

Petrolatum

Is manufactured chiefly in the oil regions of Western Pennsylvania. It is an article that has acquired considerable importance of late years under various trade names, such as "vaseline", "cosmoline", &c. It is a bland neutral body well calculated to take the place of lard as a base for ointments and for other purposes. It is used medicinally as a cooling protective dressing and is said to be of value taken in half teaspoonful doses three or four times a day—in chronic bronchitis and other throat troubles.

As a dressing for the hair, Petrolatum has largely taken the place of oil, specially prepared perfumed pomades being generally sold for this purpose.

Salts

Is so well known as a purgative that it needs little attention here. It generally acts quickly and is therefore much favored in acute diseases.

When combined with an infusion of gentian and a little ginger, Epsom Salts is found beneficial in dyspepsia. The dose of Epsom Salts is from one-half to two ounces dissolved in warm water.

Salts of Lemon (Poison)

Is a well-known article for removing iron mould, ink and other stains from linen, lace, muslin, cambric, lawn, etc.

Senna Leaves

The leaflets of various kinds of cassia. Senna is imported chiefly from India and Egypt, the former place furnishing what is known as Trunevelly Senna, the latter Alexandria Senna. Senna was first used as a medicine by the Arabians, and the name itself is Arabic. It is a prompt and very safe purgative well calculated for fevers, the only disadvantage being that it is liable to produce severe griping; this, however may be overcome by mixing with it some aromatics and one of the alkaline salts, preferably cream of tartar or epsom salts.