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on wood previously roughened by a toothed instrument; this application was two millimetres thick.

4. Method of M. Ripurjk, analogous to the preceding.

5. Paraffine varnish, obtained by the dry distillation of peat, from the factory of M. M. Haages & Co., at Amsterdam.

6. Coal tar applied cold on the wood in several successive layers, or applied hot on wood whose surface had been previously carbonized. Some pieces were treated as follows: Holes were first bored in them and filled with tar; then plugs were fitted closely to the holes and driven in with sufficient force to make the tar penetrate the wood; other pieces still were painted over with a mixture of tar with sulphuric acid, or sal ammoniac, or turpentine, or linseed oil.

7. Painting with colours mixed with turpentine and linseed oil, among others, with chrome-green or with verdigris.

8. Singing or superficial carbonization of the wood.

The pieces of wood thus prepared were placed in the water at the end of May, 1859, and the first examination, made toward the end of September of the same year, showed that neither of these methods afforded any protection from destruction by the Teredo. There was one partial exception, and that was the piece of wood treated according to No. 6; these showed only traces of the Teredo here and there. But at a later examination, in the autumn of 1860, when the wood had been exposed a year and a half, these were also found to be equally severely attacked by the Teredo.

The results of these experiments strongly convinced the Commission that no exterior application of any nature whatever, or modification of the surface merely, would give any efficacious guarantee of protection against the teredo. Even supposing that one or another of these means would prevent the young teredo from attaching themselves to the wood, yet the constant friction of the water or ice, or any accident, might break the surface of the wood sufficient to give access to the teredo.

This seems a proper place to mention a practice in general use in Holland for warding off the teredo; this consists in covering wood with a coat of mail made of nails. This operation is very