

Picric Acid as an Antiseptic.

French physicians are taking up the picric acid treatment far more energetically than those in this country, although it was Dr. McLellan, of Glasgow, who first pointed out the remarkable influence which a saturated solution of the acid has in curing burns. M. Debuchy, the latest contributor to the subject, gives the following recipes in *Nouveaux Remèdes*:

For the preparation of antiseptic dressings the following solution is used:

Methylated ether.....	Oij.
Sterilized beeswax.....	2½ drs.
Picric acid.....	2 ozs.

Dissolve by shaking.

This quantity of solution is sufficient for saturating 1 lb. of cotton-wool, gauze, bandage, or other dressing, and the strength of the dressing, when dry, is about 13 per cent.

A jelly which is a useful application for many purposes is made as follows:

Isinglass.....	1 oz.
Gum arabic.....	1½ drs.
Water.....	10 ozs.

Dissolve by the aid of heat, and, while warm, add the following solution:

Picric acid.....	4½ drs.
Pure methylic alcohol.....	4 ozs.

Mix well by stirring.

This contains about 20 per cent. of picric acid.

For an adhesive plaster, use the following:

Resin-plaster.....	10 ozs.
Yellow wax.....	1 oz.
Gum dammar.....	1½ ozs.

Melt together, and add cautiously a solution of

Picric acid.....	2 ozs.
Pure methylic alcohol.....	18 ozs.

—*Chemist and Druggist.*

Recent Patents Relating to Pharmacy.

Henry J. Barnes, Boston, Mass., humidifier, 588944.

Jesse T. Dugger, Chattanooga, Tenn., hernial truss, 588964.

Leon J. Harvey, Saratoga Springs, N.Y., suppository mold, 588990.

James P. McGill, Chicago, Ill., electrical body appliance, 589015.

Robert Westphal, South Bend, Ind., disinfecting apparatus, 589054.

Anders Akesson, Providence, R.I., evacuating device, 589775.

Paul J. Fouquier, San Francisco, Cal., device for applying remedies, 589712.

Wilhelm Scheerer, Tuttlingen, Germany, cauterizing apparatus, 589484.

Thaddeus H. Woodward, Lincoln, Nebr., truss, 589773.

William Garroway, Glasgow, Scotland, making alkaline silicates and nitric acid, 590143.

William A. Webb, Brooklyn, N.Y.,

electro-medical exercising apparatus, 590050.

Benjamin P. Wilson, Reddick, Fla., self-adjusting inflatable pessary, 590124.

Adolph Frank, Charsttenburg, and N. Caro, Berlin, Germany, making cyanids, 590217.

Friedrich A. Koch, Brooklyn, N.Y., surgeon's scissors, 590528.

George W. Pickin, Eau Claire, Wis., inhaler, 590376.

Thomas W. Sloan, Seattle, Washington, fracture apparatus, 590531.

Louis Starkenstein, Detroit, Mich., capsule filling machine, 590502.

Nazareth Paquette, Petersburg, Mich., fracture apparatus, 590625.

Zophar W. Sturtevant, Lowell, Mass., machine for measuring pills, 590635.

TRADE-MARKS.

Anchor S. Chemical Co., Lebanon, Oregon, remedies for constipation and liver diseases, 30547.

Frank H. Claussen, Chicago, Ill., remedies for rheumatism, 30548.

Albert R. H. Fiedler, Philadelphia, Pa., remedies for catarrh, colds, headache, sore throat, asthma, etc., 30544.

Hance Bros. & White, Philadelphia, Pa., remedies for diseases of the respiratory organs, 30545.

Max Haurwitz, St. Louis, Mo., remedies for venereal diseases, 30549.

Koenig Chemical Co., Chicago, Ill., medicines, 30550.

Antonio & A. Muller, Charlottenburg, Germany, medicated confections, 30541.

Sarah A. Reynolds, Port Huron, Mich., cough syrup, 30542.

Lehman Stern, Middletown, N.Y., cough remedy, 30543.

Levi I. Brighton, Hutchinson, Kans., liniments, 30570.

Napoleon C. Becker, Amsterdam, N.Y., medicinal plasters, 30595.

J. W. Campion & Co., Philadelphia, Pa., medicinal plasters, 30596.

Henry S. Clark, New York City, antiseptic medicinal preparation, 30597.

Herb Medicine Co., Springfield, Ohio, pills or tablets, 30591, 30592.

Harriet A. Jackson, New York City, remedies for treatment of the skin, eye, and ear, etc., 30590.

Maude Meyberg, Chicago, Ill., remedy for female complaints, 30588.

Benedict Nahm, New York, compounds for female diseases, 30589.

Ludwig Sell & Co., Munich, Germany, powders, pastes, salves, and pills, 30503.

Thomas J. Turner, Philadelphia, Pa., tonics for brain and blood, 30584; remedies for diseases of the digestive organs, 30586; ointments, 30494.

Charles H. Whitman, Los Angeles, Cal., emulsion of cod liver oil with hypophosphites lime and gusical, 30585.

Blennostasine is a crystalline solid, very soluble in water, and of a bitter taste. It is employed in the treatment of colds, influenza, hay fever, etc.

Some Medicines of the Swampee Cree Indians of the North.*

By C. FLEXON, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

At a late hour during the close of last week, a most interesting gentleman, a stranger to me, hearing that I had been appointed a delegate to this meeting, called to see if a brief record of his experience among the Swampee Indians of the north, with whom he had lived for six years, would be acceptable to me. I thanked Mr. Strath—for such is his name—and he thereupon furnished the following particulars of some of the drugs prescribed by him in his capacity of medical officer at Norway House, about 400 miles due north of Winnipeg. The conversation which I had with him was unfortunately but too short, as it was extremely fascinating. He has evidently been a close observer of those people. Apart from speaking their language fluently, I should say a pretty accurate knowledge has been gained by him of the strength and the weakness of the Cree mind. As a student of Greek and Hebrew, he has a remarkably high opinion of the Cree language. For beauty and perfection, he says, it cannot be surpassed, and to hear him talk of the poetry and eloquence of some of the native sermons which he has heard, has completely destroyed my confidence in the language in which we are conversing on this occasion and which we are conceited enough to suppose to be the best in the world.

A large number of the diseases common among the white people are just as common among the Indians, and while many of the drugs used by them are well known to us, the manner of using them is certainly different. In the treatment of worms, for instance, male shield fern, the aspidium of the U.S. Pharmacopœia; filix mas, of the Ph. Br., is given as a strong infusion, combined with Senna and wild indigo. The latter article, by the way, is used as an antiseptic, and has excellent drying properties in the treatment of eczema humidum, or "weeping eczema." One of the commonest drugs with them, and which is to be seen hanging up to dry in every wigwam or tepee, is the wekas or sweet flag—the calamus of the Pharmacopœia. It is considered a specific in all throat troubles, with the exception of diphtheria, which is unknown to them. In cases of pharyngitis and tonsillitis it is used externally and internally. The rhizoid is chewed and the saliva allowed to wash the throat. Poultices are made by mixing the powder with boiling water. It is a curious fact that the Indians are not only ignorant of gargles, but of the act of gargling, and Mr. Strath has been amused time and again in his efforts to get a Cree to gargle. This drug is carried about by the natives in the winter time as a tonic, and is chewed because of its stimulating properties by the Indians as tobacco is chewed by the white—or should we say more correctly, by the civilized man. Most of their medicines are