

added ; they do not all dissolve, but fall to the bottom of the vessel as a precipitate. This is the formula for most of the hair-dyes now in use. Some people use them without any appreciable injury—but paralysis not unfrequently follows, and occasionally death. Only a short time since, Dr. Sayre, of New York, reported three fatal cases that came under his notice.

Other preparations are used, of which, however, lead is generally the active ingredient. Some owe their efficacy to nitrate of silver, which does not affect the general health so seriously as lead, but destroys the hair. The "golden yellow" dye which was fashionable of late is simply a solution of arsenic—the hair being first wet with hydrosulphate of ammonia. In dyeing the lighter tints, the hair must first be bleached with a solution of one of the alkalies, chlorine, sulphurous acid, or some other chemical possessing bleaching powers.

We fail to see what there is so obnoxious in grey hairs, or even red hairs, that people should run the risk of serious injury in endeavoring to change their color. But it seems they will do it; and as we have tried to show the dangerous character of the dyes generally employed, we will give the least harmful formula with which we are acquainted—least harmful to the health of the body that is ; it injures the hair in time. It is furnished by the *Boston Journal of Chemistry*. Dissolve one ounce of nitrate of silver in six ounces of water; then add ammonia till the solution becomes cloudy, continue adding till it becomes clear again—this is the dye. Before applying it, the hair must be washed in a solution of pyrogalllic acid, made by diluting a drachm of acid in eight ounces of water.

"Pomades," "oils," "bear's grease," and such like should not be used. They are little other than lard, or olive oil and wax. "Bear's grease" is only a name for "hog's lard." The real bear's grease is a rank and filthy substance not likely to be used, if it was offered for sale. The vegetable oils are always preferable to animal oils as a hair dressing, whenever such a thing is needed. Castor oil, one part, and cologne spirit five parts, perfumed to suit the fancy, makes a simple and clean dressing.

A great many *embrocations* and *restorers* are offered for sale, to make hair grow on a bald head. They are seldom of use, and some are injurious. There is very little vitality in hair; it springs from the epidermis, or outer skin, and, is like it, formed of flattened