

long as they should be kept. The more common dose is 1-50 of a grain, and then two pills would be taken at a dose and the prescription would last 17 days, and the pills would more surely remain in a proper condition. Such pills may, if it is desirable, be dipped in a warm solution of 1 part gelatine and 16 parts water and be dried in the usual way, and although this covers the odour of phosphorus it is doubtful whether the coating is of much use as a protection against change. The use of the ether in this formula is to drive out the air occluded in the powders and supply its place with a substance which will not oxidize the phosphorus, and if the formula be properly managed no white vapors are seen during the manipulation, nor in the vial in which the pills are kept whether the pills be coated or not. As an experiment a mass, made as above directed, was left exposed in the mortar for 48 hours without apparent change of colour, and without visible vapour, and the writer then took many doses of the pills made from it without eructations or other digestive disturbance, the dose being 1-33 of a grain of free phosphorus. This solution of phosphorus may also be given in capsules, and this method of giving it would be convenient and easy if it was practicable to get capsules any large proportion of which were perfect enough to hold liquids. As a fact, however, they are so imperfectly made, as now sold, that but a very small proportion of them can be used for liquids unless the plan of doubling the capsule be adopted by slipping one size, moistened with water, into the next larger size. In dispensing this solution in capsules, the capsules can be conveniently and accurately filled by means of a 60 minim pipette, or by a cubic centimeter pipette. The pipette is fitted at the lower end by a piece of india rubber tubing, and a piece of glass tubing drawn to a small orifice, with a pinch cock upon the rubber portion, the upper end of the pipette is furnished with a piece of india rubber tubing for suction. The whole being held upright on any convenient stand, the bottle is held so that the fine point dips into the solution. The pinch cock being held open the solution is sucked into the pipette, up to the top of the graduation, the pinch cock is then closed, then by means of the pinch cock one or more minims may be drawn into each capsule. As each capsule is filled, the edge of the cover is dipped into water before being put on; this seals the body and covers together so that no leakage ever occurs at that point. Another way in which the solution is accurately, conveniently and easily dispensed is in the form of a moist powder. If the solution be dropped upon any dry powder, and be rubbed up therewith, the air which the powder contains very rapidly oxidizes the phosphorus, as is shown by the copious white vapours given off, and by change in the colour of the powder; but if the air be first driven out of the powder the solution may be incorporated without light or vapor, or change of colour—the unmistakable signs of oxidation. This interstitial air is best driven