Short List II
Materia Medica of India
List 11: Indian Materia Medica

**SCIENTIFIC STUDIES OF OPIUM YIELDS**

1. **Annett, Harold E.** *The Effect of Environmental Factors on the Alkaloidal Content and Yield of Latex from the Opium Poppy (Papaver somniferum) and the Bearing of the Work on the Functions of Alkaloids in Plant Life*. Calcutta: Printed and Published for the Imperial Department of Agriculture in India by Thacker, Spink & Co., 1921. First Edition. Memoirs of the Department of Agriculture in India. Chemical Series. vol. 6. no. 2. Investigations on Indian Opium, No. 2. [iv], 61-154, [4]. Seven charts.

   A report on a study on the morphine content of poppy latex under various combinations of the following factors: 1) Climate and weather conditions; 2) growing season; 3) fertilizing manures; 4) starvation; 5) number of capsules on a plant; and 6) the age of the capsules.

   Annett was one of the first scientists to systematically study morphine yields.

   *Old private ownership stamp on cover and title page. One-inch loss to the top of the spine, else very good in original printed wrappers. "With the compliments of the author" written in blue pencil across the top of the title page (whether written by the author or at his direction is not known).* (306001) $200

2. **Annett, Harold E.; Hari Das Sen; and Har Dayal Singh.** *Non-environmental Factors Influencing the Alkaloidal Content and Yield of Latex from the Opium Poppy (Papaver Somniferum)*. Calcutta: Printed and Published for the Imperial Department of Agriculture in India by Thacker, Spink & Co., 1921. First Edition. Memoirs of the Department of Agriculture in India. Chemical Series. vol. 6. no. 1. Investigations on Indian Opium, No. 1. [2], iv, 60, [4]. Folding table and one inserted chart.

   A report on a study on the morphine content of poppy latex when various methods of lancing the seed pod and extracting the liquid are used. Annett was one of the first scientists to systematically study morphine yields.

   *Old private library stamp on cover and title page; remnants of pocket on inside back cover. Small loss to the top of the spine, else very good in original printed wrappers.* (35542) $250


   152 plants are listed, with scientific name, family, common name, habitat, parts used, distribution, and remarks about use. Includes plants for papermaking, rope, and ceremonial use.

   *First edition (first printing). Cover edges slightly chipped; some old worming. About very good in printed paper boards over a cloth spine. With three leaves of addenda and errata laid in.* (35532) $175
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382 plants are listed, with scientific name, family, common name, habitat, parts used, distribution, and remarks about use. Includes betel-nut, ginger, cayenne, tamarind, etc.

*First edition (first printing). Very good in printed paper boards over a cloth spine.* (306000) $175


A report on a plant-gathering expedition.

*First edition (first printing). Very good in wrappers. Map near fine.* (35533) $350


Information on "a number of useful drugs of the indigenous materia medica" derived from leaves, with reports and plates documenting microscopic analysis. Includes entries on tea, tobacco, coca, cannabis sativa, digitalis, etc.

*First edition (first printing). Very good in the publisher's half-leather binding stamped in gilt on the spine. Several small wormholes penetrate the entire book.* (35534) $300


A table of drugs, mostly plant-based, in use in India, with the scientific or English name, the provincial name, and notes by the author. Dey was an early proponent of indigenous medicine. Prepared for the world's fair at the Crystal Palace.

The printed leaves of this copy have been interleaved with ruled paper to be used for notes and additional information. A clipping regarding one drug is pasted in; several pages with ink checkmarks. Generally good, with significant worming to the preliminary pages; title page laid down on new paper.

*Bound in cloth and paper-covered boards.* (35539) $150
List 11: Indian Materia Medica

**19TH CENTURY INDIAN MEDICAL TEXTBOOK**

8. Edlerton, C. A. *Outlines of the Practice of Physic, Materia Medica, Toxicology, and Domestic Surgery; to which are appended three hundred questions on subjects connected with the daily routine of a hospital. Compiled chiefly for the use of the subordinate medical department, both European and native*. Agra, India: Printed at the Secundra Orphan Press, 1853. First Edition. [vi], 441 pages. Second title page in Romanized Hindustani.

Text in English with a facing-page translation in Romanized Hindustani. Translation by Moonshee Hoosainee.

"The chapters that comprise this little work were originally compiled by me in my leisure hours, for the purpose of assisting the Native Doctors in my hospital, in the rudiments of their profession... At the end of each chapter in the Practice of Physic, will be found a few questions relative to the subject treated upon, which will, I think, materially assist the student by impressing it fully on his memory."

An uncommon early medical textbook written and published in India.

*First edition (first printing). Very good, pages tanned; rebound in a modern cloth-and-paper-covered binding.* (35541) $850


Honigberger was a Transylvanian physician who arrived in Lahore, India, in 1829 and spent several decades there as a court physician to the Maharajah Ranjit Singh. His book is part travelogue, part cultural history, and part a report on Indian medical practices.

One of the plates depicts three types of drug use: a b'hangee, or hemp-plant drinker; a chursee bhistee, or a person smoking cannabis resin; and a faqueer postee, an opium "poppy-head drinker."

*Very good in later plain paper boards with a cloth spine.* (35538) $500


Descriptions of plants and their use, organized by class and family. The author was curator of the Kurrachee Municipal Museum.

Among the plants given full treatment are cannabis sativa ("The general effects of the resin are alleviation of pain, remarkable increase of appetite, unequivocal aphrodisia, and great mental cheerfulness") and garden poppy ("Indian opium is decidedly superior to any other; much care being bestowed on its cultivation and preparation").

*First edition (first printing). Ink stain on front cover, else very good in the publisher's pebbled cloth.* (35535) $350
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A dictionary of plants and their medical uses, "translated" from the Arabic by an English physician who had by then practiced 26 years in India. With plant names in Arabic, Romanized Hindustani, and where Playfair knew one, the English common name. The philosophy of the book is Unani medicine, based on the four humours, with Indian and Arabic influences.

The author said he prepared this book because "I have often had occaision to regret that I had no publication to guide me, in my wish to become acquainted with the properties of native medicines, which I had frequently seen, in the hands of the Physicians of Hindoostan, productive of the most beneficial effects in many diseases, for the cure of which our Pharmacopeia supplied no adequate remedy."

The original source is not identified but is frequently attributed to Muhammad Sharif Khan, a late 18th century Sunni physician. However, David Arnold, in Colonizing the Body (UC Press, 1993, pp. 47-48), is less sure: "The manner of the book's presentation is as bizarre as many of its entries. It is said to be 'translated from the original, with additions,' but nowhere is the nature of the original text discussed or the name of its author given. Playfair moves in an out of his text like a slippery eel. Sometimes 'I' represents the unnamed author; at other times it heralds Playfair's own editorial interventions."

Among the plants given full entries are cannabis sativa, listed as bhang: "promotes appetites, cures disorders of phlegm, produces idiotism, is the cause of foolish speech and conduct."

First edition (first printing). Title page laid down on new paper with old ink signature at the top; some worming to the margins of the preliminaries; one leaf with a repaired corner; another leaf missing perhaps one-sixth of the text at the bottom. Bound in modern cloth and paper-covered boards, a bit faded at the top. (35537) $750


Includes a chapter on hemp (cannabis sativa), about which the author writes, "The Hemp plant likewise secretes a resinous principle in its leaves, on which account these, as well as the churrus collected from off the young tops of the stem and flowers, is highly esteemed in Eastern countries, on account of its exhilarating and intoxicating powers."

First edition (first printing). Original blindstamped publisher's gold cloth. Hinges cracked; some foxing to pages; pencilled notes on a few pages and twelve lines of pencilled notes on the final page. With one leaf of undated ads and 16 pages of publisher's books, dated March 1855. Bookstore label of J. Higginbotham of Madras on front pastedown. (35531) $100


A listing of plants, with descriptions of their medical use, often citing earlier publications, including a long entry on opium.

Sherif was a retired physician and a graduate of the Madras Medical College; this work was published posthumously, which may explain why no volume II ever appeared.

Modern cloth and marbled paper binding; leather spine label. Covers faded. Text block a bit tanned but very good. (35536) $600
Fine Print All items subject to prior sale. Typical courtesies to the trade. Institutions will be billed according to their requirements. All purchases may be returned within 30 days for any reason. Shipping extra. Thank you.

Lists of plants, organized by use, followed by questions sent by regional British officials in India to the Agricultural and Horticultural Society, followed by the society's responses.

*First edition (first printing). Some worming, else very good in modern cloth-and-paper-covered boards. Old ownership ink stamp partially erased from title page.* (35540) $350