

CONSUMPTION OF GLYCERIN IN EUROPE.—According to W. Kraut, Europe produced during the year 1873 the following quantities of glycerin (calculated as 20° Baumé):

France	about.....	60,000	cwt.
Austria,	"	20,000	"
Russia,	"	20,000	"
Germany,	"	15,000	"
Belgium and Holland,	"	15,000	"
England,	"	10,000	"
Italy,	"	5,000	"
Spain,	"	5,000	"
Sweden and Norway,	"	2,000	"

Total,152,000 cwt.

Of this quantity about 60,000 cwt. are refined, furnishing 50,000 cwt. of redistilled glycerin, which is consumed as follows:

Soaps and perfumery.....	10,000	cwt.
Textile fabrics, dyeing, tanning, etc.	10,000	"
Dynamite manufacture.....	6,000	"
Pharmaceutical purposes.....	6,000	"
Gas-mètres.....	1,500	"
Printing rollers.....	1,500	"
Export.....	10,000	"

Total..... 45,000 "

Used for articles of food and drink 5,000 "

Total..... 50,000 "

LYCOPodium ADULTERATION.—M. Stanislas Martin has examined a sample of lycopodium which possessed a suspiciously low inflammability. He found that it contained a large proportion of dextrin reduced to an impalpable powder. This falsification can be easily detected by the microscope, or by treating the suspected sample with water.

POISONING BY THE EXTERNAL APPLICATION OF CARBOLIC ACID.—Prof. Küster, at the last meeting of the Association of German Surgeons, entered the lists against the use of carbolic acid in antiseptic surgery. This assault has been supported by Langenbuch (*Berliner klin. Wochen.* No. 28, 1878) and others. Children and delicate women are the sufferers from carbolic acid intoxication. The symptoms are, in the case of adults, nausea, vomiting and headache; but in children the effects are more severe—the temperature falling below normal; the pulse being extremely weak and the body covered with a cold sweat—The phenomena of collapse.

It has been ascertained recently by Baumann that, if animals, to whom carbolic acid had been previously administered, are treated by sodic sulphate, a harmless compound of phenol and sulphuric acid is formed. These results of experiments on animals have been confirmed by observations on man. Thus it has been found that the symptoms of carbolic acid poisoning are relieved by the administration of sodic sulphate. If this salt is given when the urine

becomes dark-colored, it at once arrests the toxic phenomena, so that if desired the carbolic dressings can be renewed.

FATAL APPLICATION OF ETHER.—As a caution to medical men, I must give an incident of the past few days, although it is of the most painful nature imaginable. A young lady of eighteen, remarkably beautiful, belonging to a family of rich merchants of Lyons, had to undergo a surgical operation. The surgeon said that it was necessary to give her ether. The sack was prepared, and the young lady had been inhaling it for a moment, when a light was brought near the patient. In an instant the ether was ignited, and the sack exploded. The doctor was himself seriously burned, but the young lady was in a lamentable condition. Her nose was taken off completely, and one side of the upper jaw was laid bare. It is needless to say that she is horribly disfigured for life. No one could describe the despair of the family, and perhaps it would have been better had the poor girl died from the effects of this dreadful wound. It is rumored that the doctor has committed suicide.—*Paris Correspondence of the N. Y. Times.*

A LARGE DOSE OF CROTON OIL—Sharp. (*The Ohio Med. Record*, May, 1877.) A lady, through mistake, swallowed about a teaspoonful of croton-oil. Discovering the accident, she alarmed the family, who immediately summoned medical assistance. Free administration of sweet milk and cream, and olive oil, in connection with white of eggs and an emetic dose of mustard was given, and supplemented by large doses of sulphate of zinc at short intervals. Patient was also allowed to drink freely of mucilage of gum acacia. She recovered rapidly, with no ill effects from the oil.

TREATMENT OF OPIUM POISONING.—A case is reported, taken from an Italian journal, of a woman who swallowed a large quantity of muriate of morphia, and whose life was despaired of, after the failure of all ordinary means of relief. She seemed about to die when a drachm or more of spirit of ammonia was injected into her stomach. 'Immediately the woman regained her senses, and in a short time recovered completely.' We believe the secret of this and many other similar recoveries from the effects of opium consists in the fact that, in a large number of instances, persons deeply narcotized by the drug will recover spontaneously, even after sinking almost into death; just as men recover from alcohol poisoning, or from 'a dead drunk,' when left to themselves.—*Pacific Med. and Surgical Journal.*

WHY MILK SOURS DURING THUNDERSTORMS.—Dr. Iles, of Baltimore (in the *Chemical News*), considers the change in milk due to the ozone formed, which produces lactic and perhaps also acetic acids in the milk, these precipitating the cream.