

"Unsterilized skin gave 173 colonies; soap and water, 20 colonies; gasoline, 2 minutes' scrubbing, 16 colonies.

"Scrapings from skin, scraped with soap and water, then dressed with 1 to 60 carbolic acid over night gave for same weight of scrapings, 22 colonies.

"Gasoline poured on skin without rubbing gave 84 colonies. Repeated with scrubbing with cotton wipe, gasoline gave only gave 7 colonies.

"Staphylococcus pyogenes aureus smeared on the skin as a film remain alive at the end of two minutes exposed to gasoline.

"I shall continue the experiments more fully and let you have report at early date."

This report corroborates my claim, that gasoline is a valuable detergent, and may yet be found to be antiseptic.

I need hardly caution the members of this Association about the dangers of gasoline, but would just remind them that it is very inflammable. It should not be used carelessly about an exposed light. If it gets into cavities, such as the ears or eyes, it is irritating just as chloroform or ether is. If applied to a surface where it can rapidly evaporate it gives a cooling, pleasant sensation.

In subsequent dressing of wounds you may find the dressings adherent about line of incision or suture. Squeeze a few drops of gasoline on the adherent dressing and you will find that it can be readily detached.

If you want to remove sutures from wound and they are masked by iodoform powder and exudations from wound, gasoline on a wipe applied gently will clear your field. Gasoline dissolves iodoform and the exudation from wounds and then immediately evaporates, leaving a clean and dry surface. You can readily find your sutures and remove them.

Microscopic appearance of skin after scrubbing with soap and water, and after wiping off the skin with gasoline, showed that the cleansing effect of gasoline went much deeper and cleaned out the mouths of hair follicles, sebaceous glands and sweat ducts much more perfectly than scrubbing with soap and water could do.