

TOBACCO AS A DISINFECTANT.

The old adage, that "there is a silver lining to every cloud," has found confirmation in many directions during the scare over cholera. Public attention has been directed to sanitary conditions and the diet requisite to keep the system in a condition to repel the germs of disease. It is certain that the people know more about precautions in diet and the use of disinfectants than ever before. This is due to private as well as public endeavor. J. Edward Cowles, of the cigar department of the Thurber, Whyland Co., is on deck with the following timely hint:

"It may be news to some, but it is nevertheless true, that tobacco is one of the best disinfectants known. It is said that in Hamburg, where cholera rages the worst, 'He smokes now who never smoked before, and he who always smoked, now smokes the more.' It is rare that a man is seen on the street without a cigar or a pipe in his mouth, complacently meandering along the streets and thoroughfares confident that cholera will not bother him as long as he has a cigar in his mouth.

"The tobacco plant is certainly one of the most wonderful of nature's productions. It is not only susceptible to all influences of the weather and climatic changes, but absorbs every pronounced taste or flavor with which it comes in contact, (in most cases to the injury of the tobacco itself.) Neither cigars nor tobacco should be kept in a desiccating atmosphere; such as a furnace-heated room, nor in a cellar which is likely to have more or less dampness. Nor should they come in contact with such articles as tea, coffee, sugar, fish, soap, cheese, etc. But, as a disinfectant, tobacco is known to kill germs of disease, as well as to destroy moths, microbes, etc."

This is a good argument for the retail dealer to use in selling cigars.

EXTRACTION OF PERFUMES.

Six methods of extracting perfumes are known. The first is expression by means of a special press, which is applicable without too great loss of fruit skins rich in essential oils, such as orange and citron peel, previously grated. Another method is that of distillation, which consists of heating flowers with water in a boiler. The essential oil is volatilized and is condensed with the vapor of water in a worm and Florentine receiver. The water usually goes to the bottom and the oil floats. The oils of neroli, rose, patchouli, geranium, lavender, caraway, etc., are obtained in this way. The process is not applicable to the delicate perfumes of the mimosa and the violet, and for them recourse is had to maceration of the flowers in animal fat or mineral oils, which have the property of absorbing odorless substances, and are then washed in alcohol. The flowers are usually heated in the fat or the oil for a variable number of hours. For perfumes which cannot endure a high temperature, the petals are placed between frames of glass coated with fat. This is the process of enfleurage. The pneumatic process, which consists in causing a current of perfumed air or carbonic acid to be absorbed by coatings of lard on glass plates, appears not to have given satisfactory results. Another process

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cess consists in dissolving perfumes in very volatile liquids, like sulphuret of carbon, chloroform, naphtha, ether or chloride of methyl and volatilizing the solvents, which can be done at a low temperature in a vacuum.

NOT NECESSARY BUT EXPEDIENT.

Once upon a time the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Cologne was catechizing the children and asked a boy:

"Is the sacrament of confirmation necessary to salvation?"

"No, your Reverence," was the reply, "but when the occasion to receive it presents itself, it should not be missed."

"A good answer, my child," said the prelate, and turning to a little girl who was near, he asked:

"Is the sacrament of marriage necessary to salvation?"

"No, your Reverence, but when the occasion presents itself, it should not be missed."

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