

but in due time the salt became as dark as Ammonia-Citrate of Iron and free Iodine became apparent. In a word, the salt had spoiled.

#### SYRUP OF IODIDE OF IRON.

Syrup of Iodide of Iron prepared according to the Pharmacopœia, filled into 1 oz. vials corked and kept in a light place in the cellar keeps excellently well. I have never experienced any trouble. I have here samples of syrups prepared according to the Pharmacopœia and samples prepared according to formulæ slightly modified, simply for experimentation. Some of them are not yet old enough, to judge whether their respective formulæ are good or bad. One was prepared according to the Pharmacopœia on May 19, another in April, '92, and kept in the usual manner. One was made Mar. 18, 1892, with glucose instead of sugar. Another was made Mar. 23, 1892, with 50 per cent. glucose. The last two samples of 10 fl. ozs. each have been kept in pint bottles, corked and exposed to the light. All the change perceptible in these has been a flocculent precipitate. There is more precipitate in the all glucose sample than in that containing 50 per cent. Slight traces of yellow color can be noticed in the surface layer of the syrups, when they have stood undisturbed for a week, but this will disappear upon the least shaking. I have seen the statement in print that permanent Syrup of Iodide of Iron could be made with glucose but have not tried it until I made these samples.

My mode of keeping it in one ounce bottles keeps the syrup in prime condition a long time and I found no occasion to experiment until recently. These samples of glucose syrup are only three months old, not sufficient time for a thorough test. The pharmacopœial syrup kept in the same manner and the same length of time would show a decidedly yellow tinge. As far as my experiment has gone, it shows that the syrup made with glucose does not color as fast as that made with sugar.

I have another sample of Syrup of Iodide of Iron. It was prepared according to the Pharmacopœia and put into this bottle when finished. A coil of bright iron wire was placed in the syrup. The intention was to find out how long the syrup would keep without coloring. It kept intact more than ten years. It was placed aside after that time and no more attention was given it. No other care was given it but what has been mentioned. For instance, it was not kept in the cellar, on the contrary, it was continually kept in the store and has experienced the heat of twenty summers. As I mentioned before, it was placed aside after having been observed more than ten years, and almost forgotten. While writing this paper, it was remembered and hunted up. You will notice that the syrup is in a pretty good state of preservation in spite of its age, and what is more, it will not show the least trace of free Iodine, as I will show.

#### Cholera Precautions.

With the view of informing the public what precautions should be taken in case of cholera, and to prevent the spread of the disease the Central Board of Health has issued the following circular :

Transportation companies should assist the health officials in carrying out quarantine or other sanitary measures generally; amongst these measures are the following, which our Board submitted to the Ottawa Conference, and which said Conference has fully endorsed :

##### MARITIME QUARANTINE.

(a) Vessels from foreign countries when arriving at any port should always submit to medical inspection before landing, the medical inspector ordering them to report at the nearest quarantine station for treatment when necessary.

(b) The baggage of all immigrants landing on the continent should be disinfected whatever may be the port of departure.

(c) Vessels coming from infected ports, even when no cholera has occurred on board during the voyage, should be thoroughly disinfected.

(d) Vessels having had cholera on board during the voyage should be disinfected and then detained seven days from date of last case.

##### LAND QUARANTINE.

(a) When a train arrives at the railroad station and the passengers do not come from a place where disease is epidemic they should be allowed to proceed.

(b) When passengers are not sick but coming from an infected place, the disinfection should be made of their soiled clothing and they should be allowed to proceed on condition that they report to the clerk of the municipality to which they are bound. The quarantine officer shall notify said clerk and also the Provincial Board of Health.

(c) When there are passengers sick, or apparently sick, from an infectious disease, they will be landed at the infectious disease hospital. Passengers occupying the same car will be detained for forty-eight hours and the effects which they brought on the same car will be disinfected. They will then be released on condition that they report to the clerk of the municipality to which they are bound. The quarantine officer will notify said clerk and also the Provincial Board of Health.

(d) Passengers travelling through Canada, in transit, will, when they are only suspected of having contagious disease, be allowed to proceed to their destination, the quarantine officer notifying the Board of Health of the State to which they are bound.

(e) The cars in which there shall have been sick persons shall be disinfected.

(f) Cars coming from an infected district should be provided with latrines containing disinfectants.

(g) Cars containing merchandise which is susceptible of infection (baggage, wear-

ing apparel, rags, hides, leather, feathers, horsehair, animal remains in general, unbaled wool, etc.) coming from an infected district shall be properly disinfected.

Other precautions may become necessary and should be concurred in by transportation companies. Thus it may become necessary that when passing through a badly infected district, no passengers be taken unless they be provided with a permit from the local Board of Health. It may also become advisable that the cars coming from or travelling through an infected district do not proceed right through, their passengers being then transferred to other cars, etc., etc.

**PURIFYING WATER**—Dr. Darenberg, writing in *La Médecine Moderne* concerning the means of rendering a cholera infected water innocuous, says that this end may be accomplished in one of three ways, viz., by filtering, by boiling, or by the addition of some chemical substance which will destroy the germs of the disease. The first of these methods is, as a rule, ineffective, and can be relied upon only when every detail is most scrupulously attended to. The second is effective but troublesome, and cannot always be carried out, fire and a suitable vessel for boiling being indispensable. The third method is one which, he says, is equally effective with boiling, and which can be carried out anywhere and at any time. The purification of water has been effected through the addition of alum, but the author prefers the acidulation of the water, especially in the case of possible cholera infection. Citric acid may be added to the water in the proportion of sixty to eighty centigrammes to the litre. This method is inexpensive, does not impart any unpleasant taste or odor to the water, and can be done anywhere without the need of cumbersome or delicate apparatus. In place of citric acid, tartaric or hydrochloric acid may be used, if desired.

THE best tobacco bags are made not of leather or rubber, but of the pouch of a pelican. The monstrous membrane which fills out the lower bill of the pelican is soft and thin, of a very fine texture, easily tanned, and, when dressed, makes a beautiful article of leather, possessing the quality of being as impervious to water as India rubber. Tobacco kept in it will never become dry, but retains its sweetness and aroma even longer than when preserved in tin foil. In the southern sea-board states its value is well understood, and tobacco pouches made of it are very common.—*St. Louis Globe-Democrat*.

**CHAMPACOL**.—Champaca wood contains a substance of agreeable odor, which distils from it with steam. A second distillation gives it in a purer and crystallizable state. The pure body melts at 86° to 88° C. and has the formula  $C_{17}H_{30}O$ . It forms long white needles, easily soluble in alcohol and ether, but sparingly so in water. It belongs to the class of the camphors.—*L'Union Pharmaceutique*.