

THE

Actions and Uses of Naphthalin.

NAPHTHALIN is one of the most recent additions to the already large group of antiseptic agents. It is one of the products of the distillation of coal. When pure it occurs in large, white, glossy crystals. It is, however, often sold in an amorphous condition, and having a greyish colour.

In this impure condition its antiseptic qualities appear to be little, if at all inferior to those possessed by the purest specimens; but as it often causes considerable irritation, it is well to employ the agent in its resublimed state. The odor of naphthalin is very penetrating, but not disagreeable.

ACTIONS.

I. *On Micro-Organisms.*—It is one of the most powerful agents that we possess in preventing the decomposition of organic fluids. Urine can be preserved for an almost indefinite