and when cold add the carbonate of potassa and ammonia. The precipitate when formed is redissolved. Now add cyanide of potassium until all the blue color disappears. Then filter, and work the solution warm with active battery power, using a copper anode. After the article has received a sufficient coating it may be scratch-brushed, and is then ready for the silvering solution.—*Dental Cosmos.*

To Purify Tannic Acid.—M. Heinz states that commercial tannin owes its odor to a greenish resin, and that it may be rendered inodorous in the following way:—Dissolve the tannin in twice its weight of hot water. Introduce the solution into a glass vessel, and add one and a half parts of ether for every six parts of tannic acid. The mixture is greenish and turbid. After some hours the coagulated coloring matter precipitates, and the clear solution may be evaporated.—*Jour. Pharm. et de Chemie, in New Remedies.*

Varieties.

VEGETABLE PARCHMENT.—A foreign scientific paper says:—The common method of preparing this exceedingly useful material requires much care and experience on the part of the operator, and only gives satisfactory results when the strength of the sulphuric acid and the length of the process are actually proportioned to the substance and texture of unsized paper to be dipped. Mr. Colin Campbell has made a modification of this process, which promises many advantages. Before treating the paper with sulphuric acid, he dips it with a strong solution of alum and dries it thoroughly. When paper thus prepared is passed through concentrated sulphuric acid, it is converted into parchment paper, just as before, but the presence of the alum prevents the action of the acid being so rapid as before, and therefore renders the whole operation more manageable. Paper which has been printed on can also be converted into parchment if treated in that way. The author also proposes to make parchment paper in endless lengths by connecting the alum and sulphuric acid bath with the paper machine.—*Jour. Applied Chemistry.*

BED OF GLAUBER'S-SALT.—A deposit of Glauber's-salt has lately been discovered in the Caucasus, not very far from Tiflis and Narienfeld. In sinking a shaft the experimenters first passed through one foot of marl, two and a half feet of gray moist clay, seven of dark-gray bituminous saline clay, then penetrated a bed of pure Glauber's-salt to a depth of five feet, with a probability that the thickness was much greater. In the same region there are various lakes filled with solutions of Glauber's-salt, which furnish the apothecaries of that neighborhood with what they need of that substance, as it crystallizes in perfect purity along the edge of the water. —*Harpers Monthly.*