

solution is then diluted with 65 parts boiling water and thoroughly stirred. In the meantime, 30 parts of starch are stirred into 200 parts of cold water, so as to form a thin, milky liquid, free from lumps. Into this is poured the solution of glue, stirring continually and heating. When cold, 10 drops of carbolic acid are added. The paste made in this way is said to possess extraordinary adhesive power, joining leather, paper, pasteboard, &c. By keeping it in closed vessels, so that the water cannot evaporate, it may be preserved for years.—*Four. of App. Chem.*

Liquor Picis Alkalinus.—The following preparation is that of the late Dr. H. D. Bulkley, of New York, who proposed it to fill the place of a secret French preparation of tar:—

R.	Picis liquidæ,	3ij.;
	Potassæ causticæ,	3j.;
	Aquæ,	3v. m. ft. sol.

This mixes with water in all proportions, and discolors the skin to a very moderate extent. It dries rapidly and leaves very little stickiness. He has used it in all degrees of strength, and regards it as one of the best methods of employing tar. The potash heightens the anti-pruritic effect of the tar. The solution he has employed with advantage in eczema, both in its chronic stage with thickenings, and in the more acute forms, where exudation has about or nearly ceased and the itching is intense. In chronic cases with infiltration, it may be used in full strength. Good success has followed its use in lupus erythematosus and psoriasis.—*Phila. Med. & Surg. Reporter.*

Balsam of Mecca (Balm of Gilead)—(Factitious).—The article sold under this name is generally composed of the following:

Take of Gum Benzoin, 2 parts.
 Storax liquid, 1½ parts.
 Balsam of Tolu, 1 part.
 Balsam of Fir, 12 parts.

Place them in a glass flask or bottle, and subject to the heat of a water bath for several hours until liquified, allow to cool and decant the clear portion; to which add sufficient quantity of the oils of lemon, cassia, rosemary, nutmeg and vanilla, to give it a strong aromatic odor. Another formula is the following:

Take of Gum Benzoin, 4 parts.
 Balsam of Fir, 16 parts.

Mix and heat, when the gum benzoin is dissolved in the balsam, strain through cloth, and when cold add the oil of lemon, rosemary and cassia—of each two drachms.—*Pharmacist.*