

grammes each of castor oil and resin), are dissolved in 2.36 litres (2,360 c.c.) of alcohol, the gauze soaked in the liquid, and then dried. This gauze contains a 10 per cent. solution of benzoic acid. The salicylated gauze is prepared in the same manner.—*Paint, Oil and Drug Reporter*.

TO FASTEN LEATHER ON METAL.—To fasten leather upon metal, you should first wash the metal with a hot solution of gelatine, and steep the leather previously in a hot infusion of galls. Then press the leather upon the surface of the metal and allow it to cool, when it will be found to adhere so firmly that it cannot be separated without tearing.—*Boston Journal of Chemistry*.

BORAX: ITS USES.—The following summary of the uses of borax is taken from an advertisement in a technical journal. It is used by cement manufacturers, in the preparation of the finest cement; candle manufacturers, in the formation of the completely destructible wick; starch manufacturers, in the preparation of starch, giving a beautiful gloss; glass manufacturers, with barytes, sand, and soda; ironfounders and smiths, in dissolving the metallic oxides; dyers and bleachers, as a mordant and purifier; braziers, in welding; potters, for their glazes; tanners, for the quick production of leather; chemists, grocers, and drysalters, for general household purposes; provision merchants, in preserving eggs, butter, hams, and fresh meat of every description; timber merchants, for preserving soft woods, making them hard and durable; dentists, for fluxing purposes; and by medical men, for wounds and internal application.

CHILI SALTPETRE.—Nitrate of soda has become a bone of contention between the republics of Chili and Bolivia. Bolivia has pledged itself by treaty to impose no duties on articles of Chilean produce exported from the coast of Antofagasta during 25 years. In spite of this the National Assembly of Bolivia has imposed a tax of 10c. per quintal on all nitrate of soda shipped from the Bolivian coast. Chili has protested, and threatens to resist the collection of the tax. Bolivia insists on carrying out a measure which she believes is just and legal.

NITRATE OF SODA.—Antofagasta, the focus of the dispute between Chili and Bolivia, contains vast deposits of nitrates which are yearly increasing in importance. The total shipments from Peru during 1878 are stated by the *South Pacific Times* to have been nearly 6,000,000 quintals (quintal = 100 lbs.). During the same period not less than 12,000 tons have been shipped every month from Antofagasta, or 3,500,000 quintals in the year. Should this island fall into the possession of Chili, its nitre production will be pushed into active competition with that of Peru.—*Chemist & Druggist*.

CAPE ALOES.—The amount of Cape aloes exported from the port of Port Elizabeth, Cape of Good Hope, during the year ending December 31, 1878, was 73,214 lbs., valued at 658*l.*, against 3,259 lbs., valued at 40*l.*, in the previous year.

A BELGIAN PATENT TOOTH WASH.—A tooth wash has been patented in Belgium by a Mr. T. L. Smits, the composition of which is thus described:—

| | Parts |
|--|-------|
| Water..... | 950 |
| Urea..... | 12 |
| Uric acid..... | 4 |
| Fixed salts..... | 7 |
| Urate, oxalate, and oxalurate of lime, cystin, &c..... | 8.90 |

With a little perfume.

As this is a fairly correct analysis of ordinary urine, Mr. Smits' "eau dentifrice" will only need to be named in order to be avoided. The *Chemical News*, in noticing the patent, asks, Is this a new way out of the sewage difficulty?

LOCAL ANÆSTHETIC IN DENTISTRY.

| | |
|---------------------|------|
| Pulv. camphor..... | 3vj. |
| Æther. sulphur..... | 3j. |

Apply this to the gum surrounding the tooth to be removed, until the gum turns white, when the tooth can be extracted with scarcely any pain.—*Dental Cosmos*.

PURIFICATION OF SPIRITS FROM FUSEL OIL.—According to the *Brennerei Zeitung*, a single agitation of spirit with the following compound will completely remove the fusel oil from potato brandy, and will leave the fluid beautifully clear:—

| | Parts |
|-----------------------|-------|
| Sugar of milk..... | 1 |
| Starch powder..... | 2 |
| Powdered albumen..... | 5 |

About 4 oz. of the powder is sufficient for a gallon of spirits.

That the Germans, generally considered a nation of unpractised dreamers, once in a while, at least, can take a very practical view of things is evident from an advertisement for an assistant, which appeared in *Pharmac. Zeitung*: "A young man, without means, can find an agreeable situation in a country drug store, etc., etc. He might possibly, by marrying in the family, become a member thereof and his future subsistence be secured thereby. Applicants must send in their photographs."

Another curiosity in Germany is that some apothecaries find it necessary to add to their advertisements for clerks a recommendation from their last clerk.

RECENTLY in Norwich a druggist dispensed some brandy as a stimulant in the case of two children who had swallowed some tincture of aconite root by accident. The temperance people now propose to enter suit against the druggist for selling liquor without a license. The *Monthly Review of Medicine and Pharmacy*.

MILK is an agreeable solvent of quinine. Dr. Bratterbury says one grain to the ounce is hardly perceptible, or five grains to the tumblerful lose all their bitterness.