

been washed by an alkaline solution is the basis from which it is obtained as a commercial product. This lye consists of water, dirt, soapy matter (that is, the glycerine fats converted into soap and glycerine by the alkali), and fat which is not combined with the alkali, and is not soapy (that is, the cholesterin fats). These constituents differ in specific gravity, and that of the cholesterin fats being the highest, the patentees are able by a centrifugal machine, like a cream separator, to separate these from the rest. The cholesterin fats so obtained then go through various processes of purification, and, being then kneaded up with a certain proportion of water, produce the material we know as lanolin. It had been contended that the thing patented was the use of the centrifugal machine, and that if the same separation could be obtained by a process of subsidence, by the action of gravity alone, the patent would not be infringed by so doing. The Court held, however, that the patent covered any mechanical method of effecting the separation at the stage indicated, even although it might not be done by the precise machine which was selected as the best. So there

was an end of that side of the case. It had also been contended, if it were not the particular method by the use of a centrifugal machine, but the whole process which was claimed by the patentee, that in that case the patent had been anticipated by the process described by Dioscorides. But the judges held that this old process did not produce lanolin but only wool fat; the separation, in fact, was not performed by it, and there was no anticipation.—*British Medical Journal*.

EMISTAXIS: The method of Dr. Rougier is to paint the spot from which the hæmorrhage seems to come with:

R Collodion.....ʒiij.
Acid. carbolic.....
Acid. benzoic.....
Acid. tannic..... aa gr. lxxv. M.

This preparation coagulates albumen instantaneously, and its use is not painful. The author also employs it after removal of adenoid tumours, tonsillotomy, etc.—*La Méd. Mod.*

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