

mersion discolors violet flowers—then swung about to remove the excess of liquid, dried between blotting paper, and pressed in the usual manner. A frequent renewal of the blotting material, particularly at first, is indispensable. The plants treated in this manner dry rapidly, and furnish specimens of superior beauty, retaining their natural colors in greater perfection than by any other process.

FOR NAUSEA, DEPRESSION, AND CRAVING FOR DRINK.—

℞ Tr. capsici..... 10 drops.
Tr. nucis vom..... 10 drops.
Acid nitric dil..... 20 drops.
Aque..... 1 ounce.

M. Sig. Take as a draught in water three or four times a day.—(*The Medical Brief*).

BLUEING FOR CLOTHES.—The *Scientific American* says: "Mix dry Prussian blue with 50 per cent. hot water and 15 per cent. of yellow prussiate of potash in powder; pour the mixture through a fine sieve, dilute it with a little hot water, and pass dry, unsized paper through the solution, and expose it to warm air until dry.

COTOIN AND PARACOTOIN.—These two alkaloïds are now manufactured on a large scale, at moderate prices, and as both articles promise to become of great importance, the following remarks may be found of interest.

Cotoin, discovered in 1875 by Dr. Julius Jobst, is a reddish-yellow powder, having a peculiar irritable action on the mucous membrane of the lips and nostrils. It is not readily soluble in water, but is so in alcohol, from which, however, it is not again easily obtainable in a crystalline condition; it is extremely soluble in ether, and on heating it with concentrated nitric acid a red solution is obtained. Its alcoholic solution, treated with chloride of iron, gives a dark violet tint.

Paracotoin, produced first by Dr. Julius Jobst in 1876, is a light distinctly crystalline powder, of a pale yellow color, devoid of any peculiar smell or taste. It is not readily soluble in water, but easily crystallizable from its alcoholic solution. Paracotoin is not easily soluble in ether. On heating it with concentrated nitric acid, a yellow, then a greenish, coloration is produced, resulting from traces of leucotoin, which can hardly be entirely removed. The alcoholic solution of paracotoin, when treated with chloride of iron, remains without change.

In the therapeutical application, the preparations of cotoin are distinguished by a tonic action on the mucous membrane and muscles of the bowels. They should, therefore, be used in all cases of relaxation of the bowels and acute and chronic intestinal catarrhs.

Cotoin is the stronger, paracotoin the weaker, of the two preparations. The latter can be taken more agreeably on account of its powder form, which form, as paracotoin does not

readily dissolve, must be adopted in prescribing.

We give the following recipes now in use on the Continent:

COTOIN.

I. Cotoin..... 3 grains.
Anise water..... 5 ounces.
Malaga wine..... 10 drachms.
Marshmallow syrup..... 10 drachms.
Mix. Dose, one tablespoonful every half hour.
II. Cotoin..... 3 grains.
Sugar..... 30 "
Mix and divide into five powders. Dose, one every hour or half hour.

PARACOTOIN.

Paracotoin..... 15 grains.
Sugar..... 30 grains.
Mix and divide into ten powders. Children under five years, half the above doses.—*Monthly Magazine of Pharmacy*.

INK SUPERSEDED BY PENCILS.—Pencils have been lately invented which make marks more permanent than those of ordinary inks, and can be copied by pressure. The process is as follows:

Ten pounds of the best logwood are boiled repeatedly with 100 lbs. of water, and the decoction evaporated to 100 lbs. This liquid is heated to boiling in a porcelain dish, and nitrate of chromium added in small quantities until the bronze precipitate that forms at first dissolves again with a deep blue-black color. It is then evaporated on a water bath to the consistency of an extract, and finely-elutriated fat aycl mixed in, so that there is 1 part of clay to 3 or 3½ parts of extract. A little gum tragacanth may be added, according to the hardness desired.

TINCTURE OF CHLORIDE OF IRON FOR CORNS.—Dr. C. Barber states (*Lyon Médicale*) that he has cured three cases of corns on the toes by the application of a drop of the tincture of chloride of iron applied on corns night and morning. This application was continued for fifteen days in one case, when the corns, from which the patient had suffered for thirty or forty years, were entirely destroyed, and pressure on the part gave not the least uneasiness.—*South. Med. Record*.

FOR REMOVING HAIRS.—Prof. Boettger recommends the following as safe: 1 part of crystallized sulph-hydrate of sodium is rubbed to a very fine powder, and mixed with three parts of prepared chalk. The mixture keeps well in closed vials. Mixed with water and applied to the skin, the hair becomes soft in two or three minutes, and is readily removed by water. A long application is apt to corrode the skin.—*N. Jahrb. f. Pharm., Amer. Jour. Pharm.*

IMPROVEMENT IN BENDING GLASS TUBES.—If the glass tube we desire to bend be filled with sand, and each end stopped to prevent its escape on