

common indigenous plant in various parts of Canada and often resorted to as a domestic remedy in various diseased conditions. It has been found that a slice of veal sprinkled with a solution of helenina in alcohol, and kept in a warm room, remained perfectly sweet for ten days, by which time it was completely dried up. An egg beaten up with a solution of it remained unchanged for six days, while another egg similarly beaten up without the drug, kept at the same temperature, rapidly decomposed, and in twenty hours emitted a strong odour of sulphide of hydrogen; to this latter a solution of helenina was added, and in a few minutes the offensive odour had disappeared, and the mixture underwent no further change. Similar experiments were made with carbolic acid, boracic acid, and salicylic acid, instead of helenina; but much larger proportions of these substances were required to prevent putrefaction, and none of them were capable of arresting commencing putrefaction of the egg, as helenina had done.

IN EXPERIMENTING with the tubercle bacillus Dr. Korab found that a few drops of a solution of helenina immediately killed the organisms. While the experimenter was working with helenina in his laboratory, he noticed that the bad odours usually present in the vicinity were replaced by the aromatic smell of the drug, due to the washings thrown away. He also noticed that insects, which were commonly very numerous, were at that time absent; even the mosquitoes were kept away from the whole house during the months in which they specially abound. The drug has proved most valuable in surgery as an antiseptic when carbolic acid and other agents had failed. It has been successfully given internally in malarial fevers, tubercular, infantile, and catarrhal diarrhoea; and it is expected to prove an excellent substitute for carbolic acid in the Listerian system of aseptic surgery.

AN EPIDEMIC of glanders amongst horses, it is reported, is prevalent in Montreal. This disease is not unfrequently a cause of death in man. It is not long since several deaths

of a terrible character were reported as having occurred in Michigan, from this disease having been communicated to man from the horse, to which animal the disease was directly and easily traced.

IS ALCOHOL A FOOD?—Dr. T. W. Thompson, M.R.C.S., late surgeon 1st Life Guards, in conjunction with a Dr. Hamerton and "a friend in whom they had the greatest confidence," have been making some experiments in connection with their own bodies on this question. Dr. Thompson says (*Lancet*, April 25th, 1885), I must express my belief that unless our experiments have been rendered fallacious by errors of practical manipulation, "our experiments certainly indicate in the clearest manner that alcohol, in small doses at all events, is a source of nourishment—i.e., a food."

A NEW DEODORANT—"Thymo-Cresol"—is being largely introduced into Canada, and, so far as we can learn, is giving excellent satisfaction. The resident physicians in the Toronto and Ottawa hospitals, and the Ottawa medical health officer, speak of it in terms highly favorable. From its composition it appears to be a material which gives off binoxide of hydrogen freely, such as referred to in this *JOURNAL* on many occasions, and is, therefore, a powerful oxidizer. It is very useful in destroying foul smells anywhere.

EXPLANATION.—The very large amount of work in all the printing offices in this city during the session has made it quite impossible to have the mechanical part of the *JOURNAL* finished "on time," and it is hoped subscribers will bear with the unavoidable delays.

THE *HERALD*, of Philadelphia, Lum Smith, editor and proprietor, is a journal that is deserving of liberal support. For years it has waged war on pernicious journalism, medical quacks and other nostrums and frauds who swindle publishers out of valuable space in their papers, and indeed frauds of all sorts. Anything we can do to assist the *Herald* in its good work we shall be happy to do