mouthed, four-quart bottle. A piece of sponge saturated with two drachms of commercial acid was lowered into the bottle and suspended about two inches from the bottom. Five minutes after the introduction of the sponge the mouse staggered as if intoxicated, the movements continuing for fifteen minutes, when a short respite occurred. These paroxysms were repeated several times during one hour and a half, then the animal became violently convulsed, the spasmodic action lasting thirty minutes, when it died. Upon examination it was found that the membranes covering the brain and spinal cord were injected, some of the vessels being very large. The lungs were of a light pink color, many shades above that observed in the normal human lung; they were collapsed. The heart appeared large, and felt hard: upon opening the organ it was found distended with very dark clots, which bulged out as the incision was made.

A full-grown rat was next subjected to the vapour of carbolic acid; and its manifestations were more strongly marked in this than in the former experiments. The animal was a vicious one, exhibiting great ferocity; but in less than one minute after the sponge containing the acid had been introduced, the animal appeared sleepy, and as if intoxicated. Twice the animal reared upon its haunches, as if it desired to climb, but had not the strength to do so; and, after each attempt, it fell over upon its right side. At the end of forty-five minutes a tremor was observable over the entire body, and it ceased to notice sudden sounds; shortly after this it failed to perceive that it was being handled, and presented all the phenomena of profound anæsthesia. Convulsions followed the tremulousness, which continued to increase in violence until the animal's death, which occurred in one hour and forty-five minutes after the introduction of the sponge. The vessels in the pia mater were found congested, some of them being very much distended. The larger lobes of the brain (cerebrum) presented a greater number of bleeding points than is usually found; the smaller lobes (cerebellum) were highly congested—the vessels being considerably increased in size. The spinal cord appeared exsanguinated in all but the cervical region, which presented a uniform pink blush. The lungs were collapsed and several shades lighter in colour than usual. The heart was tense; and, on being opened, a clot bulged out which filled both left auricle and ventricle.

The same experiment has been performed twice since, the result being alike in each case: in the last instance the convulsions occurred at the end of eighteen minutes; they were more violent in character, and death occurred sooner (fifty minutes).

A peculiarity was noticed in connection with the convulsive movements of both insects and animals—which was, that the forward legs were first convulsed, the spasm ceasing to a great extent in them, as the posterior members became affected; and also that, as the spasm commenced, the animal fell over upon the right side.

As an instance of its influence upon vegetable life, the following will suffice: During the last summer a rose-bush became infested with lice. I prepared a solution of carbolic acid (commercial), one-half ounce to the gallon of water, and sprinkled the plant with it. Four hours afterward the lice were all dead, and so was the *plant, the leaves being withered as if* blighted by heat.

Accepting Prof. Saulsbury's statement's concerning the cause of intermittent fever, we might expect from the use of the acid a potent remedy. I have not, however, had the opportunity to test it.

The above is simply a statement of my experience with the remedy. I believe it to be potent for good; but, like other remedies, on being generally introduced, it will meet with condemnation, because it does not fulfill every indication which enthusiasts have claimed for it. It will, however, gradually win by its good effects a prominent position among the list of valuables which enrich our materia medica.

NOTE.—A rat killed by inhaling the vapour of the acid, February 21, is at this time, April 20, 1868, as free from the odour of putrefaction as it was the day it died. It has been kept in a warm room during the time. No indication of decomposition is apparent.

THE REPORT OF THE VENEREAL COMMISSION.

The following is an abstract of some of the leading points of interest in the Report of the Committee appointed by the Lords of the Admiralty to inquire into the best mode of treatment of the Venereal Disease, with a view to diminish its injurious effects on the men of the army and navy:—

That part of the Report which relates to the prevention of venereal disease, having been required for the use of the Legislature, was forwarded to the authorities in February, 1866, and an Act, entitled "An act for the better Prevention of Contagious Diseases at certain Naval and Military Stations." 11th June, 1866, was passed in the last session of Parliament, in entire accordance with the recommendations of your Committee. A copy of that Act is appended to this Report.

I. On the subject of prevention, the Com-