

REMARKABLE POWERS OF KEPLER'S EXTRACT OF MALT.

Although for very many years the praises of malt, in the form of beer, have been sung by poets, and its nutritive qualities admitted and recommended by physicians, it is not until quite recently that the benefits of malt *per se* have been taken advantage of to any extent. The opponents of alcohol having proved beyond all doubt that alcoholic liquors, notwithstanding that they contain an element of good, are not really strengthening, the obvious suggestion presented itself—why not discard whatever is injurious therein, and retain that which is beneficial? And this is practically what has been done by Kepler.

Diverse as medical opinion has been on the subject of alcohol, it may be said to be unanimous in favour of malt extracts, the testimony on the side of their dietetic value being overwhelming. Dr. George Moore, the eminent physician of Mayfair, says: "In certain diseases of the throat and lungs, and when cod liver oil excites disgust and disordered digestion, I agree with the late distinguished Niemeyer, who, in his work on pulmonary consumption, states that malt extract, from its marked fat-forming qualities and facilities of assimilation, may often be used when oil does no good. The malt is, in my opinion, a valuable nutrient and restorative."

Though all extracts of malt exert a more or less powerful digestive and solvent action on bread and other starchy food, which fully entitles them to be considered of high nutritive value, it is evident that the Kepler Extract is free from alcohol, and possesses from five to ten times more value than any alcoholic or fermented extract of malt. It must be distinctly superior, owing to being concentrated in vacuo by an improved process, and containing all the valuable properties of malted barley—that is, diastase, dextrine, malt, sugar, phosphates, &c.

Strangely enough, on the Continent, the value of malt extract has been more fully recognized than in this country, the different scientific societies and the majority of European sovereigns having for more than twenty years past testified to its efficiency, and publicly stated their belief in its signal service in restoring the digestive powers of those who suffer from that far too prevalent ailment, indigestion. In this country the consumption of it has hitherto been comparatively small, though possibly the knowledge of the fact that it is used by Royalty, that the Prince and Princess of Wales have for a long time past availed themselves of its benefits, may do much to bring it into universal demand. For our own part, we have been in the habit of taking it for some years, but until recently the price has more or less restricted its use. The improved preparation, however, which contains all the nutritive and digestive properties in a concentrated form, is comparatively cheap. Each ounce contains more of the valuable principles of malt than a quart of the strongest ale or stout.

The medical press of England, which has always been favourable to malt extracts, is particularly favourable to this, the most concentrated form for the administration of pure diastase. The *Lancet* alludes to that produced by the Kepler process as "the best known and the largest used extract of malt." It is as distinct an advance in therapeutics as was the introduction of cod liver oil. It is one of our best nutritive and digestive agents for atonic dyspepsia, and is undoubtedly useful in consumption and other wasting diseases; while the *London Medical Record* says: "The Kepler Extract of Malt is the best, the richest in diastase, and the most largely used. We have witnessed the process, have tasted it, and are satisfied that it is not only unsurpassed, but unequalled. It is the extract of malt which every physician now prescribes. It speedily improves the powers of assimilation, and in cases of consumption, scrofula, and many other wasting diseases, especially of children, a wonderful improvement in the patient's condition may be noticed, even after a fortnight's treatment. The introduction of Kepler's Extract of Malt is a decided advance in therapeutics."

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