

**DIALYZED IRON HYPODERMICALLY.**—Professor Da Costa has employed dialyzed iron in a novel manner, in a case of chlorosis, in a woman aged twenty-one years. The patient had daily injections of 15 minims of the iron solution, at first diluted, but afterwards of full strength. The points where the injections were made showed no evidence of inflammatory action. Subsequently the dose was raised to 30 minims, and convalescence was rapid. After the hypodermic use was ceased, 20 drops in water were given thrice daily for a short time. No constipation, indigestion, or other disturbances resulted from this mode of using the remedy, and recovery was considered to have been more rapid than it would have been with the usual way of administering it.

**DIALYZED IRON IN ARSENICAL POISONING.**—James Hayes, M.D., of Simcoe, Ont., publishes, in the *Canada Lancet* for March, a case of arsenical poisoning treated with Wyeth's dialyzed iron. Following an emetic and free draughts of warm water, a tablespoonful of the dialyzed iron was given and soon ejected; doses of thirty drops were then given every twenty minutes for two hours. Two hours after the doctor's arrival, symptoms of collapse set in, and were treated with brandy, hot bottles, and friction. The patient was restored to health in about ten days, and complained during convalescence of weakness, thirst and a burning sensation in the stomach. The doctor estimates that fully a teaspoonful of arsenious acid was lying in the stomach from half an hour to an hour before he saw her.

**DOCTORED HERBS.**—A writer in the *Schweizer Wochenschr. f. Pharm.*, 1876, No. 51, reports having met with some herbs, notably with melissa and mint, the odor of which suggested a fraudulent impregnation with volatile oil. To determine whether such was the case the following experiments were made: 30 grams each of the suspected herb, of an old herb sprinkled with a few drops of volatile oil and of a recently picked herb were macerated in a cool place with half a liter of water for 24 hours, then strained and the infusions mixed with a few grams of ether and set aside in a vessel covered with a well-fitting glass plate. After an hour the under side of the glass cover of the three liquids first showed the odor of ether, followed in the suspected and old herbs by the odor of the essential oil, which could not be perceived in the case of the fresh herb.—*Am. Jour. Pharm.*

**APIOL.**—By E. von Gerichten. In the preparation of oil of parsley by distillation of the seeds with water, there passes over besides the terpene a body which gradually separates in fine needles. This is the so-called parsley camphor or apiol. Homolle and Joret give the name apiol to a mixture of various bodies which they obtained as an oil of a greenish-brown colour by extracting parsley seeds treated with litharge, with alcohol and ether. They propose

this so-called apiol as a substitute for quinine in therapeutics. It is at least permissible to retain the name apiol for the crystallised ethereal oil—parsley camphor.

The same body may be obtained direct from the seeds by extraction with alcohol, distillation and digestion of the residue with ether; apiin remains undissolved, whilst apiol passes into solution. Apiol forms very long, white, brittle needles, having a faint smell of parsley. It fuses at 30° C. and boils at 300°; specific gravity, 1.015. It is insoluble in water, but dissolves readily in alcohol and ether. The fused apiol requires weeks and even months for perfect solidification, although by solution in alcohol the original crystals may easily be obtained again. According to Lindenbon's comparison, the results of analysis by various chemists find their simplest form of expression in the formula  $C_{12}H_{14}O_4$  (C = 64.8; H = 6.3; O = 28.8 per cent.). Additional points of support for the acceptance of this formula might be adduced. Sodium has no action on fused apiol. Concentrated sulphuric acid dissolves it, forming a blood-red colour (a precise reaction); water precipitates from this solution a brown body, which forms a bluish-green solution with alkalis, gradually becoming dirty brown. Concentrated aqueous potash solution does not affect apiol. By twelve hours' heating of apiol with alcoholic potash solution, and afterwards diluting with water, rhombic plates with the lustre of mother-of-pearl gradually separate. These are purified by re-crystallisation from alcohol. A further product of this decomposition could not be recognised. The new body melts at 53.5° C. and re-solidifies at 46° C., does not dissolve in water, but dissolves readily in alcohol and ether. It is not acted upon by aqueous potash solution; by careful oxidation with chromic acid mixture beautiful needles of a body which was not examined further were obtained; with potash permanganate, crystalline plates were separated, fusing above 100° C. With chloroform and concentrated sulphuric acid the body obtained from apiol and alcoholic potash yields a coloration, beautiful red violet at first, afterwards becoming green.—(*Jour. de Pharm. et de Chim.*), December, 1876, from *Gazz. Chim. Ital.*

**THE DANGER OF SALICYLIC ACID DENTIFRICE.**—When a remedy has been found good for something it runs the danger of being brought into disrepute by being regarded as a panacea for all human ills. Pharmacy has its fashions as well as other things, and the present prevailing mode is salicylic acid. Dr. Buch, of St. Petersburg, deprecates its adoption as a dentifrice. A short time ago there was a warning raised against the use of charcoal. It had similar dental recommendation, namely, that it was antiseptic, and that, as far as cleansing was concerned, it was most effective. But the microscope pointed out that every particle of carbon, in however divided a state, was a small crystal, which, acting by attrition, was hurtful to the enamel. While charcoal, therefore, was said to