

9. Carmine, a violet-red cement. Solution of silicate of soda mixed with carbonate of lime alone forms a cement of great solidity; equal parts, by measure, of sulphuret of antimony and limatura ferri mixed with solution of silicate of soda to a stiff paste forms a black cement of extraordinary hardness; zinc-dust and limatura ferri in the same proportions as the preceding forms a cement of a dark gray color.—*Four. f. prakt. Chemie.*

Gold Varnish.—Turmeric, 1 drachm; gamboge, 1 drachm; oil of turpentine, 2 pints; shellac, 5 ounces; sandarac, 5 ounces; dragon' blood, 7 drachms; thin mastic varnish, 8 ounces. Digest, with occasional agitation, for fourteen days, in a warm place, then set aside to fine, and pour off the clear.

Varieties.

THE ACTIVE PRINCIPLE OF THE AQUEOUS DISTILLATE OF CANTHARIDES.—E. Rennard proved, from the blistering effects, the presence of cantharidin in a cat poisoned with the distillate obtained from cantharides, and proved its presence also in the distillate in the same manner. The author altered Bluhm and Dragendorff's method for preparing cantharidin somewhat; the mixture of powdered cantharides, magnesia and water is exsiccated, the residue saturated with chloroform, supersaturated with sulphuric acid and exhausted with ether. He obtained from four samples 0.38, 0.431, 0.439, and 0.57 per cent. of cantharides. Boiling water dissolves between 0.290 and 0.297, cold water, 0.2, boiling alcohol, 2.03 to 2.168, cold alcohol, 0.127, boiling benzol, 3.38, cold benzol, 0.51, boiling muriatic acid of 1.17 sp. gr., 0.3, and the cold acid, 0.137 per cent. cantharidin. Cantharidin volatilizes with the vapors of chloroform at 60°C. Distilled with water, the first portions contain the largest proportion of cantharidin. The aqueous distillate of cantharides contains besides cantharidin an animal oil of low boiling point, which decreases with the age of the insects.—*N. Jahrb. f. Pharm. in Am. Jour. Pharm.*

HYGIENIC VALUE OF FLOWERS.—The old notion that odorous flowers are injurious to the health seems to have been overturned by some recent experiments of Professor Mantegazza. He found that flowers with powerful perfumes, such as the hyacinth, heliotrope, mignonette, etc., develop large quantities of ozone, and hence he attributes to them great hygienic value in the purification of the air in marshy districts. It also appeared that flowers with fainter perfume produce less ozone, and those which are odorless none at all.—*Phila. Med. and Surg. Reporter.*

ANTIDOTE AGAINST CARBOLIC ACID.—Th. Husemann recommends sugar lime, prepared by dissolving 16 parts of white sugar in 40 parts of water, digesting with lime for three days, filtering and evaporating.—*Ibid.*