

One per cent. of naphtha caused it to flash at.....	103° F.
Two " " " " "	92° F.
Five " " " " "	83° F.
Ten " " " " "	50° F.
Twenty " " " " "	40° F.

After the addition of twenty per cent. of naphtha, the oil burned at 50° F.

It is, therefore, the cupidity of the refiner that leads him to run as much benzine as possible into the kerosene, regardless of the frightful consequences which result from the frequent explosions.

On every gallon of naphtha run into the kerosene tank there is a profit to the refiner of twenty cents, or on every per cent. of naphtha added to the kerosene a reduction of one-fifth cent per gallon in the cost of production, which, with kerosene at twenty-five cents per gallon, amounts to one and one-fourth per cent. For every gallon of naphtha sold as kerosene, the refiner can afford to throw away four gallons. Nothing is more desirable than the discovery of some use to which the naphtha can be put, which will make such a demand for it as to raise its value above that of kerosene, that it might be the interest of the refiner to separate *as much* instead of *as little* as possible. It must not be supposed that the specific gravity of the oil can be considered a safe index of its quality; on the contrary, the specific gravity gives very little idea of the quality, for while naphtha tends to render the oil lighter, the average gravity of good oil is maintained by the heavier oils present. A poor, dangerous oil may be heavier than a safe oil.

The *Astral Oil* illustrates this fact; while it does not flash below 125° F., its gravity is 49° B.

Ordinary kerosene flashes at 86° F., but has a gravity of 47° B.

THE USE OF NUT OIL IN PHARMACY, AND ESPECIALLY IN THE PREPARATION OF UNGUENTUM HYDRARGYRI NITRATIS.*

BY M. FALIERES.

In a brief review of former formulæ for the preparation of citrine ointment, the author calls attention to the large increase which has taken place in the relative proportion of the nitric acid to the mercury. The proportions indicated by Baumé, in 1785, were nitric acid 128 parts, mercury 96 parts, lard 1000 parts. The mercury has been gradually decreased until, in the Codex for 1866, where equal parts (500) of olive oil and lard are ordered, the nitric acid is

* 'Bull. des Travaux de la Societe de Pharmacie de Bordeaux,' vol. xiii. 165, in Pharm. Jour. and Trans.