

NEURALGIA MIXTURE.

Take of

Quinine sulphate	12 grs.
Potassium bromide	2 drms.
Dilute sulphuric acid	20 minims.
Tincture of gelsemium	90 minims.
Spirits of chloroform	2 drms.
Distilled water	up to 6 ozs.

Mix. A tablespoonful every four hours as long as the pain continues.

INDIGESTION MIXTURE.

Take of

Ammonium carbonate	4 grs.
Magnesium sulphate	4 drms.
Tincture of belladonna	1 dm.
Tincture of nux vomica	1 dm.
Tincture of ginger	1 dm.
Spirits of chloroform	2 drms.
Peppermint water	up to 6 ozs.

Mix. A tablespoonful every four hours.

The diarrhoea mixture most suitable for general purposes is that known as the Board of Health Mixture, the formula for which is given in "Squire's Companion," and has been printed several times in these pages. There are so many cough mixtures extant that it is unnecessary to insert a formula for one here. A quinine and iron tonic is generally a solution of fer. quin. cit. in water (5 grain doses), flavored with aromatics and with vegetable tonics, spirits of chloroform, comp. tincture of gentian, and tincture of nux vomica, making a palatable and efficient mixture. A good many formulæ for a hop tonic have been published from time to time; the following is said to yield a very satisfactory product:

Take of

Tincture of senega	2 drms.
Tincture of chiretta	2 drms.
Tincture of buchu	4 drms.
Tincture of podophyllin	4 drms.
Tincture of hops	15 ozs.
Solution of cochineal	a sufficiency.
Distilled water	up to 16 ozs.

Place the water in a measure and pour the tinctures previously mixed into it.

A tablespoonful for a dose two or three times a day.

ELIXIRS AND ESSENCES.

Similar preparations to each of these are put up in a more concentrated form, and sold as elixirs—quinine and iron, hop, &c., &c.—the dose of each being a teaspoonful in water, and the prices correspondingly increased. These recommend themselves to a good many people on account of their small bulk and convenience for travelling. An elixir of cascara makes a very suitable preparation for bottling; thus, two-ounce round-shouldered bottles, with a neat label, retailing at 1s.; the liquid itself being made according to the B. P. C. formula. A very nice preparation, containing cascara with other ingredients, may be sold as laxative elixir, the following being the formula:

Take of

Fluid extract of liquorice	1 oz.
Tincture of fresh orange peel	2 ozs.
Simple syrup	2½ ozs.
Glycerine, pure	2½ ozs.
Fluid extract of cascara sagrada	8 ozs.
Fluid extract of senna	4 ozs.

Mix.

One or two teaspoonfuls for a dose at bedtime.

A concentrated mixture "for the blood" is often asked for, and probably nothing more satisfactory can be recommended than elixir of sarsaparilla with iodide of potassium, which is prepared by adding 8 grs. of potass. iodide and 1½ drs. of spirits of chloroform to each ounce of concentrated decoction of sarsaparilla. Dose: One teaspoonful twice a day. A small proportion of tincture of orange or cardamoms can be added to improve the taste, if desired; their stimulant effect helping to counteract the depressing effects of the iodide, while not detracting from its purifying properties.

A useful preparation for removing flatulence and colic, and having soothing, warming and antispasmodic properties, may be put up under the title of carminative elixir, a dose of one teaspoonful twice a day, or when required, being recommended. Many formulæ may be devised for such preparation, but the following has proved useful in many cases:

Take of

Tincture of cardamoms	1 oz.
Spirit of nutmeg	1 dm.
Spirit of chloroform	2 drms.
Syrup of ginger	3 drms.
Infusion of cloves, concentrated	2 drms.

Mix. One teaspoonful for a dose when required.

An addition of bismuth subnitrate and magnesium carbonate is sometimes made to this, but a sediment is thus formed, and a clear mixture is preferred to a thick one.

A digestive tonic elixir may be sold in some neighborhoods, and would be compounded of bismuth, quinine, and pepsine wine, the proportion of ingredients being manipulated so as to obtain a clear liquid; a concentrated buchu mixture is also a useful stock article.

Besides the essence of ginger and sarsaparilla, mentioned under Pharmacopœial Preparations, a sweet essence of senna is also necessary; it is one of the most suitable and palatable articles to recommend as a laxative for children, and always meets with approval.

(To be continued.)

Salophene.

Salophene occurs in small white flakes almost insoluble in water, very soluble in alkaline solutions, in alcohol and ether. Its solution in alcohol is turned violet by perchloride of iron, and gives a bulky white precipitate with bromine water. It is quite tasteless and inodorous, and melts at 187° to 188° C. Alkalies break it up into salicylic acid and acetylparamidophenol. The same change takes place in the body when it comes into contact with the pancreatic and intestinal fluid. It passes unchanged through the stomach. According to the researches of W. Siebel 88 per cent. is decomposed if given in doses of 2 grammes, but only 69 per cent. if given in doses of from 5 to 6 grammes;

thus there is no advantage to be gained by giving more than 5 or 6 grammes during the day. The salophene not decomposed is eliminated by the bowels. The acetylaminoparaphenol is partly excreted by the kidneys, and the salicylic acid can be found in the urine 50 hours after the administration of the drug. Salophene is much less poisonous than salol, the lethal dose for a rabbit being from 7 to 8 grammes, death being caused by the presence of salicylic acid. Siebel comes to the conclusion that salophene is superior to salol, both on account of its want of taste and smell, as well as from its less poisonous properties.—*Lancet*.

Camphoid: A New Substitute For Collodion For Medical Use.

BY WILLIAM MARTINDALE.

It is known that iodoform is soluble (1 in 10) in Rubini's solution of camphor, composed of equal parts by weight of camphor and dilute alcohol. This requires fixing on the part to which it is applied. I therefore added 1 part of pyroxylin to 40 of the solution and found it dissolved readily. Applied to the skin this preparation dries in a few minutes and forms an elastic opaque film, which does not wash off. The excess of camphor seems to volatilize, and as it disguises the odor of the iodoform its solution forms a useful vehicle for applying this drug. Pyroxylin dissolves readily in the simple solution of camphor, and this forms a cleanly basis for the application of many medicaments to the skin, such as carbolic acid, salicylic acid, resorcin, iodine, chrysarobin, and ichthyol. I suggest the name "camphoid" for the simple pyroxylin solution.—*Phar. Journal*.

A Harmless Medicine for Plants.

It appears, from a series of experiments undertaken by Mr. J. Morel, that a solution of boric acid retards and even prevents altogether the phenomena of germination in the seeds of plants. Borax has much the same effect. The investigator thinks that boric acid or borax will be found as useful as sulphate of copper as a means of combating mildew on vines, and other maladies to which vegetables are subject. This information is welcome at a time when an outcry is being raised against the employment of dangerous substances for this purpose, sulphate of copper being more or less poisonous, while borax is quite harmless.—*The Monthly Magazine of Pharmacy*.

Vesbium is the name bestowed by Seacchi on what he believes to be a new metal found in the lava from Vesuvius. T. S. Pipeson who has formerly examined volcanic products near Naples, does not believe (Iron) a new element has been discovered, but inclines to think that Seacchi has been dealing with molybdenum and copper.