

objection to them is their cost, but the combined cost of such flasks and the solution for filling them is much below the current price of hand-grenades. There are certain kinds of wine bottles also which might be used advantageously, as the only necessary feature is thinness of glass, so that the grenade will surely break when thrown at a fire. The bottle or flask should, of course, be stoppered; and it were well to cover the corks with sealing wax, so as to prevent any loss by evaporation.

SULPHUROUS ACID IN WHOOPING COUGH.—A Norwegian physician named Mohn, discovered, after disinfecting the bedding of one of his own children who had suffered from scarlet fever, that another child who had whooping cough and who accidentally inhaled some of the fumes of the sulphur, was suddenly cured of the disease. Acting on this suggestion, he has treated other cases of pertussis by placing the patient in a room where sulphur had been burned in the usual manner in which it is employed for disinfectant purposes. He claims that after being put to bed in such a room, the patients awake the next morning cured.

IODOFORM AND SILVER.—Poncet (*Lyon Med.*, 1886, No. 31), draws attention to the discomforts sometimes associated with the use of iodoform when articles of silver are used in eating. A peculiar nauseous taste is often present which is increased when food is taken. The tongue sometimes becomes coated. Poncet points out that articles of silver in contact with iodoform acquire a peculiar smell, and is of the opinion that patients, whose wounds are dressed with iodoform, ought not to use silver forks and spoons to eat with. According to Cazeneuve, when iodoform and silver come into contact, iodide of silver and acetylene are formed, and to this he

attributes the effects which Poncet has pointed out.

THE USE OF ESERINE EYE DROPS QUICKLY FOLLOWED BY SYMPTOMS OF POISONING.—In the present month a well-grown, healthy, young lady, aged 10½, a resident and native of the Isle of Wight, was sent to me for eye troubles. In the course of the treatment, in order to neutralize the effect of atropine on the accommodation, I prescribed a solution of sulphate of eserine, of the strength of four grains of the alkaloid to the ounce of distilled water. A single application of these eye drops induced nausea, a repetition in four hours vomiting. A large experience of eserine eye drops in public and private practise has not afforded me a single illustration such as the one here recorded.—J. VOSE SOLOMON, Birmingham.

STROPHANTHUS.—"The plant is a woody climber, growing in the forest both of the valley and the hills, and found at various places between the coast and the centre of the continent above the Victoria Falls and the Zambesi. The stem is several inches in diameter and rough outside. The plant climbs up the highest trees and hangs from one tree to another like a bush-vine. The flowers are of a pale yellow, and last for but a short time during the months preceding the first rains of the season, (Oct and Nov.)" The fruit is ripe in June; the natives separate the rough epicarp and mesocarp, and dry the endocarp containing the seeds; hence the tawny appearance of the commercial follicles.

The method adopted by the natives in poisoning their arrows, is as follows: Before extracting the seed from the fruits, they dig a hole in the ground, so that they can bury the comose hair attached to the seed (for fear of its flying in their eyes), they then coarsely grind the seed, and mix