

It is no doubt the most powerful stimulant known; its power is entirely congenial to nature, being powerful in raising and maintaining that heat upon which life depends. It is extremely pungent, and when taken, sets the mouth as if it were on fire; this lasts however, but for a few minutes, and I consider it essentially a benefit, for its effects on the glands cause the saliva to flow freely, and leaves the mouth clean and moist.

(Thomson, 1835)

Interestingly, Thomson's second and third choices of herbal circulatory stimulants were ginger and black pepper, both of which contain phenolic alkylamides.

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