

jection to the use of Castor Oil as a medicine is its disagreeable flavor and the sickness often produced by it. It is advisable to use the Aromatic Italian Castor Oil for medicinal purposes.

We always keep Castor Oil for medicinal purposes as well as for ordinary use.

GEO. A. FEAR, The Pharmacy. Goderich.

## Camphor

Is obtained from the branches of an evergreen of the laurel family which grows in China and Japan, frequently adorning the banks of the rivers and growing to very great size. There are several ways of purifying Camphor. In China the branches while fresh cut are steeped in water for two or three days, and then boiled till the gum, in the form of a white jelly, adheres to a stick which is constantly used in stirring the branches. The fluid is then poured into a glazed vessel where it concretes in a few hours. To purify it the Chinese take a quantity of finely powdered earth which they lay at the bottom of a copper basin; over this they place a layer of camphor and then another layer of earth, and so on until the vessel is nearly filled, the topmost layer being of earth. They cover this last layer with leaves of a plant called the Poho, which seems to be a species of mint. The whole is then submitted to the action of a regulated fire for a certain time, and then left to cool gradually. On separating the vessels the Camphor is found to have ascended in vapor, and to have adhered to the upper basin. Repetitions of the same process complete its refinement. There is another variety of Camphor tree in the Island of Sumatra, which is much larger than that in China, under the bark of which the gum is found in a concrete form and from which it is brushed down carefully with long brooms. Another variety of the same tree yields its gum in the form of pith. These are cut down, divided into lengths of about three feet and split open very carefully, when the gum is taken out in large rolls, often as large as a man's arm, and all ready for market. One tree sometimes furnishes as much as eleven pounds of gum, which is valued very much more than that of the Chinese production.

It is used both internally and externally, as a temporary stimulant. It is frequently employed in gout and rheumatism, and is useful as well for cholera and diarrhoea. It is also of special value as a disinfectant and preventive in cases of contagious diseases.

The Spirits of Camphor, mixed with hot water and inhaled and applied to the nostrils, relieves the inflammation in hay fever and cold in the head.