

## ENTRIES OF PHARMACEUTICAL INTEREST FROM THE WASTEBOOK OF B. ARNOLD, DRUGGIST, BOOKSELLER, ETC., FROM LONDON.\*

BY R. D. BIENFANG.

In the New Haven Colony Historical Society building at New Haven, Connecticut, there is a large black sign bearing in white letters, B. ARNOLD, DRUGGIST, BOOKSELLER, ETC., FROM LONDON SIBI TOTIQUE. This sign hung in front of Benedict Arnold's shop at the corner of George and Church Streets in New Haven, Connecticut, from about 1764 to 1778.

From the wording of the sign, one would be lead to believe that Arnold was born and educated in England, and later removed to America. Such, however, is not the case.

Benedict Arnold was born in Norwich, Connecticut, on January 3, 1741, the son of Benedict and Hannah King Arnold. At the age of fourteen, he was apprenticed in the drug store of Doctors Daniel and Joshua Lathrop in Norwich. These men, both Yale graduates, were relatives of his mother.

At one time, early in his apprenticeship, he ran away from the drug store to enlist in the British Army. His mother, however, when she heard of it, sent a friend after him. He was found, and his release secured because he was under age.

A number of stories are told of Arnold's youth to show that he was reckless and cruel as a boy. Since all of these incidents were recalled after he became a traitor, they are, perhaps, considerably exaggerated. Some, which have to do with his apprenticeship at the Lathrop drug store are these:

According to custom, all misshapen bottles and vials which came into the store were the property of the apprentices. Solomon Smith, a fellow apprentice of Arnold, was in the habit of placing his share outside where the children of the neighborhood could come and get them. It is said of Arnold that he placed his outside likewise, and when an unsuspecting child would come and take a bottle, he would chase after it with a stick, shouting, "thief, thief."

Arnold is also supposed to have strewn the broken bottles in the street so that the children coming home from school would cut their feet.

Another story is this. "A person who once remained in the shop with him during a tremendous thunder-storm, related afterward that at every particularly loud and stunning report, young Arnold would swing his hat and shout hurrah!—adding occasionally some reckless or profane expression."

At the age of twenty-one, Arnold left the Lathrop drug store, and engaged in trade for a while. He made several voyages to the West Indies as supercargo of a vessel in which he was interested.

Then he went to London, and after buying a stock of drugs, books and other goods, came to New Haven, and established himself in the retail business. This must have been about the year 1764.

The wastebok<sup>1</sup> to which the writer had access, through the courtesy of the New Haven Colony Historical Society, was begun by Arnold on Monday, April 26, 1773. This book reveals the diversity of his business, there being items for

\* Section on Historical Pharmacy, A. P. H. A., Baltimore meeting, 1930.

<sup>1</sup> Ledger in which daily entries were made.

1773 Memorandum of Medicines bought to the West Indies

May 11	Sp <sup>r</sup> Lacend <sup>r</sup> Comp <sup>r</sup> 4 Btl. 6. 14 <sup>3</sup> a 5/.....	1	14. 4
7/	Bals. Sulph Anis lb. 2. 4. a 20/.....	2	5. -
2/	Biru : 4 - - - - 3/14 a 5/.....	3	10. -
	Polyphust. - - - - 38. - a 1/6 -		12
	Sual. - - - - 101. 4 a 4/.....		5
	Sy <sup>r</sup> . e Muson - - - - 101. 4 a 5/.....		6 3
	Cerat or Lapis Calam <sup>r</sup> 102. - a 4/ - - -		8
	Aq. Coras Nig. . . 2 Bottles a 2/6 - - -		10
	Conthaid - - - - 3/12 a 1/ - - -		12
	Sang. Dragon sp <sup>r</sup> - - - - 101. - - -		9
	Century Minor - - - - 101. - - -		3 6.
	Rad Jollapi ppt. - - - - 101. 4 a 10/.....		12 6
15/	Ipecac ppt. 3 Btl. 102. 14. a 30/.....	4.	12. -
	Cort Biru ppt. - - - - 3/12 a 1/ - - -		12. -
	Gum Myrrh ppt. - - - - 3/14. a 9/ - - -		10. 6.
	Coral Ruber - - - - 3/12. - 6/ - - -		6. -
	Coral Com <sup>r</sup> - - - - 102. - 8/ - - -		16. -
	Chili Com <sup>r</sup> . - - - - 7/1. - - -		4. -
	Emp <sup>r</sup> Divid. gum. - - - - 20 1/2 a 5/.....	1	2 6
	Paraculfet. - - - - 103 1/2 a 5/.....		17 6
	Stom Chew - - - - 10 1/2 - 4/ - - -		6
	Corrob. - - - - 10 1/2 - - -		2 6
	De Zanis - - - - 10 1/2 - - -		3
	16 Btl. 3 Btl. 4 Vial & 3 Boxes	3	8
	Can. & Box. - - - - - - -		5
			<hr/>
			£26. 12. 7

Copy of a page from the Waste Book of B. Arnold.—This in the original is page 11.

labor, use of scow, lumber, nails, rope, sugar, rum, etc., in great numbers while there were comparatively few for medicine. The latter, however, interested the writer.

All of these items were copied and are given here. Also a somewhat reduced page from the Waste Book. (Readers will find interest in deciphering the items.)

	page 24				
Sep <sup>t</sup> . 14, 1774	Docter Munson D <sup>r</sup> to half pound Manna				
	page 37				
Feb <sup>y</sup> 11, 1775	Jacob Thompson D <sup>r</sup> to 1 Ounce Manna at /1				
	page 47				
March 17, 1775	Dr David Atwater D <sup>r</sup> To pots Senna 3 <sup>lb</sup> To Liquorish Root 11 <sup>lb</sup> To De Balc 2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> to Gentian 5	@ 4/ @1/6 2/6 1/	12 16 6 5 1	6 3 3 9	
	page 74				
Novem <sup>r</sup> 8, 1775	Richard Hood D <sup>r</sup> To 1 oz. Spermi Citia		0:	0:	6
	page 78				
Decem. 19, 1775	Willm Lyon D <sup>r</sup> To 1 <sup>lb</sup> Borax				
	page 83				
Feb <sup>y</sup> 17, 1776	Griffin Bradly D <sup>r</sup> To 45 <sup>lb</sup> Logwood	0/2		7:	6
	page 86				
June 1, 1776	M <sup>r</sup> Isaac Doolittle D <sup>r</sup> To 4 bottles sweet oil William Lyon D <sup>r</sup> To 1 <sup>lb</sup> Borax Credit by Cash	5/ .	1	0:	14: 0
	page 90				
August 24, 1776	Doct <sup>r</sup> Leveret Hubbard D <sup>r</sup> To 2 oz Sp <sup>t</sup> . Nitre poor To 1 phial				
	page 94				
Feb <sup>y</sup> 3, 1777	Griffin Bradly D <sup>r</sup> To 20 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> <sup>lb</sup> Logwood Isaac Doolittle D <sup>r</sup> To 1 Bottle sweet oyl	0/3		5:	10 1/4
	page 95				
March 7, 1777	Doct <sup>r</sup> Leveret Hubbard D <sup>r</sup> To 8 <sup>lb</sup> crude antimony To 1 groce phial corks To 2 Doz <sup>n</sup> bottle dto To 1 Quire rapping paper	@ 5/	2 0:	3 1:	2 2
	page 103				
Jan. 11, 1779	Cap <sup>t</sup> John Elsworth D <sup>r</sup> To 1 bottle sweet oil			10:	0
	page 106				
April 10, 1779	Cap <sup>t</sup> John Elsworth D <sup>r</sup> To 4 <sup>lb</sup> candles To 1/2 <sup>lb</sup> Sal. nitre	@/10	0: 1:	3: 4:	4 0

page 107

April 21, 1779

Doct <sup>r</sup> John Osborn D <sup>r</sup>			
To 3 doz <sup>n</sup> Phial Corks D <sup>r</sup>	0:	2:	4
To tincture cortix lb 1 1/2 3	0:	6:	0
To pot Jallap 3ij	0:	1:	6
To pot Ipecac 3ij	0:	3:	0
To Basilicum 2 oz	0:	0:	9
To Rhubarb 3ij	0:	3:	0
.....			
To sena 3ij	0	2:	6
Doct <sup>r</sup> John Osborn Credit			
By his bill Doctring			
family from 6 October 1777			
to Feb <sup>y</sup> 18, 1779	1:	0:	0
by 1 doz <sup>n</sup> bottle corks	0:	0:	6
by Radix Rhei	0:	0:	9
by tincture cortix	0:	1:	6
by pot Ipecac	0:	0:	0:
by Cash	0:	10:	0
	1	13	9



RELICS OF BENEDICT ARNOLD'S SHOP.

In addition to the sign mentioned at the beginning, the New Haven Colony Historical Society has a mortar and a medicine chest from Arnold's shop. (See illustration herewith.) The mortar is of gray stone, and the chest is of stained wood, with an inlaid door.

The Governor's Foot Guards of New Haven have the sink from his shop. It was hewn from a slab of stone about 3 feet by 4 feet, and 6 inches thick, and hollowed out to a depth of about 3 inches. Instead of a drain at the bottom, it has a large lip at one end.

In the New Haven Colony Historical Society Building there is a large black sign (shown above) bearing in white letters the inscription of the above cut. Underneath is a mortar and a medicine chest from Arnold's shop.

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