

## SCIENTIFIC AND USEFUL.

**PREPARATION FOR CHAPPED HANDS.**—Cosmolino 1 ounce, glycerine 2 drachms, spermaceti 20 grains, borax powdered 3 drachms. The Druggists' Circular thinks the above would prove a good preparation, but would advise the use of rather more glycerine (say 4 drachms) in which the borax might be dissolved by heating. If, when this is added to the cosmolino, the mixture is too soft on cooling, add enough more spermaceti to produce the desired consistency.

**VARNISH FOR PAPER LABELS.**—The following is waterproof and transparent; it was originally prepared by Soubeiran. Sandarac, powdered 50 parts, alcohol 180 parts, turpentine 80 parts, oil of turpentine 10 parts. Mix and warm together for half an hour in a bottle placed in warm water, and so covered as to prevent loss of alcohol. Then cork and agitate occasionally, allow to stand at rest for several days, and decant. This is said to be a very satisfactory varnish.

**TREATMENT OF HOARSENESS IN SPEAKERS AND SINGERS.**—Mr. Corson advises the placing in the mouth of a piece of borax, about two or three grains; it produces an abundant salivation, and the voice becomes clear. He also recommends the use of a couple of grains of potassium nitrate in a glass of sugar and water, or an infusion of jaborandi and shortly before using the voice—of a gargle with six or seven ounces of a decoction of barley, one to two drachms of honey of roses.—*American Druggist.*

**POLISH FOR BRONZE, BRASS, AND SILVER.**—Fifty g. of coconut soap cut up in small pieces are gently heated with sufficient water to form a pasty mass, to which is added a mixture consisting of 5 g. of tripoli and 1½ g. ammonium carbonate. The polish is put up in stone jars covered with parchment paper.—*Leitmerizer Rundschau.*

An instrument has been invented in France for aiding in the resuscitation of persons apparently drowned, or who from any cause have been temporarily deprived of animation. It consists of a cylinder of sheet iron large enough to contain the body of an adult person. It is closed at one end, and the inanimate individual is inserted, feet foremost, in the receptacle, as far as the neck, around which there is placed a padale diaphragm, fastened to the cylinder so as to be air tight. An air pump, attached to an opening in the tube, creates a partial vacuum, and then the outer atmosphere, by its own pressure, forces its way into the lungs by the mouth and nostrils, which are left exposed. By a reversed action of the pump, the air is allowed to re-enter the cylinder, and respiration is thereby established. A glass plate inserted in the iron casing enables the operator to watch the movements of the chest, which rises and falls as in life, with the working of the pump. The action may be repeated eighteen times in a minute, an exact imitation of natural breathing being thus produced.

Speaking lately in favor of cremation in infectious cases Sir Spencer Wells mentioned that an epidemic of scarlet fever has been caused in a country town by the opening of the graves of persons who had died with the disease thirty years previously, the germs of infection having retained their vitality for nearly a third of a century.

**CAMPOR.**—Camphor is made in Japan in this way: After a tree is felled to the earth, it is cut up into chips, which are laid in a tub or large iron pot filled with water, and placed over a slow fire. Through holes in the bottom of the tub steam slowly rises, and heating the chips, generates oil and camphor. Of course, the tub with the chips has a closely fitting cover. From this tub a bamboo pipe leads to a succession of other tubs with bamboo connections, and the last of these tubs is divided into two compartments, one above the other, the divided floor being perforated with small holes to allow the water and oil to pass to the upper compartment. The upper compartment is supplied with a straw layer which catches and holds the camphor in crystals in deposit as it passes to the cooling process. The camphor is then separated from the straw, packed in wooden tubs, and ready for the market. The oil is used by the natives for illuminating and other purposes.—*The Druggist.*

**BI-SULPHIDE OF CARBON FOR HEADACHE.**—A medical paper calls attention to a simple and at the same time wonderfully efficient treatment for many kinds of headache. It is nothing more nor less than a solution of the bi-sulphide of carbon. A wide-mouth glass-stoppered bottle is half filled with cotton or a fine sponge, and upon this two or three drachms of the solution are poured. The mouth of the bottle is to be applied to the temple or as near as possible to the seat of pain, so closely that none of the volatile vapor may escape, and retained there four or five minutes or longer. It may be reapplied, if necessary, several times in the day, and it generally acts like magic, giving immediate relief.

At the Danish scientific station in South Greenland, at Namortalik, heat and mosquitoes in summer are so troublesome as to be suggestive of a tropical climate.

**WATER-PROOFING MATERIAL.**—When paraffine is thoroughly mixed with linseed oil, cast into small blocks, and allowed to cool, it may be used to make any fabric, as cloth, felt, and leather, water-proof by rubbing it with such a block, and ironing afterward to equalize the distribution of the material in the pores. If too much is not put on the material may be made to be only impervious to water, but not to air, as the very small greasy pores repel the water but not the air.

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