

from soils of deposit; waters of soils containing green chalk and ferruginous oolitic holding the first rank among the latter, and may even be placed before those of igneous ones. (*d*). Though rich in iodine, the waters of the coal formation come after those of the igneous soils, or ferruginous deposits. (*e*). Waters of essentially calcareous and magnesian soils hold very little iodine. (*f*). Iodine is especially rare in the saliferous marls, the habitual seat of rock salt. (*g*). The iodides are by no means necessarily proportionate to the chlorides. (*h*). Rivers fed by glaciers contain little iodine especially at the period of the melting of the snow. (*i*). The waters of rivers are, as a general rule, more iodined and more uniformly so, and less charged with earthly salts, than those of their sources. (*h*). The waters of wells are most calcareo-magnesian and least iodined. 5. The relation which exists between iodine and iron in the waters, the easy decomposition of the iodide of iron, and the complete decomposition of the iodide of the waters on evaporation without the addition of potass, render it probable that the iodine exists in the form of iodide of iron. 6. Iodine exists in terrestrial plants and animals. 7. The salts of potass, and the greater part of the salts of which they form the base are iodined; but nitre, cream of tartar, tartar emetic, and the double tartrate of soda and potass do not contain it. Ammoniacal and soda salts contain it, as also the salt of saline marshes. Rock salt and the *salines d'Est* are almost completely deprived of it. 8. Fermented liquors contain it, wine, cider, and perry in larger proportions than the average of fresh water. The quantity in wines differs according to the richness in iodine of the soils upon which they were grown. 9. Milk, and especially that of the ass, is yet richer in iodine than wine. Apart from the influence of the soil, according to which it varies, the quantity is inverse to the abundance of the secretion. 10. Eggs (but not the shells) are highly iodined. A fowl's egg of 50 grammes contains more iodine than a litre of milk, or than two litres of wine, or Seine water. 11.—Iodine exists in arable lands abounding in sulphur, iron, manganese, and sulphuret of mercury; it is rare in gypsum, calcareous and siliceous soils. 12. A too small proportion of iodine in the potable waters of certain countries seems a probable cause of *goitre*. The change of such water, or at least the use of wine, of ferrodated waters, watercresses, and animal food, especially eggs, is rationally indicated. Marsh salt, too, should be substituted for the rock salt found usually in goitrous countries. 13. Most of the bodies regarded by therapeutists as pectoral and antiscrofulous, are rich in iodine.—*Jour. de Phar.*, 1850.

FORENSIC MEDICINE.

ON THE SOLIDIFICATION OF FOOT-PRINTS.

By M. Hugoulin.

In cases in which it may be deemed necessary to preserve foot-prints in a dry state for judicial examination, M. Hugoulin recommends the following procedure: an iron plate, supported by bars, is so placed as to be about three or four centimetres above the mark to be solidified, and upon it live coals are placed so that heat may radiate to the subjacent soil. When this has become heated to about 100°C, *stearic acid*, reduced to impalpable powder, (by previously dissolving it in its weight of alcohol, and then, having added abundance of water, evaporating,) is to be dusted over it through a fine hair sieve, so as to form an uniform layer. This, falling as a snowy dust, cannot by its weight injure the