saffron. It is insoluble in water, but dissolves readily in ether (1 to 7), chloroform, rectified spirits, oil of eucalyptus, collodion (1 to 10), and in vaseline.

Absorption and elimination.—Iodoform is not very readily absorbed from the intestinal canal. Although containing 97 per cent. of iodine, its properties are very different from those of the latter; the radicle formyl that enters into its composition modifies its action. This is the reason that it possesses anodyne, and not irritating, properties, as does iodine. When iodoform is introduced into the stomach, it undergoes a change into iodine. On this point all are agreed; but what particular form of iodine it assumes is a matter in dispute. Binz holds that it is in the form of iodides and iodates; while Högyes maintains that it is in the form of an albuminate. In fatal cases of iodoform poisoning, iodine has been found in the brain, in the liver, and in the kidneys. Iodoform is eliminated from the body in the form of iodine. Its elimination takes place very slowly. It is not infrequent to find iodoform in the urine three and four weeks after ceasing to use iodoform dressing. The addition of salt to the diet hastens its elimination considerably. In wounds which are in a state of putrefaction, the conversion of iodoform into iodine takes place much quicker than when it is brought into contact with "sweet" wounds. This is owing to the presence of oxydizing substances in the products of putrefaction.

PHYSIOLOGICAL ACTIONS.

Its Influence on Micro-Organisms.—Iodoform is one of the most powerful agents that we possess in preventing decomposition from taking place in fluids, and in arresting it when it has set in. It prevents the development of organisms in such fluids as alkaline urine, blood, and a solution of peptones. In contact with wounds, it has a very prompt and thorough antiseptic action, being exceeded by no other antiseptic agent.

ACTION ON MAN AND ANIMALS.

External action.—When iodoform is rubbed on the skin, it is readily absorbed into the blood. It does not give rise to any inflammation or irritation of the skin. Even when dusted over