



OPUS PHILOSOPHORUM

British Museum Sloane 319

First dissolve Sericon in wine vinegar distilled, to each lb; of the body put I gallon of vinegar, filter it 3 times, the foeces which remain are Terra Damnata. Distil this solution in a balneo till it be congealed into a green gum, called the Green Lyon, dry it gently. Then distill this gum in a Retort of glass, let the faint water smoak away, receive the white smoke and red fume carefully, which is the blessed Liquor; in the neck of the retort will remain a Sulphur of nature.

In the bottom of the retort will remain a black foeces, of which calcine 1 lb. or more with a strong fire, till it be white as snow, which is our Base called Mars and our fixed white earth. The rest of the black foeces spread on a stone and with a burning coal calcine it, and it will come into a bright citrine colour in half an hour; dissolve this in vinegar as the first and distill more menstree thereof called Dragons Blood. Reiterate this work until all the moist parts of these foeces be brought in liquor, which put to the first, called the blessed Liquor or Green Lyons Blood.

Second Process. Set all this in Balneo to putrefy 14 days, then separate the elements and now have you all the fire of the Stone which before lay hid in the foeces. Distill all these putrified menstrues M.B. in a glass body with a fair receiver, first comes air which is an Oil, distill this over; again 7 times, until it will burn a linen cloth being dipped therein; then it is called our ardent Water abstractum rectified which keep close stopped; next will distill our Flood or Water, which will be some what white which receive by itself. In the bottom will remain a thick oil like liquid pitch, keep the water also by itself, closely stopped, Viz. ACID (Vinegar.)

On this black liquid water put our ardent Water, stir them both well together, and let them stand 3 hrs. then distill it M.B. put it on again and distill, do this 3 times, then it is called Man's Blood rectified, for which philosophers seek. Then put on this black matter our flood or water, mix it well and distill off the whole till there remain most dry and black earth which is the earth of your Stone, keep this oil and water together close stopped for a while. Powder this black earth and mix it with Man's Blood and let it stand 3 hrs., then distill it in ashes with a good fire, reiterate this three times, then it is called our fiery Water rectified; so hast thou 3 Elements exalted in the virtue of their quintessence i.e. Water, Air & Earth.

Third Process. The earth remaining black and dry, calcine in a furnace of reverberation into a fine white calx, mix this white earth with the fiery water, distill all with a strong fire, calcine the earth again with a strong fire, put on the fiery water again and distill it off; dry, calcine and distill thus 7 times until the substance of the calx comes over the helm. Then hast thou a Water of Life rectified and made spiritual, and the 4 elements exalted in the virtue of their quintessence. This water will dissolve all bodies, putrify them and purge them, and this is our MERCURY and lunary Aqua Fort. Distill the Water and Oil before reserved in gentle B. and the red oil which remaineth in the bottom keep diligently by itself, for it is the element of fire and our red MERCURY. Rectify the same water again and reiterate the same work until no more of our said Lunary will remain in it.

When all our Elements be thus separated, then take the first white calcined foeces called Mars or Base, or white fixed earth, imbibe it with our Ardent Water, refined, to cover the calx partly, put on a blind head and set it in a cold place until the calx have drunk up all the water, which it will do from 8 days to 8 days, thus doing until the calx will drink up no more, but stand liquid still, then nip up the glass, and set it M.B. to putrify 140 days without moving it until it become first russet, next

whitish grey, then very White like fishes eyes which then is Sulphur of Nature flowing and not evaporating in the fire and our White Stone ready to be fermented.

Then take the White Stone and divide it into 2 parts, one part reserve for the White work, the other nip up again and set it in ashes to digest till it become red and of a purple colour. So have you the Red Stone, ready to be fermented; first weigh both parts.

Take pure LUNA, and of our MERCURY ana, dissolve it in hot ashes close stopped into a green colour distill of our MERCURY from it 2 or 3 times that no part of your MERCURY remaineth with the LUNA, then nip up the oil of the LUNA and putrify it M.B. until it shows all the colours and become crystalline white which then is the WHITE FERMENT OF FERMENTS.

Put to your white Stone one 4th. part of the ferment of LUNA, lute the glass and fix them together in a fixatory vessel under your fire, which will be done in 2 or 3 days.

Then imbibe it with the White oil of the Stone which is our Lunary, drop by drop, until the same be oilish, then congeal it again and again imbibe it, reiterate this imbibition, and congealation, until it will flow in the fire as wax and not evaporate on a plate of copper Nealed, then congeal it until it be White, hard, and transparent clear as crystal.

Lapis Albus. Then it is Medicine of the 3rd. degree and the Perfect White Stone, transmuting all metals, chiefly VENUS and MARS into pure and Perfect LUNA.

Likewise dissolve SOL first purged with 10 parts of Antimony in our Lunary, as before, and when it is not dissolved your liquor will be Citrine, rectify our MERCURY from it 2 or 3 times. Then nip up the oil of SOL alone and putrify it in Bal. which likewise must become black, and must stand till it becomes White, which then remove to a stronger fire, without opening your glass, keep it there till it change colours, and becomes citrine, which then is also firment of Firments for the Red.

Then put to the other part of the Stone, which is brought to a purple colour a 4th. part of this ferment of SOL, and fix them together under your fire as before, which will be well done in 2 or 3 days.

When they are become one fine powder, then incere as before is taught, with the Red Oil of our Stone, congeal, imbibe, and reiterate until it will flow in your fire like wax, and not evaporate on a plate of copper nealed, which then congeal up till it be clear, transparent hard and red like a Ruby or Jacinth which then is Medicine of the 3rd. degree, and the perfect Red Stone, transmuting all imperfect bodies, chiefly MERCURY, SATURN and LUNA into pure SOL.

This powder must be kept in a dry or warm room in several glasses, for they are so tender, and of so oily a substance, as they are apt to dissolve in any moist place.

Lapis ex tribus consistit rebus.

Viz. ex: Spiritus sive aqua viva vita
 Animia sev media fermentu
 Corporo albo vel rubeo metallico, basi
 Sive Calie.

(Note. A hand written note below the Mss. as follows:).

Quod est Sericon
Est Azoth
Almizider
Sal Armoniac Calcinae
Rubrai Cerasium
Antimonium Magnetia.