

A sure and certain cure for the
Bite of a Rattlesnake
Made Publick
by
Abel Puffer
of
Stoughton.

If the Sufferer be Bit in the Leg (as it is very likely to happen) let him be plac'd in a revers'd position; that is, with his Head down and his Feet in the Air—it may be most convenient to lean him so against a Wall or Fence, or if neither be at hand, then against a Tree or Bush.

Then, without any Delay whatsoever, let there be appli'd to the place where the Fangs have punctur'd the Skin a Plaister made in the following manner: Beat to a soft or pulpy consistency six Plantain leaves that have previously been wash'd. Mingle with them 12 drops of Liquor obtain'd in this fashion: Soak in half a cup of Rain Water the Heart of a large Gander, add a third part of an ounce of the dry'd roots of the Yarrow, some bruis'd Colewort, a spoonful of the Blue Flag, dry'd & powder'd, four or five stalks of the common Pennyroyal, a half-ounce of the Rind of roasted Crab Apples, some preserv'd blossoms of Alecumpane, and eight Peppercorns. This Liquor should simmer slowly for forty-eight hours, and when it is about finish'd, add a few seeds of the Indian Gourd, removing them, however, at the end of an Hour.

When the drops from the resulting Liquor are mix'd with the paste of Plantain leaves, the Plaister should be appli'd on the Wound, and mark that all depends that this is done within ten minutes from the time when the Sufferer was Bitten. (It may be well that a Minister of the Gospel be sent for, if so be it that one is at hand.)

Then require the Sufferer to move his Limbs about, at first slowly, now with increasing speed, till he do thrash them about with all the Vigour and Rapidity in his power. After this, let him rise, and run in a circle, or nearly so, first giving him to drink half a glass of Jamaica Rum. When he be ready to fall from Dizziness (which flushes the Brain with Blood) again apply a second Plaister, like the first. Tokens of improving Health are sure to be seen in the Sufferer, if not, Prayers had better be address'd to Providence.