

Palás-kí-gond (*Hind., Duk.*), Pálásh-gun (*Beng.*), Dhák - kí - gond (*Punj.*), Kamar - kash (*Kash.*), Muruk-kan-pishin, Palásha-pishin (*Tam.*), Palásha-banka, Móduga-banka (*Tel.*), Plách-chapasha (*Mal.*), Muttaga-góndu (*Can.*), Phalása-cha-gónda (*Mah.*), Khákar-nu-gún (*Guz.*), Kál-iyá-melliyam (*Cing.*), Páv-si (*Burm.*).

* *Pterocarpus Marsupium*, *D. C.*, which yields the officinal Kino, inhabits the forests of Ceylon and the Indian Peninsula as far north as Behar; but almost all, if not the whole, of the Kino met with in bazaars is the produce of *Butea frondosa* or *B. superba*; but this is a matter of little moment, as it appears to be equally effectual as an astringent.