

the chloroform is free from either alcohol or ether, the color produced by the solution of the iodine is bright red; but when either alcohol or ether are present, the color of the solution is brown. In order to distinguish between alcohol and ether, a small piece of a crystal of fuchsin is added to the chloroform in question; when the slightest trace of alcohol is present, a deep red solution will ensue. Perfectly pure chloroform yields, with fuchsin, a solution which is only slightly pinkish tinged.—*Pharmaceutische Zeitschrift für Russland*.

#### Preparations of Carbolic Acid and the Carbocides.

##### Solution Carbolic Acid.

Phenic Acid..... 1 part.  
Water..... 1000 "

Seldom employed internally. Dose, a spoonful. Injected into the vessels as a disinfectant.

##### Solution Sulphate Alumina and Carbolic Acid.

Concentrated Sol. Sulphate.  
Alumina, 80° Baume..... 1000 parts.  
Phenic Acid..... 5 "

A caustic disinfectant. A spoonful of this solution in a quart of water constitutes an efficient disinfectant.

##### Solution Carbolate of Soda. (Babœuf.)

Phenate of Soda..... 10 grammes.  
Eau..... 1 quart.

For arresting hemorrhage and dressing wounds.

##### Ointment of carbolate of Soda. (Babœuf.)

Phenate of Soda..... 10 grammes.  
Lard..... 100

Mix. In acute and parasitic affections.

##### Alcoholic Solution Carbolic Acid.

Alcohol, 90°..... 1 part.  
Crystallized Phenic Acid. 1 "

Employed in gangrenous wounds, bites of venereal animals, etc.

##### Carbolic Acid and Glycerine. (Lemaire.)

English Glycerine..... 100 parts.  
Phenic acid..... 1 "

Mix. In impetigo, chronic eczema, &c.

The glycerine may be replaced by glycerole of starch.

##### Carbolic Ether.

Sulphuric Ether..... 100 parts.  
Phenic Acid..... 1 "

In Catarrh.

##### Carbolic Dentifrice Water. (Lemaire.)

Pure Phenic Acid..... 10 parts.  
Tincture of Quillay Bark.. 50 "

Essence of Peppermint... 1 "

Aqua Fort..... 1 quart. M.

A spoonful to be added to a quart of water. The acid destroys the animalcula, and disperses bad odors of the breath. *Journal Chim. Med. May, 1865.*

##### Carbolic Vinegar.

Acetic Acid (5°)..... 800 grammes.  
Powdered Camphor..... 5 "  
Crystallized Carbolic Acid 100 "

This combination of three antiputrescents is said to be extremely useful, and for hygienic purposes far superior to the vinegar of four thiers. It has been used a good deal on board ship, to keep the cabins of sick persons sweet.—*Moniteur Scientifique.*

##### Shoe Soles in Ill-Smelling Feet.

The diffusion of the abominable odor in ill-smelling feet may be effectually prevented by placing a sole containing a layer of powdered charcoal either between the foot and

the stocking or between the latter and the shoe. A paste consisting of—

Powdered Charcoal... 40 parts  
Water..... 40 "  
Gum..... 15 "

should be thickly spread over a piece of filtering-paper, flannel, felt, &c., stretched over a board or pasteboard. The paste is then covered over another piece of paper, which is smoothed over with the hand so as to remove all asperities. When quite dry, the sole may be cut out of the required size. Being cheaply made, they may be changed once or twice a day.—*Stanilas Martin.*

##### To Purify Vegetable Oil.

A method of purifying vegetable oil, as recently introduced in Paris, consists in allowing sulphuric acid to fall into it in numerous thin streams, and forcing air through at the same time, so that the oil is not only kept in lively motion, but also takes up numerous air bubbles, with which the foreign elements, separated by the acid, from a large mass of scum, which is removed from time to time. The introduction of air is kept up as long as the scum forms and until the oil becomes apparently light and clear. At this stage the oil is still acid. It is then heated in a copper vessel, by steam, for half or three quarters of an hour, to about 212 degrees, and then cool off to about 70 degrees Fahrenheit and filtered. The oil will become more thoroughly purified in this way than by the common method. The process has been introduced into several establishments in Paris, with excellent results.—*Journal of Chemistry.*

##### On Sanguinarin, its Properties and Composition.

M. Naschold.—Sanguinarin is so named because it is prepared from the *Sanguinaria Canadensis*, but it also occurs in the *Chelidonium majus* and *Glaucium luteum*; it is an alkaloid, which in pure state is a crystalline, white-coloured solid; formula, C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>. As a peculiarity, the author observes that the estimation of the nitrogen contained in this substance cannot be satisfactorily executed with the well-known soda-lime process, but has to be performed by Dumas's method. The author describes, at length, several combinations sanguinarin with the chlorides and cyanides of platinum, its behaviour towards reagents, and its products of decomposition, but none of these are so precisely characteristic as thereby to render it easy to distinguish and detect sanguinarin from all other alkaloids.—*Journal für Praktische Chemie.*

##### Mineral Lemonade.

When equal parts by weight of strong pure sulphuric acid and strong pure alcohol (85 to 90 per cent) are carefully mixed (the acid being poured into the alcohol and thoroughly mixed therewith), a liquid is obtained which has long been known and used by medical men under the older name of *Elixir aculum halleri*, more recently named *Mixtura sulphurica acida*. This fluid, which, if well prepared, contains essentially sulphovinic acid, is an excellent summer beverage when mixed with water in the proportion of one small tea-spoonful to a tumbler of cold water, and sweetened with sugar, or, preferably, with some fruit syrup. Above the lemonades made with vegetable acids, this acid mixture has the advantage of not increasing the perspiration, as citric and other vegetable acids do, while it is better borne by the stomach,

and has a tonic action upon the vascular system. It is indeed, a very pleasant drink, often given, at the *cafés* of Paris, Berlin, Vienna, and other places, along with some *syrop de groiselles* or *framboises*, and rather exorbitantly charged for. The proportions by bulk are—one of strong sulphuric acid and three of alcohol.—*Hann's Agronomische Zeitung.*

##### On Alkanin.

Professor Boettger states that M. Hirtzel, at Leipzig, prepares alkanin, the extract of the alkanet root *anclusa tinctoria*, on the large scale. This extract is dissolved in absolute alcohol; and with this solution strips of Swedish filtering paper are saturated, and made use of, after drying, for detecting even the very faintest traces of ammonia. The alcoholic solution exhibits a beautiful red colour, which, even by the ammonia present in tobacco-smoke, or in illuminating gas, is instantly converted into a beautiful blue. The alcoholic solution and test-paper have, of course, to be kept carefully excluded from all ammoniacal fumes. The red paper may be turned into blue by a very weak aqueous solution of carbonate of soda, and it then becomes an excellent test for even the faintest trace of any acid, turning red therewith at once.—*Dingler's Journal.*

##### Bleaching Soap.

This is a soda soap prepared according to the excellent prescription of the Prussian Pharmacopœia, which prescription has been copied in almost all other works of the kind; the soap is separated by common salt, and after this one-fourth of its weight of sulphite of soda is added, which has been previously made into a homogeneous paste by means of a little water; the soap is next dried in the usual manner. In order to apply this soap, chiefly intended for the bleaching of straw hats, but perfectly fit for application to silk and wool, it is dissolved in its own weight of cold water, and to every 2 lbs. of soap, ½ oz. of liquid ammonia is added. As soon as the mass has a gelatinous aspect, 1 part thereof is dissolved in 8 parts of warm water. The materials which it is desired to bleach are washed and scrubbed by means of a brush in this soap-sud; while yet moist, the materials are placed in acidulated water (25 parts of water and 1½ of hydrochloric acid), left in this liquid for 2 hours, and then well washed, and rinsed with pure cold water, and dried. This soap is very largely and successfully used in Russia, and was first prepared in that country by Dr. Werner.—*Pharm. Zeitschr. f. Russl.*

##### Testing Bees-Wax.

It appears that both yellow and white bees-wax is met with in the trade largely adulterated with paraffin. In order to detect this, the following process is recommended:—2 grms. of the wax to be experimented upon are placed in a test-tube; and there added a solution consisting of 1.5 grms. of solid caustic potassa in about 5 grms. of distilled water, and the mixture boiled, care being taken to shake the test-tube now and then, whereby a thorough though not quite clear mixture is produced. When the fluid has cooled so far down as nearly to reach the point of solidification of the wax, from 6 to 8 grms. of light oil of petroleum is gradually added, and this thoroughly incorporated with the entire